

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

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CA message from our EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Supporter,

This past year has been an amazing year for the Humane Society of Yuma. It is crazy to think that we have been in this shelter for 5 years now. In that time we have done some amazing things and we are so proud of where we've come. You will read more about what we have accomplished further into this report, so I want to take a minute to look forward at where The Humane Society of Yuma is headed.

We have many community cats roaming the neighborhoods and industrial areas of our county. For the past 20 years these cats have been captured and euthanized; this model has not worked and will not work to truly eliminate the amount of cats roaming our community. Over the years, we have recognized the extent of the issue and realized that we are ready and capable to tackle it. Late in 2017 we altered our strategy for the cats in our community and our shelter. We began to track where the incoming stray/feral cats were coming from, perform spay/ neuter surgeries, and then return them to the location where they were trapped. This model, known as TNR (Trap, Neuter, and Release), has allowed us to save over 150 lives that otherwise would not have been saved. Historically, TNR had been performed solely by Feline Friends: but now we are utilizing the few extra surgery spots in the clinic every day to not only maximize capacity in the clinic, but also to save more lives. This coming year we will continue to TNR as many cats as we can that enter our shelter.

What's even more exciting is that Best Friends Animal Society sought out the Humane Society of Yuma and has offered to partner with us to combat the free-roaming cats we have in our community. With their partner-

ship we will be able to spay/neuter many free-roaming more cats than ever before. provide more education to the community, and have additional help to manage the colonies of cats that currently exist. Their program will also offer assistance to our community leaders and animal control officials. We are very excited about this year and the changes we will be making to our shelter and our community.

As we gear up for kitten season, we are hopeful for change. We are anticipating that fewer kittens will be born due to the work that has already been done by HSOY and those who understand the importance of spaying and neutering your pets. We are hopeful that our community will embrace the need to TNR and how it can truly help our community over time. This is definitely the year of the cat here at HSOY and we are so excited to see a change in the number of cats that enter our shelter. With your help and support we will continue to make life saving changes.



Smrette Zagunas

Annette Lagunas & Bella Executive Director



SAVE ONE UNTIL There are none.





5,559 LIVES SAVED IN 2017

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 neuter surgeries, 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 **8,600** animals per year.

INTAKE

The intake numbers HSOY experiences are a direct result of animals entering the shelter through animal control as strays, owner surrender, and various other reasons. 4,116 dogs came through the shelter doors while 4,519 cats also arrived. And that's not all that came through our doors! In 2017 we also took in 1 Rooster, 2 Chickens, 6 Goats, 2 Guinea Pigs, 1 Bearded Dragon, 2 Pigs, 6 Rabbits, and 2 Tortoises! Although HSOY is not equipped to care for these types of animals long term, we were able to quickly find homes or rescues that could care for them.

EUTHANASIA

2,610 animals were humanely euthanized at The Humane Society of Yuma in 2017. Of those numbers, 2,281 were feral cats, 544 animals were deemed unadoptable for a myriad of reasons, and 52 were euthanized for space or limited resources. These numbers are down across the board overall which can be attributed to many reasons including better education, increased adoptions and rescues, more community involvement, and greater spay/ neuter numbers.

CAT INTAKE

4,519 cats entered our shelter in 2017. Of those cats, 3,687 were considered stray or free-roaming. Each cat that enters the facility is evaluated for adoptability. From the cats that were considered stray or free-roaming, 2,145 cats were euthanized due to being feral and unadoptable and 156 cats were released to their home after being spayed or neutered. A total of 2,218 cats entered the shelter and were deemed adoptable or able to find their homes. While 231 of those cats had to be euthanized for various reasons, HSOY saw a 90% live release rate on adoptable cats!

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 2017, the shelter alone saw 1,359 adoptions. Add that to the impressive numbers from our PetSmart Charities partnership of over 1,552 adoptions and you see numbers that top previous years. 2,911 in 2017 alone to be exact, compared to 2,799 in 2016. Adoptions through our satellite location at our PetSmart Everyday Adoption Center help to get our adoptable animals even more exposure. PetSmart Charities National Adoption Weekends coupled with our own shelter adoption events help us to continually see success in finding forever homes for our dogs and cats.



