

PAWSCHICAGO

pawschicago.org

2018 IMPACT REPORT

CHARITY NAVIGATOR

PAWS Chicago's Life-Saving Impact

YEAR IN REVIEW
HIGHLIGHTS AND STATISTICS

PATH TO NO KILL
TWENTY YEARS OF PROGRESS

2018 HONOR ROLL
OF DONORS



Abel



April



Frankie



Penny



Willy

To Our Supporters

Your dedication has saved the pets featured in these pages – and thousands more! – in their time of greatest need. We hope that you feel a sense of accomplishment as you read about the important work we have done together.

-Your Friends at PAWS Chicago



Mattie



Vaughn



Luna



Svetlana



Morgan



Ramirez



Poppet



5,591

Adoptions



16,750

Animals spayed/
neutered



2,914

Spay/neuter surgeries
provided for feral cats



25,307

Pounds of food and
supplies distributed by
the Pet Food Pantry



143,933

Volunteer hours =
69 full-time employees



3,325

Animals in foster care

98.12%

Save Rate

100%

of surgeries were
FREE or subsidized

2,371

Surgeries in Englewood
and Back of the Yards
through PAWS for Life

4 Stars

Charity Navigator score achieved
for the 16th consecutive year



DEAR FRIENDS,

Twenty-one years ago, we started with an adoption event on Michigan Avenue and Oak Street. We had a glimpse behind the closed doors of Chicago's high-kill shelters back in 1997 and we needed to do something to bring attention to the more than 40,000 animals who were being killed in our city each year.

Since that day, the Chicago community has come together on behalf of the animals. From our beginning as an advocacy group to opening our Lurie Spay/Neuter Clinic, our Adoption Centers and our Medical Center, you have supported and enabled our continued expansion to save homeless pets. You, our donors, have been the backbone of all the progress we have made. Thank you for all that you made possible!

Since our founding days, we have tracked data in Chicago to determine where to invest our resources and programs. It is remarkable to be able to tell you that we are close to achieving our dream of a No Kill community. Euthanasia in Chicago has dropped 91%. Two-thirds of that progress is from fewer pets entering shelters. This demonstrates the essential nature of our spay/neuter and prevention work.



While we are close to celebrating a No Kill Chicago, it is an incredible milestone, not a guaranteed destination. Sadly, there is a track record of communities reaching No Kill, only to fall back to killing once again when they pull back on spay/neuter efforts.

To reach and sustain No Kill, we will continue tracking stray and unwanted pet data in Chicago by community and investing in prevention resources where they are needed most. We are excited by the progress in Englewood, where we have had social workers, interns and volunteers go door-to-door with outreach and prevention efforts since 2014. There are no veterinarians and no animal resources accessible to people who live there. Approximately 87% of pets we meet are not spayed and neutered but after meeting us, nearly 90% of them are spayed or neutered at PAWS. We expanded this program to Back of the Yards, and we hope to grow in additional communities in the near future.

Ending the killing of homeless cats and dogs in shelters is a huge victory, but we have a much longer road to end suffering, abuse and neglect for dogs and cats. Stopping the killing is a first step. Ensuring all the pets in our city are cared for and loved is the mark of a truly humane community.

With your support, our life-saving work is making a difference in the lives of individual cats and dogs every day, and we are seeing incredible progress as a community. We are a lighthouse for what is possible.

On behalf of our voiceless friends—thank you!

With gratitude,

Paula Fasseas

Paula Fasseas
Founder & Executive Chair



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ON THE COVER

PAWS Chicago alumnus Lenny

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Ezra, being treated for an upper respiratory infection at the PAWS Chicago Medical Center.



CHICAGO'S PATH TO NO KILL

In 1997, the mass killing of homeless pets was a hidden crisis. The public had no idea more than 40,000 homeless cats and dogs would be euthanized in Chicago that year. We founded PAWS Chicago to bring attention to the plight of these vulnerable animals and to mobilize community support to develop humane solutions.

Our advocacy and direct action take many forms — from rescuing homeless pets in need to finding them new families and providing free spay/neuter services in under-served communities as the primary way to eliminate pet overpopulation. How far we've come in our journey towards a No Kill Chicago is testament to the strength of the community which carried us here.

With the strong foundation of community support, PAWS Chicago has developed life-saving programs necessary to establish the city as a model for sustainable pet stewardship. PAWS Chicago built one of the largest No Kill adoption and spay/neuter programs in the country, and our Medical Center — currently undergoing a major renovation — offers a blueprint for the future of shelter medicine.

Thanks to our combined efforts over the past 21 years, Chicago has seen a 91 percent drop in euthanasia rates across the city, from 42,561 animals in 1997 to 3,770 in 2018. These numbers are encouraging and Chicago is poised to become the largest No Kill city in the nation, but we still have work to do. We are just short of reaching a 90 percent save rate in Chicago shelters in 2018 — the benchmark for entering No Kill range.

What works in Chicago can work across the country when local people come together and agree to solve

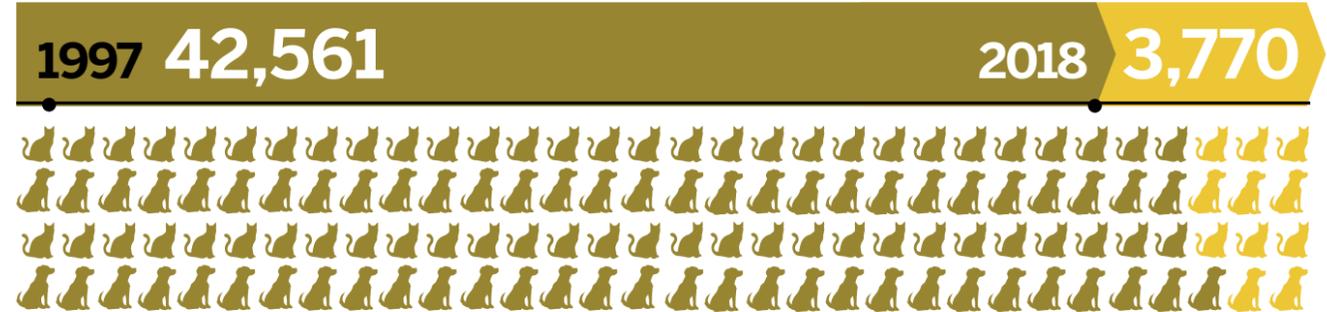
their problem. We'll be there to help animals in need, wherever they come from. But for Chicago to truly become a No Kill City, to save every healthy and treatable homeless animal, we must remain faithful to our Chicago roots, even as we become a resource to communities across the country.

91 percent drop in euthanasia rates across the city

We must continue providing free and low-cost spay/neuter surgeries in under-served neighborhoods; to engage volunteers by the hundreds and adopters by the thousands; to earn the trust and financial support of local Chicagoans who come together and in one voice say “no more” to killing, no more to hiding the truth, no more to callous disregard of innocent animals.

Local Chicagoans solving a local problem through spay/neuter and prevention. That's the secret. If we stray from that crucial work, the numbers of unwanted animals will rise again, and the killing will soon follow. That's why we'll never give up the fight - your fight, our fight - to make and keep Chicago a No Kill community. Because communities thrive when they protect the innocent. And because animals are among the most innocent of all.

