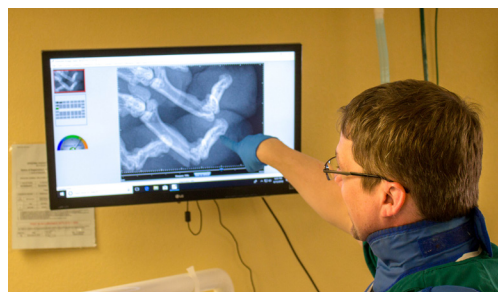
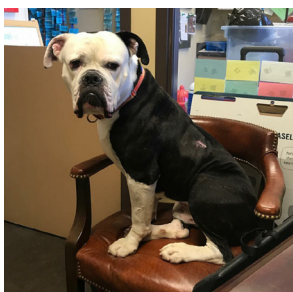


STRONGER TOGETHER

2018 Impact Report

When people work together to achieve a common goal, good things happen. Saving more than 4,000 homeless animals each year requires the dedication and commitment of an entire community.



WHAT THEY HAVE TO SAY

66

My mom has a traumatic brain injury and lost herself for a little while. My family and I knew she needed a friend. **Adopting Nyco (known at AAWL as Nicodemus) has been one of the best decisions we have ever made.** In the last year not only has Nyco given my mom confidence, he has been her gateway to get back out in the world and talk to new people when she goes to the clinic and her doctor appointments. My mom and Nyco go everywhere together. They even have matching jackets. She says he is her little prince and tells him every day that he is loved and important. We are so thankful that the AAWL team knew he was worth rescuing.” – **Katlynn R.**



66

I can't even remember what life was like BC (before cat).

I am SUCH a pushover when it comes to that little fuzzball. It's pathetic. Like every other cat on the planet, she likes to sit on my laptop when I'm trying to get work done. She somehow managed, with the help of autocorrect, to Google search for "Yum Tiger". I suppose that, if cats could use the Internet, that's the sort of thing they'd search for." – **Sara K.**

66

Bessie has her own nanny when we leave, she is the biggest hit at "show and tell" at my daughter's school and Girl Scouts. **My husband, who grew up without dogs, said he cannot imagine life without one now.** Thank you for the most AMAZING dog in the world." – **Brooke K.**



66

Fawkes was a miracle. He helped us recover from the loss of two beloved pets. Fawkes is 8 months old and the feistiest, spunkiest, most opinionated cat I know! He gets mad at me any time I throw off his routine and lets me hear how upset he is. He cuddles with my terrier mix when she gets cold. I don't know how we got so lucky to end up with the perfect kitten but we did." – **Hollyann H.**



STRONGER TOGETHER

Dear Friends,

The theme of this year's Impact Report is "Stronger Together". Those two words couldn't be more descriptive pertaining to the world of animal welfare. Nothing we do is done by one person alone – we must rely on donors, volunteers, medical professionals, behavior professionals, animal care technicians, foster families, transport drivers, adoption counselors, finance and administrative professionals, managers, and strong teams working together.

Each animal must be treated as an individual. They all have their own individual personalities, traits, needs, and behaviors. To help them be healthy, well-adjusted, and eventually, in a happy home, we must get to know them and give them what they need.

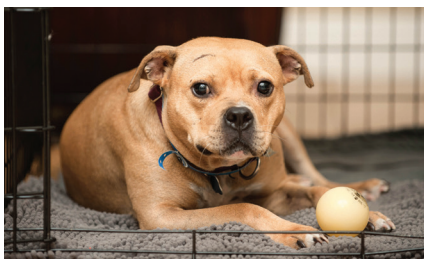
Over the past 47 years, AAWL has developed the expertise and the resources to do this work. However, without YOU, our supporters and animal advocates, we would not succeed. You make it possible for these helpless souls, many of whom are abandoned, injured, sick or just homeless, to find help and a better life. We thank you. We appreciate you and everything you do to help us help them more than words could ever say.

Please enjoy reading about a small slice of our world in 2018. The stories we've included just scratch the surface of the more than 4,000 individual stories we experienced during the past year. Each one was a special accomplishment, but only because we all pulled together to do whatever it took to achieve a successful outcome. With your continued help, we look forward to an even greater year ahead, including some exciting plans we hope to share with you very soon.

