

2025

ANNUAL REPORT



**NASHVILLE HUMANE
ASSOCIATION**

20
25

YEAR IN REVIEW

20,000

Dogs & Cats Served

30,000

Dogs & Cats Tracked

20

Dogs Saved from
Severe Neglect

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Friends of Nashville Humane,

As I reflect on 2025, I am filled with gratitude—for the animals who trusted us, for the people who showed up for them, and for a community that continues to believe in the power of compassion. Your support made this year possible, and I am deeply thankful to each of you.

This past year brought meaningful progress. As families across our region faced economic challenges, we doubled the number of households we supported—because our mission extends beyond adoption. Together, we helped rescue more than 20 dogs from severe neglect during Operation Dark Passage alongside our partners at Animal Rescue Corps. At Nashville Humane, our goal is to keep people and pets together whenever possible. We also took a significant step forward in access to care by launching a new, affordable spay-and-neuter program with Metro Animal Care and Control, helping remove barriers for pet owners throughout our community.

Like many animal welfare organizations nationwide, 2025 also brought real challenges. We are serving nearly 20,000 dogs and cats annually outside our shelter walls, and we are tracking closer to 30,000 this year. At the same time, the animals entering our care increasingly require deeper medical treatment and behavioral support. These are not easy cases—but they are the ones that need us most. Because of you, we continue to say yes.

Your generosity fuels compassionate, high-quality care for animals who have survived neglect, trauma, or hardship. It supports the dedicated staff and volunteers who meet each animal where they are and work tirelessly to give them the futures they deserve. And it ensures that, whenever possible, families stay whole—with their beloved pets by their side.

As we look ahead to 2026, we do so with excitement and purpose. This coming year marks 80 years of Nashville Humane Association serving animals and the people who love them. Eight decades of lifesaving, advocacy, and community partnership are milestones worth celebrating—and also a reminder of our responsibility to evolve, lead, and dream bigger for the next generation of animals in need. Our legacy is our foundation, not our finish line.



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In our 80th year, we will continue to expand access to care, strengthen community partnerships, and invest in innovative solutions that address the root causes of pet homelessness. Most importantly, we will keep compassion at the center of everything we do.

Thank you for being part of this legacy. Thank you for standing beside us during both the highs and the challenges. And thank you for believing—as we do—that every animal deserves safety, dignity, and love.

With gratitude and hope,

Laura Baker

Executive Director, Nashville Humane Association



Fourth Times the Charm!

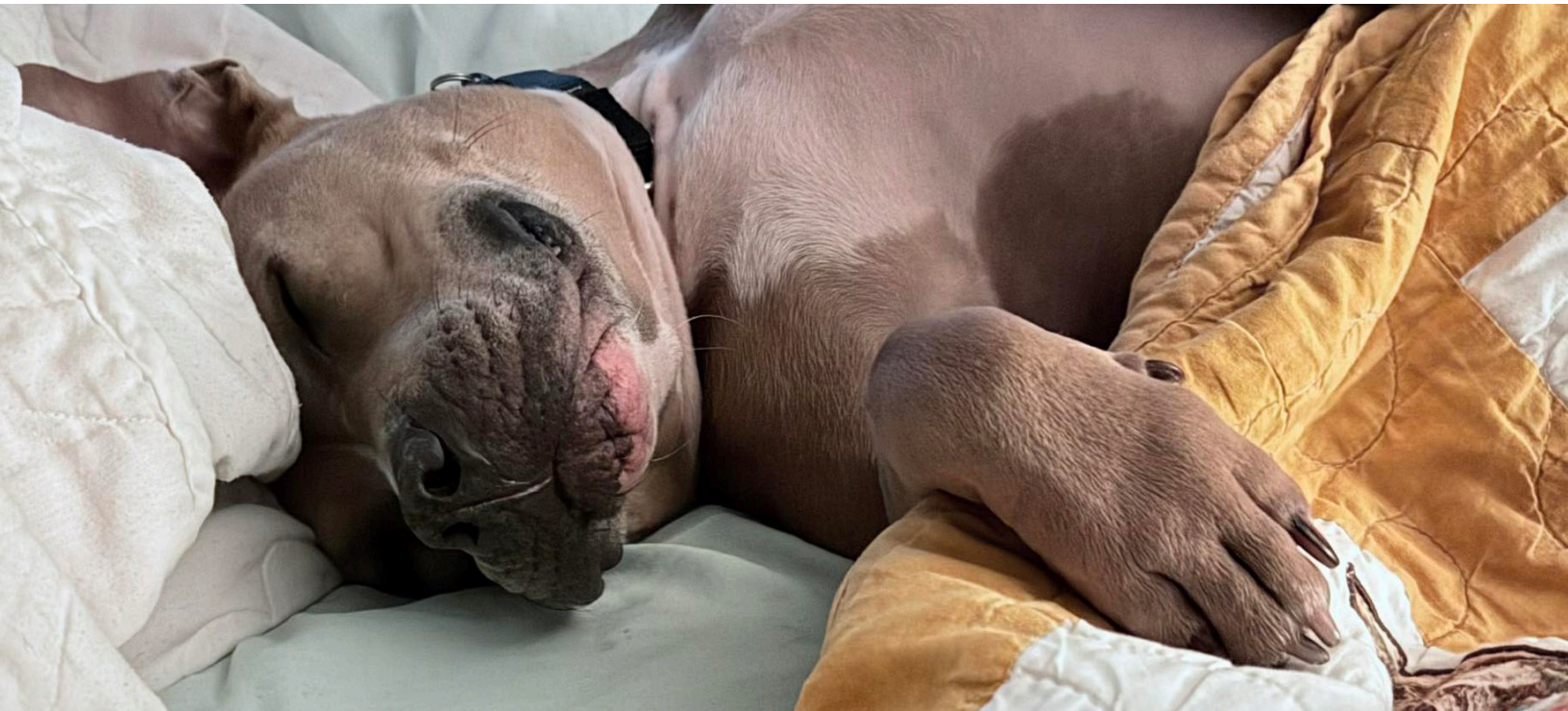
You might be thinking, “I recognize that dog,”

