



Affordable Storytelling
Protect **Home Service**
Patience Affection
AnimalFriends
2021 Impact Report **Holistic**
Support Community
Second Chances Comfort



Our Vision

A humane and compassionate future for every animal friend.

Our Mission

To rescue, rehabilitate and rehome animals in crisis, ensure healthy pets through education, advocacy and affordable services, and inspire a community where the animal-human bond is celebrated and nurtured.

Saving Lives ... It's What We Do.

2021 Our
Impact
by the
Numbers

86 cents of every dollar goes toward lifesaving care, programs and resources

96% Live Release Rate

130,000+ animal and human lives touched





Dear Animal Friend,

As I look back on 2021, I am reminded of how optimistic we were at Animal Friends as we left 2020 behind and looked forward to a fresh start and a return to normal as we turned the page to the new year. But, as we learned over the course of this past year, 2021 was anything but “normal.”

And perhaps that isn't a bad thing! What makes Animal Friends so special is that we are always open to change. It is what moves us forward, encourages us to look at things differently, pushes us to grow and, ultimately, to save more lives.

Simply put, change is one of the things we do best.

This past year allowed us to chart a new course, rethink how we solve community challenges and ensure that Animal Friends continues to impact the lives of countless pets and people here in our community and beyond.

In yet another year where our daily lives were impacted by a pandemic, the resilience of the team at Animal Friends didn't waver. I was inspired as the compassion, grit and determination of our staff and volunteers continued to shine brighter than ever.

I can assure you that the team at Animal Friends will continue toward our vision of a humane and compassionate future for every animal friend. It is my privilege to share our 2021 community impact report with you. It is filled with stories of the lifesaving work that you make possible through your generosity, friendship and ongoing support.

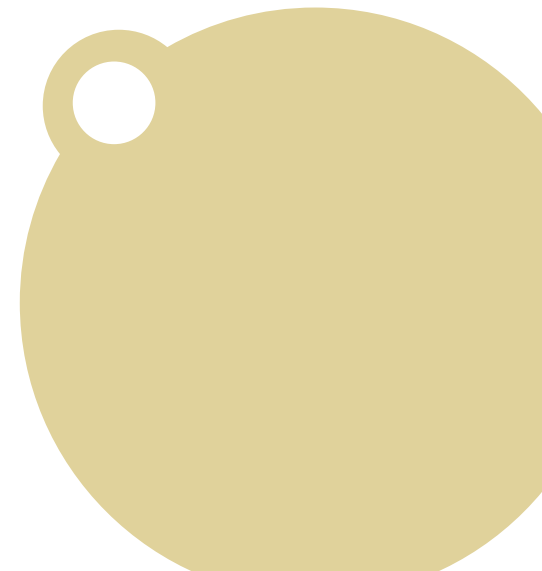
I am so grateful to have you as a part of our Animal Friends family.

