



# 2023 Annual Report & Newsletter



## A Letter from the President

Dear friends and loyal supporters,

Not long ago, someone asked, “How did you start doing this?” The answer is not that simple. It was a gradual thing. I have always been someone who wanted to get things done. When I started working in an actual establishment, I was in retail. I was the youngest in everything — the youngest head cashier, youngest assistant manager, youngest manager, so I have always been goal-oriented. Those days were about making money. Then I found what I was meant to do: animal rescue. For the first time, I felt an enormous sense of pride. I started with cats, and every time one was adopted, I felt a joy I cannot explain. In turn, that gave me a space to take another that was in the shelter (then Fairfax County in 1996) and going to be euthanized. Although I always wanted to take them all, I knew that one was going to have a good life. That is how Fancy Cats Rescue Team started 26 years ago. That led to a very advantageous and long-lasting partnership with PetSmart. To date, we have saved more than 26,000 animals. In 2018, we decided to expand to dogs as well. **Fancy Cats & Dogs** has grown from myself and my daughters to around 150 volunteers today. Today, I no longer have to worry about animals in the Northern Virginia shelters. Sadly, that is not the case in other parts of the state and the surrounding areas we help. Today, we partner with over 30 shelters and rescues to bring animals to Northern Virginia to find their forever homes. There are many working parts to saving each

*continued on page 2*

### Board of Directors

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**Member At Large**

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## A Letter from the President

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animal: from the shelter to the transporter, to the rescue and the foster or PetSmart store, and finally to adoption. We will continue to rescue and find homes for as many as we can. I always like to take the ones left behind so we take the seniors, the animals that require more care, the cats with behavior issues, or the black cats when others take the orange siblings. Even the cats that are designated “feral” ... most of the time just scared.

Things we need from you: please keep us in mind if you are donating any property. We are looking for a place (STILL) for a dog facility. Agricultural zoning would be perfect. We also want to start a sanctuary. Leave us something in your will. Your donations will help the animals that need it most. You can sign up for monthly donations. Our donors keep us going and allow us to help the ones that need it. Volunteers are always needed, and we need volunteers who can take on management roles in the group. We have lots of empty positions. Of course, we need you to keep adopting from us and referring your friends. Our success depends on all the animal lovers out there. Our goal is to provide a safety net for the animals on euthanasia lists. It’s not a perfect world, but we are trying to help where we can.

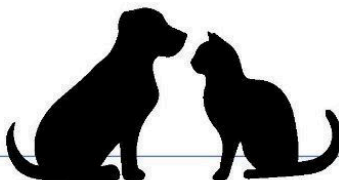
Thank you for everything.  
*Catherine Awad*

Catherine Awad



### Here’s How We Did in 2023

- Compared to the county shelter we took in 1,540 cats; they took in 1,711.
- They took in 171 more.
- They adopted out 1,312 cats; we adopted out 1,481.
- They have a paid staff.
- Dogs are no comparison because the dog foster base is very thin and we have no facility.



### Contact Info

#### Fancy Cats & Dogs Rescue Team

P.O. Box 182  
Herndon, VA 20172  
[www.fancycats.org](http://www.fancycats.org)  
[info@fancycats.org](mailto:info@fancycats.org)  
(703) 961-1056

### Follow Us!



### How to Donate

Mail your donation in the enclosed envelope to **Fancy Cats & Dogs Rescue Team** or donate online at [www.fancycats.org](http://www.fancycats.org).