With Gratitude,

Judith A. Gardner

Judith A. Gardner
President & CEO



"A MENACE TO SOCIETY."

He was rescued from a dog fighting ring in Canada. He spent two years with a broken knee in doggie jail, being held as "evidence". He was deemed a "menace to society" by the government for no reason other than his breed.

The world had not been kind to Bubba, until an unbelievable alliance of people rallied across international borders to give him a chance. He was flown to Florida to rehabilitate for a year at the renowned National Canine Center, blossoming into a loving, and incredibly snuggly, tater tot.

His photos were taken by famous pitbull-advocate and photographer Sophie Gamand to share his story of survival. Knowing our nationally recognized dedication to our animals, Bubba was flown across the country again, this time to AAWL, where he received a crucial knee surgery and months of physical therapy while in foster care.

His potential owner drove two hours to meet him, immediately falling love. When those dedicated to saving lives come together, there is no roadblock, no border, no challenge that can stop us.

Because we're stronger, together.

NO CORNER TOO FAR

Running a tiny rescue in northern Arizona, Susan could barely sustain the dozen or so dogs she already had, let alone care for 17 newborn puppies who lost their moms, requiring bottle feeding every 3 hours. Susan is one of 32 rural rescue partners working with AAWL. We provide food, blankets, vaccines, and any help we can give to help save more lives. Susan knew if she could keep these babies alive until AAWL could come for them, they would survive.

She brought box after box of puppies into her living room for warmth, overwhelmed at the prospect of feedings every 3 hours. One of her “guests” was a “rez dog mama” that Susan found pregnant on the streets and who had recently given birth at Susan’s home. This dog immediately left her own sleeping pups and instinctively began feeding the newcomers!

Hour after hour she walked between litters of 21 puppies to keep them warm and fed, taking almost no breaks to feed herself. Her maternal instinct kept all 21 puppies alive, as AAWL made multiple trips to provide additional resources and to bring one litter at a time to the valley to find their new families.

Some people think “Rez dogs” won’t make great pets after living outside or on their own, but they seem to develop this instinctive “goodness” to survive in such a harsh environment, epitomized by our lifesaving “Rez Mama”.

In the last 3 years, our Rural Rescue program expanded from one urgent email asking for help, to a network of over 32 rescues across the state receiving support and relief from AAWL. These small communities have little to no resources, minimal veterinary care, a constant overpopulation of animals, and few outlets for adoptions. What they always have in abundance is the dedication of good people to save the lives of homeless animals.



Our relationship has given us hope. It's saved so MANY animals that would have been euthanized and opened more kennel space to save more. - Cathy R., Rural Rescue Partner



32

RURAL RESCUE PARTNERS
ACROSS THE STATE



6,000+

LIVES SAVED SINCE RURAL
RESCUE INCEPTION IN 2015



72

RURAL RESCUE
TRANSPORTS IN 2018



For a dog that lived outside his whole life, he seemed to realize that he was safe at last and learned to relax and enjoy being the best pet we ever had.” – **Sonia R**



The AAWL team, sometimes driving over 9 hours a day, bring medicine and supplies, and leave with a dozen or more homeless pets needing families; allowing the rescues to save even more. There is one important thing we always leave with our partners: **Hope.**

From newborn babies to seniors, over 6,000 animals have been rescued since we pioneered our Rural Rescue program. At AAWL, they receive medical care (sometimes for the first time in their life), love and compassion, and they always find their forever families. For many, it’s the first time living in a home instead of struggling to survive in the harsh deserts of the southwest. All they ever needed was a chance, and, with the help of a strong team and supporters, we are there to give it.

Whether it’s our owner surrender program for those who don’t know where to turn, our foster network, or our Rural Rescue program, AAWL saves over 4,000 homeless cats and dogs every year. Every partner, every animal, every member of the growing AAWL alumni family knows the wonderful benefits of adoption and each contributes to our lifesaving mission to end pet homelessness.

