

**2017 Annual Report**

## Our Mission

The Allen County SPCA will promote the prevention of cruelty to animals by providing a safe haven for animals, an effective and comprehensive adoption program, education and outreach programs for the community and deep and broad membership and volunteer programs.

## Board of Directors

**Kent Pyle - President**  
Northwestern Mutual

**Kathryn Roudebush - Vice President**  
Attorney

**Reneta Thurairatnam - Treasurer**  
Lake City Bank

**Lindsey Swanson - Secretary**  
Haller & Colvin, P.C.

**Terah Brogan**  
Fort Wayne Community Schools

**Julie Chao, MD**  
Anesthesiologist

**Patrick Davis**  
Franklin Fueling Systems

**Phyllis Lehman-Oldenkamp**  
RN, Retired

**Debra Lockhart**  
Wells Fargo

**Mike McCartin**

**Terra Schmidt**  
Lutheran Hospital

**Misty Stephan, RVT**  
Paw's-n-Claw's Pet Care Palace

**Andy Yergler**  
Board Intern

**"A beacon of hope for  
so many animals..."**

## From the President

Dear Friends,

With 2017 now in the rear-view mirror, we can once again pat ourselves on the back for a job well done. Our shelter continues to be a beacon of hope for so many animals, both homeless and owned, searching for a second chance. In 2017, we assisted literally thousands of animals through pet adoption, Operation CAT, or through assistance from our Pet Promises program. What an honor it is to know we are doing so much for so many who need us.

The board has been working hard to ensure that we are doing our best, as well. Through self-assessments and professional development opportunities offered by local community foundations, we've made improvements to our operations that will benefit the Allen County SPCA for years to come. Our finance committee has been overhauling our investment policies; our fund development committee has challenged our directors to be even better fiduciary stewards and worked to ensure our signature fundraising events are successful; our board development committee has been updating our bylaws and making certain all of our documentation is properly managed and filed with the state; and our building committee continues to explore the opportunity of an expansion while seeing to the needs of our aged infrastructure.

It has been an honor to serve as board president for a fourth consecutive year, especially during such exciting times for our organization. I want to thank my fellow board members, past and present, for their commitment to the Allen County SPCA. I am grateful to them, and I thank you, our members, for believing in the mission of the Allen County SPCA; its dedicated Executive Director, Jessica Henry; the incomparable staff; and the hundreds of volunteers who make our shelter what it is – namely, one of the finest animal welfare organizations in the entire country.

I hope you will join me in committing to another exciting year of support for the noble work we do.

Kindest regards,



Kent Pyle  
President, Allen County SPCA Board of Directors





**“...more committed than ever to seeing us reach new heights.”**

## From the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

It doesn't seem possible that 2017 marked the five year anniversary of my tenure as Executive Director of our beloved Allen County SPCA. As cliché as it sounds, it seems like yesterday that I took a leap of faith on this tremendous organization and you, on me. A lot can happen in that amount of time, but never could I have imagined just how much growth was possible.

Some of last year's most notable successes came as the result of our partnership with Best Friends Animal Society when they invested in our coalition (Allen County SPCA, FWACC and HOPE for Animals) to launch Operation CAT. Since June of 2017 we've been managing a very successful Trap Neuter Release program and have facilitated the live release of more than 700 of our community's stray and free-roaming cats. None of that would be possible without the many volunteers who work morning, noon and night to humanely help manage Allen County's feline overpopulation crisis. And the results are looking promising already, as FWACC's live release rate for cats is up 15% over the last two years.

We also partnered with the ASPCA as a receiving shelter for their Animal Relocation Initiative and have welcomed hundreds of dogs from southern shelters who are seeking refuge and a chance at a forever home so often denied to canines impounded at overcrowded shelters. You'll have to look for a story of my own adoption of a southern chap in the 2018 Annual Report!

