

## OUR MISSION ENDURED

**Friends of the Burlington County Animal Shelter (Friends)** and homeless dogs and cats faced challenges last year. An increase in strays, abandoned animals and surrenders resulted in overcrowding at Burlington County's only shelter. Surrender numbers were at an all-time high. Lack of time, inflation and rising costs forced many county residents to struggle with the expense of owning a pet versus affording food and housing. **Friends** helped to promote the adoption of these fur babies.

Many animals came into the shelter sick or injured, requiring costly medical procedures. **Friends** gave these cats and dogs hope for good health, happiness and forever homes.

To improve their lives and control community cat populations, volunteers with **Friends'** TNR program trapped and fixed close to **2,000** cats. Many now call managed cat colonies, instead of the streets, their home. Sadly, an increasing number of colony cats appear to be former pets.

## OUR CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

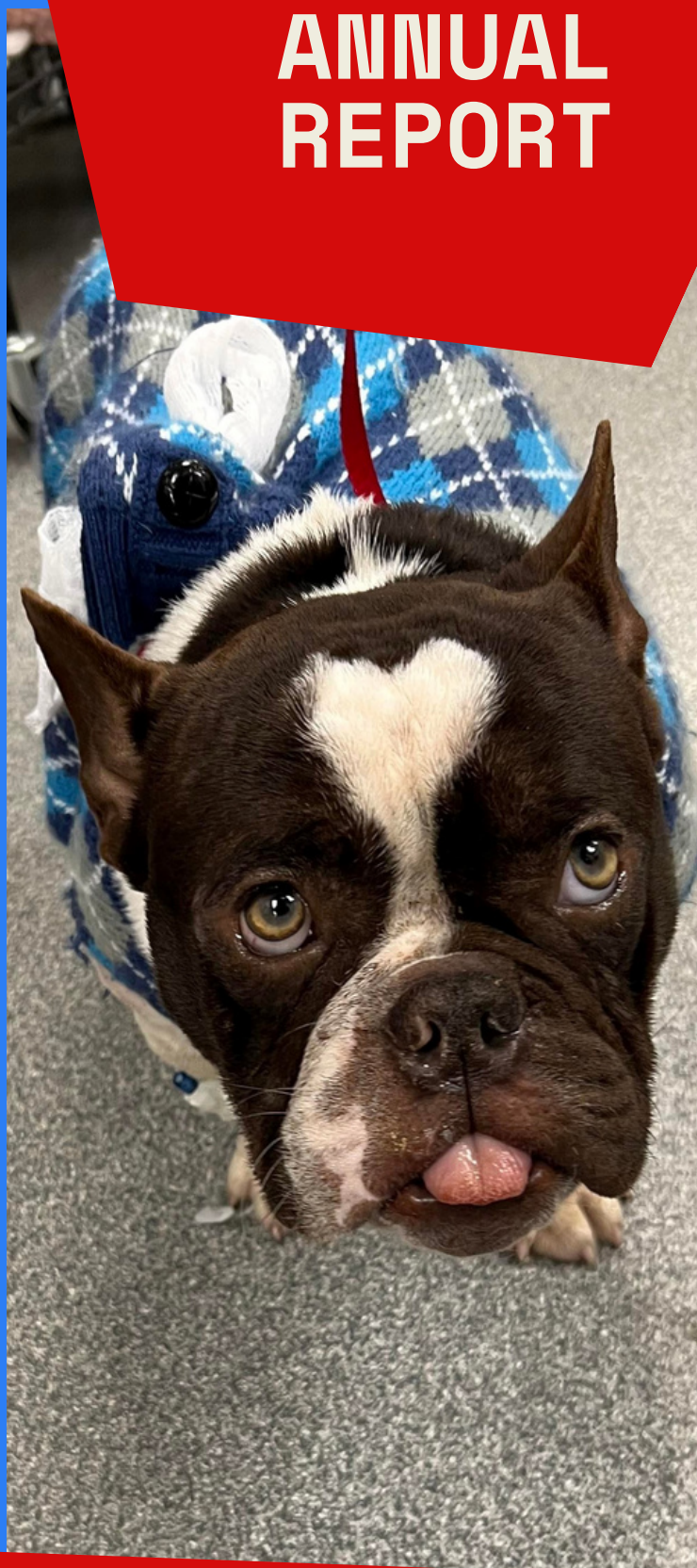
Thank you for being a friend to homeless animals in 2022! Your compassion and generosity allowed us to provide lifesaving veterinary care to our homeless animals, without having to say no due to lack of funding.

