

Scratching Post

Annual Report of Auburn Valley Humane Society



2024



Mr. Rogers, an 8-year-old male mixed breed dog, came to the shelter in dire need of help. Our amazing vet and animal welfare staff worked on his scabby skin and wounds on his face and upper body. Mr. Rogers was adopted in September and is now enjoying walks with his new family.



Changing Lives ... Four Paws at a Time!

AVHS ANIMAL SHELTER

4910 A Street SE Auburn WA 98092

253-249-7849 option 1 Front Desk

11am - 6pm 7 days a week

EIN # 45-0638467 | UBI # 603094796

AVHS NORTHWEST SPAY & NEUTER CENTER

6401 Pacific Ave Tacoma WA 98408

253-627-7729

10am - 5pm Monday-Friday

8:30am-5pm Saturday-Sunday (temporarily closed)

AVHS THRIFT STORE & MORE

1123 E Main St Auburn WA 98002

253-249-7849 option 6

Monday-Saturday 10am-6pm, Sunday 11am-5pm

AVHS CAT CAFE

1101 Outlet Collection Way SW #1133 Auburn WA 98001

253-205-0956

Monday-Thursday 11am-8pm

Friday-Saturday 10am-8pm, Sunday 11am-7pm

www.auburnvalleyhs.org

info@auburnvalleyhs.org



AVHS Executive Board

Alexis Singletary, JD

Chairperson

Adriann Dooly

Vice-Chair

Bob Briggs

Secretary

Chris Kim

Treasurer

AVHS Board of Directors

Don Edwards, DVM, Past Board Chair

Rick Oliveira, CPA, Past Board Chair

Miles Haney

Khristina Swanson

Maryellen Elcock

Rachel Tobias, JD, LL.M.

Sam Nokes

Andrea Niemeyer

as of Dec. 31, 2024



AVHS Leadership Staff as of Dec. 31, 2024

Phil Morgan

President/CEO

Sharon LaVigne

Director of Philanthropy

Lisa Moore

Director of Human Resources

Phoebe Leong

Director of Special Programs

Sarah Shier

Shelter Director of Public Services

Jan White, DVM

Veterinarian of Record

Sherri Duensing

Cat Café Manager

Jennifer Haskins

Clinic Director of Public Services

Candi Kesler

Thrift Store Manager

Jeanine Riss

Volunteer Coordinator

Emily Mattison

Animal Welfare Coordinator

Judy Lovejoy

Finance Coordinator

John Hasek

Maintenance Coordinator



OUR ORGANIZATION

AVHS VISION STATEMENT

To be a model of excellence in the advancement of animal welfare

AVHS MISSION STATEMENT

Auburn Valley Humane Society enriches the lives of companion animals and people through animal sheltering, programs and community engagement.



AVHS CORE VALUES

We value the compassionate care of companion animals

We value the humane treatment of all animals

We value our staff and volunteers

We value our relationship with our partners and supporters

We value our role as a leader in animal welfare

We value integrity, fiscal responsibility and careful stewardship of our resources

AVHS is a local, independent 501(c)3 nonprofit, which relies on pet licensing and lost pet housing agreements with the City of Auburn, shelter services, clinic services, thrift store sales, cat café sales, and generous donations to fund the shelter operations, clinic operations, humane education and human/pet services and education programs.

Donations made to AVHS are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

2024 REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES

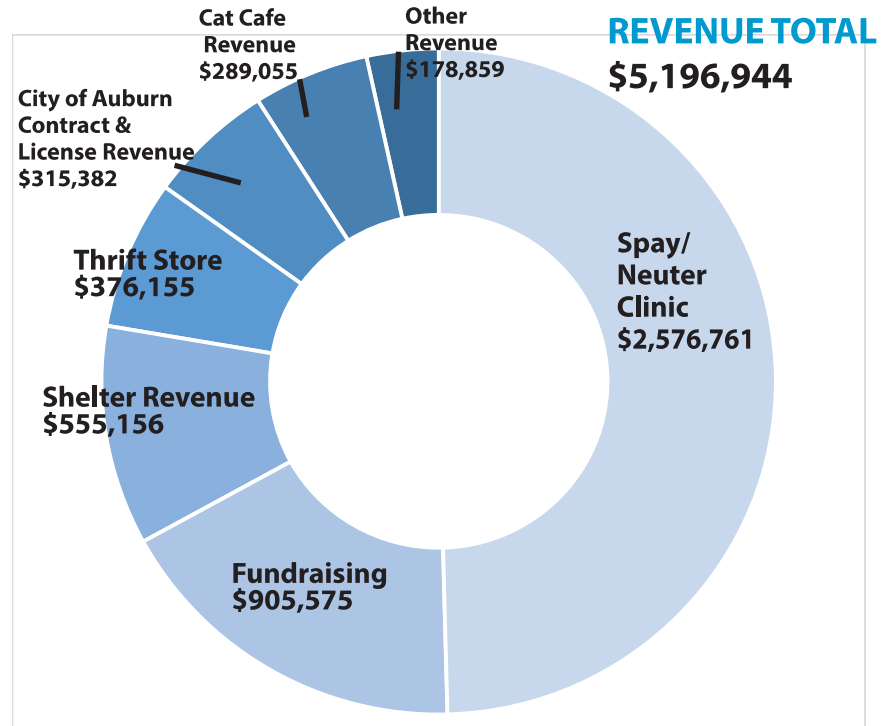
Community support makes our work possible.

