

A woman with long grey hair and sunglasses on her head is smiling and holding a small tan Chihuahua dog. She is wearing a leopard print cardigan over a black patterned top and a necklace with a cross. The dog is wearing a red and blue striped shirt. The background shows a building with a red sign and a blue car.

Annual Report

2021-2022



The Arizona

Pet Project

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IMPACT AT A GLANCE

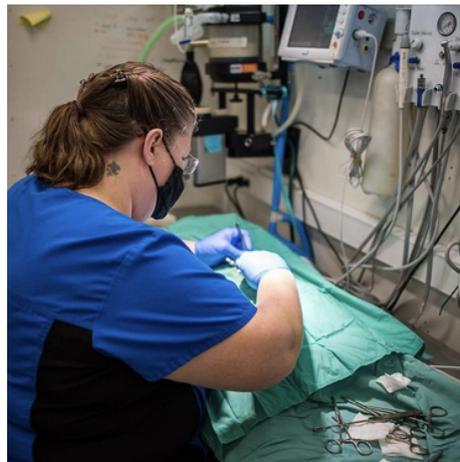
COMMUNITY WELLNESS PROGRAM



577
SPAY/NEUTER
SURGERIES



1013
VACCINES



387
E-COLLARS



501
PAIN
MEDICATIONS



IMPACT AT A GLANCE

OUR SHELTER INTERVENTION PROGRAM

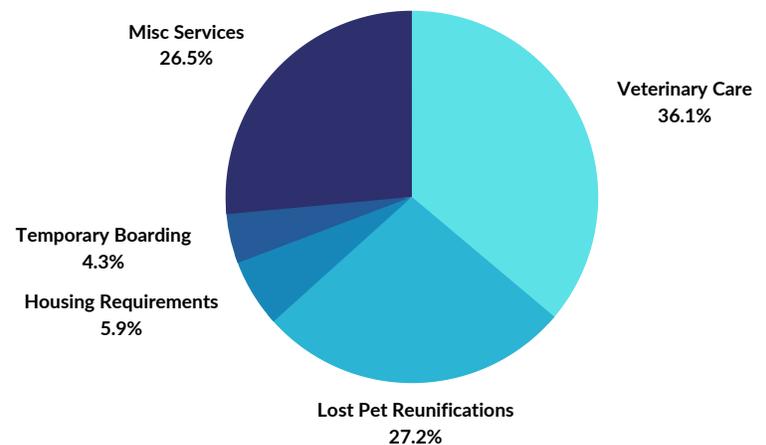
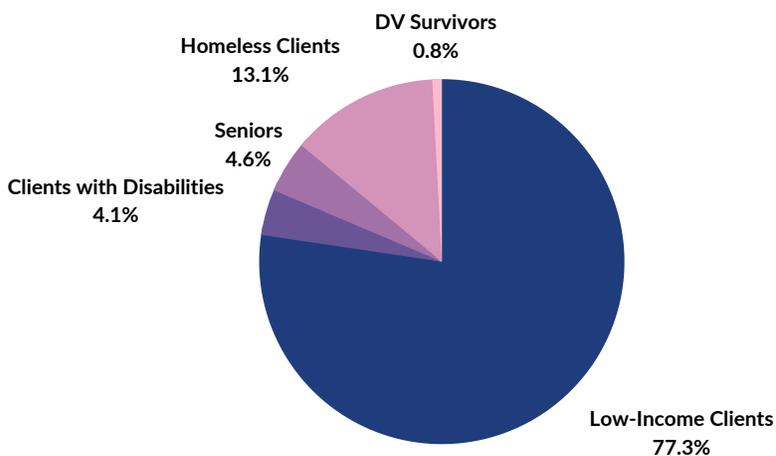
has provided 1,114 people and pets with resources this year, to preserve the family bond and keep dogs and cats out of shelters!

554

DIRECT INTERVENTIONS

560

INDIRECT INTERVENTIONS AND REFERRALS





our findings

LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING IMPACTS PETS, TOO.

42,092

evictions in Maricopa County (record-breaking)

270,000

affordable housings short to meet community need



Last year, we anticipated record-breaking evictions across Maricopa County. In response, The Arizona Pet Project partnered with several other animal welfare organizations to assemble the Pet Housing Task Force to support these families and pets facing eviction.

Today, Maricopa County is facing its highest rate of evictions ever displacing both people and their beloved pets.

The severe lack of affordable housing (short by approximately 270,000 homes) is forcing families with pets to surrender their furry family members.