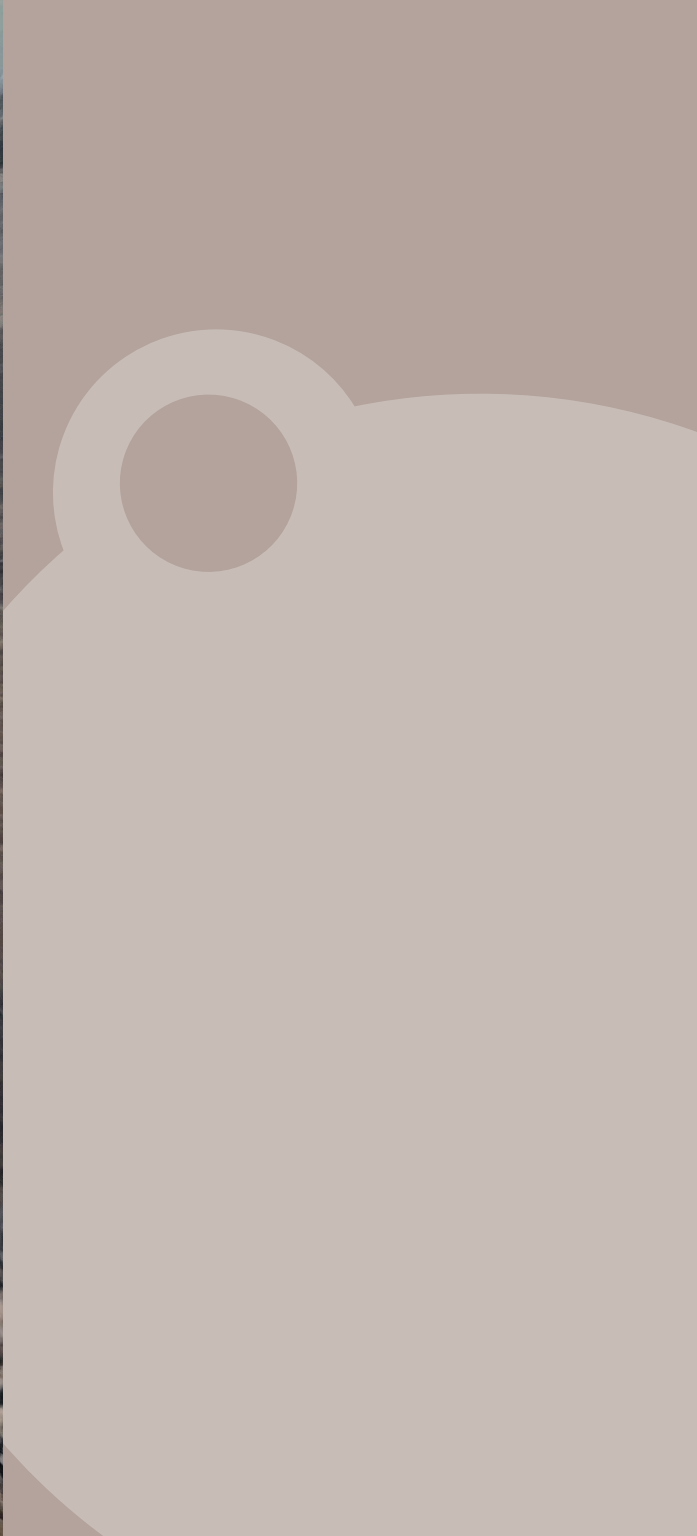
Thank you for saving lives.

With much appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathleen Beaver', written over a white background.

Kathleen Beaver
President & CEO





Spay/Neuter
Clinic Support Affordable Vaccines
Accessible Home Network Resources
Wellness Pet Retention Health
Keeping pets in loving homes where they belong.
Compassion Community Pet Food

As Animal Friends has grown over the years, so has our commitment to helping the pets and people of our community. And, we know that the most effective way to keep animals out of shelters and in loving homes where they belong is by offering pet retention resources that are affordable and accessible to the people who love them.

This progressive and proactive approach starts with the basic veterinary care that so many pet owners take for granted. The cost of routine services like spay/neuter, vaccines and wellness exams can quickly become overwhelming – especially when financial challenges arise or life presents unexpected hardships.

Simply put, the amount of money in a bank account does not equate to how much someone loves their pets.



Chevy's Story

Chevy's owner came to our Animal Wellness Center for a wellness exam, but we quickly realized that he needed much more than routine care. The 11 pound dog had an enormous basal cell mass on his head, so heavy that it was tilted to the side. Chevy's owner knew that he desperately needed help, but was devastated that she couldn't afford the costly procedure. She simply didn't know where to turn. Our dedicated team provided antibiotics to manage the infection, consulted with a boarded veterinary surgeon and scheduled Chevy for surgery. After a successful procedure, the two-pound tumor had been removed and Chevy was on the road to recovery at home with the family he loved.

