

# 2022's IMPACT OF FRIENDSHIP REPORT



## Friendship

At WCHS, Friendship is at the heart of all we do –the happy moments when we connect a pet with his/her new family and when we can help keep longtime friends together by offering affordable veterinary care.

It is felt when the staff extends their hands to comfort an owner desperately searching for their lost friend.

## 2022 by the numbers



**815** Owned dogs & cats **spayed/neutered**

It averages **14 days** for a pet to find his/her new loving home!

**1911** **Vet Exams** for owned pets

Gave out **155** microchips

Sheltered **603**



Adopted **585**

**Saved**  
**97%**



**Pet Food Pantry** gave away **16,000 lbs.** of food

**232** **Nails Trimmed**

Rabies Vaccinated **1055** owned pets at the Clinic.

**158** Feral Cats fixed.

Helped

**234** stray animals

**27%** returned to their owners!

**169** "transported" dogs & cats traveled **3,400 miles** to call Vermont "home."

**260** owners gave up their pets

Dear Friends,

What a year! With your support, **Windham County Humane Society** continues advancing animal welfare by engaging the community. With your help, we embraced the end of the "pandemic years," eager to address the challenges in its wake. Although the Global Pandemic temporarily reduced our adoption program capacity throughout 2020, 2021, and 2022, it quadrupled demand for the Pet Food Pantry and Pet Care Assistance (community veterinary care) services that positively impact the lives of nearly 2,500 animals across the region.

Your donations were investments in medical treatment and behavior training to ensure the neediest animals coming through our doors were given the care they needed to have a Second Chance at Love. [We Love Second Chances.](#)

On behalf of the board, staff, and volunteers, we are pleased to share with you – **our incredible donors** – highlights from the past year, the impact of local donations in the lives of animals and people, and insights into what's in store for 2023.

In honor of the late Betty White, "Thank you for being a friend. Travel down the road and back again. Your heart is true; you're a pal and a confidant." Thank you so much for being a WCHS friend!

Maya Richmond  
Executive Director

## Every Gift Counts

Dear Friends,

What a year! WCHS is over 130 years old. It is easy to acknowledge how much has changed over a century, yet reflecting on how far we've come in the last decade is exciting. What started as a shelter has evolved into a well-rounded, multi-faceted humane society. With the addition of our Community Vet Clinic, offering low-cost spay-neuter and wellness services, we now provide more adoption, surrender prevention, and education services than ever before.

Our community grappled with another year of pandemic stress, but WCHS worked even harder to support the people and pets of our community. The work wouldn't be possible without the support of donors, foundations, and company friends whose contributions allowed us to bring all our dedicated staff back to work, provide care to incredibly needy animals, and look forward to ensuring the resilient team is making life better for the animals for the decades to come.

Thank you all for your generosity, time, and support.

Kelly Carlin, Board President

### Board of Directors & Key Staff

Kelly Carlin, President  
Julie Hamilton, Vice President  
Tami Purcell, Treasurer  
Susan M. Kelly, DVM, Capital Campaign  
Committee Chair

Bradly M. Hamilton  
Linda Hoag  
Maggie Smith  
Ron Svec, DVM  
Ross Kinney  
Cortney Manix

Maya Richmond, Executive Director  
Keri Roberts, Director of Operations  
Dr. Tara Torcoletti, Staff Veterinarian

