

Bangor Humane Society • 2016

ANNUAL REPORT



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Photo by Barkley & Co featuring
BHS foster parent Caitlin Ashe
and her foster kitten "Emma"



MISSION STATEMENT

The Bangor Humane Society champions the humane treatment and adoption of companion animals, provides quality care for homeless pets, and promotes animal welfare through education and advocacy.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Treat all animals and people with respect, dignity and integrity. **Work** diligently to end companion animal overpopulation by increasing awareness of spay and neuter programs. **Promote adoption** of physically and mentally healthy companion animals. **Educate and train caretakers** to develop fulfilling and lifelong relationships with their companion animals. **Serve as responsible stewards** of our resources. **Hold ourselves to the highest standards** of safety, care and cleanliness. **Raise public awareness** with regard to the humane treatment of all animals. **Use** euthanasia only as a last humane option when in the best interest of an animal.

ANIMAL AMBASSADORS

We see **animal ambassadors** as people who go above and beyond the call of duty to ensure each animal that comes through our doors receives the love and care they deserve. An animal ambassador is someone who loves and treats each and every homeless animal as if it was a part of their family and is willing to be a voice for those who cannot speak on their own. Animal ambassadors are those who exhibit extraordinary compassion for animals and are motivated to action by their passion. They choose to become part of the solution through their volunteerism, charitable giving, or philanthropic partnership. We hope you enjoy getting to know some of our ambassadors as much as we have.

MANAGEMENT STAFF

Executive Director
Operations Manager
Director of Development & Public Relations
Licensed Veterinary Technician
Bookkeeper & Office Manager
Foster Care & Volunteer Coordinator
Customer Service Manager

Suzan Prendergast
Christopher Young
Stacey Coventry
Allen Batchelder
Sheila Knapp
Katelyn Murphy
Kristin Harmon



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Each year I am in awe of how our BHS family continues to grow. *You* are a part of our family; our donors, volunteers, staff, organizational partners, and adopters from all across our community who rally around every homeless pet that comes through our door. This past year we not only worked hard to meet every need of every pet that found refuge with us, we also made extraordinary efforts to give back to our community that gives us so much.

We created and expanded our outreach programs that help facilitate and nurture the animal-human bond in and outside of our shelter walls. Our *Pets on Laps* program that brings our shelter cats to visit with residents in assisted living facilities has grown incredibly to 8 facility partners per month. We launched a special adoption program, *Pets for Farmer Vets*, to bring canine companionship to veterans. Our *Fast Track Dog's Day Out* program has engaged more community volunteers in enriching the lives of our canines while they wait in our shelter for new homes. We also participated rigorously in state animal welfare issues to give our pets a voice and to fight to keep laws that protect them. Working with our state legislature, we successfully prevented the efforts of our state to eliminate the pet food surcharge that is vital in helping sustain the State of Maine's Animal Welfare Help Fix ME fund for low-income spay/neuter.

This past year **we saved 2,408 lives** - a live release rate of 91%! Next year we will save even more, together. We put every single one of your dollars to work. Your investment in our life-saving work has a higher rate of return than ever before. *Each of you* are extraordinary ambassadors for our animals. That is why this year's Annual Report is dedicated to *you*. Your donations, your time, your efforts and your support drive our mission forward. It is our pleasure to feature and highlight some of our amazing ambassadors who make our programs and services a success. We couldn't do it without you.

I believe BHS has the best team of staff, volunteers, donors, adopters, and partners - I am honored to work with every single one of you.

Sincerely,

Suzan Prendergast

Photo by Oka Hutchins



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

One of my favorite quotes about pets comes from the French writer Anatole France: "Until one has loved an animal, part of one's soul remains unawakened." I believe this with every fiber of my being and I bet you do too.

In the 8 years since I joined the Bangor Humane Society's Board of Directors, there are two things that have remained constant: our guiding principles and change. Animal welfare has changed tremendously in that time and I'm proud to say that BHS has been on the forefront of that change. We are saving more lives than ever, implementing new programs in our shelter and out in our community—none of which would be possible without you, our animal ambassadors.

"We are saving more lives than ever, implementing new programs in our shelter and out in our community—none of which would be possible without you, our animal ambassadors."

Dogs Day Out gives our loveable canines the opportunity to spend time outside of the shelter environment to socialize with people, and at times, other animals. *Pets on Laps* brings cats and dogs to area nursing homes to visit with residents. Our *Adoption Ambassadors* program empowers our foster parents to adopt the pets that they are caring for to people they know and trust.