* AVHS does not receive federal or state funds. AVHS receives municipal funding through agreements with City of Auburn (COA) for the housing of lost pets from Auburn and for pet licensing. AVHS is not affiliated with any national humane or animal welfare organizations. AVHS is also supported by generous donations and support from private individuals, corporations, foundations, grants and program revenues.

* Unaudited 2024 financial figures as of 2/20/2025

REVENUE *2

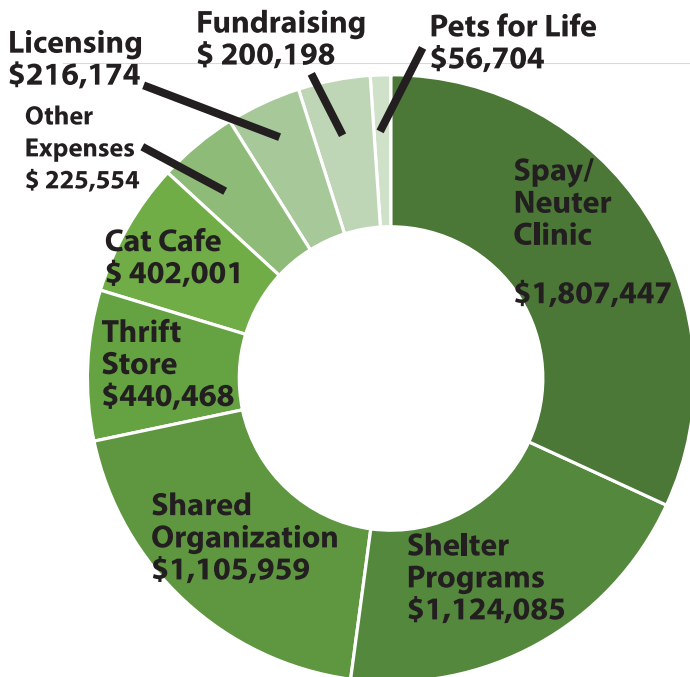
Cat Cafe Revenue*3	\$ 289,055
COA License	\$ 315,382
Shelter Revenue	\$ 555,156
Thrift Store	\$ 376,155
Spay Neuter Clinic	\$2,576,761
Fundraising	\$ 905,575
Other Revenue	\$ 178,859
TOTAL	\$5,196,944



*2 - Unaudited 2024 financial figures as of 2/20/2025

*3 - 7 months of operation

EXPENDITURES TOTAL \$5,578,590



EXPENDITURES *2

Shared Organization	\$1,105,959
Pets for Life	\$56,704
Licensing	\$216,174
Shelter Programs	\$1,124,085
Cat Cafe*4	\$402,001
Fundraising	\$200,198
Thrift Store*5	\$440,468
Spay Neuter Clinic	\$1,807,447
Other Expenditures	\$225,554
TOTAL:	\$5,578,590

*4 Includes setup & construction

*5 Includes \$36,079 in Public Medical Fund & \$12,410 in Extraordinary Fund



2024 AVHS NWSNC STATS

12,841+
SURGERIES



18,122 VACCINATIONS
2,289 WELLNESS EXAMS

1872
SHELTER INTAKE ANIMALS

911 CATS
355 DOGS
23 SMALL CRITTERS
ADOPTED



582
FOSTER PLACEMENTS



457 CATS
116 DOGS
9 SMALL CRITTERS
FOSTERED

545
VOLUNTEERS

24,470
VOLUNTEER HOURS



22,149 ANIMALS IMPACTED



OUR LOCATIONS



Animal Shelter



Northwest Spay & Neuter Center



AVHS Thrift Store & More



AVHS Cat Café



Message from the PRESIDENT/CEO

2024 has been the most challenging year Auburn Valley Humane Society has faced since we opened our doors twelve years ago. With rising costs, a more difficult demographic of animals entering the shelter and a shift in the animal welfare industry, our leadership team at AVHS quickly had to come up with sustainable solutions to the issues we faced. Which we did!