And you'd be right. This is Stephen, now known as Skoobie, and his story is one our community will never forget.

Skoobie came back to Nashville Humane four times, each through no fault of his own. As a puppy, he was surrendered when his first family realized they weren't ready. He was then adopted and returned the same day when the timing didn't feel right.

Later, he was confiscated by authorities after being found in a car that reached 123 degrees. And once again, he returned when the dog in his home struggled with having a canine sibling. Time after time, Skoobie packed up his heart and tried again.

“Skoobie’s story is a powerful remind of why our work matters. Because of a community that cared... a dog who waited far too long finally found a forever home.”



2025 ADOPTION #s

2,691

Total Adoptions

1,121

Cats

1,570

Dogs

99%

Save Rate

2025 FOSTER #s

1,720

Total Foster Placements

598

Cats

1,122

Dogs

679

Foster Parents



Despite everything, he never stopped hoping for a family to call his own. He never stopped giving love to everyone around him, even during his most stressful and lonely days in the shelter. Our team loved him deeply and believed, without question, that the right home was still out there.

In October, that belief became reality. From the very first night, he made himself at home by stealing his human's bed. He now goes on car rides for pup cups, proudly serves as an office assistant during work-from-home days, and stays glued to his family's side. After years of uncertainty, he finally has the stability, safety, and love he always deserved.

Skoobie's story is a powerful reminder of why our work matters. Because of a community that cared, shared his story, and believed in second (and third, and fourth) chances, a dog who waited far too long finally found forever. Thank you for loving him with us. Welcome home, Skoobie! ■

Transporting Hope

In July of 2025, a detective in Cheatham County called the county shelter...

after serving a warrant to a civilian who was supposed to report to jail. The civilian had eight dogs on the property living outside that would need a place to go.

We received the call to take all eight animals, and we said yes—but we needed to make space. Family members took three of the dogs, but the rest stayed on the property. While they awaited transport, Cheatham County visited daily to feed the dogs, clean up the area, and provide human interaction. The dogs were fenced in on the side of the house, with bungee cords keeping the gates from falling apart. They lived on dirt, had skin issues, and were timid around humans.

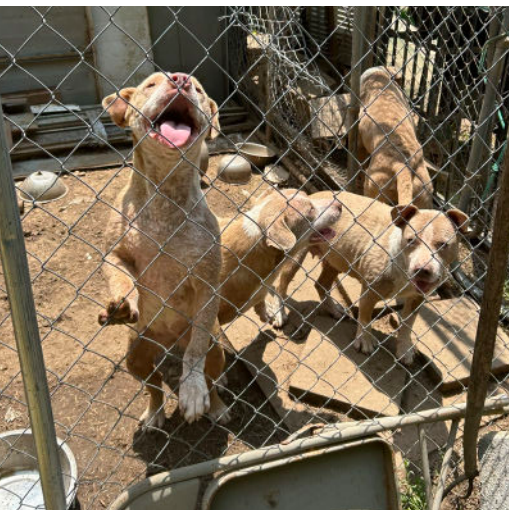
Once we had kennel space, we welcomed the Flintstone Family to NHA. Some adjusted right away; others needed more time. We sent some to foster homes so they could relax and begin to trust humans again.

