



# TCHS 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



[www.twincountyhumanesociety.org](http://www.twincountyhumanesociety.org)

"It takes all of us"



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## Message from the TCHS Board of Directors

We can't believe it's already 2024!

Unfortunately, we are still dealing with the fallout from the post-COVID population boom and increased costs. As a consequence, we continue to see record numbers of unintended litters and unwanted animals. But we are not giving up and we hope you won't either!

We will continue to spay and neuter cats and dogs – both homeless and owned animals, we will keep providing support to animal owners to reduce surrenders and abandoned animals, and we'll keep rescuing as many as we can – the sick, the vulnerable, the unwanted, and those left behind.

During 2023, TCHS has achieved the following:

- Trap-neuter-vaccinate-return (TNR) of 800 community cats.
- Spay or neuter of over 303 owned cats.
- Spay or neuter of 286 owned dogs.
- Emergency food and veterinary assistance for dozens of pets to help keep vulnerable animals in the home and out of the shelter.
- Foster and rescue of over 600 cats, puppies, kittens, and dogs.

We have spent over \$61,000 on veterinary bills alone during 2023 – on TNR, spay and neuter, and the care of animals in our community and with our pet fosters. Just as important as our financial impact is the fact that as an all-volunteer organization our volunteers devote thousands of hours of their time (all un-compensated) and thousands of dollars on food and supplies and gas money, at their own expense, to carry out our mission.

Please consider supporting TCHS to help us continue this work.  
**YOUR SUPPORT HELPS SAVE ANIMALS IN THE TWIN COUNTIES EVERY SINGLE DAY!**

Thank you for your support!





## Our Mission

At TCHS, our core mission is to enhance the lives of animals in Carroll and Grayson Counties and the City of Galax.



We work to fulfill this mission by reducing the population of unwanted animals through **TNVR** and **spay/neuter** assistance. And we work to improve the lives of animals that are part of our community through our **foster and rescue** program, **emergency medical assistance**, and free or low-cost **vaccination** and **pet food** programs.

*See how TCHS has improved the lives of over 2,000 animals during 2023 in the pages that follow.*



These programs don't just help animals; they also help the people who love them by allowing them to keep their beloved pets at home and out of the shelter.



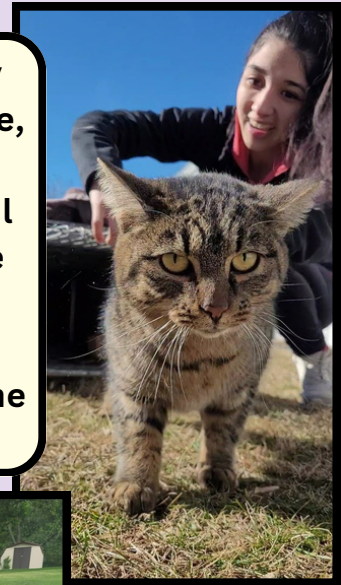
## Community Cats

During 2023 our volunteers provided care to community (or feral) cats in the form of trap-neuter-vaccinate-return programs (TNVR) where we trap feral cats and get them spayed or neutered and vaccinated against rabies.

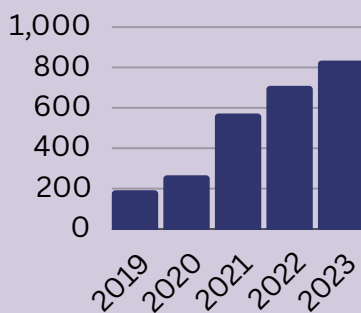
**TCHS**  
provided TNVR  
to over 830  
homeless cats  
from more  
than 70  
colonies  
in 2023



We also provide any needed medical care, such as wound treatment or control of parasites. And we follow up with colonies to re-trap any cats that become sick or injured.



**TNR 2019-2023**



We provide support to several feral cat colonies throughout the Twin Counties in the form of food, medical, and housing assistance.



While adult cats are released back to the location from which they were trapped, if kittens are present, we will take them into our foster program for socialization and adoption.

