PAWS NY 2026 ANNUAL REPORT

Helping People by Helping Pets



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"Winston always wags his tail when a PAWS volunteer comes to the door. PAWS has changed my life."



LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND BOARD CHAIR

Dear Friends,

When we started PAWS NY in 2008, it came from a simple idea: **no one should have to lose the pet they love because they are going through a difficult time.**

Nearly two decades later, that belief still drives everything we do.

For the people we serve, **their pets are family.** They are companions through illness, aging, loss, and uncertainty. **They provide comfort and a sense of connection**. And when caring for a pet becomes difficult, the fear of losing that relationship can be overwhelming.

PAWS NY is here to make sure that doesn't happen.

Over the past year, our volunteers walked dogs, cleaned litter boxes, delivered pet food, opened their homes to foster pets, and helped in countless other ways. Our team worked closely with program participants and community partners to find solutions when circumstances were complicated. **And our donors made it possible for us to say "yes" to more New Yorkers who needed help.**

The numbers in this report tell an important story about how much PAWS NY has grown and how many people we are reaching. But **what stays with us most are the individual stories behind these numbers** - the person who was able to enter the hospital knowing their pet was safe, the older adult who could keep their beloved dog at home, or the New Yorker reunited with their pet after a difficult period apart.

Those moments are why we do this work.

We are so grateful to everyone who is part of this community. Whether you volunteered your time, welcomed a pet into your home, made a donation, connected someone to our services, or supported our work in another way, **you helped make it possible** for someone to keep their pet by their side.

Thank you for believing in this work and for being part of PAWS NY. We are proud of how far we have come and excited about what we can do together in the years ahead.

With gratitude,

Rachel Herman
Founder & Executive Director

Garry Buff
Board Chair

PROGRAMMATIC UPDATES

Between July 2025 and June 2026, PAWS NY continued to make a meaningful impact across all our programs, helping hundreds of New Yorkers stay together with their beloved pets. Our mission of keeping people and pets together remains at the heart of everything we do, from providing essential pet care through our Housecall Program to offering temporary foster care, veterinary assistance, pet food, and other critical support to those who need it most.

HOUSECALL PROGRAM

Throughout Fiscal Year 2026, PAWS NY facilitated more than **31,000 visits** through our Housecall Program to help New Yorkers and their pets - a 20% increase over last year. Volunteers assisted with dog walking, litterbox maintenance, transport to vet appointments, and other pet care needs throughout the five boroughs. Over the last year, PAWS NY trained **960 new volunteers.**



> ***"Your organization has been life-changing and a godsend. I don't know what I would have done if not for PAWS NY. You guys are miracle workers."***



PET PANTRY

Over the course of the fiscal year, PAWS NY continued to donate free pet food and supplies directly to participants in our Housecall Program. From July 2025 to June 2026, we distributed **16,881** pounds of pet food and supplies to pet guardians in need!

Additionally, PAWS NY hosted **four pet food distribution events** across New York City. The events were a huge success and proved how immediate the need for affordable pet food is. For some, this support **meant their beloved companion had food to eat** that month — something that might not have been possible otherwise. The strong response underscored the urgent need for New Yorkers struggling to care for their animals.







FOSTER AND EMERGENCY CARE PROGRAM

PAWS NY's **Foster and Emergency Care Program grew by 58%** during the fiscal year, coordinating **7,375 days of foster care and supporting 63 cases for 59 people and 73 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. For many of our foster cases, they have nowhere else to turn.

FOSTER SPOTLIGHT: SAM AND SPUD

Sam is 61 years old. He lives in supportive housing in the Bronx and relies on his **senior Chihuahua, Spud, as an emotional support animal.** After Sam's case manager referred him to PAWS NY, our Foster and Emergency Care Program stepped in, **ensuring that Spud would be safe and loved while Sam focused on his recovery.**



Over the course of Spud's foster stay, he was cared for by two different PAWS NY foster volunteers. In addition to receiving plenty of love and attention, Spud received updated core vaccinations and treatment for ear infections in both ears. His foster volunteers also discovered that Spud absolutely loved going for walks, even in the snow! They even taught the senior pup a new trick: to sit on command.

When Sam returned home, he was overjoyed to be reunited with his beloved Spud again!

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 202 vet visits,** helping pets access care they wouldn't otherwise have received.