All of these programs, and others like them, are only made possible because of the dedication and generosity of our volunteers, our donors and our community—people like you. You are a critical part of our team and we are profoundly grateful for your commitment to BHS and our animals.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I thank you, our animal ambassadors. BHS never stops asking, "What's next? What else can we do?" I know that you're right there with us, just as excited as we are to find new ways to save more lives.

Thank you for all you have done and will continue to do as animal ambassadors. I am blessed to be part of this Board, proud to be its new President and a fellow animal ambassador. I can't wait to see what we can accomplish together!

Warmest Regards,

Lani Naihe

Board of Directors

- President** Lani Naihe
- Vice-President** Buddy Angst
- Treasurer** Bob Williams
- Secretary** Susan Reisman
- Past-President** Amy Faircloth
- Board Members** David A. Cloutier, DVM
John Kenney
Jeff Russell
Earl Black
Patricia Bixel
Meaghan Duffey
Russ Maynard, *Paws on Parade* Co-Chair

Special thanks to Louise Cross, Paws on Parade Co-Chair

"We believe it is our calling to honor the human-animal bond. At BHS, we know they have the best interest of each animal at heart. By partnering with them, we're giving animals, which may not have otherwise had a good outcome, access to a better path in finding their forever homes." -Dr. Miles and Tiffany Benevento, PVS Clinic Staff



DELIVERING QUALITY MEDICAL CARE

As our local annual animal intake declines, we are able to redirect our agency resources to help those animals most in need. Our donors' dollars are working harder than ever to save the lives of those animals that arrive at our door with specialized medical needs or require behavioral rehabilitation.

- The commitment from our growing network of veterinary partners has helped our residents in extraordinary ways. Because of **Broadway Veterinary Clinic** and **Veazie Veterinary Clinic**, dogs like Trixie, a 5-year-old Lab/Shepherd mix, and Brindle, a 1-year-old pitbull mix, were able to receive the expensive hip surgery and physical therapy they needed, totaling over \$5,000 combined.
- Our relationship with the **Eastern Maine Emergency Veterinary Clinic** ensures that our shelter guests have access to the medical care they need whenever they need it. Their staff helped us care for dogs like Sanford, a 4-year-old Yorkie, who suffered a urinary blockage and required urgent medical care after hours.
- Over the last two years our rabbit intake has more than doubled. **Kindred Spirits** helps us make sure that every rabbit gets a thorough medical check and is spayed or neutered before adoption.
- In late April, thanks to our donor family, we were able to purchase a replacement LigaSure machine so we can continue safe and efficient spay/neuter surgeries for all of the residents in our care before adoption.

ANIMAL AMBASSADOR: The wonderful staff at **Penobscot Veterinary Services** help us deliver quality veterinary care to our residents when their needs require offsite attention. They help us find creative solutions within our budgeted resources to ensure every pet they see receives a healthy second chance.

\$71,758.78

SPENT ON SPECIALIZED VET CARE



Photo by Coryn Armstrong

Callie (pictured above) came to us through owners who couldn't afford her vet care. They knew she needed immediate attention, so they decided it was in her best interest to release her to us. She was lethargic, hardly eating or drinking, and was obviously in some pretty serious pain. We called Penobscot Vet and they scheduled her to be rushed over right away for an urgent exam. After an all-day stay, it was discovered that Callie had a large ovarian tumor. Penobscot Vet performed life-saving surgery that came at a cost of \$1,700.00. The tumor was removed, and though it is at risk of coming back, Callie was given an otherwise clean bill of health. She found a home with a loving and patient owner who still sends us regular updates!

EXPANDING OUR FOSTER CARE NETWORK



Photo by Barkley & Co

"Bruce and I feel honored to have been a part of the dedicated volunteer and staff rehoming team at BHS for 20 years. While fostering, we have been lucky to have had so many special canines and felines in our home to care for and to love." -Kathy Black

Foster care helps us save lives. Our foster families are dedicated, compassionate and provide an invaluable volunteer service that helps propel our life-saving mission forward. From feeding orphaned bottle baby kittens to helping one of our canines recover from surgery, they give our residents care that we can't provide within our shelter walls. Our most vulnerable pets can stay with their foster family from days to months, depending on their needs. When our foster families have helped ready our guests for adoption, they have the hardest job of all; they bring them back to be placed into loving adoptive homes. It is often bittersweet as goodbyes are always hard. Most often tears are shed in celebration of their foster pets' new beginnings; though there are times the tears are to grieve the losses of the ones that are too injured, sick or weak to make it. Our foster families donate thousands of unlogged hours to help give our residents the chance they deserve. The service they provide is priceless and our gratitude is indebted to their unwavering commitment to help us save as many lives as we can.

