# **HUMANE SOCIETY OF YUMA**

# 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

THE YEAR OF OPENING HEARTS
AND MINDS

WWW.HSOYUMA.COM 982-782-1621 4050 S. AVE 4 1/2 E • YUMA, AZ 85365

HUMANE Society
OF YUMA
Save one until there are none.

FRANKY-ADOPTED 4/8/15

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#### **OUR MISSION**

"To reduce the number of homeless pets through rescue, adoption, and spay and neuter programs."

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#### **GOVERNING BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Cristyn Weil PRESIDENT

Claire Eckard VICE PRESIDENT

> Audra Evans SECRETARY

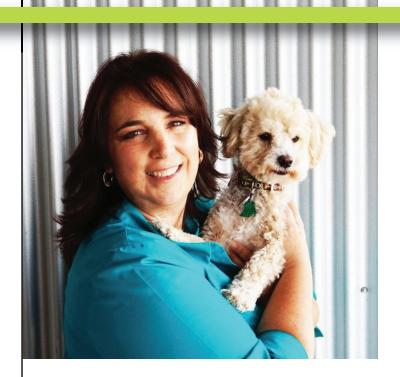
Loma Clark

Terry Farr TREASURER

**Quincy Smith** 

Becky Naquin

Wendy McKay



#### A MESSAGE FROM THE

# **DIRECTOR**

#### Dear Friends and Supporters,

The Humane Society of Yuma has been in existence since 1963 and in the past 53 years HSOY has become not only the voice for the voiceless, but has also become one of the greatest resources for animal welfare in our community. Today we are saving more lives than ever before.



We must work as a team to accomplish our goals; one person or one organization cannot do this alone.



As we continue to work towards never euthanizing an adoptable animal, we must never forget where we came from and how we got where we are today. Our initial shelter was built on the banks of the Colorado River and was inadequate for many of the animals who resided there, but at the time it was all our community had. Now as the times have changed, we have a great facility with indoor and

outdoor runs for our canine guests and more condos for our cats than we ever had before.

With all of the changes that have occurred in our industry, few things remain a constant; staff, volunteers, and supporters who are dedicated to making the lives of our community's animals better. This year's annual report will detail the great accomplishments we made in 2015 and even though it was a great year we will never give up the fight. We must work as a team to accomplish our goals; one person or one organization cannot do this alone. HSOY has a lot to be proud of in our 53 years of existence. We have saved thousands and thousands of lives and created an environment that allows them a healthy living while they are here at HSOY. I promise you that the staff of HSOY will continue to work towards getting better and better every day. With our volunteers and supporters standing beside us, there is not a goal that we cannot accomplish.

Smrette Zagunas

Annette Lagunas & Bella Executive Director

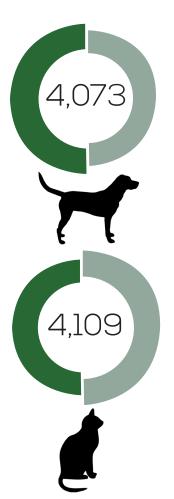




### **4,454** Saved Lives in 2015

That makes for a 10% increase over 2014.

The Humane Society of Yuma focuses on five key factors in order to save as many lives as possible. This is done through adoptions, spay and neuters, our volunteer- run rescue program, return to owners and our foster care program. Each of these areas are imperative to strive towards our common goal of zero euthanization of adoptable pets. It is with a strong network of selfless individuals that we are able to care for an average of 8,100 animals per year.



#### **ANIMAL INTAKE NUMBERS**

In 2015, The Humane Society of Yuma saw 8,182 animals enter through the doors. Overall intake is down 4% from 2014.

The intake numbers HSOY sees are a direct result of animals entering the shelter through animal control as strays, owner turnover/ surrender, and various other reasons. 4,073 dogs came through the shelter doors while 4,109 cats also

arrived. Of the over four thousand cats, a majority are ferals turned over in city issued traps by citizens. To learn more about the feral cat population in Yuma and how you can help, visit our web site at hsoyuma.com.

