



Anderson
Animal Shelter
- A Humane Society -



2017-18
Report to the Community

THE MANY FACES OF RESCUE...

"The love for all living creatures is the most noble attribute of man."

-- Charles Darwin

Current Leadership Team:

Beth Foster, Chief Executive Officer
Dr. Sharon Colgan, Director of Medical Services
Luke Slowik, Chief Operations Officer
Barrett Stillings, Chief Advancement Officer
Susan Lyons, Director of Major Donors
Holly Alcalá, Director of Development
Shawana Davis, Clinic Manager
Sarah Brown, Volunteer Manager
Lesya Kercheval, Adoptions Manager
George Kercheval, Facilities & Logistics Manager
Lynne Smith, HR & Technology Manager
Bob Geniusz, Adoption Centers Manager
Phyllis Zboril, Animal Behavior & Enrichment Manager
Carrie Frost, Humane Education Manager
Rayann Sanchez, Cat Transport/Foster
Maria Schau, Dog Transport/Foster



Julie Curry, Michelle Adams

...ANDERSON AT THE HEART OF IT ALL.

In 2017 you helped
accomplish all this:

3,958

**LIVES SAVED
THROUGH ADOPTION**

A 32% increase over 2016.

OVER \$2M

IN DONATIONS

A big thank you to our donors,
sponsors and partners.

2.7%

EUTHANASIA RATE

Lowest in Anderson's 52
year history.

OUR MISSION

*Improving the lives of
animals and people
through service and
education.*



FROM OUR CEO

Anderson Animal Shelter, now in our 52nd year, is the oldest and largest animal welfare organization in the Fox Valley area. Our community has grown up around us and as our community has changed, so has our organization. While we were founded primarily as a holding facility for stray dogs and cats, over the decades we have expanded our programming, adding services such as low-cost spay/neuter, humane education and dog training.



CEO Beth Foster and adoptable puppy Missie.

OUR VISION

*A humane world
for animals.*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Jeffrey Hampton, President
Jonathan Gripe, Past President
Michael Petersdorf, Vice President
William Papp, Secretary
Julie Bird, CPA, Treasurer
Christine Bourdage
Nicole Buchanan
Joe Keller
Mindy Malecki, Esq.
Robin Massey

In February of 2017, we were thrilled to open a new adoption center in partnership with Pet Supplies Plus in North Aurora. A month later, our second adoption center opened inside Petco in Bloomingdale. Through these two new centers as well as our main shelter in South Elgin, we were able to save nearly 4,000 homeless pets in 2017 – more than ever before in our organization’s history!

Through the dedication and hard work of our staff and volunteers, we ensure that all of our animals get out-of-the-kennel playtime, engaging them in enrichment activities such as puzzle feeders, dog playgroups and lots of positive reinforcement training. We believe that pets belong in homes, not shelters, so we work hard to reduce the length of time they stay here at Anderson. Once medically and behaviorally cleared for adoption, adult dogs stay an average of five days before adoption, puppies stay an average of three days, the average length of stay for kittens is five days and adult cats, the hardest group of animals to rehome, stay an average of 27 days at the shelter. We're proud to report that our euthanasia rate is less than 3%, on par with the most progressive shelters in the country.

As we move into the future, we are poised to respond even more comprehensively to the animal-related needs of our community. The Board of Directors has created a strategic plan with initiatives designed to provide more comprehensive care for animals, embrace and nurture the human-animal bond, and to expand the reach of our message of compassion for animals to a wider audience.

It is only through the dedicated and tireless work of our staff and volunteers and the support of our donors that we can save these precious lives and make a difference in our community.

Thank you.

EXPANDING OUR REACH

50+

**FOSTER VOLUNTEERS
PROVIDED TLC
TO 2,500 KITTENS
AND PUPPIES**

Since we do not have a dog overpopulation problem in our community, Anderson partners with several animal welfare groups in areas where homeless pets far outnumber adopters. With very few resources, these shelters are overwhelmed. They need our help. Without us, these wonderful, highly adoptable dogs and puppies would have no chance at all. Volunteers make the journey to meet halfway with our partner organizations several times a month, rescuing thousands of dogs and puppies each year.

