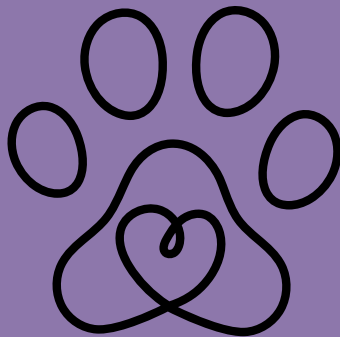


2025
IMPACT REPORT

VOLUNTEER DEPARTMENT



Hall of Fame Volunteer Katie Zehr enjoys a stroll down the street with her new pal.



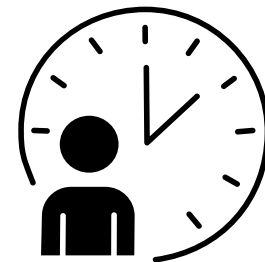
2025 VOLUNTEER STATISTICS

153,820
VOLUNTEER HOURS OF SERVICE

74
FTE (FULL-TIME EQUIVALENTS)

1,520
ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS

695
NEW VOLUNTEERS ENLISTED



OF THE 153,820 VOLUNTEER HOURS,
THE MAJOR AREAS OF CONTRIBUTION WERE:

FOSTER CARE - 132,990
SHELTER - 17,843
DEVELOPMENT/FUNDRAISING - 2,987

FOSTER CARE STAFF TEAM AND VOLUNTEER COACHES



Carrie Root, Taylor St.Andrassy and Gwen Smith (top to bottom) comprise the foster care staff team. This team is responsible for the recruitment and training of our Foster Care Volunteers, placement of APL animals with Foster Care Volunteers, and arranging follow-up veterinary care when needed. From appointments to answering questions and more, they help many animals through volunteer efforts.

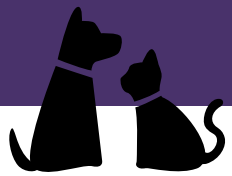
Foster Care Volunteer Coaches help to answer questions and provide guidance to new volunteers. They are:

- Laura Hudak
- Betsy Kaiser
- Elizabeth Kowalski
- Allison Mueller
- Jodi Nicolli
- Susan Wang
- Katie Zehr
- Ellie Zupan
- Suzanne Zupan

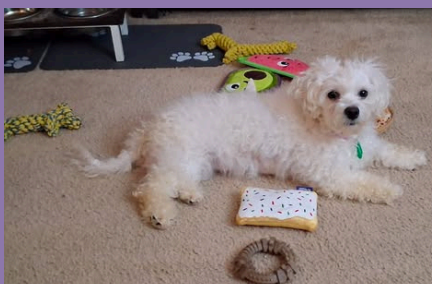
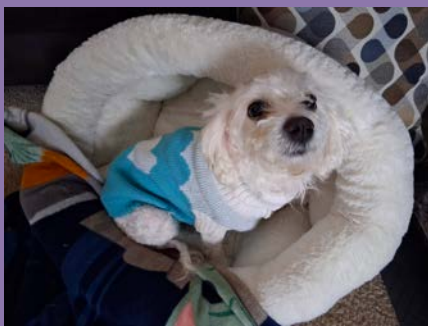




FOSTER CARE



Hi! I am Rosie. I am one of the many animals helped by the APL's Foster Care Volunteers. Guess what? I was adopted by my foster family who cared for me after my surgery. I am the luckiest dog ever! Thank you!



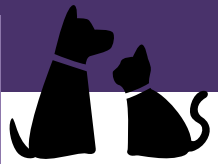
**3,211 ANIMALS SAVED
THROUGH FOSTER CARE EFFORTS!**

633 volunteers helped care for 3,211 animals, giving 129,645 hours of loving, life-saving service to our animals.

