

# ANNUAL REPORT

A publication of the Humane Society for Tacoma  
& Pierce County - William Gazecki Animal Shelter

2016 Edition



make  
**happy**  
happen  
@  
the  
**Humane**  
**Society**  
Tacoma & Pierce County

**KOBE  
ADOPTED  
MARCH 2016**



The Humane Society's mission is to advance the welfare of animals and promote positive relationships between animals and people.

**JABBA  
ADOPTED  
SEPTEMBER 2016**



**MERLIN  
ADOPTED  
OCTOBER 2016**



# A LOOK BEHIND THE NUMBERS

A Message from Chad Osvog, 2016 Board President



On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to present our 2016 Annual Report, which celebrates the thousands of animals, community pet owners, and pet seekers that have benefited from Humane Society programs.

Annual reports are all about the numbers. Look behind the numbers, and you will find the individual animals whose lives have been transformed by the work of the Humane Society. In 2016, the numbers represent positive outcomes for more than nine of every 10 pets entering the shelter. In fact for the second year in a row, our shelter has achieved the national gold standard by maintaining a 90%+ live release rate!

Animal welfare is all about partnerships. We partner with community veterinary clinics for spay/neuter and subsidized

care for low-income families. We have formed an alliance with other regional shelters and rescue organizations for animal placement and advocacy at the state level, and with national animal welfare organizations in advocacy for all of our nation's pets.

We are most grateful for our local community partners – the individual donors and volunteers who support the work we do every day. You are the ones who are helping us create a community where all pets are valued and treated with respect and compassion. Thank you for helping Make Happy Happen!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Osvog'.

Chad Osvog  
President,  
Board of  
Directors

# SHELTERING SERVICES

## PET ADOPTIONS & PLACEMENT

Every effort is made to find the best home for each available pet. To find loving, permanent homes for shelter pets, staff and volunteers begin with a conversation. “My favorite part is seeing that moment happen when everything clicks between the (animal) and potential adopter,” volunteer Kim Archer explains. “There is a moment when you just know this is good, and things are going to work out.” Such was the case with Toy Chihuahua Mimi and Susan. Upon meeting, there was no doubt that the little darling, whose owner had sadly passed away, was getting her new beginning!

**6,405 lost & abandoned pets placed**  
**936 pets adopted off-site**



## REUNIONS

The Humane Society not only shelters and cares for lost pets, but we also personally escort owners through the kennels and cattery to search for their lost pet. What's more, we provide resources such as posters and fliers to help in their search. Thanks to the power of microchipping, thousands of animals like Porter are able to make their way back home. The 10-year-old was the last return of 2016, and was all wiggles!

**1,720 stray pets reunited with their owners**





## FOSTERING

Kittens and sometimes puppies and bunnies come to the shelter stray or abandoned, and are too young and fragile to be placed in permanent homes. With a foster family, these little ones receive special care and learn about the home environment. “The best part of fostering is the reward of watching my foster grow and thrive and find their forever home,” foster mom Linda Kurjah shares. “It’s not easy letting them go, but knowing you gave them everything they need to be a success in their new home is immeasurable.” We also foster those recovering from surgery, needing hospice care, and those who just need a break from the shelter environment prior to adoption.



**1,137 pets were helped through fostering**

- **42 puppies**
- **573 kittens**
- **318 neonates (4 weeks and younger)**
- **5 nursing dog moms**
- **70 nursing cat moms**
- **105 nursing kittens**
- **6 for hospice care**
- **218 for medical or behavior therapy**

## VETERINARY CARE

The veterinary team treats ill or injured shelter pets at our in-house shelter clinic, radiology, and surgery rooms. Mimzy is one of many who came in needing expert help. Found to be limping on her right front foot, staff performed surgery, and now expect her fracture to heal completely! Animals with more serious conditions may also be taken to partner veterinary clinics for more extensive treatment.

