150 YEARS
BETTER TOGETHER

ANIMALS + HUMANS

150 YEARS

SAN FRANCISCO SPCA

2017-2018 ANNUAL REPORT
We are the San Francisco SPCA and for 150 years our accomplishments and innovations have been linked to the character of our city. Recently, we spent time simplifying and reframing our organizational values to reflect what is best in our city and in our organization.

**BE CONNECTED  BE FEARLESS   BE GENEROUS**

Certainly, these values speak to our history in a city known for disruptive social change: gold rush settlers, the ’60s countercultural movement, and today’s tech innovation all share a restless refusal to accept the status quo. In 1868, James Sloan Hutchinson harnessed the same spirit when he connected a community of generous-minded animal lovers to found the SF SPCA, which has fearlessly championed animal welfare for 150 years.

Animal welfare has arguably been one of the most successful social movements in history. Today, across the country, shelters and private rescues save more animals than ever. At home in San Francisco, we are close to realizing our vision of loving homes for every cat and dog. We have sustained our leadership in the No-Kill movement, and we have begun strategic planning for our next 150 years.

As we celebrate our 150th birthday, our volunteers, donors, and staff can reflect on our accomplishments with profound satisfaction. You’ll read some of their impressions in the pages of this report. You’ll also read about how we’ve continued our tradition of disruptive innovation by honing, benchmarking, and sharing best practices with our peers and partners.

Most importantly, as the Animal Organization for People, we continue to work with you and our community to deepen the bond between humans and animals. Thank you for your support. With your continued partnership, we anticipate even greater success ahead.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Scarlett, DVM, President
At home in San Francisco, we are close to realizing our vision of loving homes for every cat and dog. We have sustained our leadership in the No-Kill movement, and we have begun strategic planning for our next 150 years.
OUR 150TH YEAR IN REVIEW

For years the SF SPCA has proven to be a solid philanthropic investment, with year-over-year budget growth, tight margins, and demonstrated fiscal responsibility. We're proud to report that this year is no exception. In our reporting, you will find quantified measures of our work's impact: the number of spay and neuter surgeries, the number of veterinary discounts, and an increasing number of annual adoptions.

Which begs the question: what would happen if we weren’t here or you didn’t support us?

If we didn’t spay and neuter 8,148 animals over the past year, the future would hold a whole new set of problems for our city. Without veterinary discounts underwritten by donors like you, more animals would land in shelters. If we hadn’t facilitated the adoption of 5,245 animals, many San Franciscans would not have found the love and companionship that the human-animal bond provides.

* excludes non-cash charges of $2M in depreciation
When you make a donation to the San Francisco SPCA you join a community of thousands who understand that humans’ lives are inextricably linked to animals. Each donation, each program, each human, and each animal served has a ripple effect that enhances our daily lives, connecting us to the natural world and a shared sense of community. We thank you for your contribution.
1868
AFTER SUCCESSFULLY lobbying for a bill to make animal cruelty a crime, James Sloan Hutchinson gathers fifteen compassionate and visionary San Franciscans to found the San Francisco SPCA, the fourth such group in the nation and the first in the West.

1906
THE EARTHQUAKE AND FIRE THAT STRUCK the city leaves thousands of people and their pets homeless and vulnerable. The SF SPCA’s wagons aid civilian relief efforts and bring more than 330 dogs to the shelter until their guardians can reclaim them.

1918
RETIRED FIRE DEPARTMENT HORSE Lottie G. becomes the first city workhorse to retire at a farm established by the SF SPCA for the city’s police and fire horses. Today, the SF SPCA continues to arrange care for retired police horses.

1955
THE SF SPCA ESTABLISHES THE HUMANE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, training future generations of animal advocates, employees, donors, and legislators.

1968
THE SF SPCA OPENS ONE OF THE MOST MODERN AND SCIENTIFICALLY ADVANCED ANIMAL HOSPITALS IN THE WORLD. Over the years, the SF SPCA has continually upgraded its diagnostic tools and retained the most highly trained and passionate medical staff to maintain this standard of excellence.