- 2,677 cats & kittens
- 464 dogs & puppies
- 70 small mammals & others



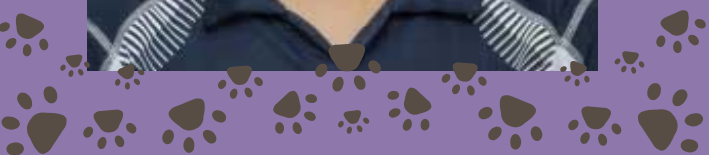
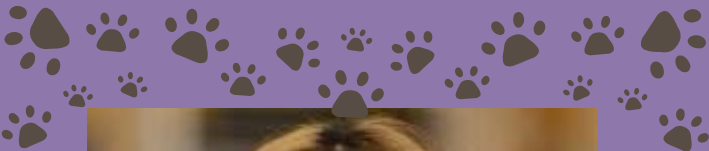
FOSTER CARE

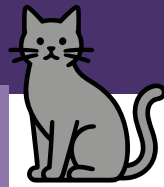


Susan Wang (below) is a dedicated care giver to so many APL animals! Since joining the APL, Susan has given over 26,667 hours of service in foster care and many other volunteer assignments. She has provided care for over 422 animals since 2018. Simply amazing!

Leading contributors to foster care by hours:

- Susan Wang – 4,461
- Katie Zehr – 2,403
- Jennifer Nold – 2,202
- Kirsten Senger – 2,082
- Tiffany Morales – 2,073
- Lois Lenard – 1,815
- Gwen Smith – 1,545
- Andrea Hess – 1,533
- Melissa Cabal- 1,416
- Barb Detwiler – 1,344
- Allison Mueller – 1,260
- Claire Dugas – 1,176
- Jodi Nicolli – 1,173
- Kendra Wood – 1,059
- Madonna Neumann – 1,047
- Timothy Trobenter – 1,023
- Timothy Breidenstein – 1,014





FOSTER CARE CATS & KITTENS



OF THE 3,211 ANIMALS WERE CARED FOR THROUGH FOSTER CARE EFFORTS, 2,677 WERE CATS AND KITTENS!

Thank you to Taylor St. Andrassy and Katie Zehr for providing the loving care for the cat and kittens shown in these photographs.



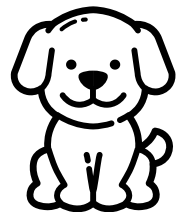
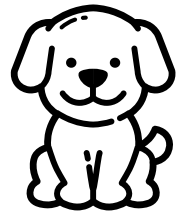
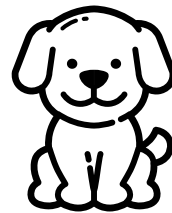
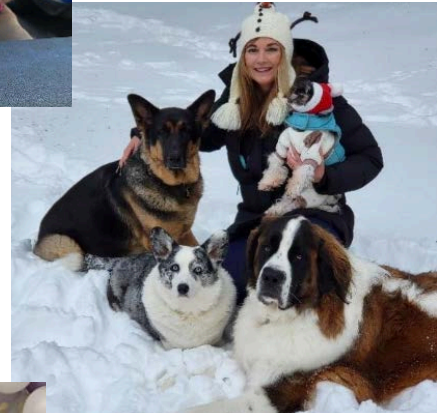
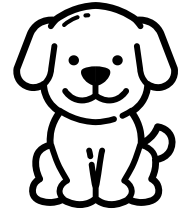


SHELTER VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR AND DOG WALKING COACHES



Loved by dogs and humans alike, Hanna Harris (above), Shelter Volunteer Coordinator, trains and supervises our shelter volunteers. She also works with our Dog Walking Volunteer Coaches and helps train new volunteers.

Thank you to our coaches, Ericka Campbell, Betsy Kaiser, Megan Pech, Chris Samuels, and Katie Zehr, (opposite side, top to bottom) for your extra efforts in helping us to onboard more dog walking volunteers. Katie Zehr is the leader of the pack with 143 hours of the 271 hours contributed!





Peggy Schaffer (below) continues to make a huge impact at the APL. She is a source of comfort for our dogs, and she has been steadfast in her commitment to the APL since 2010, contributing 5,194 hours of service. We truly don't know where we would be without dedicated volunteers like Peggy!



Peggy walks our dogs in the inclement weather in Cleveland. She walks them in the rain, in the sleet, in the snow, as she knows how important it is for them to go outside at least three times per day during their stay at the APL.

