

2019 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, which opened as the APL's first shelter in 1917 is now a large animal shelter, care and resource center.

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 streetcars 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 anything from basic to advanced veterinary care to animals with treatable illnesses and injuries and modifiable behavioral issues. There are no time limits at the APL. Healthy, safe animals, and animals whose illnesses and injuries can be humanely treated will stay in our care 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,

I am honored to be associated with an organization that has been part of our community for more than a century. This annual report documents the Cleveland APL's lifesaving work during 2019, before the world changed. As I write this now, in the midst of the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic, I am full of pride in the adaptability of the Cleveland APL team during this crisis and their incredible devotion to helping animals and people in need.

As a valued supporter of our organization, I hope you appreciate the variety of services offered by the Cleveland APL and share our pride in the APL's accomplishments and leadership in advancing the welfare of animals in our community. Everything we do revolves around making the world a better, safer place for animals by being their advocates and voice, creating new happy families, and keeping existing families together.

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 Cleveland APL and our mission of fostering compassion and ending animal suffering. We are here to help homeless, abused, and neglected animals because of YOU, your belief in our work, and your financial support.

Finally, and equally as important, as you read about our plans for the future, I hope you will share our excitement. Your financial support will allow us to "Unleash the Dream" for the future of the APL and the animals we serve.

Sincerely,

Rita Maimbourg
Chair, Board of Directors



Dear Friends,

In this report, you will find descriptions of our lifesaving work and the statistics that measure our impact. Each and every number is made up of animals with beating hearts, beautiful spirits, and unique stories. Every story illustrates the compassion of our Cleveland APL team and its commitment to giving animals another chance to be loved. As a member of that team, I hope you will take pride in the incredible accomplishments for animals that are summarized in these pages.

We also are celebrating another accomplishment that cannot be measured in an annual report—yet. At the end of 2019, after raising 75% of the funds needed, our Board of Directors voted to move forward with a \$13.5-million project to expand and renovate the APL.

When construction comes to an end in late 2021, our "new" facility will be more than an animal shelter. It will be a cutting-edge animal resource center where we will be able to keep more pets who are living in underserved Cleveland neighborhoods with the families they love.

In turn, that will allow us to devote more resources to providing shelter to sick, injured, abused, abandoned animals and animals whose only safe option is coming to the Cleveland APL for their second chance.

The Cleveland APL has earned recognition at the national level as a thought leader in animal welfare. We are resolute in our commitment to being on the leading edge of innovations in our field that will improve the lives and well being of animals.

Thank you for your belief in our mission and in the value of animals in our society. You are why we have been here for 108 years.

Sincerely,

Sharon A. Harvey
President & CEO





SUGAR

Sugar was just two years old when he was brought to the Cleveland APL by a Good Samaritan. Sugar had been spending time in this kind lady's flower bed. When she noticed the cat falling over and screaming out in pain when he tried to urinate, she got the owner's permission to surrender him to the APL for more care.

Our veterinary team began treatment immediately. He was given antibiotics, and bloodwork was done. The poor cat had a urinary tract infection, a bad cold and elevated liver numbers, which our veterinarian thought could have been from exposure to a toxin. In layman's terms, Sugar was a very sick cat.

But top-notch medical care put him on the road to recovery. Soon he was ready to be neutered and receive a much-needed dental cleaning. As the veterinary team began his dental surgery, they found another significant and uncomfortable condition. He had a cleft palate—an opening on the roof of his mouth that went to his nose. They performed surgery to close the opening, but it opened again a few weeks later. So we sent Sugar to a specialty clinic for another surgery to hopefully close the opening for good.

After a month of monitoring and love with a wonderful foster care family, Sugar was ready to find a family to call his own. Boy did Sugar hit the jackpot! He has two human brothers, ages 3 and 5, who love him madly! A very happy and friendly Sugar now spends his days wherever the sun is shining in a window, watching the birds and squirrels outside, and serving as the welcoming committee for guests! His family says they are so lucky to have Sugar in their lives—and he is lucky to have them!



PABLO

Pablo's Cleveland APL story began when this sweet, nine-month-old puppy was found lying in the bushes with cable ties wrapped tightly around his back legs. Our friends from Cleveland Animal Care & Control picked him up as a stray and brought him directly to us for medical treatment. How long this poor dog had been laying in the bushes suffering is anyone's guess, but the severity of his injuries suggested it had been at least several days.