VETERINARY CARE SPOTLIGHT: PICKLE

When Carly reached out to PAWS NY, she was preparing to enter treatment and needed to know her beloved dog, Pickle, would be safe. **PAWS NY placed Pickle in a loving foster home so Carly could focus on her recovery.**

Pickle arrived with medical challenges, including ear infections, urinary issues, dental disease, and a poor appetite, as well as separation anxiety. **PAWS NY ensured Pickle received the care she needed,** including vaccinations, bloodwork, medication, and treatment for a dental condition. With her health improving, Pickle blossomed, enjoying walks in Central Park, subway rides, and even learning to play with toys. After months apart, Carly and Pickle were reunited.

But their challenges weren't over. When Pickle later experienced a medical emergency requiring an overnight hospital stay, **PAWS NY stepped in to ensure she received critical veterinary care.**



Carly and Pickle's story highlights the **importance of accessible veterinary care** for families facing difficult circumstances. By removing financial and logistical barriers, PAWS NY helps pets like Pickle stay healthy and remain with the people who love them. For Carly, **Pickle isn't just a pet; she's family.**

PAWS NY

IMPACT

PAWS NY TRAINED

960 new volunteers



PAWS NY HELPED

608 people and 912 pets through our various programs and services



PAWS NY FACILITATED

31,044 visits for participants' pets during the year



PAWS NY PROVIDED

7,375 days of foster care for 73 pets



PAWS NY DONATED

16,881 pounds of pet food and supplies to pets in need



PAWS NY COORDINATED

202 vet visits for our participants' pets

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: KIMBERLY



Kimberly Simmons is a consultant living in Manhattan. She loves animals and has been volunteering with PAWS since 2016!

What brought you to PAWS NY?
I knew I wanted to volunteer with animals, but I needed something that offered flexibility around my work schedule and that I could do in my own neighborhood. When I learned that PAWS helped older adults and others who needed assistance caring for their pets, it was a no-brainer for me. **I loved the idea that I could spend time with animals while also helping people** keep these incredibly important relationships in their lives.

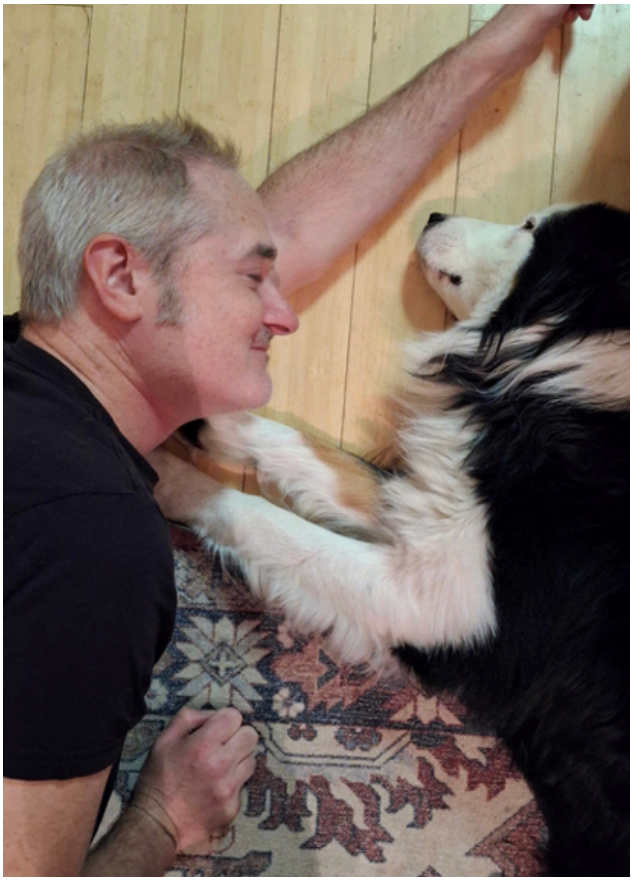
Who was the first client you volunteered for?
Mary and her dog Taffy were both incredibly friendly and easygoing, and it was immediately clear how much they meant to one another. I walked Taffy a few nights a week, and we spent a lot of time together in Carl Schurz Park on the Upper East Side. **What started with taking Taffy for walks grew into a wonderful friendship with Mary that has lasted all these years.** We still speak every week and celebrate holidays and birthdays together.

