



206 S. Division St., Suite 10
Carson City, NV 89703

501 (c)(3) Nonprofit

775.841.7463

Fax 775.841-7163

info@petsofthehomeless.org
www.petsofthehomeless.org

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Bullet fragments recovered from
Sparkle's jaw



Sparkle after the Surgery

July 5, 2011

Pets of the Homeless would like to thank all the donors that gave so generously to Sparkle's fund. Donna Butler-Gates was the driving force behind the scenes, she personally drove Sparkle to UC Davis, and she sold See's candy and asked for donations where ever she could. We praise her for her commitment and compassion to pets of the homeless in her community. She is truly a companion of the pets.

I'm homeless and have a dog named Sparkle. I want to shout out a thank you to the many wonderful, generous folks who heard about Sparkle. She was shot in the eye when she was a young dog and lost her eye. She recovered from that but the bullet was left in her jaw and there was a lot of damage. Sparkle could not pant when it was hot because she could barely open her mouth. She could hardly chew kibble or lap water. She needed help but I didn't have money for it.

Donna Gates, owner of [Donna's Pet Grooming](#), found us. She is a volunteer for [Pets of the Homeless](#) and contacted them for help and they did.

[U. C. Davis Small Animal Hospital](#) did the surgery to fix her jaw. The doctors removed the right, lower, back jaw and some bone from the upper jaw, too. The surgery was extensive and lasted for 7 long hours.

Sparkle is getting well and had no infection. She never complained so it was hard to tell how much pain she was in. She seems happy again. She was a big hit with everyone at the hospital. Now she can pant, yawn and open her mouth.

Again, I want to thank Donna, [Pets of the Homeless](#), [U. C. Davis Animal Hospital](#) and all the people who provided support, time, funding and prayers to save Sparkle. If she could meet each one of you, she would no doubt give you all a licking-kiss because she can do that again. When I saw Sparkle after the surgery, her excitement matched my joy and I could not stop my tears.

Miguel