


**austin**  
**PETS**  
**alive**   
*Helping People Help Pets*

IMPACT  
REPORT

**2024**

*There's No Place Like*  
**HOME**



## Letter from *Dr. J*



**dear friend,**

At Austin Pets Alive!, we've always believed that every pet deserves a home — and in 2024, we made incredible strides to ensure that vision becomes reality.

**Since opening our doors in 2008, we have saved over 130,000 pets, including thousands in the past year alone.** And together, we went beyond our daily lifesaving to accomplish even more in 2024:

- **We started construction on the APA! Shelter Pet Hospital,** a groundbreaking facility with improvements — like a more spacious, upgraded Parvo Puppy ICU — and room to share our innovative methods. This critical project will help us continue to transform shelter medicine.
- **We opened the APA! Transport Hub in Elgin.** This dedicated space means uninterrupted care of pets at our main shelter

location while ensuring smoother transitions for pets traveling to rescue partners nationwide.

- **We opened two new APA! Thrift stores in Pflugerville and Round Rock.** Our community gets even more cool finds, and all net proceeds from our stores directly support the innovative lifesaving programs and animals at APA!.

Through these milestones and more, we have remained focused on what matters most: finding the right home for every animal in our care. **For some pets, “home” first looks like a cozy foster placement where they can heal before finding their adoptive family. For others, like our barn cats or incontinent pets, it’s a unique setting tailored to their needs.** Whatever their journey, we are committed to finding the place where they can thrive, because no kennel can replace the healing power of a foster or adoptive home.

This mission isn't easy, and it never will be. But we've never been intimidated by the challenges that come with saving lives. Every day, we work to clear new paths, solve entrenched problems, and provide second chances to the pets who need us most. **We know we can't do this without you, and we are so grateful for your support.**

As I look to 2025, I am excited for the future we're creating together. At APA!, we remain dedicated to building on the progress we've made, innovating solutions, and reimagining what animal sheltering can and should be — all while reminding ourselves that there is truly no place like home.

Thank you for being a crucial part of this urgent mission today, and always.

Sincerely,

***Dr. Ellen Jefferson, DVM***  
President and CEO



### Mission

The mission of Austin Pets Alive! is to promote and provide the resources, education, and programs needed to eliminate the killing of companion animals.

### Vision

Austin Pets Alive!'s vision is that every shelter animal, in Central Texas and beyond, gets a true chance at the life they deserve.

Austin Pets Alive! (APA!) is a nonprofit animal welfare organization pioneering, practicing and teaching comprehensive, innovative programs designed to save the most at-risk homeless companion animals every day while working to find solutions that will keep pets and people together so shelters aren't needed in the first place.

## 2024 *Impact*

6,784  
Adoptions

2,626 4,150  
DOGS CATS

9,511  
Foster Placements

3,217 6,294  
DOGS CATS  
(1,736 new fosters) (1,378 new fosters)

Active Foster Caregivers: 3,055

8,411  
Intakes

3,760 4,651  
DOGS CATS

### Volunteers

Volunteer Hours logged: **82,584**

Which amounts to **\$2,765,738**  
of in-kind support

# 2024 Notable *Program Achievements*



## PARVO

Parvo puppies saved: **868**  
 Parvo puppy survival rate: **88%**  
 Nearly **10K parvo puppies treated** since 2009



## CAT PROGRAMS

Ringworm kitties saved: **826** adopted: **868**  
 Incontinent cats taken in: **19** adopted: **30**  
 Barn cats adopted: **221**  
 FeLV+ cats taken in: **238** adopted: **256**



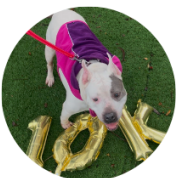
## NEONATAL KITTEN NURSERY

Kittens & mama cats treated in nursery: **2,301**  
 Neonatal kitten save rate: **89.44%**  
 Panleuk kittens treated: **176**



## MEDICAL CLINIC

Total number of spay/neuters: **5,394**  
 Each month the clinic provides approximately:  
**3,000** exams **2,500** vaccines **2,000** diagnostic tests  
 Other surgeries & procedures: **815**



## TRANSPORT

Animals Transported: **2,434**  
 Source Partners: **60**  
**80** Destinations partners across the US and Canada