SHELTER DOG WALKING

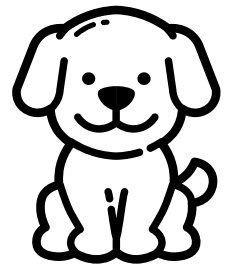


**7,541 HOURS OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE
HELPED OUR DOGS THIS YEAR!**

189 VOLUNTEERS WALKED OUR DOGS!

The leading contributors to dog walking were:

- Tim Thoma - 296
- Peggy Schaffer - 284
- Ann Garson - 260
- James Plezia - 207
- Katie Zehr - 183
- Mindi Thal - 141
- Pam Cerio - 139
- Donna Pedaci - 123
- Janet Smith - 111
- Katie Whisler - 101
- Laura Spraker - 98





SHELTER DOG FIELD TRIPS



Pam Cerio (above) was the leader for the most dog field trips in 2025!



Pam shares her field trip adventures using stories and photos of her pals in our private Facebook group for APL dog volunteers. Through her entertaining posts, we get to go on the trip, too. The photos shown here are of Ghost trying to understand the safety rules for car rides. Good dog Ghost for riding in the back seat finally!





SHELTER DOG PACK WALKS



The last monthly pack walk was held on December 21, 2025, and it had a holiday theme. They even visited the Christmas Story House! Ellie Zupan (top right) and Christian Morales (bottom right) enjoys their pack walk with their new buddies while Suzanne Zupan (top left) and Angela DeMusey (bottom left) enjoy a photo opportunity with their friends. What fun!



PACK WALKS BY THE NUMBERS IN 2025:

- Dogs attended: 123
- Unique dogs attended: 88
- Volunteers participating: 131
- Unique individual volunteers: 45



SHELTER DOG PACK WALKS



It's a good day to be a dog when your pack walk partner is Kevin Carlson (above) or Tim Thoma (below).



Laura Spraker (above) enjoys some down time with her new pal during a pack walk.



Michelle Blaze (above) enjoys the big personality of her new little dog friend on their pack walk.



SHELTER DOG ENRICHMENT

The leading contributors by service hours were:

- Sharon Paul - 122
- Kathie DeMetz - 90
- Heather Kittredge - 58

Sharon Paul (below) gave 122 hours of service to our dog enrichment at the APL and since 2014 over 3,326 hours in other assignments, too.



Thanksgiving is a special holiday for our dogs thanks to our volunteers who take time to make and distribute a delicious, dog-friendly turkey dinner that is sure to please. Yum!

Sharon enjoys some time in the play yard with a dog who benefitted from the enrichment treats that she made. Love is shown in so many ways at the APL!

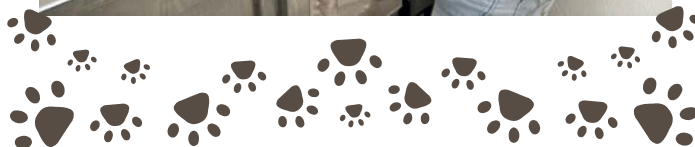
This pup to the right looked up with his tongue out to say thank you for my push pop for in-kennel enrichment treat today!





SHELTER GROOMING

Angela DeMuesy has contributed 385 hours of service to grooming and has bathed approximately 1,400 animals, mostly dogs, at the APL in 2025. She makes our animals look, smell, and feel great! Never underestimate the difference that one amazing, dedicated volunteer can make!



FUN FACT: Angela has been volunteering since 2013. She estimates that she has bathed close to 15,000 animals at the APL. She has even bathed a pig. That's a lot of nicely coiffed animals all thanks to Angela!



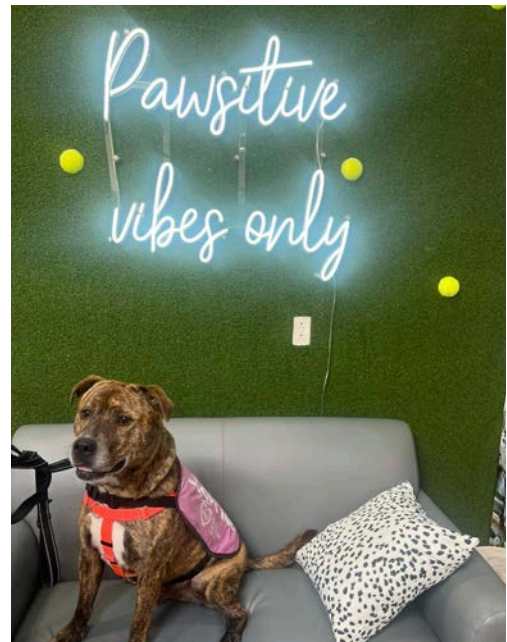
DOGS DAY OUT CLEVELAND

Our dog field trip program for the public, Dogs Day Out Cleveland (DDOC), has helped numerous dogs have fun adventures and find their new families while doing this. DDOC field trips are offered on Friday and Saturday.



