

Animal Care Sanctuary

2019
Annual
Report



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



“The dedication and ongoing support from our board, staff, volunteers, and you – our generous donors – will allow us to continue to provide exceptional care for our dogs and cats!”

To Our Friends of Animal Care Sanctuary,

2020 Marks my tenth year with Animal Care Sanctuary. Our team has accomplished so much over the years and 2019 was no exception. Here are a few of the highlights.

With the help of grants and our local Tioga Downs Foundation, we purchased a large van for mobile transports. Now animals can travel safely for numerous reasons. Our transport coordinator picks up cats and dogs from rural areas and underserved populations brings them to the clinic for spay and neuter. Animals are also taken to and from East Smithfield and Wellsboro, as well as Pet Smart Adoption Centers in Ithaca and Horseheads. The van also goes to adoption and educational events throughout the region.

Sondra’s City Zoo was another new venture. A well-established pet store in Elmira with an owner who was uncomfortable selling non-rescue dogs reached out to the Humane Society of the United States and they got in touch with us. We met with Sondra and she now has rescue dogs and cats in her store – the first store to be converted in New York.

Reaching out to our donors through a survey gave us so much information on what is most important to you. Many of our supporters knew our founder Lesley Sinclair and, in late 2020 or early 2021, we will be forming the Friends of Lesley Sinclair.

The opening of the new kennel and clinic this summer will be a springboard for many new opportunities. This has long been anticipated and will finally come to fruition in 2020. The construction was to begin in April 2019, but it was delayed several months because of Mother Nature’s rain. The clinic will be able to accommodate more surgeries and appointments and the kennel will be a much better environment for our dogs.

In Wellsboro we celebrated the opening of the Community Dog Park and renovated our farmhouse which is now the adoption center and gift shop.

The dedication and ongoing support from our board, staff, volunteers, and you – our generous donors – will allow us to continue to provide exceptional care for our dogs and cats!

Thank you for all you do every day for animals.

Joan

*Our **LIFESAVING MISSION** envisions a community that promotes turning compassion into action for dogs and cats by adopting healthy animals into loving homes, promoting the human-animal bond through outreach, education and advocacy, spaying and neutering to end the suffering of over-population and to improve public health, and the humane and compassionate treatment of all animals.*



Leonardo

OUR THREE PILLARS

RESCUE/ ADOPTION



In addition to our adoptions increasing by 68 percent from 2018 (and 80 percent from 2017), we launched our mobile transport program, and we're excited to grow this initiative in 2020 as well!

Our van assisted in the transportation, vaccinations, treatments and returns of nearly 90 cats and dogs.

Additionally, the van is used to transport rescues from other shelters across the U.S.

The transport unit was made possible thanks to Tioga Downs Casino and Resort, the Banfield Foundation and the ASPCA of the United States.

With their support and yours, we are building a bridge to animals that otherwise would have been much more difficult to help.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION



The Dog Days of Summer!

The Wellsboro Dog Park enjoyed its first summer open after its ribbon cutting in May.

With a \$25-per-year membership, dog owners in the Wellsboro and Mansfield areas now have a great opportunity to exercise their large and small dogs at the park's convenient Route 6 location, while also boosting the Wellsboro sanctuary's exposure to the community.

Future plans include increasing park membership to grow the area of the park, installing more upgraded fencing and adding more benches for dog owners to enjoy. We're excited to continue to grow this park into a Wellsboro community staple!

EDUCATION



In addition to organizing and hosting pet education in local schools all over the region, Animal Care Sanctuary continues to host pre-veterinary interns from all over the country.

In 2019, we took in three fantastic interns whom staff referred to as some of the most enthusiastic and involved interns we've ever had – fully committed to shelter medicine and helping out wherever they could!

- Elizabeth came to us from Lawrence, KS and is attending Kansas State University as a pre-vet major.
- Chelsea hails from Greensburg and represented Penn State – also as a pre-vet major.
- Kayla is from Endicott, and she majors in biology at the State University of New York in Geneso.

We look forward to continuing partnering with colleges all over the country to provide real-world experience to the next generation of animal-lovers.

ADOPTION STORIES

Here are a few stories from 2019 that touched our hearts.



LEONARDO

Leonardo is one of five mixed breed dogs Animal Care Sanctuary rescued from Davenport, NY when a disabled gentleman became overwhelmed and reached out for help.