## Summary of 2022's Financials

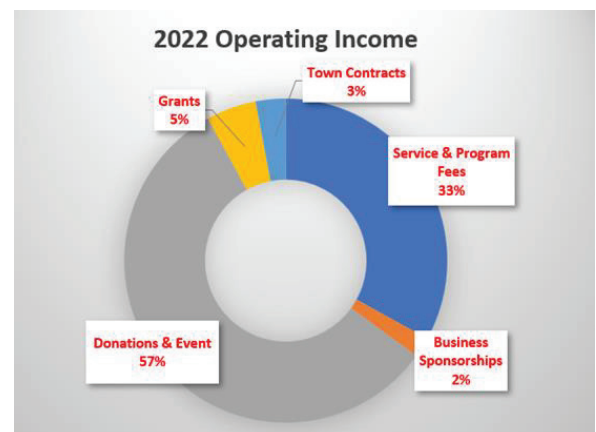
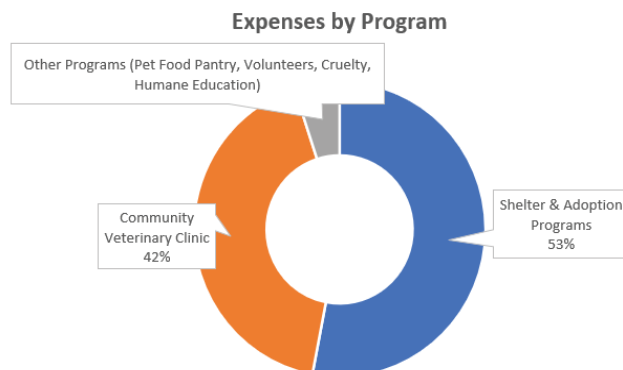
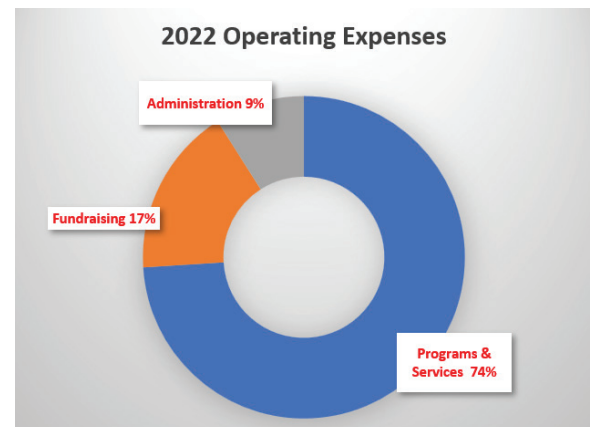
Operating expenses totaled: \$666,563.00.

The main expense drivers were inflation, repairs of aging mechanicals, and heating fuel. The organization returned to more normal operations, which meant returning staffing hours to 2019 pre-Covid levels, thus resulting in an increase in wages over FY 2020 and 2021.

Through fundraising appeals, event activities, and grants, \$514,000 in operating income was raised from 2096 donors. Nearly 50% of all donors made their very first gift to WCHS in 2022! Welcome new donors!

**74%** of all dollars raised go directly to operating programs.

It costs over \$1,600 each day the shelter is open and between \$400-\$700 per pet life saved.



Donations of **in-kind items** like copy paper, trash bags, pet food, cat litter, toilet paper, laundry soap, and much more saved the organization over **\$25,000** in direct expenses. In addition to annual operating income, WCHS received several special gifts for the Capital Campaign and from bequests. Planned giving remains an integral part of the organization's construction and long-term fiscal stability.

The above information comes from the end of year financial statements. WCHS's 2022 990 will be available in the summer.

## The Difference YOU Made Each Month

### January

Emaciated Bella was found locked in her crate after the landlord went in to inspect and reset the thermostat in a recently vacated unit. Thankfully, she was found in time. She was one of **580** dogs, cats, and small pets adopted this year!



### February

Some Dogs' Lives Are Unbearable. On Valentine's Day, the shelter was notified that officials were at a property and concerned about the welfare of multiple dogs. Later that day, the team began to care for 21 dogs in poor physical condition. Your love gave them new loving homes. Our team assisted individuals and other agencies in **9** animal neglect and cruelty inquiries last year.

### March

Snipping and fixing make the vet's heart sing.

Working only twice a week, Dr. Torcoletti spayed/neutered **69% of the 1182** animals! She performed **2,300+** examinations and treated puppies with parvo, starved dogs, elderly survivors with icky dental disease and lots of wounds, eye infections, and so much more. Thank you for Giving the animals a Superhero in scrubs.



**April, May, June & July** Volunteers & Community Members Gave Time and Talent to help the animals.

After a multi-year pandemic, April marked the return of our beloved volunteers and community helpers. They do it all – stocked **16,000 lbs.** of food for the **Pet Food Pantry**, scrubbed surgery instruments, answered the phone, and fostered oodles of baby kittens – they gave **TOO Many Hours to Count**.