#### 2015 Euthanasia Rates

3,076 animals were euthanized at HSOY in 2015. Of those numbers, 2,152 were feral cats, 597 animals were deemed unadoptable for a myriad of reasons, and 327 for space

or limited resources. These numbers are down across the board overall which can be attributed to many reasons including better education, more adoptions and rescues, more community involvement, and greater spay/neuter numbers.



### **ADOPTIONS**

Together with the Spay/ Neuter and Rescue programs, adoptions of dogs and cats are a major factor in how we are able to save lives each and every day. In 2015, the shelter alone saw over 1,100 adoptions. Add that to the impressive numbers from

our PetSmart partnership of over 1,300 adoptions and you see numbers that top previous years. 2,467 in 2015 alone to be exact, up from 2,104 in 2014. Adoptions through our satellite location at PetSmart help to get our adoptable animals even more exposure. Nation-wide held adoption events through PetSmart coupled with our own shelter adoption events help us to continually see success in finding forever homes for our dogs and cats.



Lebron- Adopted 9/8/15

#### RESCUE

The rescue program is an all-volunteer based program that began in 2007 with a volunteer using her own vehicle to transfer animals out of the shelter and into the hands of rescue organizations across Arizona and Southern California. With a generous grant in 2013 from the ASPCA the HSOY Rescue Team was able to purchase a new van for the weekly trips. Money earned from annual Rescue Team rummage sales organized by Linda Christopher has helped to outfit the van with additional air conditioning, new tires, and more to help make the ride even more comfortable for the animals making their way out of Yuma.



Team Rescue Run left to right- Don, Madeline, Tina, Loma, Penny, and Mary

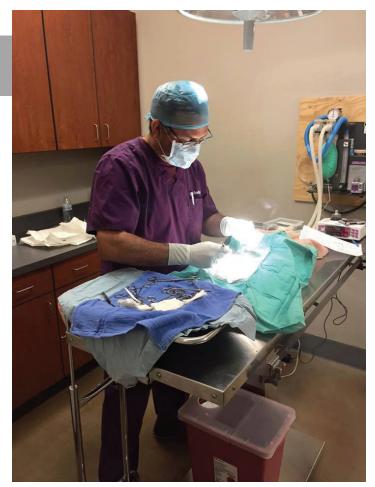


# SPAY & NEUTER CLINIC

Our low cost spay/ neuter clinic is a vital component of our shelter and the work done within the clinic helps us inch closer to our mission one animal at a time. Per law, every animal adopted from the HSOY must be either spayed or neutered before leaving the facility. Our clinic, however, doesn't just stop there. HSOY serves as a low cost resource for people in the Yuma community as well, which ultimately helps control the population of animals across the county.

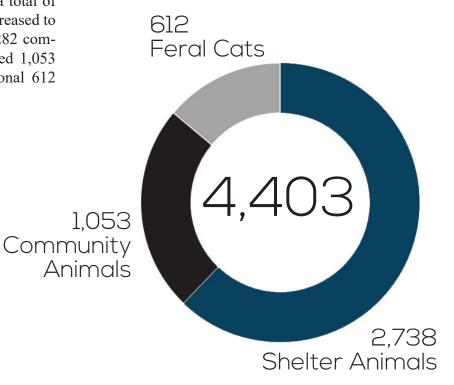
2015 saw an increase in spay/ neuter surgeries of shelter animals. In 2014, HSOY altered a total of 2,393 animals while in 2015 that number increased to 2,738. In 2014, HSOY spayed/ neutered 2,282 community animals while in 2015 we performed 1,053 surgeries. Feral cats account for an additional 612 surgeries in 2015.





Dr. Ernesto Sandigo performing a spay/ neuter surgery

#### 2015 Spay/ Neuter Numbers





## **FOSTER CARE**

Each year our foster program helps cats and dogs get out of the shelter environment and into safe temporary homes. Whether the reason an animal goes into foster care is due to the animal being too young or too sick to survive on their own,

behavioral, or simply just needs a break from the shelter environment, the foster program helps to save more lives. As of December 2015, HSOY has a total of 76 active foster parents. The volunteer hours these foster

parents provide total to approximately 30,200 hours- certainly time and energy employees alone do not have. The foster program plays a crucial role in seeing that hundreds of animals per year become ready for adoption.



