

2017 ANNUAL REPORT



MAKING HAPPILY EVER AFTERS SINCE 1913



Cleveland
**ANIMAL
PROTECTIVE
LEAGUE**

Adopt • Protect • Love

ABOUT THE CLEVELAND ANIMAL PROTECTIVE LEAGUE

On June 12, 1912, twelve women met at the home of Stella Hatch and formed an association called the Animal Protective League. Incorporated in 1913, the Cleveland Animal Protective League (APL) is a private, 501(c)(3), nonprofit humane society and progressive leader in animal welfare. A five-room cottage, located on Willey Avenue in Cleveland, opened as the APL's first shelter on January 1, 1917. Today, we operate a 30,000-square-foot animal shelter in the same location on Willey Avenue, and a 2,000-square-foot PetSmart Charities® Everyday Adoption Center (EAC) in the PetSmart® store in Parma.

Our mission is to foster compassion and end animal suffering. Every day, we rescue abused and neglected animals, offer shelter to homeless pets, promote compassionate and responsible pet guardianship, strive to elevate the status of companion animals in our society, and work to keep pets with the people they love.

Joseph Amelin, the APL's first humane agent, went out with a cat cage on street cars in response to calls for help in cases of injured or cruelly treated animals. Today, our humane agents respond to thousands of calls a year in state-of-the-art animal transport vehicles.

We never turn companion animals in need away due to their age, health, or temperament. This year, thousands of injured, abused, or homeless animals will come through our doors. Once inside, they receive the food, shelter, and medical care they so desperately need. For some, it is the only human kindness they have ever known.

We have achieved 100% placement of healthy, friendly animals, and through our Second Chance Program, we provide exceptional additional care to animals with treatable illnesses and injuries and modifiable behavioral issues. There are no time limits at the APL. Friendly, healthy animals, and animals whose illnesses and injuries we can treat will stay in our adoption centers until they find their new home.

We're proud to celebrate our incredible accomplishments and thank our supporters for being a part of our journey. We are already dreaming about where the APL will be in another 100 years and hope you will continue to support our mission and help us to create more happy endings for animals in the years to come.



LETTERS FROM THE BOARD CHAIRPERSON AND PRESIDENT & CEO



Dear Friends,

We are happy to have the opportunity to share highlights of the incredible work being done every day by the staff and volunteers at the Cleveland APL. I know you will feel the same pride I do when you review our accomplishments and celebrate the many happy families that are created every day at the Cleveland Animal Protective League.

As a lifelong resident of the Greater Cleveland area, I am honored to be associated with an organization that has been part of our community for more than a century. I hope this report will help you to understand the variety of services offered by the APL and inspire you to share our pride in the APL's many accomplishments.

In particular, my family and I have a soft spot for the APL Foster Care Program and its wonderful, caring volunteers—two of our four dogs made us proud members of the APL's Foster Failure Club!

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I want to thank the staff, volunteers, and the Greater Cleveland community for their dedication and commitment to the APL and our mission of fostering compassion and ending animal suffering. Your belief in the important work we do enables us to continue to make more happy endings for homeless, abused, and neglected animals.

Sincerely,

Pam Lebold
Chair, Board of Directors



Dear Friends,

The Cleveland APL has served the animals and people in our Greater Cleveland community since 1913. We are proud to have earned national recognition as a respected innovator and thought leader in animal welfare.

With the support of our community, we have been able to implement and sustain lifesaving programs that give hope to all healthy, friendly, or safely and humanely treatable animals. Gone are the days when only “easy” animals qualified for adoption. Now, the animals who come to us have hope for a new life and home, regardless of how long it takes us to heal their bodies and spirits and find them their perfect match.

The APL's impact is no longer measured solely by how many animals we take in, adopt out, spay or neuter, or rescue from abuse. We are increasing our focus on preserving the human-animal bond and keeping animals with the families they love.

Behind every number in this report is an animal with a beating heart and unique story—and people who cared enough to help them. Without you, nothing you will read here would have been possible.

I hope you are inspired by the accomplishments of our wonderful team. Thank you for your belief in the APL, our mission, and of the value of animals in society.

Sincerely,

Sharon A. Harvey
President & CEO





JACKSON

Jackson's arrival at the Cleveland APL was anything but conventional. This poor, scared nine-year-old dog was found tied to the dumpster behind our shelter in Tremont in the middle of the day. Luckily, an employee found Jackson on her way out to lunch and immediately came to his aid.

Our team was surprised to find a large mass—approximately the size of a grapefruit—on his lip. Jackson was understandably uncomfortable and scared, and he would yelp every time a member of the APL team tried to touch him.