PETS EUTHANIZED IN CHICAGO



Herbie was once abandoned, tied to a pole behind our Medical Center. Now, he plays happily with his loving new owner throughout Chicago's vast parks.

THE PAWS CHICAGO NO KILL MODEL



THE PAWS CHICAGO NO KILL MODEL WORKS. IT SAVES LIVES. UNITES COMMUNITIES. CREATES A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE.

Everything we do is aimed at generating results.

Why? Because animals are dying every day in our community, across the United States and around the world, and they don't have to.

It's a solvable problem. Together, we can stop it. But we're only as successful as our community is engaged. **By showcasing animals in need, raising awareness, and providing ways for people to get involved, we build a strong foundation for life-saving – a No Kill model – supported by pillars of Prevention, Adoption, Animal Health and Behavior, and Volunteers.**

The PAWS approach is why we are at the doorstep of ending needless killing in Chicago. It will get us over the threshold. And it's what will sustain No Kill for generations to come.

Animals don't have to die, and we're going to do everything we can to save them.

PAWS Chicago 5K Walk/Run mobilized 5,000+ Chicagoans to get moving to save lives.





NO KILL MODEL

PREVENTION

ADOPTION

ANIMAL HEALTH
& BEHAVIOR

VOLUNTEERS

COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT

PREVENTION

THE SINGLE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO END ANIMAL HOMELESSNESS IS TO PREVENT IT.

These Chihuahuas certainly are special, but their story is far from unique. They were brought to our October PAWS for Life Community Day in Back of the Yards. All four packed in one, small crate. All tiny. All adorable. All loved by their owner. None were spayed or neutered.

That's a problem that we're working to overcome. We can end the cycle of animal births, homelessness and deaths by addressing the real cause: pet overpopulation.

And the most effective prevention method is proactive spay/neuter efforts. By providing free and low-cost spay/neuter services in under-served communities, PAWS effectively limits the scope of the problem.

In 1997, Chicago was one of the highest kill cities in the nation. That year, 28,314 cats and dogs entered Chicago Animal Care & Control, the city pound. Of those pets, 26,394 were killed. That's a euthanasia rate of over 93%.

In 2018, the euthanasia rate fell below 15% for the first time in Chicago history. While a single spay/neuter surgery may seem to have a small impact, the long-term benefits are truly multigenerational.

More than 60% of the reduction in euthanasia is from fewer animals landing in a shelter. That is the beauty of our spay/neuter approach. When fewer unwanted animals are born, the number of animals that are abused, neglected, abandoned, and sometimes even killed dramatically decreases as well. The success of our prevention efforts in the past 21 years reminds us that today's hard work pays tomorrow's dividends.

16,750 Total number of spay/neuter surgeries performed by PAWS Chicago in 2018.

Pet owners in under-served neighborhoods attend PAWS Chicago Community Day, offering free vaccinations, free spay and neuter surgeries, and a vault of information on animal welfare and pet health.



STOPPING PET OVERPOPULATION BEFORE IT STARTS

BETWEEN THE PAWS CHICAGO LURIE CLINIC AND THE GUSMOBILE VAN, WE PERFORMED 16,750 FREE OR LOW COST SPAY/NEUTER SURGERIES IN 2018.

The majority of stray, feral and other homeless pets originate in communities which are pet resource deserts. That means there are communities without veterinarians, pet supply stores, training information, basic information on pet care and spay/neuter options. Our PAWS for Life community outreach team is on the ground in Englewood, West Englewood and Back of the Yards six days each week offering knowledge and resources to help reduce pet homelessness. We provide free spay/neuter and transportation, as well as community medicine, to help owners with their animals who would otherwise suffer without treatment.

“Having access to low-cost spay/neuter surgeries is essential to our program. PAWS Chicago’s partner program is essential. The staff is friendly and the animals receive the best care.”

– Shelly Casey, co-founder of the Catcade, a Lakeview-based rescue

LURIE CLINIC

Since 2000, PAWS veterinarians at the Lurie Clinic have performed more than 246,437 free and low-cost spay neuter surgeries. By prioritizing high-quality, high-volume and accessible spay/neuter services, we make a dramatic impact on reducing the number of homeless pets born each year.

SUPPORTING CHICAGOLAND RESCUES

We invest in our community by supporting other rescue organizations with our No Kill model. In 2018, we provided subsidized spay/neuter and veterinary care for animals from 22 local rescue organizations

“This program is a miracle for the South Side. I started helping one cat who had been abandoned, but soon nearly 20 cats looked to me for care. Thanks to PAWS Chicago, I know these cats are spayed/neutered and I have the support to keep them happy and healthy.”

–Cynthia Jackson,
Registered Colony Caretaker

GUSMOBILE

The GusMobile proactively brings PAWS Chicago’s spay/neuter surgeries to the people who are most in need and who lack the ability to travel to the Lurie Clinic.

COMMUNITY CATS

Community cats living on the street are the primary source of unwanted kittens. Our Trap-Neuter-Release (TNR) program manages colonies on the South side of Chicago, and we provide free vouchers to community cat caregivers to support TNR efforts.

In 2018, of the 16,750 total spay/neuter surgeries performed, 2,914 of those surgeries were on feral cats.

Spaying Just One Cat Equals Dramatic impact For Generations

One Cat + Her Offspring Can Produce

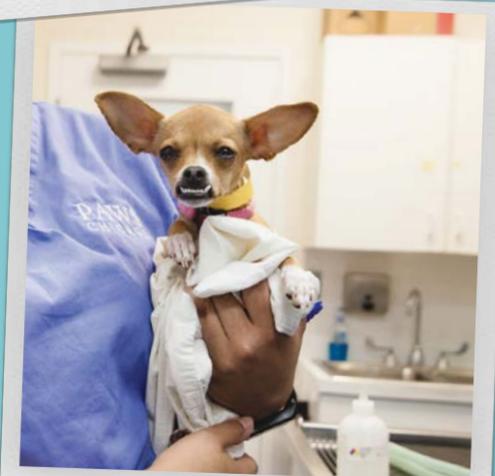
420,000 Cats in Seven Years



Community cats cared for by registered caretaker, Cynthia Jackson



Clients, Alan Lee and Red at a PAWS Community Day



Lurie Clinic Client pre-op



PAWS for Life Community Day, October 2018, hundreds of clients benefited from free vet services.

PAWS FOR LIFE MAKING AN IMPACT STREET BY STREET

PAWS FOR LIFE

Under-resourced communities do not have access to basic veterinary care, pet food, supplies or important information on pet wellness and spay/neuter. We're changing that.

PAWS for Life launched in Englewood in 2014 and has since expanded to help families in other under-served neighborhoods in Chicago.

In 2018, we added the Back of the Yards community to our service area, and more than 150 people with pets turned out for our first spay/neuter event. The response was so great that we have doubled our weekly transport days in order to serve all the families and pets in need.

PAWS for Life supports Chicago's most at-risk communities by providing pet resources and education on caring for animals.

