

Humanely Speaking

Bangor Humane Society Winter 2022 Newsletter

Read more about
my happy tails
friends and me on
page 5!

🐾 Ella

**29th Annual
Paws on Parade**
Page 3



**DELILAH
GOES HOME**

Page 6-7



ANNUAL REPORT EDITION



FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

And just like that, another year draws to a close. I know we are all feeling that the last few years have been a never ending cycle of “one step forward, two steps back.” But the work of Bangor Humane Society has gone on uninterrupted, as it has for over a century, and will continue despite any and all setbacks.

As we look forward to the coming year, we are pleased to welcome an additional, full-time Licensed Veterinary Technician to help us tackle medical needs even more efficiently. We have also galvanized relationships with our local veterinary partners to increase the number of surgery days. Both of these efforts will help to reduce length of stay for pets without sacrificing quality of care. The more animals we successfully send to loving homes, the more animals we can accept for rehoming from both our community and from high euthanasia shelters in the southern part of the country. We know the need is great.

Our goal is, and has always been, to champion the humane treatment and adoption of companion animals, and we don't take the charge lightly. Though the last few years have changed the landscape for animal welfare, testing our capacity and stretching our budgets, we remain committed to doing our best to nimbly meet the needs of the communities we serve while keeping our mission front of mind.

As we ring in 2023, we remain profoundly grateful for the opportunity to save lives in our community, a job we just couldn't do without your help. Thank you for loving and supporting animals, and for showing that support to the pets and people of Bangor Humane Society. Together, we can face any challenge and continue to put pets first.

Thank you and be well,

Suzan Prendergast



Hours of Operation

Monday-Saturday: 12pm-6pm

Sunday: Closed

Board of Directors 2022-2023

- Russ Maynard, President
- John Bunker, Vice-President
- Buddy Angst, Treasurer
- Abbey Ramsay, Secretary
- Jennifer Arey, CPA, EA
- Christopher Barry, DVM
- Earl Black
- Chris Morley
- Justin Payson
- Jeff Russell
- Anne-Marie Storey

Our Staff

- Executive Director
Suzan Prendergast
- Director of Development and Communications
Kathryn Ravenscraft
- Director of Animal Care
Sam Carruth
- Director of Medical Services
Allen Batchelder, LVT
- Volunteer and Community Outreach Director
Chelsea Brown
- Licensed Veterinary Technician
Stacey Dunifer
- Adoption Counselors
Alicia, Paige, Jessica, Lily, Kat, Audrey
- Animal Care Technicians
Olivia, Alex E., Grace, Jordyn, Mallory, Alex R., Gabby, Lilian



IF YOU THREW A PARTY...



The 29th Annual Paws on Parade returned to the Husson University campus for a day of barks, belly rubs, and treats! The theme this year was “Thank You For Bein’ A Friend”, in honor of the late, great Betty White. More than 200 people gathered on the green to celebrate man’s (and woman’s) best friends and raise more than \$45,000 for the pets of the Bangor Humane Society. We invited everyone we knew, and our pals and confidants definitely showed up. A golden thank you to our sponsors, our hosts, our volunteers, and YOU.

Thank you for being our friend. 😊

Photos by MelBee Photography and Bells Furry Friend's Photography

IT'S ALL PAWS-IBLE BECAUSE OF YOU

The stories of Fawn and Bagheera: why we're here.

Fawn: On the Mend

Fawn was surrendered to us in late August because his owners simply couldn't get a handle on his health. Suffering from a painful rash, made worse by incessant scratching, the 7-year old cat was withdrawn and understandably cranky. He had a history of ear infections, urinary tract infections, and a rash around his head and neck that had turned into bloody sores.

After multiple evaluations by our own vet care team and the area veterinarians with whom we partner, Fawn was diagnosed with a severe case of allergic dermatitis. He started on a series of steroids, topical ointments, and an oral treatment specifically for dermatitis, in addition to being fed a special diet for food sensitivities.

The change in him in just a few months is spectacular. Our animal care techs report that at the height of his illness, he was in so much pain that he was unpredictable. But to interact with him now, you would never know it. As soon as you open his kennel door, he approaches for snuggles, climbs right into your lap, purring and head butting the whole time. He loves love.

While seeing an animal in pain is the most difficult part of this job, we are better for having done everything in our power to ease their suffering, no matter the outcome. Because of those efforts, Fawn's quality of life has improved and we hope to report soon on his recovery and adoption. Stay tuned!



