



SECOND CHANCE RESCUE

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Second Chance Rescue puts out urgent call for emergency medical fund for local abandoned dogs.

Sweet Maltese with painful 'cauliflower ear' condition needs laser surgery soon. Many dogs needing medical care being left behind.

A frightened eleven-pound Maltese named Samson was scared and alone on the streets when he was picked up as a stray. His owners were located but abandoned him again because of his expensive medical condition. After 10 years living with his family, Samson, who had been seriously neglected, was now alone in an East Bay shelter awaiting euthanization.

The shelter did not put him up for adoption because he needed surgery. Volunteers with Second Chance Rescue saw him but initially didn't take him because the organization's emergency medical funds are depleted. After a month at the shelter Samson was within days of being killed, so Second Chance volunteers, who had fallen in love with him, decided to step in and take him home anyway, hoping to raise the money for his surgery.

Samson needs surgery to correct a condition commonly known as "cauliflower ear". It is expected to cost approximately \$ 3,500. A sweet and friendly dog, Samson is housebroken and the perfect lap dog. Once he has his surgery, he will be in good health and available for adoption through Second Chance's program and will make a wonderful companion.

Without reserve funding, it's difficult for rescue groups to save dogs that need medical attention. Second Chance rescued Samson knowing that he would need the surgery, but couldn't let him die simply for a lack of funding. "Sweet, adoptable dogs like Samson shouldn't be put down for something so simple - we just couldn't leave him there," said Second Chance spokesperson Paula Vlamings.

Although Second Chance has had a small fund for emergency veterinary services in the past, all funds are depleted. They are requesting donations from the animal-loving community for a specific medical fund to help Samson and other special needs animals that would otherwise be euthanized in shelters. The organization is hoping to raise \$20,000.