

FY 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

PAWS NY ANNUAL REPORT



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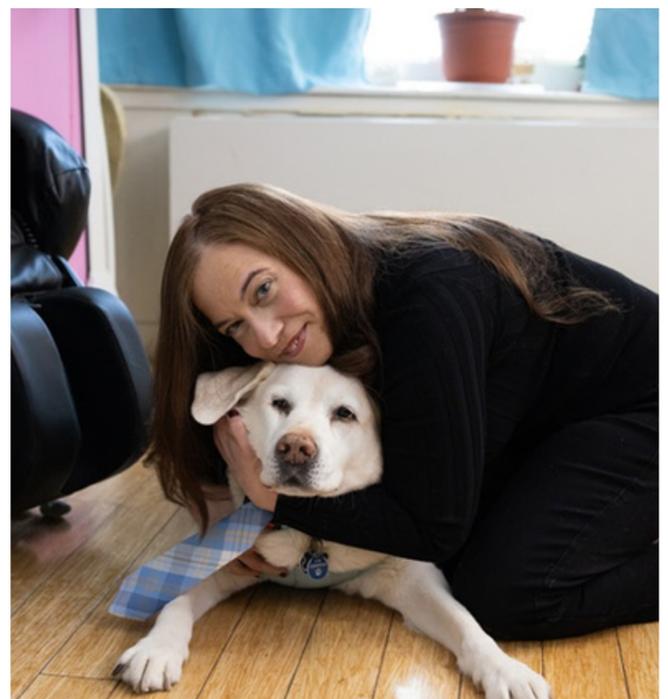
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“Fenix gets so excited every time a PAWS volunteer comes to the door. I am so grateful to PAWS for everything they do!”

PAWS NY Participant Tara with Fenix



LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND BOARD CHAIR

Dear Friends,

This past year was one of action and reflection for PAWS NY. Together, we helped **nearly 900 New Yorkers and their 1,000 beloved pets stay together**. Through our Housecall Program, we facilitated over 25,000 visits; we also distributed 17,000 pounds of pet food and supplies, provided 4,659 days of foster care for pets in crisis; and ensured countless animals received life-saving veterinary care. At the same time, we took a step back to reflect on our future, updating our Mission and Vision statements to better capture the heart of our work: keeping people and pets together, no matter the challenges they face.

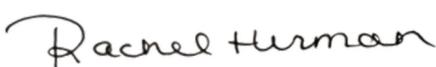
One of the most meaningful steps forward this year was the **expansion of our Foster and Emergency Care Program to support survivors of domestic violence**. Knowing their pets are safe allows survivors to take the steps to protect themselves and rebuild their lives – a powerful reminder of why our work is so important.

We also shared in **countless moments of celebration**: our most successful Barks & Blooms Benefit yet, a feature on *The Drew Barrymore Show*, and national recognition through *Extraordinary World with Jeff Corwin*. Each of these opportunities helped shine a light on the importance of **preserving the human-animal bond** and the amazing community that makes it possible.

The numbers show how much we've grown, but what really stays with us are the everyday moments – the tail wags when a volunteer arrives, the relief on a participant's face when they receive a bag of pet food, or the gratitude of someone who knows their pet is safe. **Those moments happen because of you – our amazing community of donors, volunteers, and partners.**

Thank you for believing in the power of the human-animal bond. We are so proud of what we accomplished together this year, and we look forward to what's ahead.

With gratitude,



Rachel Herman
Founder & Executive Director



Garry Buff
Board Chair



PAWS NY PROGRAMMATIC UPDATES

PAWS NY continues to make a powerful impact across all programs between July 2024 and June 2025, helping hundreds of New Yorkers and their pets stay together. Through direct care and compassionate volunteer support, we're strengthening the human-animal bond and ensuring that people and pets can thrive together as a family.

