

2023 Annual Report

Animal Companions of Las Cruces



SUPPORTING 24 HOUR EMERGENCY
ANIMAL CARE SERVICES
in Las Cruces, NM



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Our Mission

Animal Companions of Las Cruces provides support and resources for establishing and sustaining 24/7 emergency veterinary services in Las Cruces, serving a wide community of pet owners in Southern New Mexico and easing the burden of veterinary staff.



<https://animalcompanionsoflascruces.org/mission-and-goals>



A Letter from the Chair

Dear Supporters,

It has been a busy year for us, and all has been made possible because of your continued support in both donations and volunteer hours. As you peruse this report, you will see what we have accomplished and how we have grown. You will join me in saying goodbye to a few Board members and welcoming our new members. You will gain an idea of how many people are a part of this Animal Companions of Las Cruces community and what a difference we are making. Finally, you will learn of upcoming plans for 2024.

The Board cannot thank you enough for all that you mean to us as we work on your behalf and all that you mean to the pets and pet parents of Southern New Mexico, especially the Las Cruces area. We want to say a special thanks to the wonderful team at The Community Foundation of Southern New Mexico for their wise guidance, mentorship, and collaborative work with us. We also want to thank the Carroll Petrie Foundation for the very important grant they gave us this year. Success breeds success!

Gratefully,

Dawn Duncan, Founder/Chair

Our Goals

- ❖ Provide support and resources to our local veterinary clinics
- ❖ Recruit veterinarians to the community
- ❖ Provide education to pet parents to help avoid emergencies
- ❖ Advocate for vet tech licensing and educational programs leading to licensure
- ❖ Advocate for limits on non-compete clauses in veterinary medicine to minimize loss of scarce veterinary resources in New Mexico
- ❖ Support a televet call line for after hours--**ACCOMPLISHED**



Veterinary Support and Recruitment

- ▶ Volunteers cover every clinic in Las Cruces and a few beyond. On a quarterly basis, we check to make sure we have the most up-to-date job and externship opportunities posted on our website.
- ▶ In 2023, we traveled to the national conference of the American Veterinary Medical Association in Denver, to Iowa State University, and to Florida State University-Gainesville to speak with and recruit veterinarians and veterinary students.
- ▶ On a monthly basis, we upload images and a 400 word news page to our Veterinary School Partnership Practices at ISU, FSU, and Texas A&M, highlighting our area and opportunities for externships and employment.
- ▶ We have joined Handshake, a digital platform used by many universities in order to upload career and externship opportunities to college students across the country.



Education

- ❖ We completed six 2-4 minute videos with NMCO Creative Studio and Dr. Sarah Walley, which are now on our YouTube Channel or viewable from our website. This fulfills a wish of our clinics and shelter. The videos cover “Infectious Diseases & Vaccines,” “Spay/Neuter,” “Snake Envenomation,” “Obesity,” “Marijuana/Cannabis,” and “Heartworm.”
- ❖ We have provided information at numerous community events, including a special collaboration with the Mayor of Mesilla and Zia Mobile Clinic for registration, vaccination, and education.



<https://www.youtube.com/@animalcompanions>

Advocacy

- ▶ Working with Representative Joanne Ferrary, Dr. Dawn Duncan, our founder and chair, prepared a bill to remove non-compete clauses from veterinary professionals. Dawn spoke before the committee where it passed unanimously. The bill comes before the legislature in the early 2024 session.
- ▶ Another issue about which Dawn spoke in committee is the need to accept out-of-state veterinary licenses so veterinary professionals moving here can practice right away, also an incentive for them to come. A bill expediting such licensure was passed in the 2023 session. **SUCCESS!**



Initiative for Las Cruces

In keeping with our concern for acting as good community citizens who care deeply about where we live and working to improve it, our volunteers have undertaken a Keep Las Cruces Beautiful campaign by adopting and cleaning up Maag Park on a monthly basis. It only takes about an hour when we work together, and it is a nice way to bond and support our city.