3,341

**LIVES SAVED THROUGH
TRANSPORTS IN 2017**



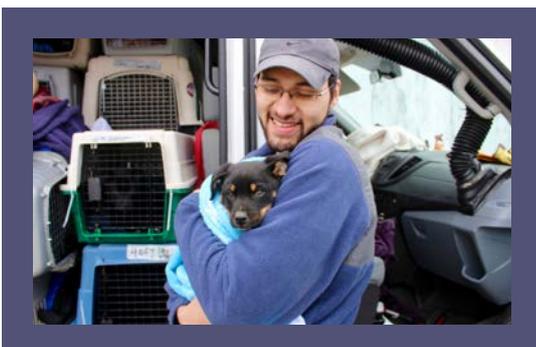
11.6.2017 - 72 hours until euthanasia



11.20.2017 - ready for adoption

"These four babies were left outside in the freezing rain at a high kill animal shelter on November 6th. They had less than 72 hours to find a way out or they would be euthanized. Their only chance at survival was a 4:00 am transport scheduled for the following morning.....and that was only if our friends in Illinois could find foster homes at the last minute. Luckily we received word late Monday evening "Send them our way!" So we did. After a 12 hour journey, our little lab babies arrived in Illinois to become a part of the Anderson Animal Shelter and their amazing group!"

-- Henryetta Animal Air Rescue Team (HAART), Oklahoma



Staff member Jesus Salazar provides comfort to a recently arrived transport.



**Over 60 missions
from six states**

FINANCIAL & OPERATIONS REPORT

For the year ending December 31, 2017

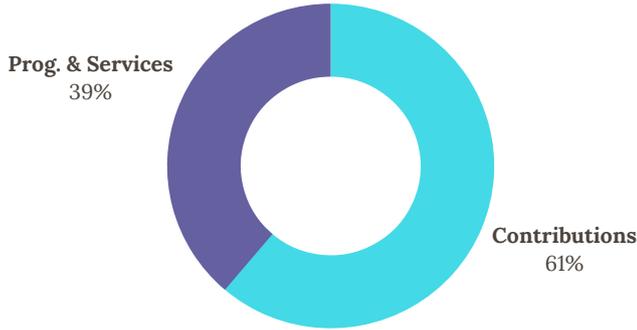
3,958

ADOPTIONS IN 2017

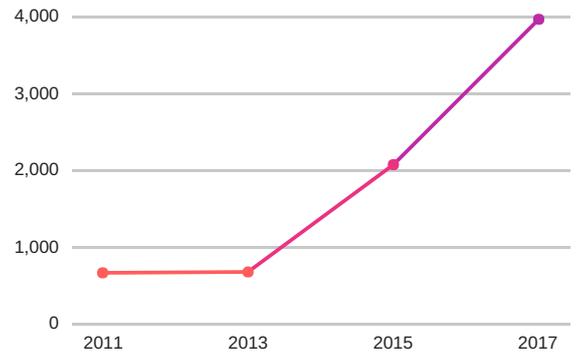
A 32% increase over 2016!

