

2016 ANNUAL REPORT



Mission Statement

To be a voice for the animals: to educate the public about animal responsibility and ensure that animals are treated humanely and given a "chance." To ensure that every available resource is used to provide sanctuary for abused/neglected, abandoned exotic and farm animals and to find adoptive homes when feasible.

2016: A Year of Growth

2016 was both exciting and challenging for A Critter's Chance! The demand for rescue of both wildlife and exotic/domestic animals, combined with increased awareness of our organization and the services we provide, led to greater successes in our care and rescue endeavors. This report will illustrate the results of the critical work accomplished in 2016. None of this would be possible without dedicated and compassionate volunteers and financial support of our generous donors.

Our Programs

A Critter's Chance is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization. Founded in 2006, we are volunteer run and foster based, with locations throughout central Indiana. Our programs include:

Exotic animal rescue: Volunteers skilled in care of exotics, such as snakes, lizards, birds, foxes, and mini pigs, provide habitats and diets tailored to the animals' needs, and provide or seek veterinary care as needed. Spaying and neutering are a top priority when possible.

Farm animal rescue: Rescued from abuse, neglect, or hardship situations, farm animals are provided sanctuary and medical care, healthy diets, spaying and neutering when possible, and loving care.

Adoption: While some exotic and farm animals are provided permanent sanctuary due to specialized needs, the goal for most is placement in caring adoptive homes.

Education: ACC offers education programs and provides information through fundraising events, newsletters, and electronic media, such as our FaceBook page. We provide education on the proper care and handling of exotic pets. We also help people decide what exotic or farm animal is right for them. This education is invaluable in our attempts to curb so many animals being relinquished or abandoned by private owners who cannot provide the proper habitat, diet, or other care needs.

2016 Key Accomplishments

Exotics and Farm Animal Rescues

A Critter's Chance is proud to partner with Indianapolis Animal Control and other local animal officers and rescue organizations (both county and private) in rescuing exotic and farm animals. Rescues may include abuse/neglect situations or abandonment. Below are the 2016 listings of Exotic and Farm Animal Rescues.

Exotics Rescues

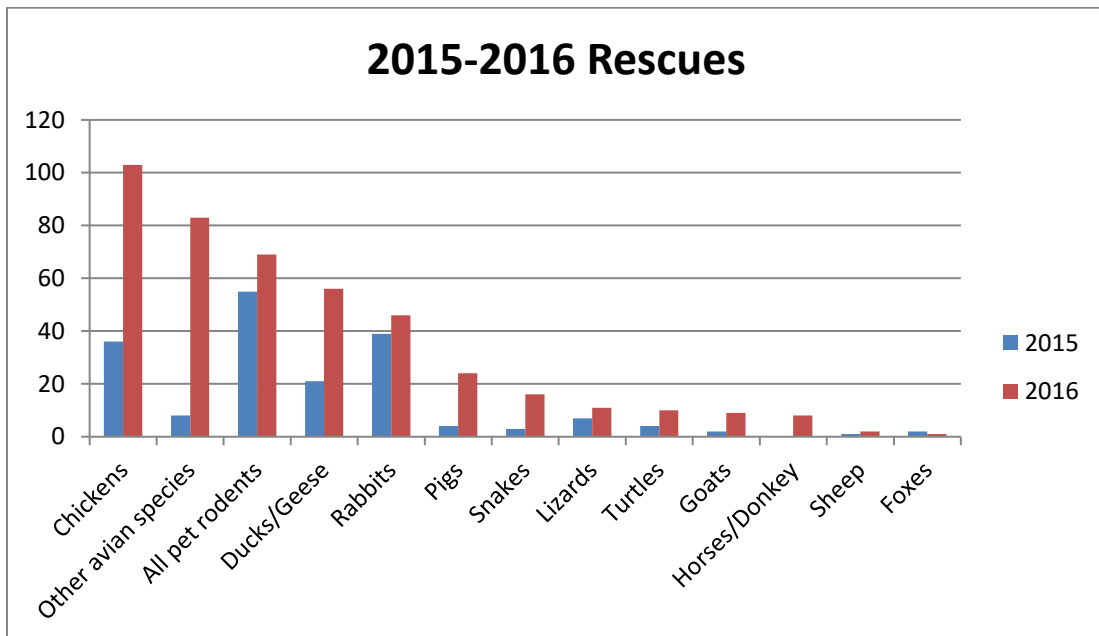
Rabbits	46
Pigeons/Doves	38
Guinea pigs	33
Pet rodents	32
Pheasant/Peacock/Guinea	26
Snakes	16
Lizards	11
Turtles	10
Budgies/Cockatiels/Lovebirds	9
Quail/Partridge	8
Chinchilla	4
Parrots	2
Muntjac deer	1
African clawed frog	1
Fox	1
Tarantula	1
Tortoise	1
Total	240