RESCUE

The Humane Society of Yuma welcomed our newest Rescue Coordinator this year, Cathy Pfeifer. Cathy worked as a volunteer for many years before joining our team. Since taking the program over in July 2017 the rescue program has sent 658 dogs and cats on to their new lives with our rescue partners across the state of Arizona. With the exception of Cathy, HSOY's rescue program is an all-volunteer based program that works to place animals in rescues that will then go on to find forever homes. Dogs, cats, bunnies, and even the occasional ferret, snake, or turtle have all had the opportunity to board the Rescue Express. In 2017, we sent 1,590 animals to rescue for a total of 12,013 since the program's inception.



Rescue Coordinator Cathy Pfeiffer and just a few of her fur babies.



Two members of Team Rescue, Carol Tvorak and Jim Thompson ready to hit the road with a van full of pets!

SPAY & NEUTER CLINIC

2017 SPAY & NEUTER CLINIC NUMBERS





Dr. Ernesto Sandigo, DVM



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. Every animal adopted from HSOY must be either spayed or neutered before leaving the facility. Our clinic 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. According to statistics from the ASPCA, roughly 8 million animals enter shelters across the country every year. Spaying or neutering just one animal can prevent thousands of potentially unwanted animals from entering shelters.

2017 saw an increase in spay/ neuter surgeries of all animals. In 2016, HSOY altered a total of 2,928 shelter animals while in 2017 that number increased to 3,090. In 2016, HSOY spayed/ neutered 1,318 community animals while in 2017 we performed 1,570 surgeries. Feral cats accounted for an additional 937 surgeries in 2017, up from 543 in 2016.

ADOPTION SUCCESS



Muriel, adopted 5/28/17



Houdini, adopted 8/29/17



Squeek, adopted 8/6/17



Lucy, adopted 9/28/17



Cordie, adopted 10/8/17



Petey, adopted 4/26/17

"When I look into the eyes of an animal, I do not see an animal. I see a living being. I see a friend. I feel a soul."

-Anthony Douglas Williams



Broccoli, adopted 9/7/17



adopted 10/25/17



Gunner, adopted 11/20/17



Zeus, adopted 12/12/17



Melody, adopted 10/20/17



Carlos, adopted 8/24/17

Thank you to all who adopt!

FIVE YEARS LATER:

A REFLECTION ON WHERE WE'VE BEEN AND WHERE WE'RE HEADED



ecember 2012 was a pivotal time for the Humane Society of Yuma. Operations came to a standstill and staff and the animals moved into their new home. Over the past 5 years, the organization has evolved. As the number of animals coming into the shelter has plateaued, the live release rate (or the number of lives saved) has dramatically increased.

INTAKE

Over the past 5 years the shelter has taken in over 51,000 animals; that accounts for over 24,000 cats and over 26,000 dogs. These statistics are astounding, but what is most impressive is that the Humane Society of

Yuma has increased the percentage of lives saved by **23%** in that time.

ADOPTIONS

The Humane Society of Yuma in partnership with PetSmart Charities has adopted out over 14,000 animals since 2012. In 2012 we adopted out 1,833 pets compared to 2017, in which we adopted out 2,911 pets. That is a difference of 1,078 lives that were saved through adoption. The impact is significant and the results are evident that we are improving the program year after year. Our partnership with PetSmart Charities has not only given us an additional venue for adoption, but also has helped fund technol-

ogy upgrades, marketing efforts and staffing to increase the capacity for adoptions.

RESCUE

The Rescue program has transitioned this year from a 100% volunteer run program to adding a staff member to the team to help facilitate rescue runs. In the midst of the transition, the rescue program also hit a milestone of sending over 10,000 animals to rescue since its beginnings in 2007. Statistics show that the program has ramped up in the past 5 years, giving 8,342 animals another opportunity to find a forever home.

RETURN TO OWNER

Reuniting pets with their families is our preferred method of getting animals out of the shelter. Yet sadly this is uncommon and continues to be a challenge for our pet population. We

continue to see improvements and have recently been awarded funds from PetSmart Charities to help subsidize fees for struggling families reclaiming their pets. These funds are proving to make a difference. In 2012, only 625 animals were reunited with their owners; in 2017, that

number increased to 902 animals; which accounts for a 44% improvement.

