



*Providing
compassionate
care and brighter
futures for
homeless animals.*



2023 APS-FH Annual Report

A letter from our President Susan Mazzearella

My heart is overflowing with gratitude, and I want to express my sincere appreciation to you, and everyone involved in our cause. Often, people inquire if animal rescue evokes sadness, but for me, it radiates immense joy and fulfillment. Witnessing an animal find its forever home fills me with profound happiness, knowing that each adoption represents a life saved from the perils of high-kill shelters (we are a no-kill shelter).

The simple pleasures of returning home to a jubilant dog or feeling the warmth of a cat nestled in my lap bring immeasurable delight to my life. These moments are testament to the transformative power of compassion and companionship.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to our exceptional staff, led by Cristin Felso, whose unwavering dedication ensures the well-being of our beloved animals and the smooth operation of our facility. Their tireless efforts and boundless compassion make a remarkable difference in the lives of those entrusted to our care.

To our invaluable volunteers, I am endlessly grateful for your selfless commitment to enriching the lives of our animals and lightening the load for our hardworking staff. Your generosity of time and spirit embodies the essence of community and kindness.

A special acknowledgment goes to our Board of Directors, whose visionary leadership and steadfast support pave the way for our organization's success. Your tireless efforts and strategic guidance are instrumental in advancing our mission and sustaining our vital work.

To our adopters, thank you for opening your hearts and homes to give pets the life they deserve.

To all pet owners that spay and neuter their pets, bless you for helping stem the tide of pet overpopulation.



Susan Mazzearella, President and Cristin Felso, Executive Director

Last but certainly not least, I extend profound gratitude to our donors, whose generosity fuels our mission and enables us to continue our lifesaving efforts. Through financial contributions, your support is the cornerstone of our success. Without you, our endeavors would be but a distant dream.

Together, we form a tapestry of compassion, dedication, and hope—a beacon of light for animals in need. Your collective contributions illuminate the path toward a brighter future, where every pet is cherished.

We can't do this without you!

With deepest appreciation,

President



Board Members

Officers

Susan Mazzearella, President

Sonia Margolis, Treasurer

**Amy Saxe-Eyler, Assistant
Treasurer**

Cinda Pierce, Secretary

Ex Officio

Peggy Gregor

Rock Sorensen

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Patt Aiello

Tom Cable

Beverly Carleton

Peg Gerlock

Linda Pollard

Martha Salot

Claudia Salquist

Advisory Board

Carolyn Haugen

Ann Holbrook

Bob & Lissa

McDowell

Rebecca Pohlard

Don Pollard

David Ralston

Cover photo: "Holli" by Diana O'Brian (still available for adoption)

A letter from our Executive Director Cristin Felso

As I reflect on my sixth year as Executive Director of APS-FH, the journey has been a profound learning experience. Starting with a background in nonprofit leadership and a lifelong passion for animals, my lack of formal animal-related work experience didn't deter me. Instead, every day working closely with the animal care and medical teams, engaging with our community, and collaborating with our dedicated Board and advisory committees has been a continuous source of learning and motivation.

We have been listening to our community, and in 2023, we responded by reaching out with more programs and services to support pet families experiencing financial insecurity, sudden transition, or emergency circumstances. This outreach wasn't a solo effort; we fostered collaboration with local nonprofits and strengthened ties with the County Sheriff's Department, also increasing the effectiveness of our role in "animal control" and advocacy.

The year 2023 saw us invest in outreach, education, and our team. This strategic move resulted in increased community involvement, institutional growth, and the retention and recruitment of skilled staff. Key to this success was the addition of Katy Brooks as our new Medical Supervisor, overseeing medical care for shelter pets and clinic services to the community. Leveraging Intel Cogenerate grant funds, we brought in a consultant from Intel to modernize our volunteer program, transitioning it from paper to a digital app. This upgrade improved volunteer communications, orientation, training, and crucially, time tracking – vital data for our fundraising efforts.

Looking forward, our fundraising focus for the upcoming year will include addressing the debt on the condo housing our Treasure Hounds resale store. This asset not only contributes significantly to our operating expenses but also serves as storage and distribution space for the Pet Food Pantry. Moreover, it functions as a versatile community hub, offering a venue for gatherings, daily engagement generating donations, and attracting potential adopters. This comprehensive approach to fundraising aligns with our commitment to sustaining and expanding our impactful initiatives. We are also building a Legacy Giving Society to help secure the mission of APS-FH for years to come.

As I embark on another year leading APS-FH, I am inspired by the collective efforts and achievements of our team. The strides we've made in community engagement, program expansion, and strategic partnerships underscore our commitment to the welfare of animals and our community. Looking ahead, we remain dedicated to learning, evolving, and making a positive impact. Together, we aim to build on our successes, address challenges, and continue serving as a beacon of support for both animals and the families that cherish them. Here's to another year of growth, compassion, and shared accomplishments.

With kindness,



Executive Director



Left to Right: Brittney DuCote, Emily Smith, Katy Brooks, Merriss Waters, Megan Perry, Amara Johnsen, Alex Forgie-Williams, Raquel Rexach, Cristin Felso, Beth Anderson. Front Row: Teya Perkins and Benna the lobby dog. Not pictured: Merritt Deshon, Raina Drake-Raue.

APS-FH Staff

Happily Home Stories

Baby Stripey



Adopted June 2023, brown tabby with distinctive nose - Baby Stripey was transferred to APS-FH from Treasure Cove, FL as part of a large-scale Hurricane Ian disaster relief flight led by Greater Good Charities.

Baby Stripey arrived in October 2022. Despite being quite a lovebug, and a real special guy, he waited 8 months before being adopted. Thankfully, the wait proved worth it when Baby Stripey was welcomed home by his adopter Mellissa, and her two cats Piper and Boo Bear. Shortly after adoption we received an update saying that all the cats were introducing themselves very politely; Stripey was loving bonding with his new mom, especially by way of head-butting and floor hanging sessions; Stripey wanted us to know that he had never seen so many toys in his life!

As if the above initial update wasn't heartwarming enough, APS-FH staff are happy to report that ever since being adopted, we have received regular correspondence (via email) from Baby Stripey! Some of our favorites are:

"Hi everyone! Not only did I explore today, I went outside on the patio and had a blast! Now! TV in bed!!!!? I'm loving life!! C u soon!! Baby Stripey"

"I'm having a great time! Love my furrever home!!!! Love, Baby Stripey"

And to top it off, each update is accompanied by an array of photos showing how incredibly comfortable and surrounded by love Baby Stripey is in his new home, and in his everyday life.

Bella



Adopted September 2023, ~2-year-old pit bull mix - transferred into our care by way of Project Freedom Ride from a high-kill shelter in Georgia. Bella arrived at the Georgia shelter as a stray, and due to her length of time at the shelter and lack of space, Bella found herself on the euthanasia list.

Despite Bella proving to be a perfect girl, who got along with everyone (human, stranger, or fellow dog), she unfortunately had no adoption interest, and so euthanasia seemed inevitable.

Ultimately, we're happy to share that wasn't the end of Bella's story! With the life-saving transport work of Project Freedom Ride, Bella came to us and in turn had a second chance at being adopted. Luckily, Bella only had to wait another two months after arriving at APS-FH before a family all her own came to adopt her!

Now, Bella happily lives as a part of the Danforth Family on Lopez Island, and everyone is completely smitten with her, and she is smitten with all of them! The Danforths said that from the moment they got her, it was clear she was going to fit right in. The whole trip home was spent snuggling the kids in the backseat, and she loves to cozy up and cuddle with anyone who is willing. In addition to cuddling, Bella loves so many things about her new life on Lopez, including time at the beach, going on walks and runs and playing fetch, and meeting and making new friends! She's even been super kind and respectfully curious with the Danforth's three cats, whom she has won over one-by-one.