26

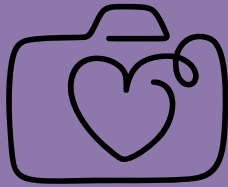
Weasal went on 26 DDOC field trips before he found his forever family! Lucky dog!



From March to December 2025, there were 191 field trips completed by 97 volunteers who helped 90 dogs through 573 hours of service to this program.

One volunteer went on field trips 17 times, and we had 24 other volunteers that went out multiple times, too.





SHELTER DOG PHOTOGRAPHY

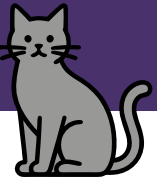


Photographer, or as he likes to be called phodographer, Mike Petcher (top right) has captured glamour shots of 322 dogs at the APL. His excellent dog handlers, Katie Zehr (middle right) and Karl Bloomstine (bottom right), make this feat possible. Each dog receives at least three edited photographs for our website to capture their personality.

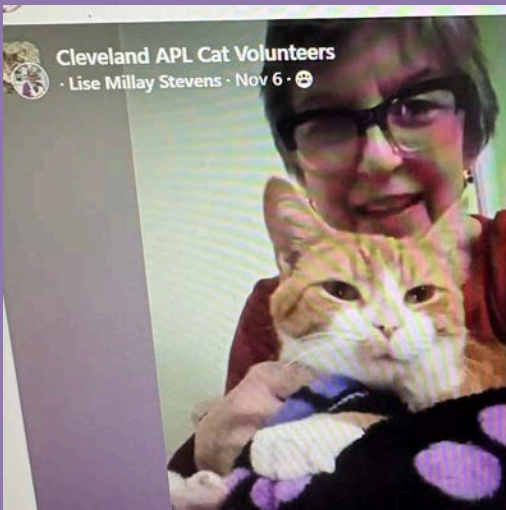
3
2
2



SHELTER CAT ADOPTIONS



Milo, formerly Beto, poses with his purr-fect companion Lise Stevens for a Facebook video. Lise is a volunteer and cat behaviorist who understands Milo's medical and behavioral needs purr-fectly.



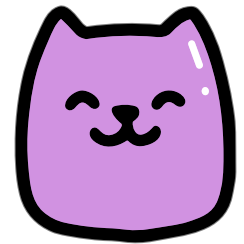
**134 VOLUNTEERS GAVE 5,741 HOURS
OF SERVICE TO HELP OUR CATS!**

**THEIR EFFORTS CONTRIBUTED TO 4,796
CAT AND KITTEN ADOPTIONS!**



The leading contributors by service hours were:

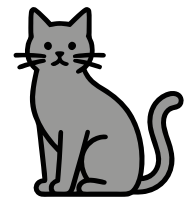
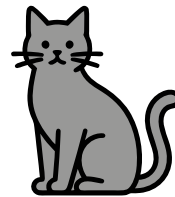
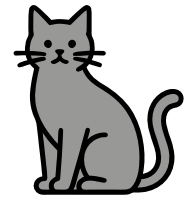
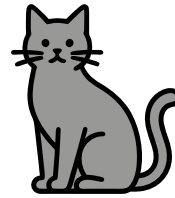
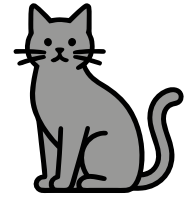
- Lois Lenard - 563
- Diane Fitzpatrick - 346
- Lynn MacArthur - 303
- Sandra Banes - 270
- Natalie Wise - 213
- Scott Pecka - 211
- Beth Fenton - 203
- Dale Erickson - 156
- Corrine Hartman - 142
- Karen Felix - 141
- Linda Haas - 140
- Jill Moore - 120
- Robin Bracy - 101



Linda Haas, Karen Felix, and Scott Pecka (left to right) volunteer with our cats regularly.

SHELTER CAT ADOPTION SPECIALIST VOLUNTEER COACHES

Our Cat Adoption Specialist Volunteer Coaches help to train our new incoming cat volunteers with assistance from our Shelter Volunteer Coordinator, Hanna Harris (below). Hanna supports our coaches to help them to be their best for our new volunteers, cats, and clients.