The Arizona Pet Project is committed to supporting these families with pets facing homelessness. In response, we are expanding our reach within the community to support families with two new counselors: Homeless Community Counselor and Pets for Life Community Organizer.

LAUNCHING: HOMELESS OUTREACH

ON THE GROUND SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE AND PETS FACING HOMELESSNESS WITHIN MARICOPA COUNTY

In every study conducted on unsheltered people with pets, the data is clear – the pet's needs are placed ahead of the person, including food, medical attention, and safeguards against extreme weather. People with pets feel purpose, and this is *especially* true for people experiencing homelessness.

We have seen how transformative the human-animal bond can be and how a pet's unconditional love provides mental and physical health benefits and can reduce substance abuse.

Our NEW Homeless Community Counselor role is dedicated to supporting our unhoused neighbors with pets within Maricopa County with resources, services, and supplies.

By taking a street outreach approach and through partnerships with organizations like the Human Services Campus, our team will connect people and pets currently living in homeless shelters, in encampments, on the street, and in cars, with care for themselves and their pets.

The focus of this program is to provide people experiencing homelessness alongside their pets with support and resources to gain stabilization, safe shelter, temporary or permanent housing, or provide pet-related care, including veterinary care, food, supplies, and temporary boarding.

We can't wait to share exciting and heartwarming updates from the field over the next couple of months!



LAUNCHING: PETS FOR LIFE

THE ARIZONA PET PROJECT SELECTED BY THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES

This year, The Arizona Pet Project was selected by The Humane Society of the United States to bring the "Pets for Life" program back to Arizona!

Amanda Arrington, senior director of Pets for Life, explains why our team was a natural fit.

"The Arizona Pet Project has demonstrated an impressive initiative to address the inequity in access to pet resources that people in underserved areas experience. The Humane Society of the United States is proud to support The Arizona Pet Project in working towards a more just and fair animal welfare movement."

To put it in their words, Pets for Life embraces the human component of the human-animal relationship by approaching people in a respectful way and recognizing that people's love for their pets transcends socioeconomic circumstances and cultural differences.



LAUNCHING: PETS FOR LIFE

WHAT DOES PETS FOR LIFE MEAN FOR OUR SOUTH PHOENIX COMMUNITY?

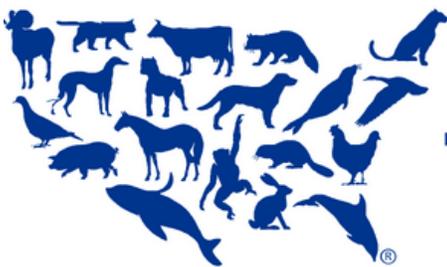
Here's what our CEO, Leanna Taylor, says:

"In 2021, we opened the first-of-its-kind bilingual Pet Support Center in South Phoenix to boost resources for pets and their families in our community. Opening a center in the middle of a pandemic was bold. Still, we knew the need was great and that if we built it, community members and funding partners would join us. A year later, we are thrilled to have The Humane Society of the United States assisting us in expanding outreach and services to families and pets in an under-resourced area".

This spring, we brought on a new team member, Patty Guillen, who will serve as our community organizer in support of the program. Using a grassroots, door-to-door approach, Patty will meet our neighbors already doing the hard work. to provide support. She will also connect families with resources, services, and supplies.

Whether providing families with pet food and other essentials or scheduling services, including preventative or sick and injured veterinary care, The Arizona Pet Project connects communities with pet resources they would not have access to otherwise.

The Arizona Pet Project shares the Pets for Life philosophy and can't wait to bring you the stories of families and pets we meet through this program.



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES**

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS GRANT

KEEPING VETERANS TOGETHER WITH THEIR EMOTIONAL SUPPORT ANIMALS



In partnership with the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services, The Arizona Pet Project team received a new grant to provide veterinary care and animal welfare resources to ensure veterans never have to choose between caring for themselves or caring for their pets.

Veterans like Dale and Michael, two of the clients we assisted this spring in collaboration with ADVS, rely on their emotional support dogs to provide unconditional love, comfort, and confidence in their lives as civilians.

Like so many veterans in our community, medical expenses and housing requirements were forcing Dale and Michael to choose between keeping a roof over their heads or staying together with their animals. And no one should ever have to make that choice.

The human-animal bond is transformative. Cats and dogs provide their humans with an incredible amount of emotional support. This is especially true for veterans, and why The Arizona Pet Project is committed to supporting veterans and their pets.