Bingsley



Adopted November 2023, was just a 3.5-week-old kitten when found under a person's house along with his two littermates, Elizabeth and Mr. Darcy (named after characters in *Pride & Prejudice*).

After being found outside and brought into the shelter, Bingsley was sent to foster care for continued support. It was there he, along with his two littermates, were formula fed, transitioned onto wet food and kibble, kept healthy and monitored closely for infectious disease, and socialized until they became old enough for adoption. Before even being old enough, Bingsley was already spoken for, which meant right at 8 weeks of age he got to go to his new loving home!

Since being adopted, we've heard this awesome update from his people: "He is loving his new family - he has big brother Kenai, who does a great job of demonstrating boundaries, and big sister Nootka, who bathes him and teaches him the art of wrestling. He loves birdwatching, snuggling on the left shoulder, and figuring out how high he can climb on any vertical surface."

The animals pictured were compassionately sheltered and cared for at APS-FH, then adopted into loving homes.

Their ability to forgive the hardships they have experienced and to open their hearts to love again is remarkable. We stay in touch with their adopters and get to hear about the many ways they touch the lives of the people who take them home.

Boo



Adopted September 2023, female senior cat surrendered to our shelter. Boo came with a medical chart that showed an aging body. For all her medical reasons, we know that an adoption for Boo would require someone who was understanding of her age and medical need; and up for providing the level of support and love she would require in her senior years.

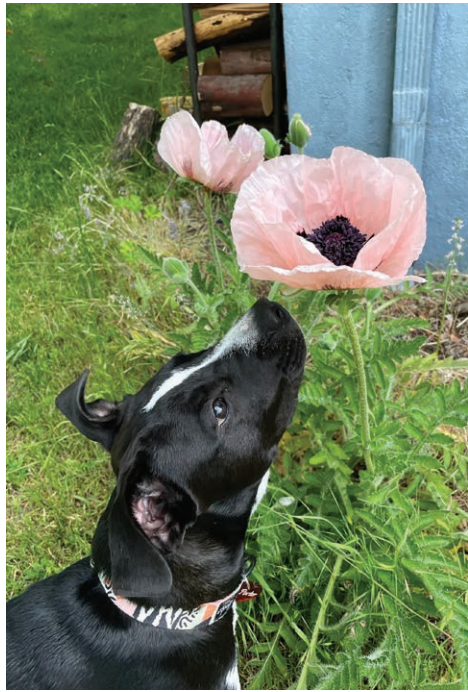
Boo, an all-black female senior cat, was surrendered to our shelter in June 2023. She was in need of support and in search of her next chapter. APS-FH staff and volunteers, and all who came and met her when she was the official hallway cat in our community cat area, fell in love with Boo instantly. The more time we spent with Boo, the more we knew this special girl deserved special placement.

So, now knowing all we knew about Boo, imagine our excitement when we received a message from Cascade Pet Hospital saying they were interested in adopting Boo as a live-in clinic cat who would serve as their Chief Morale Officer! Less than two weeks after that initial message, Boo was going "home." Talk about a happy ending!

About a month after her adoption, we received the following update from Boo's adopters, the Cascade Pet Hospital team:

"So far, she has been doing well. She is definitely having a hard time moving around but uses her stairs and has claimed the break room table as her favorite spot to nap." With medication they are working to manage her fairly severe hip dysplasia. Additionally, after noticing she was in pain while eating, they performed a dental procedure to extract six of her teeth. "She did great under anesthesia and is feeling much better. Her bloodwork is perfect and she even enjoyed her first outdoor walk on a harness in the sunshine. Everyone is completely in love with her, so she is constantly getting pets."

Porter (was Amelie)



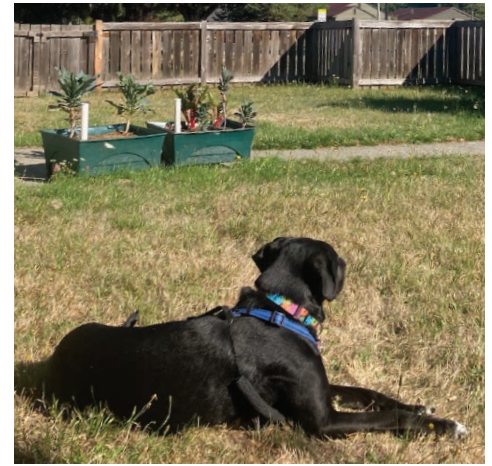
Adopted February 2023, bulldog mix puppy - transferred to us via plane in mass rescue effort from Louisiana. Porter (then Amelie) came to APS-FH alongside her littermates, and after some time spent in quarantine at the shelter, they were placed into foster care until they could be successfully adopted.

At two months of age Porter (then Amelie) entered foster care with a local island couple and their three cats. And just a few short weeks later, that foster family would turn into Porter's adopted family. That's what we call a "foster fail", and in reference to it, Porter's new mom Sarah says she's "never been so proud to fail at something!"

Porter is one lucky pup who gets to have Lime Kiln State Park as her backyard, thanks to one of her parents being a park ranger! This means Porter can often be found spending her days exploring state parks, watching orcas from the shore, or making pals with those she meets on her adventures.

When not exploring the outdoors, Porter can be found spending time at home with her beloved cat siblings: Asparagus (Gus), Violet, and Herbert (Herb or Herby). Porter's parents, Dylan and Sarah, say "Porter thinks she is one of the cats, it's so funny." Who can blame Porter for being just one of the cool cats at this point? We're all just glad to see Porter being loved so fully by every cat and human, in her family!

Valla (was Vala)



Adopted September 2023, locally surrendered ~5-year-old lab mix who was a bit of an anxious girl. With her anxieties in mind, we knew she as a special case who was looking for a home that was safe, dependable, and compassionate. Valla waited 8 months in our shelter, but ultimately it was all worth the wait when the Sanders family welcomed her into a home of her own!

After the Sanders family adopted Vala, they added a second 'L' to her name (now Valla/Valhalla) because of their family's Nordic roots, and before long sent us a glowing update to let us know Valla was doing great in her new home:

"She settled in very quickly, finding a place on the couch to basically claim (and bury her head when playing). She's begun doing 'zoomies' after only a few days, and loves to blast around our yard doing figure eights until she lays in the sun and rolls around.

As to Valla's nervous nature, she is coming along fantastically. We go on about three walks a day and have even ventured downtown a few times. She has kind of transitioned from being jumpy and nervous at people and dogs to being very curious from a distance. She'll jump occasionally at unfamiliar noises, like stepping on a manhole cover, but overall, as long as she's kept on a short leash and by your side, she'll drop her ears back, listen, but keep jogging along. It's also kind of funny because sometimes she'll be walking and her tail will curl under her as if she were afraid, but as soon as you ask (rhetorically) 'is Valla walking?' she pops into the air and wags like crazy. All in all, Valla is the perfect dog and we (and we think she) couldn't be happier."

