SAVING LIVES

NASHVILLE HUMANE ASSOCIATION
Since 1946, Nashville Humane Association has been a safe haven for at-risk, homeless and adoptable pets. NHA is a family of almost 60 employees, staff members and board members, along with hundreds of contributors, volunteers and active supporters all dedicated to our mission of saving lives.

In 2018, NHA began a new chapter for the shelter debuting a new Foster Program, a new emergency Medical Fund, and an increased emphasis on our Transport Program. It’s an amazing time at NHA, and with your support we will continue to rescue puppy mills, support disaster relief, support local and area animal shelters and rescues, we will travel further, and will save more lives.
EVERY PET TELLS A STORY
On one of the coldest nights of the year, a good Samaritan dropped off this precious baby at Nashville Humane. Dehydrated, malnourished and anemic, she had no pulse and her temperature was too low to be read. She was frozen and hanging on by a thread.

The NHA medical team quickly began working. It took over six hours for her to regain consciousness, but eventually she was on the road to recovery!

Ava is a survivor. She fought alongside NHA’s medical team for her life and none of it would have been possible without support for NHA’s Medical Fund. Now, providing life-saving medical care is a reality at NHA.

Once back up to speed, Ava was adopted and is now at home, happy, healthy and living large thanks to the NHA medical team and the generous support of contributors to NHA and the new NHA Medical Fund.
Fitzgerald and four of his siblings came to us after being confiscated from a hoarding case. All were older, malnourished, and in poor health upon arrival at NHA. They all required medical shaves, extensive dental work, surgeries and procedures, and extended stays at the shelter to recover.

One part of the story that is often overlooked is the daily cost of care for medical patients at our shelter like Fitzgerald and his siblings.

From daily cleaning, feeding, enrichment, medical care, and staff hours to oversee each step along the way, length of stay care can add up quickly. Often, it’s not just about whether or not the medical team can provide the care or surgery, it’s also about the shelter’s ability to provide extended time for recovery for patients like Fitz.

We are able to provide needed hospitalization for some of the highest risk patients because of the support of donors across middle Tennessee and willing fosters to assist us once these pets are able to go into homes for extended term care.

FITZGERALD

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Lt. Dan came to Nashville Humane Association from a local open admission shelter. Dan was in “dire” need of a savior as the municipal shelter did not have resources to provide the extensive medical attention that he needed.

Dan’s rear legs had been bound and tied for an extended period of time by a sharp wire. Dan was near death when found. Once he arrived at Nashville Humane, the medical team immediately went to work. Dan required numerous surgeries and procedures, just to stay alive. Sadly, he lost both of his rear legs due to the abuse he suffered, but there’s no looking back now for Dan. The medical team set Dan up with a new pair of wheels and he’s happily zooming through life.

NHA’s Transport Program, Medical Fund and Foster Program all combined to give Lt. Dan a second chance at an amazing forever family. As a entirely gift-based not-for-profit, NHA would not be able to provide these services without generous gifts from supporters just like you.
FOSTERS SAVE LIVES
Foster families are essential to Nashville Humane Association. Foster caregivers provide care for shelter animals in their home when otherwise it would be difficult or impossible for the shelter to manage the care of the animal. Foster animals can be with a foster family anywhere from a few days to a few weeks, and the families are an invaluable resource used to place shelter animals in homes that fit their needs. NHA’s foster program was created in April of 2018, from that time until December, 568 animals were fostered.

From post-procedure medical cases, to shelter stressed pets, to assisting with overall shelter census, fosters truly do save lives. Fosters open their hearts and homes to pets who need a temporary home before finding their forever family.

NHA’s new short-term foster “Doggie Dates” and “Rovernights” have been a huge success! Whether it’s a trip to the coffee shop, or a sleep-over weekend, short term fosters allow shelter stressed pets a little break from shelter life. The foster is able to observe the pet in a non-shelter environment and provide us with useful information that ultimately assists in a pet’s adoption.
NO LIMITS NO BOUNDARIES

1,242 TRANSPORT PETS

NASHVILLE HUMANE ASSOCIATION
On a Tuesday afternoon around 2PM, the Humane Society of the United States sent in a code red to assist with a puppy mill evacuation in Rhea County, Tennessee. We said yes, on the spot. And within 90 minutes our transport van was loaded and ready for action. Puppy mills exist throughout the country, and we did not hesitate to rescue 40 pups all frightened and the very picture of neglect. By 3AM Nashville time, a dedicated team of NHA employees were rolling back into the shelter to assist with load-out, and to place each animal in a comfortable space overnight. The next morning began extensive medical exams and work to put these pups on the way to recovery.

Thousands of dollars in surgeries, full vetting for 40 animals who lived their lives in deplorable conditions, food, enrichment, housing and daily care all done solely by a gift-based not-for-profit, means it’s all done solely based on your gifts! Within 6 weeks, adoptions began and forever families were waiting with open arms.
Nashville Humane Association partners with various agencies across the country to assist with emergency and disaster relief. In 2018, we assisted with both Hurricane Florence and Hurricane Michael. The animals that we brought to Nashville were already residents of local shelters in the hardest hit areas.

When all was said and done, NHA transported 164 dogs and cats from Hurricane ravaged areas in hopes of giving them a second chance at the wonderful life they deserve. Once the animals arrived they received a period of decompression, medical exams and all slowly began to be placed on the adoption floor at Nashville Humane.

Thanks to our animal loving community, many of the animals brought to Nashville through our Transport Program were in loving homes just days and weeks after arriving. Programming at Nashville Humane is vital for relief projects like this to be successful. Not only did we utilize our Transport Program, but we also relied heavily on our foster network, and of course our dedicated core of volunteers at the shelter.
The harsh reality across Tennessee and other southern states is overpopulation and overcrowding in local rural and urban shelters. With overpopulation and overcrowding comes difficult decisions and we are thankful that we are able to answer the call to assist in life-saving efforts.

Building strong bonds with shelter partners across middle Tennessee and into Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana is opening the lifeline for animals in need. These bonds bring at-risk shelter pets to Nashville to find their new outlook on a better life.

In 2018, NHA was able to roll out two new Transport vehicles to help both with short distance and long distance transports. These vehicles help transportation issues that often arise when rural shelters do not have the ability to transport themselves. With these two vehicles, along with other fleet vehicles, we are able to transport more animals into our program. No limits. No boundaries.

AREA SHELTERS
Imagine a night, a silent night where every adoptable animal (dog and cat), were safely snuggled in the homes and beds of loving Nashville fosters. That same silent night, not only were the animals at home, but so too were our dedicated team of employees enjoying family, friends and holiday festivities.

The Silent Night at the Shelter was created to give shelter pets and shelter employees a break from the hustle and bustle that is daily animal shelter life. On the heels of a hugely successful adoption event, for the first time ever, NHA had a true silent night for Christmas Eve through Christmas.
When you start talking about a shelter’s save rate, you’re really talking about every person, every program, every shelter activity working together in unison to complete one ultimate goal: caring for and saving as many animals as possible.

For the first time ever, NHA achieved a 99% save rate in 2018. This was no easy task and was the end result of a year’s worth of hard work, passion for shelter pets, a new Medical Fund, a new Foster Program, added emphasis on our Transport Program, thousands of hours by dozens of staff and volunteers, and many, many contributions from animal lovers and shelter supporters like you.

Every adoption, every life that’s changed, every happy wag and purr in a new home, is thanks to your support of NHA. As an entirely gift based not-for-profit we rely on your contributions to save lives. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.