

Ottawa
**HUMANE
SOCIETY**
S.P.A. Ottawa



2013·14

ANNUAL REPORT

None of this would be possible without you. From the animals you helped us rescue, reunite and rehome in 2013/2014, we offer our heartfelt thanks.

MISSION: To work in and with our community to provide leadership in the humane treatment of all animals, to address the causes of animal suffering, to encourage people to take responsibility for their animal companions and to provide care for animals who are neglected, abused, exploited, stray or homeless.

There's No Place Like a Forever Home

A Safe Place When There is Nowhere Else to Turn

Because of you, 10,015 animals had a place to go when they needed help most



Cats
6,181

Dogs
2,111



Small animals
431

Wildlife
1,279

Your Support Means the Ottawa Humane Society Never Turns Away an Animal in Need

Of the animals admitted to the Ottawa Humane Society in 2013/2014, 1,995 were surrendered by their owners and 328 were transferred from other shelters. The greatest number were strays, at 5,545. Just 5.2 per cent of lost cats were claimed while 59 per cent of lost dogs were reunited with their families.

No Matter How Long It Takes, Every Adoptable Animal Will Have a Safe Place to Wait for a Forever Home

Kalie found herself homeless in June 2013 after her family had a new baby and could no longer care for her. The eight-year-old tortie had only known one home her whole life and now she had to start over. Luckily, the OHS was there to give Kalie her second chance.



Kalie was in the Adoption Centre until her perfect match came along in March 2014 — nine months later. Because you care, the OHS was there to find Kalie a forever home, no matter how long it took to reach her happy ending.

It's Never Too Late for True Love

Louie was a 14-year-old declawed tomcat when he was found wandering the streets of Ottawa alone in October 2013. He was in rough shape, with matted fur, fleas and rotten teeth. It took a few tests to determine that he was also suffering from early-stage kidney failure, which is not unusual in cats his age.



After a lot of dental care, some time recovering with a dedicated OHS foster volunteer, and some further testing to make sure he was healthy, Louie moved to the Adoption Centre as a special needs kitty.

The special needs adoptions program helps older animals and pets with manageable conditions get a second chance at finding a forever home. Conditions may include food allergies needing a special diet, thyroid conditions requiring regular, though inexpensive, medication, or heart murmurs that probably need nothing more than annual monitoring. It's a program that helps animals like Louie find their happy endings.

After five months in the care of the OHS, Louie caught the eye of a visitor to the Adoption Centre and went to his new home last spring.

Reuniting the Lost

When fire struck their home, Geneviève, Gavin and their children never thought they'd see their beloved pet budgie, Flower, again.



Luckily, someone found the frightened bird and brought her to the OHS to get the help she needed. Her story was posted on the OHS Facebook account and by the next day, Flower was back with her family.



Total adoptions

4,148

15.1 per cent increase

PAL adoptions

1,881

37.6 per cent increase

Special needs adoptions

161

78.9 per cent increase

Healing the Sick and Injured

Matilda's Happy Tale

Matilda was surrendered to the OHS five days after being hit by a car. The six-year-old pug was in terrible pain, pacing, panting and she couldn't sit still. It was right before Christmas 2013.



She was immediately prescribed pain medication and within days, had her back leg amputated by Dr. Denis Philibert, one of the many dedicated OHS volunteer veterinarians. He provided highly specialized care for Matilda at a significantly discounted rate.

After the leg amputation, dental care, and a spay surgery followed by some time recovering with an OHS foster volunteer, Matilda found her new home in April. Now known as Milly for short, she spends her days wrestling with Camper, her six-year-old bichon frise-poodle mix housemate. Sometimes Camper even shares his pillow with his new best friend, Matilda's forever family reports.

Veterinarians performed 4,562 surgeries on animals in the care of the Ottawa Humane Society last year. That's a 21.2 per cent increase from the year before.