He had 18 dogs total in his home who required veterinary care and intense socialization.

The rescue was a collaborative effort between Animal Care Sanctuary, Delaware Valley Humane Society, Susquehanna SPCA and Super Hero's In Ripped Jeans.

Leonardo, Donatello, Michelangelo, Raphael and April O'Neil are now all adopted and off on adventures in their new homes.



FALCON

Falcon was brought to us as a stray. He had a severe wound (cause unknown) on his front leg. Because he has FIV, the wound would not heal, despite our vet staff's best efforts.

He ended up having the leg amputated and since then, he has healed beautifully.

Despite his injury and daily ministrations by vet staff, Falcon's personality continued to shine.

When he lived in our medical holding, he would start meowing as soon as he heard staff arrive in the morning. He is now living his BEST life in his perfect forever home.



COLBY

(From Colby's new mom Amy):

"Our journey began looking over a friend's shoulder while he scrolled petfinder. I was completely unaware of how many senior dogs were looking for forever homes.

We started looking for ourselves and came across the sweet face of Colby at ACS and decided to make an appointment to meet him. Our first question was how long had he been there and the response saddened us. 7 years was the answer and we couldn't image why no one would want him or give him a chance. Upon further questioning we were made aware that he had some behavioral issues such as food aggressions and guarding. I believe we are all broken in one way or another and animals are no exclusion.

Everyone deserves a second chance and in reality Colby had been at ACS almost 9 years and now was 10+ years old. We adopted him a week or so later and with lots of love and affection, training and patience Colby has transformed into a wonderful part of our family. He is excited about every adventure we throw at him. He loves truck rides, walks and hikes, visits to Lowe's, weekends at the lake. He has transformed into a sweet lovable dog that still is working on some issues but who isn't?"

2019

A YEAR OF RECORD GROWTH & EXCITEMENT

980



Animals
Adopted



Animals
Fostered

145

130+

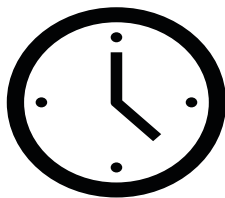


Community
Events



2,889

Spay &
Neuter
Surgeries



3,958
Volunteer
Hours Logged

1,074
Animal
Intake



2,671
Clinic
Wellness
Visits

2019 LEADERSHIP TEAM

Joan Smith-Reese, CEO

Rachel Rossiter, Director of Animal Services

Rachel Preble, Wellsboro Director

Ann Lewis, Director of Planned Giving and Major Gifts

Terri McKendry, Development Director

Emily Shaffer, Adoption Coordinator

Karen Gillette, Director of Veterinarian Service

Bobbi Lee, Finance Director

Emily Skjold, Volunteer Coordinator

Becca Morgan, Cattery Director

Misti Burdock, Canine Care Director

2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ellen Feldman, Board Chair

Jeffrey Hundman, Treasurer

Cindy Opeka, Secretary

Barbara Decker

Bob Barnes

Cheryl Meyer

Julie Newman

Kristi Dunn

Kyle McDuffee

Lacey Maryott

Les Howard

Mary O'Malley-Trumble

Sharon Walsh

Stephanie Rogers Robinson

Tina Sabina

Zack Fox

Bella

CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

Animal Care Sanctuary is excited that the new kennel and clinic is edging ever closer to completion – which is expected by the end of June.

This facility will provide much-needed space for our clinic's operations, which saw 2,889 spay/neuter surgeries and 2,600 wellness visits in 2019. The clinic will grow to include a dog recovery room, cat recovery room and three exam rooms for our staff to continue to provide high-quality care to our animals.

Thanks to Shelter Planners of America, the kennel will feature 16 new dog runs, which will all have solid walls that will better separate the canines and dull the noises from other canines. The new building will also significantly cut down on the utility expenses that it took to maintain the previous kennel and clinic.

As of the end of 2019, we've raised \$1,155,347 for the new kennel, leaving us with \$616,072 worth of fundraising to go.

Lesley Sinclair's vision is nearly a reality, and we cannot wait to share the finished product in just a few months!



ANIMAL CARE SANCTUARY AND OUR COMMUNITIES

ACS is proud to engage in communities regionally and in our own backyard.

