



# 2018 Annual Report





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



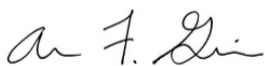
# a letter from the **Executive Director**

## Reflections on a Decade

When I took the job of administrative assistant here at the Windham County Humane Society in April of 2008, little did I know that I was stepping into a career that would be so fulfilling. I had worked in non-profits all of my life, but never in animal welfare. In my first year, we helped 301 local stray and owner-surrendered animals, and one transport animal. I can't even tell you much about those animals without looking through ancient paper records in the basement. We did not have a database, other than excel spreadsheets (remember those?). We were low on money, staff, and morale and we had a terrible reputation in the community. Imagine how pleased and proud I am to see that in 2018 we helped 1,744 animals – a 5+ fold increase in just 10 years' time.

How did we do it? I am a fan of change and a big believer in professional development. It is all too easy in the world of not-for-profits to get trapped in your bubble, to isolate and think you are the only one struggling. In learning from other organizations who were piloting fascinating new initiatives, we were able to grow our programs. In 2009, we started working with a traveling veterinarian to offer low cost spay/neuter to local pet owners, while also providing spay and neuter for our animals. At the annual Animal Care Expo conference, I was inspired by the Humane Society of the United States Pets for Life Program and an LA group called Downtown Dogs to see that those struggling to care for a beloved pet were not bad people who should not own animals. They inspired us to look past saving homeless animals to a growing problem in animal welfare – access to affordable veterinary care. A grant from Banfield Foundation got us started on our Pet Care Assistance Program, which is a big part of how we help so many more animals today than we did in 2008. We saw 704 local, owned pets for affordable veterinary care in 2018. As we got a handle on our local homeless population, we had space in our facility to help animals from regions of the country where animals are still euthanized simply due to a lack of space. Through collaboration with other organizations, we built a network that created and maintains our transport program. Supporting the human-animal bond is the core of our mission, so the transport program is a win-win for all, including local families looking for their next furry family member.

I am so grateful for a staff that keeps stepping up even as we help more and more animals. They are kind and compassionate, and not just to animals, but to people, too. I am also grateful for a wonderful Board of Directors and for over 70 volunteers, all essential to keeping us going every day. Lastly, I am grateful for the amazing, supportive, humane community we live in. Thank you all for your support and for your love for animals!



Annie Guion  
Executive Director



Annie and her rescue pup, Jazzy

## 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.



WINDHAM COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY  
916 W. RIVER RD.  
BRATTLEBORO, VT 05301  
(802) 254-2232  
[www.windhamcountyhumane.org](http://www.windhamcountyhumane.org)



**782**  
ADOPTIONS

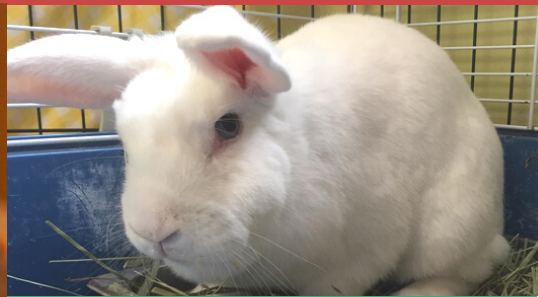


**321**  
TRANSPORTS



**91** PETS REUNITED WITH  
THEIR FAMILIES

**785**  
VACCINES



**1,744**  
ANIMALS  
SERVED

**408**  
LOW-COST  
SPAY/NEUTER  
SURGERIES

# 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 2018, WCHS placed 782 animals into new, loving homes, including 512 cats, 252 dogs, 10 guinea pigs, 4 ferrets, 3 rabbits, and one bird. 169 cats and 152 dogs were transported from shelters where they faced euthanasia to new homes in New England.

439 pet owners participated in our Pet Care Assistance Program. They own, on average, 2.7 pets each, for a total of approximately 1,185 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 416 medications to 169 pet owners. Of those, 321 were for parasite control. We also provided 402 distemper and 383 rabies vaccines, 7 microchips, 11 SNAP tests, 2 FIV/FelV tests, 3 T-4's, 2 CBC's with differentials, 5 chemistry panels, 3 mass removals with biopsy, 20 nail trims, and dental services.