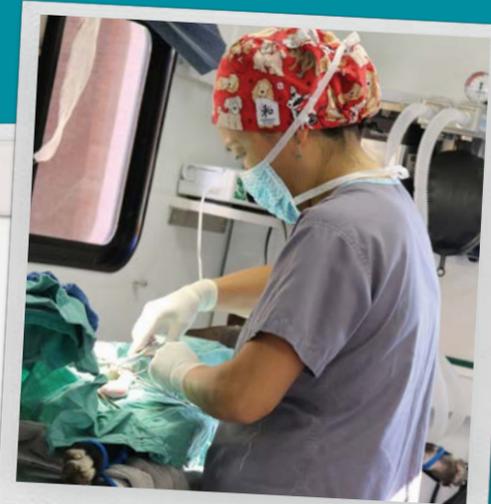
Making a difference street by street

This program works on the ground in communities that would otherwise be contributing to pet overpopulation. We offer help with free spay/neuter and other pet services, and we're in the community building relationships each day.

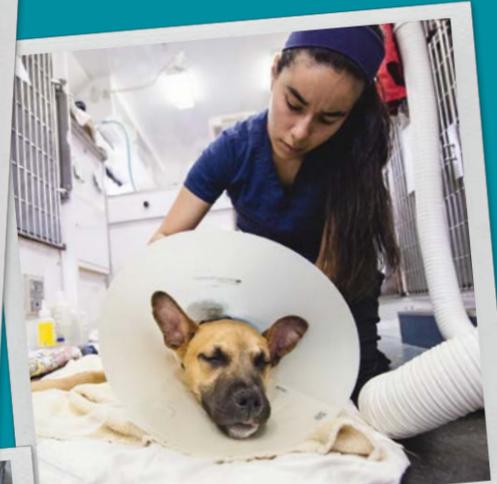
- **Canvassing Days:** Our team of staff and volunteers meet residents by going door-to-door, block by block, talking with people where they live. We then schedule spay/neuter appointments and provide transportation for those in need.
- **Community Days:** Pets and their owners can take advantage of free rabies and distemper vaccinations at our on-site GusMobile. By providing this service, we're helping prevent pets from contracting illnesses and reaching out to more people to talk about the importance of spay/neuter.



Volunteer nurse administering vaccine



Dr. Von Waldau in surgery on the GusMobile



Post-operative care on the GusMobile



Dr. Navatta and veterinary technician treat a cat on Community Day in Englewood



Providing transport for clients in need



GusMobile clients waiting their turn

PAWS For Life At Work
87% of pets at PAWS for Life events are not spayed or neutered, and 72% have never seen a veterinarian.



NO KILL MODEL

PREVENTION

ADOPTION

ANIMAL HEALTH
& BEHAVIOR

VOLUNTEERS

COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT

ADOPTION

Small, scared, suffering. That was Loretta when we first brought her to PAWS from Chicago Animal Care and Control. A senior Spaniel-mix, Loretta's list of ailments was taller than she was. Fleas, dental disease, a ruptured tendon, and multiple mammary masses made each day painful for her.

On her own, Loretta was lucky to have survived. At PAWS, our mission was to ensure she thrived. We removed the fleas, rotten teeth and masses and gave her the loving care she always deserved.

With the weight of her troubles lifted, Loretta revealed herself to be a bubbly and vivacious character full of vim and vigor.

Loretta was adopted by a loving family, and each day is a list of joyful moments much longer than the one of her troubles.

We aren't satisfied until every PAWS Chicago pet finds a home where they can live their best life. Thanks to your support in 2018, our adoption program found homes for Loretta and 5,590 other pets just like her.



Small, scared and suffering



Loving life in her new home

5,591

 pets found homes through PAWS in 2018

PAWS alumna Loretta, had a hard life before becoming a supermodel.

Three happy adoption stories.

(Because we don't have space to tell all 5,591.)



Wanda

Wanda

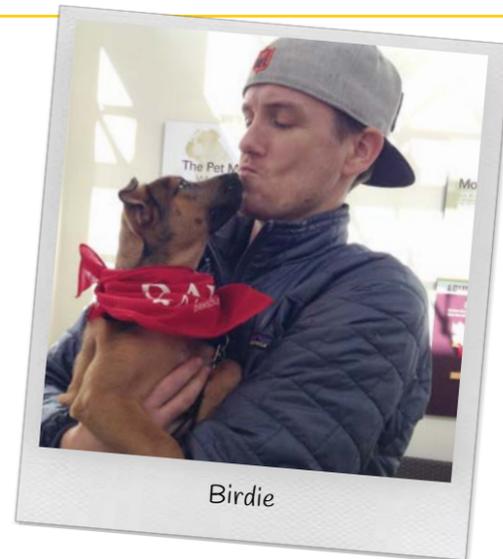
Our 5,000th adoption of 2018 fittingly came just in time for Thanksgiving. Wanda the kitten came to us with a severe flea infestation and she was struggling to grow. Her short life had been a constant battle for survival. After one of our foster families lovingly nursed her back to health, Wanda was adopted by a wonderful family. And for that, we were all thankful!



Willow

Birdie

Birdie was just two months old when we found her in dire need of love and care. Plagued by parasites and exposed to the deadly parvovirus, she wasn't flourishing as a young puppy. Luckily, we found her in time to treat her and save her life. She found a home shortly after healing. She's now enjoying her new owners and even has playdates with her littermates.



Birdie

Willow

This senior Chihuahua walked painfully through our doors with a severe case of luxating patellas. Our surgeons performed a bilateral repair to ensure Willow could enjoy the best quality of life possible. Her foster agreed to care for her during recovery, but quickly decided to adopt her permanently. She now spends her days happily trotting alongside her black Lab big brother.

FINDING LOVING FAMILIES FOR HOMELESS ANIMALS



Adopters and pup at Spring Adopt-A-Thon

A robust and visible adoption program is essential to saving lives and building a No Kill community. PAWS Chicago finds new, loving homes for animals through its two Adoption Centers and innovative off-site events. In 2018, we found homes for 5,591 pets.

The Pippen Fasseas Adoption Center in Lincoln Park was the first cageless No Kill shelter for dogs and cats in the Midwest.

PIPPEN FASSEAS ADOPTION CENTER

The Center was designed to reduce stress for animals awaiting new homes by offering bright, comfortable surroundings. Within the Adoption Center, the Barbara Bradford Kitty City is designed to provide cats a comforting and safe transitional home. Residents in the Marshall Field Family Dog Town are treated to three to five walks daily, plus playtime on the roof top deck and personalized training time. Volunteers are trained daily in the Judith Blazer Community Room.

GLENN L. FELNER NORTH SHORE ADOPTION CENTER

The North Shore Adoption Center in Highland Park, is an important step in the mission to build No Kill communities. The Glenn L. Felner Adoption Center is an especially important resource for larger dogs who are more likely to find the perfect home in a suburban home with a yard.

OFF-SITE ADOPTION EVENTS

Angels with Tails, PAWS Chicago's signature off-site adoption events, have brought homeless pets into the community. Since our first event outside the storefronts of Michigan Avenue in 1997, PAWS continues to bring pets into various Chicagoland neighborhoods throughout the year.



ANIMAL HEALTH & BEHAVIOR

SMALL MIRACLES

Taking care of kittens who require bottle feeding is no small feat. In their incredibly fragile state, they are the most vulnerable of all homeless pets entering shelters. Intensive care, routine feedings, constant warmth, and persistent cleaning is crucial for their well-being. Fosters who take on this task are truly remarkable. Like all animals, we believe bottle babies deserve the right to thrive!