## Spay and neuter (dogs)

We were so fortunate to receive a visit from our friends at PETA, who brought two fully-equipped and staffed spay/neuter mobile units. This amazing group, with help from Homeward Trails and TCHS, provided spay and neuter to 150 dogs over two days!

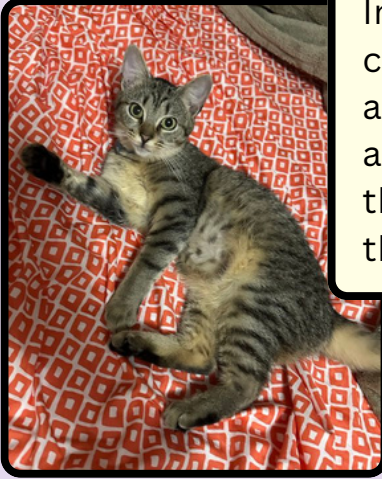


**SNIP Program (136 dogs!):** TCHS and Homeward Trails worked together to develop a new program in the Twin Counties to provide reduced- or no-cost spay and neuter for dogs whose owners aren't able to afford the procedures.





## Spay and neuter (owned cats)



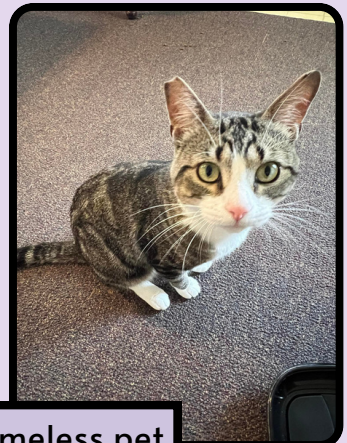
In addition to the work we do with community cats, TCHS also provided spay and neuter through our subsidy and assistance programs to **303** owned cats in the Twin Counties during 2023, preventing the birth of thousands of unwanted kittens.



215  
female cats  
spayed



88  
male  
cats  
neutered



Because our major homeless pet population consists of cats, this is where we focus our spay and neuter efforts. Most of our homeless and feral cats arise from owned animals that were abandoned or left behind and allowed to procreate without anyone to care for them.

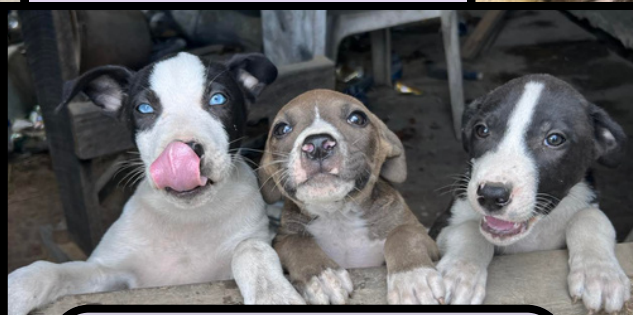
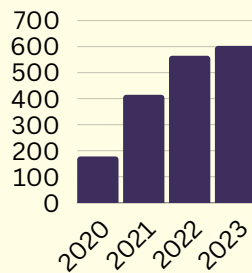


## Dog and Cat Rescue



TCHS also takes in homeless and unwanted animals in the Twin Counties, providing foster care and any needed veterinary care until we can either adopt out the animals locally or transfer them to our regional rescue partners for adoption.

TCHS has increased our rescue efforts over the last several years, rescuing over 600 dogs and cats in 2023.



### Rescues by species:

- 302 dogs
- 301 cats



## Owner Support Programs

TCHS also provides services to local pet owners to help improve the affordability of owning pets, which helps keep pets in their home and out of the shelter.

271 pets vaccinated  
 320 dogs and cats microchipped  
 112 pets given emergency food  
 66 pets given emergency medical support  
 24 cat houses provided



In addition to our ongoing spay and neuter certificate program we also host (with our partners) free or low-cost vaccination clinics, emergency pet food support, and emergency veterinary medical subsidies.