OPERATING REVENUES

CONTRIBUTIONS: \$2,084,680
 PROGRAMS & SERVICES: \$1,322,098
 TOTAL: \$3,406,781



Adoptions 2011 - 2017

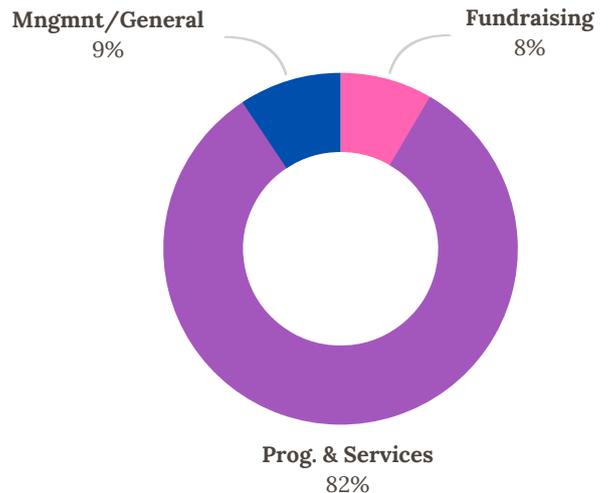
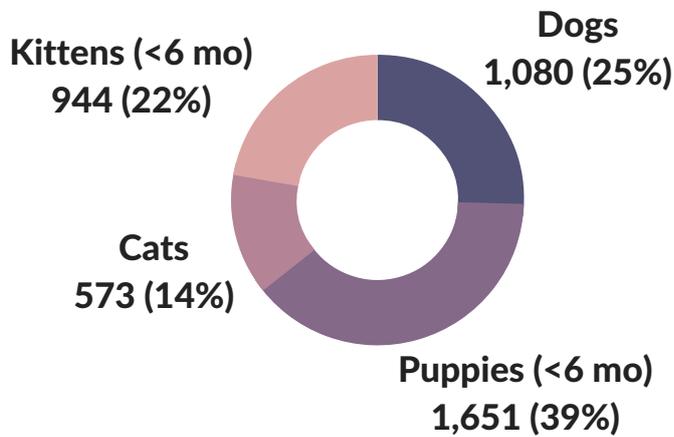


3,737 Donors = \$2,084,680

OPERATING EXPENSES

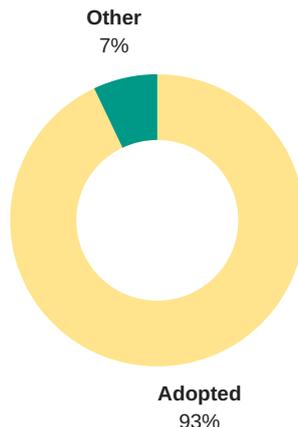
PROGRAMS & SERVICES: \$2,072,940
 FUNDRAISING: \$211,770
 MANAGEMENT & GENERAL: \$235,506
 TOTAL: \$2,520,216
 NET OPERATING INCOME: \$886,565

INTAKES (4,248 total)



OUTCOMES

Adopted: 3,958 (93%)



OTHER (7%)

- Returned To Owner: 89
- Transferred Out: 17
- Euthanized: 113
- Died: 91

Proud recipient of Charity Navigator's highest rating.



A NEW CHANCE



Fur Babies Adoptions and Rescue in Muskogee, Oklahoma became aware of Chance via social media in the Fall of 2017. A group of friends sharing a house found him in their yard one morning and didn't know what to do. When Fur Babies arrived, Chance was in rough shape. He was emaciated, infested with mites (demodectic mange) and was diagnosed with pneumonia. His immune system was severely compromised and his prognosis was not good. The veterinarian recommended euthanasia. It was going to take a lot of work (and money) if this little boy was going to survive - but Chance's foster mom Mary Casady, who volunteers with Fur Babies, was determined to save him. She took him home and nursed him back to health. Once he gained weight and his hair grew in, Chance was a gorgeous, happy, healthy little boy! Given the limited numbers of adopters in Oklahoma, Fur Babies knew his only chance was to be transferred here to Anderson. In October he was officially adopted by the Craney family. Chance now goes by the name Tucker and spends his days lounging in the sun, snuggling with his humans (Mom, Dad, Brother & Sister) and his two fur-sisters, Bella and Hershey.



BEFORE & (HAPPILY EVER) AFTER

"[Tucker] is such a joy to our family. He is the most friendly dog and loves every human and every animal he meets! He spends most of his days lounging between all the beds in the house. He loves car rides, dog parks, and any activities we are doing - he just wants to be around us! He is so friendly and such a people dog, I am even considering the possibility of him becoming a therapy dog. We cannot imagine our life without him. Thank you so much to Anderson Animal Shelter for transporting him up from Oklahoma and saving him!"

-- Molly Craney (Tucker's Mom)

It Takes A Village

Saving the lives of animals in need is a big job. Anderson staff and volunteers work hand in hand with under-resourced organizations in southern states, primarily Oklahoma. Our partners go to great lengths to save animals from abandonment, abuse and neglect, then send them on transports to us, here at Anderson. We take it from there, providing the care these animals need to recover from injuries, illness, chronic malnutrition, parasites and a myriad of other medical issues with the ultimate goal of finding their forever families. Working together, we save more lives. These partnerships provide second chances.