## CATS 2023

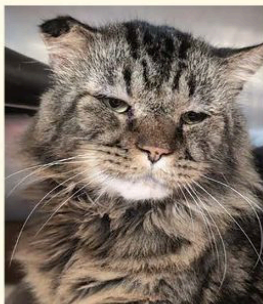
INTAKE	
Received from VA shelters	564
Received from out of state shelters	522
Stray	96
Born in care	73
Owner surrender (includes returns)	203
On hand Jan. 1, 2023	82
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,540</b>
OUTCOME	
Adopted	1,481
Transferred to another agency	5
Died in custody	46
Euthanized	5
Reclaimed by owner	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,540</b>



## DOGS 2023

INTAKE	
Received from VA shelters	29
Received from out of state shelters	42
Stray	3
Born in care	6
Owner surrender (includes returns)	18
On hand Jan. 1, 2023	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>101</b>
OUTCOME	
Adopted	95
Transferred to another agency	0
Died in custody	6
Euthanized	0
Reclaimed by owner	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>101</b>

## Seeking Our Forever Homes!



Introducing **Freddy**, the brave Maine Coon mix! When Freddy arrived at Fancy Cats in October, he was terrified. Hiding in the depths of his cage, he couldn't even muster the courage to lift his head.

For months, our dedicated volunteers patiently sat and talked to him, gently earning his trust. It was a gradual journey, but their persistence paid off. Today, Freddy confidently greets our morning volunteers with a chirp and a headbutt. He's eager to embark on his next adventure in a loving forever home. Could that home be yours?



Meet **Stacy**, the loveable senior seeking a forever home! At 12 years young, Stacy radiates love and curiosity. Her days are filled with gentle play and cozy cuddles, making her the perfect companion for

quiet evenings. With a mellow nature and an outgoing spirit, Stacy easily befriends everyone she meets. Despite her irresistible charm, she's been with Fancy Cats & Dogs since June, and we're baffled as to why. Do you have room in your heart and home for this sweet girl?

# Profit & Loss Statement

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02/09/24

Accrual Basis

## Fancy Cats & Dogs Rescue Team 2020

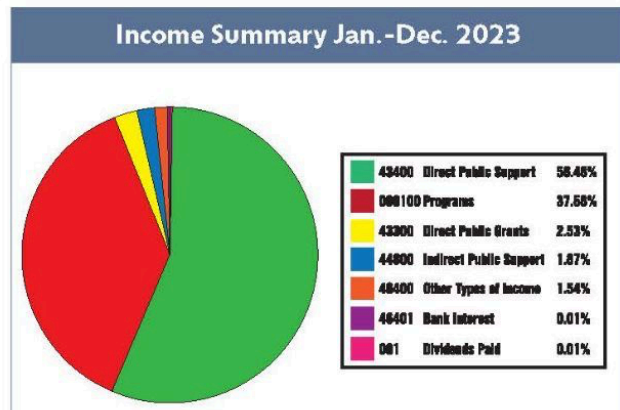
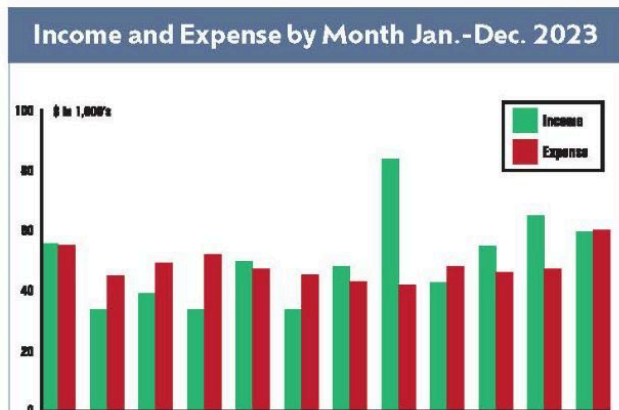
### Profit & Loss