Our dedicated staff and volunteers set out to not only take care of Jackson's medical needs, but to heal his spirit. They talked to him, spent time with him, gave him lots of love, and took him for long walks. And it worked! Jackson became the happy, friendly dog we always knew he could be.

Our veterinary team was able to remove the mass from his face and were relieved to learn it was not cancerous. The only reminder of what Jackson endured is a very cute "Elvis lip," which just makes him all the more adorable!

As luck would have it, one of our wonderful dog walking volunteers grew especially attached to Jackson. As soon as he was cleared for adoption, he went home with his new mom, Kelly. The APL team all celebrated when Kelly shared pictures of his first night in his new home. Jackson tried out every bed until he found the one that was just right for him!



JESSIE

Jessie had lived as an outside cat for the first three years of her life. When she arrived at the Cleveland APL in the arms of a Good Samaritan, it appeared as though this sweet cat had been hit by a car. Jessie had a large, scabbing wound on her back, was unable to use her back right leg, and needed immediate medical care. Thanks to the APL's Second Chance Program, she received all of the care she needed, along with a lot of love and attention thrown in for good measure!

Jessie needed a special surgery to have her tail amputated. After surgery, she spent two months in the care of a loving APL foster family who tended to her wounds so her skin could heal. Another result of her time in foster care was that Jessie also learned just how nice life can be in the comfort of a warm home with people who love her.

Finally, thanks to our veterinary team's and Jessie's foster family's caring attention and compassion, she was ready for adoption. With her neck pillow as a stylish accessory, Jessie's photo on social media caught the eye of her new mom. She came to the APL to see Jessie in person and was charmed. Now Jessie has a wonderful life as an indoor cat and a home to call her own.





5,731
Adoptions



219

Animals were transferred to other shelters or rescue groups or returned to their owners

ADOPTIONS

The Cleveland APL has been creating “happily ever afters” since 1913 through our learning-centered adoption program. We operate two adoption centers that are open every day of the week—one in our animal care facility on Willey Avenue in Cleveland, and the other at the PetSmart® store on Ridge Road in Parma in our PetSmart Charities®

Everyday Adoption Center (EAC). The APL has also partnered with local Petco® and Pet Supplies Plus® stores to shelter and adopt cats directly from the stores. Finally, during the spring, summer, and fall months, our offsite adoptions team makes stops at locations and events all around the area with fabulous adoptable cats and dogs.





6,746

Calls received reporting
suspected animal cruelty



1,264

New investigations opened



1,078

Cats, dogs and other animals
rescued from cruelty or neglect

HUMANE INVESTIGATIONS

Animal abuse is a crime. Our Humane Investigations team, also known as Cuyahoga County's "Animal Cops," rescues animals from life-threatening situations, investigates cases of suspected animal abuse and neglect, and works with prosecutors to seek justice for the victims and punishment for the offenders. As there is such a strong link between animal abuse and human violence, our humane agents are also mandated reporters of suspected child abuse and work closely with Child & Family Services to protect both animals and children.



4,465

Animals received
diagnostic and/or medical care
for illnesses or injuries



3,576

Diagnostic tests performed



4,760

Medical treatments
and/or surgeries

SHELTER MEDICINE

Our Cleveland APL shelter veterinarians provide everything from basic to emergency veterinary care to the hundreds of animals who could be in our facility or foster homes at any given time. They assess incoming animals, perform forensic analysis for cruelty cases, perform diagnostic work-ups, provide medical treatment, and perform surgeries that improve and save lives. Through donations to our Second Chance Program, our veterinary team provided diagnostic testing and/or treatment to 2,901 cats, 1,417 dogs and 147 other animals who were sick, injured, or had special needs. Through this program, we can do more than believe they deserve a second chance. We can actually give them that chance—a chance not only to survive, but to heal and start a new, healthy, happy life with a loving family.





10,051

Total animals sterilized



4,308

"Community" cats through our
Trap-Neuter-Return program



1,321

Adoptable animals from other
shelters and rescue groups



3,953

APL animals prior to adoption



469

Owned animals



SPAY AND NEUTER

- 1 Every dog, cat and rabbit adopted from the Cleveland APL is spayed or neutered prior to adoption.
- 2 Our Animal Welfare Clinic (AWC) provides low-cost spay/neuter surgery for adoptable animals from other local municipal shelters and 501(c) (3) humane societies and rescue groups.
- 3 Our AWC also provides Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) services for the trappers and caretakers of free-roaming, community cats.

