

FORSYTH HUMANE SOCIETY



2015 Annual Report

Adopt. Educate. Love.

Advisory Council

David Scruggs, *Chair*

Ann Adams

Cissie Anderson

Pam Cook

Allison Gong-Dummit

Nan Griswold

Susan King

Roseann Rush

Nancy Young

Board of Directors

Julia Toone, *President*

Mark Uren, *Vice President*

Adam Duke, *Secretary*

Kevin Nunley, *Treasurer*

Kathleen Cannon

Amanda Creamer

Jaymie Eichorn

Renee Just

Mary L. Kesel

C.H. McMahan

Chris Megginson

Robin Pfefferkorn

Andy Pulliam

Christine Simonson

Anna Marie Smith

Tonya Sparks

Mitchell Spindel

Brian Stebbins

Vicki Telford

Dear Friends,

On my first visit to Forsyth Humane Society's adoption center at Miller Street, I was surprised by its size. The parking is challenging, the reception area crowded and the animal areas small. But the most surprising thing about the Miller Street location is the tremendous good that has come out of such a small space. In our 28 years on Miller Street tens of thousands of dogs and cats have been sheltered, nurtured and adopted. Countless volunteers, adoptive families and devoted staff have made a positive impact at Miller Street through hard work, contributions of time and money and by making the decision to adopt a lucky animal. The good work at Miller Street could not have happened without the tremendous embrace and support of our community.

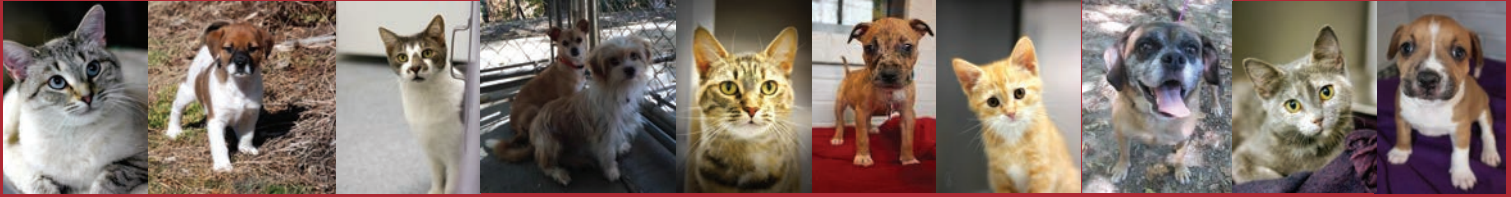
Over the years as our impact has grown, our need for more space has increased. Our dedicated board of directors and advisors had the foresight to begin the search for our "perfect new home" more than five years ago. We spent several years looking at potential locations. Representatives from the board and staff took field trips to other humane society locations around the state to get ideas for our new facility. The challenges were great. The perfect location was hard to find and our list of what we needed to make our center great was lengthy and would cost a lot of money.

Thanks to a dedicated board and staff, we found the perfect location. Thanks to a generous community, we raised the \$3.8 million needed to create the perfect space. This summer, our dreams will become a reality. We will move into our new facility at 4881 Country Club Road! In our new home we will have more humane and enriching environments for our dogs, cats, and people, offer educational programs, increase our outreach to the youth of our community through birthday parties and summer camps and continue to extend our reach into underserved areas. Our new facility will be a beautiful and cutting edge addition to our city of arts and innovation. Thanks to you, we are creating a more humane society.

I hope to see you this summer at our new Morykwes Adoption and Resource Center!