Regionally we are in places such as the PA Farm Show in Harrisburg, World Dog Expo in NJ, Puppy Mill Awareness Day in Lancaster, Luma in Binghamton, Strawberry Fest in Owego, Williamsport Welcomes the World at the Little League Championship, Chestnut Hill Garden Days and Skippak Days in the Philadelphia area, Arts4All and Mutt Monday at Binghamton Rumble Ponies.

Locally, our communities see us every weekend with adoption events, street fairs, Dickens of a Christmas, Farmers Markets and Hometown Days. ACS also attends quarterly PetSmart National Adoption weekends in Williamsport, PA, Horsehead, NY & Ithaca, NY.



*Nursing home
adopts two cats*



*Williamsport
Community Event*



*Tioga Downs Golf
Signature Event*



Mutt Monday



*Community
volunteers*



*Advocacy at the
World Dog Expo*



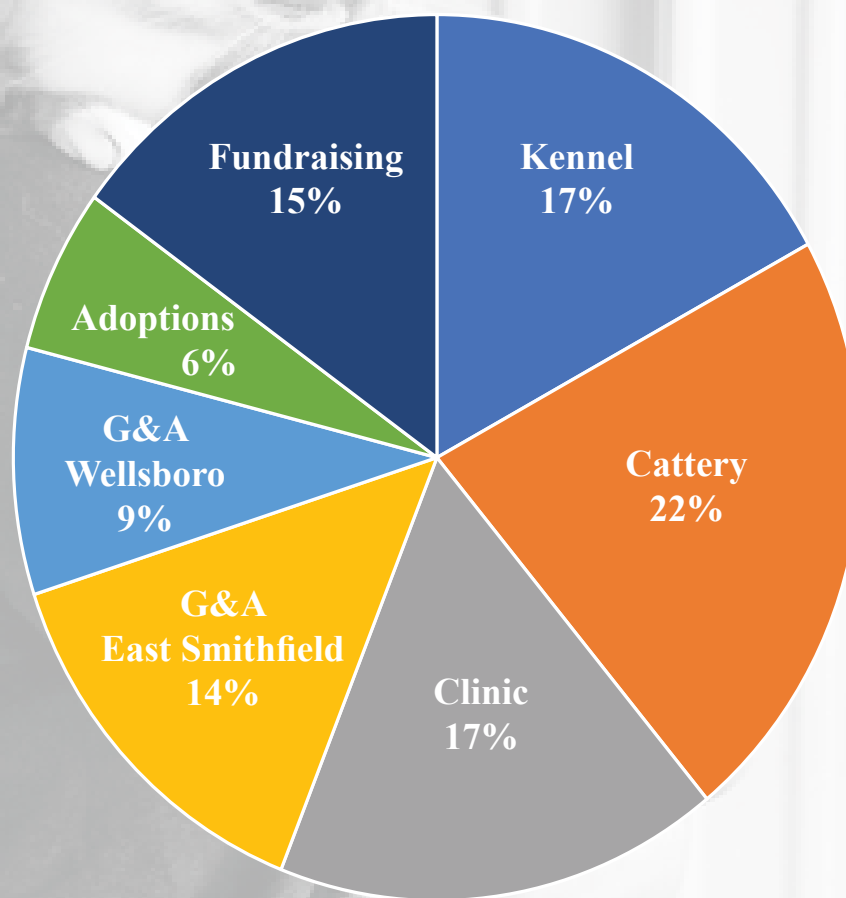
*WoofRock
Signature Event*

2019 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Support	
Grants and Contributions	475,811
Legacies, Bequests and Trusts	1,333,723
Total Support	1,809,534
Revenue and Other	
Adoption	109,554
Veterinary Clinic	290,672
Retail Sales, Net Cost of Goods	35,307
Special Events, Net of Expenses	21,503
Investment Income, Net of Fees	25,526
Net Realized and Unrealized Gains	61,242
Net Change in Beneficial Interest	226,737
In Perpetual Trusts	0
Other Income	25,038
Distribution from Perpetual Trust	0
Net Assets Released from Donor	0
Retriktion	0
Total Support	2,605,113

Expenses	
Program Services:	
Kennel	289,301
Cattery	386,445
Veterinary Clinic	300,779
Adoption	104,966
Total Program Services	1,081,491
Supporting Services:	
General and Administrative	
East Smithfield	234,280
Wellsboro	149,363
Total	383,643
Fundraising	266,274
Total Supporting Services	649,917
Total Expenses	1,731,408
Change in Net Assets	873,705
Net Assets Beginning of 2019	3,759,186
Net Assets End of 2019	4,632,891

Functional
Expenses



VOICE OF OUR DONORS

In October of 2019 we launched a short survey to learn more about our supporters and their preferences. The short 10-question survey was sent via direct mail and e-mail and we received a great response from supporters all over the country!