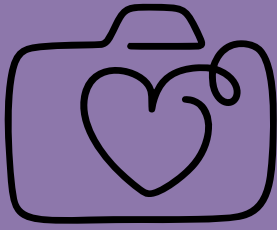
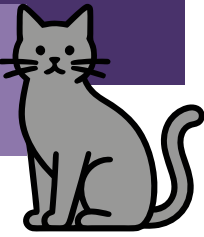


Thank you to our coaches Lois Lenard, Corrine Hartman, Jill Moore, Linda Haas, and Karen Felix, (opposite side, top to bottom), for your extra efforts in helping us to onboard more volunteers at the APL!

Lois Lenard contributed the most hours as a coach. She spent 155 hours training our new cat volunteers of the 297 hours contributed for this assignment.



SHELTER CAT PHOTOGRAPHY



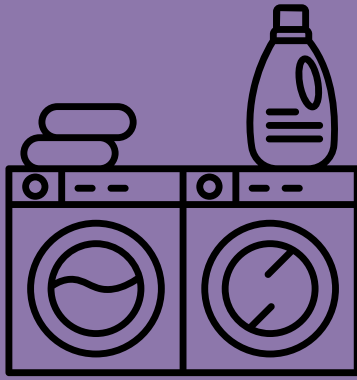
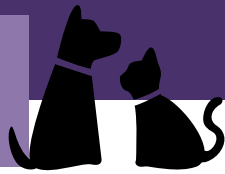
Shari Sweeney (photo above) has been a volunteer at the APL since 2008, consistently giving of her time and talent each year. She has over 1,605 hours of service contributed to many different assignments through the years. Today, she likes to focus her time on cat photography.



These lovely cat photographs were taken by volunteers Shari and Sandra Banes, who lead the charge with cat photography. They “purr-fectly” highlight the great cats available for adoption through their volunteer efforts at the APL.



SHELTER ANIMAL CARE



21 volunteers gave 1,388 hours of service to help with the immense amount of laundry and dishes done daily at the APL.



FUN FACT: An anonymous donor named the Laundry & Food Prep room in honor of Marge Cantlin (above left). Marge volunteers the majority of her time in this area. Sharon Harvey, President & CEO (above right), unveiled the surprise for Marge.

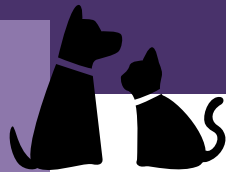


The leading contributors based on hours of service were:

- Marge Cantlin - 456
- Roberta Wavrek - 362
- Jill Moore - 286
- Kathleen Griffin - 95
- Dale Erickson - 76

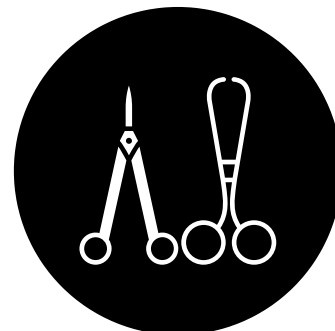
Despite all of the many dishes to be washed, Jill Moore (above) knows she's making a difference for our animals one bowl at a time.

SHELTER VETERINARY CLINIC



Veterinary externs and volunteers provide support to the clinic while gaining valuable experience. Seven volunteers provided 971 hours of service in the clinic.

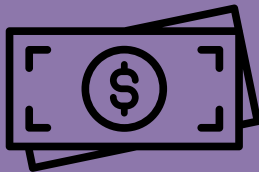
Roberta Wavrek (below), a clinic volunteer, helps regularly with necessary preparation tasks, which allows the staff to efficiently provide animal care. Roberta contributed 275 of the total of 971 hours!





19 VOLUNTEERS GAVE 80 HOURS OF SERVICE TO HELP WITH PUCKS & PAWS.

\$8,582 RAISED!



17 VOLUNTEERS PARTICIPATED FOR 204 HOURS OF SERVICE AT FOUR CLEVELAND GUARDIANS GAMES.

\$5,595 RAISED!



GIFT PROCESSING

11 VOLUNTEERS GAVE 692 HOURS OF SERVICE TO HELP OUR GIFT PROCESSING TEAM TO RECORD AND ACKNOWLEDGE 35,416 DONATIONS.

Jaymie Shanker (award winner, photo left) helps to make it possible to process so many generous gifts within our development department.