#### **INTERESTED IN FOSTERING?**

If you are interested in becoming a foster parent to help save more lives, email foster(a)hsoyuma.com.

# STRAY ANIMALS BY THE NUMBERS

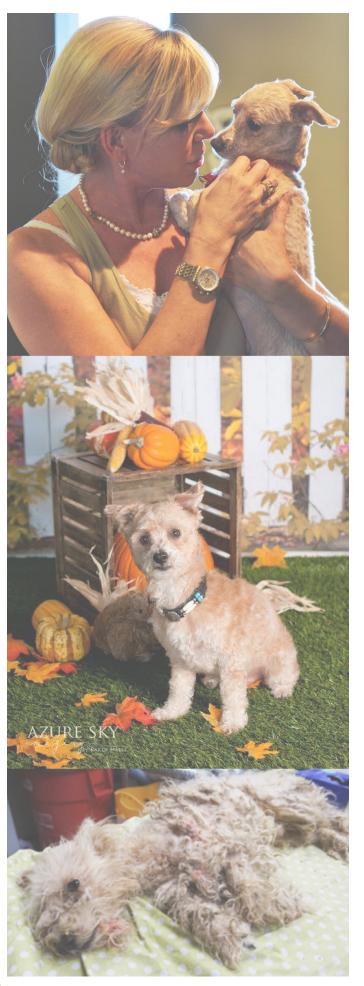
685 FOUND THEIR WAY HOME IN 2015

.3% INCREASE OVER 2014



2016

STRAY ANIMALS
WILL BE
PHOTOGRAPHED
UPON INTAKE AND
PLACED ON
HSOYUMA.COM



# Rascal's Story

On the evening of Sunday, August 23rd, 2015 two kids witnessed a light colored pickup truck dump two dogs on the side of the road. One ran away immediately while the other was too sick and injured to run. The two witnesses stopped to inquire about the animal that had stayed behind only to find a male poodle mix to be matted, covered in ticks, and injured. The dog was brought to the Humane Society of Yuma by a supporter who cared for the animal overnight. Animal control was notified.

After a thorough examination and emergency care, Rascal's red blood cell count was determined to be very low and was under heightened supervision. The Humane Society of Yuma's Clinic staff and foster parent took care of Rascal (named by the caring volunteers who rescued him) and evaluated his medical issues daily. A Go Fund Me page was created to receive donations for Rascal's care and within 72 hours had earned over \$5,000. Extra funds from the Go Fund Me campaign went back into the Denver/RooBee's Fund, which is set aside for victims of animal cruelty. With the extra love and care of the clinic staff and his foster parent, Rascal was thriving. He was neutered on September 11th, fully vaccinated on September15th and was then ready for adoption. Four weeks after coming to the Humane Society of Yuma, on September 17th, 2015, a medically sound and healthy Rascal was adopted.

Rascal got a second chance at life and is now living comfortably and spoiled with love. He is a lucky dog and is a reminder of just one story of the thousands of animals that come through the Humane Society of Yuma's doors. Each animal no matter their background is precious which is why the staff, volunteers, donors, adopters, and community supporters are essential to our lifesaving work.

# THANK YOU!

To our grooming partners for giving our shelter animals the TLC they deserve!





Augie- Adopted 11/2015



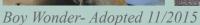




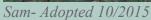














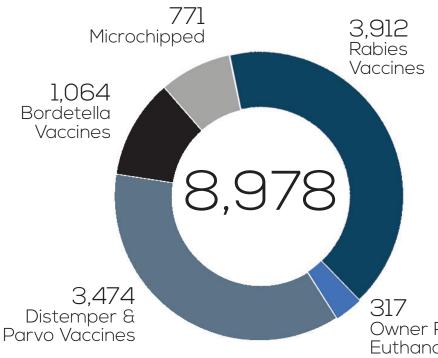


#### LOW COST VACCINATION CLINIC

The Humane Society of Yuma's Low Cost Clinic exists to give the community a chance to get the vaccinations, microchips, and other services needed for all animals of Yuma County. In 2015, a total of 8,978 vaccinations were administered across the board. 3,474 dogs were vaccinated for distemper and parvo while 1,064 were vaccinated for bordetella. 3,912 animals were

vaccinated against rabies, a requirement set forth by the city and county in order to license your dog or cat. 771 animals were microchipped which helps to aid animal control and the HSOY in returning stray animals to their rightful owners.