\$93,000 AND RISING

As we expand our Rural Rescue program to more communities in need, our budget has grown exponentially.

\$45,000/year

Transportation costs across the state

\$30,000/year

Medical testing and treatment of animals from rural rescues

\$18,000/year

Critical supplies for rescue partners



4,023

DOGS AND CATS SAVED IN 2018



8,000+

TOTAL ADOPTIONS FROM CHANDLER LOCATION



100,000+

ANIMALS SAVED SINCE 1971

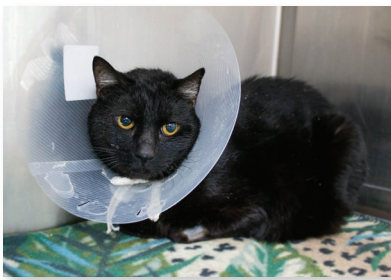
MEDICAL MIRACLE FUND

AAWL often takes in animals with extreme medical needs. These severe cases typically require specialists to conduct extensive tests or to perform highly specialized surgeries to save the lives of these pets. To pay for these expenses, that are “above and beyond” our normal medical care, we created a “Medical Miracle Fund”. Here are just three of the wonderful animals we saved this year because of our Medical Miracle Fund:



AUG | RIPLEY

Ripley was suffering from a terrible infection in his eyes when we rescued him from the county shelter. His fragile body survived multiple surgeries and rounds of antibiotics while living in our clinic under the watchful eyes of our staff. At only 8 weeks old, and now blind, Ripley suffered extensive trauma, but he thrived in his foster home. Constantly exploring and climbing anything he could find, he was virtually indistinguishable from his kitten friends who had their eyesight. After almost 2 months of care, his new family waited outside before we opened our doors to be the first family to meet, and adopt, this fearless little kitty.



MAR | BENJI

The pain endured after 12 years walking on a botched “declaw” procedure, was visible in his stifled walk and malformed feet, but not in his attitude. Benji curled up on the lap of our vet as she reviewed x-rays showing bone fragments left in his feet for a decade and signs of widespread arthritis. Specialized surgeries, daily wound care, and a lot of hope gave Benji the life he never had; one where he could finally walk without pain and suffering. His story was so impactful, he has become the “spokescat” of AAWL’s #PawsNeedClaws campaign advocating against the inhumane practice of declawing cats.



SEPT | KIMMY

Hobbling on a badly healed broken leg at a rural rescue, Kimmy was obviously in need of help. After extensive consults and exams with our medical team, it was determined amputation was the only option. Days after the procedure, Kimmy wobbled in her kennel, teaching herself to stand precariously on three legs. She drove her own physical therapy - constantly looking for walks, playtime, and any opportunity to grow stronger. Volunteers left exhausted after their daily visits, but joyous from her incredible progress. True happiness came when Kimmy found her forever home, her broken limb a forgotten memory.

DID YOU KNOW?

AAWL spent **\$1,125,000** on Veterinary Care for shelter animals in 2018.

\$70,000 came from our Medical Miracle Fund for specialized procedures and surgeries.



\$3,300
AVERAGE COST
SPENT PER MEDICAL
MIRACLE FUND CASE

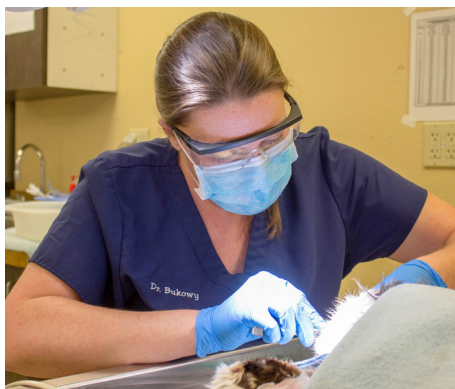


2,689
SPAY AND NEUTER
SURGERIES ON
SHELTER ANIMALS



1,537
FOSTER PUPPIES &
KITTENS RESCUED
AND CARED FOR

MD PETCARE



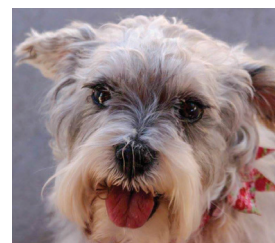
OUR ADOPTIONS CREATE FAMILIES. OUR PUBLIC CLINIC KEEPS THEM TOGETHER.