ANIMAL AMBASSADOR: Kathy and Bruce Black have been fostering for BHS for over 20 years. They treat each animal they foster as if they are their own. Their steadfast commitment to BHS- both its animals and its people- have made them an integral part of our family. They not only nurture our most vulnerable residents, but have now become part of our team of ambassadors that match our pets with new families.

We supported 40 foster families (and growing) with all of the supplies and medical care they needed to help us care for our most vulnerable residents.

Over 400 animals were saved last year through our foster care program.

85 animals were adopted through our new Adoption Ambassadors program, made possible by a grant awarded to BHS by the ASPCA.

In 2016 we received a grant from the ASPCA that is changing the way we match pets with people. *Adoption Ambassadors* allows our adoptable pets to be matched right from the homes of the volunteers who foster them. For many animals that come into a shelter environment, kennel stress negatively impacts their mental and emotional well being, creating barriers and increasing their length of stay. Our *Adoption Ambassadors* have been empowered to become matchmakers right from their homes. This allows us to reach new audiences of adopters and reduces returns, as our ambassadors are helping us make better matches through their first-hand knowledge. Since the program began, we have placed over 70 cats and 15 dogs. The program has been so successful that it inspired our newest community program, *Fast Track Dog's Day Out* (see page 7). These new innovative adoption programs are helping remove barriers, dispelling shelter stereotypes, and enabling more animals to show potential adopters their true colors.

ANIMAL AMBASSADOR: Kate LaBree joined our foster program with her boyfriend Gary in May 2016 as a way to mend their broken hearts after the loss of their loyal canine companion of 14 years. Kate and Gary are willing to fill whatever foster need we have; whether getting up at night to bottle feed, cleaning faces and paws after messy meals, giving medication, monitoring around the clock, providing comfort to the ill and ailing, or encouraging and helping them to be bold, social and affectionate.



Photo by Barkley & Co

"This past year and a half has been full of amusement and affection, laughter and tears, snuggles and cuddles, a little sadness but mostly abounding joy. It gives me great pride to provide this service to my community. At this point I couldn't imagine life without it." -Kate LaBree

"I first decided to participate in the Fast Track Dog's Day Out program to not only satisfy a dog's itch to spend a day outside his or her kennel, but also to satisfy my own itch for canine companionship. What I didn't expect was to fall hopelessly in love with each of them and their Dog's Day Out experiences. From nature walks to meeting new people in town to snuggles on the couch, the pure joy on their faces and in their energy from the special individual attention they receive during their outing is palpable." -Jan Placella



CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITIES

Fast Track Dog's Day Out: Inspired by *Adoption Ambassadors*, this new program provides enrichment to our shelter dogs. Members of the community volunteer to take our dogs offsite for the day. Upon return, volunteers complete a report card that highlights what they did together and how the canine companion liked their adventure. Since being implemented, 200 people have signed up and given our canines hundreds of offsite outings.

Humane Education: We welcomed hundreds of school-aged youth for educational tours, teaching them about animal welfare and our mission. Our staff visited dozens of local schools and college campuses with a shelter resident or alum to bring humane education into the classroom all across our communities.

Pets For Farmer Vets: In partnership with United Farmer Veterans of Maine, eligible veterans are referred to BHS to be matched with a dog that could benefit from a lifestyle that offers training and large rural acreage. Adoptions are fee-waived and each dog receives training at a local kennel. Since the program's launch in November, we've matched 8 veterans with our shelter dogs.

Pets On Laps: Program Coordinator Laurie Qualey and BHS volunteers take animals to local assisted-living facilities to socialize with residents. The program has grown substantially this year, visiting 8 facilities (and growing) a month for over 60 Pets On Laps visits this year!

Saturday Kids Give Back: 75 school-aged kids participated in 6 workshops at BHS. Participating youth make enrichment toys and/or treats as well as kennel signs for BHS residents, while learning about humane education and responsible pet care during the 2-hour workshop.

Sheltering Pets of Domestic Violence Victims: We received \$4,000 in grant funds to provide temporary boarding and basic medical care to pets of people transitioning out of domestic violence situations. Last year we helped three pets stay with their families.

200 DOGS DAY OUT VOLUNTEERS

ANMAL AMBASSADOR: Jan Placella joined our team of *Fast Track Dog's Day Out* volunteers this year to fill the void of canine companionship in her life. These canine adventures served as a catalyst for Jan to expand her volunteer roles with us, to becoming a foster parent and shelter volunteer. She now also helps us with adoption events, transports and daily shelter tasks. Her passionate enthusiasm to be of service is contagious and appreciated amongst shelter staff.