Julie Toone
President, Board of Directors



2015 Highlights

- We sheltered, nurtured and found homes for 927 dogs and cats.*
- We contributed to the spay/neuter of 1,312 cats and dogs.*
- We participated in 172 events in the community, which includes education, community events, and our Pet Food Pantry.*
- In April, we were named Community Partner of the Year by Wake Forest University's Pro Humanitate Institute.*
- In August, over a period of 48 hours we transferred 38 cats and dogs into foster care. These dogs and cats needed emergency sheltering as a result of the Guilford and Davidson County shelter shutdowns.*
- In October, we celebrated breaking ground at 4881 Country Club Rd.*
- In November, we achieved our Capital Campaign Goal of \$3.8 million.*
- In November, we honored the Fostering Friendship Therapy Dog Team with The Morykwas Award, celebrating their kindness, compassion & generosity.*



Building *a More* **Humane** Society

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN  **FORSYTH HUMANE SOCIETY**



Thank you to our generous community for supporting our Capital Campaign.

The Ground Breaking Celebration 4881 Country Club Road



In 2015, we were supported by approximately **1,000** community volunteers who contributed over **13,000** service hours.

Volunteer of the Year Awards



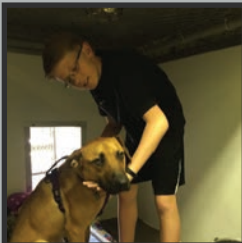
Rick Borucki retired from the Michigan Department of State where he worked for 36 years. Rick enjoys volunteering, reading, traveling, wine and genealogy. He is one of our most zealous and dependable volunteers. Recognized as our **office volunteer of the year**, Rick not only manages the phones with excellent customer service, he also has picked up and unloaded donations, assisted with offsite events, and so much more. Rick is our resident jokester and frequently brings treats to share at the Center. He is always willing to lend a hand where we need help and puts his whole heart into everything.



Greg Carroll retired from Sara Lee as a Merchandise Manager in 2006. Greg is an avid runner, a gardener, a music lover, and a strong supporter for Ovarian Cancer Research in Honor of this sister Jackie, who died of ovarian cancer at age 34. While Greg is being honored as our **dog volunteer of the year**, he is also one of our most reliable volunteers. He is helpful and readily accepts any task asked of him. He comes in the door with a smile on his face that never fades. He makes everyone who crosses his path feel welcome and appreciated.



Beckie Grandy retired from her role as the Manager of System Support at Baptist Hospital. She is a dedicated and compassionate volunteer. She provides a nurturing touch to the dogs and cats in our facility. Beckie has volunteered with the dogs, the cats, at events, and as a foster; Beckie will do anything she can do to help. She has a great eye for doing what needs to be done without being asked. If we are short-handed, we can call on Beckie to lend us a hand, which is a huge relief for our staff. She also has become a great mentor for new volunteers and is our **volunteer of the year**.

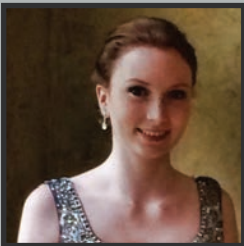


Mason Rudel is a middle school student. He is on the track team and enjoys spending time with his family, especially his grandparents and cousins. Mason's positive spirit, incredible work ethic, and desire to help have made him an asset to our FHS family. He never says no when asked to complete a task. Mason is our **youth volunteer of the year** because he excels at all he does and has impressed us all.

“Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much.”

- Helen Keller

Volunteer of the Year Awards



Jordan Settelen is a senior in high school, a member of the National Honor Society, and a pianist. In addition to giving her time to FHS, she participates in Carolina Cross Connection, which works to improve the lives of low income individuals and families here in North Carolina through various service projects. She plans on attending the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in the fall. Jordan is our **cat volunteer of the year** not only because she shines in the way she cares for our cats but also in the way she interacts with our guests. We appreciate her kindness and her can-do attitude.



Berry & Terry Sink have fostered more puppies than any other foster this year, and they always have a ball. Berry never says "no" when asked to help us out. They are such kind-hearted people and with their help we have been able to significantly grow our intake and adoption numbers. For this reason they are our **dog fosters of the year**.