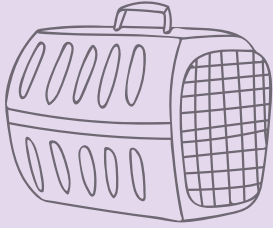


We also provide support for our cat colony feeders in the form of food, housing, and ongoing medical care for cats that show signs of illness or injury.





## Dog and Cat Transport



Because we don't have enough adoptive local homes for all of the animals in our community that need homes, most dogs and cats rescued during 2023 were transported to regional rescue partners.

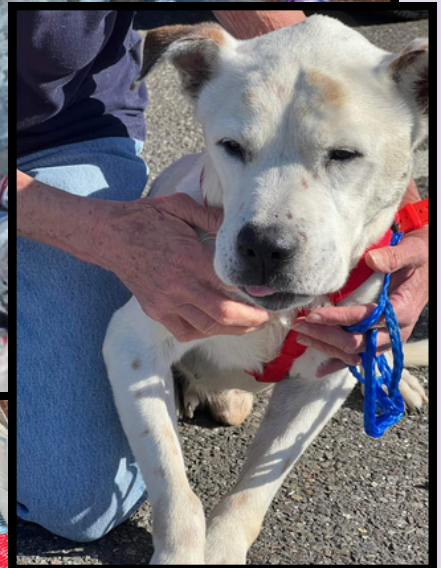
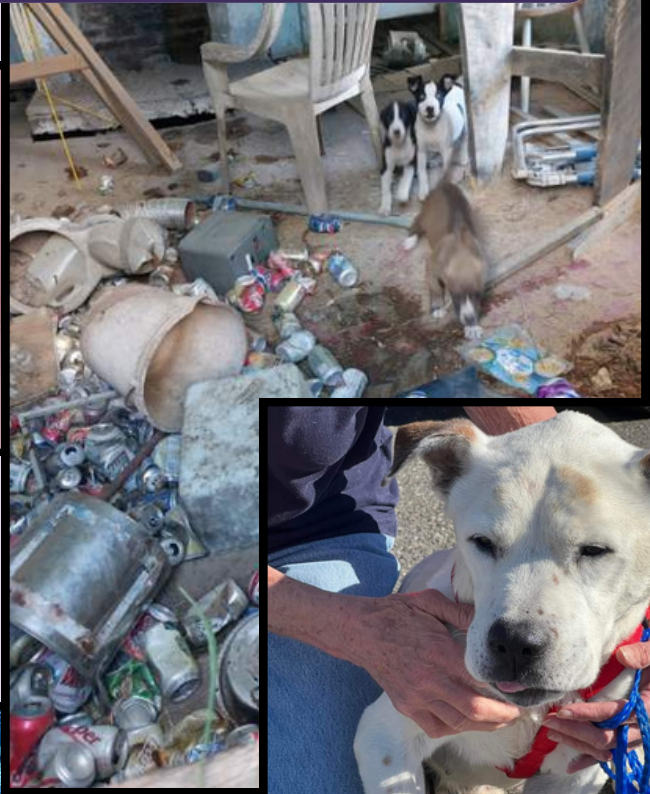
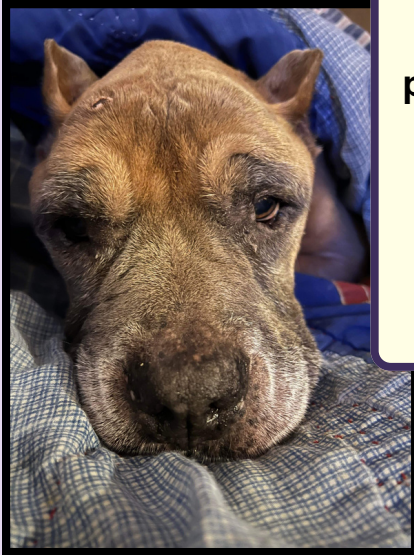
TCHS  
transported **559**  
animals to rescues  
near and far in  
2023!