Our veterinary team went right to work, but, even with their quick action, they were not certain they could save Pablo's leg. His wounds were badly infected and were so deep the tendons were visible. It's difficult to imagine the suffering Pablo endured, but thankfully, he was at the APL where he could be helped. Pablo was taken right into surgery where his wounds were clipped and cleaned and the dead tissue was removed.

Pablo's road to recovery was going to be a long one. Over the next few weeks, this poor, underweight dog received IV fluids, antibiotics, and pain medication. He also had therapeutic laser treatment to promote healing of his wounds. Pablo's injuries were so severe that he needed to be sedated five times during his first few weeks in our care just so we could change his bandages and clean his wounds.

After 10 days of this intense treatment, our veterinary team still was not sure if he would be able to keep his left leg. But, after three more surgical procedures, we finally felt sure he was in the clear.

Now, it was time for Pablo to do the rest of his healing away from the shelter, so he was sent to the Northeast Reintegration Center as part of our foster program. Not only did Pablo thrive with round-the-clock care, but he also met his new mom who works at the Center! Pablo, now Nico, loves his new human family and canine siblings. He loves running—on all four legs—and playing with them every chance he gets—and we love knowing that he can because of the Second Chance Program!





6,763

Total animals taken in



1,725

Dogs admitted



4,421

Cats admitted



617

Other animals admitted

874

Total animals transferred in



593

Dogs transferred in



241

Cats transferred in

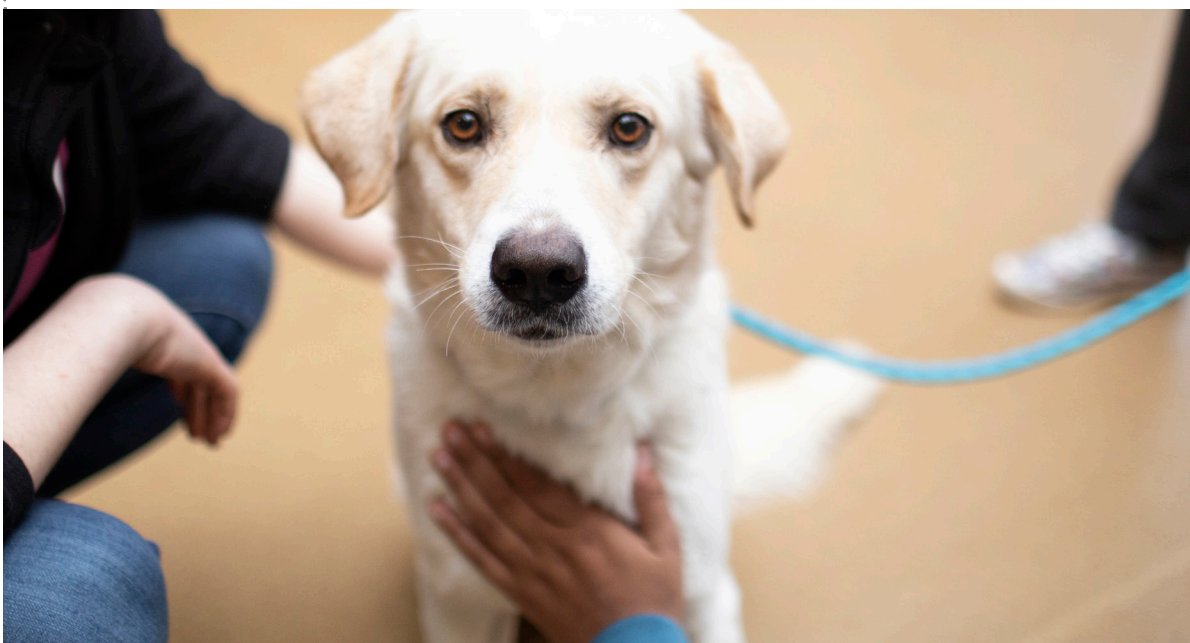


40

Other animals transferred in

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 ever afters than ever before. Additionally, whenever our capacity allows, the APL tries to help shelters in communities that have been hit by a natural disaster or are facing other emergencies. When this happens, we will only transfer in animals who were already homeless and awaiting adoption in local shelters prior to the emergency. This allows those shelters to take in more pets who were impacted by the emergency and try to return them to their own families.

5,708

Adoptions



365

Animals were transferred out 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. Our animal care facility on Willey Avenue in Cleveland is open every day of the week. 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.