**3,622 pets received medical care**

## PETS FOR LIFE (PFL)

This grant-funded program helps build ongoing relationships between the Humane Society and pet owners living in low-income neighborhoods. Staff and volunteers canvass in under-served community areas to share pet resources, including free spay/neuter surgery vouchers, pet food, flea treatment, and pet supplies. David Albertson, PFL volunteer, is moved by, “seeing folks who really want to take better care of their pets and now know they can with our help.” He loves “knowing we are making friends for the shelter and making a difference in the community.”

**33 pets vaccinated through PFL**  
**589 pets altered through PFL**



## COMMUNITY PET CARE FUND

Low-income families can receive assistance with medical costs at community veterinary clinics. This helps keep families together, thus reducing shelter relinquishments for treatable medical issues.

**540 pets were assisted through the Fund**

## PET FOOD PANTRY

The Humane Society’s food bank assists families struggling to make ends meet. By providing pet food and supplies, we’re here to help through the tough times. In addition, homebound seniors can receive monthly pet food deliveries through the Senior Pet Pantry. Volunteer Tara Fitzpatrick is weekly inspired by the work of “helping people and animals” in the Pet Food Pantry, a sentiment which speaks to our very mission of promoting “positive relationships between animals and people.”

**1,076 pets helped per month by Pet Food Pantry & Senior Pet Pantry**





## LOW-COST SPAY/NEUTER

The Humane Society has several low-cost spay/neuter programs designed to serve the greatest number of pet owners. Among these is the Cinderella Fund, where pet owners are referred to participating veterinarians for surgery with a minimal copay. Cinderella volunteer Pamela Paton, who has been with the program for four years, joined up wanting “to help control pet overpopulation (euthanasia).” Like Pamela we are committed to maintaining the best outcomes for shelter pets, and will continue to provide the resources so that every pet owner has access to affordable spay/neuter surgery.

**291 Cinderella vouchers used at partner clinics**



## COMMUNITY CATS

To ensure that unaltered community cats, sometimes called free roaming cats, do not contribute to overpopulation, neighborhood residents receive assistance to have cats humanely trapped, altered, vaccinated, and returned to their outdoor homes.

Appreciating the importance of community cooperation, volunteer Toni Rice takes pleasure in “trapping feral (behaving) cats in good habitats (where) people (are) willing to provide shelter as well as food.”

**418 cats helped through the Community Cat Program**

# DOG-A-THON

For 26 years, the Humane Society has hosted the Dog-A-Thon, a pet celebration and pledge walk that raises funds for food, shelter, veterinary care, rehabilitation from cruelty and neglect, and many other essential services for thousands of shelter pets.

In 2017, this premier pet event will take place on Saturday, July 22nd from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at beautiful Fort Steilacoom Park. Bark your calendars!

