

### **A LETTER**

#### FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

#### Dear Good Human,

2020 was a year like no other. At the onset of the pandemic, our leadership team strategized to find our best route through the toughest year in the organization's history. We listened to recommendations from Jefferson County and the CDC on how to keep our staff and patrons safe, while keeping our doors open as an essential service. And let me tell you, it was challenging to navigate.

#### But, we knew in order to continue Making Lives Better for Pets and People, we had to get creative.

It is impossible to talk about 2020 and not talk about the people who were affected by the pandemic. The health and safety of our people was at the forefront of our protocol planning. We asked donors, municipal partners, and foundations to divert funds to meet operational needs. We also reached out to you for your help in sending many animals to foster so we could figure out the best way to support the people working in our building. Sadly, we asked our volunteers to stay home, only bringing back high needs roles while ensuring that our Good Humans would remain safe.

#### You Answered The Call.

You offered your homes, your skills, and your financial support. Because of you, the animals continued to find refuge and care. It was through the contributions of your time and resources that allowed us to keep our doors open and remain true to our values.

You said YES to adopting, which allowed us to bring back our transfer program so we could help find new homes for the dogs and cats brought to us by our partners in Texas, New Mexico, and Colorado while always observing stringent safety protocols. We were one of the first agencies to open up our transfer program early in the pandemic so that we could give a second chance to those pets.

#### We learned to adapt.

Our community taught us that they want to adopt a shelter pet and were willing to take on special needs animals, which allowed us to launch our transfer program for heartworm-positive dogs - saving even more at-risk lives.

This community needs our help to keep families together. We know that a pet is part of the family's fabric, and, often the primary source of comfort to so many. We heard from community members facing life altering situations such as homelessness, domestic violence, hospitalizations and those being evicted. We are dedicated to finding creative solutions to new problems, while looking to the future of animal welfare and what that means to the people and pets in this community. The programs we have launched are now under our "Better Together" umbrella - stay tuned to learn more about the successes and challenges of these programs in 2021.

#### Together we evolved.

This past year we learned that, no matter what, we can rely on you to ensure our mission evolves. We are so grateful for your unwavering support and partnership during this unusual time.

Thank you for continuing alongside us!











75,739
PETS SHELTERED IN OUR FACILITY

3,910

ADOPTIONS OF DOGS, CATS, AND SMALL ANIMALS



LOST PETS RETURNED TO HOME



PETS ENTERED OUR PROTECTIVE CUSTODY PROGRAM



DOGS LICENSED IN JEFFERSON COUNTY



COMMUNITY PETS VACCINATED

**138** 

COMMUNITY PETS MICROCHIPPED









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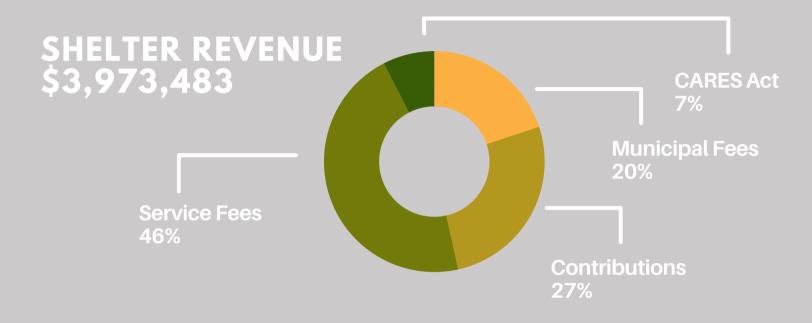
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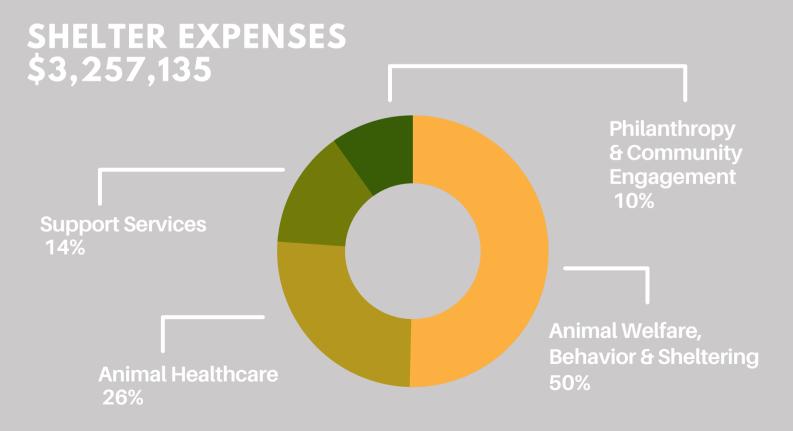
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AND TOGETHER, WE WILL CONTINUE.

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