

# About the Washington Area Humane Society



WASHINGTON AREA  
HUMANE SOCIETY



## OUR MISSION

Provide shelter, safety  
and food for the orphaned  
and abused animals of  
Washington County with  
the goal of placing them  
in loving homes.



### Gavin

Sweet Gavin was surrendered by an elderly couple who could not handle his puppy behavior. Gavin was adopted out by a staff member immediately and he currently is training to be a therapy dog for the Therapy Paws Program.

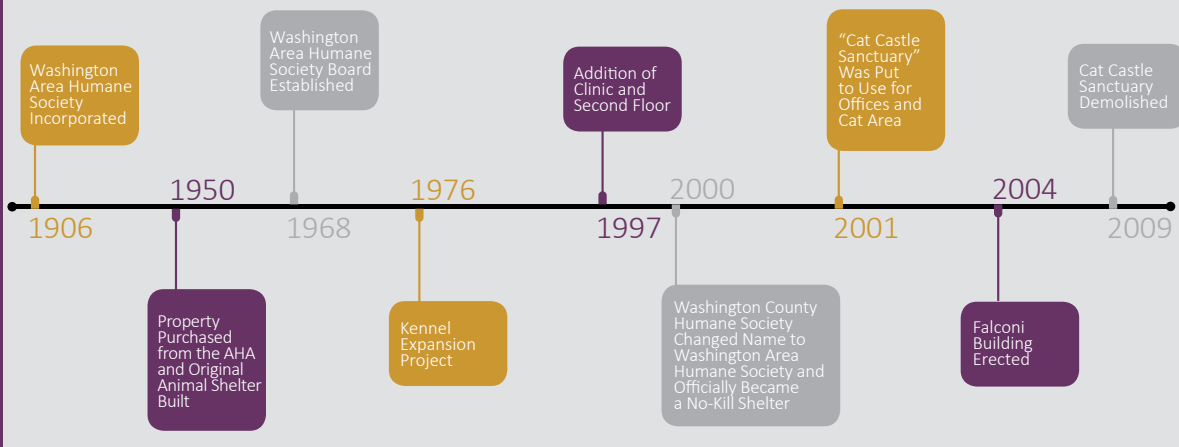
## A LEGACY OF COMPASSION

**Washington Area Humane Society is the largest and oldest no-kill shelter in Washington County. No-kill requirements include having a live release rate of 90% or higher and not euthanizing for space. WAHS euthanizes only as a last resort when medically necessary or when an animal is deemed dangerous. WAHS's live release rate in 2017 was 98%.**

Washington Area Humane Society was originally incorporated on March 6, 1906 with the specific purpose being the prevention of cruelty to animals. Judge McIlvaine was among the prominent citizens who signed the original incorporation papers. Because of lack of funds the society was inactive for a period of time. Through the will of Clara Lockhart, a trust was established for the inauguration of the Humane Society in 1931 although the income from this trust was not used for another twenty years. In the early 1950's the American Humane Association (AHA) reactivated the society under the terms of the Lockhart trust.

In 1950 the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) purchased the present property, a track of land of about 5 acres, with a large brick home for the American Humane Association. A kennel was erected to house animals at this time. In 1968 a reorganization took place and a building fund was established which resulted in the purchase of the building and grounds from the AHA. A governing board and local management were established.

The kennel was expanded in 1976, doubling the capacity for dogs and cats. In 1997 expansion resulted in a veterinary surgical theater and recovery room and a second floor used for meetings. In later years, the brick house on the property referred to as the "Cat Castle Sanctuary" became the administrative offices and the holding area for cats. In 2000 the Washington County Humane Society became a no-kill shelter and changed its name to the Washington Area Humane Society. A generous donor, Angelo Falconi, Jr., made it possible to another building onsite to hold humane case animals. This building currently is used for an isolation unit for dogs suffering from contagious conditions.





Over the past decades, WAHS has adopted thousands of dogs and cats, and has spayed and neutered countless animals. WAHS provides temporary shelter to over one thousand animals every year including dogs, cats, and farm animals that are abandoned, abused, or surrendered.

## FINANCIAL INFO

2017 Annual Operating Budget of \$850,000

## STAFF & VOLUNTEERS

- Eighteen Part Time And Full Time Staff Members
- 200 Active Volunteers

## GEOGRAPHIC AREA SERVED

Our programs mainly focus on Washington County, PA, but services and programs can extend across county lines when deemed necessary.