## Emergency Rescue

In addition to our regular rescue efforts  
- rehoming animals at the request of people who are unable to care for them  
- we also step in to take animals in crisis. During 2023 TCHS worked with animal control officers and other community members to take in the animals at greatest risk.





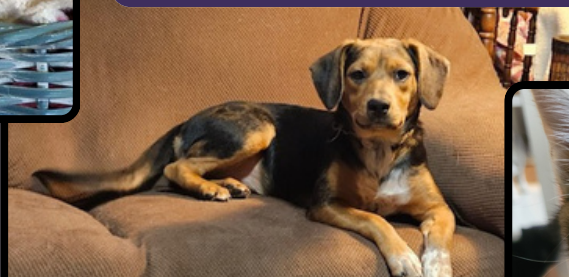
## Foster Care



TCHS is fortunate to work with several fabulous pet fosters! During 2023 we had over 250 animals pass through our pet foster care program. This successful but growing effort currently consists of 18 foster care heroes.



Many of the animals in our care need veterinary and nutritional support - in addition to basic medical care like vaccination, deworming, and spay or neuter - in order to move on to the next phase of their lives. But the most important ingredient is LOVE!

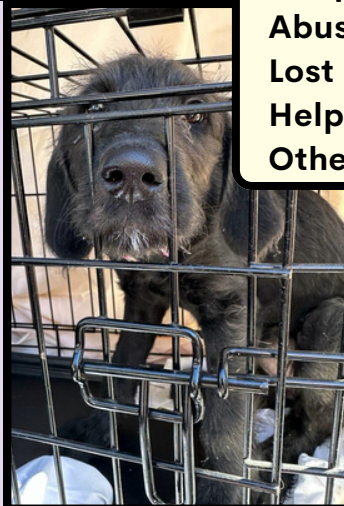




## TCHS Helpline

Our TCHS volunteers received and responded to over 1,400 requests for help, through calls or texts to our helpline, emails, Facebook messages, and direct appeals to our members.

While TCHS personnel are all volunteers, and many have regular jobs, we respond to all requests for assistance as quickly as possible.



### Help requests by the numbers:

- Spay/neuter help (31%)
- TNR request (13%)
- Rehoming requests (11%)
- Help with kittens (10%)
- Vet assistance requests (9%)
- Found a pet (7%)
- Food requests (5%)
- Adoption requests (2%)
- Abuse/neglect report (1%)
- Lost a pet (1%)
- Help with puppies (1%)
- Other (9%)



## Volunteers (are the best)!

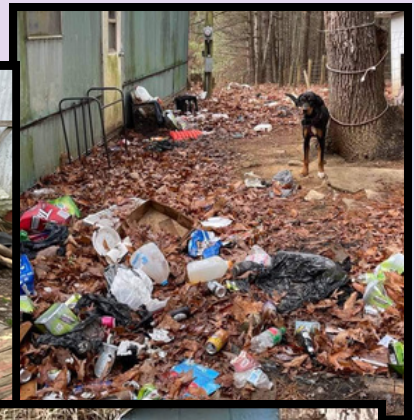
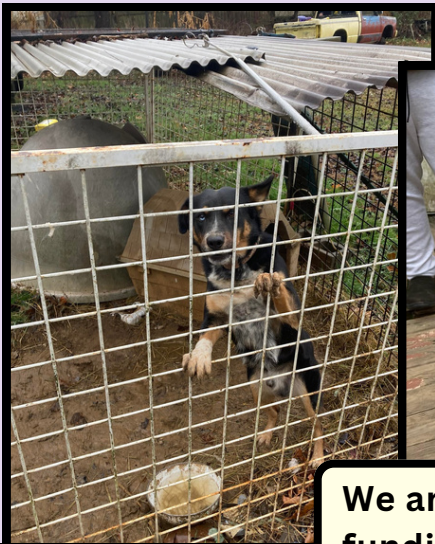
TCHS is fueled by volunteers! From trapping feral cats, to driving transports, fostering dogs and cats, collecting and delivering food donations, building habitats, staffing pet support events like vaccination and microchip clinics. And so much more!