Affordable Care

Low-cost spay and neuter services have long been at the forefront of our lifesaving mission. For decades, we have known that euthanasia can never be the solution to pet overpopulation. Since our Howard Ash Animal Wellness Center opened in 2017, our Clinic & Community Services team has saved countless lives by providing 42,479 low-cost spay and neuter surgeries and administering more than 103,000 affordable vaccines.

While our commitment to these core services is stronger than ever, we have proudly expanded to include resources in a judgement-free setting for pets who would otherwise go without the routine veterinary care that is critical to a happy and healthy life. In addition to increasing our capacity for affordable wellness care in 2021, we were also thrilled to offer specialized services to further reduce the number of pet owners who are forced to surrender their beloved pet to shelters or worse, make the difficult decision to euthanize as a result of being unable to afford the care they need.

Friends for Life

The relationship that a pet owner shares with their animal companion is meant to last a lifetime. In 2021, we continued our commitment to providing the pets and people of our community with the resources they need to stay together, even during the most uncertain times.

Through our Friends for Life program, Animal Friends supports struggling pet owners by gaining an understanding of the challenges they face and breaking down barriers by connecting them with affordable pet care resources.



2021 Our
Impact
by the
Numbers

6,834 spay/neuter surgeries

20,635 low-cost vaccines

2,425 wellness appointments

97 dental procedures

4.010 specialized services

20

Chow Wagon Pet Food Bank

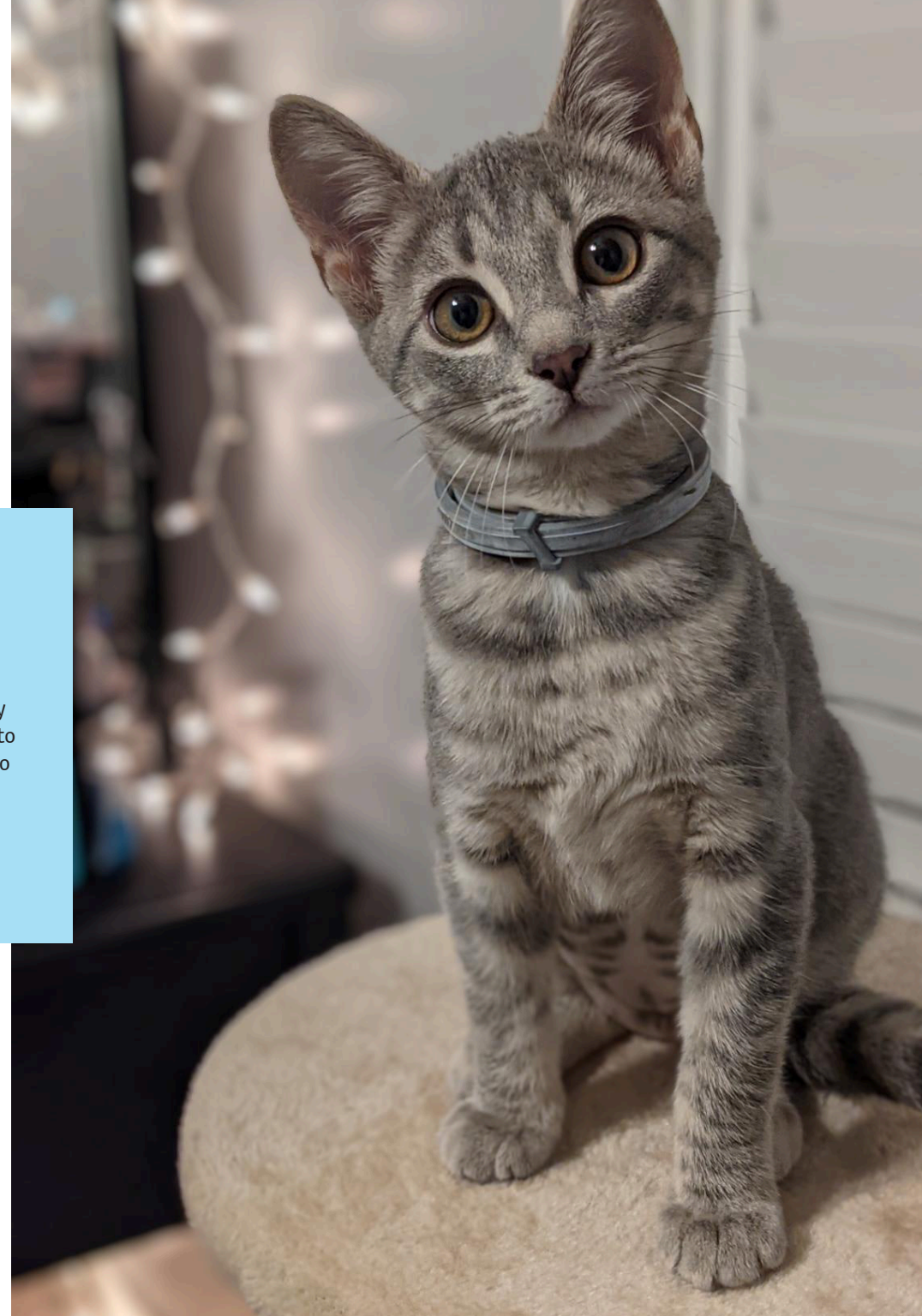
After a record-setting year in 2020, our Chow Wagon continued to impact the lives of thousands of hungry pets across southwestern Pennsylvania by distributing free, nutritious pet food and supplies. In 2021, our pet food bank served 497,939 meals by supporting 32 different food pantries and Meals on Wheels programs on a monthly basis, while also offering distribution on our campus and supporting a growing network of partners and distribution hubs throughout the community.