PROJECT HOPE

71

Animals were adopted out as project HOPE animals (47 cats and 24 dogs)

The Cleveland APL has reached an exciting point in our evolution as a life-saving organization. Our focus has moved from being able to help only highly adoptable animals, to helping very senior animals and/or animals with ongoing medical conditions. With a generous grant from the Petco Foundation®, we launched our project HOPE program. This program is not simply for senior animals, a population we were already regularly adopting out, but for even more senior animals and other animals who may have additional medical needs. Animals that are selected for project HOPE have their adoption fee waived, and the adopter is provided with post-adoption support. Depending on the needs of the animals, this support may include an initial supply of medication or prescription diet, initial veterinary costs for follow-up care, and/or a Petco® gift card to help with initial supplies.



6,711

Calls received reporting suspected animal cruelty or requesting other assistance



1,367

New investigations opened



1,966

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. Whenever possible, they work with pet owners who need guidance about how to provide their pet(s) with proper, humane care and demonstrate that they are willing and able to take those steps. 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.



800

Animals helped through
project CARE

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 2019, 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 preventatives, testing, and other wellness services. Through our Peticaid program, the APL also offers assistance to qualifying pet owners whose pets require additional, more expensive medical care.



BEHAVIOR

The Cleveland APL's Behavior Department is dedicated to promoting the behavioral health of our animals through a variety of training and enrichment programs. In 2019, the team focused on expanding our dog playgroup efforts, a quality of life program that gives dogs the chance to engage in play and socially interact with other dogs at the shelter. Through playgroups, our team is able to learn more about each dog's likes and dislikes and use this information to make better adoption matches. Best of all, thousands of dogs get the chance to get out, burn off some energy, and be dogs! The behavior team continuously monitors and evaluates individual animal behavior throughout their stay with us and works with our adoption team to create their happily ever afters. Not only are they a valued resource for our fosters, volunteers, and adopters, but they also supported our team last year by offering more than 100 hours of animal handling and behavior training to staff members. Moving forward, the behavior team plans to initiate a new cat behavior evaluation program, expand the ways in which they offer behavior and training assistance to our adopters and pet owners in the community, and continue to offer new training and learning opportunities to the Cleveland APL team.





4,204

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



5,725

Diagnostic tests performed



4,633

Medical treatments
and/or surgeries performed

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 in 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 2,810 cats, 1,226 dogs and 168 other animals who were sick, injured, or had special needs. Through this program, we can do more than simply 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.



9,379

Total animals sterilized



2,980

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



1,961

Adoptable animals from other
shelters and rescue groups



3,875

APL animals prior to adoption



563

Owned animals



SPAY AND NEUTER

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

- Every dog, cat and rabbit adopted from the Cleveland APL is spayed or neutered prior to adoption.
- 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.
- Our Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) program provides access to trap rental, education, and very low-cost spay/neuter surgery for the trappers and caretakers of free-roaming, community cats.
- Through project CARE, we provide access to very low-cost spay/neuter services for income-qualified pet owners in Cleveland. Our goal is to help people and the pets they love stay together as a family and have the happy lives they deserve.



2,163

Animals fostered



100

Animals saved through the Foster to Surrender program

FOSTER CARE

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 or when an animal simply needs a break from shelter life. 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 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 support) until that animal is ready to return to the APL.



100,113

Volunteer Hours
(Equivalent to
48 full-time employees)

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are at the heart of everything we do at the Cleveland APL, 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.





Unleash the Dream

An Ambitious Vision for More Happily Ever Afters

Fostering compassion and ending animal suffering has been our mission at the Cleveland Animal Protective League for more than a century, but the work of animal welfare is rapidly evolving.

Today, we are not only focused on creating new families and happily ever afters for our homeless animals, but we are also working to preserve the special bond between animals and people and keep existing families together. This isn't always easy. There are obstacles, such as the health of an animal or the financial resources of a pet owner, that can make it challenging for a family to keep their beloved pet.

Our facility—last renovated in the early 2000s when the needs of our animals and community were vastly different than today—no longer supports the complicated and unpredictable work we do every day.

- We are treating more animals with complex medical issues.
- Sick and injured animals are staying in our care for longer periods of time.
- Large-scale abuse cases can bring dozens or hundreds of animals into our care at once.
- Low-income families from our community may have no choice but to surrender their cherished pets when they can't find accessible veterinary care.