Through our progressive spay/neuter initiatives, we are working toward a day when there will be no more animals born without homes.



FOSTER CARE

2,507

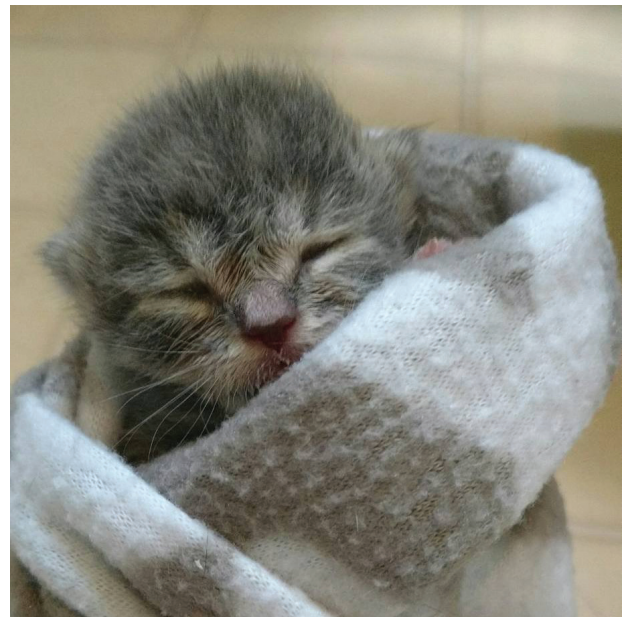
Animals fostered



311

Animals saved through the
Foster to Surrender program

Our dedicated, caring network of foster care volunteers provides in-home, individualized care and love to special-needs animals—underweight kittens and puppies, moms and litters, orphans who need to be fed by bottle, victims of neglect or abuse who need to learn to trust again, timid animals who need a little socialization, and animals who are recovering from an illness, injury, or surgery. They also provide temporary shelter for incoming animals when there are not enough cages at the Cleveland APL. Our foster volunteers are always ready and willing to offer a warm bed and caring hands to heal wounded spirits and bodies whenever there is a need.



Our Foster to Surrender (FtS) program enlists community participation to save more animals. Through it, community members who bring sick, underweight, or underage animals to the shelter are asked if they can keep the animals until they are ready for adoption. The APL provides everything needed to keep the animal in a home (including food, litter and medical expenses) until that animal is ready to return to the APL.





109,621

Volunteer Hours

(Equivalent to
53 full-time employees)



VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are at the heart of everything we do at the ClevelandAPL, and the more volunteers we have, the more animals we can help! Dog and Cat Enrichment volunteers provide socialization and exercise for animals while they wait to go home. Volunteers also help with adoptions, offsite adoption events, animal transportation, dog play groups, fundraising and special events, and office work; they work in the clinic; and they take animal photographs for our website. Without our volunteers, we could not do what we do.



PROJECT CARE

620
Animals helped through
project CARE



Project CARE (Community Animal Retention Effort) is a program that provides support for pet owners with limited resources or during times of hardship. The goal of the program is to help keep pets with the people they love, and, as a result, reduce community pet overpopulation and shelter intake from the serviced areas. In 2017, the program provided these resources to pet owners throughout the city of Cleveland. Services currently offered to project CARE clients include low-cost spay/neuter, flea treatment/preventative, counseling help with behavioral and/or medical needs, general wellness care, resource referrals to other programs, supplies for care and/or training, and pet food. Wellness clinics offered at the Cleveland APL through project CARE allow clients to take advantage of low-cost wellness check-ups, vaccinations, flea prevention, testing, and other wellness services. The APL also offers assistance to qualifying residents whose pets require additional medical assistance through our Peticaid program.



project  CARE

6,481

Total animals taken in



1,898

Dogs admitted



4,206

Cats admitted



377

Other animals admitted

1,014

Total animals transferred in



768

Dogs transferred in
from overcrowded shelters

221

Cats transferred in
from overcrowded shelters

25

Other animals transferred in
from overcrowded shelters

ANIMAL ADMISSIONS

Every day, animals come to the Cleveland APL for shelter, care, and to find new homes. They arrive through a variety of avenues. Some are surrendered by their owners or transferred in from other shelters. Others are rescued by our Humane Investigations team or are stray cats who arrive in the arms of Good Samaritans. In order to make sure every animal who comes to us can be given humane care and stay with us until they find a home of their own, our team asks owners to schedule an appointment well in advance. Even so, they are confronted with emergencies on a daily basis and always put the needs of animals in crisis first. Every animal who is admitted to the APL is treated for fleas and worms, given age-appropriate vaccinations, tested for heartworm or FIV/FelV, treated for medical conditions that we have been able to diagnose, and is either spayed or neutered prior to adoption.



