

PAWS4EVER

# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT



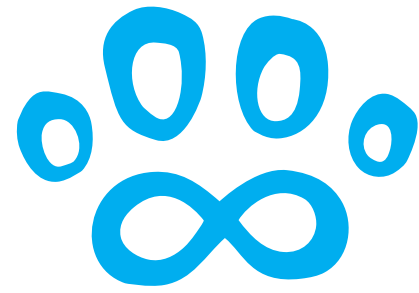
Thank you for supporting animals in need at  
Paws4ever in 2018!

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## PAWS4EVER PRINCIPLES

### Our Vision

A world in which pets and people thrive together

### Our Mission

Paws4ever is dedicated to creating and growing lifetime relationships between pets and people through adoption, training, education & care.

### Paws4ever Strategic Plan Goals: 2016 – 2021

- Optimize the quality and impact of our programs for adoption, training, education & care
- Establish financial stability
- Become a vibrant and well-known partner in our community
- Develop organizational capacity across board, staff & volunteers
- Maximize and maintain our existing facilities and resources

In 2018, we saved lives, completed families, strengthened the bond between pets and people, and created a lot of “happy tails.” It was an amazing year at Paws4ever, and I want to thank YOU for being a part of it.

Our mission drives everything we do, and we remain focused on the five key pillars of our strategic plan. We hope that you share our excitement about the strides Paws4ever has made as an organization. We have strengthened our financial foundation, provided more enrichment opportunities for our shelter animals, updated our dog training program to better serve our community, and more! Your support made all of this possible. Thanks to you, Paws4ever is poised to have an even greater impact on our community in the coming years.

As you see these images of pets and the people who love them, know that behind every contented purr, every gleeful tail wag, every full belly, every cozy bed, every urgent medical need that’s met, every moment of joy shared between a pet and their family – is you. These moments simply would not be possible without you.

On behalf of all of us at Paws4ever – and the pets and people whose lives you’ve changed – thank you!

Sincerely,

Kathryn Ruggeri  
Paws4ever Executive Director

# 2018 IMPACT



## Nell's Story

When we met Nell at a crowded county shelter in early 2018, she was severely underweight. Because of gifts from friends like you, we were able to rescue her and help her get back to a healthy weight. Nell was adopted about a month later, but her adopter surrendered her to a county shelter. Because we microchip and offer a lifetime promise, we were able to bring her back to Paws4ever.

While waiting to find her true forever family, Nell became nervous and got easily overstimulated. Our professional dog trainers worked with her and helped her to relax and feel more like the smiling pup you see in her picture.

We are excited to share that Nell found her forever home last August!



## Volunteers

Paws4ever volunteers worked more than 4400 hours in 2018. Thank you!

Volunteers enrich our animals' lives, help the Adoption Center and ReSale Store run smoothly, keep our sanctuary looking beautiful, and make our fundraising events successful! We can't do it without you!

**500+**  
Animals helped  
across all programs!



**179** Animals Cared for  
in the Adoption Center



**300+** Dogs Trained



**36** Legacy Care  
Member Pets

**159**  
Adoptions



73 Dogs



86 Cats

**147**  
Animals  
Rescued



65 Dogs



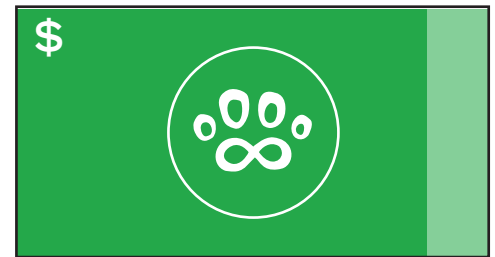
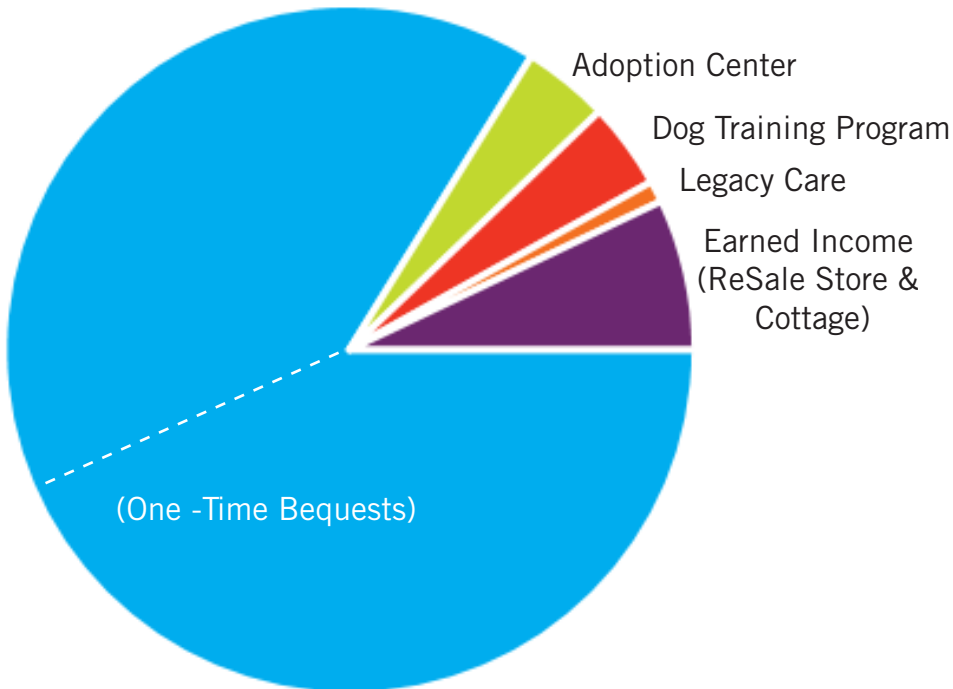
82 Cats

# FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018

Revenue: \$955,432

Expenses: \$613,705

Fundraising & Events

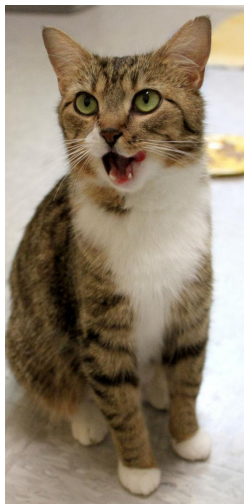


84 cents out of every dollar goes to programs and program support

16 cents goes to fundraising

In the 2017-2018 fiscal year, we pursued our strategic goal of establishing financial stability through continued development of internal financial management practices that will lead to organizational sustainability and an increase in both fundraising and earned income.

Due in large part to a generous bequest, we were able to pay off long-term debt and establish operational reserves. Every dollar given to Paws4ever is treated with care, and we continue to place emphasis on improving financial sustainability and increasing income to benefit animals like Sequoyah and her babies.



Sequoyah was rescued last spring, thanks to generous gifts from friends like you. At her initial veterinary check-up, we found out that she was pregnant. Caring for a pregnant cat and kittens requires a lot of extra staff time, supplies, and space. Your support allowed us to give Sequoyah and her babies the care they needed.

Sequoyah gave birth to four healthy kittens: Snickers, Twizzler, Jellybean, and Skittles. When the kittens were old enough, we found homes for them in pairs. After working so hard caring for her babies, Sequoyah got a home of her own last September where she can relax and get spoiled!

Countless pets like Sequoyah are still waiting to be rescued, and we can't do it without your financial support. [Please consider making a one-time or monthly gift today!](#)



# PROGRAM UPDATES

Because we believe that every animal we rescue has a bright future and deserves the highest quality care, we are always seeking out new ways to help animals in need. Here is a peek at some of the exciting things happening at Paws4ever! Make sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#), and [join our email list](#) so you won't miss any exciting updates!

## CAT PAWSITIVE PRO

In 2018, we were thrilled to participate in Cat Pawsitive Pro, an initiative of The Jackson Galaxy Project through GreaterGood.org. This program was designed by feline behavioral experts and uses clicker training methods to improve feline social skills, enrich the day-to-day life of shelter cats, and promote the cat-human bond.

Cats who are exposed to the reward-based training methods of Cat Pawsitive Pro gain confidence, experience reduced stress levels, and build connections with staff, volunteers and potential adopters. Paws4ever continues to use the techniques taught in Cat Pawsitive Pro to improve the lives of the cats in our care.

Many of the cats initially included in the program have been adopted, including Frank (right), Skeeter, Truffle, Fritz, and Cyrus (below, left to right). Though she is very sweet, Skeeter waited a long time to be adopted. She was often shy when meeting new people. Cat Pawsitive Pro built her confidence and got her stepping through hoops and giving high fives! Skeeter found her forever home last June!



## FOSTER PROGRAM

In 2018 we introduced a brand new foster program, allowing us to rescue more animals and address individual needs. Our foster families provide a comforting home environment for animals to come out of their shells, recover from illness, overcome behavioral challenges, relax, and adjust to family life. We are excited to continue growing our foster network so that we can rescue more animals! Interested in opening your home to a foster pet? Contact [foster@paws4ever.org](mailto:foster@paws4ever.org).



# PROGRAM UPDATES



## DOG TRAINING PROGRAM

The training classes that we offer to the public now have more frequent start dates and a fresh curriculum that reflects current best practices in the industry and ensures consistent quality training with a focus on building healthy family dog behavior.

In addition to offering fun and effective dog training classes and private lessons for the public, the Dog Training Program staff work together with Adoption Center staff and volunteers to create a comprehensive system of support for pets in our Adoption Center. We offer ongoing opportunities for volunteers and staff to learn more about shelter population behavioral health, and how to observe and respond to animal body language. This also helps volunteers stay up to date on our current pets' individual needs so that they can provide appropriate enrichment and help to prepare the dogs for home life!



## IN-KENNEL ENRICHMENT



We have implemented a program of in-kennel enrichment for our dogs, with the goal of improving their lives and decreasing stress. Enrichment includes sharpening their minds with food puzzles and slow feeders, engaging their senses with fun scent activities, and providing calming one-on-one time with volunteers in their kennels, in addition to plenty of outdoor playtime and walks around the sanctuary.

If you would like to support enrichment and training opportunities for shelter pets at Paws4ever, you can select the "Shelter Pet Enrichment Fund" when you [donate online!](#)

## THANK YOU FOR AN AMAZING YEAR!