2023 Impact

at a Glance

Intakes

Dogs 116, Cats 118

Transferred in

Dogs 54, Cats 45

Surrendered

Dogs 16, Cats 22

Strays (incl. island kittens)

Dogs 43, Cats 47

Outcomes

Dogs 105, Cats 117

Adoption

Dogs 61, Cats 101

Transferred Out

Dogs 2, Cats 2

Strays Reunited

Dogs 42, Cats 8

Humane Euthanasia

Cats 5

Died Naturally Cats 1

Animal Care

Fostered 65

Dogs 23, Cats 42

Microchipped 205

Spayed/Neutered*

Dogs 92, Cats 157

Pet Food Pantry

Avg. Supported Monthly

41 Pet Owners having
28 Dogs and 105 Cats

What's Going on Nationally

- The number of animals entering shelters through community intakes in 2023 remained roughly the same as 2022 at 6.5 million, with intakes nearly evenly split between dogs and cats.
- A total of 900,000 animals have entered and lingered in our nation's shelters and rescues since January 2021. This surplus is on top of the population already residing within organizations, resulting in an ongoing capacity crisis.
- While 2.2 million dogs were adopted in 2023, dog adoptions are still 5% lower than in 2019. Cats are experiencing a more hopeful trend: 2.6 million cats were adopted in 2023, 14% more than 2019. The number of dogs euthanized (359,000 dogs) surpassed the number of cats euthanized (330,000 cats). Shelter euthanasia represents 9% of total intakes.

Data from "Shelter Animals Count" - The national database of sheltered animal statistics

*Spayed/Neutered Breakdown

Shelter Dogs	42
Shelter Cats	69
Trap/Neuter/Return Cats	34
Owned Dogs	50
Owned Cats	46
Partner Rescues	8

Photo: "Mac," adopted June 2023

Bringing Home a Rescue



Bringing home a rescue is exciting!

It's understandable to want to show your newly adopted dog or cat to the world and show the world to it in return, but please remember that no matter how close you may already feel to your new family member, you, your house, and everything in it, are foreign to it. New pets need time to adjust and decompress, just like when we move into a new home.

If possible, take some time off to bond, help your new pet transition and establish good behaviors and routines. Prepare your home in advance. What would make your new pet feel more comfortable? Are there any stressors you could reduce? Are there dangerous items that need to be stowed away or places that need to be blocked off? Does your pet have a quiet area and 'safe space' away from foot traffic and other animals?

There's a lot that goes into adopting a rescue pet. To help adopters and new rescue animals, APS-FH likes to refer to the 3-3-3 rule. This rule measures in increments of three, the

time it will take for your cat or dog to decompress and acclimate to its new life.

3 Days 🐾

The first three days are for your new rescue to decompress and get used to all the new changes in its life. There's a lot to take in and the animal can easily become over-stimulated. It may be nervous or even scared. While it adjusts to its new home and family, please have friends and extended family wait to visit. Start your animal out in a quiet place in the house, one that is only for them. Make sure it is comfortable and in an area that has low traffic, away from other animals. Patience and positive reinforcement will go a long way in helping your new family member feel safe and secure and have trust in you.

3 Weeks 🐾

This is when your new pet starts to learn routines. Use praise and lots of treats to reinforce good behaviors and create positive associations. You can slowly start to introduce dogs to new

people and other animals in the home. Cats need a little longer, but there are methods like scent swapping (mixing your resident pet's and your new cat's smells around the house to normalize them) that can help gradually introduce them to other animals in the home. You can always reintroduce, if need be, but it's good to go slow; first impressions are important to animals too!

3 Months 🐾

This is the time it takes for most animals to feel completely at home! This would be a good time to start working on training for behavior or fun, or to further strengthen your bond. Continue to reward good behaviors and keep routines, because for animals - just like for people - "What you don't use, you lose." Please note that this is only a generalized rule to provide guidance for decompression, so be aware that every animal is different. Some may be more anxious or shut down and will require more time than three months, but the wait will be worth the while!

APS-FH is committed to providing our shelter pets with loving and forever homes.

Outreach



In 2023, we saw an increase in community participation with APS-FH as we expanded our community outreach and involvement hosting numerous groups at the shelter and participating in community events. APS-FH had a booth at the San Juan County Fair, marched in the 4th of July Parade, and joined Island Rec for their Pet Parade. We've welcomed youth and senior citizens into the shelter by hosting monthly meetings of the 4-H Cat Club and a children's book club, and shelter visits for Village at the Harbor residents. Our weekend Puppy and Kitten Socials

were popular events for potential adopters and those just wanting to snuggle and play with puppies and kittens. Two high school students completed their community projects through serving our shelter pets making enrichment items for the shelter including a homemade "snuffle mat" for the cats and a "flirt pole" for the dogs. Our social media presence has been consistent and our visibility has increased, helping us spread our mission and increase awareness of the importance and rewarding experience of adopting rescue pets.



Volunteers



Photo outline goes here

Volunteer Hours Breakdown

Shelter Volunteers	2,201	Board Members	1,987
Treasure Hounds	2,946	Trap Neuter Return	67
Pet Food Pantry	282	Foster Care	2,561

Why Volunteer?

It's fun, you meet new friends and help our animals!

APS-FH is always looking to add to our amazing team of volunteers! If you like the idea of supporting the work that we do to help the animals in greatest need, then we can find a task for you! We rely on a wide variety of people with varying skill sets to accomplish the hard work we do here at the shelter and in our community.

At the shelter, it takes a lot of helping hands to keep shelter animals well cared for, happy and healthy, all while keeping daily operations of the shelter moving. Whether it be spending time with adoptable animals, performing daily chores, assisting staff with animal care needs, or helping in some other way, our volunteer's contribution to APS-FH is vital to our mission.

You can also volunteer at Treasure Hounds, our retail home décor store. When you volunteer at Treasure Hounds, you will be making a difference for all our animals in need by helping us get the donated items to market and working with the public. All proceeds from the store go directly to APS-FH.

With many different areas of our work benefiting from volunteer support, we're able to utilize different abilities, skill sets, and schedules. We (humans and animals) at APS-FH greatly value the time, energy, and passion that our volunteers pour into their work. If YOU are someone looking to dedicate some of yourself to bettering the lives of shelter cats and dogs and are looking to be a part of a team of like-minded individuals, then look no further than APS-FH!

For more information on our Volunteer Program and how you can get involved, please visit www.apsfh.com.

We truly can't do this without you!

Patt Aiello
Mary Argent
Toni Bailey
Richard Bell
Peggy Beller
Bobbi Bigham
Halley Byrne
Tom Cable
Barbara Cable
Beverly Carleton
McKenna Clark
Heidi Corbett
Debra Crain
Peggy Gregor
Fiona Curliss
Lauren Deffebach
Barbara Ellis
Reyna Ellis
Amy Saxe-Eyler
Cristin Felso
Paul Felso
Luci Francis
Patty Francisco
Peg Gerlock
Drake Goodrich
Casey Haagenon
Susie Hale
Cindy Hansen
Eryn Hansford
Grace Harriman
Lori Haugen
Nancy Heacox
Allison Herkey
Nancy Hodges
Robert Hoole
Marilyn Howell
Jill Johnson
Georgia Keune
Brittany Koehne
Renee Koehne
Sonia Margolis
Anthony Mazzarella
Susan Mazzarella
Mac McGehee

Catherine Mclean
Alicia McVey
Karen Meenan
Jeff Mellinger
Courtney Memmott
Maddy Miller
Victoria Miller
Pamela Monin
Rebecca Moore
Linn Motko
Christine Mower
Gretchen Mueller
Jan Murphy
Jeanetta Noland
Jim O'Brian
Marko O'Conner
Yoshi O'Conner
Cinda Pierce
Mark Pierce
Melisa Pinnow
Linda Pollard
Dave Pretz
Lori Raab
Tim Revercomb
Bryce Ridwan
Nikki Ruggiero
Martha Salot
Claudia Salquist
Leslie Sargent
Rock Sorensen
Lori Stokes
Franny Tachino
Joseph Tein
Julie Thompson
Sandra Urbach
Chad Warmenhoven
Natasha Warmenhoven
Stephanie Warren
Gary Wescott
Cory Williams
Jon Zerby
Kris Zerby

We'd like to extend a heartfelt "thank you" to our volunteers. Through your compassionate care, we can fulfill our mission to provide brighter futures for homeless animals.