Photo by Katelyn Murphy

Daisy Troop 5 during an educational tour, pictured with BHS alumni "Amara"

HONORING OUR VOLUN



Photo by Karen Littlefield

Nate and Katie Coe



Photo by Kristin Harmon

Deb Aucoin



Photo by Barkley & Co

Samantha Hartery

ANIMAL AMBASSADOR: Chad Denbow, Ian Forrest, and Wendy Gibbs of Bangor Savings Bank – volunteers

What are your roles at the humane society? We walk dogs!

What made you choose BHS? All three of us are animal lovers, especially when it comes to dogs. When the bank gave us the opportunity to dedicate our time and effort to a community organization, BHS was the perfect choice. Per Ian, "It's great to take the dogs out. I know that these dogs specifically need time outside of their kennels to stretch and play. My dogs, Rosie and Harper, get a lot of time outside. It feels good to give these dogs the time and attention they deserve."

How do animals play a role in your life? We all have our own dogs that we love very much. Wendy has two German shepherds; Chad has a dachshund, a pug mix, and a pit bull mix; Ian has a Bassett hound and a Bassett doodle.

Anything you'd like to add? We would encourage others to get involved with their local humane society. Everyone's efforts count towards making a difference in the lives of their canine and feline friends.

ANIMAL AMBASSADOR: Emily Egan – foster parent & volunteer

What are your roles at the humane society? Over the past 10 months I have been helping with cleaning, assisting the Adoption Counselors at the front desk, snuggling animals, and helping the Vet Tech during surgery days. I am also a foster parent.

What made you choose BHS? I loved going to BHS to look at all of the animals, and really wanted to help them in any way I could. Seeing the animals come in and then seeing them get adopted was really cool, I wanted to be a part of that.

How do animals play a role in your life? I've always loved and have had animals of my own. I hope to be a Veterinary Technician some day, so animals have been a huge part of my life for as long as I can remember.

Anything you'd like to add? Volunteering has been great. I've learned a lot of things from volunteering: from cleaning cages, to assisting with surgery, to fostering – every part has been rewarding and informational. You're never too young to get involved.

NTEER AMBASSADORS

ANIMAL AMBASSADOR: Deb Aucoin - foster parent & volunteer

What is your role at the humane society? I started 3 years ago as a foster parent, then I realized how much BHS relies on their volunteers. I took on duties from dishes to donations needing to be put away (that storage closet always needs to be organized). I eventually added transport, onsite/offsite adoption events, and helping out on surgery days.

What made you choose BHS? I love everything that BHS stands for. They're all about doing what's best for the animals. There's something so rewarding about helping an under-socialized kitten learn that people won't hurt them or finding that perfect match.

How do animals play a role in your life? I am the pet-parent of seven cats, one yellow lab, and a rabbit - all BHS alumni.

Anything you'd like to add? Sometimes I like to get to BHS an hour or so before cleaning to get a jump-start. In reality, I enjoy talking to the cats and spending some quiet time with them before others get there. It also saves the employees some time when they come in to cat adoptions and half of the work is complete.

ANIMAL AMBASSADOR: Nate and Katie Coe - foster parents

What are your roles at the humane society? For the past year and a half, we have fostered for short and long-term canine guests, including long-term medical rehabilitation.

What made you choose BHS? Our dog, Vek, passed away in 2015, and we knew we wouldn't be ready to have another for a while. By 2016, we started fostering a dog named Libby. After a 2-week stay with us, she was adopted the day she returned, and we were hooked.

How do animals play a role in your life? We don't have any pets. When not fostering, we watch adorable animal videos on the Internet like everyone else.

Anything you'd like to add? We've had dogs for an hour and we've had dogs for months. Every time we're there, the staff at BHS makes it easy. They know their dogs... their personalities and needs. They facilitate by letting you know who's skittish, who barks at shadows, and who really needs to let off energy. They make volunteering at BHS stress-free and the animals make it fun.

ANIMAL AMBASSADOR: Samantha Hartery of Barkley & Company - volunteer

What are your roles at the humane society? I photograph the shelter dogs in an effort to show potential adopters their unique personalities and best qualities! I also try to help them stand out on social media to reach a broader audience.

What made you choose BHS? I worked at BHS as an Adoption Counselor years ago, so it has a special place in my heart. All of my animals have been adopted from BHS, too!

How do animals play a role in your life? I own a photography business centered around animals, so you could say my life revolves around them! I also have 2 (former fosters, oops) BHS cats at home. I just lost my rescue dog recently but will be looking to adopt again when the time is right.

Anything you'd like to add? The world sometimes feels like such a dark and scary place; volunteering only a few hours a week may not seem like much, but in those hours you are showing those animals (and people) that there is light in all of the darkness.