Betty was adopted first, followed by Pebbles, Wilma, and Fred—all within a month. Barney took more time. He was very confident around other dogs and became a shelter rockstar. He began walking outside his kennel without being carried, loved playgroups, enjoyed belly rubs, and started to truly show us who he was. Barney had finally found his confidence.

I believe life for the Flintstones was rough before they came here. I credit our foster team and brave fosters, our animal care team, veterinary team, and directors for the full recovery and reset of these once-forgotten dogs. Barney was adopted in October and loves his new yard and brother.

The effort is always worth the satisfaction of seeing animals go home with their new families. ■

Written by Corinne Tork



69

TRANSPORT
PARTNERS

2,764

TOTAL
INTAKES

1,159

DOG INTAKES

1,605

CAT INTAKES



2996

Microchips Implanted in 2025



Protecting Pets at Their Most Vulnerable

In 2025, our state took an important step forward by enacting a new animal abandonment law, strengthening protections for pets and holding individuals accountable for leaving animals without care. While this legislation represents meaningful progress, we know that laws alone cannot solve the challenges facing vulnerable pets. Real change also requires accessible, compassionate solutions for people in moments of crisis.

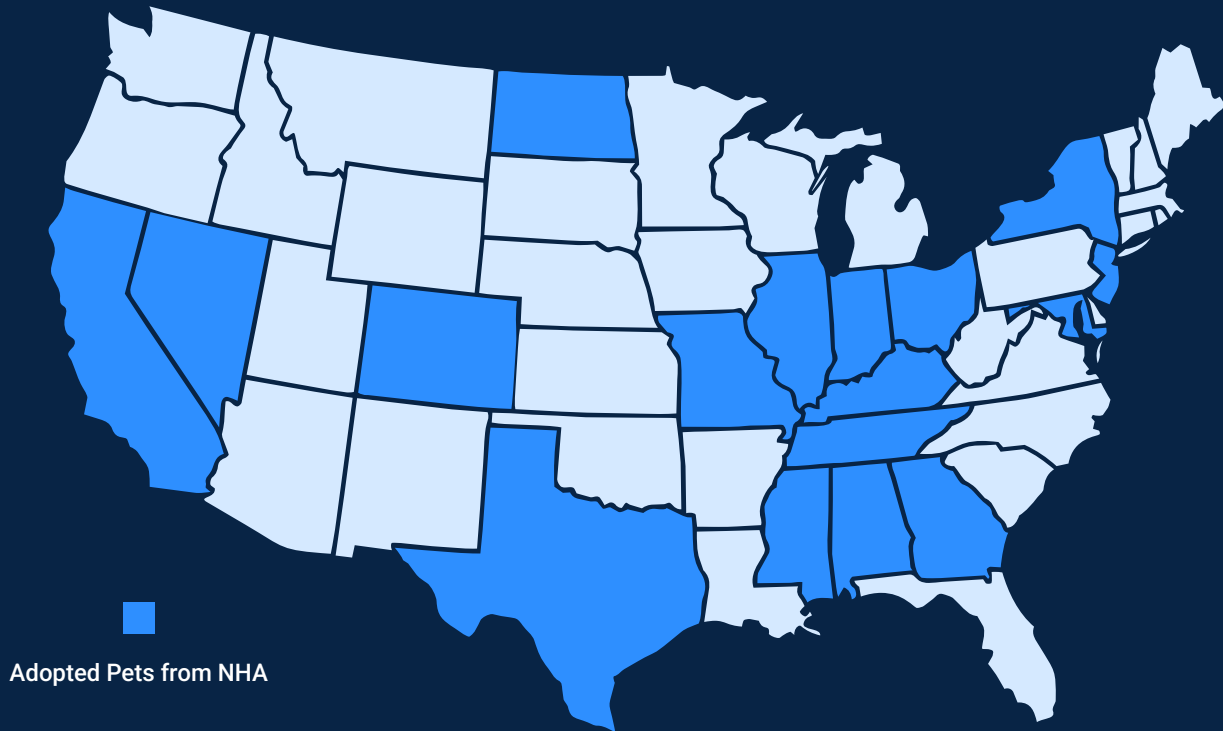
That's why, in 2025, we installed a 24-hour microchip scanner outside of our shelter—providing a safe, immediate option for community members and

Good Samaritans to help reunite lost pets with their families at any time, day or night. This scanner allows individuals to check for microchips without needing to abandon an animal or wait for shelter hours, reducing unnecessary intake and keeping pets out of harm's way.