As we complete year twelve at Auburn Valley Humane Society, it seems like it was yesterday when dozens of dedicated volunteers, three employees, and I performed all the daily duties at the animal shelter. As I look back at all the challenges and triumphs of the past twelve years, I am reminded of the real reasons Auburn Valley Humane Society continues to change lives four paws at a time and why our organization is very successful at what we do.

2024 was a year of growth and progress for our organization. This last year was a time of commitment and determination of our staff and dedicated volunteers to ensure our organization's continued success. We have grown stronger as an organization, strengthening our philosophies, beliefs, and practices, reaffirming our mission and our unwavering dedication to the citizens and animals in the communities we serve. We are very excited looking forward to our future in animal welfare.

As 2024 ended, the dream of having a first-rate local animal sheltering facility twelve years ago has become more than a reality. We have become an enterprise with over sixty employees and hundreds of volunteers supporting our efforts. This past year, we revisited our mission and vision statements and reaffirmed our core values. As an organization, we review our policies and procedures, and always look to increase the quality of care for the homeless and abandoned animals in the shelter and the programs we provide to the community.

During this year of continued growth, I am proud of our organization's accomplishments. We are ever evolving and always seeking ways to pivot our efforts and continue ways to fulfil our vision and mission. Our dedicated staff and volunteers continued the hard work of fostering, caring, adopting homeless pets, and the humane education of children and adults throughout our community.

Partnerships with local businesses continued to flourish. The strength of relationships AVHS has built with the City of Auburn, the local veterinary community, and King and Pierce Counties' citizens enabled us to grow stronger. Our donors' and supporters' generosity and concern for our efforts were critical in achieving our goals. Many of the challenges we face in a post-pandemic world did not impact our fundraising efforts that so vitally assist us financially to support the animals in our care. Auburn Valley Humane Society Thrift Store & More also continued to thrive. Due to the thrift store's 2024 success, we continue to grow our Humane Services programs and fund these vital and much-needed services. The continued growth of our merged partner, Northwest Spay & Neuter Center, has allowed us to expand much needed low-cost spay & neuter and wellness services to the region in unbelievable numbers. The AVHS Cat Café that finally opened in April has been a huge success! This new endeavor has vastly broadened our exposure in the region, as well as increased our adoption capacity for cats and generated much needed funds to further our mission.

One of our primary goals is to find lasting, loving homes for the companion animals that pass through our doors at the shelter. In 2024, 537 dogs, 1063 cats, and 27 other animals were owner relinquished, transferred from other shelters, or found as lost animals and taken into our care. We gave them loving care, certified their health, administered necessary vaccinations, microchipped them, and then spayed or neutered them. Once accepted into our shelter, there

is no time limit on the animal's stay with us.

In 2024, the shelter placed 1,289 pets into adoptive homes, and we reunited 160 lost pets with their owners. We also transferred 105 homeless pets to local rescue organizations. Because euthanasia is never our first choice, we are proud to report that our 2024 live release rate was 95%. AVHS reunited 28% of lost dogs and 2% of lost cats with their owners. All adopted animals left our shelter spayed or neutered, vaccinated, and microchipped. At the shelter, Auburn Valley Humane Society spayed or neutered 1,054 shelter animals and 180 TNR surgeries. In 2024, the Wellness program at Northwest Spay & Neuter Center performed 2,289 wellness exams for the pets of income-qualified residents in our community. NWSNC also performed spay or neuter surgeries on 3,047 non-profit partner animals and 9,794 public dogs and cats for a total of 12,841 animals and we gave 18,122 vaccinations. In 2024, through all of our programs, Auburn Valley Humane Society impacted the lives of 22,149 animals in our region.

We are not only an animal shelter, adoption agency, a spay and neuter clinic, a thrift store and a cat café, AVHS is also an educational organization. Community outreach is a vital part of our organization. Over 545 active volunteers spent 24,470 hours cleaning kennels and cages, caring for 582 dogs and cats in foster care, doing laundry and dishes, constructing enrichment toys for the animals in our care, walking dogs, and helping with customer service at the thrift store, fundraising, and the cat café. Thanks to our dedicated volunteers and staff, we can inform the world of our progress through our websites, and AVHS social media pages.

