



*Make a friend
for life.*

WINDHAM COUNTY
HUMANE SOCIETY



2019 Annual
Report



**THANKS TO
ALL OF OUR
SUPPORTERS FOR
ANOTHER
"PAWSOME"
YEAR!**





OUR MISSION

The mission of Windham County Humane Society is to ensure the safety and well-being of animals and enhance the relationship between individuals and pets through adoption, education, advocacy, compassion, and promotion of animal welfare.

a message from our **Executive Director**

2019 was a pivotal year for the Windham County Humane Society. Thanks to sound fiscal management that built up a fund for special projects and the good faith of our Board of Directors, we took the plunge and hired a veterinarian for the first time. This was no easy feat. It is a challenge to hire a veterinarian anywhere these days, and finding a vet for a shelter setting is that much more daunting. Add that we were looking to hire for a part time position, and you raise the bar even further. We got it done the way we get a lot of things done – through collaboration. Fortunately, the Monadnock Humane Society was also looking for a veterinarian at 3 days a week. Voila! We were able to work together to offer a full-time position. We could not have hired a better candidate than Dr. Michele Martino. She has fit in seamlessly with the team. She is smart, dedicated, compassionate, funny and always finds a creative solution to every challenge. Dr. Martino is at WCHS two days a week, and those two days are action packed, filled with surgeries and exams, addressing a wide range of needs of both owned animals and shelter animals.

Hiring a vet for the first time reflects the shift in animal welfare that has been evolving for many years in New England. With overpopulation largely under control, the real challenge to the health and well-being of owned pets is affordable pet care. This is not the fault of our amazing local veterinarians. While human doctors get to focus on one species, veterinarians are expected to know about a host of animals. It is expensive to run a veterinary clinic. The public has come to expect all the bells and whistles, like ultrasound and x-ray machines. The days of the small town vet have disappeared. We looked at the data, followed the lead of national organizations, and started our Pet Care Assistance Program with a grant in 2012. In 2019, we were still the only shelter in Vermont offering such a program, and it has made a world of difference. We help more local animals than ever before in our long history.

Heartfelt thanks to our small but mighty staff that works tirelessly to help more and more animals and their people, our wonderful Board of Directors, and more than 100 volunteers, all essential to keeping us going every day. Most importantly, I thank the amazing, supportive, humane community in which we live.

Annie Guion
Executive Director



2019 STATS

750
ADOPTIONS



275



459



16

Average length
of stay: **2 WEEKS**

Save Rate: **93%**



378
PETS
TRANSFERED
IN FROM SHELTERS

165
PETS
FOSTERED

101
PETS
RETURNED
TO OWNERS

758
CLINIC
VISITS

857
VACCINES
ADMINISTERED



905
SPAY/NEUTER
SURGERIES

754
PET OWNERS
HELPED VIA
PET CARE
ASSISTANCE



3,635
VOLUNTEER HOURS



Organizational Summary

The Windham County Humane Society (WCHS) is a non-profit organization dedicated to ensuring the safety and well-being of animals and enhancing the relationship between individuals and pets through adoption, education, advocacy, compassion and promotion of animal welfare.

WCHS helps stray, abandoned, neglected and surrendered pets by giving them a second chance at a healthy, happy life. WCHS animals receive excellent health care from our staff and local veterinarians. Because we are committed to reducing the number of unwanted animals, all animals are spayed or neutered prior to adoption. We do not euthanize for time or space – all adoptable animals stay safely at WCHS until the right new home comes along.

Windham County Humane Society is working to create a vibrant, well-run and financially secure community-supported animal shelter that offers a variety of programs, services and facilities that promote the well-being and dignity of pets and other companion animals, and support their responsible stewardship by human caregivers.

Helping stray, abandoned, neglected and surrendered pets by giving them a second chance at a healthy, happy life.



OUR IMPACT

In 2019, WCHS placed 750 animals into new, loving homes, including 459 cats, 275 dogs, and 16 small animals. 165 cats and 213 dogs were transported from shelters where they faced euthanasia to new homes in New England.