Volunteer of the Year 2023



Linda Pollard and Panda

*The Animal Protection Society - Friday Harbor
is pleased to honor*

*Linda Pollard
as our 2023 Volunteer of the Year.*

Linda came to volunteer at the APS-FH Treasure Hounds store in November 2021, soon after relocating to Friday Harbor. Treasure Hounds is significant to APS-FH as its sales support the general operating expenses of the entire organization. Since the day Linda walked into the store, she has been dedicated to helping the store increase sales and raise even more funds to support the mission and services of APS-FH.

Linda does so much to support Treasure Hounds; it's almost like a full-time position for her. Besides her regular volunteer work in the store, she coordinates and schedules the volunteers and fills in when necessary to cover shifts. Linda has been known to provide rides to volunteers and customers, organize meal trains for sick volunteers, and deliver small furniture purchases to customer's homes. She has a huge heart and does whatever she can to help others. Linda is willing to do all the non-preferred tasks in the store; taking linens to wash and iron and silver to polish! If that is not enough, Linda has also taken the initiative to begin selling items on eBay for the store.

Since Linda has been volunteering at Treasure Hounds, the open hours and days have been extended, and both the number of volunteers and sales have nearly doubled. Significantly, too, Linda's efforts directly relieve the APS-FH Director of many duties and details related to the store so that she may focus on her organizational responsibilities.

But don't take our word for it; here are some quotes about Linda from other Treasure Hounds volunteers who obviously adore her:

"Linda is definitely one of the reasons Treasure Hounds has become a favorite store to shop in Friday Harbor. Her organizing of the volunteer group is fantastic and her generous ways of taking things home to clean, so they are attractive to our customers is amazing!!! What would we do without Linda?"

"My first experience with Treasure Hounds was as a customer. Linda was working that day, and she was so warm, welcoming, and kind. It is one of the reasons I decided to volunteer. Linda was such a great representation of what makes Treasure Hounds special. "

In November 2023, Linda joined the APS-FH Board of Directors - welcome to the Board, Linda! Thank you for all you contribute to help us provide love, safety, security, and comfort to San Juan County's homeless and community pets in need.

2023 Volunteers of the Month

January – Julie Thompson

February – Susie Hale

March – Toni Bailey

April – Patty Francisco

May – None designated

June – Karen Meenan

July – Nikki Ruggiero

August – Yoshi O'Conner

September – Courtney Memmott

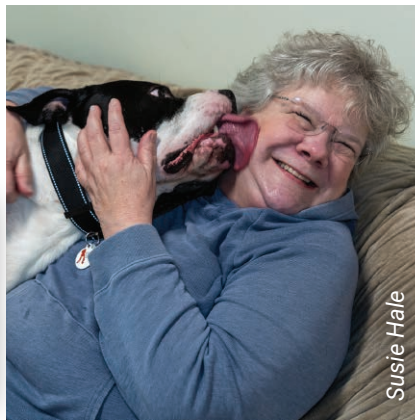
October – Allison Herkey

November – Peggy Beller

Why I Volunteer



Courtney Memmott



Susie Hale



Patty Francisco



Karen Meenan

I am so happy that I had the opportunity to bring the Better Impact volunteer management app into the APS-FH environment. Working with the shelter team, assessing the needs of the organization, researching, and delivering strong value has been incredibly rewarding. And knowing that this implementation freed up staff and volunteers to spend more time focusing on the mission brought a high level of satisfaction to a job well-done!

~ Jennifer Torres

Six years ago, I adopted my little dog Rascal from S.P. O.T. (Saving Pets One at a Time) in Burlington. As I write this, she sits on the couch beside me, nudging my hand and burying her sweet nose against my leg. SPOT is a small all-volunteer organization that aims to find appropriate homes for surrendered animals.

While our shelter shares the same mission, the scope of their work is much broader. The Friday Harbor Animal Protection Society is run by a team of dedicated professionals whose work is supported by volunteers who help with various tasks, from dog walking to board membership. Their combined efforts make compassionate animal care and adoption possible.

And Rascal? She is undoubtedly the love of my life. If it weren't for the efforts of those generous volunteers, I would not have found her, nor would she have found me. If that's not reason enough to volunteer, then I don't know what is.

~ Susie Hale

I volunteer because it's fun and rewarding.

The first day I volunteered to help the shelter cats I thought my two-hour shift would never end. How was I ever going to love these kitties for two long hours? I didn't know them; they didn't show the affection nor familiarity I was used to. They were kind of boring.

Now my two-hour shift flies by. The cats living in the hall are waiting at the door for me, meowing their little heads off. Sammy in room 3 needs me to talk and sing to him before he will jump down and crawl onto my lap for love. The kittens in the last room I visited need to be played with and then played with again. They learn that I'm safe, they learn that I'm fun. They learn that getting cuddled and loved is the best feeling in the world.... for us both.

Volunteering is fun and rewarding!

~ Patty Francisco

For me, it began with Charlie. I first met him in April 2022 as I was donating the prescription dog food and medications that belonged to my beloved dog Tank after losing him to cancer. Charlie, a rather large and hairy black and white version of Tank was in the lobby! I had been grieving and desperately sought the company of a dog, especially one whose fur was so luxuriously like the one I'd been missing. After visiting a few times, I wanted to walk him. Diana encouraged me to volunteer, and that's what I did. So, as it goes, it began with a broken heart and my own need to fill that emptiness. In time, the love I received from the dogs calmed the fear of losing again, and with the support of staff, I had the motivation to continue walking through that lobby long after Charlie went home.

But now, it is different. It's more than the benefits I receive (which would fill several pages); it's knowing that I helped an elderly dog relieve herself, that Libby got to play her favorite game, that Ruby got to play ball for as long as she wanted, and that I can be the second person needed for dog playtime. A wagging tail, the pure joy of a walk, the gratitude shown in every movement, a small lick or a drenching one, the display of belly that says, "I feel comfortable with you," or a paw gently placed on my person...this is why I volunteer. Their needs are great, and they ask for so little. For as long as I'm able, I will give



Yoshi O'Connor



Nikki Ruggiero

them a little more sun, a run, the sound of birds, and the breeze that carries the smell of freedom and perhaps one day, a home.

~ **Luci Francis**

When I moved to San Juan Island in the Fall of 2021 my uncle Don Pollard suggested that I might enjoy volunteering at Treasure Hounds as a way to meet people and feel part of this community. What a marvelous suggestion that turned out to be! In the past 2 1/2 years I have acquired so many new friends and enjoyed the wonderful camaraderie among the Treasure Hounds Volunteers. The fact that we are adding a large amount to the APS-FH operating budget inspires us to go the extra mile in making the store financially successful. We are amazed at the generous people who live on this Island and donate items that keep our store constantly stocked with fabulous things. The shoppers in our store are interesting, personable and a real joy to serve. Our time spent volunteering is not only filled with purpose, but with laughter and fun. How lucky we are to serve such a worthy organization and enjoy ourselves at the same time! Anyone who is thinking about volunteering should have Treasure Hounds at the top of their list!

~ **Linda Pollard**

I volunteer because I support the mission of APS Friday Harbor. Additionally my volunteer work further educates me in animal care and behavior, skills that are valuable in my everyday life as well as in my volunteer work. Volunteering provides me with an opportunity to support the important work of APS Friday Harbor and also to meet other folks in the community who share my values and appreciate the enrichment that caring for and interacting with animals brings.