Over the past year, our volunteer Board of Directors has given valued direction and support. We have diversified and maintained our revenue stream and successfully navigated our expenditures. We also grew our important animal-related/human service programs. The Public Veterinary Assistance and the Pets in Crisis funds assisted the owners of 84 animals with emergency medical care and boarding needs. The Pets for Life program provided support for 427 animals. 104 pets of 32 families in need were assisted monthly through the AVHS Shelter Pet Pantry program. At Northwest Spay & Neuter Center, the pet pantry provided 5,709 pounds of food to pets in need. Due to the success of the Shelter Buddies Reading Program, countless children spent their time reading to our cats in feline adoption as well as at the Cat Café. The Girl Scout Badge program saw 136 Girl Scouts received their AVHS patch and 199 children toured the shelter in 2024. We partnered with Seattle Humane Society for the Pets of Seniors Food Bank, which also continues to grow.

Acknowledgment for these many successes again goes to our dedicated staff and volunteers, the support of the City of Auburn and neighboring animal sheltering agencies, and the generous devotion of the King and Pierce Counties' citizens. Most importantly, our successes are a direct result of our faithful donors and supporters.

As in the past twelve years, we ended 2024 as an essential and vital part of our community. We are thankful and proud of our 2024 accomplishments and look forward to significant growth in 2025. We could not have done it without your help, and we are honored to be here with you, continuing our mission and changing lives... four paws at a time!




Phil Morgan
President/CEO

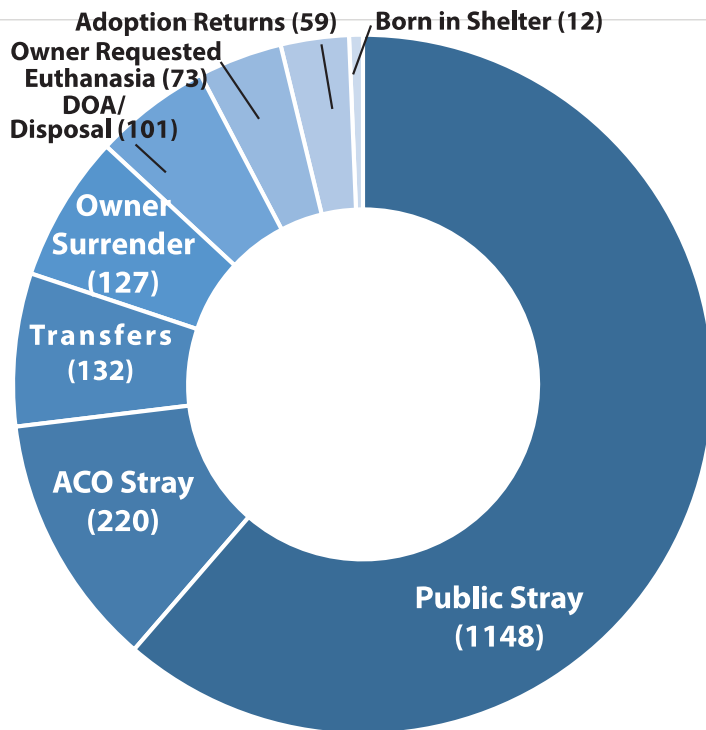
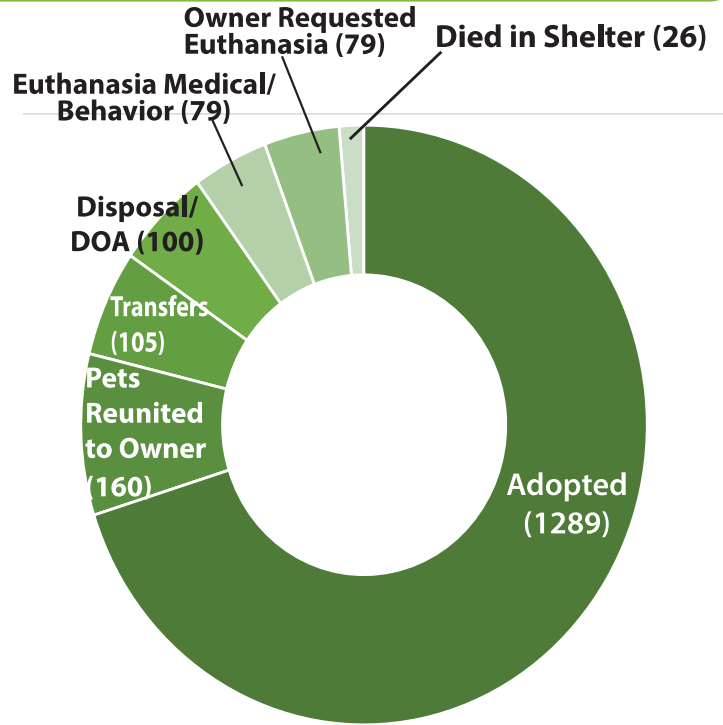


BY THE NUMBERS

ANIMAL INTAKES

Intakes include animals that came into AVHS as owner surrenders, public strays, animal control strays, transferred from other animal welfare organization, born in care, owner requested euthanasia, DOA/disposal and adoption returns.