In late summer, I was honored to present at the Best Friends Annual Conference held in Atlantic City where I spoke on the topic of coalition-building. In fact, our local coalition of animal welfare organizations was privileged to receive the prestigious Lifesaving Luminary award for the Midwest! Rest assured that we, Fort Wayne Animal Care & Control, and HOPE for Animals will continue to collaborate to improve life for animals in our entire community. I am grateful beyond measure to those partners.

Just after Labor Day, at the request of Best Friends, I deployed to Hurricane Harvey-impacted Conroe, Texas to work alongside the Montgomery County Humane Society to manage the operations of their rescue and reunion center. Not only was it an honor for me to be there, but I learned so much about disaster management that will serve our organization well in the event of a natural disaster of our own.

We continue to advance Pet Promises and are expanding our companion animal social service programs to serve even more pets living under difficult circumstances. From compassion fostering for people in personal crisis, to our weekly pet food bank, quarterly vaccine clinics, pet deposit rental assistance, veterinary cost-sharing, and in-home services for animals living with the elderly, disabled or shut-in – we truly have blossomed into a full-service resource for pets and the people who love them.

Historically, the Allen County SPCA has had a frequent turn-over in its leadership. As I look at my sixth year of service to this incredible organization, I am more committed than ever to seeing us reach new heights. I anticipate a day in the not-too-distant future when the crisis of pet overpopulation comes to an end, and I look forward to shepherding this organization as we become even more able to help the animals who need us the most.

None of this growth would have been possible without our dedicated board of directors, our mission-driven staff who are the best in all of animal welfare, our tireless volunteers, or you, our beloved members. It is the privilege of a lifetime to serve alongside each and every one of you.

May we all continue working together here in Allen County for the good of animals everywhere!

Most gratefully,

Jessica Henry  
Executive Director, Allen County SPCA



## Volunteer Updates

by Dani Wagner

From cleaning kennels, socializing cats, and entering data – we could not do what we do without our powerful force of volunteers who donate their time, energy and love to us every single day.

I am very happy to let you know that the Allen County SPCA received their Service Enterprise Certification on May 24th, 2017! Currently, we are one of five organizations in Indiana who have achieved this certification and the only animal welfare organization in the state to do so.

One of the biggest changes our volunteers saw in 2017 was the introduction of our volunteer software Vicnet. This software allows volunteers to log their hours, see what openings we have, schedule their volunteer shifts and keep their records up to date anywhere they have internet access – making it even easier to volunteer!

In addition to making it easier to schedule volunteer shifts, we added several new programs. One of the positions we added in 2017, was to have volunteers to help in the kennels. Not only has it allowed our dog loving volunteers to learn and help out in an area that was off limits before, but has freed up a lot of staff time to process dogs and focus on more training and enrichment. Speaking of enrichment, our canine behavioral team and I worked together to create a new “Read to Me” program for our dogs, where volunteers can come in and quietly read to dogs in their kennels.

With the introduction of In Home Services in May of 2017, we’ve added positions for volunteers interested in helping to keep animals and their homebound owners together. Thanks to this program, volunteers go into homes to help trim nails, walk dogs, and help pets and their owners as much as they can. Having a program for volunteers interested in helping animals AND people has opened up the shelter to an even bigger potential volunteer pool.

The future of the volunteer program at the Allen County SPCA looks very bright. In 2018, I’m writing new programs, with a focus on finding safe, educational and fun tasks for volunteers age 12-15 that will benefit the shelter and the animals in our care. I also want to continue providing advanced training to our current volunteers, with classes in training our shelter dogs to do basic tricks and working with our advanced volunteers to help with the dogs in behavior modification that traditionally would have been staff only.

While I still have a lot of goals for myself and this program, the growth and training of our veteran and new volunteers over the last 2 years has inspired not only me, but I think our whole staff as well. We really couldn’t do what we do without them!

Interested in volunteering? Email [dani@allencountyspca.org](mailto:dani@allencountyspca.org) or call (260)744-0454 ext. 204 to reserve your spot at our next orientation.