Over several years, through many medical challenges, Sharon has been totally committed to rehabilitating her three adopted puppy mill survivors, rescued by AAWL. Gilda (now Maggie), a beautiful Schnauzer, couldn't even walk on the ground after living in a wire mesh cage for 8 years. Two additional puppy mill survivors joined the family so Sharon could give them the love and care they had never known. AAWL's low-cost public clinic, MD PetCare, gave Sharon the opportunity to help them with many health issues at an affordable price. She developed a strong bond with our veterinarians and medical staff who also loved these innocent souls.

Sadly, each of them are now fighting cancer, and, although a large part of their lives were spent in horrific conditions, during the last few years they were able to experience the love and gentle care all living creatures deserve. If only everyone would adopt, rather than buy puppies from retail "puppy mill" stores, this kind of heartbreaking situation would no longer exist.

With its new expansion, MD PetCare doubled its capacity for care in the community this year. Even with increased staffing, longer hours, and specialty equipment, we didn't increase one thing: Our prices.

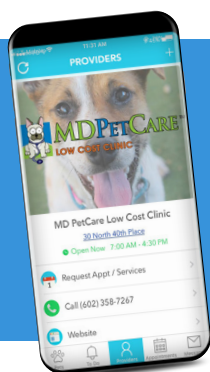
MD PetCare's commitment to low-cost services is paramount, allowing our clients (many on fixed incomes) to give their animals the care they deserve, but which they couldn't previously afford. Animals at risk of having to be surrendered due to medical costs are able to stay with their families. In addition, thousands of pets are kept safe because of our monthly low-cost vaccine clinics to prevent illnesses.



GILDA (NOW MAGGIE)



Helping puppy mill survivors learn that not all people are bad, and that they deserve tender, loving care is so rewarding. Providing them with at least a few years of happiness and love is the most fulfilling thing I've ever done." - Sharon W.



Book appointments, access your records, request refills, and more through our app - PETDESK!

Download on the app store or at MDPetcare.org



2,980

VACCINATIONS GIVEN TO ANIMALS IN THE COMMUNITY



\$78,000

SUBSIDIZED VET CARE WITH GRANTS & DONATIONS FOR LOW INCOME CLIENTS



338

EXAMS, PROCEDURES, AND SURGERIES ON CLIENTS' ANIMALS

VOLUNTEER

The halls buzz every Tuesday and Thursday at the shelter with the sounds of eager chatter, “Do you want to clean bowls first or hang with cats?” a SARRC Job Coach asks his students. Hours pass filled with elation from the jobs they complete and new furry friends they made. Every visit, they gain valuable life skills about navigating a workplace environment, but more importantly they work with animals at the shelter that many people pass by. Dogs and cats, some shy or fearful of people, cuddle up to a SARRC student for much needed quiet time; a mutual joy and comfort between them.



KELSEY, SARRC VOLUNTEER

For three years, AAWL has partnered with the Southwest Autism Research & Resource Center (SARRC) and their “First Place Transition Academy” for adults. Every semester, a new group of volunteers arrive, ready to make a difference in their lives and the lives of our animals. It’s vital AAWL works closely in our community, but to see the life skills and confidence build and flourish in our SARRC volunteers is one of our greatest joys.

“Our volunteer internship with AAWL has been a fun and empowering opportunity for the students in our Transition Academy. The partnership with AAWL allows them to practice critical life and employment skills in a community-based and inclusive setting. These skills are directly applied throughout their daily lives and leads to a greater connection to their community.” - Brad H, SARRC

Our volunteers are the lifeblood of AAWL; every job, every animal’s life, every day is enhanced by them. From walks at 6am (rain or shine), single-handedly running playgroups of over 20 dogs multiple times a week, cleaning literally tons of laundry for our animals, or simply socializing shy cats by quietly reading a book, their selfless drive provides an immeasurable comfort to our animals. For every life saved, an army of volunteers can be seen in the background, making every day better for AAWL.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2018, volunteers have saved AAWL **\$1,320,915** in payroll costs.