Brandon and Chip's Story

Late in 2021, we received a call from a caseworker who was working with a child named Brandon who had recently entered the foster care system. All he had in the world was his beloved cat, Chip, but sadly his new foster family was unable to house a cat. Brandon's caseworkers contacted Animal Friends for support and we were able to arrange temporary emergency boarding for Chip while they searched for a placement that would allow them to live together. These two best friends have since been happily reunited and will continue to have our network of support to ensure that Chip can remain a healthy companion to Brandon for many years to come.

21 Our
Impact
by the
Numbers

155,606 pounds of free pet food distributed
21,596 pet owners supported
695 referrals for resources and support





Saving Lives Enrichment
Legislation Justice Home Adoption
Medical Patience Second Chances Trust
Voice Lifesaving Operations Protect
Rescue, rehabilitation, rehoming ... and so much more.
Safe Haven Holistic Action Rescue
Placement

Animal Friends has been saving lives for nearly 80 years – it's at the very core of what we do. And, while we have continued to grow and expand the resources that enable pets to live happy and healthy lives alongside their human companions, we recognize that there are still so many pets – both in our community and beyond – who are in desperate need of rescue, rehabilitation and rehoming.

That's where our compassionate team comes in to offer lifesaving second chances to the pets who need us most.

But Animal Friends is so much more than an animal shelter. Our expansive network of programs and resources is constantly growing and evolving to make up a full-service animal welfare community. Through our progressive and holistic approach to sheltering, we are impacting the lives of thousands of animals who have nowhere else to turn.

Humane Investigations

Every day, our Humane Investigations team is out in the community offering education, resources and, when necessary, lifesaving intervention for animals in crisis. Our Humane Society Police Officers enforce Pennsylvania Animal Cruelty Law to protect companion animals who fall victim to neglect, cruelty and abuse.

In 2021, our team responded to reports of suspected animal abuse, investigating hundreds of cases and impacting the lives of nearly 1,200 companion animals in need. We also faced a number of large-scale cases of suspected animal hoarding, including the rescue of 50 dogs from a single home in Whitehall. And, with support from the entire organization, we continued to provide the highest standard of care to animals who faced uncertain futures while waiting months – or longer in some cases – for justice to be served with their day in court.