“Kitten Season” is Real - take little **Maggie** snuggled inside a brown paper bag decorated by a young artist for June's **Brown Bags For Healthy Cats** project. She is the young mom of a litter found hiding under a porch. Most kittens arrive alone, often requiring bottle feeding, and are severely ill. We call summer “Kitten Season” because this is the time foster volunteers work around the clock bottle-feeding neonatal feline orphanages.

*Kids Challenged to Change A Life By Collecting Change.* A dozen kids collected over **4500** pennies to feed the shelter animals.

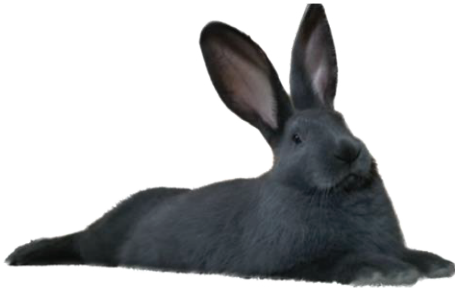
### August

You *always* give the gift of time. We worried Oscar would grow up at the shelter. A bulldozer of energy with a penchant for mouthiness, he failed to steal the hearts of potential adopters. We brought in a trainer to help him tone down his less-desirable traits. After a month of intense training, Oscar met his loving family. At **120+ days**, he was our longest 2022's resident! There is no “time limit” for a pet to find his/her new home yet the average length of stay is **14 days**.



### September

Animal welfare organizations must help each other to help the most animals. The Transport Program brings at-risk dogs and cats from communities that use euthanasia to control the “unwanted pet problem,” and often it provides the new beginning for a “hoarding case” survivor or an adorable senior dog who was deemed “too old for adoption placement” at another shelter. This year **169** “out of state” pets found loving homes here because of YOU, including four of the 4,000 beagles rescued from a laboratory breeding farm in Virginia.



## October

**Temporary Boarding** of pets whose owners are in crisis is another way WCHS befriends pets and people. **Big Bunny** was one hop away from being given up to the shelter because his human was evicted. For three weeks, he resided in the development office while his owner looked for a place that allowed him. This “social service approach” directly lowers the number of animals entering the shelter and aided **10** pets in 2022.

## November

Being a “no-kill” shelter means having the ability to treat infected wounds, rotten, broken teeth, ear and eye infections, Heartworm, mange, broken bones, bad knees, upper respiratory illnesses, and much more! **THANK YOU** from animals like Neptune, Bo, Cheetah, Liberty, and the **100+** medically needy but saved friends!



## December

With utter excitement, 2022 ended with the most exciting news– the shelter expansion and renovation project was within reach. With **76%** of the \$2,000,000 construction costs raised, the Board of Directors felt so confident the remaining \$550,000 would be raised in 2023 that they voted to begin construction in the **Spring of 2023**.

Saving more pet lives means investing more resources in the neediest shelter animals. It means more medical and behavioral care and low-stress housing for animals that stay longer.



East Elevation

## Save these Dates



**March 17<sup>th</sup> to June 21<sup>st</sup>**  
Tickets sold online; \$10 each.  
The Jackpot surpassed \$7,000  
the first week of April!



**August 28<sup>th</sup>**  
Pet Remembrance Night &  
Luminary Reception.



**September 30th**  
Put the **fun** in Fundraiser! Come,  
Sit, Stay & Play with other animal-  
loving friends.

# Let's get **Building A Better Future**

Today's animal shelters are specialized buildings designed for the mental and physical well-being of the animals and humans that visit or work within their walls.

In the planning of the expansion and renovation, staff traveled to new shelters to learn about stress-free design, new durable sanitizable materials, soundproofing, and so much more...so every donated dollar will make life at the shelter better for the animals for decades to come.

## Better Dog Areas

- Comfy/real-life room for stressed pets to relax and unwind.\*
- Access to year-round dog play yards for doggy-play groups \*
- Special housing "suites" to decrease noise and lower stress.\*

## Better Cat Areas

- Screened-in outdoor space overlooking nature.\*
- Isolation and treatment space for sick animals to recover.
- A special inside "catio" to allow cats to roam outside of their cages.