Farm Animal Rescues

Chickens	103
Ducks/Geese	56
Pigs	24
Goats	9
Horses/Donkey	8
Sheep	2
Turkey	1
Total	203



A comparison of 2015 to 2016 rescues further illustrates the impact our organization has made with increases Exotic and Farm Animal rescues.



Rescue Stories

Pigs, pigs, everywhere pigs

A Critter's Chance has been overwhelmed with pigs this year! With **24** pig rescues this year (up from 4 in 2015), we faced a number of challenges, including providing adequate housing for all of them.

Pigs can make great pets; they are loyal and very smart. They become attached to their human families very quickly but are easily depressed when separated. Unfortunately, some adopters don't prepare themselves for the realities of pig care. Mini-pigs, potbellies, micro-pigs – whatever the breeder calls them – are adorable as tiny, friendly companions. Adopters learn as time goes on that their petite pig doesn't stay so small, and may now present a challenge when housing a larger animal.

In addition, proper diet is essential to avoid obesity. In 2016, ACC rescued two sweet girls that became obese due to being overfed or fed the wrong diet. With proper diet and spa treatments (mud baths included), they have slimmed down to a healthier weight. Both have found homes with families who provide care and companionship and help them maintain their girlish figures.



Another vitally important component of pet pig care, as with most any pet, is spaying and neutering. Meet Bob, who was found by Hendricks County Animal Control as a stray. While his former owners were contacted, they no longer wanted him due to his escape tactics. In ACC care, Bob received a much-needed neuter, which diminished his need to roam and eliminated other, umm, inappropriate behavior. A calmer Bob has found a happy home.



Through generous donations from our supporters, we were able to expand the farm facilities to add an additional pig enclosure and provide vet care and neutering/spaying for 15 pigs.



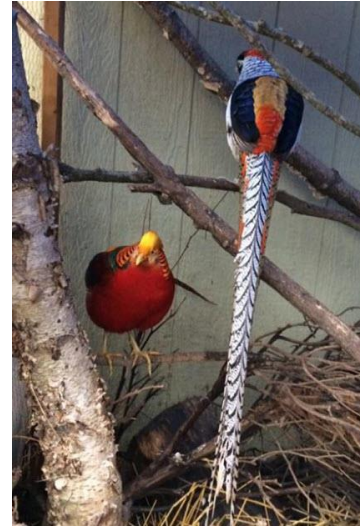
Big Rescues

The ACC farm played a key role in two 'big rescues' in 2016.

In August, working in conjunction with Indianapolis Animal Care and Control (IACC) on a cruelty/neglect case, ACC took in 30 chickens, 5 horses, 3 goats, 6 quail, 3 pheasants, 2 sheep and a donkey. The larger animals all needed extensive vet and farrier care.



Horses, goats, and sheep rescued



Pheasants after recovery

For the Birds

In another case, ACC rescued 68 avians (various species) from a bird breeding mill. Scrambling to find space to house them all required a huge effort by a team of dedicated volunteers. The avian rescue involved isolating the birds based on species and to prevent spread of illness to existing populations. The birds settled in fairly quickly, all requiring medications to rid them of lice and other parasites and to combat respiratory infections. The service provided to IACC and to the animals was invaluable.