754 pet owners participated in our Pet Care Assistance Program. They own, on average, 2.7 pets each, for a total of approximately 2,036 animals served. Not all of those animals came into our facility, but they benefited from access to prescription food at cost and/or affordable medications. We provided the following services to pet owners: 650 doses of parasite control; 421 distemper vaccines; 434 rabies vaccines; 131 medications; 62 microchips/ID tags, 52 diagnostic tests; 21 nail trims; 9 dental cleanings; and 92 bags/cans of pet food.

We provided affordable euthanasia and cremation services for 29 beloved pets.

We spayed/neutered 323 cats, 88 dogs and 15 rabbits for low-income pet owners. 165 animals were fostered in volunteer homes.

Happy Tails

Adoption Highlights

Sorbet

Sorbet's ear canal was so infected that we could not see what the real issue was at first. We discovered a polyp that had been there for many years. This meant multiple visits to the Brattleboro Veterinary Clinic, culminating in surgery, along with a two-month healing process in the shelter before Sorbet could be adopted.

Now she provides comfort care for her new dad as he recovers from emergency surgery. Sorbet knows just what a long recovery feels like!



Bella

This sweet 3 year-old dog came to us underweight, full of parasites, covered in scabs and suffering hair loss due to general lack of care. Still, she had a playful, sunny disposition and was soon a staff favorite.

Bella spent a long time at the shelter being cared for by staff. She received veterinary care, vaccines, treatment for parasites, and numerous in-house medications to help her heal over the course of several months. She recovered completely, found her forever home with a family that adores her, and is now living the life she deserves.

We Love Every Happy Tail!

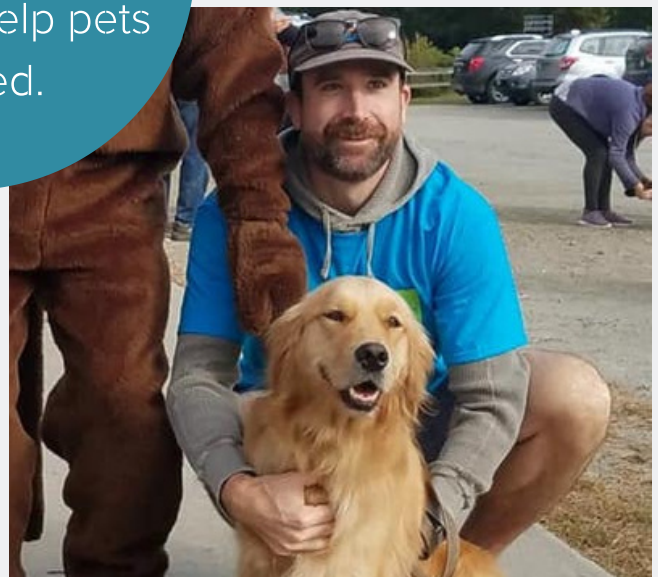


SPOTLIGHT ON OUR DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS & FOSTERS

Our ever-growing volunteer base is filled with loyal, enthusiastic individuals who give a great deal of time and energy to help pets in need, and we cannot thank them enough! Whether it be through fostering animals, socializing pets at the shelter, reading to cats, walking dogs, raising funds, serving on the board of directors, lending a hand with special events, assisting with office work, or even pitching in to clean, our volunteers help us to live our mission every day.



In 2019, 101 volunteers donated 3,635 hours to WCHS to help pets in need.



THANKS TO OUR CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION DONORS

Ben & Jerry's Foundation
Craig & Sara Matters Chaitable Fund
ExxonMobil Foundation
High Meadows Foundation
Hills Science Diet
Maine Community Foundation
Marquis George MacDonald Foundation

Planet Aid
Richard Wolfman Foundation
Thompson Trust
Vermont Community Foundation
Windham Foundation
Woodtiger Fund

THANKS TO OUR DONATION BANK PARTNERS



Without the generous support of our community and local businesses, WCHS would not be able to offer the animals in our care a second chance at happy, healthy lives. Many businesses throughout the Southern Vermont community graciously host our donation banks. Each time you donate to our banks, your contribution allows us to provide shelter, food, medicine, and veterinary care for animals in need. We thank all of them for their support! (For a full list of donation bank partners, please visit our website: www.windhamcountyhumane.org/partners)