January through December 2023

	Jan - Dec 23
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
000100 · Programs	
0001001 · dog adoption fee	48,408.00
0001002 · Cat Adoption Fee	177,338.20
<b>Total 000100 · Programs</b>	<b>225,746.20</b>
001 · dividends paid	5.10
43300 · Direct Public Grants	
43340 · Nonprofit Organization Grants	
43350 · Adoption Rewards	15,193.70
<b>Total 43340 · Nonprofit Organization Grants</b>	<b>15,193.70</b>
<b>Total 43300 · Direct Public Grants</b>	<b>15,193.70</b>
43400 · Direct Public Support	
43401 · Fundraiser	115,486.49
43460 · Legacies and Bequests	49,000.00
43400 · Direct Public Support - Other	174,827.67
<b>Total 43400 · Direct Public Support</b>	<b>339,314.16</b>
44800 · Indirect Public Support	
44820 · United Way, CFC Contributions	6,893.76
44800 · Indirect Public Support - Other	4,333.62
<b>Total 44800 · Indirect Public Support</b>	<b>11,227.38</b>
46400 · Other Types of Income	9,248.07
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>600,734.61</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>600,734.61</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
0001 · Veterinary Services	241,489.98
1001 · property tax	1,180.30
1200 · Refund adoption Fee	900.00
1201 · refund voucher	1,675.00
60100 · BANK CHARGES	3,546.84
60900 · Business Expenses	
60920 · Business Registration Fees	200.00
<b>Total 60900 · Business Expenses</b>	<b>200.00</b>
62100 · Contract Services	
62130 · Fundraising Fees	1,173.99
62150 · Outside Contract Services	322.00
<b>Total 62100 · Contract Services</b>	<b>1,495.99</b>
62800 · Facilities and Equipment	
62890 · Rent, Parking, Utilities	12.00
62900 · Maintenance	658.00
<b>Total 62800 · Facilities and Equipment</b>	<b>670.00</b>

## Profit & Loss Statement *(continued)*

	Jan - Dec 23
<b>65000 · Operations</b>	
65001 · cat food ,litter ,supplies	46,454.78
65002 · Store, quarantine supplies	34,483.43
65004 · Medicine, medical supplies ,vac	35,669.12
65005 · grooming	99.00
65006 · microchips	4,140.00
65007 · Utilities, trash	7,950.53
65010 · Books, Subscriptions, Reference	3,855.37
65020 · Postage, Mailing Service	881.73
65030 · Printing and Copying	6,489.02
65050 · Telephone, Telecommunications	3,535.46
65060 · Software	13,158.50
65070 · Laundry	2,954.93
<b>Total 65000 · Operations</b>	159,671.87
<b>65100 · Other Types of Expenses</b>	
65110 · Advertising Expenses	775.00
65120 · Insurance - Liability, D and O	10,913.05
65150 · Memberships and Dues	152.25
65180 · Disability Insurance	653.74
65100 · Other Types of Expenses - Other	14,368.88
<b>Total 65100 · Other Types of Expenses</b>	26,862.92
<b>66000 · Payroll Expenses</b>	143,726.40
66900 · Reconciliation Discrepancies	0.00
<b>68300 · Travel and Meetings</b>	
68320 · Travel	1,010.02
68300 · Travel and Meetings - Other	125.00
<b>Total 68300 · Travel and Meetings</b>	1,135.02
<b>Total Expense</b>	582,554.32
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	18,180.29
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>	
Other Income	
46401 · bank interest	25.54
<b>Total Other Income</b>	25.54
<b>Net Other Income</b>	25.54
<b>Net Income</b>	18,205.83



## What Does No Kill Mean?

“What does ‘no-kill’ mean? It means saving every dog and cat in the shelter who can be saved. Shelters strive to achieve a designated 90% save rate, taking into account that roughly 10% of animals surrendered have irreparable medical or behavioral issues and cannot be saved. The ultimate goal is to ensure that every shelter has the resources needed to save every dog and cat. The short-term objective is to assist every shelter in meeting the 90% benchmark by 2025.

Rescues operate differently. The majority of rescues without government contracts are donor-dependent, with no county or outside funding. Most do not euthanize unless an animal cannot be saved. Typically, rescues with government contracts function similarly to shelters. Last year, 4.4 million cats and dogs entered shelters, but only 3.6 million got out. Between Thanksgiving and Christmas, there were 276,000 more dogs and cats in shelters than the previous year.