Will Bagheera go Home Fur the Holidays?

Meet Bagheera, a sweet, two-year old Great Pyrenees mix who was brought to us as a stray in February 2022. A friendly, goofy, energetic young dog, she was quickly adopted. Unfortunately, as sometimes happens, after a few days it was obvious that the fit wasn't quite right and she was returned to us.

Kennel life is stressful. Though the animals in our care are given everything we can provide to make their time here comfortable, there is no arguing that cement floors, changing faces, near constant activity, and the sounds and smells of other animals can take their toll. Bagheera began to show some signs of stress and we soon realized that she was going to need a special placement—one with no other dogs or cats in the home. Her size and energy level also make placement with children difficult—she is large and in charge.

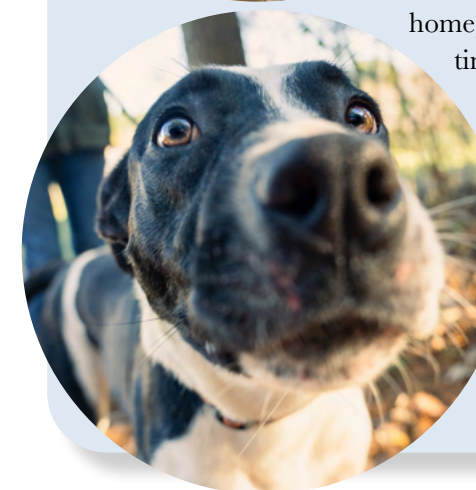
But we know the right family or individual is out there with a Bagheera-sized puzzle piece missing from their hearts and home. With your help, we know we'll be able to care for our lovely "Goofy Girl" for as long as it takes to find her purr-fect match.



HOLIDAY HAPPY TAILS



The most recent story many of you heard from BHS was that of the storage unit dogs. **Otis**, **Dexter**, and **Ella** were found crammed into a single, medium-sized kennel and abandoned in a local storage unit. Thanks to an attentive employee who was observing the grounds and heard their barks and cries, they were rescued by our friends at Bangor PD before it was too late and brought here to BHS. Only two months later, all three have recovered enough to go home, and as of print time, Otis and Ella were both adopted, and Dexter is patiently waiting for his fur-ever home, which we imagine he'll have found by the time this newsletter reaches you.



Thanks to all of you who donated in their honor. Though their experience is the exception and not the rule in this part of the country, they, and nearly 2,000 other dogs, cats, and small animals that find their way to the warmth of our shelter each year, find the care they need because of your unfailing generosity. Ella's big smile and Otis's obvious contentment with their respective new owners are proof that they are more than ready for their second chance.



KEVIN!? You probably recognize that quote from the holiday staple, Home Alone. And it's fitting here, because Kevin the cat is also just a little bit of a jerk. He likes to eat stinky food, he's very particular about his space, and he gets in trouble a lot for having a bad attitude. His description on our website was as honest as it could be—when he gets overstimulated and has had enough, he just might bite you. But like Kevin from Home Alone, Kevin the cat is deeply lovable, affectionate, and simply needed the right person to really "get" him.

Well, on the evening of November 29th, after more than six months here at the shelter, Kevin found his person. Having been told the truth about Kevin's personality, his new owner, Wilson, was visibly excited to meet this grumpy 7-year old cat. Two hours later, armed with every bit of information we could provide about our resident curmudgeon, Wilson proudly carried Kevin out of the shelter and into his

cozy car.

You may also remember this line from Home Alone: "Will you please tell Santa that instead of presents this year, I just want my family back." Well, Kevin, it looks like you got your wish.

(Kevin being Kevin, we couldn't get an adoption photo, so here's one of him being playful and content.)

