



MOHAWK HUDSON
**HUMANE
SOCIETY**

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Let's get this Fiesta Started ... on Her New Life!

When Fiesta, a 7-year-old Spanish Mastiff, arrived on November 15, 2020, this was part of her initial assessment by our veterinary staff: *160 pounds, extreme lethargy, some edema around joints, dull coat, and sores.*



Granted, a Mastiff is a large-breed dog, but she was so obese that she could barely walk. She didn't want to move and, as a result, she had pressure sores and calluses on her legs from laying down so much. That was what noticed on the outside.

With further examination and testing, we learned that Fiesta was hypothyroid. We started her on medication and placed her on a special weight loss diet. She was given baths (which she loved!), to sooth her sore skin.



Throughout all these treatments and changes, she was a *snuggle bug* toward everyone she met. And naturally, she stole hearts. Everyone was eager to help her get healthier, feel more comfortable, and regain energy to be the playful girl we knew was inside that big, slow, tattered, lumpy body.

Less than three months later, on February 3, 2021, her vet notes told a much different story: *on thyroid supplementation, great mobility, coat improved, she has some elbow calluses that may always need some management, but otherwise doing great. She's bright and pulls everyone around. She doesn't even look like the same dog.* At that point, she had lost about 40 lbs.

Fiesta was well on her way to being ready for adoption, when in April we noticed that her eyes were bothering her. Practically overnight, they became red and very painful due to a rapid and severe onset of glaucoma.

We consulted an eye specialist and tried treating her with medication, but it was torturous for her and not helping. Most of her sight was already gone. Her personality changed, she wasn't eating, and she was depressed. Our vet staff decided to remove one eye with the hope of saving the other, but ultimately she needed to have both removed.



Following surgery, we watched her carefully. We were concerned about how she would adapt to life without sight. Could she bounce back and would we again see the happy pup we all grew to love?

The answer – a resounding yes! At just under 110 pounds, Fiesta is a gentle giant, though a much healthier one than when she arrived last fall. She continues to be as loveable and sweet as ever, if not more so. She enjoys her walks outside, sniffing the air, rolling in the grass, and smelling the flowers. She loves to nap in the warmth of the sun.



And even without sight, she doesn't miss a thing. Through her other senses, she notices everything around her. When out on a walk with her, a staff member almost forgot she was blind as she noticed Fiesta "watching" a person walk across the grounds from afar.

Though we will all miss her sweet ways, we are eager to finally send her to the loving family she deserves. She will be the most wonderful friend and companion. [Click here to meet this beautiful girl.](#)