## Cat Pawsitive

by Dani Wagner

At the end of 2017, the Allen County SPCA was selected as one of just ten shelters around the nation to participate in the spring semester of The Jackson Galaxy Project’s Cat Pawsitive Pro program. Cat Pawsitive is positive-reinforcement clicker training initiative that enriches day-to-day life for cats in shelters, builds new skills for cats as well as shelter staff and volunteers, promotes the human-cat bond, and helps improve adoptability for cats who are older, poorly socialized, or have medical/behavioral issues. Our feline staff and eight volunteers are working through extensive training to learn these new lifesaving skills. Once our training is complete, we’ll open up the program to even more volunteers and look forward to helping great cats get adopted faster!

## Building

by Lindsey Swanson

2017 was another incredible year for the Allen County SPCA, full of growth, adoptions, saving lives, and community outreach! If you have not had an opportunity to check out our newly renovated lobby at the shelter, please come visit us. The space is significantly more inviting and is a better use of the space to continue our lifesaving efforts. As our organization continues to grow beyond all of our expectations, we will work diligently to utilize our space to the best of its abilities in order to make room for all the animals that need our help. Stay tuned and follow us on social media to stay up to date on all the exciting things we have planned for 2018!

## Board Development

by Kathryn Roudebush

The 2017-18 year saw the finalization of updates to our Bylaws in order to comply with the revised Articles of Incorporation. In addition, the Board of Directors added two talented members to its roster. Dr. Julie Chao began her service on the ACSPCA Board in October, 2017. And, in April, 2018, Mike McCartin began his first term on our board. Our 2017-2018 year was a great success and we look forward to 2018-19.

## Pet Promises

by Melissa Osborn

Our Pet Promises program completed 584 spay/neuter surgeries in 2017 with grants from the ASPCA and PetSmart Charities.

Pet Promises held free vaccine clinics during 2017 paid for by private donors. These four clinics enabled 629 animals to be vaccinated and microchipped.

With the help from ASPCA grants, we assisted seven families with their pet deposits and gave assistance to 117 pet owners for their pet’s vet bills.



# Marketing Report

by Melissa Gibson

The Allen County SPCA spent 2017 ramping up our organization's marketing efforts. We worked hard to streamline our efforts, grow relationships with our supporters, and ensure that the Allen County SPCA is known as the premier animal welfare organization in Fort Wayne.

As we've experienced unprecedented growth in both our programs and need for our services over the past several years, our board and executive leadership realized the need to increase our visibility in the community and make every effort to reduce confusion about who we are and what we do. That's why in January, we officially unveiled our re-branding efforts - including a new logo and revised collateral.

We worked diligently to develop a strategic marketing plan that would work hand-in-hand with our fund development efforts. The new plan helped us to evaluate and maximize all of our existing efforts and gave us the bandwidth we needed to collaborate with new partners, as well. To support our endeavors, we brought on a full-time Marketing Coordinator to help ensure that we could offer clear and consistent messaging to our donors, volunteers, and community.

2017 also brought marked changes to our communications with individual donors. Newsletters changed from monthly to quarterly, and in the off-months we've implemented a full-on direct mail fundraising effort including our first-ever donor acquisition mailing. As a result of these improved efforts, we've gained hundreds of new donors, increased our donor retention, and general donations are up 15% from their 2016 level.

And it's all paying off! Our special event revenue and attendance for 2017 was at an all-time high. Thanks to better communications with our adopters, 98% said they'd adopt from us again and/or recommend us to a friend. Our "likes" and "follows" on social media grew by 40%, with nearly 30,000 people engaging with us on one or more platforms.

This year, we'll of course work to sustain the growth we experienced last year. We'll focus on growing our corporate partnership program to build relationships with and generate additional revenue from community stakeholders.

Perhaps most significantly, in 2018 we'll implement a planned giving program for individuals who want to leave a lifesaving legacy or provide our organization with gifts larger than are feasible from ordinary giving streams. If you're interested in finding out more about how you can make an estate or planned gift to help ensure that the Allen County SPCA has secure, long-term financial footing for years to come, please contact Melissa Gibson at 260-744-0454 ex 209.