Vanessa Smith is Baby Jane's foster. Baby Jane has been in her care for almost a year. Baby Jane was very depressed and unpredictable at the Adoption Center. Baby Jane has done well in Vanessa's nurturing home. Vanessa has committed to keeping Baby Jane until she finds her forever home. We acknowledge Vanessa as our **cat foster of the year** for her empathy and generosity.



Dr. Mitch Spindel, a veterinarian and owner of Animal Ark Veterinary Hospital, has served on our Board of Directors for 9 years. As Chair of the Building Committee, Mitch assembled experts in real estate, construction, design, and financing to search for our new home; he walked over 50 potential locations. He has served as an integral contributor, sounding board, and hands-on participant in the design and construction of our new home. Mitch's expertise has proven invaluable. He has been generous with his time, energy, and wry sense of humor. As a small token of our appreciation, we honor Mitch with **special recognition** for his volunteerism.

Every month in 2015, FHS distributed about **3000 lbs** of donated pet food to an average of **125 families** who needed support feeding their pets.

Through our partnership with UNchain Winston, families received straw and doghouses. Plus, 14 dogs were unchained by building 11 fences.



We continue to partner with The Forsyth Correctional Center's *A New Leash on Life* program so inmates can experience the unconditional and healing love of a dog, while training dogs for their forever home.

2015 Graduates



Through our partnership with Senior Services' Meals-on-Wheels Program, we provided an average of **550** lbs of donated pet food monthly to homebound seniors living with companion animals.

During 2015, we visited **2600+** children at schools throughout the county. We teach them how to properly approach dogs, that all pets need food, water, shelter and love; and what to do if they find themselves in an unsafe situation with a dog.



As part of the Spay Day Coalition we assisted with disbursing **482** spay/neuter assistance vouchers. In addition, we provided **98** vouchers to individuals who could not participate in Spay Day opportunities.



These surgeries, combined with the **732** surgeries completed on in house dogs and cats, prevented more than **6,500** puppies and kittens from joining the homeless pet population during the course of one year.

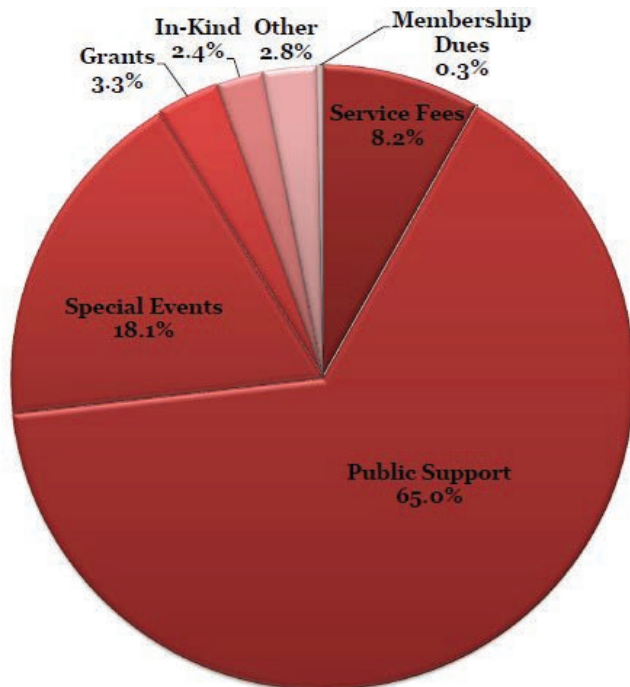
100% COMMUNITY FUNDED

Because of your food donations we only had to spend
\$1,321.93 on pet food this year.