ANIMAL AMBASSADOR: Sue Baker - foster parent & volunteer

What are your roles at the humane society? For the past 11 years, I have been a Feline Care Assistant and Shelter Helper. I also make dog and cat sock toys.

What made you choose BHS? I love animals. My cat had recently passed away and I felt the need to be around cats and kittens. I knew BHS could help me get my "feline fix", and I could return the favor by helping out in the shelter.

How do animals play a role in your life? I have 3 cats (all from BHS), 3 grandcats, and 1 grand-dog. I cat sit; my business is called "The Purrfect Solution". I also foster year-round for BHS.

Anything you'd like to add? BHS has changed my life; I'm a part of a whole other family. I have met so many wonderful people over the years that have become friends. You don't have to commit to more time than you can give; anything will help. My motto: I have no control over who ends up at BHS but I can improve the quality of their lives while they're here.



Photo by Barkley & Co

Chad Denbow, Ian Forrest, and Wendy Gibbs



Photo by Kristin Harmon

Emily Egan



Photo by Barkley & Co

Sue Baker

FISCAL YEAR 2016

The programs and services offered by the Bangor Humane Society are funded primarily through private donors and foundations. We depend on your support and generosity to help us continue saving lives. All contributions, large and small, truly make a difference in the lives of our shelter animals.

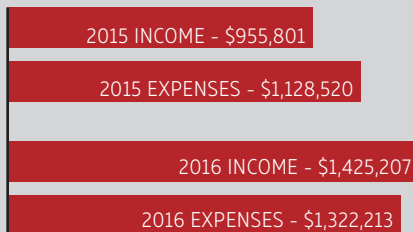
Total Income **\$1,425,207**

Unrestricted contributions (includes grants & kennel sponsorships):	\$557,066
Restricted contributions (includes grants):	\$99,770
Program income (includes adoption fees, stray contracts, & merchandise sales):	\$554,615
Paws On Parade	\$74,998
In-kind donations	\$14,643
Net income from investments	\$124,115

Total Expenses **\$1,322,213**

Programs	\$957,013
Fundraising	\$89,435
Administration	\$84,256
Capital investments	\$191,509

INCOME & EXPENSE: 2015 VS. 2016



VOLUNTEER SERVICE VALUED AT
\$85,474.41

(\$21.31 per volunteer hour based on a state of Maine independent sector report.)



60
PETS ON LAPS VISITS



21
EMPLOYEES

1,525
RABIES SHOTS ADMINISTERED



1,505
SPAY/NEUTER SURGERIES PERFORMED



\$23,326.00
DISTRIBUTED FOR SPAY/NEUTER VOUCHERS



219
ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS

A special thank you to our diverse volunteer base of high school and college students, families, local businesses, & individual community members. Your drive to make a difference in the lives of homeless pets is invaluable.



Photo by Kristin Harmon

"While we feel that there are many worthy charities benefiting people, it has long been a very important priority to support our furry friends at the Bangor Humane Society."-Kara and Jeff O'Sullivan

THE GOLDEN PAW SOCIETY

Individuals & Organizations who gave an annual gift of \$1,000 or more

Hannah and William Allen	John R. Graham III
Alfred and Esther Bushway	Stanley and Marie MacMillan
Bobby and Dianne Capen	Art and Pat Shaw
John and Mary Kate Cole	Beverly Michaud
Dr. Edward David	Jack and Jacqueline Munroe
Amy Faircloth	Lani Naihe
<i>in loving memory of Dean Lewis</i>	Kara and Jeff O'Sullivan
Scott and Jane Folsom	Sandra Serpell
Forest Avenue Congregational Church	Sheila Wellehan
Ward and Jude Gagner	Paul and Katy Wellman
Harold and Joyce Gordon	Katherine Whitney

Businesses that gave an annual gift of \$1,000 or more

Bangor Savings Bank	Green Acres Kennel Shop
Batteries Plus and Bulbs	Katahdin Trust
Berry, Dunn, McNeil & Parker, C.P.A.	Maine Paper and Janitorial Products
Broadway Veterinary Clinic	MEMIC
Garden Kennels Inc.	Quirk Subaru of Bangor
Cross Insurance	R.F. Jordan & Sons Construction Inc.
Dysarts Service	Rideout's Market
Eaton Peabody	Veazie Veterinary Clinic

Foundations & Trusts that awarded BHS with \$1,000 or more

ASPCA	Maine Community Foundation Belvedere Fund
Bangor Rotary Charities	Margaret E. Burnham Charitable Trust
Edward Mayo Bayard Trust	Nancy O. Egery Fund
Deupree Family Foundation	Laura J. Niles Foundation
Doree Taylor Charitable Foundation	Martha Morse Foundation
Frank Cary Charitable Remainder Unitrust	PetSmart Foundation
Joan C. Pederson Fund	Elmina B. Sewall Foundation
John Wikalis Trust	Simmons Foundation
Maddie's Fund	

WAYS OF GIVING

Paw it Forward: Pay the adoption fee for a BHS pet. We surprise the adopter and ask them to "Paw it Forward" for another shelter pet.