### If You Can’t Adopt, Foster

Fostering is a short-term commitment with a long-term impact. By opening your home and heart to an animal for as little as 30 days, you contribute signifi-

cantly to the adoptability of dogs and cats. A typical day for a foster parent involves feeding, caring for, and providing lots of TLC to the pet. Socializing the animals is a crucial aspect of being a foster parent.

Time commitments vary by animal. We can help you find the right foster for your schedule and lifestyle. **Fancy Cats & Dogs** provide all veterinary care.

Kitten & Puppy Season is especially challenging, with so many lives in the balance. Your help is needed to ensure that every little soul can look forward to a bright future. Rural shelters are particularly tough for the most fragile. Many do not make it out because they die from inadequate care. When you foster, you not only save that life but also make space so that the shelter does not have to euthanize for space that day.

One of our fosters who helps with bottle baby kittens says, ‘They are high risk-high reward. They teach you a lot about being strong.’

**Not sure where to start?**  
 Visit our website at [www.fancycats.org](http://www.fancycats.org).



## Searching for a Loving Home!

**Lisa** has been awaiting a loving home for over a year. She embodies traits of independence, curiosity, and playfulness. Though initially shy, once she bonds with you, you’ll find in her a loyal companion. Moreover, Lisa gets along well with other cats. So, why hasn’t she found her forever home yet? The answer lies in her strong aversion to confinement. Anytime she’s in a cage, she’s desperate



to escape immediately. This can lead to her acting out by

## Encourage Adoption

Every year in the U.S., more than 1.5 million animals find their way into the nation’s shelters. Shockingly, 282,000 of them didn’t find their way out last year. The question arises: why is animal abandonment such a prevalent issue? Regrettably, cats and dogs are often regarded as disposable, a sad reality that may be difficult to grasp. Many individuals adopt or purchase pets for reasons that don’t prioritize the animal’s welfare.

In certain parts of the southern U.S., the rate at which people abandon dogs and cats outside is alarming. These animals end up in shelters, facing overcrowding and illness. Tragically, sick animals are sometimes euthanized due to lack of space. This unacceptable practice persists, highlighting the urgent need for reform in animal welfare.

Fortunately, strides are being made in the animal welfare industry to ensure shelters have the necessary resources to save lives. Rescue groups, often operating without government contracts or private funding, play a crucial role in providing hope for these animals. It’s disheartening to think that

healthy, friendly dogs and cats end up in shelters through no fault of their own.

Various reasons contribute to this situation, from owners passing away to the arrival of new babies or even allergies. Many stray animals are simply pets that were once loved but are now unwanted. Sterilization is key to reducing the suffering of these animals. Studies have shown that sterilization programs are effective in controlling stray populations.

Moreover, education and advocacy for adoption are vital. Supporting rescue groups and spreading awareness about responsible pet ownership can make a significant difference. Surrendering pets to shelters or rescues should not be seen as the only solution; there are better alternatives.

In 2023, **Fancy Cats & Dogs** invested over \$240,000 in veterinary expenses, especially during emergencies in the summer months. This commitment to saving lives is only possible with your continued support. Thank you for being a beacon of hope for these animals in their darkest hours.

***“Saving one cat will not change the world, but for that cat ... the world will change forever.”***

swiping and lunging, making adoption centers and fairs a challenging environment for her. However, this behavior is solely a reaction to being confined. As a volunteer who has personally interacted with Lisa during her time in a cage, I can attest to her transformation once she’s given the freedom to roam a room