HOUSECALL PROGRAM

In Fiscal Year 2025, our Housecall Program facilitated over 25,000 visits — a 25% increase over the previous year — helping New Yorkers and their pets remain together. From daily walks to litterbox care, volunteers provided essential support and companionship that enabled vulnerable individuals to keep their pets at home. During this time, PAWS NY trained 1,528 new volunteers, spurred in part by a viral social media video, expanding our volunteer base to 7,142.



“

“Thank you for everything. I'm so, so grateful. PAWS completely saved my life,” said PAWS NY participant Ms. R.

“Without you, Gem and Scout would have been sent to a shelter. Your support has been completely life-changing.”

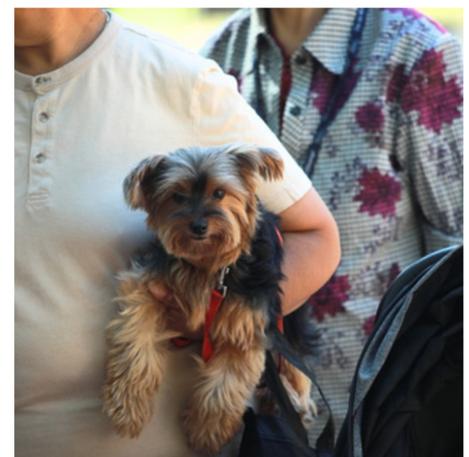
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PET PANTRY

Thanks to a generous grant from **The Brady Hunter Foundation** and donations of products and services from **Bideawee**, PAWS NY hosted **several pet food distribution events** across New York City. The need was overwhelming – food ran out quickly as grateful pet guardians arrived seeking help. For some, this support **meant their beloved companion had food to eat** that month – something that might not have been possible otherwise. We hosted events in Manhattan, Queens, Brooklyn, and the Bronx, and one of our events was even featured on ***Extraordinary World with Jeff Corwin*** on CBS!

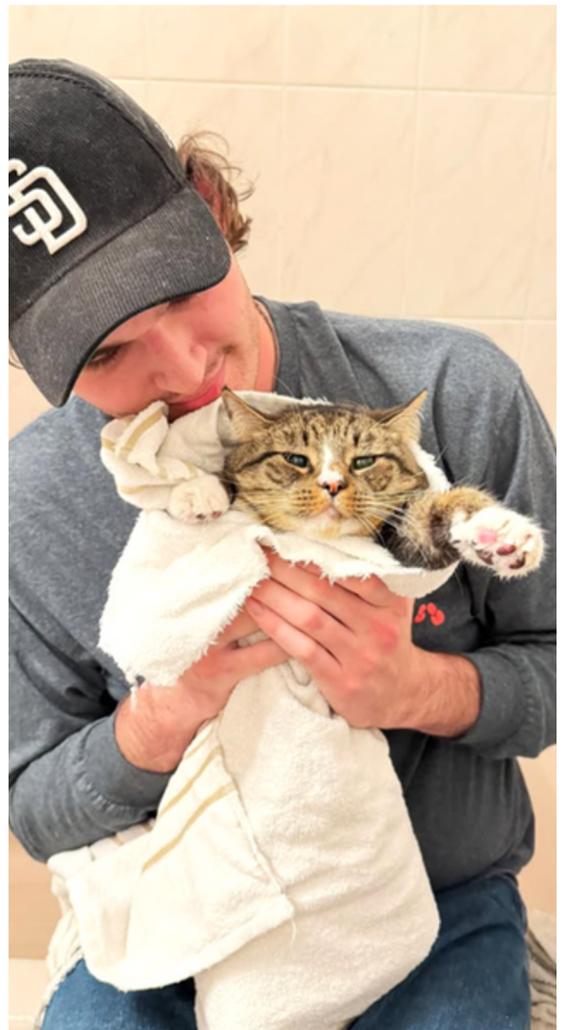
In addition to these public events, PAWS NY continued to deliver free pet food and supplies directly to participants in our Housecall Program. Over the course of the fiscal year, **we distributed 17,952 pounds of pet food and supplies** – a 70% increase over the previous year.