- Families from our community need support and counsel from our professional staff to understand their opinions when deciding to surrender or keep their pet

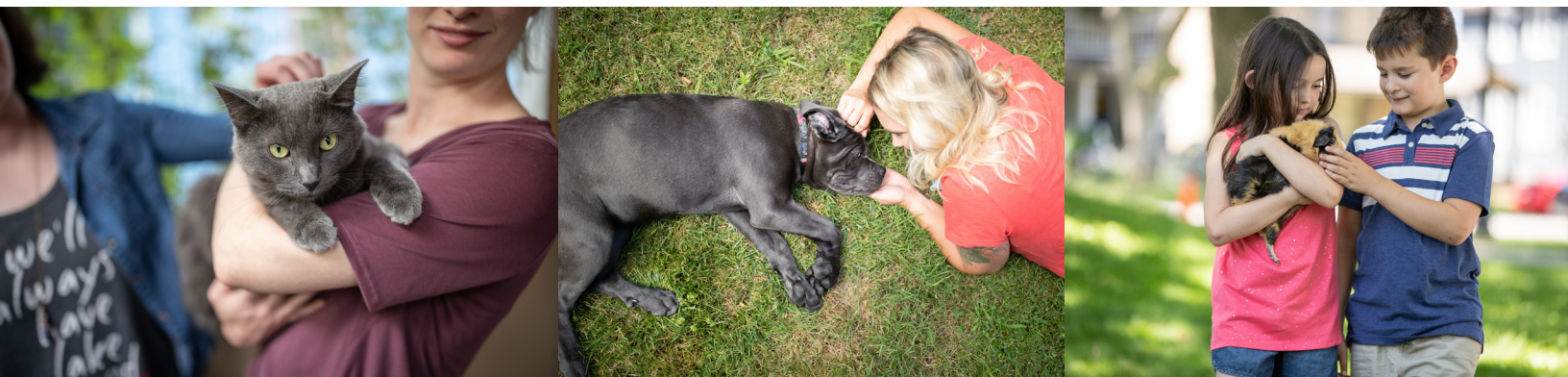
We have a bold vision to:

- *Expand our ability to help animals in need;*
- *Improve the experiences and outcomes for the animals in our care; and*
- *Keep families and their pets together when lack of access to veterinary care, knowledge, or resources get in the way.*

Through a multi-year, \$13.5-million capital campaign generously supported by our community, this dream will become a reality. By renovating and expanding our Tremont facility, we plan to create an animal resource center for the animals and people in our community that will allow us to meet the needs of the animals and people we see today, and be flexible enough to address what may come our way tomorrow.

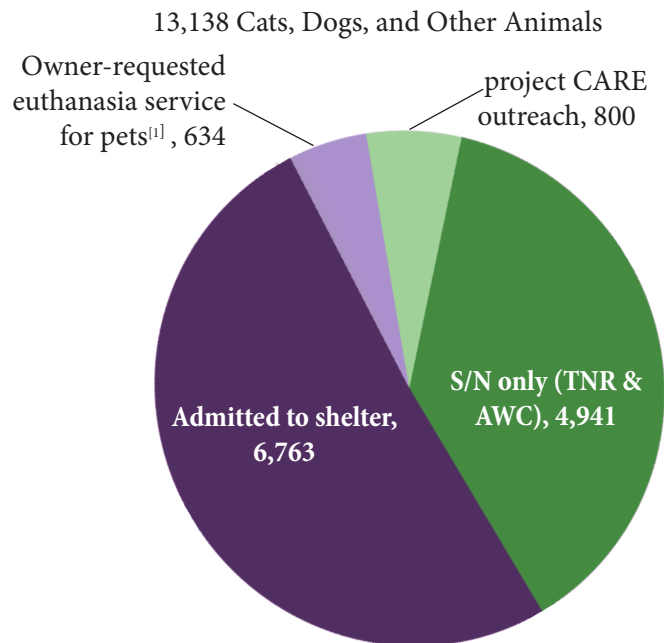
As a progressive leader in animal welfare, we know we can do more to improve the experiences and outcomes for the animals in our care, create new families, and keep more existing families together—happily ever after.

If you would like to learn more about this exciting project, please contact the Cleveland APL's Donor Relations Manager, April Clark, at (216) 771-8823.