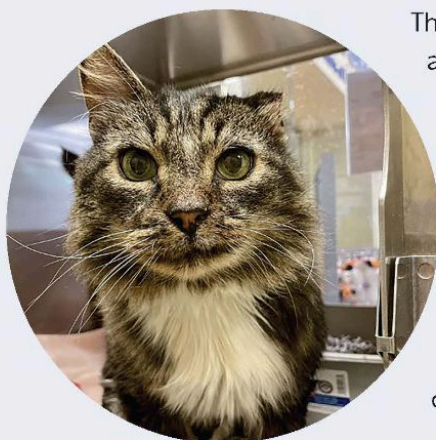
Instead, she becomes approachable and even enjoys human interaction. Are you an experienced cat enthusiast who understands that a cat’s behavior under stress isn’t indicative of their true nature? If so, consider opening your heart and home to Lisa. Whether as a foster or forever home, you have the opportunity

...that once she's given the freedom to roam a room.  
In a spacious environment, Lisa sheds her defensive  
demeanor, no longer resorting to swiping or lunging.

...a foster or forever home, you have the opportunity  
to provide her with the understanding and space she  
needs to thrive.

## Odin's Remarkable Journey: From Rescue to Recovery

Remember **Odin**, the sweet cat we rescued from a rural shelter in North Carolina? Odin arrived in poor condition, initially diagnosed with what we believed was a chronic upper respiratory infection. Despite multiple rounds of antibiotics, his symptoms persisted. Determined to uncover the root cause, we opted for a CT scan, revealing a shocking truth beyond our wildest imaginations: shrapnel was lodged in his nasal passage, with a hole in the roof of his mouth. Odin had been shot, yet miraculously survived.

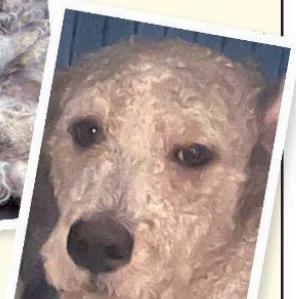


The surgery to remove the metal fragments was complex and lengthy. While the largest pieces were successfully extracted, numerous smaller fragments had to remain to minimize further trauma. Subsequently, Odin underwent another surgery to remove a hematoma from his ear, ensuring he could live free from ear infections.

Today, Odin is thriving in his forever home, all thanks to your unwavering support. It's a testament to the power of community and compassion. Together, we made a life-saving difference in Odin's life, proving that indeed, it takes a village.

## Neglect to New Beginnings

Who remembers **Chipper**? Rescued from a hoarding situation, **FCDRT** stepped in at the beginning of 2023. Chipper's coat was matted to his very skin, necessitating sedation for a thorough shave. This poor guy lost a total of seven pounds of fur. Just as Chipper was starting to come out of his shell, he suffered another setback. His foster caregiver noticed a troubling red lump on inside of his leg, which swiftly transformed into a sizable, raised "bullseye" lesion overnight. This alarming discovery was diagnosed as a brown recluse spider bite, rendering his leg agonizingly painful to bear weight on. Surgery became an urgent





necessity to excise the infected tissue, yet complications arose when the surrounding tissue proved too frail to support the initial stitches. What began as one procedure unfolded into a series of surgeries, accompanied by near-daily monitoring. It took months for him to heal from that bite. This loveable guy is now healthy, happy and well-groomed in his forever home!



## Donation Card

**Thank you for your support of Fancy Cats and Dogs Rescue Team. Your donation supports our ongoing programs to help rescue cats and dogs and find them forever homes.**



- \_\_\_\_\_ **\$25** will deworm a litter of kittens/puppies
- \_\_\_\_\_ **\$50** will pay for an FeLV/FIV test for cats
- \_\_\_\_\_ **\$75** will pay for a heartworm test for dogs
- \_\_\_\_\_ **\$100** will feed a family of cats/dogs for 30 days
- \_\_\_\_\_ **\$150** will spay a female cat or 2 male cats
- \_\_\_\_\_ **\$225** will spay a small dog
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to FANCY CATS RESCUE TEAM.

Your donation is tax deductible. Fancy Cats and Dogs Rescue Team is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

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