## DOG BEHAVIOR

**2,878** Total 1:1 Training Sessions  
 Total Fosters Helped: **1,273**  
 Total Adopters Helped: **1,605**



## POSITIVE ALTERNATIVES TO SHELTER SURRENDER (PASS) PROGRAM IMPACT

**8,169** pet/assistance request cases managed  
 PASS Facebook group increased to **78,000 members**  
*(17,000 more than 2023!)*  
 Helped raise nearly **\$19,050 for pet owners in need**  
 Distributed an estimated **80,000+ lbs of pet supplies**,  
 valued at over **\$100,000**

## Yes Alive!

### Hospital

You helped us undertake a massive fundraising effort in 2024 to raise millions of dollars for construction of a new APA! Shelter Pet Hospital. This facility promises more space to care for pets with medical needs, house critical populations like parvo puppies and panleuk kittens, and continue innovating the lifesaving treatment we provide to Central Texas animals.



### Transport

When our Transport Program launched in 2021 after Winter Storm Uri, we knew it



had the potential to change thousands of lives. Since then, it has grown beyond expectations — especially with the opening of the Elgin Transport Hub in spring 2024. In early 2025, we're looking forward to celebrating the **10,000th pet saved** through this innovative program!

### APA!TEC

In its inaugural year, our new training and education program APA!TEC has equipped over 700 shelter professionals nationwide with the tools and knowledge to save more lives through over 4,000 courses completed.



### Human Animal Support Services (HASS)

Launched in 2020, this project is a movement seeking to revolutionize the animal welfare industry by leading with and embracing a community support model.

In 2024:

- 2024 HASS Partners - 325
- HASS Network - 19,700 individuals
- Website Engagement - 77,000 UVM



# APA!'s Mission in Motion: *Animal Success Stories*



## **GRIPPY SOCKS**

Grippy Socks needed a chance at life she couldn't find anywhere else. In 2024, this sweet kitty became our 165th adopted incontinent cat since we started taking in these special kitties years ago. By dispelling myths about incontinent cats' care and supporting those who care for them, we've proven that even the most vulnerable pets can thrive with patience, routine, and lots of love.



## **STEVEN**

On a visit to a nearby shelter, APA! staff saw little Steven and knew he needed help. He had a severe case of mange — his tiny body was hairless, swollen, and so inflamed that his eyes were swollen shut. After weeks of treatment, love, and rest, Steven healed. His fur has now fully grown back, and his playful, goofy personality has emerged in his new home. Your support provided the medical care and comfort he desperately needed, and now Steven is living the happy, healthy life he deserves.



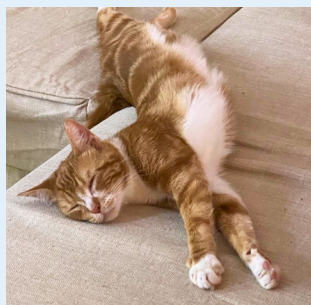
## BALTO

Balto needed hope and healing beyond what he could find elsewhere. When he arrived at APA! last year, he was battered and broken. Thanks to dedicated care from our medical team, this husky's wounded eye was saved and his heart healed. With the support of our adoption and behavior teams, Balto found a family who adores him, and his success story is one of thousands we create, together, every year.

## THEO



Silly kitty Theo had a liver shunt, allowing toxins to enter and stay in his blood stream, leading to frightening seizures, bladder stones, and drooling. He needed several procedures, first to remove his bladder stones, and then to correct his liver shunt. This final complicated surgery was extremely pricey, but our community came through to raise nearly \$9,000 to make it happen. This little trooper's surgery was a big success! He is now in an adoptive home and recovered and will get to live a happy and healthy life thanks to you. Plus, he has a family now who is just so in love with him and so so grateful to have this orange cutie in their lives.