~ **Robert Hoole**

It is a great privilege to be able to work together (in the APS Low-Cost Clinic) with folks who share my passion and compassion for animals and animal welfare. As a retired RN and wildlife rehabilitator, it gives me a sense of purpose helping to make these animals adoptable. I get to use my decades of training and skills in a setting where I feel valued. Everyone at APS-FH has been so supportive and I feel that together we make a difference for our island community.

~ **Nikki Ruggiero**

Volunteer Opportunities

Shelter Volunteer

Assists with general shelter duties including cleaning, organizing, sorting, and helping shelter staff with special projects. May help socialize cats including brushing, petting, and implementing enrichment – our cats love and benefit from playtime. May help take a shelter dog on a long walk and/or play with them in the yard, create and implement enrichment activities, and/or work with dogs on training as guided by our staff.

Facility Maintenance

General facility maintenance and repairs - we need you at the shelter and Treasure Hounds!

Clinic Aide

Assists Shelter Vet and Vet Tech pre, during, and post-surgery days, cares for animals recovering from surgery, cleans and maintains surgical suite and equipment.

Special Events

Helps at fundraising events and assists with set up, tear down, and event promotion.

Receptionist/Greeter

Greets customers and answers phones - retrieves appropriate staff to assist when necessary. Performs various clerical duties.

Foster Parent

Our Foster Program places current shelter animals in temporary homes. Foster families help to house ill or injured animals, animals stressed by being in a kennel, or underage puppies and kittens with or without a mom. Not only is this in the best interest of the individual animal, but it also provides more room at the shelter for additional animals in need.

Transport

Using the shelter van or personal vehicle of appropriate size, travels off island to take animals to partner shelters or pick up animals being transferred to our shelter from a partner shelter. Locations for pickups/drop-offs vary from Anacortes, Skagit County, or the Greater Seattle area. Occasionally longer trips are necessary.

Treasure Hounds

Provides customer service at our upscale resale store - assisting customers while shopping, sorting, cleaning, pricing, setting up displays, and organizing donated merchandise. May assist with delivery and/or procurement of donations.

Caring for Pets and Our Community

Punchy and Hannah Bell



APS-FH is committed to providing programs and services that:

- Reduce pet overpopulation through spay/neuter resources
- Provide a safe haven and care for unwanted pets
- Offer adoption of homeless pets to those who truly care
- Protect animals from neglect, abuse, and abandonment
- Advance animal welfare through educational and direct assistance
- Promote a stronger sense for animal and human interaction
- Always adhere to our no-kill philosophy

While our mission is to “provide compassionate care and brighter futures to homeless animals,” our mission naturally extends to pet owners as well.

The Animal Shelter

The Animal Protection Society-Friday Harbor (APS-FH) follows The Association of Shelter Veterinarians (ASV) Standards of Care in Animal Shelters (“guidelines”) to provide the highest quality housing, medical, and behavioral care of pets living in the shelter. We adopt between 200-400 dogs and cats into loving homes each year. We also partner with the local Sheriff’s Department to provide animal control, return to owner, and dog licensing services on San Juan Island.

Community Outreach and Humane Education

We aim to promote a deeper understanding of companion animals

and instill a sense of responsibility and empathy towards them. APS-FH provides a variety of avenues through which individuals of all ages have opportunities to connect with companion animals and explore the benefits of having them in our lives. Through community outreach events, interactive and hands-on experiences, volunteer opportunities, and trainings and workshops, we invite our community to actively contribute to the care and welfare of companion animals, gain a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by shelters and the needs of homeless pets, and learn about responsible pet ownership and the advantages of adopting pets from shelters. The program’s goal is to create a society where animals are treated with love, care, and respect.

Pet Food Pantry

The Pet Food Pantry is a community pet food bank established to help keep pets in their homes by providing cat and dog food and other basic pet supplies for families in need of temporary assistance. We also partner with local human service organizations to get pet food and supplies to people who cannot make it to the pantry.



Participants must be San Juan County residents, be 18 years or older, have their pets spayed or neutered or be working toward having pets spayed or neutered. If they are not, APS-FH can help!

APS-FH gratefully accepts both cash and pet food donations to keep this program going.

Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) Program

As the humane and proven way to control feral cat populations, APS-FH promotes TNR. TNR is a free program that stops the breeding cycle of community cats by trapping, spaying/neutering, and then returning the cats to their original location (when possible).

WHY IS TNR IMPORTANT? Cats can breed as early as 4 months of age and can produce multiple litters in one year. If nothing is done to sterilize colonies of community cats, the problem will most likely reach unmanageable levels and lead to unnecessary suffering.

Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic

Our low-cost spay/neuter clinic helps provide underserved San Juan County residents with access to affordable spay/neuter surgery options for their dogs and cats, as well as additional services such as vaccines and microchipping. The clinic also assists other local rescue organizations and shelters by providing surgical services for their animals at a discounted rate, relieving the stress of adopting out unspayed/neutered pets into communities.

Our clinic runs once a week, typically on Tuesdays. Low-income community



members of San Juan County can call the shelter at (360)378-2158 to get more information, or to put their name on a short waiting list for the clinic.

Low-Cost Pet Wellness Clinic

Our low-cost wellness clinic allows underserved residents of San Juan County to have access to basic care for their pets.

Our clinic provides low-cost or free exams, vaccines, microchips and more. Services are limited to low-income residents of San Juan County. These clinics run monthly or on an "as needed" basis.

****Please note:** our wellness clinics are designed to offer preventative care to pets, and we are not able to treat sick or injured animals at these visits.

Mom's Last Litter

Mom's Last Litter is a free program designed to help pet owners safely and responsibly respond to accidental pregnancies and prevent future pregnancies.

Owners agree to foster the entire litter of puppies and kittens until each reaches the age and size required for spay/neuter surgery. At this time, the entire litter and the mother (as well as father, if owned) come to APS-FH to receive FREE spay/neuter surgeries. After surgery, the parent animals return to the owner, and the entire litter remains at APS-FH to be matched with forever homes.

Transport Program

APS-FH transport program works with other shelters, rescues, and transport organizations to safely transfer cats and dogs out of high-kill shelters, over-impacted, under-resourced, and disaster areas into the APS-FH shelter for adoption. We prioritize Washington-based shelters/rescues when the need is prevalent.

Foster Care Program

The foster care program places orphaned, pregnant, newborn, injured, sick, and under-socialized pets into private homes for temporary housing. Some of the shelter's most vulnerable

residents benefit from foster care, which provides them with time outside of the shelter to decompress. Foster care gives us an opportunity to learn more about the pet by providing a glimpse into how they behave in a home setting. The APS-FH shelter is limited in space and the foster care program expands our capacity to help homeless pets.

Short-Term Emergency Housing for Pets

APS-FH offers short-term emergency housing for pets within our shelter as well as in available foster homes, when possible. This service is provided to support individuals facing temporary crises or unexpected transitions. We collaborate with various local human service organizations that refer clients to our program and help determine low-income eligibility. This program is based on space availability and the shelter's capacity for care.



The Grey Muzzle Medical Fund

This medical fund is made possible by a grant from the Grey Muzzle Organization to help low-income pet owners access regular and specialty veterinary care and prescriptions for their senior dogs by providing up to \$1000 per dog (this is a limited fund and may not always be available), paid directly to vet clinics and vet hospitals. We partner with local human service organizations that refer clients to our program and help determine low-income eligibility.