Captain Jack's Story

Little Captain Jack was born at the OHS in September 2013. Right away, the veterinarian could see the tiny kitten had a deformed front paw. He also had a chronic lesion on his eye. To ensure he had the quality of life he deserved, Captain Jack's left eye and paw would have to be removed, the vet said.

A day after his surgery, the wee kitten was rolling around and purring when the technician came to check his stitches.

After recovering in foster care, Captain Jack was ready for a new home. His missing eye and paw were no barrier; he was in his forever home just hours after arriving in the Adoption Centre.



Preventing the Suffering of Unwanted Pets

Your support means the Ottawa Humane Society was able to increase spay and neuter surgeries by 20.8 per cent this year. All dogs and cats adopted from the OHS are spayed or neutered before adoption, preventing the suffering of countless generations of unwanted pets.

We Couldn't Do It Without Our Volunteer Vets

In 2013/2014, volunteer veterinarians donated 512 hours, an increase of 32.8 per cent from the year before.

Thank you to our volunteer vets and vet clinics:

Alta Vista Animal Hospital
Bayview Animal Hospital
Carling Animal Hospital
Carp Road Animal Hospital
Cedarview Animal Hospital
Fisher Glen Animal Hospital
Ottawa Veterinary Hospital
Westboro Animal Hospital

Dr. Vicky Bamberger
Dr. Julie Burke
Dr. Don Caldwell
Dr. Leslie DeAbreu
Dr. Chris Elder
Dr. Elsbeth (Beth) Emans
Dr. Deborah Gaon
Dr. Mathieu Grenier
Dr. Kim Holzman
Dr. Glenys Hughes
Dr. Kristin Isnor
Dr. Amy Jewiss
Dr. Graham Johnson
Dr. Jennifer Messer
Dr. Catherine Oliarynk
Dr. Vanessa Papiernik
Dr. Denis Philibert
Dr. Sandra Romanuskas
Dr. Sarah Seguin
Dr. Allison Stapley
Dr. Becky Sylvester
Dr. David Tinsley
Dr. Lianna Titcombe
Dr. Alex Torabi
Dr. Jodie Wilson
Dr. Orisha Yacyshyn

Answering the Cry for Help From Abused, Abandoned and Neglected Animals

Sheba and Cody Rescued From the Brink of Death

When Ottawa Humane Society Rescue and Investigation Services agents found Sheba and Cody in an abandoned house, the emaciated, dehydrated dogs were likely just days away from death.

Sheba, a 12-year-old whippet-pit bull mix, and Cody, an 11-year-old English spaniel, had been left without enough food or water for up to three weeks after their owner moved away, abandoning the dogs.

Agents rushed Sheba and Cody to the shelter for emergency treatment where they recovered until they were ready for adoption.

Though Sheba and Cody were safe in the care of the OHS, their story doesn't end there. OHS agents charged their previous owner with permitting distress and failing to comply with the standards of care. He pleaded guilty to the crime in December 2013 and was sentenced to two years of probation.



Duckling Rescue

When the animal and human worlds collide, it usually falls to the animals to get creative with their habitat.

That's what happened when a resident of a 13-storey apartment block called the OHS emergency line in July 2013 to report a mother duck and her eight ducklings trapped on the building's roof. The babies couldn't fly and had been without food or water for days after their mother built her nest on the roof.



OHS agents arrived to find the feathered family hiding under a shady bench. Very gently, they captured the brood then released the birds into a nearby river where they swam away.



Emergency calls

1,605



Investigations

1,532



Animals rescued

1,500

Top 3 investigations

Dogs left in hot cars

453

Not seeking vet care for sick or injured pets

210

Abuse

204

Volunteers: We Couldn't Do It Without You

This year, the dedicated team of Ottawa Humane Society foster volunteers grew by 20 per cent to 297, helping us be there for more animals in need.

Charlie the Great Dane

When Charlie the Great Dane was surrendered to the OHS, he weighed just 53 pounds, less than half what a dog his size should.