FOSTER AND EMERGENCY CARE PROGRAM

PAWS NY's **Foster and Emergency Care Program** grew by **36%** during the fiscal year, coordinating **4,659 days of foster care** and supporting 54 cases for 41 people and 52 pets. This program provides temporary foster placements for pets whose guardians are facing crises, including hospitalization, inpatient treatment for substance use disorder, and domestic violence.

Over the past year, our Substance Use Recovery Program expanded to reach more individuals seeking treatment, and we **launched a new initiative to support survivors of domestic violence**, ensuring that pets have a safe place to stay while their guardians find stability. No matter the circumstance, **PAWS NY keeps pets safe** until they can be reunited with the people who love them.

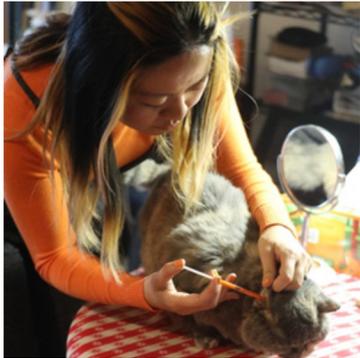


FOSTER SPOTLIGHT: HELLY AND JAMES

Last fall, we had a foster need come up for two sweet cats - James and Helly. Their guardian had fled a violent attack by her partner but could not leave behind her two beloved cats. Volunteer Jason gladly raised his hand and stepped up to foster them for nine months. Not only did he care for them, he also serenaded them on piano and guitar! Says Jason, "fostering is always bittersweet, because I love these cats with all my heart. But at the same time, it's so touching to know they're reunited safe and sound with their guardian."

VETERINARY CARE PROGRAM

PAWS NY continued to provide veterinary care and grooming services to participants, partnering with veterinary offices across New York City who offer discounted services. Throughout the fiscal year, **PAWS NY coordinated 177 vet visits**, helping pets access care they wouldn't otherwise have received.



VETERINARY CARE SPOTLIGHT: LORI AND JUNIE

Lori and her beloved senior dog, Junie, have been part of our PAWS NY family since 2019. At 58 years old, Lori faces health challenges that limit her mobility, and thanks to our Housecall Program, **she has a full team of dedicated volunteers** who come regularly to walk Junie and ensure her needs are met.

Recently, things took a frightening turn for Junie, who has a **chronic heart condition**. One day, she suddenly grew weak and lethargic. Lori rushed her to one of PAWS NY's veterinary partners, where Junie received emergency care – but just two days later, she was back in the ER after doctors discovered fluid in her lungs. It was a terrifying ordeal. Thankfully, the veterinary team quickly prescribed a new medication to reduce the fluid, and Junie is now recovering well. **For Lori, the relief is immeasurable — Junie isn't just her pet; she's family.**

Stories like Lori and Junie's show exactly why PAWS NY's work is so essential. Emergencies happen, and for guardians who already struggle with physical and financial barriers, they can be devastating. **Our programs ensure that pets like Junie receive the care they need** and that people like Lori never have to face these challenges alone.



PAWS NY IMPACT

PAWS NY HELPED

853 people and 987
pets through our
various programs
and services



PAWS NY TRAINED

1,528 new volunteers
for a total of 7,142
trained volunteers



PAWS NY VOLUNTEERS

made a total of 25,905
visits to help
participants & pets
during the year

PAWS NY PROVIDED

4,659 days of foster
care for 52 pets



PAWS NY DONATED

17,952 pounds of pet
food and supplies to
pets in need



PAWS NY COORDINATED

177 vet visits for our
participants' pets

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: KATHRYN



Kathryn Butler is a senior writer for an ad agency living in Brooklyn. She also spends time each week volunteering for PAWS NY, where she helps care for several pets. Kathryn started volunteering for PAWS in 2017. She loves animals and has been volunteering with the organization ever since!

What made you start volunteering for PAWS?