Online: Click "donate" at www.bangorhumane.org.

Honor/Memorial: Give a gift in honor of or in memory of a pet or special person.

Kennel Sponsorship: Sponsor one of our kennels annually. Receive kennel sign recognition and quarterly updates.

Event Sponsorships: Donate to underwrite a shelter event like our annual Paws on Parade or large adoption event.

The Whitley Society: Leave a gift through a bequest to help shelter pets and create a family legacy.

The Golden Paw Society: Join a leadership group of donors who give annual gifts of \$1,000 or more. The Golden Paw Society provides the critical resources necessary to save furry lives.

In-Kind/General Donations: Drop off an in-kind or cash donation at the shelter; open six days a week. Wishlist items can be found on our website, bangorhumane.org/donate.

ANIMAL AMBASSADORS: Kara and Jeff O'Sullivan are Golden Paw Society Members. For nearly a decade, the O'Sullivans have generously hosted an annual spaghetti dinner. The dinner is open to family and friends, and aims to raise money for our shelter pets. Kara and Jeff personally match every dollar they raise. To date, their fundraising efforts have raised over a staggering \$125,000 to help our homeless pets get the care they need and deserve.

Photo by Barkley & Co



Louise Cross

Photo by Barkley & Co



Russ Maynard

MAKING IT WAG AT THE 23RD PAWS ON PARADE

- The 2016 Paws on Parade event was the largest to date in participants, on-site vendors, and gross dollars raised.
- Nearly 900 two and four-legged walkers gathered for the 2016 event.
- Thirty corporate sponsorships raised \$28,000 and teams raised \$47,000 for the event. Nearly \$5,000 in in-kind donations for the event were also collected. A big thank you to Cross Insurance for being our 2016 Canine Champion event sponsor.
- Team Blackstream Cycle Misfits, led by their team captain and Paws on Parade Committee Co-Chair, Russ Maynard, broke a historical event record, raising \$16,000! Not only did the team win 2016's Top Fundraising Team, they were the Top Team Fundraising Team in event history.
- Mike Dow gave the event a festive atmosphere by donating his services to emcee.
- Reverend Marguerite Steadman from St. John's Episcopal Church initiated the 1.5 mile walk with a pet blessing.
- The event concluded with an adoption runway show that showcased some of the adoptable dogs available at BHS. All participants were adopted the following week, most by people who saw them at the event.
- Interested in joining our 2017 Paws on Parade? Help us "Unleash the Paw-tential" by visiting our event site...

www.support.bangorhumane.org/pawsonparade

ANIMAL AMBASSADOR: Louise Cross has served as our Paws on Parade Committee Chair since 2008. With close to 10 years of service, she has helped take our largest annual fundraising event to a new level by increasing our corporate sponsorships. Louise's leadership has grown our Paws on Parade revenue from **\$10,000** annually to **\$75,000** annually. Discussing her role with Paws on Parade, Louise says, **"I have always been an animal lover; they have brought such joy to my life. Paws on Parade has been a way for me to give back and help those that need a second chance at a happy, loving, forever home. At first, calling people and asking for money was totally out of my comfort zone. It's funny though how when you become passionate about something you are willing to do just that, get out of your comfort zone! Knowing what was being done for so many animals in need with the money raised at Paws has been an extremely motivating factor."**

ANIMAL AMBASSADOR: Russ Maynard began fundraising for our mission in 2013. As owner of Blackstream Custom Cycles, he organized an annual motorcycle ride that raised close to \$1,200 each year for BHS. In 2016, he stepped on to our Paws on Parade Committee as Co-Chair, with a goal to help grow our team fundraising efforts. In his new role, Russ has helped generate over \$16,000 in funds during the 2016 Paws on Parade event to directly help the animals in our care. Russ says, **"I look at animals in our shelter and breathe a sigh of relief knowing that good people are making good decisions for their welfare. I'm often drawn to a quote by a man named Peter Singer that says, "All the arguments to prove man's superiority cannot shatter this hard fact: In suffering, the animals are our equals." If raising a little money can ease that suffering in some way, then I believe it makes up the core of what I do."**

BUILDING ADOPTION PARTNERSHIPS



Photo by Karen Littlefield

Every year our community partnerships continue to grow, expanding our network of ambassadors who help us achieve our life-saving goals every single day. Our off-site adoption partners help us reach new audiences, in turn helping more of our pets find loving homes. Our collaboration with local field experts in behavioral rehabilitation and obedience training provide us with the tools and resources that give some of our most challenging pets the second chance they deserve. And our relationships with local media give our animals and our mission a voice while offering a spotlight to showcase our pets and find them new families. We are grateful for each and one of these partnerships; for those that have been with us since the beginning and for the new ones we create every year that help us propel our life-saving work forward.