TOTAL INTAKES: 1872
Dog/Puppy Intakes: 657
Cat/Kitten Intakes: 1180
Other Intakes: 35*



ANIMAL OUTCOMES

Auburn Valley Humane Society strives to find a loving family for every adoptable animal. The outcomes include animals that were adopted, transferred to rescue groups, reunited with their owners, died in shelter, DOA (dead on arrival), euthanasia medical/behavior and owner requested euthanasia.

AVHS does not euthanize animals for time limits, space or age of the animal. AVHS utilizes every resource possible to find forever homes for the animals in our care.

TOTAL OUTCOMES: 1836
Dog/Puppy Outcomes: 657
Cat/Kitten Outcomes: 1136
Other Animal Outcomes: 43*

*Other intakes and outcomes include birds, rabbits, guinea pigs, reptiles, small pets and wildlife.

SHELTERING LOST ANIMALS in need

Auburn Valley Humane Society medical and animal care staff provides quality, loving care to every animal who comes into our shelter. We welcome homeless pets from the Auburn city limits.



1,872

**ANIMALS
SHELTERED**

CARING FOR ANIMALS in need

The animals in our care receive physical exams, vaccinations, spay/neuter services, microchips, and in some cases, extensive medical and dental care prior to adoption to a loving family.

Last year, AVHS performed...

1,054

surgeries on shelter animals

180 feral cat spay & neuter surgeries

Live release rate:

95.2%

0

Adoptable animals were euthanized





1,289
Companion
animals adopted

One of the ways AVHS measures our success is by how long a cat or dog is in the shelter before they are adopted. The smaller the number, the sooner they go to a new home and the more animals can come to us for lifesaving care. Moving animals through the shelter faster reduces stress and illness.