Keren's Story

In July 2021, a dog named Keren finally had her day in court after being rescued by our Humane Investigations team nearly 2 years earlier in the summer of 2019. Keren was removed from a residence in Homestead where, tragically, two other dogs had passed away before our Humane Society Police Officers arrived. After a medical examination, Keren's body condition showed that she was on the brink of starvation and her owner was charged with 21 counts of animal neglect, cruelty and aggravated cruelty. Keren's trial was postponed eight times before a judge finally sentenced her owner to 18-36 months in prison and 5 years of probation and prohibition of pet ownership.

Humane Legislation

In 2021, our efforts to create a more humane and compassionate community continued through humane legislation efforts. This past September, Pittsburgh City Council unanimously passed legislation to ban the non-therapeutic declawing of cats, making Pittsburgh the first government in Pennsylvania to recognize the inhumane practice that has been banned in other major cities including Austin, Denver, Los Angeles and the state of New York. This ordinance clearly demonstrated the importance of continuing to work with local and state legislators to be a voice for companion animals and champion legislation that will create a brighter and humane future for all of our animal friends.

Admissions and Transport

Last year, our Admissions team welcomed more than 1,500 animals into our progressive network of care. Our focus continues to be on serving as a lifesaving second chance for the animals who are struggling the most and are in desperate need of rescue. Pet overpopulation remains a very serious problem facing our community – especially among cats and rabbits. But, thanks to progressive spay/neuter programs and increased awareness about pet adoption, dog overpopulation figures in our region have steadily declined in recent years.

In 2021, our focus continued to shift toward the overwhelming number of healthy, adoptable dogs who are being euthanized due to severe overpopulation in other parts of the country, particularly in West Virginia and Ohio and as far as Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi and Florida. While we remain committed to supporting the animals in our community, we are also working to extend our reach by creating partnerships with a network of organizations outside of our traditional service area to transport the animals in the greatest need and unite them with loving, adoptive families.



Carol Meal with Sammy, the first success story from Yana's "Special" Felines Fund.



Yana's "Special" Felines Fund was started by Carol Meal to honor her beloved cat Yana. By identifying a small group of adoptable cats who are having a difficult time finding homes, Yana's "Special" Felines Fund will help to eliminate some of the financial barriers that may prevent families from taking in cats who are elderly, medically or behaviorally challenged or those who are simply struggling after being displaced from their home.



Rabbit Care and Nutrition

In July 2021, our Medical and Behavior Care teams participated in a workshop led by a visiting veterinarian with a special interest in exotics that focused on the health and wellness of our rabbit residents. In addition to reinforcing proper techniques for rabbit handling and restraint during medical procedures, the training went into detail about diet and nutrition. Since then, we've changed the way we're feeding the rabbits in our care by incorporating a rotating menu of greens, enrichment through a wider variety of hay and less dependence on pellets. The result has been a dramatic decrease in digestive issues and a healthier rabbit population.

Adoption

Our Adoption Counselors serve as a knowledgeable resource for families in our community who are interested in opening their home to a new four-legged family member. We pride ourselves on getting to know the unique personalities of each dog, cat and rabbit in our care and working with adopters to ensure the best possible matches and a lasting bond for animals and humans alike.

But adoptions are just the beginning of what our dedicated team does to support homeless pets in our care. We are committed to a personalized approach to create a unique plan and network of support before and after adoption that will set each animal up for success.

Medical

Managing the health and wellness of the nearly 250 animals who fill our kennels and foster homes each and every day takes a special combination of compassion, teamwork and perseverance. Our dedicated team of veterinarians, technicians and medical staff works around the clock to ensure that our animal residents are stress-free and comfortable during their time with us – regardless of what medical conditions they may have.

The unique challenges for a Medical Department in a shelter setting require expertise and creativity – especially when facing the reality of contagious viruses, diseases and other ailments that could threaten the well-being of our entire population.

Behavior Care and Enrichment

The individualized and holistic approach that our staff and volunteers have for the daily care and husbandry of our animal residents starts with our Behavior Care and Enrichment teams. After a careful and methodical assessment of each animal's unique personality, temperament, likes and dislikes, our animals receive personalized care and one-on-one interactions customized to their individual needs.