Cremation Services

Pet loss can be traumatizing, heartbreaking, stressful, and sometimes expensive. APS-FH is proud to announce that we have partnered with Radiant Heart After-Care for Pets to provide compassionate and affordable cremation services to San Juan Island residents. Radiant Heart, located in Bellingham, Washington, is a pet



funeral home with on-site cremation, offering personal and respectful care for you and your pet. They provide eco-friendly cremation and traditional flame cremation as well as many additional products and services to honor your pet.

Radiant Heart visits APS-FH multiple times a month; therefore, your loved one's cremains are always returned in a timely manner. Cremation services are currently available to all community members regardless of income status; prices range depending on the types of cremation (communal versus private), size of the pet, and any additional services requested. Call APS-FH to learn more about this new service and visit Radiant Heart's website at radiant-heart.net to learn more about their process.

APS-FH does not currently offer euthanasia services to owned pets. Any pets brought in for cremation services will have to have passed away naturally or been humanely euthanized by your regular vet.

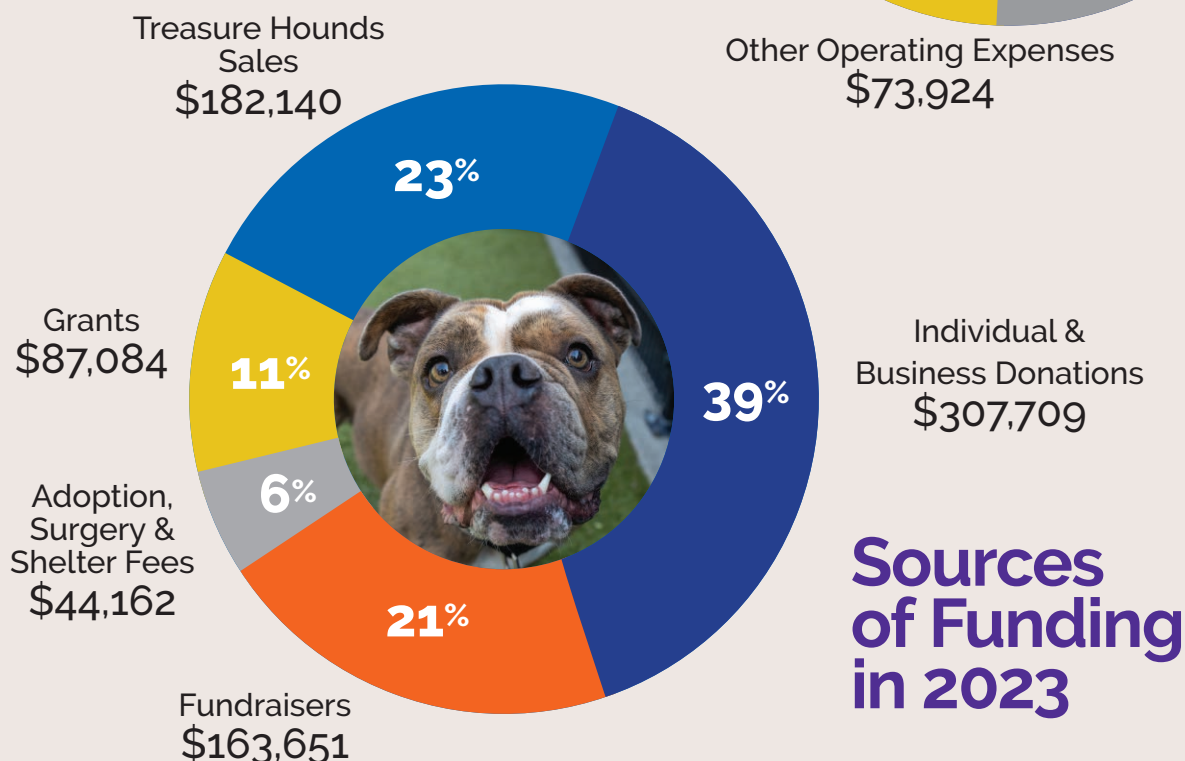
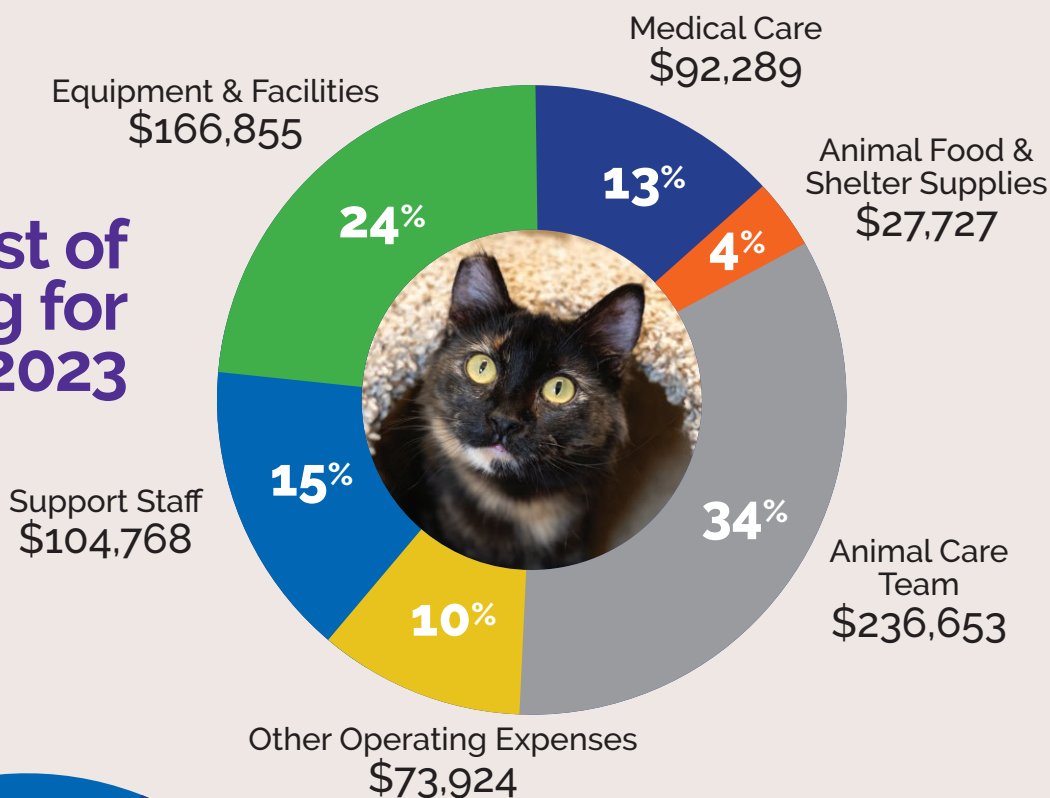
Missing/Found Pets

If your pet goes missing or if you've found a pet, what do you do? Let APS-FH know! We are here to assist and offer advice with reuniting pets with their guardians. Visit our website at apsfh.com for more information on what to do if your pet goes missing or if you've found a pet.

*****APS-FH is not acting in the role of an animal control office for San Juan County. Please call the Sheriff's Department at (360)378-4151 if you have an animal control related issue.**

Funding by the Numbers

The Cost of Caring for Animals in 2023



Sources of Funding in 2023

In November 2023, an independent financial audit was completed for the financial position of APS-FH as of December 31, 2022. We engaged in this audit to provide donors and grantors the highest level of assurance that our financial statements are fairly presented and free of misstatements. The auditor reported "the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the organization as of December 31, 2022, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We are pleased to share these results with all our supporters.

Treasure Hounds is an upscale resale shop with home décor, furniture, and collectibles. It supports APS-FH by providing 23% of total annual funding.

