

# Grateful for our two-legged Friends

Thanks to our fantastic staff, volunteers, and supporters, the Friends For the Dearborn Animal Shelter enjoyed much success in 2014. Here are some of the highlights.

## Animal care

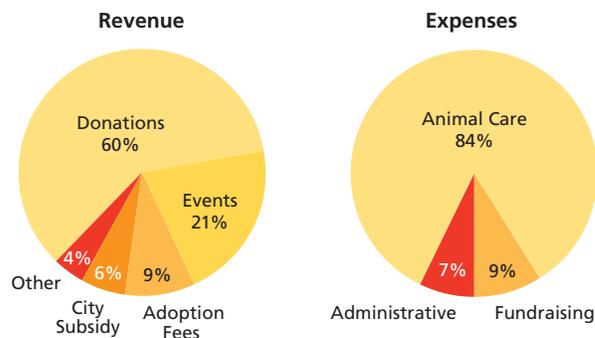
We cared for some 2,500 dogs and cats, as well as 200 other species. Our dog and cat intake was down by 300-plus animals compared with 2013 figures. The decrease can be attributed to an improving economy along with life-saving Friends outreach programs such as low-cost spay/neuter and microchip vouchers, Operation Feed Fido, and pet training.

Despite lower intake numbers, our shelter was consistently full. Our average daily numbers for in-shelter and foster care animals were 153 and 59, respectively. In 2014:

- 1,890 shelter animals were

## Fiscal report: Shelter operations

These are preliminary data based on unaudited figures for 2014.



"Other" includes merchandise sales, training classes, and interest income.

returned to their owners or found new homes.

- 553 shelter animals received extra care and love thanks to 73 foster homes.
- 529 pets were spayed/neutered and 214 were micro-chipped through our community outreach programs.

- 98 pets received food through our Operation Feed Fido subsidy program, which helps keep pets with their families and out of shelters.

To help our rescues find their forever homes, we hosted two very successful off-site tent

## Top supporters in 2014

The following reflects both in-kind and monetary support. To view a complete list of donors, visit the Donate section of [DearbornAnimals.org](http://DearbornAnimals.org).

♥ **Benefactor (\$10,000 & up):** Abrahams' Open House for Hope's Heroes • Affiliated Veterinary Emergency Service & Lincoln Park Veterinary Hospital, Dr. Jeffrey Dizik & Lisa Dizik • Aleta Sill's Bowling World Inc., Aleta Sill & Michelle Mullen • Lisa Bahash • Cherie & David Bazy • Laurie Buhr • Estate of Bruce Harvey Church • Kathie Cude & Robert Putnam • Dearborn Family Pet Care, Dr. Cheryl Good & Mr. Mark Good • Dearborn Veterinary Hospital, Dr. David Heinhold • J. Ferrantino Charitable Foundation • Estate of Peter N. Flaiskans • Greatergood.org • Estate of Effie Hanchett • Healing Care Animal Hospital • Frederick Johns • Allan Leonard • Masco Corporation • Megan's Dreams Golf Outing • Michigan Humane Society • Morrison Animal Hospital, Dr. Michele Arkens & Dr. Kevin Smyth • Charles Stewart Mott Foundation • Kay & Doug Neff • Kristen & Timothy Padgett • The

PAWS Clinic • The Pedigree Foundation • Pet Supplies Plus, Scott Shallop • Estate of John Pickles • Helen Pomeroy & Dr. Paul Pomeroy • Margaret Rappaport • Richard & Jane Manoogian Foundation • Mary H. Schick Trust • The Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust, a *KeyBank Trust* • Unleashed Pet Care, Dr. Kari Nugent • Vet Select Animal Hospital (Dearborn) • Vet Select Animal Hospital (Dearborn Heights) • Julie (Turla) Walker, Fairlane Ford • MaryAnn Wright & Bob Sayles  
 ♥ **Patron (\$5,000-\$9,999):** Anonymous Friend 1 • Anonymous Friend 2 • Anonymous Friend 3 • Bernice Barbour Foundation • Caputo Animal Hospital, Dr. Richard & Sue Caputo • Alexandra Cattelan • Detroit Country Day School • Grayton Integrated Publishing LLC, Sue Cavallaro • Nancy & Jim Grosfeld • Southpointe Veterinary Hospital, Dr. Kimberly Cox