# Signature Events

by Jessica Henry

## Pawject Runway

Pawject Runway proved to be a big hit again in 2017, with another sold out crowd at Hotel Fort Wayne, now the Ramada Plaza. 15 groomers competed in the art of creative grooming for titles and bragging rights in such categories as: Scissor-works, Colorworks, and Best Pawformance. We told the heartbreaking, but powerful story of Corky, a special little dog who left giant paw prints on our hearts - and in doing so, we educated the crowd about the dedication of the staff and volunteers in our program. We are grateful to the fabulous committee of Pawject Princesses and Allen County SPCA board member, Misty Stephan, especially, for all of their hard work. Together, we raised more than \$62,000 for the Angel Fund to help the most medically-challenged cats and dogs at the shelter.

## Northern Indiana Pet Expo

The 7th Annual Northern Indiana Pet Expo was held on June 24th and 25th at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum. We partnered with Pug Fest so that attendees could visit both expo centers for a day filled with cats, dogs and more dogs. The crowd was wowed by the Dynamo Dogs, a nationally-renowned canine act whose acrobatic pooches had us on the edge of our seats. And, best of all, 68 of our own dogs and cats were adopted while the other rescue organizations in attendance found homes for dozens more. Normally held in the spring, the Pet Expo will return to its usual April dates in 2018 and beyond, but we are grateful to our major event sponsor, Vera Bradley, for their support of the 2016-2017 Northern Indiana Pet Expos.

## Growl At The Moon

Growl at the Moon was another chart-topping success. Attendees outdid themselves - both as donors and entertainers - with more than 12 brave singers taking the stage to raise money for the Allen County SPCA. The silent auction, organized by board member, Kathy Roudebush, was a huge success and our sold-out crowd of animal lovers helped us raise more than \$96,000 in one night! Those critical funds support our annual operations at the shelter, and we are grateful to everyone on the committee and to our board members, sponsors and attendees for ensuring that this is the most fun fundraiser in town! Mark your calendars now for Growl at the Moon on Friday October 19, 2018. See you...or HEAR you there!



## Finance Report

by Reneta Thurairatnam

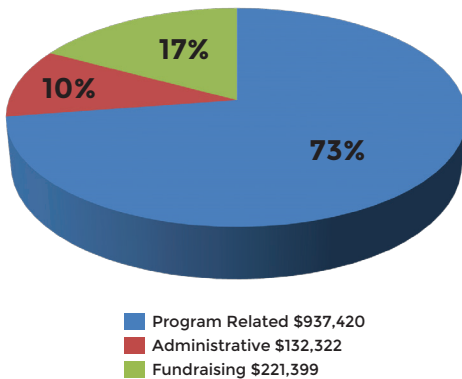
The 2017 Finance Committee consists of 8 community members who are involved in the regular review of the shelter's financial position, including the oversight of the investment portfolio and budget. The Committee along with Jessica Henry, ACSPCA Executive Director, and Dawn LaPorte, ACSPCA Business Manager, continually monitor current policies to ensure the organization remains on sound financial footing.

For 2017 both revenues and expenses were favorable compared to budget with a favorable net ordinary income of \$159,450. The investment portfolio was up 15.75% gross of fees/15.06% net of fees for the year compared to a benchmark of 12.53%. A 2018 budget was created by the Finance Committee and approved by the Board in December 2017.

Treasurer, Kevin Huebschman, resigned due to job relocation at the September board meeting. Reneta Thurairatnam was nominated and elected as Treasurer at the October Board meeting.

Much gratitude to Jessica, Dawn, and the 2017 Finance Committee members for their hours of service, professional expertise, and dedication!

**Allen County SPCA**  
2017 Expenses



## Fund Development

by Patrick Davis

But for essentially flat growth for fees associated with adoptions, in 2017 we saw increases across all main sources of income. The Committee is pleased to report in 2017 we saw decent growth in the aggregate as ordinary income exceeded budget by 4% and exceeded 2016 by 14%.