During high school and college, I volunteered at an animal shelter and took my childhood dog to visit with residents at assisted living facilities. I loved supporting both missions – helping pets find their forever homes and giving people who could no longer have a dog of their own a reason to smile. When I moved to NYC, I desperately missed being around animals (and was not in a place to adopt!), so I researched options that offered more flexibility in shifts than many of the shelters. When I found PAWS, it seemed perfect – like an even better version of what I'd done before.

What's your favorite part about volunteering for PAWS?

Of course, I love getting to snuggle some pups every week, but I've also really loved getting to know their guardians and building a relationship with them. I've received some lovely bits of wisdom and heard some truly wild stories! It reminds me of the importance of creating connection and community, especially in a busy city where it's so easy to become anonymous.

Who was your first guardian you volunteered for?

My first guardian was an older man named Jules. His apartment was always filled with the sound of opera, and sometimes he would give me a peek at his artwork.

What was his bond like with his pet?

Jules had an adorably grumpy little old Chihuahua mix named Caillou. On a day that Caillou was particularly prickly, Jules told me that they had an amicable, roommate-like relationship; Jules did his own thing, and Caillou did his. When Caillou wanted attention, he would ask for it, but he was a very stubborn and independent little guy. Caillou had mobility issues and eyesight issues, worsened by several strokes, but he was unstoppable!

What makes volunteering for PAWS so rewarding for you?

Pets make a huge difference in people's lives. They offer daily companionship, a reason to get up in the morning, unconditional love, and even help strengthen connections with other people. A dog isn't just a dog, and a cat isn't just a cat – not to their guardian. When someone is already dealing with mobility or other health challenges, having to give up their best friend only adds pain and potential loneliness. And with shelters overflowing, more much-loved and wanted pets shouldn't be surrendered if they don't have to be. Helping people care for and keep the pets that mean the world to them makes such a huge difference!

Thank you to Kathryn for her commitment as a PAWS NY volunteer!

COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

PAWS NY was represented all over New York City this fiscal year, with PAWS participating in **14 community outreach events** in Manhattan, Brooklyn, and the Bronx. PAWS NY was at the NYC Preparedness Fair in Union Square Park, a Dog Costume Contest in Brooklyn Heights, a Pride event in Manhattan, and several volunteer service fairs at local colleges.



PAWS NY's social media saw a huge uptick after a volunteer's organic TikTok and [Instagram Reel](#) went viral. Our orientations were sold out for five months and our **Instagram following nearly doubled**.



Another highlight of the year was being featured on three separate TV shows: ***Extraordinary World with Jeff Corwin*** on CBS, ***Mr. Positivity*** on ABC, and ***The Drew Barrymore Show*** on CBS.

Mr. Positivity and ***Extraordinary World*** both featured in-depth looks at PAWS participant Eric and his Labrador Lex, who receives walks every day by a PAWS volunteer. The ***Drew Barrymore*** appearance led to another spike in social media followers, as well as a **generous \$5,000 donation** to support more New Yorkers and their pets.



FUNDRAISING AND EVENTS

Our biggest night of the year was without a doubt the **PAWS NY Barks & Blooms Benefit**, taking place at Monarch Rooftop in Midtown Manhattan. Nearly 200 people came together in May to celebrate our mission and raise funds and awareness for people and pets in need. Guests also enjoyed an open bar, hors d'oeuvres, a silent auction, and an unrivaled view of the city skyline.

The 2025 Barks & Blooms Benefit was hosted by Annie Phaosawasdi of Hunt Auctioneers, and the event recognized two incredible honorees: **Isabel Klee and Jacob Zerhusen**. PAWS NY also shared [a video](#) featuring participant Zerline and her volunteer Michelle.



This fiscal year, PAWS NY received 21 spots each for the TCS New York City Marathon and the United Airlines NYC Half, coordinating two incredible teams that raised more than \$100,000. We look forward to expanding our presence in these iconic New York City races and raising even more support through Barks & Blooms and all our future events.

FUNDER SPOTLIGHT: HONORING SUSAN SYDNEY WEISS THROUGH THE SUBSTANCE USE RECOVERY PROGRAM

Launched during National Recovery Month in 2023, PAWS NY's **Substance Use Recovery Program** ensures that no New Yorker entering inpatient treatment has to choose between their health and their pet. The program provides **temporary foster care** for pets, removing a critical barrier to treatment for individuals who may otherwise delay or decline care.