In a shelter setting, mental health and physical health go hand in hand and our approach focuses on minimizing stress and anxiety. With enrichment and positive reinforcement training incorporated into their routines, our animal residents have an active and cooperative role in the care they receive on a daily basis.

2021 Our
Impact
by the
Numbers

1,503 animals rescued through transport and admissions

1,369 animals adopted by loving families

1,199 lives improved through Humane Society Police Officer intervention



Sam's Story

When Sam first arrived at Animal Friends, he was in a lot of discomfort due to untreated allergies. Sadly, this sweet boy was suffering from hair loss and painful red patches all over his skin. So our dedicated team utilized cooperative care to incorporate training and rewards into his medical and wellness routines. Because Sam needs some extra care to manage his severe allergies, helping him feel comfortable during treatment was critical in minimizing his stress and anxiety. Through hundreds of hours of training and dedicated care, Sam's coat is healthier and he's calm and comfortable. And, of course, he's as handsome as ever!



Created as a heartfelt tribute for a very special dog named Rosie, we teamed up with Fi Smart Dog Collar to provide a safety net for dogs who have become separated from their families. Rosie spent the first 6 years of her life with very little human interaction before being rescued and adopted from Animal Friends. Tragically, she was struck by a vehicle and passed away after slipping out the garage door of her new home. To ensure her legacy lives on and more lives are saved, Rosie's Rule provides certain canine residents at Animal Friends with GPS-enabled dog collars to protect them during their time at Animal Friends, in foster care and during the first critical year in their new home.

Social Training
Therapy Compassion Service
Play Outreach Programs Bond
Education Comfort Affection

As Animal Friends strives to serve as a resource for the pets and people of our community who need us the most, we are continually evolving with a wide range of innovative and comprehensive outreach programs. Through these expansive outreach efforts, Animal Friends is nurturing and promoting the animal-human bond while impacting tens of thousands of lives, two- and four-legged alike.

We proudly offer an array of programs that provide humane education, therapeutic support and a helping hand to those in our community who are struggling. It is through these efforts that we are continuing to work toward our vision of a humane and compassionate future for every animal friend.





Animal Friends University

Over the past couple of years, pet ownership numbers have increased dramatically as families spending more time at home decided to welcome new four-legged members to their household. And, with more pets comes a need for more training and behavior resources. In 2021, Animal Friends University saw a 50 percent increase in attendees from 2020 with more than 3,000 pet owners participating in classes.

Our AFU classes teach positive reinforcement training led by our talented staff of trainers. With more pets living in our community than ever before, the importance of using humane and effective evidence-based techniques is critical. Through AFU, we are committed to providing the tools and education for pet owners to build strong and lasting relationships with their animal companions.

Summer Camp

After a temporary hiatus in 2020, we were absolutely thrilled to welcome back our Summer Camp programming in 2021. Over the course of seven weeks, we welcomed 116 campers between kindergarten and high school to our campus during 15 different camps for an engaging and educational experience.

Our campers enjoyed fun activities and projects focused on building a foundation for the humane treatment of companion animals. Younger campers worked on crafts, storytelling and interacted with our animal residents, while teen campers participated in hands-on activities including a behind-the-scenes tour of our Medical Suite and training activities with the animals.

Animal Friends for Veterans

Since our founding in 1943 at the height of World War II, Animal Friends has been committed to veterans and the brave individuals who continue to serve in our military. Recognizing the life-changing power of the animal-human bond, and with nearly 200,000 military veterans in the Pittsburgh region today, our commitment is stronger now than ever.

This past year, we unveiled Animal Friends for Veterans, our new comprehensive shelter program for veterans and their pets. We are proud to continue our longstanding tradition of underwriting adoptions for members of the military, while taking our commitment to the next level by offering customized matches tailored to the veteran and their family. As a critical addition to the program, discounted veterinary wellness services, behavioral resources and emergency support are available for those in crisis.