**Please join us in supporting the care of shelter pets.
Visit us at donations.bangorhumane.org to make your gift today!**

DELILAH GOES HOME



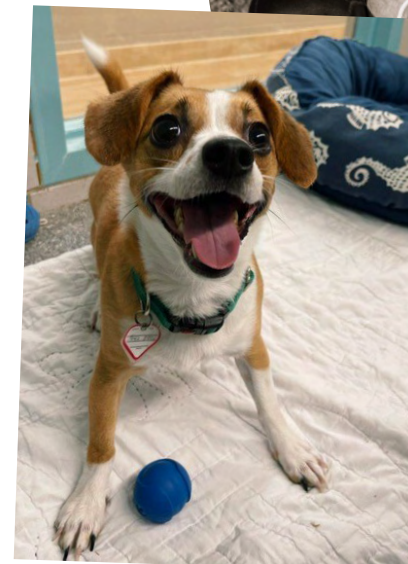
On July 14th, Sharon stopped in at the shelter to drop off a donation of blankets and supplies. As she was standing in line, she happened to notice a little doggy in the window was looking her way. Another woman standing near the window said, “She’s looking at you.” Sharon had always had big dogs, labs mostly—friendly goofballs that loved people. It didn’t even occur to her that she might want a small dog, especially one that needed as much care as but when she asked about Delilah and heard her story, she thought she might be up for the challenge.

Delilah, or Little D as our staff likes to call her, was rescued from the streets of Miami in 2019. Cute as a button, but highly cautious, she uses her bark and bares her teeth to let people know not to come too close. Delilah chooses you, not the other way around, and not without quite a bit of trust building. Sharon’s visits began with her just standing in the room while Delilah barked (read Alex’s story for more details). After 5 weeks of visiting nearly every single day, Sharon had a moment of thinking it was just not going to work out and then... Little D hopped into her lap. Sharon was hooked.



By October they’d worked up to a few car rides together, had two home visits, and finally an overnight. Delilah loved her time with Sharon so much that she was not too happy to be returned to the shelter after the sleepover, and that was when we knew the deal was sealed. Delilah had spoken. On October 27th, Delilah went home with Sharon. While our staff will miss the familiar sounds of her bark and the kisses she’d give us through the kennel, we were overjoyed to see her off, buckled safely into the front seat of Sharon’s car.

Sharon reports Delilah is doing well, is a fussy eater, has taken over the best chair in the living room, has no patience for visitors, refuses to wear a collar, and is absolutely loved. May we all find the Sharon with patience for our inner Delilah. ❤️



First off, I would just like to say Delilah is not an easy dog to get to know. She dislikes other dogs, cats, children, and has a special disdain for men. So, when I first met Sharon, I thought she’d do a visit or two then move on like the rest once she realized Little D wasn’t an “easy dog”. But Sharon was different.

She began coming almost every day to visit. We started off doing visits at Delilah’s kennel. Delilah would toss the ball to me through the fence, I’d hand the ball to Sharon, and she’d throw the ball to Little D. We did this for close to a month. Sharon was respectful of Delilah’s boundaries and never pushed her limits. Over time, Delilah started getting excited to see Sharon and would do her happy dance when she walked through the door. Then we began taking walks on the trails behind the shelter. At first I would hold the leash and Sharon would walk with us. Then eventually Sharon took the lead— she gave Delilah gentle corrections when needed and always went at Delilah’s pace. Soon Sharon and Delilah would be going on trail walks alone. This gave them the chance to get to know each other and build trust. On rainy days, Sharon and I would take Little D into our conference room and play ball. Delilah slowly got used to receiving pets from Sharon and eventually allowed for belly rubs!

Once Sharon and Delilah were both comfortable they headed out for their first adventure to aroma Joe’s! Delilah enjoyed an oversized pup cup and Sharon a cup of coffee. After more than three months, it was finally time for the big test... a sleepover! The whole staff waited anxiously to hear how Delilah did. When they came back, we were ecstatic to hear that she did great! Two days later Sharon came to collect Little D for good.

When it was time to say goodbye we all knew Delilah was ready. Watching Sharon hold Delilah, we could see how much ease she brought to this little ball of anxiety. Almost like it was safe to put her guard down, she had finally found her protector, her peace.

Thank you, Sharon, for giving this amazing girl the chance she’s been waiting for. We can’t wait to hear about your adventures soon. ❤️

Alex, Animal Care Tech

Scan me to help us support
the care of shelter pets.





FROM THE PRESIDENT

Another winter season is upon us here at the Bangor Humane Society, and with that always comes the feeling of hope that the new year will exceed the success of the previous one. History tells me it will.

My journey at BHS started in 2012 when I was invited by a friend to attend my first Paws on Parade. I walked my dogs on the route and joined in all the activities of the event. I remember leaving the event and feeling I was just part of something that was very special. I haven't missed one since. In

2015 I was asked to be the Chair of Paws on Parade. I watched our little Parade grow into a major fundraising event that expanded our ability to serve the needs of our ever growing population of stray animals.