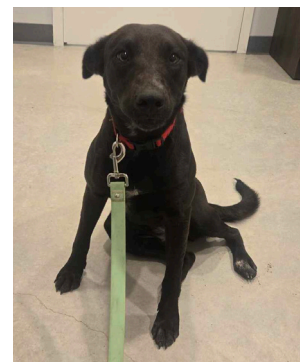
## SOLEIL

Soleil came to APA! after likely being hit by a car, with a bulging eye, a split palate, and a fractured jaw. Even with all that pain, this 10-pound bundle of joy never stopped working at his beloved "Biscuit Factory." Sweet Soleil had his eye removed, his jaw wired shut, and a feeding tube placed — and after seeing Soleil's story on social media, his long-lost people recognized him as their missing kitty! This lovebug reunited with his family and continued healing at home, the best outcome we could hope for after his ordeal.



## DAISY AND BO

Rocky and his family were evicted and had nowhere for their dogs, Bo and Daisy, to go. Their local shelter in Bastrop County was full, and their motel threatened to kick them out if the pups kept barking. They only needed a week of care — but didn't know temporary placement was an option. Our PASS team jumped into action, securing boarding, medical care, and support. Thanks to boarding partners, generous donors, and dedicated volunteer support, Bo and Daisy reunited with their family and moved into their new home. Keeping pets out of the shelter and with their families is priceless!



# Compassion in Action:

## *Donor Stories*



“When we first moved to Texas, we adopted our dog Zion from APA!. He was a beautiful, gentle soul who profoundly impacted our lives. Although Zion is no longer with us, our bond with APA! has remained strong. Over the years, we’ve fostered several dogs, including Timmy, who joined our family a year ago. Timmy arrived at the shelter with two broken legs that had healed improperly, making it difficult for him to walk or run. Thanks to APA!’s support, Timmy underwent surgeries and extensive physical therapy and is now a healthy adventurer!” - *Emily and Abhay*



“APA! is very dear to [us] as we had to say goodbye to our beloved sweet Nicki. She was with us for 16 years, 4 months and 22 days. The amount of pure joy that she brought to each day and each person she encountered is our why for giving. Everyone says that pets give love unconditionally, and while that is mostly true, the 1 condition required for them to love you is that they be alive! Having APA! fight to save the lives of these precious animals is so important to us. Our pets allow us to grow to be better versions of ourselves. More patient, more empathic, unselfish and kind. We are passionate about empowering everyone to do what you can with what you have! We believe that there are always opportunities for servant hearts to give, be it time, talents, or funds. We can never put a price on the time we had with Nicki, but we can do what we can with what we have to offer others the chance to be changed by a pet. We will continue to partner with APA! motivated by knowing there is more than hope that pets in need can be saved, APA! is actively saving pets! We give to honor our beloved Nicki, and we will continue to pay tribute to her by working with APA! to continue the mission of saving these precious creatures.” - *Nicki’s Mom*

When Hurricane Harvey hit in 2017, Adam volunteered to transport animals to safety. That’s when he met June Bug — a tiny puppy fighting for her life. Her littermates had already passed, and she was battling both parvo and distemper.

Every day after work, Adam came to the clinic to hold her and sing to her, giving her all the love he could. He was preparing to take her home for hospice care, but June Bug passed before that day came. “If I don’t remember her, no one will,” Adam said.

Today, Adam continues to support APA! so that other puppies get the second chance June Bug never had. His love for her lives on in every life saved.

“APA! took amazing care of our two cats, Quentin and Melvan, before we met and adopted them.

Quentin was severely injured when he arrived at APA!, and Melvan was a diabetic who also required medical care. We cannot thank APA! enough for saving them, so they could be with us.

Just like us, everyone has a story that makes APA! unique: cats, dogs, medical, parvo, behavior, and so on. No matter what your story is, APA!’s mission is geared towards saving and (then) ensuring the wellbeing and safety of pets: “Helping People Help Pets.”

Pet/animal lovers know how much love, light, and joy they bring into our homes and lives. Both Quentin and Melvan paved the way to supporting APA! as donors and volunteers. It’s important for us to continuously support APA!, as everyone involved — staff and volunteers — pour their hearts and souls into supporting the pets at APA! and beyond each minute of every day. It’s beautiful to see and rewarding to experience.

We feel honored to be a part of the APA! family.”