1,000

VOLUNTEERS LOGGED
HOURS IN 2018



53,500

VOLUNTEER HOURS
WERE LOGGED IN 2018



35

SPECIAL EVENTS
WERE HELD IN 2018

EDUCATION

Teaching children about human rights, animal protection, and environmental ethics develops more compassionate youth and creates a more humane sustainable world for all life on earth.



“I want to go back, it’s the only place that likes me.” Searching for a place to belong has always been difficult for Dylan. A mind for science, but always feeling awkward in social settings, he had tried other camps, activities, and programs; but nothing engaged him or allowed him to truly be himself. He felt validated in his passion when working hands-on with our exotic animal ambassadors, excelled in sharing his knowledge with other campers, and was surrounded by others who loved what he loved. He finally felt like “everyone else” instead of on the forgotten fringes of adolescence. Through multiple weeks of summer camp, he grew his confidence, his passions, and his friends. He became what we always strive for at our education campus; an animal welfare advocate for a new generation.

“AAWL’s Art Camp was absolutely perfect for my animal loving, art obsessed daughter. The staff was wonderful and inviting, and the kids made so many fun projects. My daughter was so proud to show me the paintings displayed in “her dog’s” kennel that she was sure were going to find the dog a great home. She came home with lots of smiles, having learned a lot, and a special place in her heart for all of the shelter animals. We will be back for sure.” - **Melissa G.**

Whether it’s granting incredible experiences to hundreds of children with yearly summer camps, building future leaders in our Teen Tracks program, or engaging the community at schools across the valley, our education department is empowering the next generation of animal lovers. These advocates grow and spread AAWL’s message about adoption, spay/neuter, empathy, and stewardship. A generation that respects and loves animals with an unrivaled passion, all while having so much fun, they don’t realize they are changing the world around them.



2,795

KIDS AND ADULTS
PARTICIPATED IN OUR
COMMUNITY EDUCATION
PROGRAMS



NEW ANTI-BULLYING
PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN
8-12 YEARS OLD



545

CAMPERS ATTENDED
ONE OF OUR STEM
FOCUSED, HANDS-
ON CAMP OFFERINGS

BECAUSE THEY DESERVE IT



When Viola was returned to AAWL with untreated valley fever, a growth blocking her vision, and cancer in her foot, she somehow still exuded constant love to every person she met. She loved the volunteers who sat with her after her Medical Miracle Fund surgeries. She loved the Education campers who made her cards and posters to help her find a family. She even loved those who passed her by for her graying muzzle and aging smile. But most of all, she loved Daniel, who had lost his senior dog only a month before and wanted to give the best years to another senior. He loved her back and gave her a home.

Daniel was not done changing the lives of dogs needing a second chance this year. When he heard the story of Oats, a senior puppy mill survivor who spun incessantly from 10 years in a tiny cage, he brought him home to be with his darling Viola. He even brought them to our Walk To Save Animals where they were treated like royalty. Finally, in a move bestowed only to fate, Daniel adopted Honey Bunches, best friend of Oats (and fellow puppy mill survivor) who had been returned twice in two weeks for her medical and emotional issues due to years of mistreatment; making the 8,000th adoption at our Chandler Adoption Center (a former puppy mill store) a puppy mill survivor.

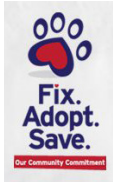
When you ask Daniel why: **"Because they deserve it."**

HOW WE FIGHT PUPPY MILLS:

- Replaced a puppy mill store at Chandler Fashion Center and adopted more than 8,000 rescues since opening
- Helped draft and pass anti-puppy mill city laws in the Valley
- Fought the state legislature against pro-puppy mill laws
- Rescued over 150 puppy mill survivors over the last few years



SPECIAL THANKS



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

AAWL is proud to be one of seven animal welfare organizations in the Valley that collaborate on the Fix.Adopt.Save initiative which began in 2012. Supported by grants from the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust, PetSmart Charities, and the Arizona Community Foundation, we have collectively reduced the euthanasia rate in our community by 86% and the intake by 45% since we began in 2012. This incredible achievement has only been possible with hard work, cooperation, and collaboration, due to the support of our funders. For additional information visit fixadoptsave.org.