Thanks to those who took the time to participate!

Here were some of our key findings, in ranked order, from those who participated:

How often would you like to receive updates from ACS? Quarterly Monthly Annually	Top 3 ways you prefer to be informed on ACS news and updates? Newsletter E-mail Mail	Why do you choose to support ACS? Quality of care/staff No Kill Program/Services
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ACTION WE WILL TAKE TO ADDRESS SURVEY RESULTS

1. Start a quarterly newsletter to send via direct mail
2. Send e-mail on “breaking news” and immediate updates/needs
3. Push sign-up for monthly electronic newsletter
4. Reach out to those who knew our founder Lesley Sinclair to get personal stories



LEAVING A LASTING LEGACY

A planned gift enables you to make a significant gift for endowment, capital projects, operations or program development, while also reducing the taxable portion of your estate.

Gift by Will: Just as you arrange for the financial and personal security of loved ones including pets in a will, so can you provide for the ongoing work of Animal Care Sanctuary through a will. Gifts by bequest can assist in such areas as endowment, capital needs and program development, connecting you with the Sanctuary in a very special way for years to come. A bequest assures you of complete use of assets during life and assures that your philanthropic intentions will be accomplished while tax benefits minimize the costs to your heirs. There are several different types of bequests.

Gift of Appreciated Long-Term Securities: These gifts may enable you to avoid capital gains tax while taking a charitable deduction for the full value of the stock.

Gift of Retirement Assets: Designating ACS as a beneficiary of your IRA or other retirement plan can help reduce income and estate taxes.

Gift by Trust: A trust enables you to make a significant gift to the Sanctuary while receiving income from capital, securities or other property and significant tax advantages. The unitrust and annuity trust, two of the most common charitable trusts, provide income to you during your lifetime and, if you so choose, the lifetime of a beneficiary.

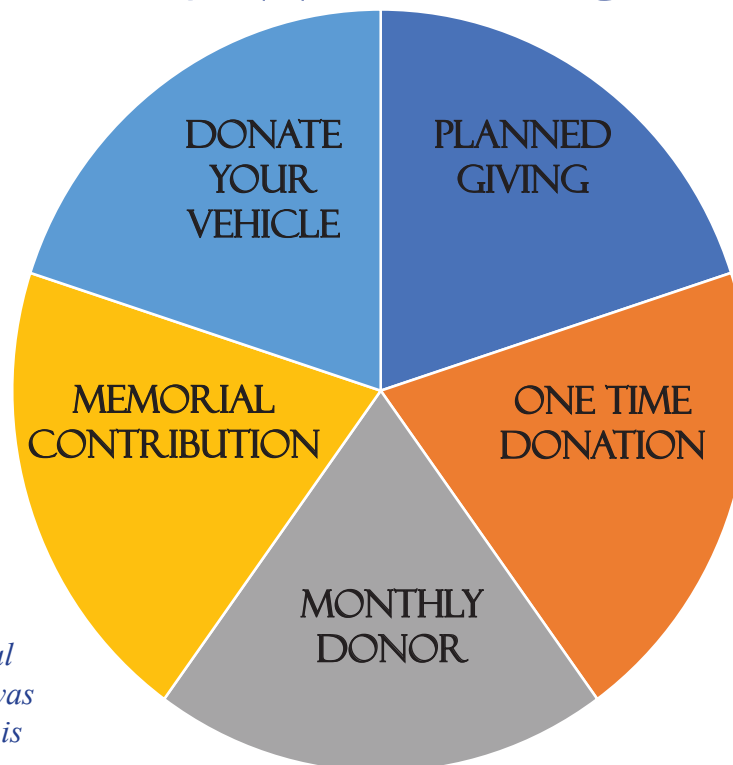
Gift of Personal Property: An outright gift of your residence, vacation home or other real estate to Animal Care Sanctuary qualifies you for a charitable deduction. This type of gift may also enable you to avoid capital gains tax on the appreciation of the property.

Gift of Life Insurance: The gift of a new or existing life insurance policy allows you to create a substantial gift to ACS, irrespective of your present assets or estate, and can help reduce income and estate taxes.