Joining our team in 2016, Pet Life has been a wonderful addition to our off-site partner list. Manager Nikki Oracio says, **"Pet Life has always been focused on supporting Maine communities and their local rescues. The opportunity to be part of the Bangor Humane Society's mission to make sure every pet finds a home was something we couldn't pass up. We love working with the BHS and their phenomenal staff and volunteers to encourage all pet-owners to seek adoption."**

78 ANIMALS PLACED THROUGH ADOPTION PARTNERSHIPS

Offsite Adoption Partners: Local businesses like **Pet Life**, **Aubuchon Hardware** in Brewer, **Blue Seal** and **PetSmart** reserve a special spot on their retail floors to help us feature and adopt out our shelter pets. Opportunities to feature some of our pets offsite allows us to reach new audiences of adopters, especially for those long-term residents that may be getting overlooked in the shelter.

Old Dogs New Digs: Old Dogs New Digs is a local non-profit dedicated to getting senior dogs out of Maine shelters and into loving foster and forever homes. So far, through a new partnership this past year, three of our most vulnerable senior canines found respite through Old Dogs New Digs's foster homes. Two of those canines will live the rest of their life through foster hospice care thanks to their volunteers.

Media Partnerships: Regular Pet of the Week segments or print features with **WKIT**, **WVFX**, **WABI** and **The Maine Edge** help us showcase adoptable pets to those who may not otherwise visit the shelter. These outlets along with other local media like the **Bangor Daily News** and **WLBZ2** also help us share relevant messages and humane education about our life saving work with the community at large.



ANIMAL AMBASSADOR: In 2016, **Pet Life** joined our growing list of off-site partners. Filling a unique niche, the new pet store in Bangor was excited to team up in an effort to feature our small animals. Well-versed in rabbit care and handling, their experienced staff have been able to match our rabbits right at the store, allowing adopters to take an animal home without coming to BHS to complete their adoption first.



"The Bangor Humane Society is more than just a place to drop off stray dogs and cats. When I have been faced with more complicated animal control issues I have been able to rely on the support of BHS and their staff. Their partnership has been invaluable to me and makes my job as an animal control officer that much easier." –Trisha Bruen

PROVIDING REFUGE FOR HOMELESS PETS

1,999 Total Cats Surrendered or Transferred In • 681 Total Stray Cats
471 Total Dogs Surrendered or Transferred In • 233 Total Stray Dogs
70 Total Rabbits • 42 Total Small Animals

The Bangor Humane Society currently contracts with 35 towns in Penobscot, Piscataquis, Hancock, Washington, Waldo and Aroostook counties. We also work closely with the State of Maine Animal Welfare Department. We provide temporary housing to lost, abandoned, or seized pets in hundreds of communities across Maine.

When smaller shelters in our geographic region do not have the resources or capacity to care for the number of homeless pets and their needs, we will take them. When families have to give up their beloved pets that are injured, sick or demonstrating significant behavioral challenges because they cannot afford the rehabilitative care they need, we take them. And when the State of Maine Animal Welfare agents seize an animal from their owners for neglect, abuse, or inability to provide basic care, we take them.

2,641 TOTAL ANIMAL INTAKE

ANIMAL AMBASSADOR: Trisha Bruen is the Animal Control Officer for the City of Bangor. In the last year, she has brought 114 lost or abandoned cats and dogs to our shelter for refuge. She also works diligently with pet owners in the community to help them access the resources they need to take care of their pets. Her compassionate dedication has helped dozens of owners surrender their pets to us for re-homing, and has also given owners the tools they need to keep their pets in their homes. Trisha works hard to bring humane education into the community by leveraging her role as an Animal Control Officer to teach pet owners about responsible pet ownership. We at the Bangor Humane Society feel very fortunate to have such a compassionate animal lover serving our community.