Spacious and conveniently located, Treasure Hounds is the perfect setting to shop for the vast array of gently-used treasures. It is also home to the Pet Food Pantry, a community pet food bank to help keep pets in their homes by providing pet food for families in need.

Many thanks to those in the community who donate their household items and to our dedicated and creative volunteers who run the shop! All proceeds benefit APS-FH by providing general operating income and funding for special community projects such as the Pet Food Pantry, and our trap/neuter/return program and low-cost clinics.

Examples of the new and “gently used” items you can find at Treasure Hounds:

- Couches ~ dining room sets ~ chairs
- Small tables ~ plant stands ~ rugs
- Bookcases ~ desks ~ hutches
- Dressers ~ armoires ~ bed frames
- Collectables ~ china ~ knickknacks
- Tools ~ kitchen appliances ~ sports equipment
- Lamps ~ pillows ~ linens
- Original artworks and prints



HOME DÉCOR STORE

Upscale, resale household furnishings, home goods and décor store.

Shop or Drop Off Donations
Thursday - Sunday 11am to 4pm
365-C Spring Street in Friday Harbor
(360) 298-9058

Thank you for your support!

Treasure Hounds

Consider giving your items to APS-FH Treasure Hounds!

Help support your local animal shelter by sharing your gently-used household furnishings, home goods, and decor.

Whether you are redecorating your home, moving, or simply clearing out seldom-used items, it might be time to visit (or donate to) Treasure Hounds.

We accept donations of lightly-used furnishings with no rips or stains. Some scarring or water stains on antique furniture is acceptable.

Donating to Treasure Hounds is really a win-win: if it's still in clean, usable condition, someone else can continue getting good use out of it, and you can probably deduct its current fair market value from your taxes since we are a 501(c)3 non-profit.

Pickup can be arranged for large items. For more information, email: treasurehounds@apsfh.com

- **Smaller items** can be brought into the store during open hours.
- **Larger items** may be eligible for pickup (San Juan only) – email and send photos of items for consideration to treasurehounds@apsfh.com
- **Having an estate or garage sale?** Call us to arrange for pickup of your unsold items that are appropriate for Treasure Hounds.
- **Realtors, we want to work with you** to help you move furniture from sold homes! Please contact us for details.

Why Support APS-FH Treasure Hounds?

- Store proceeds support APS-FH's general operations, special projects, and community-serving programs including our Pet Food Pantry, trap/neuter/return, and low-cost spay/neuter programs
- All items sold at Treasure Hounds are donated
- Our store clerks are all volunteers

APS-FH is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and can provide you with a donation form for your taxes.

Invest in APS-FH's Treasure Hounds Investment

The rented space for Treasure Hounds at 365-C Spring Street, Friday Harbor was put on the market in 2021. After an unsuccessful search for alternative rental property, the board conducted an in-depth financial analysis of purchasing the condo space. The favorable financial analysis combined with a plan to continue to develop the Treasure Hounds business strongly supported the decision to purchase.

Treasure Hounds continues to outperform expectations. 2023 gross sales of \$182,140 were up 12% over 2022. This provided net income of \$131,346, a 21.5% return on investment on the purchase price of the condo space.

With the success of Treasure Hounds so fundamental to supporting our shelter operations, we have now turned our focus to paying off the interest-only loan that matures in early 2027. As of Dec 31, 2023, we've raised \$99,000 from our board and advisory board, and have set aside \$50,000 in operating income from Treasure Hounds to pay off our loan. We hope to raise the additional \$351,000 needed by December 2026. We greatly appreciate all donations and pledges! If you are interested in learning more about how the investment in Treasure Hounds supports APS-FH operations and/or donating, contact Executive Director Cristin Felso at director@apsfh.com or (360) 378-2158.

Our Sources of Funding

21% Fundraisers



DogGone Good Dinner

The Doggone Good Dinner is APS-FH's annual fundraising event that supports our general operations – everything from veterinary care to ensuring the lights stay on. As you can imagine, it is a very important resource for us.

On an absolutely perfect day this past May 15, many of APS-FH's friends gathered at Duck Soup to enjoy a lovely dinner while celebrating and supporting our mission. It was also an opportunity to honor our special friends Bob and Lissa McDowell who have done so much for APS-FH over the years. During the dinner, we shared a touching video called, "Tori's Story," about a dog named Tori (short for Victorious) who had been abandoned, in bitter cold weather, at a Burger King Restaurant in Eastern Washington. Tori sat for three days waiting for his family to return, but they never came. Eventually, Tori was trapped and transported to APS-FH where he received medical care and was placed in a foster home until he was adopted. It was a wildly successful evening for APS-FH. In the end, we raised an incredible \$163,251.

39% Individual & Business Donations

Holiday Appeal

This fundraising letter went out on November 20, 2023, to all mail recipients across San Juan County. Thank you for helping us raise over \$25,000 for general operations!

The Giving Tree

Christmas trees adorned with gift tags for each dog and cat spending the holidays in the shelter were placed in three locations: the animal shelter, Treasure Hounds, and Friday Harbor Pet Supplies. There was a beautiful outpouring of toys, treats, beds, and blankets for the animals from our wonderful community. Gift givers came to the shelter to deliver their gifts to their chosen cat or dog, and had their photos taken with Benna the Lobby Dog.



11% Grants

We would like to acknowledge and thank the following foundations for awarding grants to APS-FH this past year:

- Bradley Family Foundation
- Grey Muzzle Organization
- Honeywell Charitable Fund
- Intel Co-Generate Encore Fellows Program
- Petco Love
- San Juan Island Community Foundation
- San Juan Island Community Foundation Women's Fund

Grant Spotlight: The Grey Muzzle Organization

In 2023, APS-FH was honored to receive a grant of \$10,500 from The Grey Muzzle Organization, which saves and improves the lives of at-risk senior dogs by providing funding and resources to animal welfare groups nationwide.

19.5% of our dog intakes in 2023 were seniors. This funding helped APS-FH provide special care to senior dogs in the shelter and help low-income SJI families care for their senior dogs. Working in coordination with other local nonprofits and the County Sheriff's Department we were able to reach families most in need in our community.

2023 Grey Muzzle grant funding allowed APS-FH to achieve the following:

- Provide specialized medical and dental care for senior dogs in the shelter.
- Offer short-term emergency boarding for the senior dogs of people experiencing emergencies or unexpected transitions.
- Help low-income community members access pet food, pet supplies, and medical care for their senior dogs.

Story of a Dog Helped by APS-FH through the Grey Muzzle Grant...

Greta, an 18-year-old Chihuahua mix, faced uncertainty when her owner was hospitalized and ultimately couldn't return home. Alone in an apartment with daily check-ins from a caregiver, Greta's situation changed when the landlord



Greta and her foster mom

insisted she couldn't stay unattended. The caregiver, aware of a client willing but unable to afford the care for a senior dog, reached out to APS-FH. Thanks to Grey Muzzle funding, APS-FH took Greta in, arranging for her to live in a long-term foster home provided by the client, covering all necessary care for the rest of her life.

Upon arrival at APS-FH, Greta underwent a health exam, received vaccines, and completed senior bloodwork, proving her a good candidate for dental surgery despite needing 13 teeth extracted. All her growths, once removed, were found to be benign. Greta quickly adapted to her new home, forming a strong bond with her foster mom, and even befriending the resident cat. Her transformation from a timid to a more confident dog was remarkable, likely aided by the relief from previously untreated dental pain. APS-FH commits to supporting Greta and her foster mom, grateful for the Grey Muzzle Organization and the community's generosity, ensuring Greta's happiness and health in her final chapter.

How Can You Help?



