

"It's not enough to love animals; we must actively protect and preserve them. It's our duty and responsibility as custodians of this planet."

— DAPHNE SHELDRICK

2023

Report to the Community

A message from our leadership

We are grateful for your dedicated support throughout 2023. The year began with national exposure for PAWS, being featured on *Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom* in January. It was also the final year for the wildlife team at the Lynnwood campus, where we've served wildlife and the public for over 35 years. The PAWS Wildlife Rehabilitation Center now operates out of a new purpose-built facility in Snohomish.

Despite challenges, including a significant increase in stray and surrendered cats and dogs, we remain committed to providing compassionate care to animals and providing indispensable services to the community. We extended our reach by rescuing animals from shelters in Maui following the devastating wildfires.

Our educational programs expanded dramatically, reaching more youth, and our volunteer numbers grew to our pre-pandemic highs. These achievements would not have been possible without the generous support of our community.

Thank you for supporting PAWS to make our world a more compassionate place for animals.

With gratitude,



Joseph Grube
Board Chair



Heidi Wills Yamada
CEO



Heidi Wills Yamada, CEO, and Joseph Grube, Board Chair

Helping Animals Go Home and Thrive

Providing expert care

The **PAWS Wildlife Rehabilitation Center** admitted 4,442 animals from 170 species. This is a 7% increase in species from the previous year. PAWS also trained 17 interns over the year, furthering our mission to educate future wildlife rehabilitators. 2023 was notable as the last full year the wildlife team operated from the Lynnwood campus. The new PAWS Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Snohomish entered the final stage of completion after a 15-year process of planning, permitting, fundraising, and construction in preparation for a spring 2024 opening.

PAWS garnered significant media attention in 2023 by being featured on the premiere episode of the new *Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom* series. Additionally, in September, their camera crew filmed footage for two more episodes for the 2024 season on NBC.

The year ended on a high note with the release of three juvenile bald eagles. These young raptors were orphaned, prompting local community members to bring them to PAWS. After months of dedicated care, the eagles were released in a feeding ground among their peers in early December, symbolizing the culmination of PAWS' impactful work throughout the year for thousands of wild animals.



Wildlife Highlights

- Animals admitted: **4,442**
- Number of species admitted: **170**
- Rehabilitation release rate: **49%***
- Number of trained rehabilitation interns: **17**
(providing 4,454 hours of service)
- Number of medical procedures performed: **3,234**

*This rate is calculated based on the number of animals who were released, died in care, or were humanely euthanized after failing to respond to treatment.

Companion Animal Highlights

- Total animals in care: **3,732**
- Adoptions: **3,356**
Dogs: **619** Puppies: **195** Cats: **1,324** Kittens: **1,218**
- Animals placed into foster homes: **1,789**
- Incoming strays: **732**
- Incoming owner-surrendered animals: **867**
- Animals transferred from other shelters to PAWS: **2,133**
- Save rate: **98%**

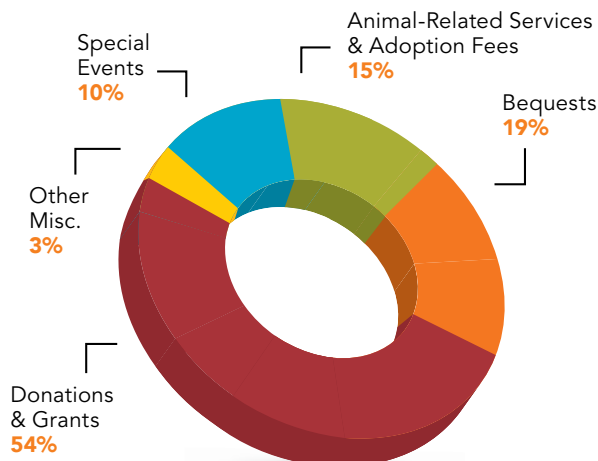


The **PAWS Companion Animal Shelter** faced a challenging year with a 22% increase in stray animal intake and a 23% rise in owner-surrendered animals. Despite these pressures, PAWS remained committed to helping neglected animals in need. In the second half of the year, PAWS extended its support beyond state lines by welcoming a series of transfers of cats from shelters in Maui, Hawaii. These shelters were overwhelmed following the devastating wildfires that ravaged the island during the summer.

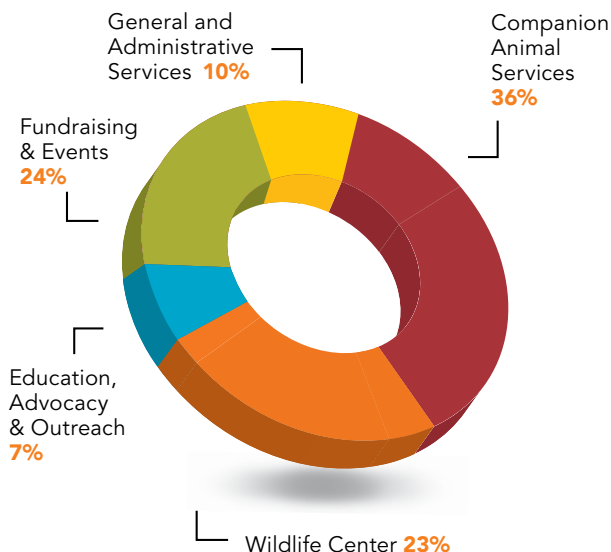
PAWS' ability to respond to this crisis, while managing increased local intake, demonstrates the organization's resilience and dedication to providing compassionate care for animals. Through these efforts, PAWS not only addressed the immediate needs of the local community but also extended a helping hand to animals affected by natural disasters, underscoring the shelter's commitment to animal welfare on a broader scale.