1976
THE LOW-COST SPAY/NEUTER CLINIC IS ESTABLISHED, launching a 40-year commitment to population management.
1981
THE SF SPCA ESTABLISHES THE FIRST shelter-based Animal Assisted Therapy program, which today makes more than 100,000 visits with canine, feline, and porcine teams.

1994
THE SF SPCA, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH San Francisco Animal Care and Control, agrees on a pact to guarantee a home for all of the city’s adoptable cats and dogs. The No-Kill agreement launches a nationwide movement to prevent euthanasia in animal care facilities.

1998
THE SF SPCA OPENS THE FIRST CAGELESS adoption center in the country—setting the highest standard for shelters.

2008
LEANNE B. ROBERTS Animal Care Center opens.

2012
VISION 2020, A STRATEGY TO END ANIMAL ABANDONMENT in San Francisco by 2020, is launched.

2016
WITH SUPPORT FROM THE HUMANESOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES, the SF SPCA helps the City of Coalinga Animal Shelter dismantle the state’s last-known euthanasia gas chamber. Soon after, California passes Assembly Bill 2505, closing legal loopholes that allow inhumane processes like gas chambers in California.

2018
THE SF SPCA AND STOCKTON ANIMAL SERVICES wrap up a five-year partnership that saved over 40,000 lives and put Stockton on the path to sustainable management of their shelter program.
Underresourced public shelters in rural areas often struggle to provide care and find adopters for homeless animals in their regions. Meanwhile, in San Francisco, demand for adoptable dogs and cats is higher than the supply thanks to years of providing access to spay/neuter, behavior and training resources, and preventative medical care. While our organization’s commitment to the city’s animals in unwavering (San Francisco Animal Care and Control remains our single largest source of animals in need), our capacity allows us to take in homeless animals from outside the city, including many from the Central Valley.

In 2018, the SF SPCA partnered with Bay Area and Central Valley shelters to create the Central Valley Coalition. The partners are leaning into each other’s strengths by identifying core competencies and modeling best practices. The SF SPCA is sharing its expertise in shelter management and the prevention of disease outbreaks so Central Valley shelters can focus on adopting out healthy animals. In addition, thanks to our medical resources, we take in the animals who wouldn’t otherwise find the treatment they need.
Partners in the Central Valley Coalition: Humane Society Silicon Valley, Marin Humane, SF SPCA, Central Valley Rescue Railroad, Kings County Animal Control, Tulare County Animal Services, and Fresno Humane Animal Services

Animals saved and counting (as of late October, 2018)

Square miles in the three-county Central Valley service area

Grant from PetSmart Charities for the first year of the Coalition

Rescued from Kings County, four-month-old Benny snuggles in the arms of dedicated staff member, Marti Watts. He was found alone and malnourished with dozens of puncture wounds covering his body. Despite all this, he is full of kisses for everyone he meets.
Adoptions
5,245 animals found new homes and loving families
“It’s a privilege to work with such caring people and witness the start of so many wonderful lifelong relationships every single day.”
— Yishian Yao

Hospital, Mission Campus
29,538 doctor exams and 4,054 tech exams performed
“I have been with the SF SPCA for more than seven years and what I love about this place is that we have heart in everything that we do. This is an amazing team of compassionate, talented people.”
— Sara Taylor, RVT

Shelter Medicine
74% of animals who enter our shelter need immediate, nonroutine medical care
“I love working in a department full of people equally as passionate as I am in the belief that every homeless animal that comes in our door deserves the highest level of medical care we can provide. Being engaged in animal welfare daily has been and remains an amazing career.”
— Caitlin Gutoff, RVT

Animal Assisted Therapy
105,906 people reached by human and animal teams
“AAT offers furry TLC—and what’s better than that? My job allows me to work with the generous pets and people who make up our volunteer force and share them with all of San Francisco.”
— Diane Parker
Humane Education
8,368 youth participants served