OHS agents allege Charlie had been without enough to eat for a long time — and it showed. His ribs poked through his skin. He was so emaciated that he needed to wear a coat to keep his bony frame warm.

The person who surrendered Charlie told OHS agents the dog was purchased online. Agents traced his former owner and charged him with permitting an animal to be in distress and with failing to provide adequate food, water and medical attention.

Thanks to nearly six months of love and care from a dedicated OHS foster volunteer, Charlie got his happy ending when he was adopted. At last report, Charlie was busy getting cuddles from his forever family, eating lots of treats, and running around with his new dog siblings.



Saving Young Lives, With Your Help

The youngest orphaned kittens at the OHS need a little extra TLC. They struggle to thrive without the love and attention of a mom, so Project Orphan Kitten gives them a fighting chance. It's through Project Orphan Kitten that a specialized team of staff and volunteers ensure the more than 750 orphaned kittens that will come to the OHS this year have the best care to keep them healthy.



Giving More Cats a Second Chance With the Kitten Brigade

Summer is the busiest time at the OHS, with more than 50 animals coming in some days, up from just a dozen or so a day the rest of the year. Many of those animals are cats.

The jump in numbers means it's harder to keep the animals healthy and to give the neediest animals — such as the tiniest kittens, pregnant and nursing moms, and sick cats — the individualized attention they need to make it.

The Kitten Brigade is the answer to the seasonal population spike, fast-tracking new foster volunteers to secure temporary homes for these animals. Last year, 58 new volunteers joined the brigade and helped 119 cats and kittens recover until they were ready for adoption.

Our Four-Legged Volunteers

The cats and dogs of the Brightening Lives program made 489 visits to 72 care facilities this year, including hospitals, retirement homes and rehabilitation centres. These special volunteers provide residents with the benefits of animal companionship.



Current volunteers

690

17% increase

Total volunteer hours

19,155

13% increase



Animals cared for by OHS foster volunteers

1,464 cats

147 dogs

19 small animals

3 birds

Changing the Future for Ottawa's Animals

One Child at a Time

You're helping us take a leadership role in the humane treatment of all animals with our community outreach. Humane education teaches children responsible pet ownership, promotes the human-animal bond, and nurtures kindness, sensitivity and appreciation for all living creatures.

5,735

Children reached through school program presentations

1,169

Children reached through summer program presentations

587

Youth reached through in-house tours

373

Children reached through long-term camps

213

Children reached through short-term camps

Helping the Animals by Reaching Out to Our Community



Website visits
1,979 47% increase



Tweets per year
1,632 11% increase



Twitter followers
6,531 39% increase



Facebook likes
22,687 81% increase

Breezy: Our Community's Dog

Breezy's story touched our entire community. Many people in the neighbourhood had witnessed her brutal beating and her story was on the evening news that very night.



Breezy?" and, "What can I do to help?"

The story of Breezy's merciless beating and miraculous recovery helped spread the word that animal cruelty is not acceptable to our community. You helped share her tale of hope

From the moment an OHS agent rushed her to the shelter to save her life, all of Ottawa was rooting for her to pull through. Hundreds of calls came in to OHS dispatchers and on OHS social media channels those first weeks, with everyone wanting to know, "How is

on social media, retweeting, sharing and commenting on every update. And when she finally got her happy ending with her forever family, you shared your joy too, with 5,572 "Likes" on Facebook for that one update!

A Chance Encounter on Facebook Led to Gunner's Happily Ever After

Gunner was surrendered by his owner in June 2013. The seven-year-old kitty has chronic conjunctivitis, which means the tissue around his eyes gets inflamed every now and then. It was hard for Gunner to compete with the kittens — it can be tough for a grown cat's inner beauty to outshine all that teeny cuteness.



Everything changed the day his picture was posted to Facebook. After six months, not one but three potential adopters raced to the OHS to give him a home after seeing Gunner's picture on social media!