## Better Veterinary Areas

- A laboratory with diagnostic equipment to treat ill animals. \*
- Separate shelter and public examination rooms to double the capacity. \*
- Large, equipped surgery suite to provide public spay/neuter surgeries.\*

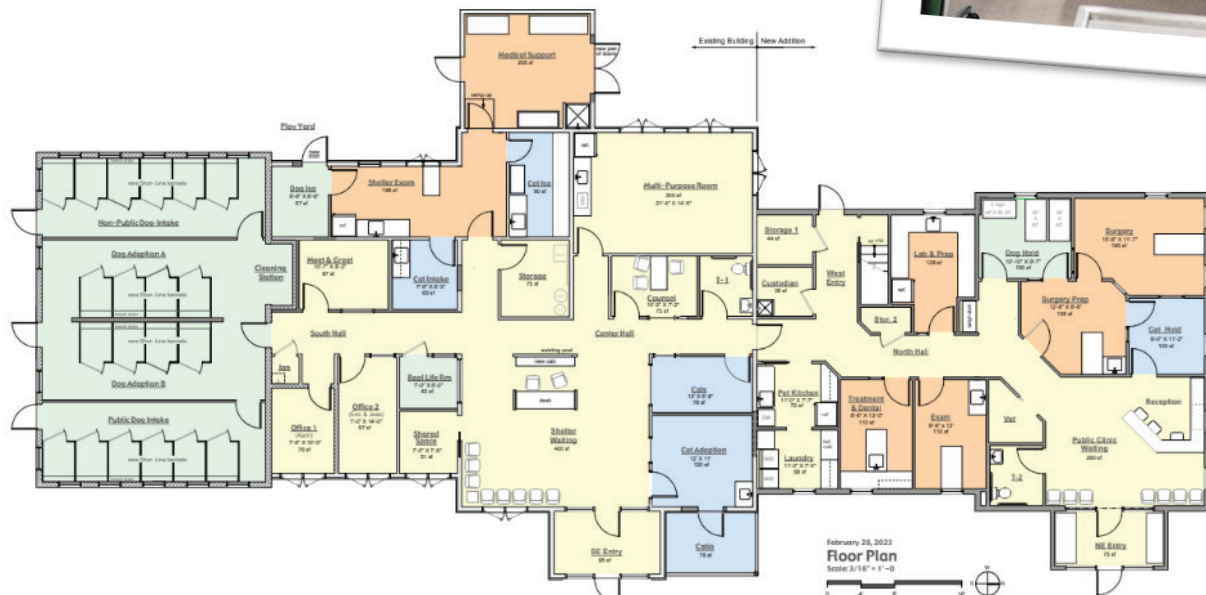
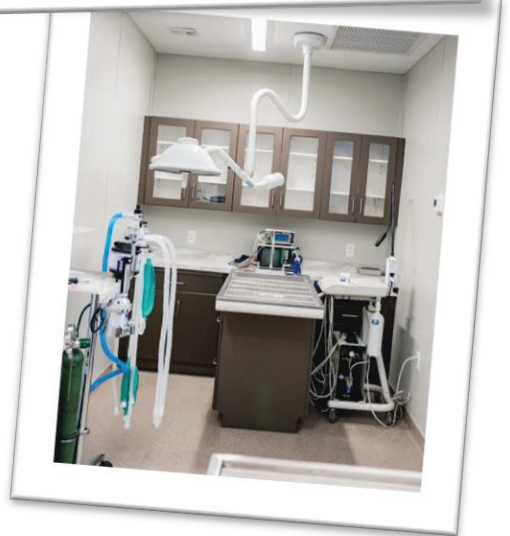
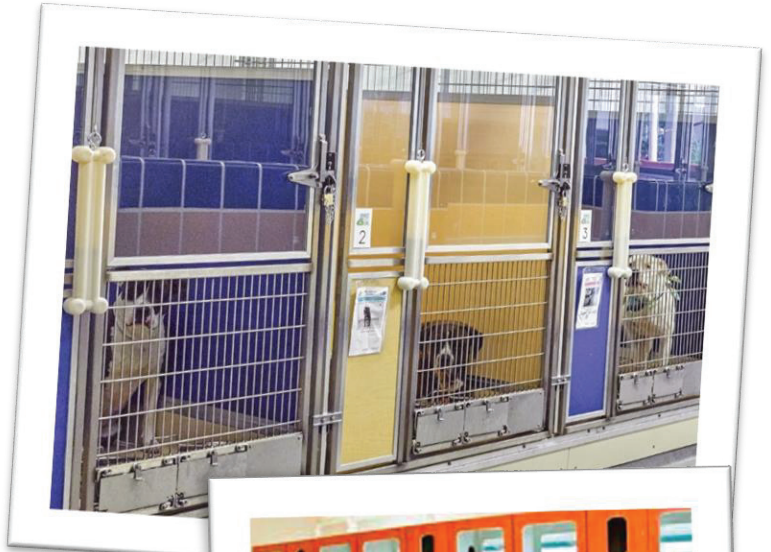
## Better Community & Compassion Areas