#### 2015 Low Cost Clinic Services





Snowbell, adopted 10/1/2015

317 Owner Requested Euthanasia

#### **4 PAWS PANTRY**

#### 23,432 lbs.

Of pet food were distributed to low income households in 2015.

In April of 2010, a group of dedicated volunteers recognized the overwhelming numbers of pets being surrendered to the shelter during the recession by families who could no longer afford to provide food to their beloved cats and dogs. In an effort to keep as many pets in their homes as possible and to keep people from ultimately turning their pets into an already overrun shelter environment, the group of volunteers banded together and created

the 4 Paws Pantry. The Pantry provides supplementary food to those who qualify based on income. In order for someone to participate they must not only meet income requirements but also agree to spay or neuter all animals in the household so to prevent an unwanted animal population. In 2015, 4 Paws Pantry celebrated their 5th anniversary. Over 100,000 pounds of food has been distrubuted since the Pantry's inception!

## **FELINE FRIENDS**

The mission of Feline Friends, a Humane Society membership committee, is to humanely reduce the feral cat population within Yuma County by practicing T.N.R.

#### **FERAL CATS**

Feral cats are the wild offspring of domestic cats and are primarily the result of pet owner's abandonment or failure to spay and neuter their animals, allowing them to breed uncontrolled. Feral cat colonies can be found behind shopping areas or businesses, in alleys, parks, abandoned buildings, and rural areas.



#### T.N.R. (TRAP- NEUTER-RELEASE)

Trap - Neuter - Release is a method of managing feral cat colonies humanely and effectively. Feral cats are trapped in humane cages using food as bait. They are then spayed or neutered and released where they were originally trapped. Cats that have been through the T.N.R. process will have the tip of his/her ear "tipped" off. That way, if caught again, he/she can be re-released and will in turn save precious resources. These cats will also be vaccinated for rabies.



Team 4 Paws left to right: Margy, Jan, Sandy, Jewel, Chris



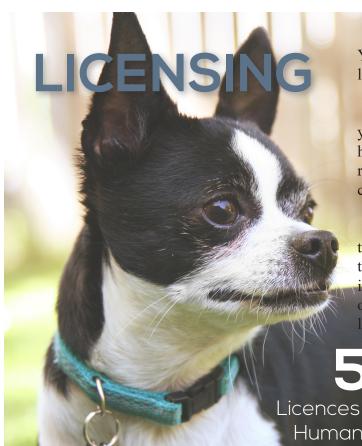
Donations received from business and individuals to go towards our 4 Paws Pantry program for low income recipients.



Princess, HSOY's resident feral cat



Nisa Bottone-Sutton of Feline Friends on Feral Cat Day, a day every year in which nearly 100 cats are spayed or neutered for the T.N.R program.



The Humane Society of Yuma has partnered with Yuma County and the City of Yuma to facilitate their licensing programs.

Licensing your pet allows animal control to help your pet find its way home much easier in the event he or she gets away from you. There are different requirements depending on whether you live in the city or county.

It is very important that you know the jurisdiction of your residence. Yuma county is all areas of the county that are not part of the city of Yuma. This includes San Luis and the town of Wellton. Residents of these areas are required to purchase a Yuma County license.

Licences were issued by the Humane Society in 2015.

# Success Stories



Bear, adopted 9/26/2015



Lacey, adopted 8/8/2015



*Baxter, adopted 10/24/2015* 



Rupert, adopted 2/25/2015



Lilo, adopted 9/12/2015



Joe Black and Spot, adopted 2/14/2015

# Thank you to all who adopt!



# DONATIONS

The Humane Society of Yuma is fortunate to have 1,166 donors dedicated to furthering the mission of HSOY by joining our network of members. Of those people, 70 have committed to giving on a monthly or yearly basis. For more information or to join as a monthly donor, email admin@hsoyuma.com.