Therapets

At the onset of the pandemic in 2020, we began to see people in our community struggling emotionally more than ever. And, for much of that year, our specially trained and certified pet therapy teams were unable to offer support during a time when they were needed the most. With schools, hospitals and assisted living facilities closed to visitors, Therapets, one of our most in-demand programs, was forced into a temporary hold.

But, this past year brought new opportunities for our Therapets and their volunteer handlers to get back to doing what they do best! In 2021, these animal-human therapy teams conducted 22,032 visits out in the community to provide affection, comfort and healing to our neighbors who needed them.



Alicia's Fund

This past year, our Animal Friends family was devastated by the sudden and unexpected loss of Alicia Drosendahl, one of our most dedicated volunteers. From a young age, Alicia found her calling amongst the homeless residents at Animal Friends – especially the dogs. To honor Alicia's passion for animals, **The Alicia Drosendahl Summer Camp Fund** was established to encourage that same passion in other young animal lovers by underwriting the cost of materials and providing scholarship funds to campers who are unable to afford the full cost of tuition.

Communications Administration
Human Resources Development
Volunteering Marketing Fundraising Accounting
Operational Support

Supporting a compassionate vision and lifesaving mission.

Information Technology
Storytelling Maintenance





Volunteering

At Animal Friends, we positively impact the lives of tens of thousands of pets each year. And, this work wouldn't be possible without the incredible support of our dedicated and compassionate corps of volunteers. Over the course of 2021, our volunteers contributed 246,530 hours of service to our daily operations and lifesaving mission – the equivalent of nearly 120 full-time employees.

Our volunteers selflessly donate their time in every aspect of our work, caring for and socializing our animal residents, offering administrative support, providing skilled support in our Medical and Clinic Services Departments, assisting with our maintenance needs and so much more. Simply put, Animal Friends' lifesaving mission wouldn't be possible without our volunteers.

Organizational Resources

Keeping an operation as large as Animal Friends running takes a dedicated team working hard behind the scenes. In support of the lifesaving work that takes place each day, Animal Friends has a talented team of maintenance, accounting, human resources and administrative professionals. While these individuals take on a unique role and may not work directly with the animals, their passion for Animal Friends' mission is on full display each and every day.

In December 2021, we replaced our entire WiFi network thanks to an incredibly generous donation of equipment and support from FedEx, Randstad USA and Kellogg valued at more than \$100,000. The upgraded hardware enabled our entire team to maximize productivity and operate more efficiently with best-in-class equipment while allowing for cloud-based solutions and increased security.

Community Engagement

After a year of isolation, quarantining and staying at home, we embraced the opportunity to interact with our community in person once again in 2021. Although we found new and creative ways to host virtual fundraisers and continued to spread the word about our work through social media, Petersburg Magazine and other creative outlets, we know that the best way to experience Animal Friends is by visiting our campus and witnessing our lifesaving mission firsthand.

Black Tie & Tails, our signature gala and largest event of the year, highlighted our 2021 fundraising calendar. For one night, our campus was transformed into Destination: Animal Friends as we welcomed hundreds of friends – new and old – for an unforgettable experience of food, cocktails, entertainment and, most importantly, saving lives.

Another longstanding Animal Friends tradition, our annual New Year's Rescue, returned in 2021 for the 25th year. What started as a lifesaving effort to give a second chance to animals from animal control facilities who were facing euthanasia in the new year has grown into an annual celebration of the partnerships and collaboration with shelter partners across the region and the country that have grown over the past two and a half decades.