By pairing policy progress with practical resources, we are doing our part to prevent abandonment before it happens. Every scan represents hope—a chance for a pet to find their way home, and a reminder that when communities are given the right tools, compassion leads the way. ■

Written by Anna Wiloughby

2025 Adoption Map



VOLUNTEERS

13,279

Volunteer Hours Logged

571

Active Volunteers

VAX CLINIC

184

Cats

606

Dogs

S/N CLINIC

153

Total Neuters

174

Total Spays



79%

of every dollar
donated goes towards
programming!



EXPENSES

\$707,974

Admin

\$2,436,573

Shelter Ops

\$1,557,979

Vet Programs

\$387,4116

Fundraising & Dev

SOCIAL MEDIA

13.7K
on Facebook

8.3K
on Instagram

40K
on TikTok

1.7K
on LinkedIn



REVENUE

\$54,074

Investment Distributions

\$331,185

Grants

\$3,546,535

Development

\$440,865

Adoptions

SIGNATURE EVENTS

\$85.4K
Unleashed

\$72.6K
Cause for Paws

\$51.4K
Mutt Strutt

\$54.6K
Dog Day

The Power of Lifesaving Care

In July, Nashville Humane stepped in after our partners at Metro Animal Care & Control responded to an emergency cruelty case. What arrived at our doors were ten tiny puppies—sick, dangerously underweight, and so weak they were barely able to stand or move—along with their two devoted mothers, Mimi and Mia.

The puppies' condition was heartbreaking. Their bodies were exhausted, their energy nearly gone. And yet, Mimi and Mia had already given everything they had. With little food and no safety, the two mamas worked together to keep all ten babies alive. It was impossible to tell which puppies belonged to which mother; they raised them as one family.

For weeks, the puppies required round-the-clock medical care. Our veterinary team monitored them closely, providing intensive treatment, nutritional support, and constant adjustments to give each fragile life the best chance at survival. At the same time, dedicated foster homes provided the environments these families needed to heal.



It was impossible to tell which puppies belonged to which mother; they raised them as one family.

Slowly, the transformation began. Tiny bodies grew stronger. Wobbly legs steadied. Sick, lethargic puppies turned into playful, curious ones. And as their puppies healed, Mimi and Mia finally began to rest and be dogs again.

This story is a powerful reminder of what is possible when veterinary care, foster support, and compassion come together. Ten lives saved. Two mothers who never gave up. And a future rewritten because of the care our community allows us to provide.

Today, the puppies and both devoted mamas have been adopted into loving homes! ■

Written by Jordan Nemecek





296

Medical Procedures

83

Dentals Performed



54

Heartworm Treatments

53

Specialty Surgeries



2266

Total Spay & Neuters

37

FELV/FIV Cats Taken In



1,794

Vaxes at Low Cost Clinic

1,784

Animals Vaxed from Rabies

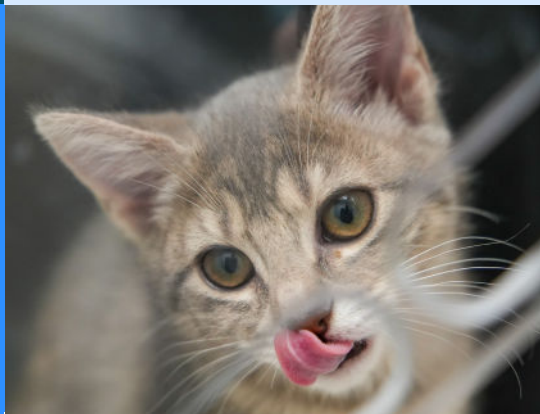


80

Parvovirus Cases

40

Panleukopenia Virus Cases



48

Neonatal Puppies Taken in

114

Neonatal Cats Taken in

35,098lbs

Food Distributed

Named in loving memory and honor of our dear friend, Darcy Miller Lashinsky, our pet food bank is made possible by the generous donations of individuals and organizations who believe in our mission of supporting the pets and pet families in our community.