12.1 days for dogs for 2024

11.3 days for cats in 2024

582

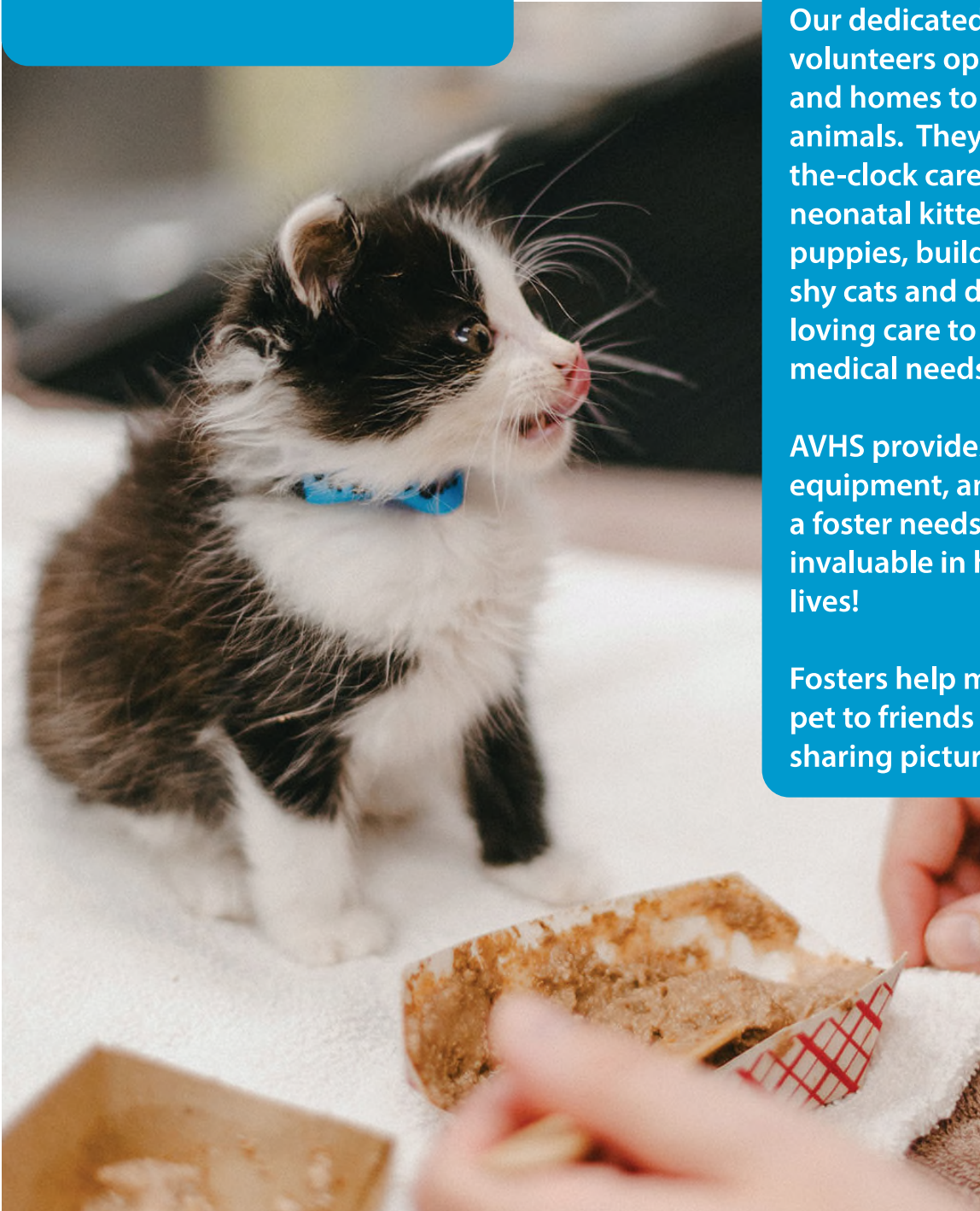
COMPANION ANIMALS FOSTERED

FOSTERING a bright future

Our dedicated network of foster volunteers open up their hearts and homes to hundreds of animals. They provide round-the-clock care to the tiny neonatal kittens or rambunctious puppies, building trust with shy cats and dogs, and offering loving care to animals with medical needs.

AVHS provides all of the food, equipment, and medication that a foster needs. The fosters are invaluable in helping to save lives!

Fosters help market their foster pet to friends and family by sharing pictures and stories.



AVHS Cat Café opens!

Experiences • Beverages • Merchandise •
Kittens & Cats • Adoptions!



10,446
espresso
drinks sold

7,036
cat visits



FUNDRAISING

In 2024, AVHS donors showed their support throughout the year and helped us change lives...four paws at a time. Generous donors supported us through special event fundraisers, appeals, newsletters, gifts and many other opportunities.

2 Signature Events
 AVHS Gala & Auction
 Photos with Santa Paws

15 Other giving opportunities

Raised Over
\$905,575

76
 Outreach Events



Whiskers & Paws Gala & Online Auction



Photos with Santa Paws

Social Media Followers

Facebook (Shelter):
 auburnvalley

22,960

Facebook (Thrift Store):

526

Facebook (NWSNC):

10,523

Facebook (Cat Café):
89

Instagram:

@auburnvalleyhs

3,584

@avhsthiftstore

194

@northwestpayneuter

1,114

TikTok (Shelter):
<https://www.tiktok.com/@auburnvalleyhs>

2,133

NWSNC:
<https://www.tiktok.com/@northwestpayneuter>

northwestpayneuter

183



VOLUNTEERS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Changing lives ... four paws at a time

AVHS could not accomplish the mission without the support of dedicated volunteers. From foster care to dog walking to washing the kitty bowls, the volunteers make a difference in the lives of homeless and abandoned animals.

545
Active
volunteers

24,470
Volunteer hours
contributed in 2024

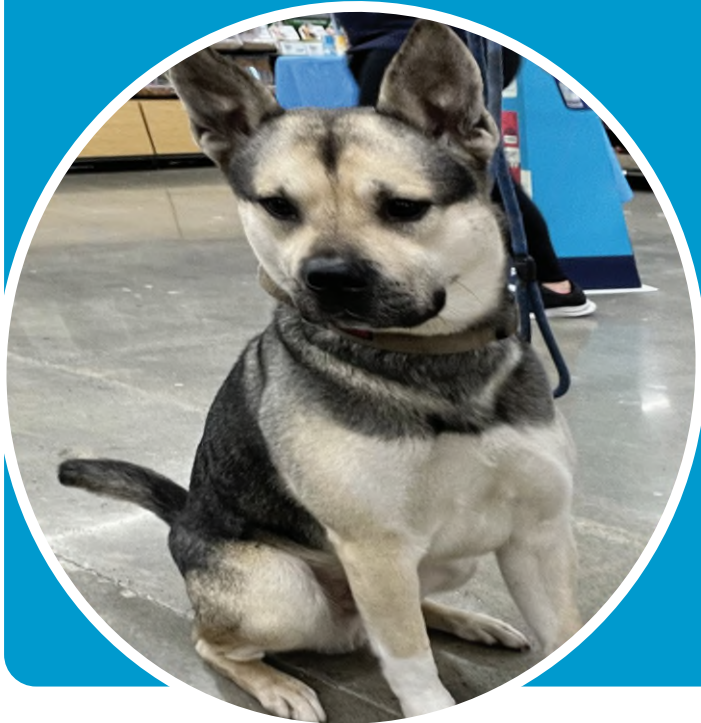
582 dogs and
cats lovingly cared
for by **164** foster
families



Gaspacho was a senior guy in body, but young in spirit. The person who brought him to the shelter, said he was a great guest for the evening. He was a very sweet gentleman with those common senior ailments. Our caring veterinary staff gave Gaspacho some pain medication for arthritis, skin issues and ear infection. He loves snacks but needs to lose weight.