**Chickens, peafowl,
and call ducks
healthy and happy
under ACC care!**



Meet a few of our success stories

Baxter

Baxter was one of the horses rescued in the cruelty/neglect case. He arrived emaciated and in very poor condition. He required immediate nutritional support, hoof care, and lots of TLC. The before and after pictures tell an amazing story of recovery. Today he is a sweet, good-natured boy with no apparent lingering effects of his trauma.



Baxter: *Before*



..... and after

Elephant

Elephant is a turken/silkie mix who was rescued from the bird breeding mill. He suffered from respiratory illness and parasites, like most of his rescued companions. His loving new 'mom' Kate treats his occasional respiratory flare-ups, and says he's "her baby."



Elephant: *Before*



... and after with healthy feathers.



Looking snappy!

Phoenix



Phoenix was a twisted, broken young iguana when he was dumped at a Pet Supplies Plus store in Lafayette in March of 2016. He and another male iguana were living in a 55 gallon aquarium, where he had nowhere to hide from his much-larger tank-mate. Iguanas are highly territorial and, being the smallest, Phoenix was injured and could have been killed by the other iguana.

We immediately rushed him to the vet. He had suffered many broken bones which had healed crooked, and was very underweight and calcium-deficient. After a lot of intensive care and surgery to remove the dead portion of his tail, he is living the good life and was adopted by our ACC president.



He happily spends his days eating, lounging, trying to steal food from other animals, and mastering his stink-eye.



Holly Hen found a 'joyful' home with Olivia

Holly was a young hen found as a stray and picked up by animal control. After treating her for mites and worms and with loving care at the ACC farm, she flourished into a beautiful hen. Olivia's mom contacted us and said that all Olivia wanted for Christmas was a new rescued hen to add to her flock. We immediately knew Holly would be a perfect fit for her. Holly has a wonderful home now and is loved very much.

Grady and his new playmate

This is Grady in his new home. Grady was part of a litter of tiny bunnies dumped in a pet store parking lot with their pregnant mother. Soon after they were rescued, the mother delivered her second litter while still nursing the first litter. Many of the newborn babies died as a result. We were able to care for all of the surviving bunnies, spayed and neutered them, and found homes for all of them after they became adults.