The program was created in memory of **Susan Sydney Weiss**, a brilliant, funny, and passionate woman who struggled with substance use and ultimately lost her battle. Through it all, Susan's beloved dogs, Chance and then Nugget, remained by her side, offering comfort, stability, and unconditional love. Susan was passionate about helping others, and successfully helped many even when struggling herself. Her story and her deep bond with her pets inspired this initiative, which now allows others to seek recovery without the fear of losing their companions.



Since its launch, the program has already had a meaningful impact: more than **68 foster homes have opened their doors**, providing over **2,694 days of loving care** for pets while their guardians entered treatment. We have built strong partnerships with treatment centers and community organizations, ensuring quick referrals and expanded access. Most importantly, **nearly 100% of participants have successfully reunited with their pets**, a critical step toward long-term stability and healing.

This program was made possible thanks to the generosity and vision of **Emily Weiss**, Susan's sister, who provided the initial seed funding and continues to support its growth. The honoring of Susan's legacy in this way has ensured that pets remain a source of comfort, healing, and hope for New Yorkers on their recovery journey.

For more information, or to make a referral or a donation, please visit: <https://pawsny.org/substance-use-recovery-program/>

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Statement of Revenue, Expenses, and Change in Fund Net Position

Year Ended June 30, 2025

Support and Revenue

Contributions

Restricted	\$ 247,500
Unrestricted	557,365

Nonoperating Revenue

Investment Income	25,726
Unrealized Gains (Losses)	9,645

Total Revenue	840,236
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Expenses

Program Services	558,374
Management and General	126,087
Fundraising	276,100

Total Expenses	920,592
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Change in Total Net Position	(-80,356)
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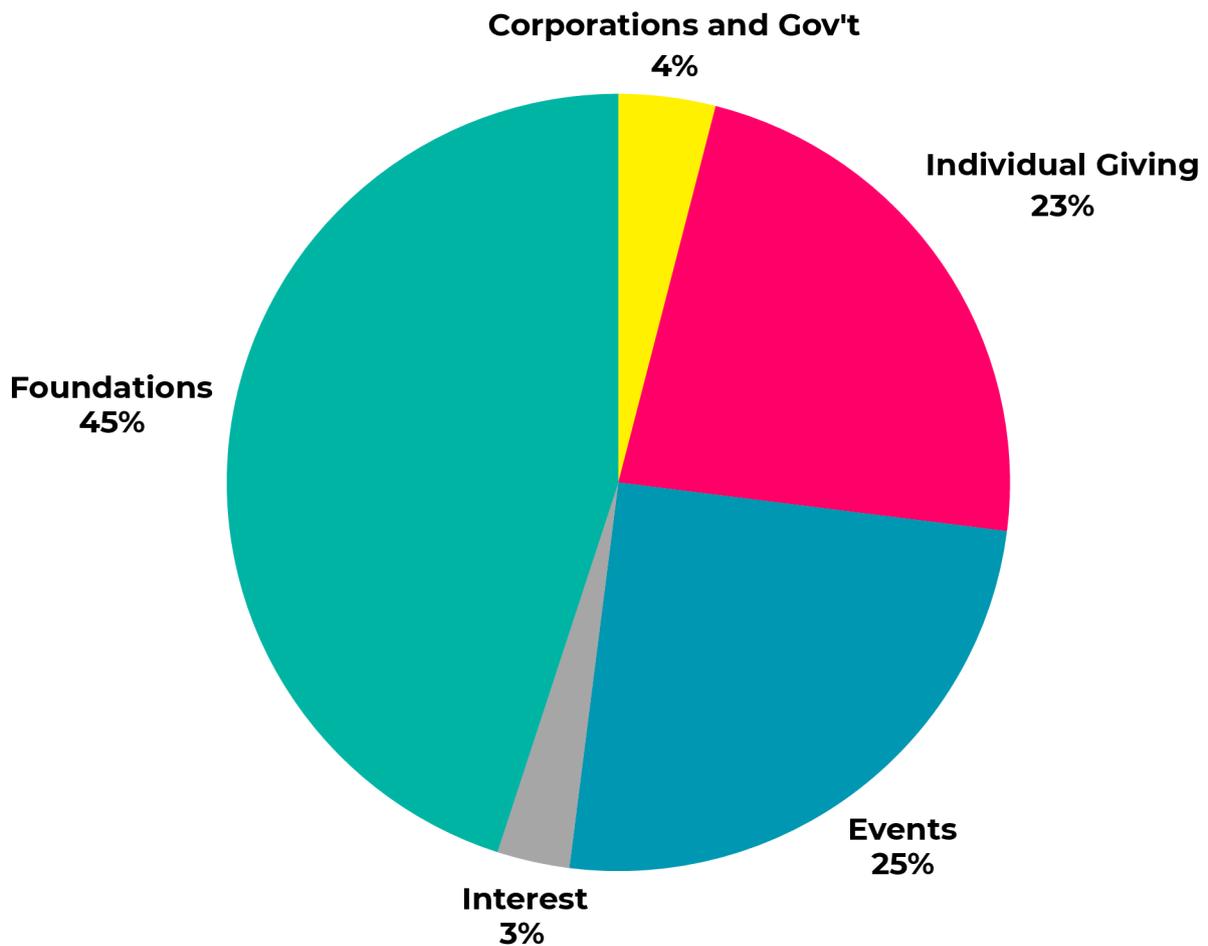
Total Net Position at Beginning of Year	889,856
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Total Net Position at End of Year	\$ 809,500
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INCOME BY PERCENTAGE