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

MAIN SOURCES OF REVENUE

\$442,045

Grants and Foundations

\$27,553

Indirect Contributions

\$112,300

Corporate Sponsorships

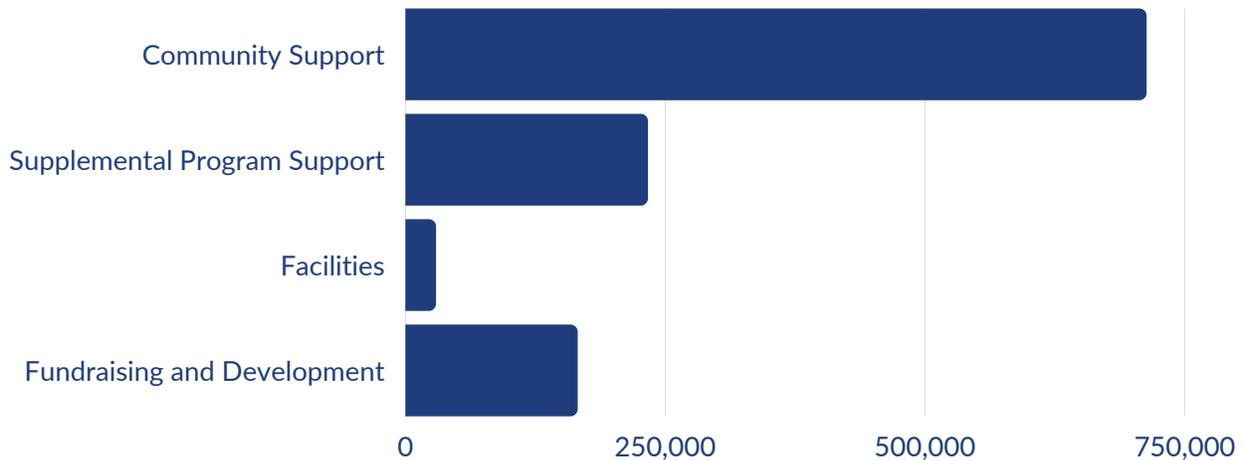
\$259,081

Donors

\$77,553

Donated Goods and Services

EXPENSES AT A GLANCE



**COMMUNITY
SUPPORT**
\$713,151

**SUPPLEMENTAL
PROGRAM SUPPORT**
\$233,153

FACILITIES
\$29,142

**FUNDRAISING
& DEVELOPMENT**
\$165,527

FROM OUR ANNUAL GALA MEET THIS YEAR'S HERO(ES)



IRK

When Sgt. Sheridyn was assigned to work with Irk while serving in the air force, they formed an inseparable bond. But when Sheridyn's active service ended, she had to say goodbye to Irk one last time...or so she thought. Months later, Sheridyn received news that Irk was retiring from his duty as an active military dog and she soon adopted him and brought him home!



SIMBA

A scenic family car ride near a picturesque canyon quickly took a life-threatening turn when Simba hopped over the canyon's edge and plummeted 200 feet down. Thanks to his quick-thinking family and emergency services, against all other odds stacked against him Simba survived this tragic accident.



JULIANE AND KODA

While on her morning walk, Koda sensed something was wrong and pulled her leash and her owner toward a bench. Sitting on that bench was a plastic bag, and inside of that bag was a frightened kitten, Juliane. Because of Koda's heroic sense of smell and keen senses, Juliane survived what inevitably would have spelled disaster if she was left there much longer.



CADDIE

Once a rescue pup and now an unofficial kitten whisperer, Caddie socializes kittens to prepare them for adoption into multi-species homes. With Caddie's help, hundreds of kittens across Arizona have been adopted after learning how to socialize with a dog and prepare them for their future homes with other household pets.



LINDSAY BENJAMIN

When going through the selection process for this year's Human HERO category, we didn't have to look very far!

Lindsay Benjamin is truly an advocate for people and their pets, and a local HERO within our community! Thousands of Arizona families have received assistance through her generosity.

Over the years, it's possible you've met Lindsay delivering impassioned speeches as the Chair of the HERO Awards. Or seen the two foundations she helps manage, the Wright Family and People Saving Pets, sponsor our events and life-saving mission. Or it's possible you've crossed paths with her at dozens of charitable events for pets and people throughout the years. Or maybe you've seen her walking one of her many pets through her Phoenix neighborhood.

you've saved lives!

THANK YOU!



[AZPETPROJECT.ORG](https://azpetproject.org)

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