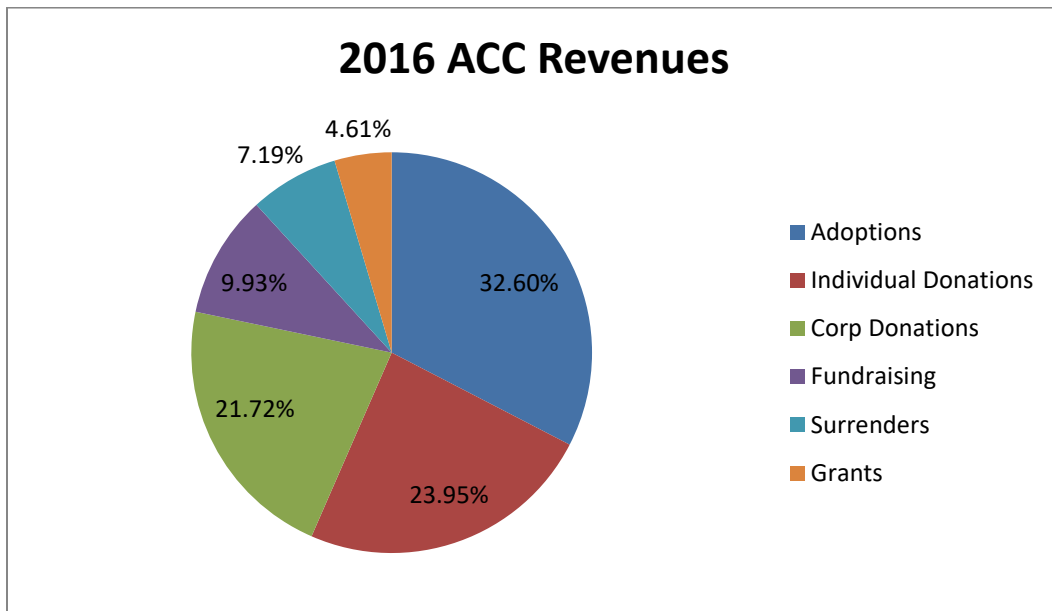
Sanctuary for Marley



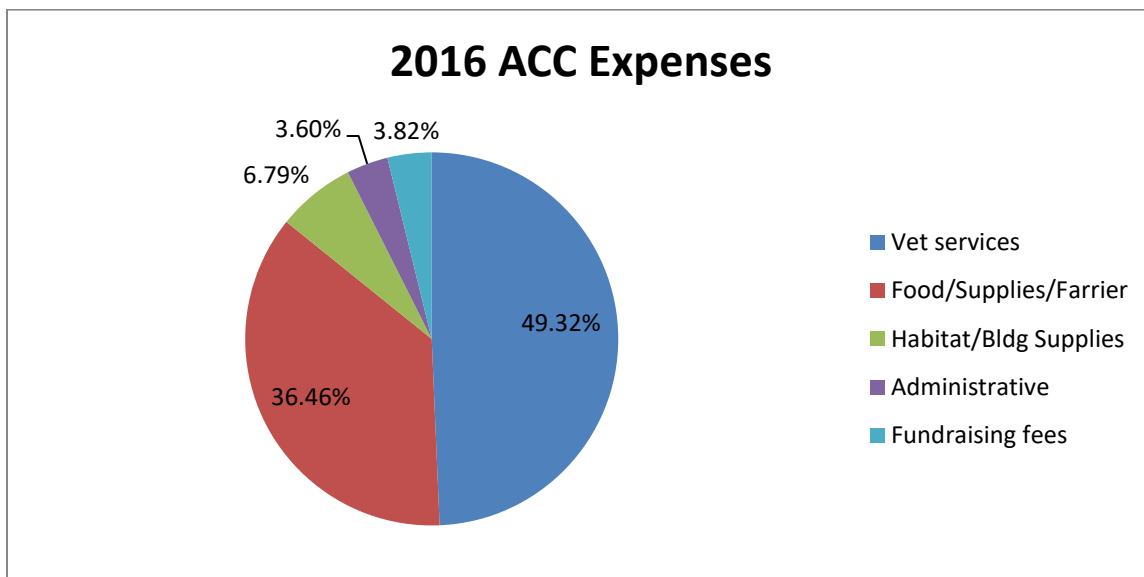
Some ACC rescue animals are not available for adoption due to special needs, medical issues, or behaviors that aren't conducive to living with humans as pets. This is Marley, a red fox who was taken in by ACC when his owner was unable to handle his marking and aggression. Foxes do not make good pets, despite what breeders may tell buyers. ACC has provided Marley with permanent sanctuary. He has developed into a sweet, playful fox with a proper diet, neutering, and an outdoor enclosure that our wonderful supporters and volunteers worked to create.

Financial Information

A Critter's Chance revenues based on adoptions and surrenders increased in 2016, a reflection of the greatly increased number of rescues over previous years. Surrender and adoption fees are more than offset by expenses incurred by veterinary care needs, including spaying/neutering, and feeding and housing costs. This highlights the importance of and our dependence on fundraising and donations.



The majority of ACC expenses are for veterinary services and animal care. Avian and Exotic Animal Hospital of Indianapolis, IN provides exotic and farm animal veterinary services at a discounted cost. For larger farm animals, ACC seeks the most reasonable costs for spaying and neutering in the area.



Thank You Donors!

Thank you to everyone who donated time, service, and financial support to A Critter's Chance during 2016! Your dedication creates second chances for all our animals.



We must protect the unprotected, care for the uncared for, and speak for the voiceless. We must give all animals a chance to live a life.
Anthony Douglas Williams

ACC Board Members

Amanda Nosie, President
Kelly Thomas, Vice President
Kim Krull, Secretary
Lisa Sbai, Treasurer

Thomas Moore, Events Coordinator and Cage Builder
Laura Vosahlik, Videographer
Tammy Somers, Transport Coordinator/Animal Enrichment