He is living a happy life.

SAVING LIVES on the street



PETS FOR LIFE

Pets For Life's primary goal is to provide much-needed services and supply assistance to people and their pets in the underserved communities of Tacoma and Auburn. Services such as spays, neuters, and vaccinations are unaffordable for so many people, and this is especially true for the impoverished and unhoused families in our cities. The Pets For Life program steps in to build relationships with these communities and help break down that barrier.

Pets for Life transported Radar, a 10-month old Akita mix that lives with his human in an encampment, for his first set of vaccines at Vetco! Michael and Radar are an inseparable duo!

Michael rescued Radar off the streets. He says Radar saved his life and has given him something to live for. His buddy, his soul-mate, will be safe and healthy. Pets For Life also provided him with a leash and collar, some toys, and pet food to supplement what Michael can't afford himself.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

84 Pets helped by Public
Veterinary Assistance Fund

32 Families & **104** pets
served each month through the Pet Pantry
in partnership with Seattle Humane Society

Pets for Life provided support for
427 pets

NW Spay & Neuter Pet Pantry provided
5,709 lbs. of food

- Humane Education
- Pet Pantry (pet food bank in partnership with Seattle Humane)
- Shelter Buddies (school children read to shelter or Cat Café cats)
- Scout Badge Program
- Pets in Crisis
- Public Veterinary Assistance Fund
- Pets for Life
- NWSNC Pet Pantry



PET LICENSING

AVHS is contracted to be the service provider for pet licensing for the City of Auburn.



Why license my pet?

- Licensing your Pet is the law.
- All dogs and cats over 8 weeks of age that reside in the City of Auburn require a pet license.
- Pets without a license are subject to fines and penalties.
- Having a pet license quickly reunites a lost pet with their owner.
- Funds received through pet licensing benefit the animals in the City's care at AVHS.

Locations to license your pet

- Green River Veterinary Hospital
- Auburn Veterinary Hospital
- Auburn Valley Animal Clinic
- A Valley Animal Hospital
- Affordable Emergency Animal Clinic
- Auburn South Auburn Veterinary Hospital
- Forest Hill Veterinary Clinic
- Jenna's Pet Grooming
- Lakeland Pet Pros
- AVHS Cat Café
- AVHS Thrift Store & More
- Reber Ranch
- Coastal Farms
- Tiki Tails
- NW Spay & Neuter
- City of Auburn Annex



3,749 Pet
licenses sold

Annie was found with a badly broken leg and brought to the shelter. She was probably hit by a car, although there is no way to be sure. Our caring veterinary staff gave Annie some pain medication and a comfortable place to rest. Like many of the other animals, she had been through hardship to last a lifetime.

She is living a happy life with wonderful people who adore her! She received extensive medical treatment while in our care.

\$376,155

Raised from 107,104
donated thrift store items



22
dealer booths
12,435
items raising
over
\$104,487
for AVHS

THRIFT STORE and MORE

Auburn Valley Humane Society Thrift Store & More is more than a thrift store with housewares, tools, books, videos, clothing and pet items, pet kennels and so much more. It has dealer consignment booths featuring antiques, jewelry, specialty items and collectible treasures. 100% of the proceeds benefit the lost and abandoned animals at the AVHS animal shelter and funds pet/owner humane programs



85

Animals impacted by Special Medical Fund

104

pets receive help each month

The Special Medical Fund (from items sold in booth #60) pays for the medical surgeries, dental needs, & medical food for shelter animals.

Our Thrift Store sold 3,742 items raising \$37,737 in 2024.

The Public Veterinary Medical/Pets in Crisis Fund (booth #59 sold 14,492 items) raising \$31,878 in 2024 to help public owned pets with non-routine veterinarian medical needs.





NORTHWEST SPAY & NEUTER CENTER

Northwest Spay & Neuter Center(NWSNC) provides high-quality spay and neuter services for cats and dogs in an effort to prevent overpopulation. Surgeries are performed for the public, partner rescues and shelters throughout Western Washington.