**\$271,110 raised at the Humane Society's 2016 Walk for Homeless Pets**

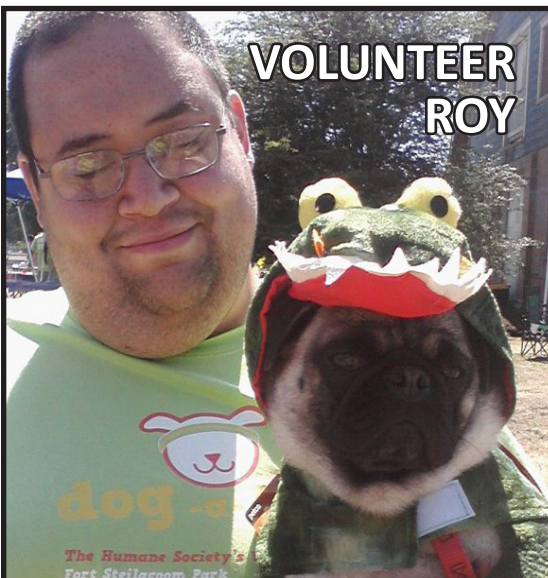


## VOLUNTEERS

Humane Society volunteers are vital to our organization. Whether they are petting, brushing, and playing with shelter cats during “Purr Time” sessions; engaging shelter dogs with Kong toys and other enrichment activities; or bathing and grooming dogs and cats to improve health and increase adoptability, our volunteers ease staff workload and provide care and comfort to thousands of animals. They’re also hard at work assisting with special events, administration, transportation, the list goes on! Volunteers like Roy Thalman often split their time between various roles. In his three years and during a total of 333 hours and counting, he’s assisted with “Bath Brigade, Pet Food Pantry, adoption packets, laundry, Dog-A-Thon, donation pickups, supply pickups, Trap Neuter Return cage setup, and (animal) transport driving.”

**886 volunteers devoted 83,574 hours through 30 different volunteer positions, making possible:**

- 765 Purr Time sessions
- 9,719 dog walks
- 1,554 dog & cat baths/grooming







# TRANSPORTING DOGS, SAVING LIVES

When you hit a 90% or higher live release rate (the criteria for a no-kill shelter), people take notice. Upon reaching this gold standard, the Humane Society has been invited to rescue animals from other states whose shelters are packed full. The animals we receive last only minutes on our floor, as they're incredibly adoptable.

Wonder how we're able to do it? As Board Member and transport volunteer Amanda Loewen sums up, it's "thanks to a community that has embraced the concept of adoption and importance of spay/neuter efforts in addition to microchipping. With fewer unwanted litters entering our doors and more lost pets being reunited with

their families, we now have the additional intake capacity. As fortunate as we are though, other communities in the country are not. Alleviating overcrowded shelters that still euthanize for space not only saves lives, but it also allows us to bring a different selection of animals to our community."

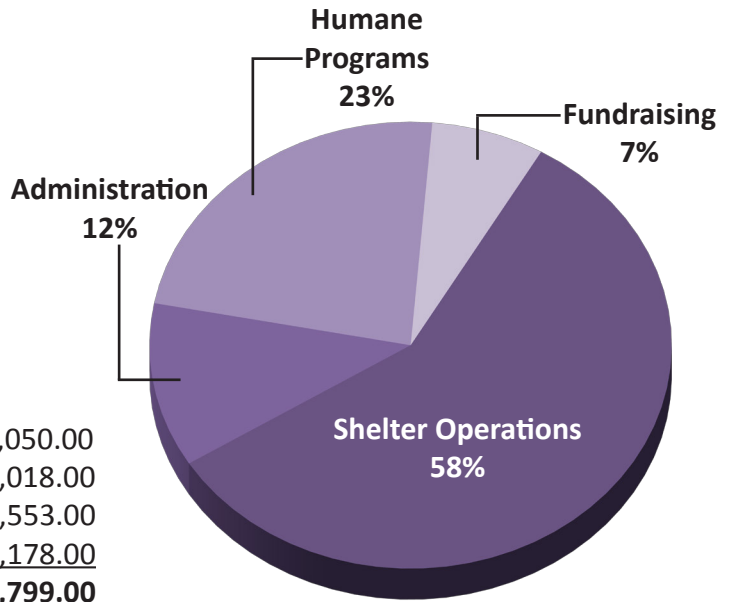
We literally could not do this life-saving work without your full support~thank you! It makes our hearts full to be among the Washington shelters and rescues that give the gift of happily ever afters to animals all over the country.