LIFE-SAVING OPERATIONS



Two-year-old Duchess arrived on a transport from Oklahoma in June of 2017. We knew right away that she had no use of her left front leg, and tests revealed that she never would. Amputation was the only solution. Duchess, now named Eileen, made a complete recovery and was adopted into the Matson family. Warren Matson, a counselor, brings her to work with him daily so she can help provide therapy.

5,048

**ANIMALS CARED
FOR IN 2017**



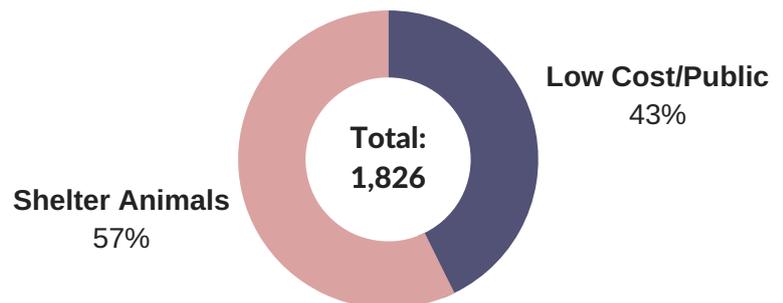
In 2017, Dr. Sharon Colgan, vet techs Victoria Smith, Steve Olsson and Anthony Suerth along with their team of dedicated volunteers, performed 1,826 spay/neuter surgeries, as well as countless other medical procedures, for shelter animals and through our low-cost spay/neuter program. This would be an accomplishment for any clinic team, but it's even more amazing considering that they accomplished all of this in our tiny, 400 square foot shelter clinic!



Dr. Sharon Colgan performs surgery providing expert care and services.

Spay and Neuter Procedures

Performed in 2017



Michelle Adams

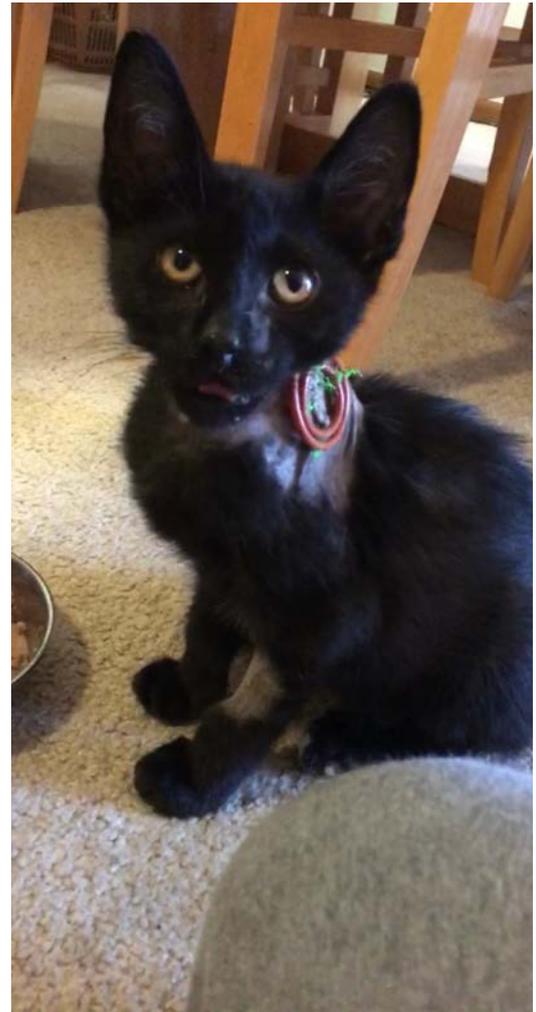
JOEY'S "TAIL"

Joey was brought into the clinic by a Good Samaritan who found him barely alive behind a dumpster one afternoon. He was completely emaciated, and he had a large, gaping wound near his groin. Joey needed immediate attention. Anderson's clinic staff and volunteers responded and did what they do best. On a day when they already had more than enough work and less than enough time to do it in, they came together as a team, working round-the-clock to save little Joey's life.