#### LEGACY CIRCLE

In 2015, HSOY received a total of \$500,744 from our 53 legacy members. These generous individuals have chosen to name HSOY as a beneficiary in a will, living trust, life insurance policy, retirement account or have created a charitable remainder trust. To date, Legacy funds have been used to purchase new puppy pens, build the Kathryn Keen Memorial Garden and improve animals' quality of life. If you are interested in joining our Lecacy Circle, please contact LShapiro@ HSOYuma.com.



Did you know that when you shop for groceries you can have a percentage of your bill donated to the Humane Society of Yuma? It's easy to sign up, just visit frysfood.com/topic/new-community-rewardsprogram to sign up!

Online shopping is quick, easy, and convenientand it's also a great way to help the Humane Society of Yuma earn money for all your purchases! When choosing to shop on Amazon, make sure to bookmark smile.amazon.com and register your account to give back to HSOY. Shop in your pajamas and help out a good cause while you're at it!



**MONTHLY** 

DONORS



















# THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

The Humane Society of Yuma has an amazing network of over 445 volunteers that donated a total of 52,642 hours of their valuable time in 2015 alone. That's equal to about 25 full time staff members! We couldn't accomplish our goals without our dedicated volunteers. Thank you for all you do!















## THRIFT STORE

The Humane Society Thrift Store has helped bring in hundreds of thousands of dollars to support spay and neuter surgeries since it began in 2007 at an outdoor swap meet. Since then, the store has celebrated some great success with the opening of the first brick and mortar location in 2008 and again in 2014 when we moved to our new location in the Big Curve shopping center. The boutiquelike store atmosphere helps to draw more customers in to shop as well as the convenient location adjacent to many other shops and restaurants in the

heart of Yuma. Donations are always accepted and we see a great deal of support coming from the community in the way of donations to the shop. Whether you're cleaning out your closets or looking for something new, the HSOY Thrift Store is the way to go.

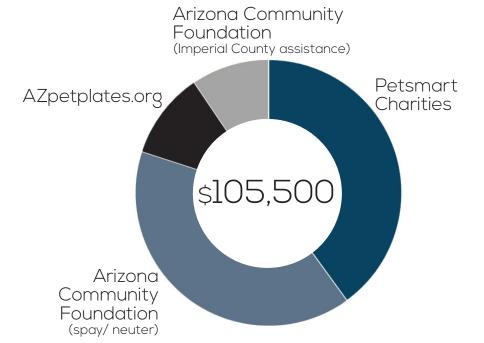




# **GRANTS**

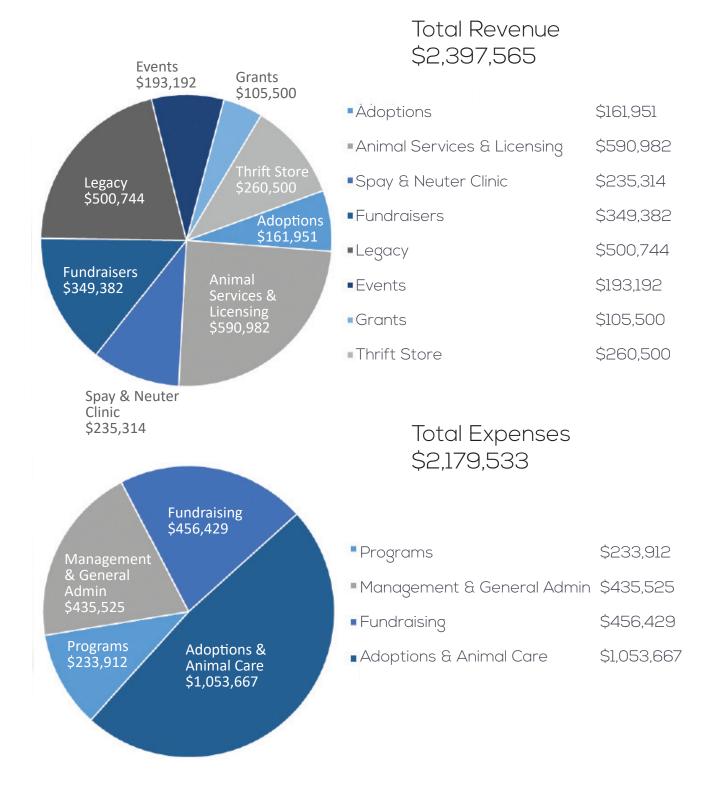
Each year, the Humane Society of Yuma is awarded several grants to aid in our mission of saving as many lives of homeless pets as possible. In

2015, a total of over \$95,000 was received from Petsmart Charities, Arizona Community Foundation, and Arizona Champion Animal Fund.