THANKS TO OUR PARTNER AGENCIES

Best Friends
Central Vermont Humane Society
Dr. Ani Hawkinson
Felines & Friends Foundation
Franklin County Animal Rescue
Good Karma Pet Rescue
Health & Harmony Animal Hospital
HSUS
Humane Society of Chittenden County
Riverside Rescue

Rutland County Humane Society
Second Chance Animal Rescue
Second Chance Cat Rescue, Inc.
Shelter Animals Count
Spay ASAP
SPCA Florida
St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center
VDART
VT Humane Federation
WinDART

We apologize for any omissions. If we left you off, please contact us so we can correct our error.

THANKS TO OUR LOCAL BUSINESS PARTNERS

1868 Crosby House B&B
Achille Agway of Brattleboro
Anchor Seafood House & Grille
Artrageus
Auto Mall, Inc
Bartleby's Books
Beadniks
Boomerang
Brattleboro Chamber
Brattleboro Food Co-op
Brattleboro Savings & Loan
Brattleboro Subaru
Brown & Roberts Inc
Bryant Management Co.
Buehler & Annis, PLC
C&S Wholesale Grocers, Inc .
Cask & Kiln Kitchen
Costa Del Mar, Inc.
Cotton Design
Crispe & Crispe Law Offices
Crucian Gold
Diane Echlin Ceramics
DMI, Inc.
Dot's Restaurant
Duo
Echo Point Books
Elm City Brewery
Enright & Company
Evan James Ltd
Eve Baker Massage
Express Fluency
Fifth Generation Inc
Flatter Me Hair Salon
Four Columns Inn
Franklin Farm
G & W Foundry Corp
G.S. Precision, Inc.
Goodenough Rubbish Removal
GPI Construction, Inc.
Gray Ghost Inn
Green Mtn. Investment Corp.

Greenberg Assoc. Architects
Grove Street Fiduciary, Inc.
Healing Energies
Healthy Paws Barkery. LLC
Heritage Family Credit Union
Hermit Thrush Brewery
High 5 Adventure Learning Center
Holistic Skin Health & Wellness
Howard Printing
Humanitas Massage
Jeff Woodward Photography
Jezebel's Eatery & TavernJ
ohn J Reed Construction Corp
Joyful Treasures
Key-Gots Mini Storage
Lance Shader, PC
Latchis Theatre
Members Advantage Credit Union
Monadnock Fence Co., Inc
Mount Snow Ltd
Mystic Meadows Alpacas
New Chapter, Inc.
Paquette's Auto Body Inc
Park Place Financial Advisors
Penelope Wurr
Pickwell's Barn
Putney Food Co-op
Putney General Store
Putney Mountain Winery
RA Jaworski PC
Read Reality Ltd
Renaissance Fine Jewelry, LID
Rentals Only
River Valley Credit Union
Sanpete LLC
Saxton's River Distillery
Sharon Myers Fine Catering
Ski Bromley
State Farm Insurance
Stop & Go Instant Oil Change
Studio 20 Hair Salon