DEVELOPMENT/FUNDRAISING

105 VOLUNTEERS GAVE 766 HOURS OF SERVICE TO HELP RAISE OVER \$358,000 FOR OUR SECOND CHANCE PROGRAM AT OUR ANNUAL FUR BALL GALA!



SPECIAL EVENTS



\$358,000 RAISED!

We would like to sincerely thank the Chairs of the Fur Ball in addition to each volunteer who contributed to making this event a huge success!

AUCTION PROCUREMENT:

Mo Maxwell (left) and Jen Maxwell



AUCTION PRESENTATION:

Katie Zehr (left) and Angela DeMuesy



DECORATIONS: Ginny Russ and Janet Smith
OPERATIONS: Sabah Bhat, Barbara Reitzloff, and Rick Simna

The fun backdrop in the photos above for Fur Ball 2025 – Shake, Rattle & Roll Over, was designed and built by APL Board Member and volunteer, Christine Snyder, and her husband Bill. Thank you!



138 VOLUNTEERS GAVE 574 HOURS OF SERVICE TO HELP WITH THIS TELETHON.

\$155,000 RAISED!



CORPORATE GROUPS THAT PARTICIPATED WERE: Cargill, Cavitch Familo & Durkin, Cleveland Clinic Supply Chain, Cross Country Mortgage, Dollar Bank, AM Higley, New York Life, Sgt. Clean Car Wash, Vocon, APL Board Members and Volunteers.



TELETHONS



134 VOLUNTEERS GAVE 600 HOURS OF SERVICE TO HELP WITH THIS TELETHON.

\$189,000 RAISED!



CORPORATE GROUPS THAT PARTICIPATED WERE: Amazon, Cargill, Cavitch Familo & Durkin, Cross Country Mortgage, AM Higley, Kaulig, K2M Design, Medical Mutual, Nations Lending, Tucker Ellis, Vocon, and APL Board Members and Volunteers.



Project CARE Manager Bry Polen (above) happily helps to distribute resources to clients.



54 project CARE Wellness Clinic Volunteers contributed 514 hours of service to helping pet owners with their pets.



15 project CARE Pet Food Pantry Volunteers contributed 95 hours of food distribution.



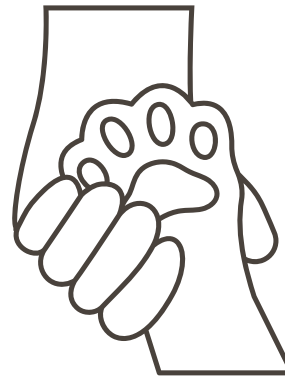
One project CARE Social Work/Counseling Intern, Cameron Stefan, contributed 163 hours of service to help people and their pets. Cameron (above) was hired as a paid staff member. Congratulations!

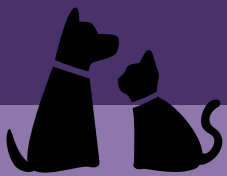
PET FOOD DISTRIBUTED:
58,213 LBS

PETS ASSISTED:
6,418 ANIMALS



CLIENTS ASSISTED:
2,498 PEOPLE





CRISIS SAFETY NET FOSTER CARE



The Crisis Safety Net Program was created to provide a temporary haven for pets when their owners are facing serious hardships, including homelessness, domestic violence, or hospitalization.

Serving Cuyahoga County, the program offers crisis foster care for up to 90 days, allowing pet owners to access critical services without having to permanently surrender their animals.

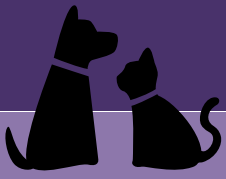
Participants must be working with a case manager, and dedicated foster care volunteers provide the loving care with the understanding that the pets will be reunited with their families once the crisis has passed.



10 CRISIS SAFETY NET FOSTER CARE VOLUNTEERS GAVE 2,889 HOURS TO HELP OUR CLIENTS AND ANIMALS IN NEED. 20 ANIMALS WERE HELPED THROUGH THIS IMPACTFUL PROGRAM.



The individuals and animals shown have been helped through this wonderful program!