“I love helping the future of animals by teaching kids. They go home and teach their parents what they’ve learned. And my team is perfect. I couldn’t ask for better people to spend nearly every day with.”
— Eliza Speece

Behavior and Training
6,003 animals and their people enrolled—preventing thousands of surrenders to local shelters

“My favorite part of what I do is that we get to teach people how to both understand and communicate with their pets. Training can be such a powerful way to build the human-animal bond. We’re lucky to have an amazing team of behavior professionals at the SF SPCA, changing lives and improving welfare every day.”
— Ariel Stephens

Hospital, Pacific Heights Campus
25,892 doctor exams and 3,858 tech exams performed

“Working at the Pacific Heights campus in the overnight emergency department gives me the opportunity to give back to my community at any time they should need it. Nurturing the human-animal bond is very important to me, and returning a patient back to its owner after a hospital stay is incredibly rewarding. I am grateful for everything that the SF SPCA offers to pet guardians in San Francisco.”
— Marissa Beauvais, RVT

Community Medicine

Mobile Vaccine Clinics: 3,123 free vaccines given

Community Cats: 688 feral and free-roaming cats spayed/neutered

Spay/Neuter Clinic: 8,148 surgeries, 82% discounted or free

“The best part of doing what we do? Working to improve the lives of public, shelter, and community animals—it makes every day important. And we do it as a team.”
— Robbie Nguyen and Amanda Yee, Spay/Neuter

Volunteer Services

Foster Program: 1,518 animals fostered, freeing space for more animals in the shelter

Volunteers: 1,417 people volunteered to help SF SPCA programs and services

“I love working with the volunteers at the SF SPCA because every single one of them comes from a place of compassion and empathy for shelter animals. They are the backbone of the SF SPCA and we could not save the lives of thousands of animals each year without their talent, their passion, and their understanding of shelter animals.”
— Dirk Burns
Two weeks after Evan Jacobs started managing the Calaveras County Animal Shelter, a ringworm outbreak closed his cat adoptions, and 108 animals were exposed. Treating ringworm takes time and space—resources often in short supply at shelters—and affected animals are often euthanized.

Searching for help, Jacobs found Laura Mullen, manager of the SF SPCA’s Shelters Preventing Outbreaks of Ringworm through Education (SPORE) program. In 2012, Mullen gathered data to set up step-by-step protocols to quickly diagnose, treat, and prevent ringworm and developed a training program. To date, 30 shelters in 19 cities have attended.

“Local law won’t allow us to adopt out cats with ringworm,” Jacobs said. “We would have had to euthanize them.”

Mullen coached Jacobs on protocols to help save nearly all 108 cats, and now Jacobs is excited to save hundreds more lives in the years to come. As more shelters learn the protocols, thousands more animals are saved—a win for cats, a win for shelter workers, and a win for animal welfare.

To date, 30 shelters in 19 cities have attended the SF SPCA’s SPORE training program and are implementing lifesaving protocols to treat ringworm.
Ringworm, which once inspired fear in shelters, is a treatable fungal infection. This kitten is receiving a lime sulfur dip. Afterwards, kittens sit near heat lamps to stay warm.
What can a dedicated staff and a volunteer corps of 1,400+ contributing 146,488 hours do together? It seems just about anything. Volunteers and staff work collaboratively in almost every area at the SF SPCA — from Animal Assisted Therapy visits to trapping Community Cats — volunteers inspire us with their commitment to being connected, fearless, and certainly generous.
8:00 AM
Volunteers feed cats and take dogs for their morning ablutions while staff clean animals' condos.

1:00 PM
Foster volunteers bring underage kittens in for their vaccinations. By fostering 1,518 animals, volunteers increased the shelter’s capacity by nearly 30 percent.

3:00 PM
Shelter Medicine staff establish treatment plans that volunteers fulfill. Of incoming animals, 74% need medical care.

5:00 PM
Volunteer matchmakers introduce adopters before staff counsels and finalizes adoptions.

7:00 PM
Staff and volunteers do final rounds of play and pets before putting animals to bed for the night.