CREATING NEW FAMILIES



Photo by Barkley & Co

Allen Batchelder, LVT

2,408 TOTAL LIVES SAVED

409 Dogs Adopted or Transferred Out • 193 Dogs Returned to Owner
1,652 Cats Adopted or Transferred Out • 50 Cats Returned to Owner
63 Rabbits Adopted or Transferred Out • 41 Small Animals Adopted

ANIMAL AMBASSADOR: Allen Batchelder, LVT, joined the BHS staff in 2014 as our full-time veterinary technician. Allen embodies the true definition of a "team player" and goes above and beyond to integrate high quality, professional, and compassionate veterinary care into shelter medicine. When speaking with Allen about the life saving work he has first-hand experience with, he says, **"The animals are my heroes. Often times they have incredible stories. I get so inspired by their inner strength to endure. Despite difficult circumstances, they always give it everything that they have. They have shown me that the spirit is stronger than anything that can happen to it. They come to BHS without a home. With us, they find love and restoration. Then we find them a new home. I am pleased to work with a team so committed to seeing everyone healthy, whole, and complete. I have seen the power held within the human-animal bond and I am passionate about protecting it. The joy of my heart is to see everyone thrive. Be creative and do the best you can with what you have. We must remember that it is not where you start, it is where you finish."**

Barn Buddies: 23 felines were adopted through this program this past year. *Barn Buddies* are wild or feral cats that cannot be adopted out through our typical adoption program. For the most part *Barn Buddies* keep to themselves; they keep a watchful eye over barns or other outdoor housing, while providing their excellent mousing skills.

FeLV & FIV Adoption Program: 10 felines who tested positive for either the Feline Leukemia (FeLV) or Feline Immunodeficiency (FIV) viruses were adopted into loving homes this past year. While contagious to other cats, these otherwise healthy cats cannot spread the virus to canines or humans. Through our veterinary partnerships and families willing to open their homes to our cats with special needs, they are getting the second chance they deserve.

Foster-To-Adopt: 16 canines with special behavioral needs were adopted through our *Foster-To-Adopt* program. These are dogs that would benefit from an experienced owner and one-on-one training to build a bond and also isolate and curb specific behaviors. Each dog in this program received specialized behavioral training paid for by BHS, while being fostered by potential adopters. Through a partnership with local trainer Jason Howe, owner of **Titanium K-9**, we are able to encourage adopters to give our more challenging dogs a chance by setting them up with the tools and support necessary for dogs that need more training than usual. Upon completion of 6-weeks of one-on-one training, dogs fostered through the program are adopted by loving owners. This has helped reduce returns and solidify long-term matches at a rate of 95%!



Photo by Jana Gerardi

"BHS's Barn Buddy program suggested two awesome cats for me to adopt to help with rodent control. The cats had prior behavior concerns, but adjusted over time to their new home; a large shed with lots of windows, heated bowls, and a safe place to call their own. Thanks to BHS for providing this much needed program that gives hard to place cats a chance for a new, free, life!" -Kathy Jackson

In Memory of Sarah Russell: In October of 2016, BHS suffered the great loss of one of our own - a coworker and friend, Sarah Russell. An Adoption Counselor for 3 years, Sarah's consideration for all who entered the shelter helped create a safe space for people and animals alike, especially for any Labradoodle. Her wry humor and infectious laugh, love for smooth guacamole, and all things Halloween are incredibly missed by the entire BHS family. In her passing, her cat Rifkin was left behind. Because of the *Barn Buddy* program, BHS was able to find him a home that loves him just as much as Sarah did.



Photo by Chelsea Mairead

Mississippi transfer dog, Doc, pictured with his new owner.

BARKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE

We are excited to announce a new collaboration with the Greater Androscoggin Humane Society (GAHS) in Lewiston, Southern Pines Animal Shelter in Mississippi, and the ASPCA. This partnership is helping bring nearly 200 dogs and puppies from overcrowded southern shelters to Maine each month. We feel privileged to join forces with GAHS who have been transporting dogs from the South to Maine with much success over the last couple of years.

Southern Pines Animal Shelter works diligently to pull adoptable puppies and dogs who are at a high risk for euthanasia out of crowded shelters where overpopulation bears a huge burden on their resources. Hundreds of these dogs are vaccinated and health screened, and then transported by the APSCA in a large transport vehicle to Rochester, New York twice a month. Once in New York, the ASPCA is met by participating shelters in the Northeast region, who will then transfer the dogs to their local facilities.

We kicked off this fiscal year with our first successful transport this summer. We are committed to this new collaborative effort and expect to transport 40-80 puppies and dogs to our shelter each month.

This effort is also going to require extensive resources. We will need blankets, newspaper, and dog toys to keep the dogs happy and clean. In addition to in-kind donations, foster homes for the puppies during their holding period are needed, as well as a group of transport volunteers willing to help.

During this exciting time, we continue to grow our community of animal ambassadors even more to make this new collaboration a success.