- *The Davenport Family in memory of their beloved kitties Quentin and Melvan.*



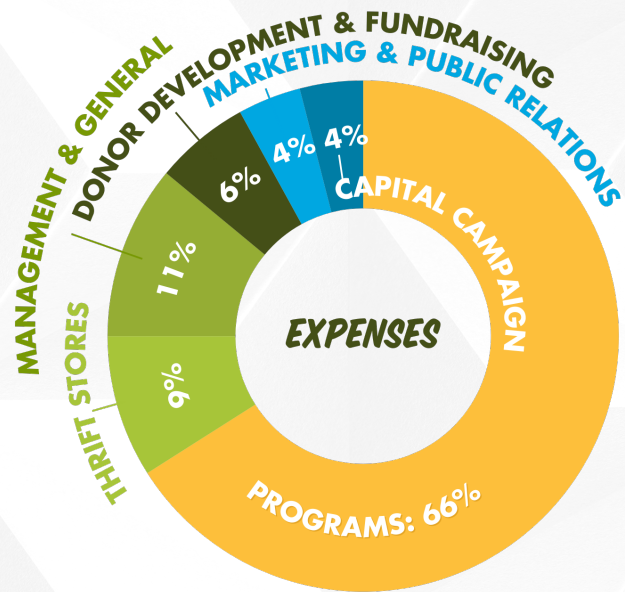
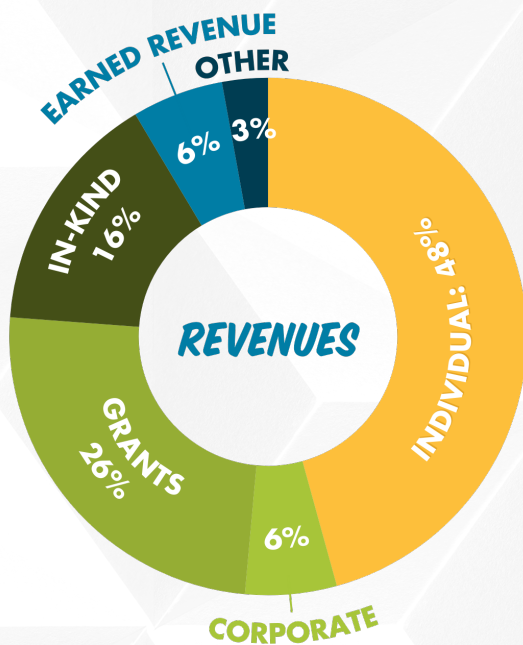
# Financials

## Full Organization Financials:

Revenue: **\$ 20,924,586**

Expenses: **\$ 20,747,173**

Provided below are estimates of 2024 revenues and expenses. Such estimates are preliminary and subject to change. APA! publishes their audited financials to [austinpetsalive.org](http://austinpetsalive.org) when available, typically in the fall.



## Board of *Directors*

**Dr. Ellen Jefferson, DVM**  
President

**Germana de Falco**,  
Co-Chair

**William M. "Matt" Harriss**,  
Co-Chair

**Sharon Wichterich**,  
Secretary

**Dan Ferreri**,  
Treasurer

**Nancy Pollard**,  
Capital Campaign Chair

**Dana Dean**,  
Board Member

**Alexander Devine**,  
Board Member

**Artie Abello**,  
Board Member

**Gael Lonergan**,  
Board Member

**Wendi Martin**,  
Board Member

**Sean McDonald**,  
Board Member

**Maren Miller**,  
Board Member

**Mindy Marcks**,  
Board Member

**Joanna Hackney**,  
Board Member

## Executive *Leadership*

**Ellen Jefferson, DVM**,  
President and CEO

**Rory Adams**,  
Director of Strategic Customer  
Service

**Alexis Bardzinski, DVM**,  
Medical Director

**Clare Callison**,  
Senior Director of Care  
Operations

**Maggie Lynch**,  
Senior Director of Research and  
Development

**Angela Nazworth**,  
Senior Director of Philanthropy  
and Communications

**Lee Ann Shenefiel**,  
Hays County Pet Resource  
Center Director and  
Executive Advisor

**Dr. Mike Stegen**,  
Director of Learning and  
Development

**Alexis Telfair-Garcia**,  
Social Work Program  
Development Director

**Elena Tolstikova**, Strategic  
Director of Human  
Resources

**Melody Wilhelm**,  
Director of Data Strategy  
and Analytics

**Elkie Wills**,  
HASS Director