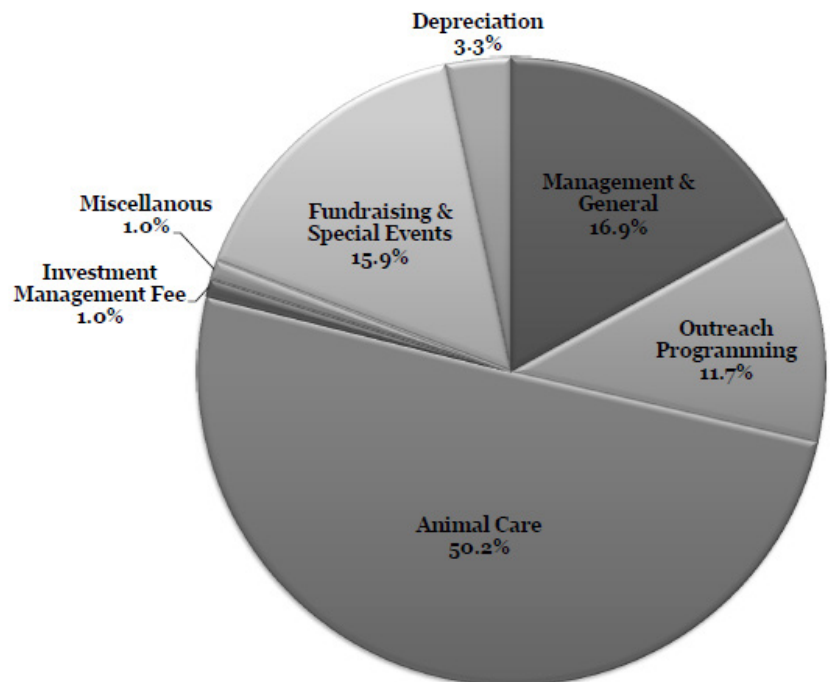
Our average cost to prepare an intact cat or dog for adoption is **\$93**.
This includes the cost for: rabies, spay/neuter, microchip, deworming, vaccines,
FIV/FELV and heartworm screenings, and flea/tick and heartworm preventatives.

We spayed/neutered **732** animals in our care last year, a cost of
\$33,058.

We cannot make a difference for dogs and cats without you.



Revenue



Expenses

Dear Friends of FHS,

All of us who have had the honor of living with and loving a cat or a dog know how hard it is, when the time comes, to say goodbye. If we are lucky we have loved and known them for the arc of their life – from silly kittendom, to frisky walks and tricks, to sedentary lap sits.

People often tell me our companions let us know when it is time to say goodbye. We all know that doesn't make the goodbye easier.

It is bittersweet as we say goodbye to our home at 61 Miller Street. That small building has sustained our heart, and helped us to grow our adoptions, our outreach, and our community impact.

As we say goodbye to the life lived at Miller Street, I reflect on the thousands of dogs, cats, and people who were rescued there. I am reminded of the multitude of hands, hearts, and paws who worked and lived there. In my mind's eye that small triangle-shaped building will forever radiate large with love, compassion, and hope.

Home is where the heart is. Goodbye 61 Miller Street. We will carry your generous and beating heart with us to 4881 Country Club Road.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in white ink on a red background. The signature is cursive and reads "Sarah E. Williamson".

Sarah E. Williamson
Executive Director

Staff

Sarah Williamson
Executive Director

Anne Allen
Jamie Bertman
B. Daniels
Britney Dodge
Donna Fowler
Shari Harding
Kris Hughes
Jill Kerridge
Darla Kirkeeng
Ben Klein
Mark Neff
Beryl Parks
Karen Petty
Danny Rawley
Nicholas Rodriguez
Erin Ryan
Brie Salamone
Debbie Swank
Rex Welton
Mitra Wilkenfeld



Goodbye 61 Miller Street. Thank you for years of love, compassion, and hope.

(336) 721-1303

www.forsythhumane.org

61 Miller Street • Winston-Salem, NC • 27104

Forsyth Humane Society is a non-profit animal welfare organization dedicated to enriching our community by promoting the compassionate treatment of cats and dogs.

Photo Credit: Jarrod Sams, Jason Ellison, Torrey Ferrell & Carol Todd

