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Angel Bird Updates  
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*Editor's Note:* An "Angel Bird", in Mickaboo terms, is one we highlight because of his or her medical condition and correspondingly high veterinary expenses. Here are updates on two recent Angel Birds. You can see more of our current Angel Birds and learn how to sponsor them at [this webpage](#).



**Charming Charlie** is a cockatiel whose lower beak was mostly bitten off by an African Grey in a terrible accident. He was hospitalized and had to learn how to eat again.

Here is what Charlie's foster parent says about him:

*Charlie is doing very well now. After his injury he was eating crushed pellets; now he can handle all foods. In this picture, the white stringy feathers on his sides are powdery down feathers that he wasn't able to preen properly. I've watched him preen like the rest of the birds, so I'd say he has adjusted just fine to his funky beak. He gets along ok with the rest of my fosters, and he has a nice whistle song. Still doesn't like hands, so I try to leave him alone. He will step up on a stick when he lands on the ground. A monthly or bimonthly beak trim is his only special need now!*

Charlie needs a permanent home! If you are interested in becoming his "forever" guardian, [email us](#).

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Jasmine (at the right of the picture below) is a blue and gold macaw with Papilloma, a chronic disease that ultimately shortens a bird's life. She is receiving hospice care from a Mickaboo volunteer. Here is an update from that volunteer:

*My sweet Jasmine, what can I say. She is 36+ years and had a hard life before coming to Mickaboo. When she first came to me Jasmine could barely stand up. She had had several broken bones in her legs and both wings (which had never been treated). She had a toe that had become severely infected due to neglect and lack of medical attention. She was so tired and in so much pain that she couldn't perch properly and would fall every time she actually fell asleep. She was pooping all over her wings as it was too much effort to hold them up. She was in so much pain that she had stopped eating...death was her choice.*



*Fortunately, she was surrendered to Mickaboo and given a second chance at life. Jasmine's toe could not be saved and was amputated. She also had surgery at that time to debulk her cloaca (a common side effect of Papillomatosis Disease). After a 4-hour car ride from San Jose (Ed: where Jasmine had her initial surgery) to Sacramento (Ed: the volunteer's home), I took her out of her cage and placed her on my chest. We both fell asleep for an hour and a half. Jasmine knew nothing about me, but realized she was safe and finally home.*

*In the past year that I have had Jasmine, she has come a long way. She can hold her wings at a normal position and often flaps them over her head. Jasmine has also flown a few times...a feat so surprising to me! She has bonded with a 17-year-old blue and gold macaw named Mackie (cougar chaser!) who dotes on her every move. He spends his days preening her and guarding her from any perceived threats (even me!). Jasmine has also adopted two Babble Ball babies and becomes fiercely protective of them when the batteries are working! Because of her lack of feathers, Jasmine spends much of her days sitting on top of her cage under a chandelier to stay warm.*



*When Jasmine is in need of something or wants one on one time with her mamma, she makes the effort to climb down her lofty perch and waddles into my bedroom across the hall. Mackie is generally close behind her.*

*Last week, Jasmine was struggling to defecate, a sure sign of problems with her Papilloma. She was taken to Medical Center for Birds where she was admitted with life-threatening health issues. Dr. Speer decided to scope her to determine what exactly was going on. She had necrotic tissue inside of her which had to be removed and debulking of her cloaca was performed. Throughout the whole thing, Jasmine never lost her appetite (she is a blue and gold after all!) She is able to defecate without straining now, but her pain continues to be a work in progress.*

*June 24 update: Jasmine want back to Medical Center for Birds today. Dr Olsen looked down her throat and all looks good!*

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*Considering all that Jasmine has been through, she is a sweet bird (at least with her mamma). She loves her one-on-one time with me and actually gets annoyed with Mackie when he tries to protect her from me! Jasmine is a tough old girl who still has feistiness and joie de vivre. She will posture and show her displeasure if any of the other female macaws in my home even dare to look at Mackie. Jasmine has brought much joy to our home and we are hopeful that she will recover from this and be a part of our family for many more years to come.*