KITTEN FACTS

- Kittens need to be fed every two to four hours. Never give a kitten cow's milk (or anything other than specified formula).
- Keeping kittens clean is extremely important. Stroke a kitten with a warm, damp cloth, using short strokes to mimic a mother's tongue.
- Overfeeding kittens is dangerous. Kittens generally will not regulate their own food intake and they will not stop eating.
- A kitten should gain 7 to 10 percent of it's birth weight each day. That is about 10 to 15 grams a day.
- A kitten must weigh at least two pounds and be eight-weeks-old before he can be spayed/neutered and ready for adoption.

Jupiter receives immediate care and nourishment at the PAWS Medical Center.



SAVING ALL TREATABLE ANIMALS

No Kill means being a haven for animals, no matter from where they come or how much rehabilitation they need. No animal should be euthanized just because it is sick or injured. Through PAWS Chicago's state-of-the-art shelter medicine program, each rescue receives full medical treatment, while a comprehensive animal behavior program provides social and behavioral enrichment.



WENDY

Wendy limped painfully into our lives and hearts with a badly damaged back foot, limiting her ability to move. The limb unfortunately had to be removed by our medical staff. Thanks to the procedure, a weight—both literally and figuratively—had been lifted. She found her zest for life and could live fully and unencumbered. Wendy is now adopted and enjoying the company of her new family.



DIEGO

Diego, a three-year-old Shih Tzu, has always been the apple of our eyes. Unfortunately, he was also seeing the world through a cherry (a prolapsed gland) in his left eye! His well-being was further compromised by severe thermal and electrical wounds on his torso. Because our medical staff delivered vital and life-saving veterinary care, he thankfully lived to see another day. While he was healing, Diego ended up being quite the popular choice in our foster program. Not one, but two families were interested in his adoption! He's now living large in his new home.



GINGER

Ginger's life could have gone down a completely different path had she not been in our care. The fates of homeless animals with broken limbs are grim. Luckily, she found her way to PAWS and our medical staff treated her with the love and compassion that all animals deserve. After healing in a cast for about a month, Ginger was ready to run free. Now, this Cattle Dog mix is running a full household in her new home with her adopted family.



JOEY

One month old, a handful of painful gashes, and all alone. We found Joey hiding under a truck with a fearful look in his larger-than-life eyes. He was quickly swept away to the Medical Center and treated for his wounds. Now, his fur has grown over any reminders of his sad beginnings, and his only worry is wondering when his owner will refill his bowl.

SAVE RATE 2018

Because of our expert veterinary and behavior teams, we are one of the few shelters in the country that can treat and rehabilitate large numbers of sick, injured or behaviorally challenged animals. In 2018, PAWS Chicago had a 98.12% save rate, even while taking in a vulnerable population of animals.

98.12% Save Rate

SHELTER MEDICINE

For generations, getting sick in a shelter was a death sentence. But the No Kill movement has proven there is a better way. Through our advanced shelter medicine program, each rescue receives full medical treatment at the PAWS Chicago Medical Center.

TRAINING & BEHAVIOR ENRICHMENT

Many of our dogs come to us with emotional scars. Some are terrified of people, other pets or loud noises. Others were never socialized in a family.

We know that with the right training and structured environment, pets can overcome a traumatic past. Through our Training Center, we offer these dogs customized and routine exercise, enrichment and rehabilitation in a controlled, state-of-the-art facility.

We are transforming shy, highly active, under-socialized or previously abused pets, giving them the confidence and training needed to show prospective adopters their true personality.

FOSTER CARE

Our dedicated foster families care for kittens and puppies that are too young or too small to be spayed or neutered. They nurse sick and injured pets that need time for healing before being adopted. They open their homes to animals that don't adapt well to shelter life.

3,325 PAWS Chicago animals spent time in foster care.

More than 75% of animals rescued by PAWS Chicago require medical treatment beyond standard vaccinations and spay/neuter surgeries.

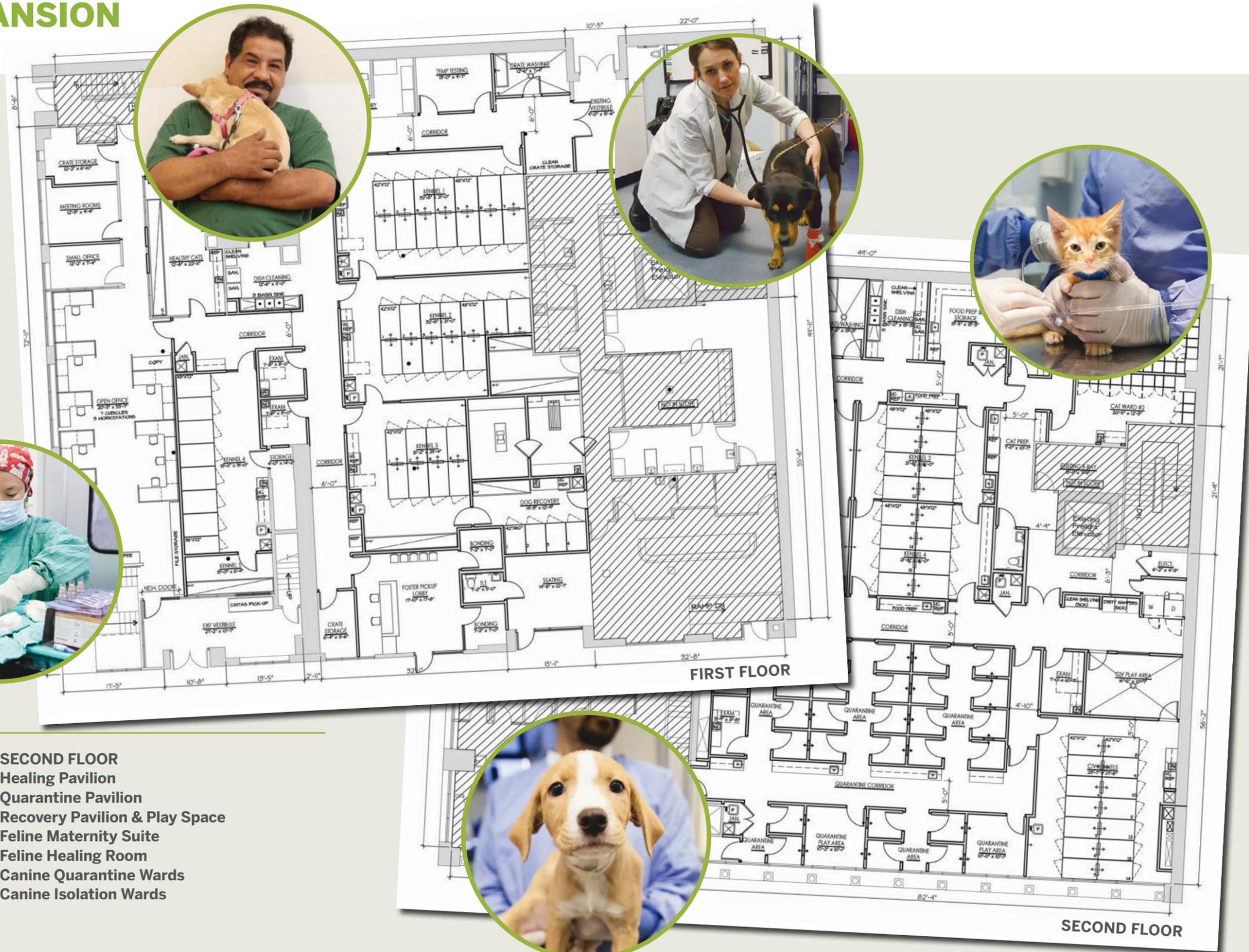
MEDICAL CENTER EXPANSION

PAWS Chicago's Medical Center is at the heart of everything we do for the animals and is critical to our ability to rescue the most vulnerable pets.