During the fiscal year, PAWS NY received **\$840,236** in revenue from various sources, including foundations, individuals, events, and more.



PEOPLE AND INSTITUTIONAL FUNDING PARTNERS

PAWS NY STAFF*

Rachel Herman, Founder & Executive Director
Carrie Nydick Finch, LCSW, Deputy Director of Programs & Strategy
Will Braithwaite, Communications Manager
Victoria Leon, Program Manager
David Merrell, Institutional Giving Manager
Liz Raganella, Senior Program Manager
Adrianna Ruiz, Foster Care Manager



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Garry Buff, Chair
Danielle Mazandi, Vice Chair
Shari Gold, Treasurer
Karin Magnuson, Secretary
Shane Artis
Rachel Herman
JR Hernandez, Founding Board Member
Janey Place
Rayna Robinson
Julie Stahl



ADVISORS

Andrea Y. Tu, DVM
 Chief Medical Advisor

ASSOCIATE BOARD

Vincent Valenza, Chair
Robert Valenza
Tara Valenza

INSTITUTIONAL FUNDING PARTNERS**

\$50,000 to \$99,999

Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Foundation
 Irving and Phyllis Millstein Foundation for Animal Welfare
 Regina Bauer Frankenberg Foundation

\$20,000 to \$49,999

A Kinder World Foundation
 Carte Blanche Foundation
 Isaac H. Tuttle Fund
 Slomo and Cindy Silvian Foundation

\$10,000 to \$19,999

Jean & Louis Dreyfus Foundation
 Jerome M. Cohen Foundation
 Judith L. Seltz Charitable Foundation Trust
 Marion & Richard Graham Foundation
 Mary Alice Fortin Foundation
 Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation
 New York Foundation for Eldercare

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS
 Clark R. Green Charitable Foundation
 DJ McManus Foundation
 Drew Barrymore Show
 Hyde & Watson Foundation
 Malcolm Gibbs Foundation
 Marta Heflin Foundation

\$2,500 to \$4,999

Ayco Charitable Foundation
 Bond Vet
 GoodRx
 Google
 Greater Good Charities
 Markel Corporation
 Morgan Stanley
 Paws at Peace Veterinary Care