Our income is generated from a multitude of sources including adoptions, donations, grants, memberships, special events, and estates. One particular highlight for 2017 was the doubling of direct mail donations due to the efforts of Melissa Gibson at the shelter. Way to go!

Also during 2017 an initiative the Fund Development Committee advanced (and will continue to do so in 2018 and beyond) is enhancing the Board of Directors' participation and engagement in the fundraising efforts of the Allen County SPCA on a consistent, routine basis throughout the year. By attending three educational seminars presented by philanthropic consultants during the year, Committee members gained heightened awareness of the impact all Board members can have on the fundraising effort. This increased Board activity will augment the existing excellent work already done by shelter personnel.

Thank you to all that helped over the course of 2017 raising funds in support of our mission! Greatly appreciated!

## Statement Of Activities

Year Ended December 31, 2017 (Unaudited)

<b>Income:</b>	
Animal Fees	160,619
Donations	585,202
Grants	164,778
Membership dues	49,355
Special events	159,566
Estate donation	94,300
Miscellaneous income	38,189
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 1,252,010</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>	
Personnel	648,464
Animal care & adoption	301,030
Building & utilities	32,596
Building fund	87,242
Business & office	141,454
Pet Promises	43,357
Fundraising/membership dev.	61,180
Special events	87,474
Volunteer program	1,581
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 1,317,137</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$(65,127)</b>

## Statement Of Financial Position

December 31, 2017 (Unaudited)

<b>Assets</b>	
<b>Current Assets:</b>	
Checking/Savings	280,243
Accounts Receivable	38,356
Other Current Assets	6,057
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$ 324,656</b>
<b>Fixed Assets:</b>	
Furniture & Fixtures	10,152
Equipment	107,044
Buildings	180,687
Accumulated Depreciation	-204,472
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>\$ 93,411</b>
<b>Other Assets</b>	
PNC Investments	2,089,275
PNC Accrued Interest	20
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>\$ 2,089,294</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 2,507,361</b>
<b>Liabilities And Equity</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities:</b>	
Accounts payable	55,617
Other Current liabilities	9,446
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 65,063</b>
<b>Net Assets:</b>	
Unrestricted fund balance	2,173,014
Temporarily restricted fund bal.	48,817
Net Income	220,467
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$ 2,442,299</b>
<b>Total Liabilities And Equity</b>	<b>\$ 2,507,361</b>



## Volunteer Facts

2017

256 Volunteers = 15,341.75 hours

15 Fosters = 6,055.00 hours

Equals 10 full time employees!