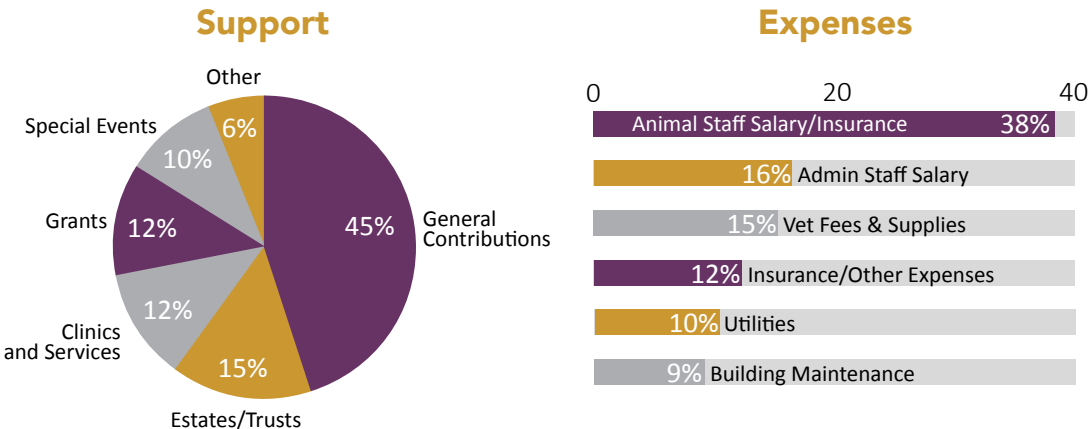
## INVESTMENT TO COMMUNITY (2017)

- 650 Spay/Neuter Surgeries Dogs/Cats
- 5500 Low-Cost Vaccinations Provided
- 855 Animals Adopted into Loving Homes
- 45 Active Foster Homes
- 10,000 Pounds of Pet Food Donated to Low-Income Families
- 3,000 Hours Of Volunteer Hours
- 505 Humane Cases Reported and Investigated
- 279 Humane Case Animals Seized
- 235 Strays Brought in by Dog Warden, Animal Control & Good Samaritan
- 50 Free Adoptions for Pets for US Vets
- 1,000 cats served in the Cat Colony program over past four years



Taco

Taco came into the shelter as a stray. A good Samaritan brought him in. He is a main coon cat and was only five months old. Taco was quickly adopted and is in a home today healthy and happy.



## PROGRAMMING & SERVICES

### Public Services & Outreach

Supporting the underserved in Washington County

- **Low Cost Clinics:** WAHS has clinics every week to offer low-cost vaccinations, microchipping, flea & tick treatments, de-wormer, and Lyme disease testing.
- **Spay/Neuter Clinics:** WAHS currently offers multiple public spay day clinics to serve the residents in Washington County who cannot afford customary vet prices.
- **Food Bank:** In 2017, WAHS shared more than 10,000 lbs. of dog and cat food to residents in need to help them retain and care for their pets.
- **Pets for US Vets:** Veterans can adopt for free in appreciation for their dedication and service to our country.
- **Senior Paws Program:** This special program for Washington County will help disabled and financially challenged senior citizens retain their pets.
- **Therapy Paws:** WAHS has five therapy dogs in training that will be visiting the Washington Court system starting in summer 2018 to be a friendly face while children await court appearances.
- **Cat Colony Project:** WAHS is taking steps to cut down on the homeless cat population through spay/neuter services. Thanks to our partner the Fluffy Jean Fund, the Colony Cat Project has already trapped, neutered, vaccinated, and released over 1000 colony cats and created 80 managed colonies in the past four years.

### Children & Education

- **Cat Tales Reading Program:** WAHS recently launched this new program to give children the opportunity to sit and read with cats at the shelter. The cats benefit from the positive human interaction as well.
- **Scouts Projects:** Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts can work with WAHS to earn merit badge awards.
- **School Assemblies:** WAHS is available to visit schools to discuss humane treatment of animals and other valuable educational content.

### Animal Law Enforcement, Public Awareness Campaigns & Advocacy

- **Humane Investigations:** WAHS employs one Humane Society Police Officer that works closely with local law enforcement and the dog warden to investigate animal cruelty and abuse incidents.
- **Education on Humane Treatment of Animals:** WAHS has many initiatives to bring awareness to the animal laws and humane animal treatment.
- **Compassion Care Community:** WAHS partnered with CASA for Kids' to bring awareness to the connection between animal abuse and child abuse.



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724.222.PETS



[washingtonpashelter.org](http://washingtonpashelter.org)



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