Our Pet Stories

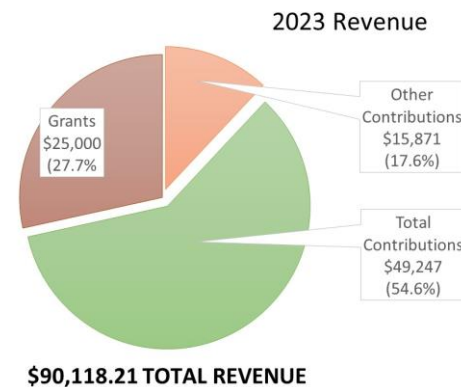
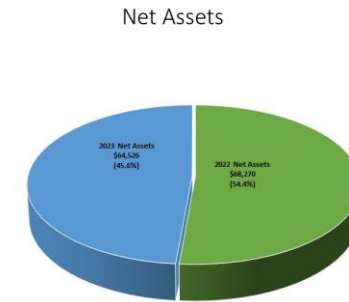
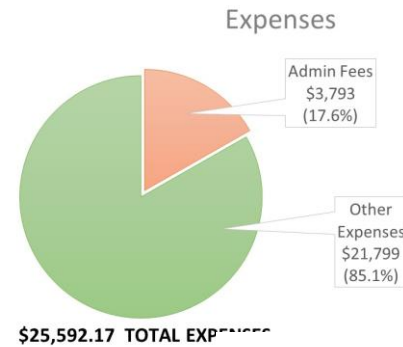
We continued to add to the Pet Stories section of our website, honoring the beloved pets of our supporters and their role as pet parents. Among our new stories are those about the Puentes furry family. If you have not read these yet, please do! They will put a smile on your face. They encourage us every day to keep working hard to bring emergency care here for our animal companions.



<https://animalcompanionsoflascruces.org/pet-stories>

2023 Financials

- ▶ Our revenue for the year, from grants, donations & fundraising = \$90,118.21
- ▶ Our expenses, greater this year as we ramped up our recruiting = \$25,592.17
- ▶ Only 5% of expenses went to administrative fees, the rest entirely programmatic, thanks to a fully volunteer Board
- ▶ Our current balance = \$132,796.06



Supporters—Our Donors (to be continued)

Big Dogs--\$1000 and above

Dawn & Dennis Duncan
Cherri Hudson-Brown & Jeff Brown
Candis Stern

Purrr-fect Pets--\$500-\$999

Antoinette Donnelly
Cheri Tillman-Anderson
(from the estate of Karen S. Tillman)
Deborah Watkins

Patron Pups--\$200-\$499

Elizabeth & Wayne Grinnell
Linda Mandel
Miguel Márquez
Elaine Martinez
Janet Pitt
Abby Rothman
David & Nancy Sharp

Caring Kittens--\$199-100

Julie Basile
Jean Berlowitz
Lisa Boyette
Kelly & Michael Carvlin
Elizabeth Cobb
Larry Felhauer
Larry George
Anthony Goodrich
Traci Hegland
Deborah Hooley
Patti Knowles
Holly Letourneau
Dan & Joan Linebaugh
Jacqueline & Jerome Ogledzinski
Roberta Pegueros
Tony Poe
Lana & Ken Posey
Jean Roach
Tammy Surles
Barbara Wimbush
Karen & David Woronoff

Supporters—Our Donors (cont.)

Best Bunnies--\$10-\$99

Jay Algire

Carol Bartholomew

Suzanne Brookbush

Connie Chapman

Julia Cunningham

Nancy Dionne

Lynda Fedeler & Ed Leiste

Melanie Finch

Julia Gallegos

Phyliss George

Carrie Greer

Marilyn Hallford

Pattie Hartman

Faith Hutson

Darla Hyde

Terri Justice

Shiv Lumb

Stacey MacDonnell

Shelby Mallory

Rebecca Mills

Suzanne Monroe

Terri Pease

Cindy Peterson

Auville Powell

Minerva Rivera

Rebecca Rizzio

Donna Sinn

Kathe Stark

Donna Sterling

Prudence Templeton

Eileen Tersago

Joanne Turnbull

John Verploegh

Jaye Williams

Sonja Wylie

Georgia Young

Supporters—Artists who Donated their Work to Our Auction

Darlene Arnold-Bradford
Nancy Baer
Caroline Barr
Mary Beagle
Margaret Berstein
Gretchen Blais
Daniela Bogart
Dinah Downs
Carrier Greer
Mike Groves
Jan M. Hampton
June Hill
Candi Hogan
Ralph Holmes
Annetta Hoover
Val Isleib