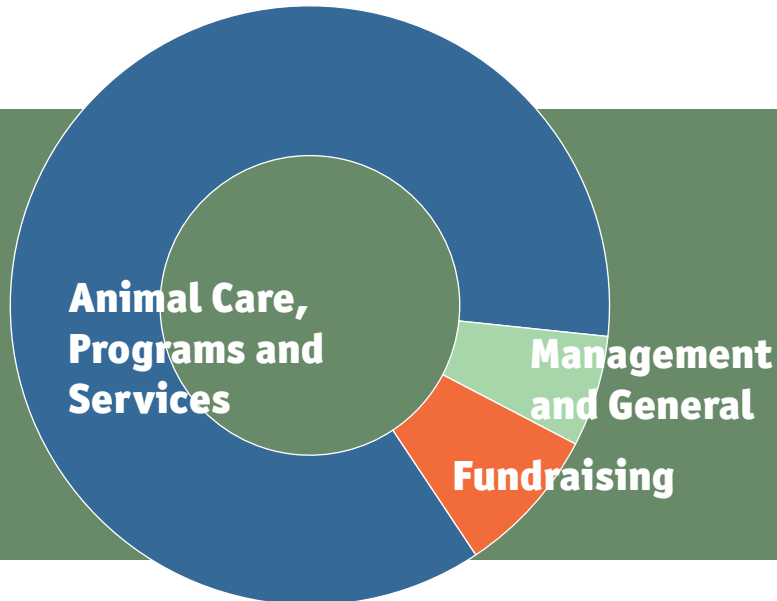
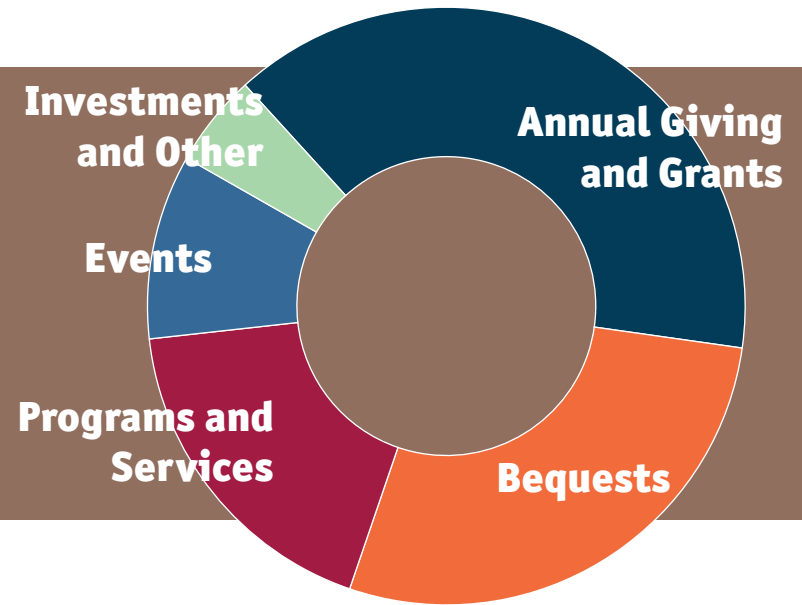
Leaving a Legacy

Including Animal Friends in your estate planning is a meaningful way to create a lasting impact and ensure a second chance for thousands of homeless animals. By leaving a gift for Animal Friends in your will, trust or other account, you're making your love for animals and their well-being part of your life story. To learn more about how your planned gift can make the greatest impact in Animal Friends' future, visit ThinkingOutsideTheCage.org/PlannedGiving or contact our Development team at Development@ThinkingOutsideTheCage.org or 412.847.7051.

2021 Operating Activity (Unaudited)

Revenue

Annual Giving and Grants	\$2,849,128	39%
Bequests	\$1,973,985	28%
Programs and Services	\$1,249,391	18%
Events	\$691,979	10%
Investments and Other	\$346,597	5%
Total Revenue	\$7,111,080	100%



Expenses

Animal Care, Programs and Services	\$4,649,959	86%
Management and General	\$324,416	6%
Fundraising	\$432,554	8%
Total Expenses	\$5,406,929	100%

As is consistent with our audited financial statements and Form 990, the events and investments revenue is net of direct expenses.

Functional expense allocation does not include depreciation expense.

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In Memoriam

Alice Richardson, Founder

Lloyd Gluck, Esq.

**As of Dec. 31, 2021*