1. Make a monetary donation

- Make a one-time contribution or choose to make your gift a recurring one by visiting the donor page of our website at www.apsfh.com.
- Donate in celebration, recognition, or in memory of a loved one – an acknowledgement will be sent to your designated recipient.

2. Join the APS-FH Legacy Giving Society

- Leave a legacy gift and secure the mission of APS-FH to save lives, create a better future for homeless pets, and provide care for community pets-in-need. Call us to learn more.

3. Donate your in-kind items

- Treasure Hounds resale store welcomes household furnishings and home décor.
- pet food and gently-used pet care items are always needed at our Pet Food Pantry.

4. Volunteer

- at the shelter helping us clean, care for, and provide enrichment for shelter animals.
- at Treasure Hounds as a store clerk.
- for an APS-FH program including fostering, trap/neuter/return, transport, Pet Food Pantry, the medical clinic, and more.

5. Provide a loving, forever home to one or more of our shelter animals.

Support Local Businesses that Support APS-FH!

Browne's Home Center
Cabinets San Juan
Cin Cin
Coldwell Banker San Juan Islands Inc.
Dog Tag Art
Duck Soup
Friday Harbor Drug and Gift
Friday Harbor Pet Supplies
Friday Harbor Trading Post
Girlfriends Consignment
Island Repair Services LLC
Island Wine Company
Islands Janitorial
Joelle Gillette, Artist
Kanaka Bay Trading Co.
Keller Williams Western Realty
Move it Now – Junk Removal
Palace Theatre
Pam Gillette, Artist
Pelindaba Lavender Farm
Petro San Juan

PNW Fence & Hardscape LLC
Post San Juan
Roche Harbor Market
San Juan Guardian
San Juan Island K9 Detection Club
San Juan Island Roasters
San Juan Islander
San Juan Vineyards
Second Act Consignment Shop
Secure Fire Protection LLC
Serendipity Used Books
Stephanie Butler, Wedding Officiant
The Journal of the San Juan Islands
Valmark / Kings Market
William Engel Carpentry & Construction Services LLC
Windermere SJI
Windjammer Carpet Cleaning

Individual & Business Donors

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David & Phyllis Adelman
Mike & Patt Aiello
Jerry & Judy Alhadeff -
Palace Theater
Laura Allen
Susan Ambrose
Lars Anderson
Steven Anderson
Christian & Lea Andrade
Douglas Armstrong
Kenneth Arzarian
John & Marcy Aschoff
Angela Atwell
Beverly Bacon
Bev & Ben Bacon
Bob & Toni Bailey
Neill Barham
Geof & Anne Barker
Richard & Margaret Barker
Barry & Debbie Bartmasser
Helene Beck
Patricia Beck
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Michele Costa
Tessa Cox
Donovan & Betty Jane
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Tom Crane
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Cregor Adventures
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Teddy & Alice Deane
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Richard Frankel & Debra
Kettler

APS-FH staff and board members would like to thank ALL our donors for their support. Your gift, in any amount, means the world to us. And most importantly, thank you from the many animals who will benefit from your kindness and generosity.

David & Doreen Keyes -
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Hans G. & Cynthia C. Koch
George Koskovich, Jr.
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Quinci Rytting
Michael Devirian & Lauri
Sager-Devirian
Martha Salot
Roger & Claudia Salquist
San Juan Island
Community Foundation
Laura & Thomas
Sandstrom
Susan Sargis
Steve & Amy Saxe-Eyler
Kurt & Elizabeth Schwalbe
Ed Scripps
Gus Sebastian
Harry & Maureen See - The
Mary See Foundation
Jeanne Sept
Scott & Jill Servais - The
Mariners
William & Laura Severson
Joan "Mia" Shepard
Al & Vickie Shilton
Fred & Eleanor Silverstein
Stephen & Nancy Simpson
SJICF Women's Fund
Sherwood Morf & Peggy
Skillin
Mary Sliger
Harvey & Margaret Smith
Rebekah Snodgrass
Rebecca Soland
Michael Solomon

Michael & Krissy Soltman -
A.F. Shance Family LLC
Rock Sorensen & Judi Mio
Kristine Springer - Secure
Fire Protection
Robert Benjamin Squire
Sruti Sreerama
Gary & Susan Sterner
Violet & Ella Stewart
Lori Stokes
Kevin & Pam Storms
Jeanne Stutz
Stephanie Tauxe
The 4-H Cat Club
The Grey Muzzle
Organization
The Hodges Survivors
Fund
Gary & Linda Thompson
Judy & Norman
Thordarson
Steven & Melinda Toom
The Mark Torrance
Foundation
Michael & Lois Trickey
Joshua Tripp
Carrie Unpingco
Latoya Murrell
Dave & Dorothy Vandaveer
Jacob Vanhorn-Beliveau
Janet Vogee
G. J. Vogelsberger
Barbara Von Gehr
Gretchen Wagner
Suzy & Jay Wakefield
Jenny Wangoe
Billy Beson Co.
Andrew Fleming & Merriss
Waters
William & Carol Waxman
Richard N. West
Zach West
Terry & Lori Whalen -
Cabinets San Juan
Frank Whitney
Melissa Wickey
Patricia Devlin & William
Williams
Shirley & Gary Williams
River Winthrop
Carmen Wolfisberg
Martha & Peter Woodman
Sarah Younglove
Dr. Solomon & Janet
Yusim
Robin Zemek
Jon & Kris Zerby
Dana Zia
David & Rhonda Zygocki

Why I support APS-FH



I am truly a happy lady. When I reflect on why this has always been the case for me, it's very clear that at the core of my happiness is the simple fact that I've always had animals — both dogs and cats — living with me.

During the 22 years that I've called San Juan Island home, our wonderful Animal

Protection Society has been the source of the animals I've been so fortunate to call "mine." Whenever one of my pets has left me for new adventures in kitty or doggy heaven, I was never disappointed when I went to the shelter to find another animal to love. The compassion that the staff clearly displays for the animals in their care is evident. The effort they make to match up these animals with homes that will provide the love each animal needs/wants is also evident. And I truly benefitted each and every time I invited a new animal to become a much-loved member of my family.

But my affection for APS goes beyond my own very happy experiences adopting animals who were in their care. What they do for LOTS of dogs and cats — not just the ones who reside there on a temporary basis — is simply inspiring. Their programs include supporting feral cats, operating a pet food pantry that helps families needing assistance, providing a low cost spay/neuter clinic, collaborating with shelters in other places to help address the significant overpopulation of homeless animals...and the list goes on and on (and keeps getting longer!). It's no secret that that all of these things cost \$\$\$\$. So as an islander who respects what the shelter does not only for me and others who seek animal companions, but also for many of the four-footed, furry creatures who need a helping hand, I put a priority on regularly donating to APS. Please join me!

Lori Stokes

New Addition to Shelter Facility: Upper Dog Yard



Thanks to generous donors and the excellent construction by Will Turman and his company, PNW Fence & Hardscape, APS-FH has been able to complete another addition to our facility! A fenced yard on the upper shelter property now provides a separate and quiet location, away from the ruckus and excitement of the shelter's dog kennels, where trained volunteers and staff can work with dogs who need a little extra support to get them adoption-ready.

Wish List

- Treats of any kind for dogs and cats
- Bully sticks and other chews
- Cat wand toys
- Cardboard scratching posts
- Kongs of all sizes
- Fleece blankets/baby blankets
- Dog and cat kibble, canned food, and treats and cat litter for the Pet Food Pantry
- "Ball Pit" ball set for dog enrichment
- Soft-sided pet play pens for kitten fostering (X-Pens)
- Plastic 20x8' steel reinforced shed – bid of \$7300 includes structure, assembly, and interior shelves