What makes volunteering for PAWS so rewarding for you?
For me, the most rewarding part of PAWS is the bond you form not only with the pet, but with their guardian as well. I currently walk an amazing Chiweenie named Beans, whom I absolutely adore, and his wonderful guardian is always so grateful for the walks and time I spend with him. But I feel equally grateful to them. **PAWS is the best part of my day** - it gives me a chance to decompress, get outside, enjoy the unconditional company of an animal, and form friendships with people I might never have met otherwise. I love knowing that I'm giving back to my community and helping people and their pets stay together, but the truth is that they give just as much back to me. **That sense of friendship, mutual gratitude, and connection to my community is what has kept me volunteering for nearly 10 years.**

Thank you to Kimberly for her commitment!

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: ROB AND SNICKERDOODLE

Since joining PAWS NY in 2023, Rob has made an incredible impact on New Yorkers and their beloved pets. One of our most dependable fosters, particularly for larger dogs, **Rob has cared for 15 dogs and cats and seven parakeets,** helping 12 people navigate difficult circumstances while knowing their pets were safe and loved.



Rob's dedication extends well beyond fostering. As an active volunteer in our Housecall Program, he has supported **five different participants,** including weekly Wednesday walks with Daisy. He has also assisted with veterinary transportation, pet food deliveries, and other needs, always stepping up wherever he can make a difference.

““I started fostering after a long time without pets after my cats both succumbed to illnesses. I was excited to share my life with an animal temporarily, without having to look at the commitment having my own pets would entail. I'm frequently surprised at how totally OK I find myself being to make any adjustment or sacrifice needed to help a pet in need. **Fostering is a great feeling knowing you're helping not just a pet but a person in need, someone who's going to go through a rough time that's being made a little easier knowing their furry friend is going to be taken care of.”**

We are deeply grateful to Rob for his unwavering commitment to keeping people and pets together.

COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

PAWS NY was represented all over New York City this fiscal year, with PAWS **participating in 15 community outreach events.** PAWS NY tabled at a Dog Costume Contest in Brooklyn Heights, the Pride Parade in Manhattan, Upper East Side Open Streets, and several volunteer service fairs at local colleges. As PAWS NY works to reach more New Yorkers across the five boroughs, our outreach has become an increasingly **important way to build awareness, recruit volunteers, and connect people in need with our services.**







Another highlight of the year was being awarded as a finalist for the **NYC Mayoral Service Recognition Impact Award,** a distinct honor that shined a spotlight on the **amazing work our volunteers do every week to keep people and their pets together**. PAWS attended a ceremony at Gracie Mansion with Mayor Mamdani!





FUNDRAISING AND EVENTS

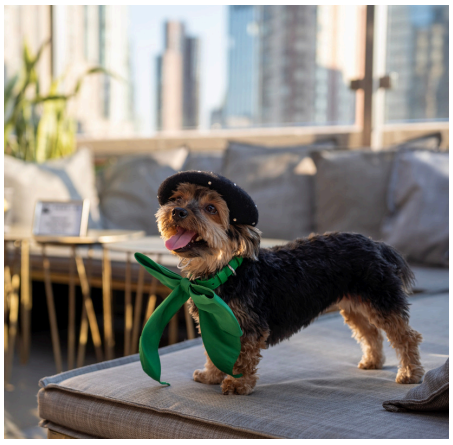
The **2026 PAWS NY Barks & Blooms Benefit** brought nearly 200 guests together at Monarch Rooftop in Manhattan for an evening celebrating the special bond between people and pets. Held in May, the event featured a silent auction, cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, and beautiful views of the New York City skyline. Thnaks to the generosity of our supporters, the evening raised **$100,000 to help keep New Yorkers and their beloved pets together.**

The event also honored **Animal Medical Center for its commitment to helping animals in need. A highlight of the evening was a video** featuring participant Geri and her Rottweiler Shana, offering guests a moving reminder of the impact of our work.











PAWS NY was also proud to participate in both the TCS New York City Marathon and the United Airlines NYC Half, with 21 charity entries in each race. Our dedicated teams of runners raised more than $100,000 in support of our mission to keep people and pets together. We look forward to building on this success and continuing to bring our community together through these iconic New York City races, Barks & Blooms, and other fundraising events.

FUNDER SPOTLIGHT: ISAAC H. TUTTLE FUND

Since 2021, the Isaac H. Tuttle Fund has provided $145,000 in support to PAWS NY, **helping us strengthen our Housecall Program** and serve older New Yorkers in Manhattan.