In 2017 I was invited to join the Board of Directors. I soon realized I was among the most dynamic, forward thinking, compassionate group of leaders I had ever had the pleasure of working with. I came on to the board in the middle of the largest Capital Campaign BHS had ever done. That campaign had one purpose! To rebuild our long overdue shelter. BHS made a commitment to our donors. "Help us build a new shelter and we will build one with the future in mind." We have done just that.

In October of this year I took on the role as President of the Board. Through the process of Strategic Planning, leadership, dedicated staff, management and guidance of the Board we will fulfill our commitment to our donors and make BHS the benchmark of animal shelters in the country,

I am truly Thankful for the continued support of our dedicated staff, our compassionate community, and our patient animals waiting for their new forever loving homes.

Russ Maynard
BHS Board President



THANK YOU!

Golden Paw Donors and Grant Funders

Our Golden Paw Donors are those that have given \$1,000 or more to the Bangor Humane Society during FY22 (May 1, 2021 - April 30, 2022). These generous individuals, families, foundations, and businesses keep the work of saving animal lives moving forward in significant ways. We wish to thank the following donors for their extraordinary generosity.

Golden Paw Donors

Hannah and William Allen
Hollis M. Allen Jr.
Cathy Anderson
Ward Briggs
John and Ruth Bunker
Alfred and Esther Bushway
Ernest and Dianne Capen
Susan Cheff
Brandon Clark
James Cohen
Wilbert "Wib" Cole
Joan Decato
Maura Emerson and Guillermo Olivos
Amy Faircloth in memory of Dean Lewis
Jim and Cathy Gero
Harold and Joyce Gordon
Marilee and Glendon Harding
Richard Harnum
Suzanne Hart
Kathleen Hermann
Lin Larochelle
Lloyd Leeman
Ms. Loretta Logan and Mr. Richard Bissell III
Michael and Gale Longo
Mary Jane Low
Stanley and Marie MacMillan
Vanessa Madore
Emily and Judson McIntosh
Lawrence E. Merrill
Beverly Michaud
Deborah Moody
Kara and Jeff O'Sullivan
Susan Reisman
Joan Rosie
Kathryn and Leonard Shultz
Mitchell J. Sleeper
James Spear
Beverly Twitchell
Lisa Utecht
Martha Villada
Mary and David Scott Warner
Richard J. Warren
Shelia Wellehan
Audra Whitney and Forrest Brown

Foundations

ASPCA
Bangor Savings Bank Foundation
Edward Mayo Bayard Trust
Besch Giving Fund
The Michele & Agnese Cestone Foundation
Christine Evon and Terri Graham Fund
CARL E DANFORTH TRUST
Deupree Family Foundation
Doree Taylor Charitable Foundation
Fisher Charitable Foundation
Herfort Family Fund
Joan C. Pederson Fund
Laura J. Niles Foundation
Maine Community Foundation
Margaret E. Burnham Charitable Trust
Nancy O. Egery Fund
Narragansett Number One Foundation
Pamela D. Chute Pet Trust
Elmina B. Sewall Foundation
Simmons Foundation
Spencer Murfey Family Foundation
Tom R and Patricia F Hodges Fund
Virginia H. Burrows Irrevocable Administrative Trust