SPAY/NEUTER

2017 was the highest performing year for our clinic for spay and neuter surgeries within the past five years, performing almost 29,000 surgeries since 2012. Dr. Sandigo, along with his veterinary team, has proven to be efficient and able to make an impact in our community. In 2017 alone they have performed 5,597 spay/neuter surgeries (that does not include other medical procedures needed by shelter pets), which prevented potentially over 78,000 unwanted offspring.

Vald (dog) and Inmate Goldwyn

he Humane Society of Yuma has a long standing partnership with the Arizona Department of Corrections. The Humane Society of Yuma employs inmates Monday through Friday to clean the facility, do laundry, clean dishes and to feed the animals. This program is essential to the Humane Society of Yuma; the inmates provide labor that would otherwise be too costly to employ at a regular rate. "Being a non-profit, it would be practically impossible for us to actually hire this many people. The inmate program allows us to keep our employee costs down while never jeopardizing the care of the animals we house," says Annette Lagunas, Executive Director of the Humane Society of Yuma. Although the working inmate program is available at other nonprofit organizations and locations, working at the Humane Society of Yuma is in high demand at the prison. "This program is one of many different opportunities that we (Arizona Department of Corrections) offer to help the inmate rehabilitate and give back to the community. The partnership we have with the Humane Society of Yuma has been beneficial for the prison, inmates and the Yuma County Community. It provides a positive learning experience for the inmates and contributes to the community by helping some of our most vulnerable members." - Carla Hacker-Agnew, Warden for

HELPING HANDS

the Arizona Department of Corrections.

Working with animals at the shelter brings out the best in the inmates; but they are not the only ones benefiting from their work. In their downtime or after all the cleaning and feeding are done, it is common practice that the inmates take the animals out of their kennels to play and train them. In that time, there is always a beautiful display of the animalhuman bond. "Nothing softens the heart like the trust earned from an animal whose previous life may have been 'less than perfect.' It's amazing to see some of the transformations in these animals. It's nothing short of a miracle and extremely therapeutic" says Inmate Goldwyn. Goldwyn has a special connection with the dogs and has a unique skill working with the large dogs that have behavioral issues. The socialization and training these animals receive from the inmates make them more adoptable. So much of the work the inmates do is hands on as they get to know the animals and assist the staff with feedback on behavior. Inmate Goldwyn states, "I've gained a wealth of knowledge about caring for animals, built good work ethics, and learned about responsibility. Working with animals has given me a sense of satisfaction and I feel I have accomplished something important at the end of each day- like I've made a positive difference in the world."

Not only do the inmates work with the animals but they have been instrumental with the groundskeeping, building maintenance and improvements. "With our big beautiful building comes labor and maintenance costs associated with the landscaping and building. Thanks to the inmate crews we are able to keep these costs down; so much so, that many of the inmates are able to use their trades they learned prior to incarceration here at the shelter. The inmates have installed cabinets, fixed sprinkler systems and even properly fertilized, trimmed and maintained our trees and shrubs," said Annette Lagunas.

This partnership is a crucial part of the Humane Society of Yuma's operations. Not only is it a huge cost savings, but it is beneficial for the quality of care for the animals, reduces the stress and labor of the staff and the inmates get to be productive and do meaningful work in the community.





THE HUMANE SOCIETY

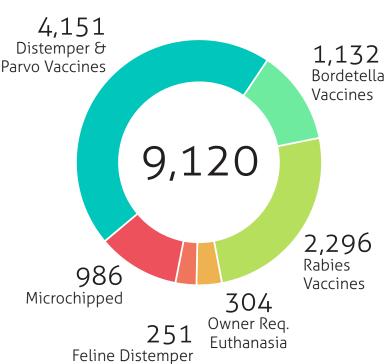
In the community



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 basic services needed for all dogs & cats of Yuma County. In 2017, a total of 9,120 vaccinations and microchips were administered to animals in our community. 4,151 distempter and parvo vaccinations were administered while 1,132 were vaccinated for bordetella. 2,296 animals were vaccinated against rabies, a requirement set forth by the city and county in order to license your dog or cat. 251 feline distemper vaccinations were given and a total of 986 animals were microchipped which helps to aid animal control and the HSOY in returning stray animals to their rightful owners.

2017 Low Cost Clinic Services



4 PAWS PANTRY

18,939 lbs.

Of pet food were distributed to low income households in 2017.