Through the Housecall Program, volunteers provide ongoing pet care for New Yorkers who need help caring for their animals due to age, illness, or disability. This support allows program participants to continue benefiting from the companionship of their pets while remaining safely at home.

Our partnership with the Isaac H. Tuttle Fund has meant much more to PAWS NY than financial support. They have been **wonderful champions of our work, taking the time to understand our programs, sharing thoughtful guidance, and helping open doors to new relationships and opportunities.** Their willingness to make connections and advocate for our work has helped strengthen PAWS NY in ways that extend well beyond their generous grantmaking.

We are incredibly grateful for the Isaac H. Tuttle Fund's continued partnership, generosity, and belief in our mission.



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

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

Year Ended June 30, 2026

Support and Revenue

Contributions		
Restricted	$	300,000
Unrestricted		614,825
Nonoperating Revenue		
Investment Income		22,546
Unrealized Gains (Losses)		858
Total Revenue		938,229

Expenses

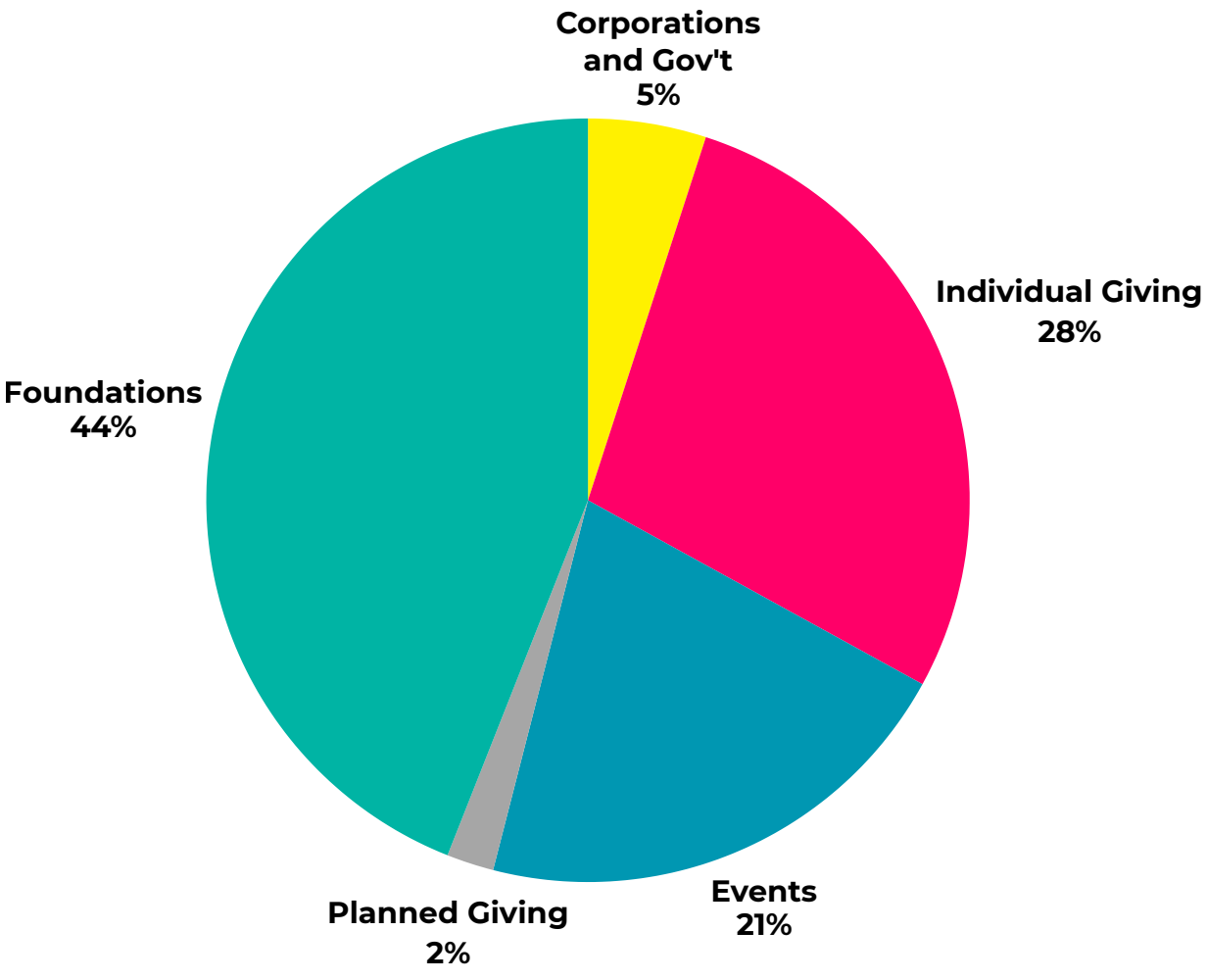
Program Services		663,309
Management and General		112,031
Fundraising		207,814
Total Expenses		983,154
Change in Total Net Position		(-44,925)
Total Net Position at Beginning of Year		809,500
Total Net Position at End of Year	$	764,575