*Individuals listed were a part of PAWS NY as of June 30, 2025

**Institutional funders who have given a cumulative \$2,500+ during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025

ADDITIONAL PARTNERS

PROGRAMMATIC PARTNERS

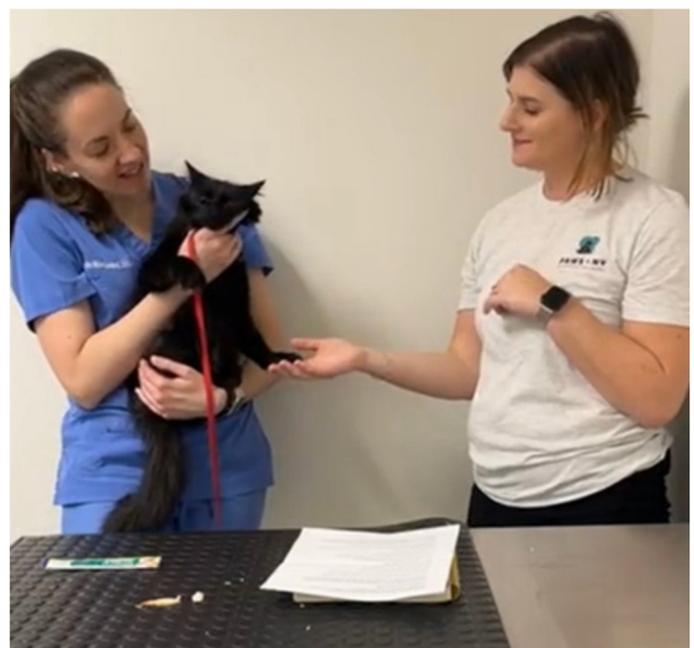
Actors Fund
 Animal Haven
 Animal Care Centers of NYC
 ASPCA
 Bideawee
 Breaking Ground
 Callen Lorde
 The Campaign Against Hunger
 Carter Burden Network
 Center for Independence of the Disabled (CIDNY)
 Citymeals-on-Wheels
 Center for Urban Community Services (CUCS)
 DOROT
 GMHC
 Goddard Riverside
 Greenwich House Senior Services
 Hartley House
 Heights and Hills
 Henry Street Settlement
 Lenox Hill Neighborhood House
 Mayor's Alliance for NYC's Animals
 Mayor's Office of Animal Welfare
 Mount Sinai

My Dog is My Home
 New York Foundation for Senior Citizens
 Northwell Health
 NY Connects Program
 NY Presbyterian
 NYC Office of Emergency Management
 NYU Langone
 Part of the Solution (POTS)
 Safe Horizon
 SAGE
 Search and Care
 SelfHelp
 Service Program for Older People (SPOP)
 Urban Resource Institute
 University Settlement
 VISIONS
 Visiting Nurse Services



VETERINARY, GROOMING AND OTHER PET SERVICE PARTNERS

ABC Animal Hospital
 Amanda Gagnon Dog Training
 Animal Loving Care
 Animal Medical Center
 Battery Park Veterinary Hospital
 Best Pet Rx
 Chewy
 City Pets the House Call Vets
 City Veterinary Care
 Columbus Circle Veterinary Hospital
 Court Square Animal Hospital
 Flatbush Vet
 Paws at Peace
 Reade Street Vet
 Riverside Animal Hospital South on W. 79th Street
 Riverside Animal Hospital on W. 108th Street
 St. Marks Veterinary Hospital
 Seaport Animal Hospital
 Tribeca Soho Animal Hospital
 West Village Veterinary Hospital



*These companies, organizations, and groups help to raise awareness for PAWS NY, refer participants to our organization, and/or provide us with discounted services.

THANK YOU FROM ALL OF US AT PAWS NY!



Photos Courtesy of David Andrako: Front Cover, Pages 1, 3 (all but bottom right), 11, and 12; Getty Images for Page 2 and 14; Catherine Titcomb Page 9; and PAWS NY Staff, Volunteers, and Supporters.

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