- Temporary housing for the pets of families in crisis.\*
- Dedicated space for the Pet Food Pantry. \*
- Meet & Greet room for adopters to get to know their new pet.\*
- Private area for people needing assistance to speak with staff members. \*

## Important

The (\*) indicated "better" means having the space. The current shelter is grossly inadequate for WCHS's services. This is why Adoptions are on Wed, Fri, Sat, and Sun, and Clinic Services are on Mon and Thur. There isn't room to do them both on the same day. Hallways double as storage. Private conversations are impossible.

**Renovation of the 4,000 sf shelter and construction of the 2,000 sf addition is long overdue.**



## Will YOU be part of building a better future?

Tomorrow's homeless and injured animals are counting on us for a safe place to recover and get their second chance at a life of love.

Scan the **QR Code** to learn more about the building's design, budget, the scope of programs, or how to donate.

You can change the world for tomorrow's animals in your name or honor of a beloved friend, family member, or company. **Pledge now and pay your pledge over two to three years.**

**Naming Opportunities:** Below is an abbreviated list of available naming opportunities. All donors giving over \$1000 will be listed on the "Honor Roll" displayed in the shelter.



Learn more or make a gift by visiting:  
windhamcountyhumane.org/capital-campaign


**GIVE TODAY TO GIVE THEM A BETTER TOMORROW**


- \$40,000**  
Dog Kennel Wing  
(Sign inside and on the outside)  
Shelter Lobby
- \$35,000**  
Surgery Room
- \$20,000**  
Real-life Room  
Adoption Suite of Kennels  
Dog Adoption Suite South  
Dog Adoption Suite North
- \$12,000-\$15,000**  
Clinic Exam Room  
Clinic "Lab" Diagnostic Room  
Adoption Counseling Room  
Shelter Exam & Treatment Suite

- \$7,500 - \$10,000**  
Cat or Dog Surgery Holding  
Animal Food Prep & Laundry  
Clinic Vestibule  
Vet Office  
Surgery Patient Prep  
Shelter Vestibule  
Shelter Greeting Desk  
Cat Isolation Room
- \$5,000**  
Pet Food Pantry Alcove  
Clinic Reception Desk  
Dog Isolation
- \$3,000**  
Shelter Offices  
King House/Admin Offices

**Spring Shelter Open House**

Twice a month:  
 April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2 pm - 4 pm  
 May 20<sup>th</sup>, 11 am - 1 pm

Additional dates are posted on our website.

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To schedule a tour of the shelter, learn more about WCHS's programs or immediate needs, check on a naming opportunity or make a gift, please get in touch with Maya Richmond, Executive Director, by phone at 802-490-2856 by email at maya@windhamcountyhumane.org

### Leave a legacy of love.

**Your support will change the lives of hundreds of animals and people each year for years to come!**

## Let's get Building A Better Future Mini-Pledge Form

I/we \_\_\_\_\_ pledge the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

[\*Note minimum annual pledge payment amount is \$1,000, and the maximum pledge period is three years.]

- Enclosed is my **pledge, paid in full.**
- I will **fulfill my pledge by** \_\_\_\_\_ (insert date).
- I will fulfill my pledge through (insert # of payments) \_\_\_\_\_ payments in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.
- I will fulfill my pledge through a gift of securities or another investment vehicle.  
Please specify the type of investment vehicle \_\_\_\_\_ and value \_\_\_\_\_.
- Contact me to review my pledge.