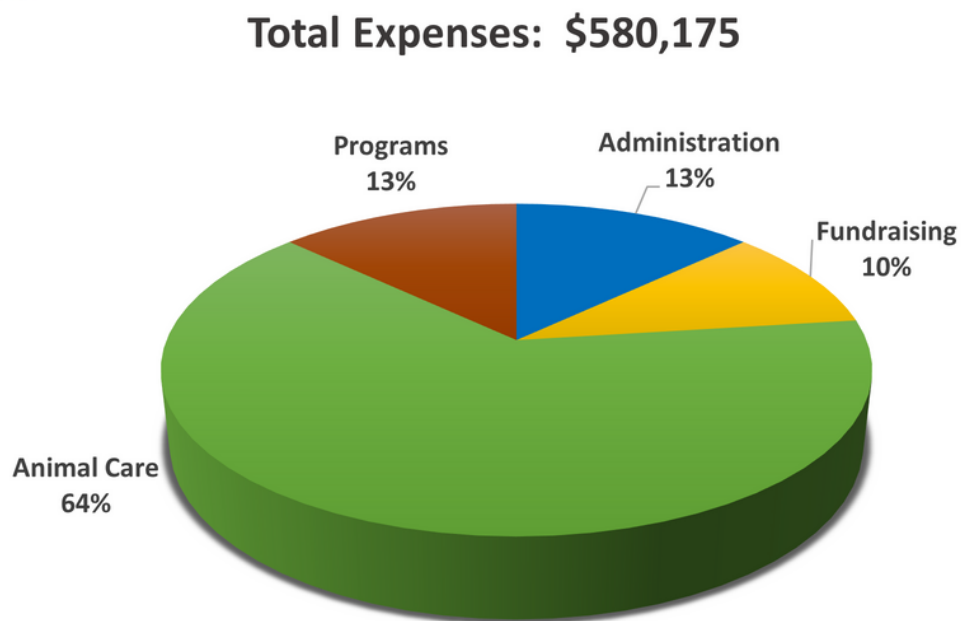
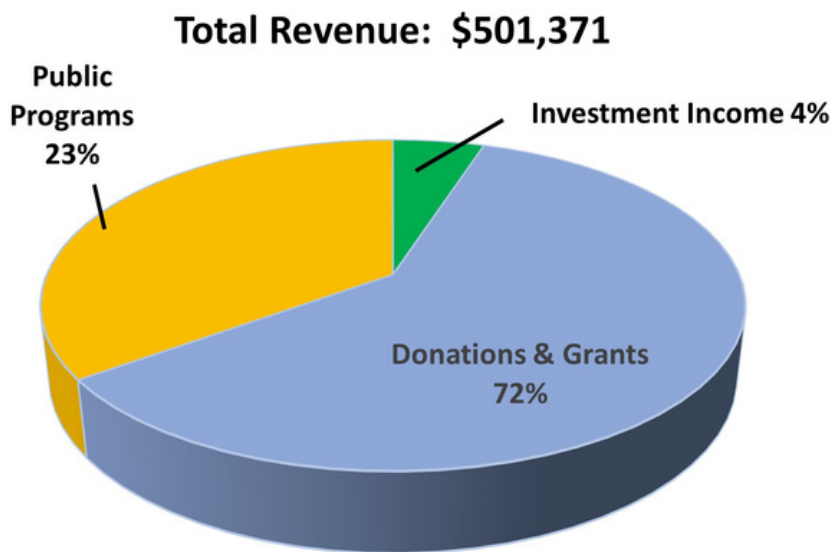
STD Bank, NA
Subaru of New England
T.J. Buckley's
The Marina Restaurant
The Porch Too
The Shoe Tree
Timber Creek Owners Assn.
Tire Warehouse
Tracy J. Sloan, CPA
Tricorp Federal Credit Union
Triple T Trucking Co., Inc.
Twice Blessed, Inc.
Vermont Country Deli
Vermont Country Store
Wagatha
Wells Fargo Advisors
West Townshend Botanicals
Whetstone Station
Windham Coach & Carriage
Wolff Designs
Working K-9 Services
Zappos
Zephyr Designs



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2019 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Along with revenue from animal adoptions, spay/neuter surgeries, and the provision of limited veterinary care, WCHS solicits contributions through fundraising appeals in newsletters, direct mail, online, and via special events. Individual gifts, corporate sponsorships, foundation support, legacy gifts, and fundraising events comprise the bulk of the organization's revenue. We are extremely grateful for all of our supporters.





2019 Board of Directors

Valerie Barry
Kelly Carlin
Julie Hamilton
Susan M. Kelly, DVM
Ross Kinney
Greg Lesch
Stewart McDermet
Tami Purcell
Maggie Smith
Joan Starkman
John Wilcox



2019 Staff Members

Kai Bessette
Eric Brow
Taylor Chamberlain
Ronald Francis
Grace Grover
Annie Guion
Michele Martino, DVM
Marianne Monoc
John O'Farrell
Arianna Parris
Jessalyn Pennington
Tanya Powling
Mary Jane Rickards
Keri Roberts
Kessandra Rooks
Margaret Tiffany
Cooper Turner-Renaud
Phoebe Wolfman



A Snapshot of Our Year





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