**151 dogs transferred in from out of state**

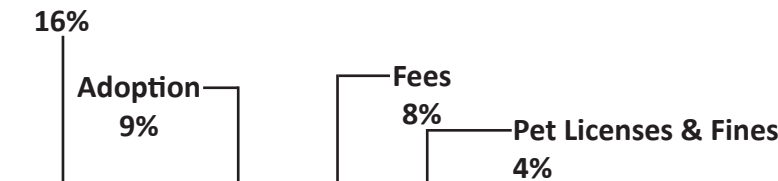
# FINANCIALS & SHELTER STATISTICS

## 2016 EXPENSES

Shelter Operations	\$2,838,050.00
Administration	\$584,018.00
Humane Programs	\$1,144,553.00
Fundraising	<u>\$344,178.00</u>
	<b>\$4,910,799.00</b>



## Animal Sheltering Contract



## 2016 REVENUE

Pet Licenses & Fines	\$255,837.00
Donations, Bequests, Grants	\$3,976,081.00
Animal Sheltering Contract	\$989,324.00
Adoption	\$532,028.00
Fees	<u>\$490,077.00</u>
	<b>\$6,243,347.00</b>



## DONORS

Number of Donors in 2016	4,952
Number of New Donors in 2016	1,869
Donors who have given 10+ years	408
Donors who have given 20+ years	157

We are grateful for our generous, compassionate donors' support of the Humane Society's mission and vision. On April 1, we will be posting a complete list of donors at [thehumanesociety.org/about-us/financials/](http://thehumanesociety.org/about-us/financials/).

## ANIMALS

Dogs Received	4,034
Dogs Placed	2,138
Dogs Reunited w/ Owners	1,537
Cats Received	4,592
Cats Placed	3,972
Cats Reunited w/ Owners	179
Rabbits Received	160
Rabbits Placed	149
Rabbits Reunited w/ Owners	1
Other Animals Received	180
Other Animals Placed	146
Other Animals Reunited w/ Owners	3

The Humane Society accepts every pet that comes to our door, regardless of age, health, or adoptability. Last year, 342 dogs, 410 cats, 2 rabbits, and 21 other animals were classified as unadoptable due to severe medical or behavior issues, and were humanely euthanized.

# HUMANE HERITAGE

The Humane Heritage Foundation recognizes members who have named the Humane Society in their wills or made other planned giving arrangements. The Humane Heritage Foundation honors those individuals whose spirit of caring will endure into the future.

Patty Aaby  
Gail Adcock  
Edith Andres  
Anonymous  
LaRaine Baker  
Karen L. Bell  
Karen Bellamy  
Jill Blacklock  
Paul & Leslie Brantner  
Cathi Brouillette  
Bruce & Laura Buckmaster

Joseph W. Burba, Jr.  
Jack Butson  
Cheri Chavez  
Ted Christensen III  
Helen Cole  
Bonnie Coombs  
Terrance & Mary Corak  
Alice Couch  
Jo Crittenden  
Jolene Davis  
Dorothy Dedrick

Rhona Diehl  
Marilyn Dimmer  
Penny Drost  
William Durham  
Craig & Laurie Ekman  
Barbara Faulkner  
Joan Faye  
Susan Fichter  
John Fields  
Laura Fox  
Eugene & Beverly Fries

# HUMANE HERITAGE CONTINUED

Sarah Garmire  
Glen Garrett  
Linda Gazecki  
Kitty Gibbs  
Virginia Giske  
Karen Good  
Suzanne Goodin  
Margo Gooding  
Douglas Grahame  
Charles Granoski  
Janek & Irene Gregolinski  
Becky Halkoski  
Lyle Hanson  
Dolores Havlina  
Shannon Heinrich  
Amy Henderson  
Lynne & Terry Hoffman  
Fred Hoheim  
Phyllis Holloway  
Lt. Col. Priscilla J. Huber  
(Ret.)  
Martha Jacob  
Patty Jalbert  
Rosemary Javorski  
Solweig Jensen  
Donald Jobe  
Judy Johnson  
Maria Johnson  
Kathy Joyce  
Julie Kaczmark  
Maryann Kalapus  
Jim & Eileen Kelley  
Bernice Kent  
Roy & Susan Kimbel  
Mary & Jerry Kinder  
Dorothy & Grant King  
Sieglinde Kirchner  
Dirk & Jean-Marie Klover