**Friends** introduced a new program in 2022 to increase dog adoptions, offering a month of free, in-home training for select dogs. In 2023 we are expanding this program, focusing on increasing dog kennel enrichment and providing more support post adoption. Our cats had a tougher time in 2022 as area shelters experienced multiple outbreaks of the highly contagious viral disease, Panleuk. We helped mitigate impacts by keeping cats in foster homes longer, but still saw a drop in the save rate. Despite this, many cats found amazing homes and we are working on expanding our foster program.

Again, thank you for believing in our mission and providing a voice for homeless animals. Hundreds of animals are living a better life thanks to your compassion and generosity.

Sincerely,  
Ann Rapisarda, Board Chairman

# ANNUAL REPORT



## 2022 SNAPSHOT

**\$442,395**

Donations

**2,711**

Donors

**3,209**

Shelter Intake for  
Dogs and Cats

**360**

Dedicated  
Volunteers





# WE AIDED 348 ANIMALS

Many of the dogs and cats that come into the shelter arrive with major medical issues often requiring extensive surgery and advanced veterinary care. **Friends** steps up to cover the costs of restoring their health and making them adoptable. Your generosity has enabled us to give shelter animals, like the following, a healthier future.

- Kitten **Sugar Plum** was diagnosed with an infection that caused his eyes to swell shut and the protective third membrane (nictitating membrane) to adhere to the cornea. After surgery he spent a period of recovery with a devoted foster mom. Now he is a playful kitten, settling into his comfy surroundings with the kind couple who adopted him.
- Beautiful **Phoenix**, a Pitbull who required a complex operation to remove and biopsy a mass in her salivary gland. Fortunately, the mass was not malignant. She spent time recovering in a loving foster home and is now available for adoption.
- **Arnold**, a 2 year-old bulldog was found the day before Thanksgiving along a Westampton roadway in dire condition. He suffered from a prolapsed rectum and required life-saving surgery. He recovered in foster care and was adopted.
- Found as a kitten, **Boo** was brought to the shelter where she was determined to have a bad ear infection with lots of discharge and was slated for euthanasia. Ultimately this young cat had surgery to remove an ear polyp that caused severe head tilt, squinting and chronic infections. Her foster mom takes delight in seeing a healthier, happier feline.
- A 5-year-old Pitbull/Mastiff mix, **Duchess** came into the shelter after a drug raid on her home. A medical examination revealed she had serious skin problems, and her ears were closed because of infection and scarring. After 3 months of care, she is now pain free and living the great life in her forever home.

ACTIVITIES	DETAILS	OUTCOME
Advanced Medical	Covered advanced medical costs for animals whose lives may have ended prematurely	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$36,063 saved 38 shelter dogs</li><li>• \$62,075 saved 126 shelter cats</li><li>• \$46,356 saved 184 community cats</li></ul>
Spay/Neuter Services	Reduce the number of homeless animals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$48,658 fixed 973 community cats</li></ul>
Adoption Fees	Promote adoption to relieve shelter crowding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prepaid fees for senior &amp; special needs animals: \$7,380</li></ul>
Training and Enrichment	Improve the lives and adoptability of long time shelter residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Spent \$6,860 on dog training</li></ul>



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Engaging residents of **Burlington County** is critical to our efforts in partnering with the county's only animal shelter and reducing the number of homeless animals in our community.

We held our signature event, the annual **PawPrints Pet Fest & 5K**, in October at historic Smithville Park, Eastampton. It attracted thousands of attendees, **406** runners and walkers, **70** vendors, and **49+** sponsors. Proceeds from the event totaled **\$84,000**. The corresponding **Big Dog 50/50 raffle** pot totaled **\$113,00**, giving us a net profit of **\$45,000**.

**Friends** hosted other events throughout the year, including a Kitten Shower, Clear the Shelters, and Santa Paws. We also exhibited at various community events throughout Burlington County, raising awareness of our efforts and how you can help.





# YOU CARED; WE SAVED AND IMPROVED LIVES

In 2022, **Friends** was able to give shelter animals the hope of good health and loving homes thanks to the generosity of **2,711** donors. Combined with fund-raising events, donations totaled **\$442,238**.

In addition:

- Our **360** dedicated volunteers donated **38,289** hours of their time to help cats and dogs in our community.
- More than **80** fosters opened their homes to litters of kittens or adult cats or dogs with special needs or medical requirements.
- **Thirty-eight custodians** monitored over **255** coin boxes in various locations, bringing in **\$37,328**.

**THANKS TO ALL OUR DONORS, FOSTERS,  
AND VOLUNTEERS!**



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