Programs & Services

- Spay & Neuter surgeries for income-qualified and community cats
- Wellness exams, vaccinations and dentistry services
- Partner Rescues and Shelters for Spay & Neuter Programs
- Pet Licensing for City of Auburn
- Community Pet Pantry
- Volunteer Program
- Financial Assistance
- Feral Cat Program
- Pets for Life

Why spay or neuter my pet?

Allowing your pets to breed contributes to the pet overpopulation problem in Pierce and King Counties. ONE female cat and her offspring can produce over 400,000 unwanted kittens in seven years! ONE female dog and her offspring can produce 65,000 unwanted puppies in seven years!

What are the benefits?

- Your pet will not produce litters of unwanted puppies and kittens
- Your pet is less likely to roam or run away
- Your pet is less likely to bite and show aggression
- Your pet will be more calm, affectionate and overall healthy
- Your pet will be less likely to spray or mark their territory

12,841 spay & neuter surgeries

- 3,761 dogs
- 9,070 cats



Wellness Exams

- Provided 2,289 wellness appointments
- Provided 18,122 vaccinations
- Placed 2,033 microchips to help return lost pets safely to their homes
- Provided 10 vaccine clinics



Other Surgeries

- 1381 Community Cat Surgeries
- Partnered with over 71 local and regional animal welfare groups to provide services for 3,047 animals

NWSNC Dentistry Services

- 115 Procedure Appointments
- 178 Pre-op Dental Exams

SUPPORTERS AND SPONSORS OF OUR EVENTS

Whiskers & Paws Gala & Online Auctions

Biscuits Pet Place
CBAK Designs
Creekside Critter Care
Dorian Cook, Farmer's Insurance
Green River Veterinary
Hospital
King Co. Councilmember
Pete von Reichbauer
Madcap Marketing
Pebbles
Rairdon's Subaru of Auburn
Singletary Law Office, PLLC
Span Alaska Transportation
Sunstar Dog Training
Khristina Swanson -
Windermere
The Partners Group
Triple C Pleasure Horses
Umpqua Bank

2024 Calendar Sponsors

Anardi Family & Cosmetic
Dentistry
Auburn Area Chamber of Commerce
Auburn Valley Animal Clinic
CBAK Designs
AVHS Cat Cafe
Commencement Bank
Emerald Downs
Green River Veterinary Hospital
Longhorn Barbecue
Pet Pros
Rairdon's Subaru of Auburn
Singletary Law Office, PLLC
Span Alaska Transportation
Spectrum Sign Co.

2024 Photos with Santa Paws

CBAK Designs
Commencement Bank
Explore Auburn
Pebbles
Red Canoe Credit Union

Paws for a Cause

Anonymous
Auburn Valley Humane Society
AVHS Thrift Store & More
Chris Bakholdin
Green River Veterinary Hospital
Pebbles
Pet Pros

Other Organization host events to help AVHS

Anonymous
ATS Automation
Auburn City Employees
Auburn Eagles Aux. #2298
Auburn Family Dental
Aura Song
Auburn South Veterinary Hospital
Auburn Valley Animal Clinic
Auburn Veterinary Hospital
BJ's Enterprises
Charity Gift Certificates
City of Auburn
Cobbler's Pet Pantry
Consolidated Supply Co.
Danner Corporation
Davita
Emerald Downs
Facebook
Frugals of Auburn
Girl Scout Troops
Howard Team at NEO Home Loans
Kinship Partners
The Kroger Company
LakelandLiving
Lake Tapps Living
Mud Bay Inc.
Mud Bay - Kent
Mud Bay - Sumner
Mud Bay - Federal Way
PayPal
PetSmart Charities
Precision Arts
Rairdon's Subaru of Auburn
Reber Ranch
Red Canoe Credit Union
Subaru of America Inc.
Sweeting Family
Toril Sells Houses Team
US Gypsum
Wild Waves Park

**Thank YOU for your support
and for helping us
change lives...four paws at a time!**



*The kitties
say
THANK YOU
on behalf of
all the furry
critters*



**Thanks to our youngest donors giving
to help the animals in our care from
food drives, lemonade stands, cookie
sales and birthday parties!**

**Thank you to our newest adopters
who helped to change lives!**



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Food • Toys • Blankets •
Supplies • Volunteering



Thanks to our supporters who bought pet food through Amazon, Walmart and Chewy!



Thank you to community businesses and organizations for their support!

Thank **YOU** for your support and for helping us change lives...four paws at a time!

Thanks to MudBay & Pet Pros - our partners for food drives and holiday giving programs



Thanks to our adopter with the 15,000th adoption!

Thanks to our volunteers and fosters for helping us find homes for lost animals





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