OTHER WAYS TO GIVE

“I urge all persons who believe that all of God’s creatures deserve safety and shelter to remember Animal Care Sanctuary in their prayers, as benefactors and most especially, in their wills.”

“My father loved all animals but dogs were his passion. Donating a medical dog run in the new kennel was a rewarding way to honor his memory.”



“Caring for animals gives life purpose. THIS is exactly why I am remembering Animal Care Sanctuary in my Will. I consider my legacy to be a gift of joy.”

“Words cannot describe the gratitude I feel towards ACS, the shelter with a soul. I am not a person of great means, but I do everything I can to help ACS and always will.”

MEET ACS DONOR STEVE SLIWINSKI

Steve visited ACS in 2018 as a Claverack REC board member to present a grant to our capital campaign for our clinic and canine care – and he was enthused with the care our staff gave to our rescued cats and dogs.

Upon that visit, he saw firsthand why we needed new facilities and, right away, decided to help. He was recruited to serve on the golf committee and, as an accomplished artist, he donated a hand-crafted piece of fine jewelry for our silent auction.

Steve and his wife, Sue, are both retired teachers and have raised two daughters – Melece and Melanie -- and a son, Nick – all of whom share a love for rescued animals. Melanie, for example, co-founded a San Francisco-based nonprofit called “Street Mutts,” which is designed to bring worldwide awareness to the plight of street animals.

She and her co-founder have traveled to remote parts of the world visiting and photographing in order to raise awareness for the need of compassionate care for abandoned animals.



Steve at ACS

Steve continues to support ACS after he became aware of “the love, concern and attention that the staff of ACS gave to the animals to whom it gave refuge.”



Steve's daughter Melanie

Steve's role has grown, as he has most recently become co-chair of ACS's Cabinet of Ambassadors – bringing together community leaders to advocate for animals – and acts as a liaison to support ACS programs and events.

“I would be remiss if I did not mention the important of lending an educated voice through advocacy,” Steve said. “We all know that pets communicate expressively with their caregivers. However, we must be their voice in the legislative arena to ensure that laws are enacted that benefit our silent companions.”

Steve and his daughter, Melanie, match their generous donations to ACS during the holiday season.

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR LIFESAVING CONTRIBUTIONS

\$5,000+

Carol Babcock Trust
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David and Patricia Dershem
Marc & Ellen Feldman
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THE STORY OF LUCKY

BY FOUNDER
LESLEY SINCLAIR



I woke up. The sun was shining. The sun feels hot.
My master puts on my leash. I feel weak and alone.
I tried to run to keep up with his hastening steps – I start to walk up the highway.
but I am 14 years old. My pads burn.
I start to pant and run along side Cars pass me by.
of him. Night comes – and I sit and wait.
I am glad when we reach the I groan with fatigue and hunger.
car. I try to climb in, but he has I long for my wooden bed with
to pull me. its cushion and my food bowl.
I sink into the seat apprehen- Where am I? What happened?
sive. Where are we going? I fall asleep.
He slams the car into gear. It Dawn comes; it is hot.
seems ages, and I don't recog- The flies bite my ears. My
nize the place. tongue is dry; my body too
I am thirsty and afraid. weak to walk.
Perhaps we are going to visit I sit at the side of the road.
Angela. The cars pass me by, filled with
I feel uneasy. The car coasts happy people anticipating the
slowly. day.
The door opens on my side. I try to walk – but it's no use. I
He pushes me out. I fall into the lie down to rest.
road. I feel the small stones spraying
It knocks my breathe out of me. me when the cars pass by.
I get up to look at him and ask Another car swerves to avoid
why. But he's not there! me. I don't care any more.
There is no car! He has gone! And then there is a shadow over
I sit at the side of the road and me.
wait-
He must be coming back.

Tender, loving hands pick me up; I am limp.
Some hot tears fall on my face as she kisses me.
I hear her say, "What maniac could do this to an old dog?"
She gently puts me into her car.
My eyes are glazed; I fall asleep.
I wake up in her arms. She is giving me water and food.
I try to wag my tail but I only succeed in thanking her with my eyes.
She tells me that I am safe now and shows me a lot of dogs and cats and kittens.
I am too weak and sick to be with the healthy dogs, so I make my bed with some baby kittens.
We all snuggle together.
It is so soft and warm.
I sigh and go to sleep.

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