This facility is where we care for and heal thousands of cats and dogs each year as they prepare for adoption. It is also where we perform more than 16,000 low and no cost spay and neuter surgeries annually, the most critical path to building a No Kill Chicago.

In order to take in all the animals that need our help, we are expanding the facility. When renovations are complete, we will have tripled the number of medical-grade quarantine and isolation rooms needed to rescue more pets with communicable diseases. We will have more critical care rooms, a modern intake center, and a new, state-of-the-art surgery suite to increase special operations.

PAWS is committed to the life of every pet. This expansion means more sick and injured dogs and cats in our community have a better chance of surviving, and living healthy lives with families who love them.



GRAND PLANS

FIRST FLOOR

- Intake and Triage Center
- Welcome Center
- Foster Welcome Area
- Four Canine Welcome Wards
- Special Operations Surgical Suite
- Feline Care Room-Surgical Prep Room
- Surgical Recovery Room

SECOND FLOOR

- Healing Pavilion
- Quarantine Pavilion
- Recovery Pavilion & Play Space
- Feline Maternity Suite
- Feline Healing Room
- Canine Quarantine Wards
- Canine Isolation Wards



NO KILL MODEL

- PREVENTION
- ADOPTION
- ANIMAL HEALTH & BEHAVIOR
- VOLUNTEERS**
- COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

VOLUNTEERS

A dedicated team of volunteers is essential in every aspect of saving lives, including adoption, medical care, behavior rehabilitation, engagement, spay/neuter and outreach programs. Foster families provide nurturing, warm, stress-free environments that help homeless pets heal and develop socialization skills. Without this impassioned and charitable labor force, the scale and quality of PAWS Chicago's life-saving work would not be possible.



Dog walking



Adoption events



Housekeeping

In 2018, volunteers dedicated 143,933 hours of service, fulfilling the work of more than 69 full-time employees.

Angels with Tails volunteer, Ali Boschert-Downs getting shown some appreciation.

See our progress at pawschicago.org/results

WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU

Wherever PAWS Chicago works, our volunteers work alongside us. In every building, at every event, and in just about every way, our dedicated volunteers dramatically improve our capacity to save more lives. Getting started is easy and we have rewarding opportunities across a wide variety of needs.

Medical Center: All PAWS Chicago pets begin their journey at the Medical Center and our volunteers are there to greet them with open arms. They care for healthy animals awaiting transport as well as offer plenty of TLC to animals in recovery.

Drivers: Our animals couldn't get from point A to B comfortably without our drivers. Safe transportation is a key component to keeping our animals happy and healthy.

Outreach: Volunteers are ambassadors for our community outreach efforts. From door-to-door canvassing to Pet Food Bank and supply distribution to trap-neuter-return, they're saving lives and building communities.

Events: Whether it's at off-site adoption events or one of our signature fundraisers, volunteers ensure the day is a success for all!

Adoption Centers: The success of our North Shore and Lincoln Park Adoption Centers is only possible because of our dedicated volunteers. Their help with adoption counseling, dog walking, animal care, dog training, socialization, laundry, cleaning, and feeding is crucial for smooth operation.

Foster: By temporarily taking in one of our adoptable animals, foster families give pets the space they need to thrive.

Administration: The scope and ambition of our No Kill mission is large, and so are the logistics! Our admin volunteers help with essential projects.



Angels with Tails



PAWS 5K



Animal Magnetism



Animal transport



Community Day

VOLUNTEER SUPER STARS

Michele McIntire

Michele is a highly engaged, Level 3 volunteer who devotes time to PAWS Chicago up to five times each week. She has an astounding 4,442 lifetime service hours (and counting)! Michele really does do it all for PAWS — she manages the entire volunteer Fun Run program, which involves recruiting volunteers, matching volunteers to dogs, training and monitoring volunteers. She's a steadfast presence at Angels with Tails, represents PAWS on TV and radio, attends every Beach Party and so much more!



Laura Bergman

Laura is a Level 3 volunteer at the Glenn L. Felner North Shore Adoption Center and one of three volunteers trained to run and operate NSAC entirely independently. When Laura volunteers as the Location Manager, paid staff aren't required to be on site because she can successfully manage the entire operation alone. She runs the Adoption Desk, expedites walks and showings, counsels adopters, ensures the well-being of the animals and much more. In addition, Laura represents PAWS in the community as a PAWS Ambassador, which involves speaking on behalf of PAWS at special events, school presentations and elsewhere.



Daniel Speller

Daniel is not only a dedicated PAWS Chicago volunteer, he's also a title-holder for the award, Kindest Human Being Ever! Daniel started with PAWS Chicago as a volunteer at our Lincoln Park Adoption Center, but he has really found his niche with Community Outreach. He is a true extension of the PAWS for Life staff. His attendance at events is exemplary. He's the type of person who is the first to arrive and the last to leave. PAWS for Life is making a big impact in Chicago's under-served communities, and people like Daniel make all the difference.





NO KILL MODEL

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& BEHAVIOR

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COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

TEAM PAWS Chicago is a charity racing group whose incredible fundraising efforts support PAWS Chicago programming. With 555 team members dedicated to training and saving lives, 2018 was a record year for TEAM PAWS Chicago across the globe.

“Running for TEAM PAWS Chicago means my miles truly make a difference for homeless cats and dogs,” says team member Rosalyn Cooper. “It is both motivating and inspirational, and makes the Chicago Marathon finish line so much more important to me.”

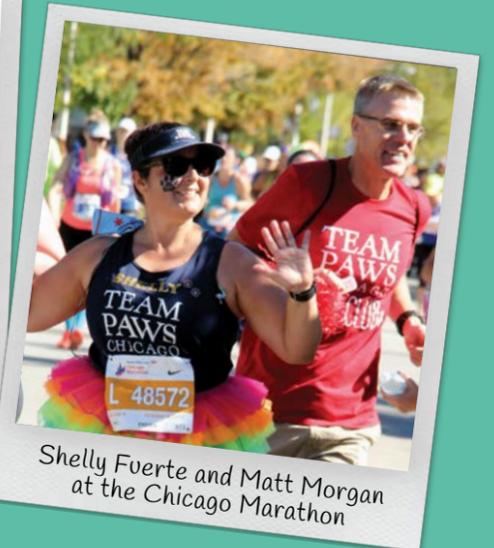
2020 marks the program’s 15th Anniversary, so there’s no better time to join the team and run for their lives!