Alberta Knecht  
Karen Kolley  
Irene Koth  
Christine Koukles  
Sonja Kreshel  
Dan Kyler  
Barbara Ladd  
Linda Langhelm-Procter  
Eleanor Larson  
Jan Lassen  
Kimberlie & Vance Lelli  
Betty & Jerry Lindsay  
Leonard Long  
Virginia Maas  
Terry Martino  
Inez McCorkle  
Vicki McCormick  
Doris McFall  
Melissa McGinnis  
Karla McLane  
Joyce Messer  
Patricia Miraldi  
Andrea Moawad  
Susan Moblo  
Sonja Narcisse  
Darron & Susan Nelson  
Nancy Nelson  
Han Nguyen  
Jon & Kim Nordby  
Elli Oleole  
Kathleen & Rick Olson  
Douglas Owen  
David Owens  
Pamela Paton  
Thomas & Celia Peltier  
Bonnie Petrequin  
Gloria Phillips  
Margaret Rafn

Barry & Mary Rickert  
Terry & Walli Roarke  
Stephanie Roberts  
Marie T. Ruud  
Sandra Schaefer  
Jan Schwenger  
Kathy & Joe Scorcio  
Joni Sensel  
Elizabeth Sioda  
David & Kathryn Smith  
Jann & Brian Sonntag  
Warren Stuart  
Donna Lee & Robert  
Suelzle  
June Summerville  
Jamie Thomas  
Dr. Pamela Transue & Dr.  
Stuart Grover  
Barbara & Pat Van Haren  
Tamera & Brian Walsh  
Karyn Whitacre  
Larry & Donna White  
Jim & Lois Wick  
Ron Wilhelmson  
Penelope Williams  
John Wolcott  
Catherine Wood

*Although every effort has been made to assure the accuracy of this listing, we apologize for any errors, and ask that you report omissions or corrections to the Development Office at 253.284.5802.*



The Humane Society envisions a community where every pet has a **permanent & loving home**, every companion animal is **spayed or neutered**, and all pets are **treated with respect & compassion.**



## Board of Directors 2016

Chad Osvog, President  
Amy Bettesworth, Vice President  
Jenn Trettin, Secretary  
Paul Doty, Treasurer

Julie Curtis  
Heather Fancher  
Melissa Hortsch  
Regis Jackson  
Marcy Kulland  
Rebecca Larson  
Amanda Loewen  
Amanda Nathan  
Walt Sommers  
Bob Zawilski

## Leadership Team

Frank Strueby, Finance Director  
Monica Wylie, Deputy Director  
Kim Robbins, DVM, Chief Veterinarian  
Matt George, DVM, Shelter Veterinarian  
Charthy Irvin, Customer Care Supervisor  
Jessica Emel, Kennel Supervisor  
Sarah Anderson, Cat Foster Coordinator  
Cecily Joque, Dog Care Coordinator  
Aubrey Clement, Animal Placement Coordinator  
Alex Ropes, Volunteer Coordinator  
Stephene Mangialardi, Outreach Coordinator  
Robert Jones, Facilities Manager  
Claudia Tanis, Annual Fund Manager  
Shelby Taylor, Marketing & Events Manager  
Kirsten Willis, Major Gift Manager  
Patty Rusnak, Community Cat Coordinator  
Allea Chavez, Community Cat Assistant

## The Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County

2608 Center Street  
Tacoma, WA 98409-7694  
253.383.2733  
[www.thehumanesociety.org](http://www.thehumanesociety.org)

*The Humane Society is a private, non-profit organization that depends on donor support to fund its vital programs.*



2608 Center Street  
Tacoma, WA 98409

### Shelter Hours

Monday-Friday	11:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturdays	9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Closed Sundays & Holidays	

### Directory

Customer Service	253.383.2733
Membership & Donations	253.284.5849
Spay/Neuter Clinic	253.284.5838
Volunteering	253.284.5832

Found Pets	253.383.2733, press 2
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