Lin Bentley Keeling
Kim Klein
Casey Klemp
Vaughn Larson
Kathy Marques
LeeAnn Meadows
Margaret Milz
Anahy Nuñez
Tony Poe
Lori Roberts
Noël Sandino
Glenn Schwaiger
Lexy Snell
Gabrielle Teich
Leslie Toombs



Supporters—Active Volunteers in 2023

Our total Volunteer Hours for Non-Board Members = 297.5, which at minimum wage is a value of \$4,462.50

- ▶ Heidi Alvarez
- ▶ Bob Basile
- ▶ Jean Berlowitz
- ▶ Wanda Berryman
- ▶ Jennifer Bonalumi
- ▶ Jeff Brown
- ▶ Jody Burns
- ▶ Kelly Carvlin
- ▶ Connie Chapman
- ▶ Dennis Duncan
- ▶ Martin Greer
- ▶ Carrie Greer
- ▶ Linda Hill
- ▶ Matt Holt
- ▶ Stephanie Kelenski
- ▶ Linda Kinstle
- ▶ Patty Knowles
- ▶ Al Marquez
- ▶ Teri Pease
- ▶ Cindy Peterson
- ▶ Tony Poe
- ▶ David Rice
- ▶ Minerva Rivera
- ▶ David Sharp
- ▶ Laura Simpson
- ▶ Kathy Stark
- ▶ Donna Sterling
- ▶ Candis Stern
- ▶ Nathan Walley
- ▶ Sarah Walley
- ▶ Jaye Williams

2023 Board of Directors

- ▶ Chair, Dr. Dawn Duncan
- ▶ Vice Chair, Nancy C. Sharp
- ▶ Treasurer/Webmaster, Miguel Márquez
- ▶ Secretary, Cherri Hudson-Brown
- ▶ Director/Volunteer Coordinator, Linda Mandel
- ▶ Director/Graphic Designer, Julie Basile

Your hard working Board put in **2,772.25** hours this year in voluntary service. In October, at the Spirit of Giving Gala hosted by The Community Foundation of Southern New Mexico at the Convention Center, Dawn, was honored with the George H. Deabel Excellence in Volunteerism Award.



Holiday Board Mtg with former and 2 incoming members: (left to right) Wanda Berryman (incoming), Linda Mandel, Nancy C. Sharp, Dawn Duncan, Miguel Márquez, Kelly Carvlin (incoming), Cherri Hudson-Brown, Julie Basile. Linda's dog, Gilbert, graced us with his presence too.



Dawn wins volunteer award

Closing Out the Year with a Fond Farewell

As the year comes to a close, we especially want to thank 3 of our members whose terms come to an end:
Treasurer/Webmaster, Miguel Márquez
Secretary, Cherri Hudson-Brown
Director/Graphic Designer, Julie Basile
We could not have accomplished all that we have without these 3 wonderful colleagues. We will miss their presence on the Board, but we know they remain a part of our vibrant volunteer corps.



Miguel Márquez



Julie Basile



Cherri Hudson-
Brown

Looking Ahead: Our 2024 Board

While we say goodbye to some Board members, we also welcome three new Board members. Over the next couple of months, they will find the roles that best suit them and serve our nonprofit work. We know they will do wonderful work!

Meet your new Board members:

Kelly Carvlin, Director, Webmaster, Communications & Graphic Design

Wanda Berryman, Director, Asst. Volunteer Coordinator, (considering Secretary duties)

Jean Berlowitz, Director, (considering Treasurer duties)



Kelly Carvlin



Jean Berlowitz



Wanda Berryman