TRANSFER PROGRAM

Our success in getting animals adopted into loving homes extends outside of the walls of the Cleveland APL. Whenever possible, animals from our partner shelters are transferred to the APL where their hope for finding a new home will continue. Through partnerships between the APL and other shelters that are committed to ending the euthanasia of adoptable animals, we are creating more happy endings than ever before.

INDIANA BONES

When Indiana Bones, a sweet seven-month-old pup, first came to the Cleveland APL, he was covered in cuts and scrapes and was unable to stand, much less walk—and how he came to be with us was horrifying. Indiana Bones was hit by a car, and then, when he was laying in the road, in pain and unable to move, a witness reported seeing three men taking turns kicking and beating him with sticks and bricks.

Cleveland Animal Care & Control sent him to a clinic where he was kept comfortable for the duration of his stray holding period. As soon as his holding time was up, Indiana Bones was transferred to the APL.

Upon Indy's arrival, our entire team took action. Our Veterinary staff performed diagnostic tests to determine the best way to treat his injuries, while our Humane Investigations team began searching for the cruel men who would stoop to beating a critically injured dog.

Along the way, Indiana Bones' story was picked up by local news media, and people all around Northeast Ohio and beyond rallied behind him, donating much-needed funds for the extensive medical care he would require. Thanks to the support of the community, we were able to send him to Dr. James Vogt, an orthopedic specialist, for further evaluation. He found poor Indy had a dislocated hip on one side, a fractured hip on the other, a dislocated knee, and a broken tibia bone. Indy would require several surgeries and extensive rehabilitation. In March 2017, he had his first surgery, where the hip and knee on his right side were repaired. The surgery on his other hip would wait until he had recovered from these surgeries.

In order to heal, Indiana Bones now needed intensive rehabilitation. The APL's Head of Veterinary Services arranged for Indy to undergo therapy and rehabilitative treatment with Dr. Neal Sivula at Dancing Paws Animal Wellness Center.

Dancing Paws' holistic and integrative approach to therapy proved to be a great addition to Indy's routine. He started to feel better and get stronger—running and playing like the goofy, loving dog he was meant to be. As a matter of fact, Indy's rehab was so effective that Dr. Vogt decided he would not need surgery on his other hip right away—and maybe never. Indiana Bones was finally ready for adoption!



We all knew Indy would need a very special home. His injuries were severe, and it is likely he will feel lasting effects of what he had been through. If only we could be sure he could continue the therapy that had brought him this far. During Indy's visits to their clinic for treatment, Dr. Sivula and his wife, Stephanie, fell madly in love with this sweet and goofy pup with the big personality who had gone through so much in his very short life. There was something about him that had wiggled into their hearts and it wouldn't let go, so they adopted him!

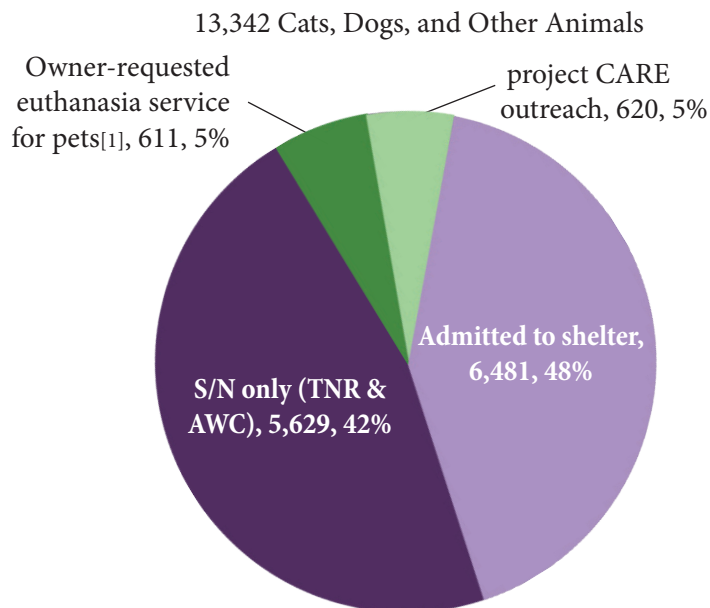
Today, Indiana Bones has a lifetime membership at the "gym" at Dancing Paws, doting parents who are experts in his ongoing needs, feline siblings who tolerate his playfulness, and now, a new canine sister named Lorna, who is his perfect match. He even has a new name for this new chapter in his life—James.