Top fundraiser, James Pszanka at the Chicago Marathon



Caroline Wilde represents at the Berlin Marathon



Shelly Fuerte and Matt Morgan at the Chicago Marathon

TEAM PAWS Chicago runners engage their fundraising networks for the common cause – saving lives. Community engagement creates real change for animals in need, and the team is a pillar of our community.

Nicole Majka, Shelly Fuerte, Rosalyn Nardini Cooper, Gino and Kendra Frigo, Ken Gasper, Tess Sullivan and fellow Team PAWS members at the Soldier Field race.

MOBILIZING TO SAVE PETS' LIVES

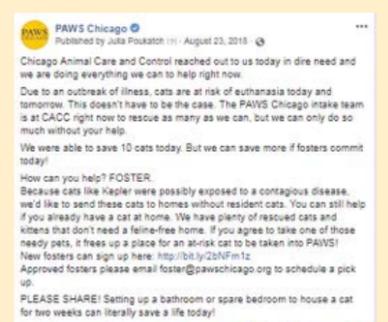
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IS AN ESSENTIAL COMPONENT OF EVERY PAWS CHICAGO PROGRAM

RAISING AWARENESS

PAWS Chicago generates millions of annual media impressions locally and nationally through TV, print, radio, and digital/web. With 2,261 unique media stories and continued growth of our social channels, PAWS Chicago reached more people than ever in 2018. This exposure allowed us to raise awareness and promote our No Kill mission. It also allowed us to connect with new adopters, volunteers, and foster families.



FOX 32 Fur Ball on-air promotion



34,254 People Reached
 4,158 Engagements
 55 Comments 305 Shares

107,702
 Facebook fans

13,257
 Twitter followers

48,169
 Instagram followers

165,323
 Email subscribers

13,298,246
 Website page views



PAWS Chicago generated more than 2,000 media stories in 2018.



PAWS Program Empowers Low-Income Pet Owners: 'Lack Of Wealth Doesn't Mean Lack Of Love'



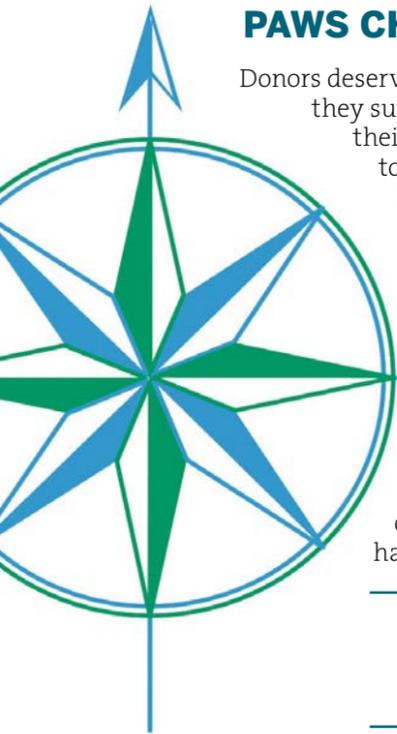
The Chicago Cubs and centerfielder Albert Almora supported PAWS Chicago throughout the year.



PAWS CHICAGO MAGAZINE
 With a circulation of 200,000+ copies, more people see PAWS Chicago magazine than any other local magazine. Our publication raises awareness about our mission, spotlights important animal issues, and encourages action on behalf of homeless pets. It is available on newsstands throughout the city.



Albert Almora, Chicago Cubs centerfielder, volunteers and advocates for homeless pets on the PAWS Chicago Rooftop Deck



PAWS CHICAGO MAKES CHARITY NAVIGATOR TOP TEN LIST

Donors deserve to know the organizations they support are trustworthy, and their contributions are being put to good use. Since 2001, Charity Navigator has, according to their mission, published an objective, numbers-based rating system to assess over 9,000 of America's charities.

In 2018 PAWS Chicago earned, Charity Navigator's top four-star rating. More importantly, it is the 16th consecutive year PAWS Chicago has earned this distinction -

an achievement shared by just five other charities in the over 9,000 organizations Charity Navigator rates. PAWS Chicago has also landed on their top "10 Charities with the Most Consecutive 4-Star Ratings" list this year.

What does this national recognition mean? According to Charity Navigator this means PAWS Chicago demonstrates both "ongoing fiscal excellence" and "are well-positioned to pursue and achieve long-term change."

These 16 years of four-star ratings show our donors how PAWS Chicago is not only committed to the No Kill mission, but diligent and deliberate in the approach. Your support is leveraged in the best way possible, to save as many lives as possible.

PAWS Chicago earned Charity Navigator's top 4-Star rating for 16 consecutive years

CHARITY NAVIGATOR RECOMMENDS A FIVE-STEP PROCESS FOR INFORMED GIVING:

- 1. BE PROACTIVE**
Rather than wait for solicitations, consider which causes you're most interested in and then compile a list of associated charities.
- 2. RESEARCH**
 - a. Ensure the organization is a registered 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charity.
 - b. Review the organization's finances to see if their work is efficient and sustainable.
 - c. Insist the organization is transparent. Accountability and good governance are non-negotiable.
- 3. RESULTS AND IMPACT**
A donation may be the last step of one journey, but it is the first step of another. Before you give, learn where your contribution will travel within the organization and how it will help achieve concrete, measurable goals.
- 4. CONSIDER THE WAY YOU GIVE**
A single donation for a specific cause will be appreciated by every charity, but an unrestricted gift provides the organization financial flexibility to use your donation where it is most needed. Consider creating an annual budget for donations and structuring your giving into automatic monthly gifts.
- 5. FOLLOW YOUR INVESTMENT**
The best charities are always eager to share their results with you. Check in a few months after your gift for a progress report from the organization. If the charity can't clearly communicate results, "go back to Step One and find one that will!"

For more information visit: CHARITYNAVIGATOR.ORG

10 Charities with the Most Consecutive 4-Star Ratings

Print

SHARE



Charities tackle some of society's most complex and intractable issues -- such as combating hunger, preserving the environment, curing diseases and changing people's perceptions. These are long-term objectives. To be successful, organizations must be high performers consistently, year after year. These ten charities have earned the most consecutive 4-star ratings demonstrating an ongoing fiscal excellence. They are well-positioned to pursue and achieve long-term change.

Rank	Charity	Overall Score	Consecutive
1	Energy Outreach Colorado	93.36	18
2	United Way of Central Alabama	100.00	17
3	Kids Alive International	100.00	17
4	Institute for Justice	97.70	17
5	PAWS Chicago	96.50	17
6	Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston	95.05	17
7	NEADS Inc.	94.27	17
8	Robin Hood Foundation	92.38	17
9	American Kidney Fund	90.55	17
10	PetSmart Charities	97.71	16

Charity Navigator, Top Ten list as it appears on their website

NAVIGATING NON-PROFITS

There are two letters in your mailbox. Both letters are from charitable organizations seeking your support. Each letter tells a heartfelt story of need. And each one asks for your generosity to help meet that need. Time is of the essence.

Which organization is worthy of your support? Which organization can do the most good with your donation? Is it one of them? Both? Neither?

Not all non-profits are created equal, and deciding which organizations to support isn't always easy. That's why Charity Navigator, an independent and industry-leading evaluator of charities, is such an essential resource for donors.