In order to insert a drain tube at the wound site, as well as a feeding tube to keep him alive, Joey needed to go under anesthesia, putting his life even more at risk. Thanks to Anderson's expert clinic team, Joey made it through surgery, but his fight to survive had only just begun.

Less than a week after surgery, Joey came down with an upper respiratory infection, which further exacerbated his problems. At this point, little Joey was fading fast. In a last ditch attempt to save Joey's life, Dr. Sharon started him on a constant rate infusion of Clinicare - a food that dripped through the feeding tube at a slow, constant rate.

At night, one of our dedicated veterinarian technicians - Victoria - took him home with her and continued to assist feed him. Each morning, she would bring him back to the clinic with her where the consistent rate infusion would begin again. After three weeks of this intensive care, little Joey finally was strong enough to eat on his own. By this time, Victoria had fallen in love with Joey and adopted him - making him a permanent part of her family.



Joey shortly after arrival, with his feeding tube.



"I remember when he first started to eat on his own. It was late at night and we were at my house and he started to eat some rotisserie chicken....I was so happy! Now I've had him since August 2017 and he is the funniest, silliest cat ever. He makes me laugh every day with his crazy antics and he is the best little cuddle bug. He does drive me a little crazy when it's time to eat and he thinks it's time to sit on my head. It's crazy to think that I first brought him home thinking he wasn't going to make it due to all his medical issues and not being able to eat and now he is the biggest pig I've ever met in my life!

I officially adopted Joey in March of 2018 and I cannot imagine life without him. Thank you to all the donors, volunteers, staff, and especially to the community member that found him and brought him into the clinic way back in August. Joey truly is the best example of what's possible when we all come together and work as a team in the fight to save homeless animals."

**-- Victoria Smith,
Anderson veterinary technician and Joey's Mom**

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS...



Anderson and Pet Supplies Plus celebrate the grand opening of their brand new adoption center in May, 2017.

NORTH AURORA ADOPTION CENTER

In February, 2017, Anderson partnered with George Lennon and his North Aurora Pet Supplies Plus location to open its first-ever satellite adoption center. The 1500 square foot adoption center can house up to 40 animals; 15 dogs and puppies & 25 cats and kittens.

"We're excited to partner with such a reputable, no-kill shelter like Anderson. We share the mutual goal of helping pets find loving homes to live long, happy and healthy lives."

-- George Lennon, Owner, PSP

PET SUPPLIES PLUS.

Minus the hassle.

695 Adoptions in 2017



Celebrating our partnership with Petco.

BLOOMINGDALE ADOPTION CENTER

In March, 2017, Anderson partnered with Petco Foundation to open its second satellite adoption center in Bloomingdale. The adoption center is located inside Petco and can house 35 animals; 15 dogs and puppies & 20 cats and kittens.

"We have had a wonderful relationship with Petco Foundation for several years, and we are deeply grateful to them for making this opportunity available to Anderson."

--Beth Drake-Foster, CEO



634 Adoptions in 2017

...AND CREATING COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITIES



Humane education

Research consistently indicates that children who are exposed to animals and humane education demonstrate more pro-social behaviors, empathy, compassion, and critical thinking skills. We work hard to make our humane education opportunities available to a large number of children throughout our community, and we place an emphasis on reaching underserved and underprivileged children of the Fox Valley area. We are extremely proud of our impact in the community through humane education and we look forward to expanding our educational programs even further. Connecting with more children and their families in the future is a critical part of our mission.