In April of 2010, a group of dedicated volunteers recognized the overwhelming number 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 pets in their homes and from being turned in to an already overrun shelter environment, these volunteers banded together to create the 4 Paws Pantry, which provides supplemental food to those who qualify based on income. In partnership with the Yuma Community Food Bank, PetSmart Charities, and food donations from the community, we were able to fully stock the pantry in 2017. In order for someone to qualify they must not only meet income requirements but also agree to spay or neuter all animals in the household so as to prevent unwanted animal population. In 2017, 4 Paws Pantry celebrated their 7th anniversary. Over 138,000 pounds of food has been distrubuted since the Pantry's inception!

FELINE FRIENDS

Feline Friends is a membership volunteer group working to reduce the feral cat population in Yuma County by practicing T.N.R.

T.N.R.

(TRAP- NEUTER-RELEASE)

TNR is a method of managing feral cat colonies humanely, effectively, and is ultimately a more effective method for reducing population than euthanasia alone. Feral cats are trapped in humane cages using food as bait. They are then spayed or neutered , vaccinated for rabies and released where they were originally trapped. Cats that have been through the T.N.R. process 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 without undergoing undue surgery.

FERAL & FREE-ROAMING 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.

937 FERAL CATS ALTERED IN 2017



Princess, HSOY's resident feral cat. Her ear is notched to indicate she has been spayed.



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.

COMING TOGETHER

For the common good.

The Humane Society of Yuma has an amazing network of over 483 volunteers that donated a total of 70,544 hours of their valuable time in 2017 alone. That's equal to about 34 full time staff members! We couldn't accomplish our goals without our dedicated volunteers. Thank you for all you do!





































Thank You

TO OUR TEAM OF INCREDIBLE

VOLUNTEERS!

DONATIONS

The Humane Society of Yuma is fortunate to have donors who are dedicated to animal welfare in Yuma County. Donations are essential to the operations of our facility and programming; it accounts for almost 25% of our income and totals over \$500,000 a year. A Humane Society of Yuma Member is anyone who has donated \$25 or more; in 2017 our membership has grown 4.9%. For more information on membership or to become a monthly donor, please email Smendoza@ hsoyuma.com.

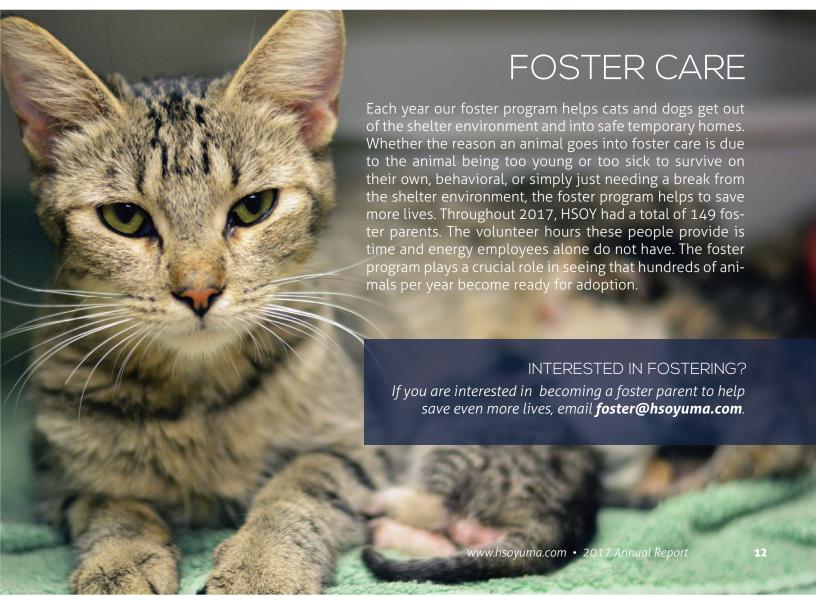


Thank you to Pioneer RV Park, who donated the proceeds from their 2017 Valentine's Day Dinner to The Humane Society of Yuma!

LEGACY CIRCLE

In 2017, HSOY received a total of \$92,250, and currently has 66 recognized 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 & cat condos, build the Kathryn Keen Memorial Garden and improve animals' quality of life. If you are interested in joining our Legcacy Circle, please contact Lshapiro@hsoyuma.com.