♥ **Advocate (\$2,500-\$4,999):** Alternatives For Girls • Bangkok 96 Restaurant, Genevieve Vang • Cheryl Brozovic & Richard Gillespie • Drs. Angela DeSantis & Robert Sharon • Ford Road Animal Clinic • Edith J. Goode Residuary Trust • Sumathi Govindaswami • Greektown Casino • Margaret & Kevin Green • Elaine Greene & Michael DeLaney • Kathleen & Gavin Haag • Sis & David Hamilton • Marlene & Marvin Kraska • Kroger Company, Community Rewards Program • Susan & Gary Kuhlmann • Ann Land • Lawrence Technological University • Barbara & Frederick Levantrosser • Patricia Ludwig • Mary & Peter Oleksiak • Pause for Paws, Dearborn High School • Purina PetCare Company • Anita Diane Rahn • Linda & Tom Rex • Susan Ringey • Severstal Dearborn LLC • Deborah Stewart • St. Julian's Cat Care • Elizabeth & Steven Talbott • Dorothy & Mark Vencelov

## HAPPY TAILS

# Feral or frightened?

adoption events and ran many adoption specials.

### Financial stability

Although animal-care costs rose in 2014, our operations remained in the black thanks to our excellent management team and careful board oversight.

We were honored by gifts from five supporters who remembered us in their estate planning, with donations totaling more than \$185,000.

We are also thankful for the partnerships we have established with the following foundations: Pedigree Foundation; Greater Good Foundation; the Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust, *a Key-Bank Trust*; and the Bernice Barbour Foundation. We received grants totaling almost \$40,000 and in-kind donations of more than \$20,000 focused on underwriting the expansion of our Pit Crew program, kitten foster program, and much-needed improvements in the shelter.

### Community awareness

We continued to engage and receive significant support from our community through events. Third-party events included Megan's Dreams Golf Outing, Bowl-4-Animal Rescue, Pat's Pasta Dinner, Oakwood Bar Hogs for Dogs, and Paws for the Future. The Friends' two signature events, Mutt Strut and Black Tie & Tails, had the largest attendance numbers ever!

Through our ongoing partnerships with universities, primary and secondary schools, student groups, and organizations such as the Berry Center, we reached younger supporters via internships focused on animal-care education and hands-on experiences.

**Z**odiak was brought to our shelter in January as a feral cat. He certainly was frightened and didn't like being handled—but was he truly feral?

A study through the ASPCA and Tufts University is helping shelters like ours find out. In fact, the Dearborn Animal Shelter is one of only four in the nation selected to participate in the three-month study, which is testing an assessment tool to determine truly feral cats from frightened but socialized felines. During the three-day evaluation process, shelter staffers document how the cats react to handling, feeding, having toys and other items in their cages, and other behavioral exercises.

"Once it is determined if the cat has social behaviors, it will allow shelters to direct resources for the best outcome for the individual cat," says Elaine Greene, shelter executive director.

And that's just what happened for Zodiak and another seemingly feral cat, both of whom arrived during the first week of the study. Their assessments revealed that they *did* exhibit social behaviors—they were not feral, but simply frightened strays. "We were able to focus on encouraging people-friendly behaviors in the cats," Elaine says. "Both made a quick turnaround, and we were able to place them for adoption within just a few days."



### Wanted: TNR leader

The Dearborn Animal Shelter does not yet have a TNR—trap, neuter, return—program for feral cats. "We would love to add that to the services we offer," says Elaine Greene, shelter executive director. "It's not as simple as setting the traps—we need to research, plan, and implement a program, and we need someone to do all that up-front work."

That someone would need to bring excellent project management and communication skills to the work, which would involve researching issues such as the pros and cons of TNR philosophies; logistics; funding for the spay/neuter services; and educating the public. If that's a job you can tackle as a volunteer, please contact Elaine: [egreene@DearbornAnimals.org](mailto:egreene@DearbornAnimals.org) or 313.943.2697, Ext. #3556.

### New-shelter progress

Our new-shelter project moved forward in 2014. We selected the architectural firm of Neumann Smith and completed plans and initial renderings. The Friends and the Dearborn City Council approved an agreement for the donation of land and a \$600,000 challenge grant for our capital campaign.

In 2015, we plan to host a Community Breakfast on June 10 to share our progress with a broader population of supporters, further engage the community, and take our new

shelter another step closer to reality. The objective is in sight—our focus this year is to secure the remaining funding required to allow us to begin construction in 2016.

All of our accomplishments are made possible by you and your generous support. We are grateful to you for caring about the animals and supporting the Friends. We look forward to continuing our journey with you.

—MaryAnn Wright  
Board Chair, Friends For the  
Dearborn Animal Shelter