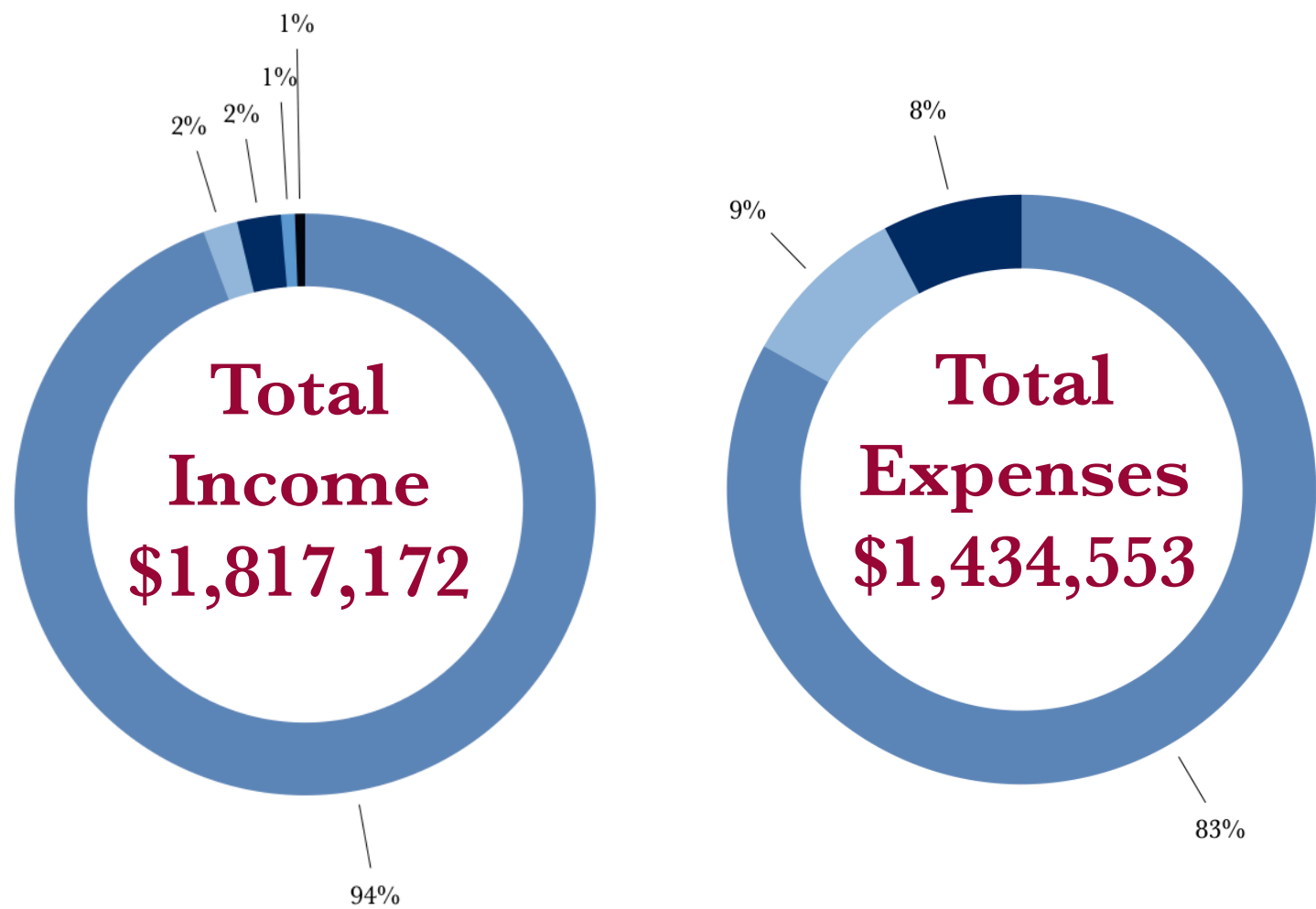
Businesses and Organizations

Brandywine Graphics
Camden National Bank
Changing Seasons Federal Credit Union
Coach House Restaurant
Creative Coatings Advertising
Cross Insurance
Darling's Volkswagen
Downeast Toyota
Dysart's Restaurant
Endless Season Riders
Harvest Moon Delis
Hollywood Casino
Katahdin Trust
Leadbetter's Super Stops
Maine Beer Company
Means Investment Co, Inc
Quirk Subaru
Rideouts Market

We invite you to join the ranks of this esteemed group of contributors. Please contact our Director of Development, Kathryn Ravenscraft, at (207)942-8902 ext. 103 or at KathrynR@BangorHumane.org to find out more about how you can help!