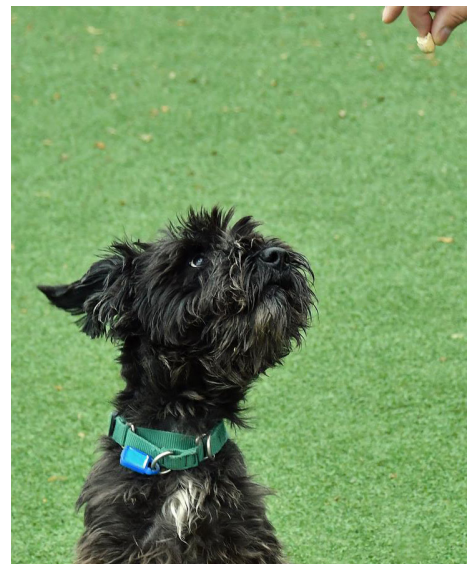
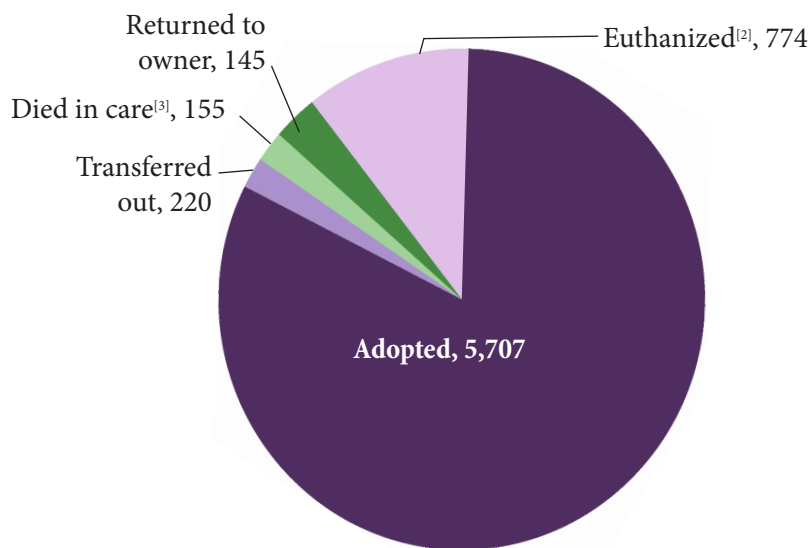


2019 KEY STATISTICS

ANIMALS ASSISTED



SHELTER ANIMAL OUTCOMES



- Placement rate for healthy and safe animals 100%
- Placement rate for safely and humanely treatable, rehabilitatable animals 100%

NOTES:

^[1] Pet owners brought 746 animals to the Cleveland APL to be euthanized. After assessment, 634 animals were euthanized and 112 animals were admitted to the shelter for adoption.

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

^[3] Of the 155 animals who died in care, 103 were either orphaned or other very young animals with challenging prognoses who we tried to save, but were unsuccessful.



2019 REVENUE AND EXPENSES

SOURCES OF SUPPORT



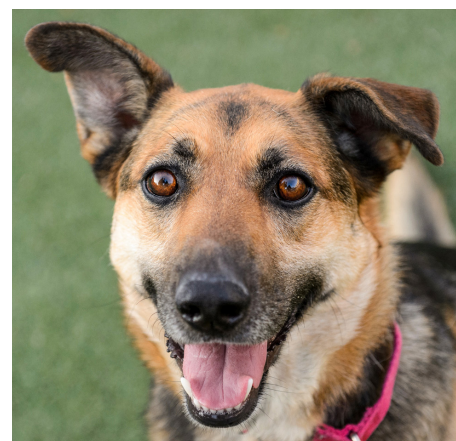
70.7%
Contributions



11.6%
Income from services



17.7%
Net investment & other income



Contributions 70.7%, \$6,335,879
Income from services 11.6%, \$1,038,829
Net investment & other income 17.7%,
\$1,584,507

Fiscal Year 2019 income: \$8,959,215^[1]
Source 2019 IRS Form 990, Statement of Revenue

EXPENSES



75.8%
Programs & services



18.2%
Fundraising



6.0%
Support services



Programs & services 75.8%, \$4,515,662
Fundraising 18.2%, \$1,087,365
Support services 6.0%, \$357,096

Fiscal Year 2019 expenses: \$5,960,123
Source: 2019 IRS Form 990, Statement of Functional Expenses

NOTES:

^[1] 2019 revenue of \$8,959,215 includes Estates Receivable of \$1,368,200. Also included in the revenue figure is \$1,025,969 in grants and/or grants receivable for the capital campaign. While receivables have not been received yet, they meet the criteria for recognition on our financial statements.

Honors and Accolades



Charity Navigator Four Star Charity for five consecutive years

Only 16% of the charities we evaluate have received at least 4 consecutive 4-star evaluations..."

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Cleveland APL
Adoption Center, Animal Care Center and
Admissions

1729 Willey Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44113
(216) 771-4616

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)



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