HALO



GreaterGood.org
GIVE WHERE IT MATTERS

AAWL is honored to have been selected for the last five years by Halo Purely for Pets, FreeKibble.com, and GreaterGood.com to receive food for our shelter. Not only does the food donation allow AAWL to use those funds towards saving more homeless animals, it provides our shelter "guests" with high-quality, healthy food they love.

AAWL'S WORK IS POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF THOSE WHO CARE

Amazon Smile
Arizona Community Foundation
Arizona Diamondbacks
Arizona License Plate Fund
Banfield Foundation
Bayer Animal Health
Bud Bolton
John & Sonia Breslow
Janet Bria
Edward & Ann Marie Carr
Louise Everett
Facings of America
Violet Fara
Fry's Community Rewards
Glide Foundation
Barry & Ellen Goldstein
Lisa Grayson
Mary Carol Gregory
Peggy Greig
Patricia Jager
Virginia Jontes Foundation

Meher Kaur Khalsa Charitable Fund
Earl McCormick
Imogene Miles
Dorothy & Joseph Moller Foundation
OHSO Brewery
One Hope Winery
The Pederson Group
Jim & Roberta Pederson
The Pet Club
The Petco Foundation
PetSmart Charities
John Poggendorf
Kenneth Pollock
Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust
Richard Regan
Scottsdale Quarter
Jean Steenbock
Georgiana Swanson
Henry Turner
Weiss Family Foundation



THE LEAGUE - YOUNG PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL

The League is a new council of the Arizona Animal Welfare League made up of 25 elite young professionals that have been selected for membership. The primary function of this group is to attract and retain members of the younger demographic to become involved with AAWL to help raise funds, expand our outreach into the community, and to provide future board members, volunteers, and fosters.

As part of their involvement in The League, members receive board training to help prepare them for future opportunities to join non-profit boards for causes they care about.

2018 AAWL ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

John Breslow	Pam Muir
Sonia Breslow	Anne Niemiec
Roberta Pederson	Shane Olafson
Jim Pederson	Norma Ory
Heidi Fransway	Don Tapia
John Fransway	Rich Meyer
Paula Burgess	Amit Sahasrabudhe
Don Burgess	Jeanne Baldwin
Vik Krishnaswamy	Scott Bjerck
Jon Lane	

AAWL 2018 BOARD MEMBERS

Amrita Sahasrabudhe (Chair)

Kenny Farrell (Vice Chair)

Pam Eggert (Treasurer)

Diane Liberman (Past Chair)

Kristin Shroyer

Kyle Paskey

Melissa Esbenshade

Elyse Meyer

Jamie Erickson

STAFF

Judith Gardner
President & CEO

Matthew Goetz, DVM
Medical Director

Whitney Steele
Director of Volunteers & Special Events

Christina Flanagan
Director of Operations

Michael Morefield
Director of Marketing & Communications

Danielle Briggs
Director of Finance

Susan Logan
Director of Education & Training



ARIZONA'S OLDEST & LARGEST NO-KILL SHELTER
**ARIZONA ANIMAL
WELFARE LEAGUE
& SPCA**

25 N. 40th St., Phoenix, AZ 85034

UPCOMING EVENTS

EVENING TO PAWS

March 2, 2019

WALK TO SAVE ANIMALS

November 2, 2019

UNLEASHED

December 3, 2019

CAMP

Spring Break Camp

March 4 - March 15

Summer Camp

June 3 - August 2

VACCINE CLINICS

*Jan 19, Feb 16, March 16, April 20, May 18, June 15,
July 20, Aug 17, Sept 21, Oct 19, Nov 16, Dec 21*

To make a donation:

Arizona Animal Welfare League & SPCA

25 North 40th Street

602.273.6852 x106

tvalencia@aawl.org

aawl.org/StrongerTogether