#### FINANCIALS



## Hearts SPEAK perfect exposure project

The Humane Society of Yuma was chosen to participate in HeARTs Speak's Perfect Exposure Project. The Perfect Exposure Project granted our organization two cameras, two backdrops, one backdrop stand, and professional lighting equipment. In October of 2015, HeARTs Speak professional photographers from all over the United States came to Yuma to host a two day training for our volunteers, Glamour

Photo team and staff. Through the training we learned how to take photos of the animals, use the cameras provided and how to market the unique personalities of the animals at our shelter. On behalf of all the participants, we want to thank the HeARTs Speak team for choosing HSOY! The staff and volunteers are now equipped with the tools to help find our furry friends forever homes. THANK YOU, HeARTs Speak!

HeARTs Speak is a global network of photographers, writers, graphic designers, sculptors, painters, illustrators, and animal advocates providing their time and professional services pro bono to animal welfare organizations in their communities.



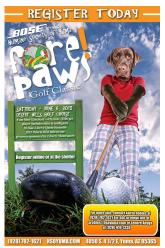






## **EVENTS**













Fall Family Fest



Barktoberfest



Walk N' Wag 5K

#### **EVENT REVENUE**

#### \$89,385 Fur Ball IX

#### \$38,600 Critter Country

\$18,577
Fore Paws
Golf Classic

# **RUNNING FOR PAWS**

A local couple, Kate and Mario Pitotti, were waking up at 2am in the morning to run over 20 miles through the Yuma Desert in preparation for the 2015 Grand to Grand Ultra Marathon, A 170 mile foot race beginning at the North rim of the Grand Canyon and finishing at the Grand Staircase in Utah. Kate and Mario didn't want this unique opportunity to go to waste and decided to use this race to raise money and spread awareness of the work the Humane Society of Yuma is doing for their animal community.

Kate is a court reporter and a loyal volunteer at HSOY, Mario is a mechanical designer and both are proud fur parents. Training in the Yuma heat until their race day, September 20th, 2015 sounded crazy, but their love of nature and their animals is a testament to what is possible when you push yourself to the limit.

Their work ethic is parallel to the efforts in fundraising. Kate and Mario worked closely with HSOY to surpass their goal of raising \$5,000. With great success of completing their journey, they also had great success in supporting the upgrade of the shelter's puppy pens. Their main message is, "That people can find the greatest, most loyal, and loving companion from a local shelter."



## MANAGEMENT STAFF













ANDREA DAMAZIO SHELTER MANAGER

MACI CRUM VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR MARLENE ROMAN FOSTER CARE COORDINATOR

LYNDZIE OSTEEN ADOPTIONS SUPERVISOR

The Humane Society of Yuma would like to thank

#### Dirk Frauenfelder

for his dedication to supporting our mission each and every day. Thank you, Dirk!



#### **IN MEMORIUM**

In memory of those who passed in 2015 and requested The Humane Society of Yuma recieve donations in their honor.

Susan Almodova
Kelley Baliukas
Blanche Bereznuk
Dorothy Finefrock
Howard Bramhall
Irene Crites
William Lon Fergusen
Anthony Gordon Gottsponer
Deryl Hadlock
Reg Lynn Hill
Paul Austin Hopper
Penelope Kaleimomi Spencer
Linda Askew Kong

Bruce "Woody" Lafromboise
Dana Howard McGlothlin
Peggy Ogram
Deann Lee Sandry
Glen C. "Rock" Sherwood Jr.
Leonard "Len" H. Wilson
Fran Wolf
Dennis Irwin
Ramona Gonzalez
Channing Morse
Ray Delucchi
Jean Schuman



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