Founded in 2001, Charity Navigator measures the efficacy and transparency of non-profits through an objective, evidence-based rating system. The ratings aggregate metrics of a charity's accountability, sustainability and good governance to help donors make informed choices about which organizations to support.



At right, PAWS alumni, Acorn, one of many lives saved with your help

2018 EVENTS

Throughout 2018, PAWS Chicago held special events and fundraisers to raise money for and awareness of the plight of homeless animals.



Fur Ball



Fur Ball



Fur Ball



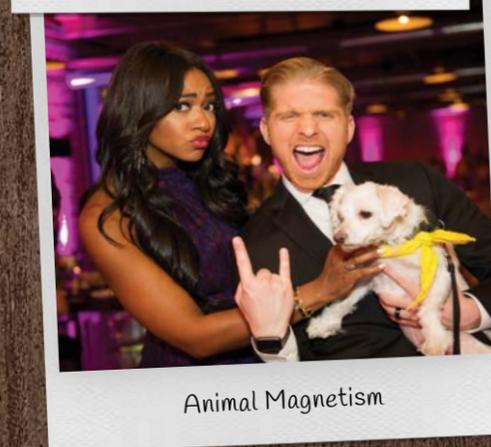
TEAM PAWS Chicago



Fur Ball



Fur Ball



Animal Magnetism



Animal Magnetism



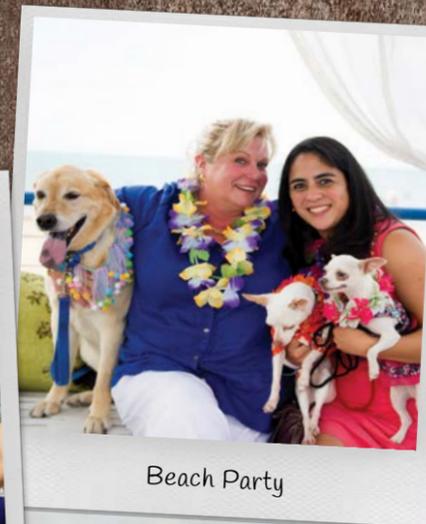
Animal Magnetism



PAWS 5K



PAWS 5K



Beach Party



Beach Party



Beach Party



Beach Party



Adopt-a-Thon



Beach Party



Adopt-a-Thon



Angels with Tails



Angels with Tails

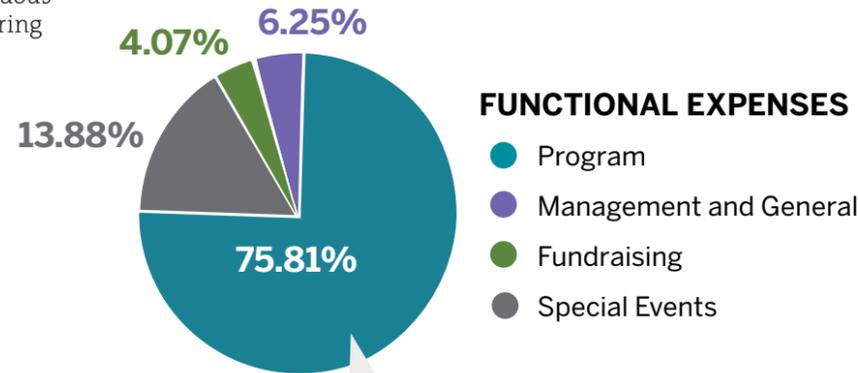
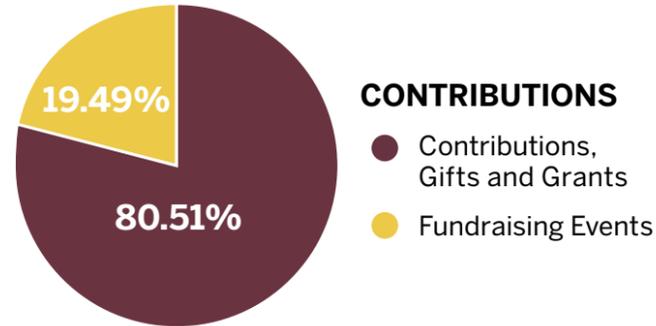
WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU

ENSURING SUSTAINABILITY

Strong fiscal management is key to optimizing and leveraging resources.

We do this by:

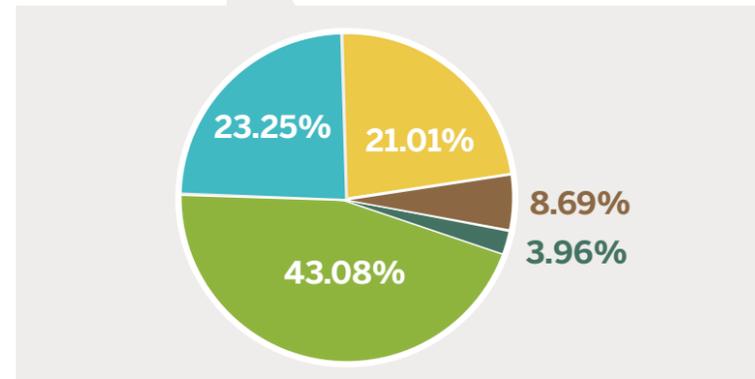
- Recognizing the value of every dollar
- Incorporating trained volunteers into everything we do
- Recruiting talented professionals from a wide range of backgrounds, emphasizing private sector experience in our executive management
- Supporting a culture of continuous improvement, always considering how we can do more with less



Recognized for Non-profit Excellence

Charity Navigator, the nation's largest independent evaluator, has rated PAWS Chicago at its highest 4-star ranking for 16 consecutive years—an accomplishment that less than 1% of the charities in the nation have reached.

PAWS Chicago currently holds a Platinum Seal of Transparency, GuideStar's highest recognition. By sharing mission-focused metrics, we demonstrate our continued commitment to transparency and give donors and funders meaningful data to evaluate our performance.



- Adoption
- Animal Health & Behavior
- Prevention & Spay/Neuter
- Volunteers
- Community Engagement

*Estimates pending final submission of form 990 to IRS

HOW YOUR DONATION HELPS



\$10 Provides medication to treat Kennel Cough



\$83 Sponsors a spay/neuter surgery



\$250 Offers dogs in need a veterinary behaviorist consultation



\$965 Covers the average cost of care for one homeless animal



\$2,048 Funds an orthopedic surgery



\$4,000 Provides for one full day of spay/neuter surgeries on the GusMobile

For more ways to give, please visit pawschicago.org/howtohelp

2018 HONOR ROLL DONORS Gifts made between January 1, 2018, and December 31, 2018.*

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Estate of Helen Stritzel*

\$750,000 - \$999,999

Anonymous

\$500,000 - \$750,000

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\$250,000 - \$499,999

Barbara A. Smith

\$100,000 – \$249,999

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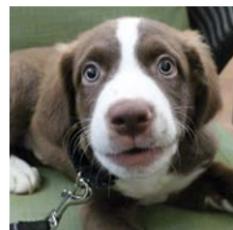
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CHRISTINE GNUTEK IS A LIFELINE FOR HOMELESS PETS

We are what we repeatedly do. And for ten years Christine Gnutek has been a generous contributor to our Lifeline Monthly Giving Program.