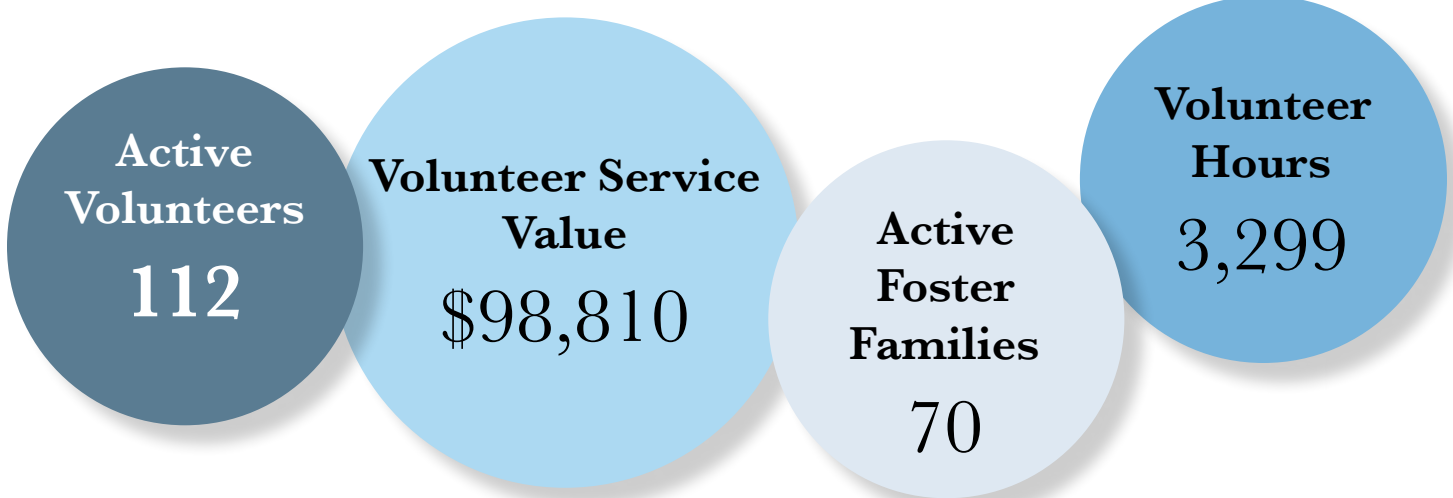
ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year May 1, 2021 - April 30, 2022



- Unrestricted Contributions - \$1,713,788
- Restricted Contributions - \$35,000
- Paws on Parade-Net of Expenses - \$44,164
- In-Kind Donations - \$14,120
- Net Income for Investments - \$10,100

- Programs - \$1,191,626
- Fundraising - \$132,894
- Administration - \$110,033



Shelter Statistics

- 1,184** Spay/Neuter surgeries on-site
- \$14,470** Redeemed value of spay/neuter vouchers for low-income individuals and families
- \$140,198.23** In-house medical care (vaccinations, spay/neuter, labwork, treatments)
- \$90,076.54** Extraordinary Medical Care (orthopedic, oral surgery, medical emergencies)
- 4,840** Vaccinations given (includes rabies, bordetella, and distemper)
- 372** Animals transported to BHS, rescued from high-kill shelters in southern regions of the US

BHS is honored to be a trusted resource for our community, providing critical programs that help pets stay with their owners.

Our Low-Income Spay/Neuter Voucher Program
Our partners with area vets to provide low-cost spay/neuter services to low-income individuals and families. In FY22 we gave out over \$14,000 in vouchers, helping to secure spay or neuter procedures for 154 cats and 73 dogs in our community. This program has helped to decrease the population of homeless or unwanted pets by more than 50% in the last decade.

We are grateful for support from Maine Community Foundation, The Simmons Foundation, and the Walmart Foundation, all of whom provided generous funding for this program in FY22.

Spay Your Mama Program:
For only \$50, pregnant or nursing mother cats* and their kittens can be temporarily surrendered to the Bangor Humane Society until the kittens are ready to be adopted. Each kitten is fully vaccinated, microchipped, and spayed or neutered before being placed in new homes by BHS. The mama cat is also spayed, vaccinated, microchipped, and returned to her rightful owner.

**Owners may keep mama cat and kittens until weaning is complete, but kittens must accompany Mama to the shelter for surrender to be eligible for this program.*

Free Pet Food Pantry: We know how hard it is to keep our own pantries stocked right now and that there are many who may be struggling to make sure their pets receive the appropriate nutrition. Because not being able to feed your pet during tough times should never be a barrier to the joys of animal companionship, anyone in the community can stop by once a week for one bag of dog food and/or cat food. Additionally, any items we can't use here at the shelter are placed in the pet food pantry for people to take what they need.

Happy Holidays



From the BHS Team

Our Mission

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.

Bangor Humane Society

693 Mt. Hope Ave.

Bangor, ME 04401

207.942.8902

www.bangorhumane.org

 @BangorHumane



BHS is proud to feed our pets
Hill's Science Diet Food!