5,630

**SCHOOL-AGED
CHILDREN POSITIVELY
IMPACTED THROUGH
HUMANE EDUCATION
PROGRAMMING**

OVER 350 VOLUNTEERS

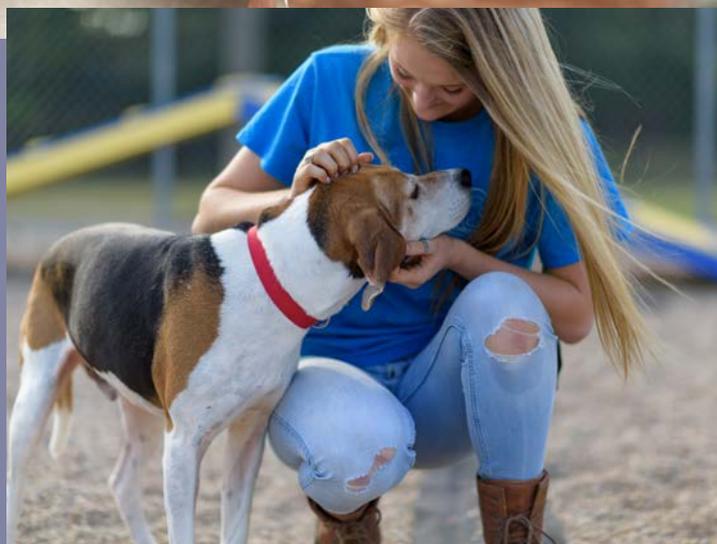
>14,600

DEDICATED SERVICE HOURS



"I got to observe some of the volunteers at the North Aurora Adoption Center and I am getting to know some of the volunteers from South Elgin. I am totally blown away by the depth and breadth of their commitment to the animals; it just oozes from their pores. I watched them perform even the most seemingly mundane tasks with strength, conviction, respect and love. I've seen other animal shelters. And then there is Anderson Animal Shelter which seems to stand ears and tails above the rest. Amazing."

-- V.R. Sarti



Jenna Homburg, Michelle Adams

IMPROVING LIVES

One of our biggest success stories from 2017 is Lucy. Lucy had been bounced around by quite a few different rescues, none of whom could effectively handle her behaviors. She was fearful of strangers, incredibly physically rambunctious, and did not care for other dogs.

Eventually, she made her way to the practice of Dr. Fiia Jokela, president of American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior (AVSAB) and a board certified veterinary behaviorist. Lucy received expert care and treatment there until the clinic fell under new ownership, at which time Dr. Jokela reached out to see if Anderson could take Lucy (with an agreement that Lucy would continue to receive support from Dr. Jokela).



"We agreed to take her and I began working with her immediately," recalled trainer Steve Frost. "Initially, Lucy only trusted me with direct handling. For two and a half weeks straight, I came in every day, morning and night, to care for her, exercise her, and work with her. After a while, she began to bond with other staff members though, and eventually, I was able to step back," said Frost.



Following a diligent training plan, Lucy was actively playing with other dogs within a few months. Lucy ultimately was adopted by a young couple who agreed to foster her. They quickly fell in love with her and couldn't give her up. What's unique about Lucy's story is that she could have easily been euthanized, but a village of people saw her potential and worked tirelessly to give her the best chance of success.

"I cannot tell you how much we love and are thankful for Lucy, nor can I truly describe to you the positivity she has brought into our lives."

-- Alexandra Hayden (Lucy's Mom)

Animal Behavior & Enrichment Program

There's no way around it: animal shelters are stressful places in which to live. Just like in people, chronic stress can cause a variety of issues in shelter animals, including physical illness and behavior problems. That's why in 2015, we began to invest in resources to combat shelter stress by redesigning animal caging and introducing enrichment programs. Dogs are now encouraged to interact with one another in dog-dog playgroups, staff and volunteers take groups of dogs off shelter grounds to area parks and forest preserves on "pack walks", and cats receive a lot of one-on-one out-of-the cage attention from our dedicated cat volunteers. The results of these changes have been measurable. Upper respiratory infections at the shelter have declined by over 90%, and behavior issues have also declined significantly. Because our animals are happier and healthier, adoptions have increased by 300% since 2015! Our animals are staying at the shelter for shorter periods of time too, before being adopted into their forever homes. And that's a good thing because a shelter is no substitute for a happy home.



While there are many training styles, some rooted in tradition and others rooted in modern science, Anderson Animal Shelter utilizes the LIMA (Least Intrusive, Minimally Aversive) method and positive reinforcement training with all of our shelter animals. While training methods that involve force can exacerbate behavior problems, positive reinforcement training has the effect of establishing and building trust between animal and handler, modifying behaviors while also forming the groundwork for future positive human-animal relationships.