“Animal welfare is very important to me, and I understand a consistent stream of donations helps a non-profit plan expenses more closely,” Christine said. “And in all honesty, it’s easy to forget donating month after month, so Lifeline has been a great solution - I can set it and forget it!”

When Christine’s schedule as an HR executive didn’t allow time for a dog of her own, she began regularly volunteering at our Adoption Center in 2015 as well as putting her corporate skills to use planning Angels with Tails adoption events as co-chair.

Despite her commitment to our No Kill cause, and her own passion for animals, Christine remained nervous about the prospect of fulfilling a goal of her own – fostering a dog. Until she met Stella.

In 2017, Christine was volunteering at the Lincoln Park Adoption Center on the day after Thanksgiving. A Good Samaritan brought in an emaciated female dog discovered eating out of a dumpster. “It was heartbreaking to see,” said Christine, “but you could see her spirit and wiggle when offered a treat.”

Maybe it was coincidence, or maybe serendipity, but just a few weeks after their chance meeting, Christine decided she was ready to foster. And sweet Stella just happened to be available.

Christine covered Stella in a warm plaid jacket and brought her home to give the thin white pup a chance to grow. As the dog grew, so too did Christine’s love for her, and there was no looking back. “She has my heart forever,” said Christine. “I’m happy to say she no longer fits in that coat, and that my playful girl is full of life and in her forever home.”

It’s not just Stella who has Christine to thank for a home. Because of Christine’s 10+ years of generous support, and the support of all our donors, PAWS Chicago has been able to help tens of thousands of animals find loving homes.



Christine at Angels with Tails Winnetka

We are so grateful to Christine and all our Lifeline donors who ensure we have the consistent funding needed in order to save as many lives as possible.

To learn more about our Lifeline Giving Program, please contact: lifeline@pawschicago.org

The Lifeline Monthly Giving Program is a tax-deductible, recurring donation which allows PAWS Chicago to deliver life-saving care on a sustainable basis. It is an essential component for effectively planning and coordinating our daily efforts on behalf of homeless animals.



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REMEMBERING CATHY CROWN SAUNDERS AND HER LEGACY FOR ANIMALS



For some, loving animals is a calling. Throughout her life, Catherine Crown Sanders gave generously to animals in need, contributing her time and her resources for life-saving, with a special focus on spay/neuter.

From volunteering in recovery at the Lurie Spay/Neuter Clinic to writing for *PAWS Chicago* magazine and passionately advocating for the importance of spay/neuter and adoption, Catherine volunteered on behalf of homeless pets. She also was a generous donor, creating Kippy's Fund to provide life-saving programs for cats and kittens. She focused her funding on making the largest impact, providing spay/neuter in Chicago's most under-served communities and saving sick kittens from the city pound.

In 2018, an endowment was established to memorialize Cathy's life and her love of animals. The Catherine Crown Sanders Endowment will provide funds annually to save kittens from Animal Care and Control, funding their vaccinations, preventative treatments, microchipping, and spay/neuter surgeries.

"Cathy was so committed to alleviating the suffering of homeless animals. It is moving to me that, every single year, homeless pets will continue to be saved because of her love," said Paula Fasseas, PAWS Chicago Founder. "Endowment Funds are some of the most important gifts to ensuring that PAWS Chicago's life-saving work will go on, beyond our lifetime."

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 Patricia S. Spratt
 Bauer
 Bonnie L. Spurlock
 Dale Stackler
 Fred Steingraber
 Nancy Sterling
 Lindsay Stewart
 Lynne A. Styles
 Edmund Sweeney
 Lesley Sweeney
 Robin Tennant
 Nancy Timmers
 Andrew Tobin
 Heidi A.
 Torrence-Simon
 Howard A. Tullman
 Judith K. Tullman
 Amy L. Turk
 Mallory Ulaszek
 Mark VanGorder
 Alison Victoria
 Gramenos
 Laura Wallace
 Carol Walter
 Julie Weisler
 J. Patrick Welch
 Dori Wilson
 Heather Yeager
 Mark Yeager
 Wesley Yee
 Michael Yetnikoff
 Amy W. Yu
 Christopher Zachary
 Jonathan Zani
 Pam Zunker
 Myerson

2018 PROFESSIONAL BOARD

Leadership Team

Sarah Atkinson, Paige Krueger & Nikki Mazza

Faisal Alabsi
 Jessica Angelica
 Jonathan Angelica
 Nick Antoniou
 Sarah Atkinson
 Jeffrey Avery
 Lisa Bent
 Kay Brungs
 Mackenzie Brzeczek
 Carrie Butler
 Caitlin Carson
 Susanne Champ
 Carrie Cihasky
 Alex Clisham
 Brian Cronin
 Anna Dziamski
 Mario Echevarria
 Amanda Ellis
 Caitlin Foley
 Rachel Fried
 Jena Gambaccini
 Uma Ghelani
 Michael Godlin
 Bridget Gotz
 Alexandra Grant
 Alex Hale
 Teri Hanson
 Hannah Hardison
 Tyler Hirschel
 Jared Hocking
 Brooks Hurd

Jill Jacobbi
 Elan Jacoby
 Galen Kelly
 Lisa Kossover
 Selena Kowalski
 Maria Krejci
 Nicole Kristy
 Paige Krueger
 Alonso Lam
 Robin Larson
 Ashley Legel
 Alexandra Lester
 Rachel Light
 Jennifer Lugo
 Emily Macaluso
 Kim Mahan
 Alejandro Malagon
 Samantha
 Manfredini
 Stephanie
 Mariduena
 Nikki Mazza
 Christine McKillip
 Darae McNair
 Megan Morton
 Danielle Moss
 Olivia Napier
 Emily Nelson
 Michael Novitski
 Maxwell Odena
 Drew Osika

Laurel Palluzi
 Noel Paul
 Holly Pearson
 Patricia Pelaez
 Dayna Perlut
 Katherine Racanelli
 Sarah Romberg
 Courtney Rosoff
 Caroline Rothstein
 Christine Ryndak
 Henry Sackman
 Amy Saltzman
 Michelle Scinkovec
 Alex Scull
 Devon Seery
 Lily Seglin
 Sunil Sekhri
 Whitney Siehl
 Lisa Sligh
 Whitney Staloch
 Mitchell Staloch
 Jamie Travis
 Lauren Tuckey
 Murray
 Marisa Wiener
 Lavanga Wijekoon
 Madison Wright
 Kate Yager
 Rebecca Zeni

2018 EVENT CHAIRS

Animal Mag - Chairs: Paige Krueger, Stephanie Mariduena
 Nikki Mazza, Mitchell Staloch, Alison Victoria

Beach Party - Chairs: Jeff Hall, Erica Kelly, Melissa Todd

Fur Ball - Chairs: Melissa & Michael Canning,
 Jessica & Tim Canning

VOLUNTEER BOARD

Jennifer Catania
 Joan Marie Dauber
 Wayne Gailis
 Elly Greenspahn

Ramona Griffin-Kwan
 Mark Lukas
 Michele McIntire
 John Nixon

Monika Shibicky
 Andrew Tobin
 Tammy Whelan
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Dennis LaPidus, Guardian Angel

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