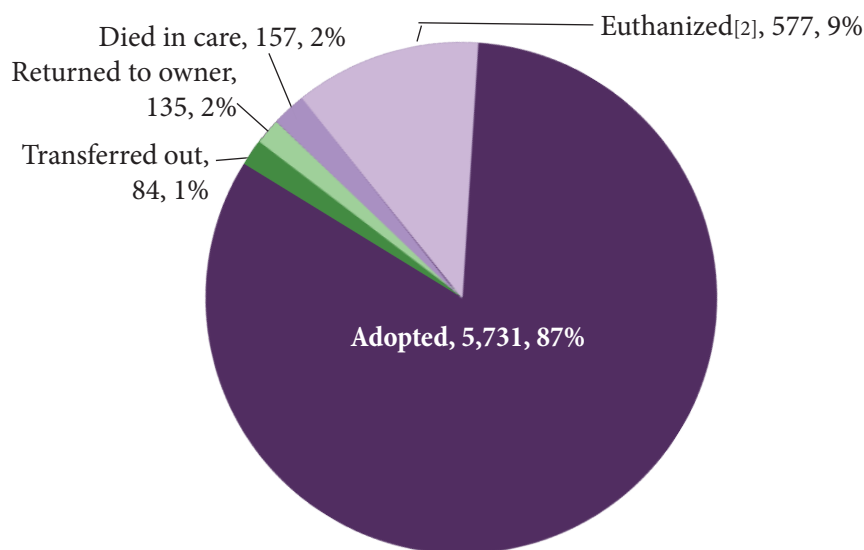


2017 KEY STATISTICS

ANIMALS ASSISTED



SHELTER ANIMAL OUTCOMES



NOTES:

[1] Pet owners brought 680 animals to the Cleveland APL to be euthanized. After assessment, 611 animals were euthanatized and 69 animals were admitted to the shelter for adoption.

[2] 100% of healthy, friendly animals and animals who could be safely and humanely treated through our Second Chance Program were placed in homes or transferred to other rescue groups.

2017 REVENUE AND EXPENSES

SOURCES OF SUPPORT

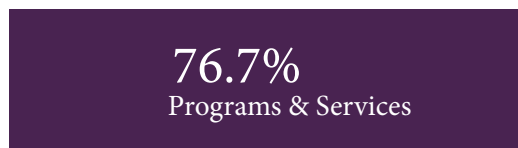


Contributions 84.6%, \$8,161,253
Income from services 10.8%, \$1,041,431
Net investment & other income 4.6%, \$442,318

Fiscal Year 2017 income: \$9,645,001 [1]

Source 2017 IRS Form 990

EXPENSES



Programs & services 76.7%, \$3,854,709
Fundraising 16.9%, \$852,955
Support services 6.4%, \$321,289

Fiscal Year 2017 expenses: \$5,028,954

Source: 2017 IRS Form 990

NOTES:

[1] 2017 revenue of \$9,645,001 includes Estates Receivable of \$3,460,500. While these gifts have not been received yet, they met the criteria for recognition on our financial statements.



Honors and Accolades



Charity Navigator Four Star Charity

Cleveland APL Board of Directors

Carol Caruso
Michael Cohan
Trish Decensi
Jane Griswold
Bob Hazelton
Karen Kaminski
Pam Lebold
Rita Maimbourg
David Mayo

Dean Mueller
Michelle Newland
Ed Pavlish*
Fred Pompeani
Dawn Swit
Kathy Tatman
Julie Trott
Michael Weigand
Ageleke Zapis

* *Emeritus*

Cleveland APL Alumni Board of Directors

Cindy Brabander
Greg Connel
Brian Forsgren, DVM
Donald Gries
Jack Herrick
Laura Hudak
Rod MacDonald
Barb Philibert

Fred Pompeani
Gayle Prebis
Joan Rosenthal
Ken Stefanov
Tanis Swan
Jackie York

Cleveland APL Adoption Center, Animal Care Center and Admissions

(at the Cleveland APL's main facility)
1729 Willey Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44113
(216) 771-4616

PetSmart Charities® Everyday Adoption Center (EAC)

(inside the PetSmart® store)
6870 Ridge Road
Parma, OH 44129
(440) 845-9592, ext. 5

www.ClevelandAPL.org



Download the free Cleveland APL adoption app available for iOS and Android devices!

The Cleveland Animal Protective League is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization. (Federal Tax ID #34-0714644)



Photo Credits:

Olivia Houck
Greg Murray
Arlee Reust

Kevin Richards
Dan Sandy
Creed Woodka