INCOME BY PERCENTAGE

During the fiscal year, PAWS NY received **$938,229** 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
Elisabeth Oliveri, Administrative Assistant



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
ASPCA
Regina Bauer Frankenberg Foundation

$20,000 to $49,999
A Kinder World Foundation
Carte Blanche Foundation
Isaac H. Tuttle Fund
CT Charitable Foundation

$10,000 to $19,999
Concordia Foundation
Clark R. Green Foundation
Field Hall Foundation
Grey Muzzle Foundation
Jerome M. Cohen Foundation
Mary Alice Fortin Foundation
Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation
New York Foundation for Eldercare
The Jean & Louis Dreyfus Foundation
The Judith L. Seltz Charitable Foundation

$5,000 to $9,999
Animal Farm Foundation
Brady Hunter Foundation
Broadway Cares / Equity Fights AIDS
Eric & Simone Lang Foundation
Malcolm Gibbs Foundation
Marble Collegiate Church
Quentin J. Kennedy Foundation

$2,500 to $4,999
Bloomberg
Google
Markel Corporation

*Individuals listed were a part of PAWS NY as of June 30, 2026
**Institutional funders who have given a cumulative $2,500+ during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026

ADDITIONAL PARTNERS

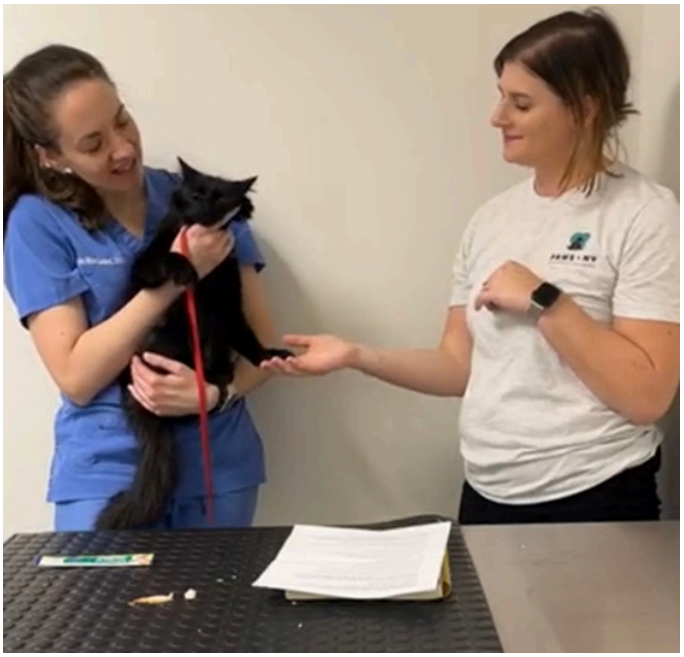
PROGRAMMATIC PARTNERS

Actors Fund
Animal Haven
Animal Care Centers of NYC
Animal Farm Foundation
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
JCC
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)
Positive Tails
Safe Horizon
SAGE
Search and Care
SelfHelp
Service Program for Older People (SPOP)
St Nick's Alliance
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 Veterinary Care
Columbus Circle Veterinary Hospital
Court Square Animal Hospital
Flatbush Vet
Integrity Veterinary Care
Paws at Peace
Pure Paws Veterinary
Reade Street Vet
Riverside Animal Hospital South on W. 79th Street
Riverside Animal Hospital on W. 108th Street
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 access to discounted services.

THANK YOU FROM ALL OF US AT PAWS NY!



Photos Courtesy of David Andrako: Front Cover, Pages 1, 2, and 17; Getty Images for Page 2 and 14; Catherine Titcomb Page 10; and PAWS NY Staff, Volunteers, and Supporters.

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