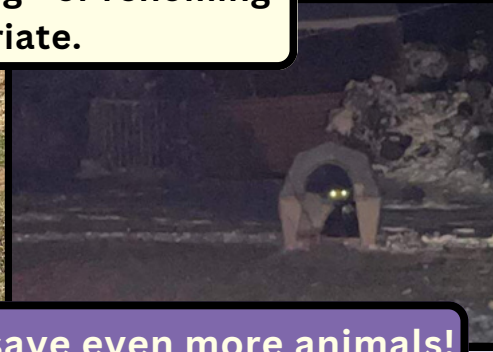


## Looking Ahead: Outdoor dog assistance program

There are just too many dogs living in sub-standard conditions in our community. While we understand that many dogs are going to live outdoors, despite our preferences, we often find that they do not have suitable housing, bedding, food, and veterinary care.



We are currently working on funding, donation of supplies, and training volunteers to be able to better support these dogs and their owners to provide both suitable living conditions and encourage indoor housing - or rehoming - when appropriate.

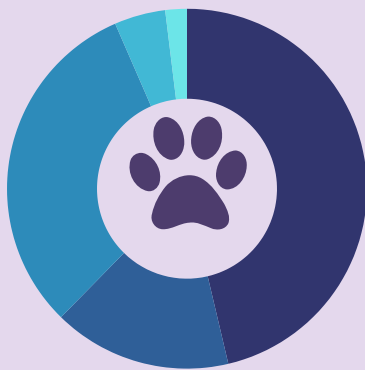


With your help, we can save even more animals!

## 2023 Fundraising and Expenses

### Fundraising Sources

Total: \$103,050

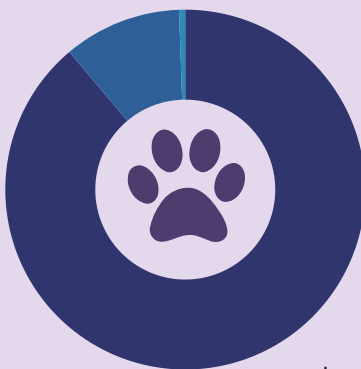


- Individual giving (43%)
- Fundraising campaigns (25%)
- Grants (24%)
- Special Events (6%)
- In kind donations (2%)



### Disbursements

Total: \$81,307



- Program services (89%)
- Operational support (10%)
- Fundraising (1%)



\$64,880 spent on veterinary expenses and supplies.

TCHS was very fortunate to receive some unexpected end of year grants that we were unable to spend. However, we are working quickly at the beginning of 2024 to accelerate our spay/neuter efforts and develop our new outdoor-housed dog program!



# Thank You!

From the TCHS  
Board of Directors



**Becky Bloomfield**  
*TCHS President*

**Stephanie Kordick**  
*TCHS Vice President*



**Mary Hatmaker**  
*Secretary*

**Gary Hevey**  
*Treasurer*

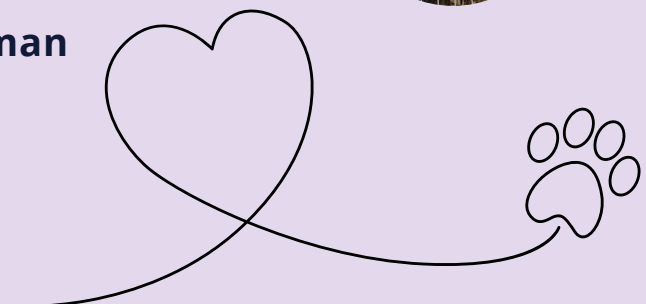


**Susan Hevey**  
*At Large*

**Nancy Taylor**  
*At Large*



**Gay Huntsman**  
*At Large*



## Contact Us



### Helpline

276-779-9418

### Email

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### Facebook

[www.facebook.com/twincountyhumanesociety](https://www.facebook.com/twincountyhumanesociety)

### Website

[www.twincountyhumanesociety.org](http://www.twincountyhumanesociety.org)