CORPORATE GROUPS



105 VOLUNTEERS HELPED WITH NECESSARY SHELTER TASKS TO HELP US BEST CARE FOR OUR ANIMALS.



THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING CORPORATE GROUPS FOR YOUR SUPPORT:

- Amazon
- Charles Schwab
- Chicago Title
- Cleveland Clinic Bioethics
- Cleveland Guardians
- Maxim Healthcare
- Paw Patrol Live
- RCF Group
- S&T Bank
- Tucker Ellis
- WJW Fox 8 Cleveland



Charles Schwab and Maxim Healthcare groups helping at the APL!



SPECIAL VOLUNTEER GROUP



Guardians



The Cleveland Guardians helped with animal care on two occasions: April 22 and August 12.

Player David Fry and family (below) along with the Vogt family (right) had a wonderful time making a difference for our animals!



FUN FACT: When the Cleveland Guardians volunteer at the APL before a game, they often win their game. What a true win-win!



VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION & RECOGNITION

OUR VOLUNTEERS ARE SUN-SATIONAL!



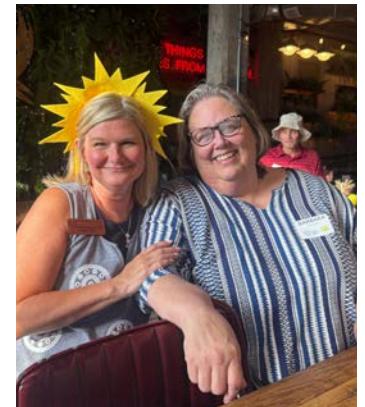
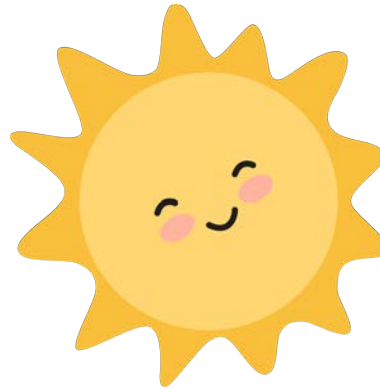
During its annual volunteer appreciation celebration held at BrewDog on July 9, 2025, the APL announced the winners of the prestigious 2024 Volunteer of the Year awards. Volunteers were recognized for their extraordinary service to the APL and its animals.



The winners were (left to right above):

- Rose Donohoo of Cleveland (award accepted on her behalf by Danielle Begalla)
- Jill Moore of Lakewood
- Kristina Donets of North Ridgeville
- Jaymie Shanker of Shaker Heights
- Peggy Schaffer of Avon Lake

President & CEO Sharon Harvey congratulated the winners and expressed her sincere gratitude for their efforts!



THANK YOU



Danielle Begalla, Volunteer Manager

Danielle, who was a volunteer at the APL before joining the paid staff team in 2004, would like to express her sincere gratitude to all volunteers and staff members who have made the volunteer program successful. It takes a village, and we could not do this important work without the dedicated efforts of our entire team, both staff and volunteers alike.

**ALONE
WE CAN DO
SO LITTLE,
TOGETHER
WE CAN DO
SO MUCH**

HELEN KELLER

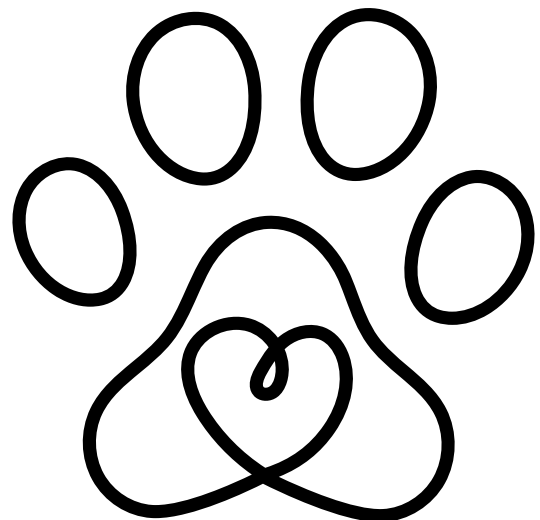
The Simple Stencil



**On behalf of all of the animals
and staff at the APL,
THANK YOU!**

**We are in awe of all that our
volunteers do for the APL.**

**Together,
we are compassion in action!**



ONE TEAM, ONE MISSION!