2023 Financials

OPERATING REVENUE



OPERATING EXPENSES



Statement of Financial Position

ASSETS

Current assets

Cash and cash equivalents	10,994,493
Accounts receivable	16,213
Contributions receivable	673,509
Inventory	27,860
Prepaid expenses	133,300
Total current assets	11,845,375

Other assets

Cash and cash equivalents – restricted for capital campaign	512,683
Investments	0
Contributions receivable, net of current	226,133
Right of assets	15,936
Property and equipment, net	40,884,151
Beneficial interest held in trust	8,410,522
Other	2,680
Total other assets	50,052,105

TOTAL ASSETS **\$61,897,480**

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current liabilities

Accounts payable, accrued expenses	3,277,092
Other lease liabilities	16,416
Long-term note payable	6,000,000
Total current liabilities	9,293,508

Net assets

Without donor restrictions	
Undesignated	983,066
Other board designated	27,030,036
Board designated endowment	0
	28,013,102
With donor restrictions	
Purpose and time	16,180,348
Perpetual in nature	8,410,522
	24,590,870

Total net assets **52,603,972**

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS **\$61,897,480**

Statement of Activities

OPERATING REVENUE

Public support

Contributions	4,639,156
Bequests	1,365,421
Special events, net	876,767
Grants	361,546
Distributions from perpetual trusts	360,303

Other revenue

Professional fee-disaster wildlife rehabilitation services	604,744
Adoption fees, net of returns	551,870
Animal receiving fees	13,485
Animal-related services	79,845
Municipal contracts and pet licensing fees	97,977
Retail sales, net of returns and discounts	71,377
Miscellaneous	20,371
Investment return	160,134

TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE **\$9,202,996**

OPERATING EXPENSES

Program services

Companion Animal Services	2,869,309
Wildlife Center	1,782,114
Education, Advocacy and Outreach	559,297
Total program services	5,210,720

Supporting services

Fundraising and events	1,910,462
General and administrative	784,339
Total supporting services	2,694,801

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES **\$7,905,521**

Note: The financial information included in this presentation has been audited for accuracy.

PAWS

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Heidi Wills Yamada
CEO

PAWS Mission and Values

PAWS is people helping cats, dogs, and wild animals go home and thrive.

Commitment – A champion for animals no matter the difficulty.

Compassion – Acting to ease pain and distress.

Respect – Welcoming to people of all backgrounds and identities.

Trust – Believing in the ability and positive intentions of others.

Kindness – Demonstrating caring toward all living beings.



Sharing Ideas, Knowledge and Compassion

The **PAWS Education Program** celebrated significant achievements across various fronts. The year experienced a remarkable 42% increase in youth reached and a 49% rise in program offerings compared to 2022, in addition to increased grant funding. This growth is a result of PAWS' commitment to expanding educational impact in the region.

A highlight of 2023 was PAWS' return to pre-pandemic levels in classrooms in Snohomish County and the return of the *Kids Who CareSM* journal. Previously a 12-page document, the journal is now a 30-page, full-color workbook with key words translated into Spanish and Russian allowing 4th grade participants and their families a deeper connection to PAWS. Teachers continue to highlight the importance of *Kids Who CareSM* in their classrooms.

"This curriculum does a great job building not only empathy, but problem solving and critical thinking skills. The kids will still bring up things around our PAWS presentations that relate to something else we are discussing in class. They continue to make connections," noted teacher Erin Alfieri of Martha Lake Elementary.



Education Program Highlights

- **1,900** community members reached
- **1,798** youth in live programs (*Kids Who CareSM*, Girl Scouts, Summer Workshops)
- **102** adults in live programs
- **344** Scouts participated in badge workshops
- **288** youth completing service projects for animals
- **385** education programs, including:
 - **432** hours of instruction
 - **312** *Kids Who CareSM* lessons to **52** classrooms at **15** schools
 - **34** Scout/youth programs
 - **21** Preteen and Teen Summer Workshops

PAWS Volunteer Program expands

The **PAWS Volunteer Program** flourished, with active volunteers surpassing 1,000—a 35% increase from 2022. The total number of service hours rose by 23%. The Companion Animal Shelter team appreciated the support of more members of our community with the addition of youth volunteers aged 16 and over, offering high school students valuable opportunities to gain volunteer hours and animal experience. Additionally, the foster program continued to grow, placing 1,789 cats and dogs into foster care, marking an 8% increase over 2022. This growth reflects the dedication and enthusiasm of our volunteers, who are integral to PAWS' mission of helping animals in need.

Volunteer Highlights

- Number of volunteers: **1,478** (includes foster volunteers)
- Volunteer hours: **63,910**



Event Highlights

PAWSwalk was held in June and consisted of a 21-day "walk from anywhere" challenge. The kickoff event brought local walkers to Frances Anderson Park in Edmonds, WA. In October, PAWS Wild Night returned to the Sheraton Grand Hotel in downtown Seattle, making an unforgettable evening for over 400 guests.