We provided prescription food at cost to 24 pet owners, and affordable euthanasia and cremation services for 18 beloved pets. We spayed/neutered 306 cats, 94 dogs and 8 rabbits for low-income pet owners. 163 animals were fostered in volunteer homes.

# ADOPTION HAPPY "TAILS"



Caesar was surrendered by his owners and arrived at WCHS in pretty rough shape. He was suffering from Demodex Mange and was practically bald. He also had separation anxiety and had started to chew on himself when he would become nervous. Seeing that he needed extra care and attention, shelter staff sent Caesar to a foster home so that he could rehabilitate in more peaceful surroundings. He responded extremely well to both his foster family and his medical treatment and was fit and healthy in no time. He was adopted within four months of being surrendered.

Vulcan was brought to WCHS in July of 2018 as a stray. He had been found limping around a neighborhood and some concerned residents trapped him and brought him to us for treatment. One of his legs was badly injured and he was sent to a local veterinary office for x-rays. Amputation was recommended, but staff struggled with making the decision since Vulcan seemed to be a feral cat. They agreed to proceed with the surgery if the people who found Vulcan would be willing to foster him as an indoor cat after his procedure.

Vulcan's rescuers readily offered to take care of him, and within a few days of being off the streets, he had turned into a completely different cat - crawling onto laps, purring, rubbing up against legs, and even allowing much-coveted belly rubs! Vulcan's rescuers ended up adopting him. His new name is Blackie.



# SO MANY HAPPY "TAILS"!

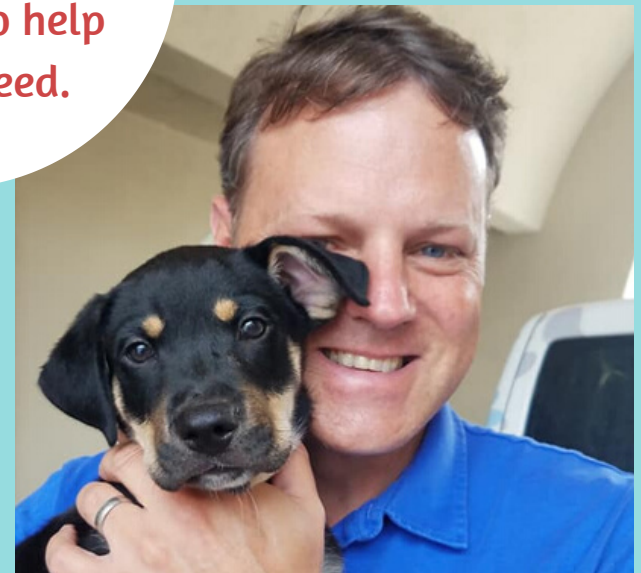


# SPOTLIGHT ON OUR DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS & FOSTERS

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 2018,  
103 volunteers  
donated 4,441 hours  
to WCHS to help  
pets in need.**





# THANKS TO OUR CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION DONORS

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Ben & Jerry's Foundation  
George A. Dascomb Trust  
High Meadows Foundation  
Hills Science Diet  
Maine Community Foundation  
Marquis George MacDonald Foundation  
Periwinkle Foundation  
PetSmart Charities

Richard & Elizabeth Boggio Foundation  
Robin Colson Memorial Trust  
Vermont Community Foundation  
William Ewing Foundation  
The Woodtiger Fund  
The Windham Foundation

# THANKS TO OUR LOCAL BUSINESS PARTNERS

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Achille Agway  
Brattleboro Auto Mall  
Brattleboro Chamber of Commerce  
Brattleboro Savings & Loan  
Brattleboro Reformer  
Brattleboro Veterinary Clinic  
C&S Wholesale Grocers

Howard Printing  
New Chapter, Inc.  
One Stop Pet Supply  
Spruce Mountain Acupuncture  
VT-NH Veterinary Clinic  
White Rose Pet Memorial Services

# SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PARTNER AGENCIES

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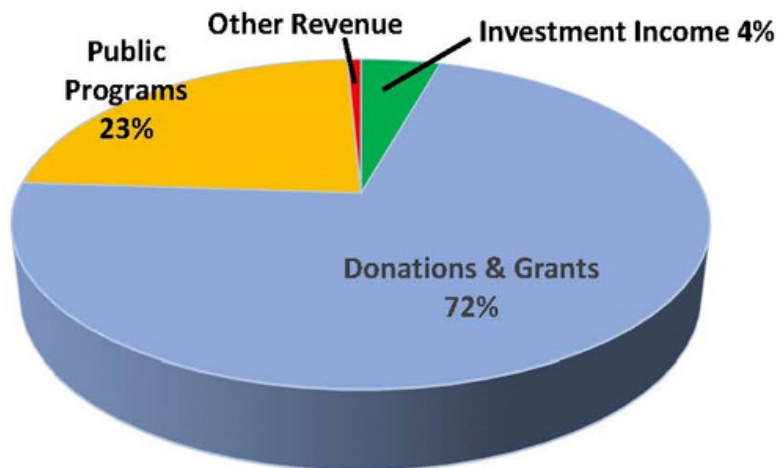
ASPCA  
Best Friends (No More Homeless Pets Partner)  
Central Vermont Humane Society  
Franklin County Humane Society  
Good Karma Pet Rescue  
Homeward Bound, Addison County Humane  
HSUS  
Humane Society of Chittenden County  
One By One  
Riverside Rescue

Save A Pet  
Second Chance Animal Center  
Second Chance Animal Rescue  
Shelter Animals Count  
Spay ASAP  
St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center  
VT Humane Federation  
VT-Companion Animal Rescue  
WinDART

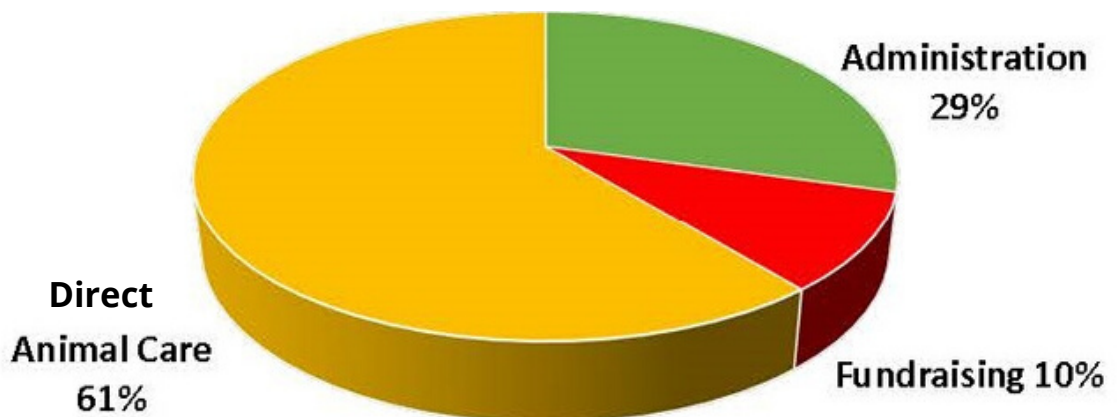
# 2018 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

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.

**TOTAL REVENUE: \$702,506**



**TOTAL EXPENSES: \$541,212**



# 2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

# 2018 STAFF MEMBERS

Eric Brow  
Nicholas Esposito  
Ronald Francis  
Annie Guion  
Marianne Monoc  
John O'Farrell  
Arianna Parris  
Jessalyn Pennington  
Mary Jane Rickards  
Keri Roberts  
Kessandra Rooks  
Margaret Tiffany  
Cooper Turner-Renaud





*Make a friend  
for life.*

**WINDHAM COUNTY  
HUMANE SOCIETY**

[www.windhamcountyhumane.org](http://www.windhamcountyhumane.org)