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 2017, a total of \$149,906 was received from Petco Foundation, Petsmart Charities, Arizona Community Foundation, Arizona Companion Animal Fund, and Maddie's Fund.













ROOBEE'S CRUELTY / DENVER'S MEDICAL FUND







The RooBee's Cruelty/ Denver's Medical fund was created to fund the care and comfort of cruelty and other medical cases that come in to the Humane Society of Yuma. RooBee was a Basset Hound that was found with a broken leg and other various injuries and Denver was a Shar Pei mix who had skin issues. The Yuma community came through to help pay for their treatments until we could find these wonderful pets forever homes and inspired the name of this fund. Donations to this fund also allow us to put together rewards when we need the public's help in finding suspects of animal cruelty.

In 2017 we raised \$2,700 towards the RooBee/ Denver fund. The Humane Society of Yuma cannot accomplish our mission without the support of the community. Donating to this fund directly impacts the recovery of future cases that come to the shelter.

SUMMER CAMPS BE A CHAMPION FOR ANIMALS THIS SUMMER! Ages 8-13















EDUCATION

2017 was an amazing year for education at The Humane Society of Yuma. We kicked off our first ever Summer Camp program which gave kids the opportunity to learn about everything from animal care to how the Humane Society works with the community to reduce the number of homeless pets. Thank you to our sponsors Yuma Rotary Club, Fort Yuma Rotary, El Dorado Broadcasters, Monster Media, Yuma Investment Group, and Griffen Ranches.

In 2017 we also began our BEHUMANE campaign, which pairs a week of humane animal ownership lessons with a fundraiser and walk-a-thon. HSOY plans to visit three more schools in the first half of 2018 and hopes to continue BEHUMANE education into the future to educate our newest generation on what it means to BEHUMANE! Thank you to our sponsors 3:10 Auto Works, 3:10 Diesel Works & Bose.

BEHUMANE

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 boutique- like 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. Do-

nations 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 to you, the HSOY Thrift Store is the way to go!

\$223,559 in revenue to support SPAY AND NEUTER SURGERIES in 2017



EVENTS



Paint & Paws for a Cause January 14th @ Artsy Fartsy









Critter Country: Casino Night April 1, 2017 @ Yuma Palms **RV** Park



\$48,146 Critter Country





Fore Paws Golf Classic June 3rd @ Desert Hills

\$30,573 Fore Paws Golf Classic



Fur Ball XI: The Great Catsby September 16th @ AWC







Fall Family Festival October 28th @ HSOY

93 total animal adoptions





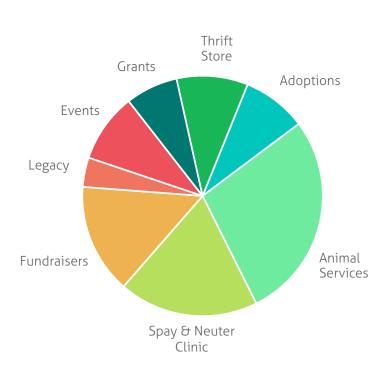
Willow Hosts the

Festival of Trees December 8 @ HSOY



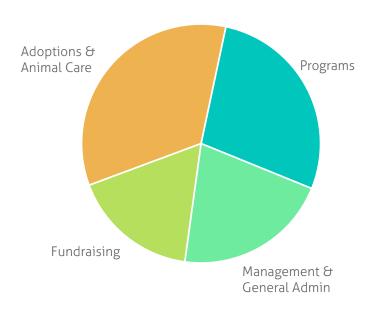


2017 FINANCIALS



Total Revenue \$2,323,583

Adoptions	\$197,249
Animal Services & Licensing	\$653,689
Spay & Neuter Clinic	\$450,112
Fundraisers	\$335,893
Legacy	\$92,250
Events	\$220,925
Grants	\$149,906
Thrift Store	\$223,559



Total Expenses \$2,481,958

Programs	\$690,221
Management & General Admin	\$522,006
Fundraising	\$425,902
Adoptions & Animal Care	\$843,829

Thank You

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TRENTIE OLIVER VOLUNTEER MANAGER



IN MEMORIUM

In memory of those who passed in 2017 and requested The Humane Society of Yuma recieve donations in their honor.

DEBORAH BEZDICEK
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THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING

The Humane Society of Yuma