Gunner now spends his days sleeping on soft blankets and chasing a laser pointer in his forever home.

Strengthening the Bond

Rig is a one-year-old bulldog mix who spent a month in the Adoption Centre waiting for his right match to come along. He was just bursting with energy and excitement and needed a committed forever family that could help him become the best dog possible with obedience training.



Rig boned up on his doggy manner with the Ottawa Humane Society LEAD program — Leadership Education with Adolescents and Dogs — and thought he'd found his family soon afterwards. But it wasn't the right fit for Rig; he was returned when his boisterous playfulness became too much to handle.

A week later, Rig found his home with a family dedicated to fostering the human-animal bond. Rig, now an OHS obedience class graduate, is living with his new forever family.

Your Generosity Helped Care For More Than 10,000 Animals Last Year

Last year, donations from fundraising totaled \$4,099,012 — that's a 29 per cent increase from the year before. We can't thank you enough for helping us give a voice to those who can't speak for themselves, for ensuring the animals have a safe place when there is nowhere else to turn, and for providing life-saving surgeries and medicines to heal the sick and suffering.

The animals depend on your generosity for a second chance at a happy life. You can count yourself among the 21,502 supporters whose gifts have changed the lives of the cats, dogs, small animals and wildlife you have read about in this annual report.

You Helped Save the Life of a Bouncy Tripod Named Bruno

Bruno was brought to the OHS in September 2013 by his owner who couldn't afford to fix his broken leg. When the two-year-old hound managed to break the same leg a second time, veterinarians found it was too damaged to be saved and would have to be amputated.



Bruno made it through surgery fine but soon became septic. His organs began to fail and staff knew it would practically take a miracle to save his life — they'd never seen blood test results that bad.

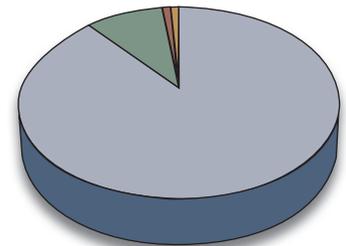
He spent a month in critical care, undergoing surgery to remove the infected tissue, multiple bandage changes, surgery to help close the wound, and supportive care. Vets treated him with an aggressive course of antibiotics and pain medication. After a month near death, he pulled through.



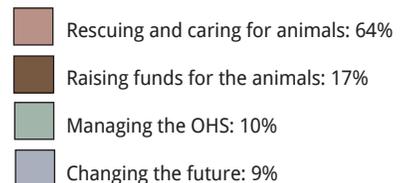
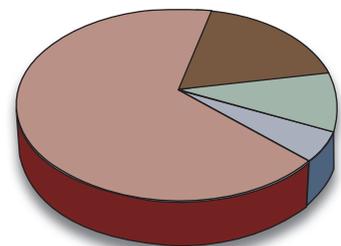
Bruno required extensive medical care by OHS staff — care that ultimately saved his life. It's only through the support of donors like you that Bruno recovered and got his second chance when he was adopted last winter.

OHS Resource Breakdown

This chart shows where the financial resources of the OHS come from.



This chart shows how OHS resources are used to help animals.



PAW: It's the Best Way for You to Give

The Ottawa Humane Society PAW (Pre-Authorized Withdrawal) plan allows members to make regular monthly gifts. This year there were 5,743 total PAW donors. That's an increase of 35 per cent. Thank you for your support!

Ottawa Humane Society Supporters

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- Iams (Procter & Gamble)
- United Way of Ottawa Donors

Visionary

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- Critter Crafters
- Iversoft
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- Pattison Outdoor Advertising
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- Ottawa Citizen
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Guardian

- American Express Gift Matching Program
- Anonymous - Community Events
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- Charlton & Co. Design
- Giant Tiger Bank Street
- Giant Tiger Stittsville
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- National Capital Commission
- Next
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- RBC
- Skedaddle Humane Wildlife Control
- Spiteri and Ursulak LLP
- Worwin Foundation



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