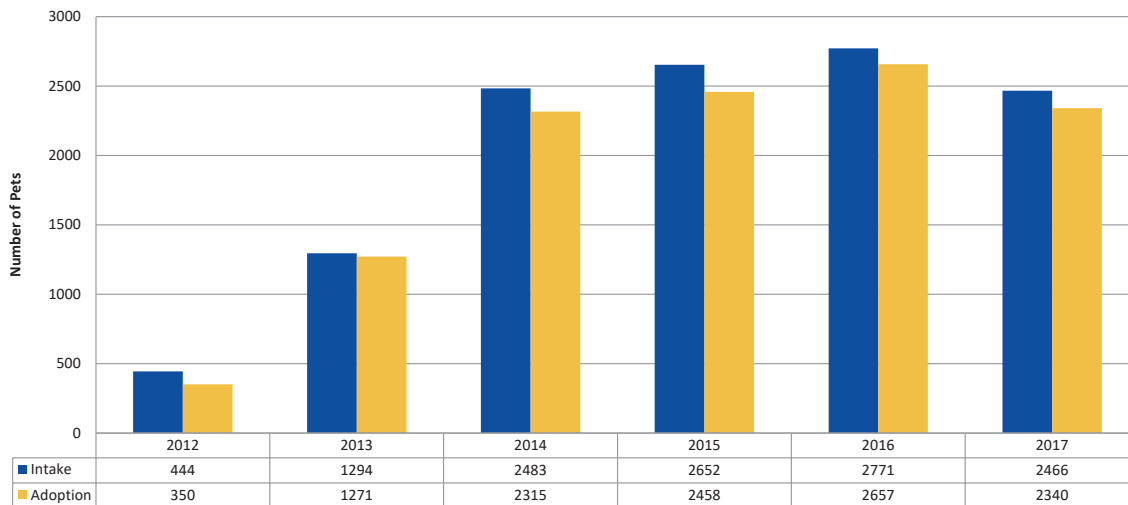
## Shelter Statistics

January 1 - December 31, 2017

Species By Age	Canine	Feline	Total
Beginning Animal Count	36	58	94
Live Intakes:			
Stray / At Large	2	10	12
Relinquished by owner	230	536	766
Transferred in from agency	856	840	1696
Total Live Intake	1088	1384	2474
Outcomes:			
Adoption	1044	1296	2340
Returned to owner	22	23	45
Transferred to another agency	9	29	38
Subtotal: Live Outcomes	1075	1348	2423
Died in Care	2	18	20
Shelter euthanasia	11	9	20
Subtotal: Other Outcomes	5	67	72
Total Outcomes	1088	1375	2463
Ending Animal Count	36	69	105

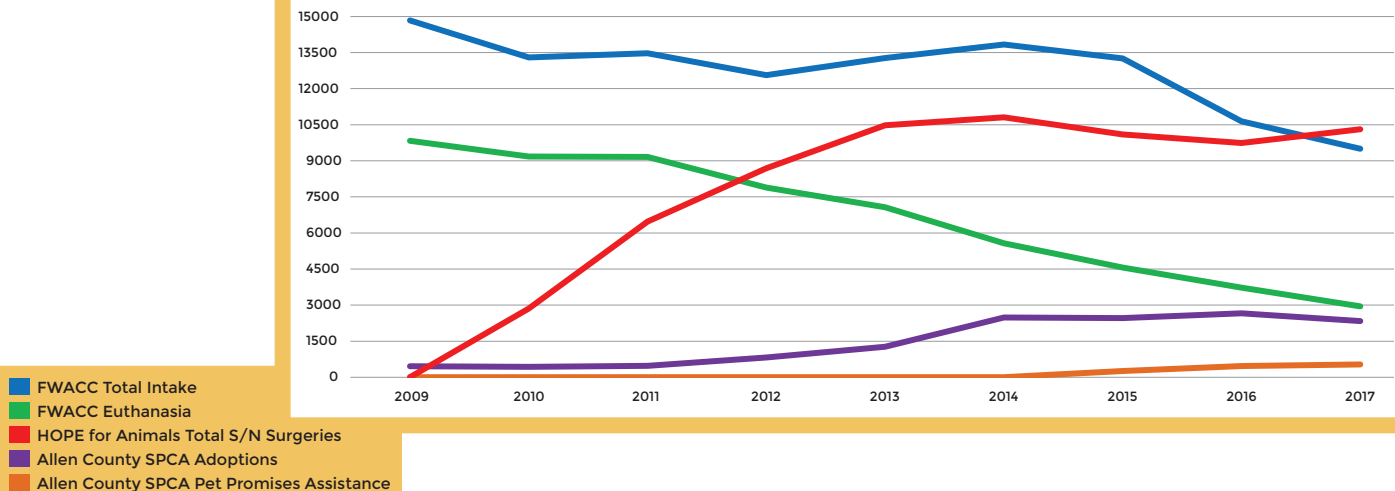
## Allen County SPCA Intake & Adoption Trends

2012-2017



## Fort Wayne Animal Welfare Coalition Statistics

2009-2017





## **Thank You For Your Support!**

As Fort Wayne's only nonprofit animal shelter, the Allen County SPCA relies solely on the generosity of pet lovers in our community to save lives every day. We receive no government funding of any kind nor are we supported financially through any national affiliate.

4914 S. Hanna Street • Fort Wayne, IN 46806 • 260-744-0454

[www.AllenCountySPCA.org](http://www.AllenCountySPCA.org)