12,535

Pets Fed by Food Bank

2,507

Food Bank Families



5,014

Dogs Fed

20,056

Pounds of Dog Food

7,521

Cats Fed

15,042

Pounds of Cat Food



30,000

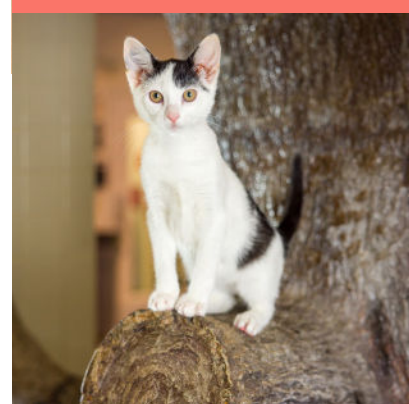
Pounds of Food Passed along to our Shelter Partners

500

Pounds of Cat Food at Outreach

750

Pounds of Dog Food at Outreach



ARC Operation Dark Passage

We were asked by Animal Rescue Corp to assist...

with a mission from two properties in September. A S.W.A.T. team was on site before we arrived to ensure the owner of the home would not interfere with the operation. He was removed from the property and secured at a county facility so that we could carefully and peacefully capture the animals.

It rained and thunderstormed for most of the day. When we arrived, there were dogs running freely around the property, into the road, and in and out of the house. The condition of the home was deplorable. Abandoned cars sat in the front yard, and thousands of beer cans formed small mountains on either side of the driveway.

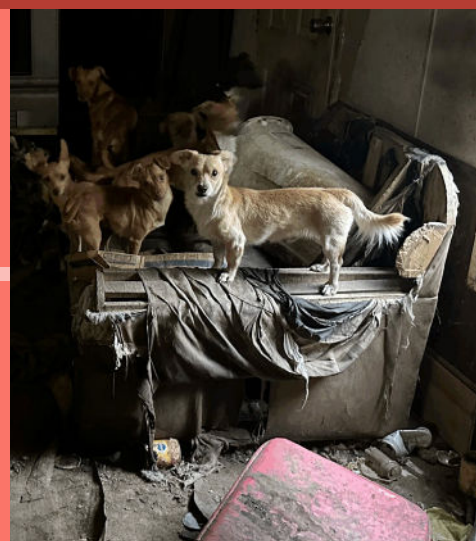
It took nearly five hours to capture every animal. In total, there were 53 dogs and one cat. Ten dogs and the cat were transported back with us to Nashville Humane. When they arrived, all of the dogs were housed together

in one room. They slept the entire night and most of the following day. One of the dogs was pregnant and gave birth while in foster care.

All of the animals were scared, anxious, and unsure, but the relief you could see and feel after just one day in our care was immense. The most fulfilling part of the experience was watching them begin to truly live again and feel comfortable in their own skin. Over time, every one of them was adopted. We provided their heartworm treatment and witnessed their new families welcome them with patience and unconditional love.

Being invited to rescue animals from such a horrific environment may sound unpleasant, but it has been the most rewarding experience I've had in animal welfare thus far. ■

Written by Corinne Tork



Thank You, Top Tails Donors!

Top Tails donors gave \$1,500+ in 2025

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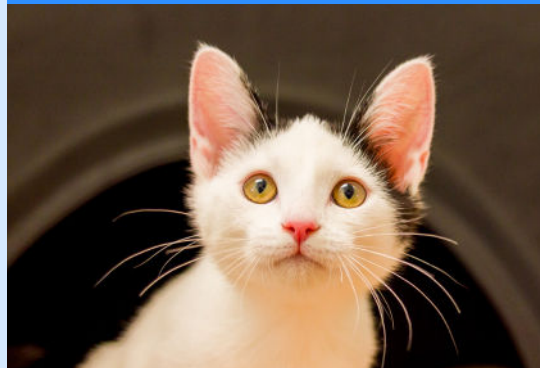
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- BluePearl Pet Hospital
- Your Pet Dentist
- Tennessee Veterinary Surgical Specialists
- Nashville Veterinary Dermatology
- Canine Rehabilitation of Nashville
- Infinity Veterinary Imaging
- Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

65

Total number of animals adopted during Mars Adoption Weekend event

250

Total Media Appearances

List of media partners we have worked with in 2025:

- WSMV
- 93.3 Totally Hits!
- 92.9 The Mix
- 105.9 The Rock
- 102.9 The Buzz
- WKRN
- NewsChannel 5.
- Fox17
- The Tennessean
- City Cast Nashville
- Lighting 100
- Nfocus
- Nashville Scene
- Style Blueprint
- Nash Today
- Nashville Lifestyles
- OutFront Media
- People Magazine
- Humane World Magazine



Nashville Humane Association
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Nashville, TN 37209

nashvillehumane.org

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