



Annual Report 2018

Message From the Executive Director



Mission Statement

We believe in the human-animal bond and exist to support Central Minnesota by practicing and promoting quality adoption services and education programs.

Incorporated December 11, 1974

Board of Directors

Cheryl Ley, President
Jason Hallonquist, 1st Vice President
Emily Bezdicek, 2nd Vice President
Kourtney Piepenburg, Secretary
Matt Larson, Treasurer
Cydney Reuter
Kris Stewart
Merrilee Stang
Ron Brandenburg
Sharon Welke
Tim Stewart
Vicki Davis, Executive Director

Tri-County Humane Society
735 8th St. NE St. Cloud, MN
56304

P. (320).252.0896
F. (320).252.1325

Shelter Hours
Monday-Thursday 12-6pm
Friday 12-8pm
Saturday 11-5pm
Sunday 12-5pm



Dear Friends,

Tri-County Humane Society (TCHS) has come a long way since our humble beginnings in 1974. Our 95.6% placement rate in 2018 reflects years of hard work and dedication by staff and volunteers, as well as significant financial contributions from supporters through fundraising and donations. The remaining 4.4% for which euthanasia was deemed necessary were not decisions that were taken lightly. Euthanasia is a last resort, only considered when all quality of life is gone and it's the only humane option left or when a pet poses a legitimate danger to society. Tri-County Humane Society is truly a place you can be proud of.

We are the reflection of your care and concern for animals.

At TCHS we serve a much needed and important role in our community helping companion animals find caring people. We love helping make happiness happen – and we're really, really good at it! Nevertheless, the great work we are doing is becoming more and more difficult. Our old, outdated, patchwork of a facility has reached its limit and is badly in need of being replaced. With your help, we can do better for the animals.

The time has come to build.

We have done a lot of improvising over the years - patching, repurposing and tacking on as best we could, but the time has come to build a new shelter. And we will.

A brand-new building on our current land, incorporating the newest ideas and best practices in animal sheltering, will allow our staff and volunteers to do an even better job. This will be a place of greater comfort and help for the animals. It will be a place where we can expand our humane education programs for children. And it will be a new source of pride for the entire community.

We've done our homework. This has been "in the works" for several years and now we are ready. Please help us make the animals' stay and visitors' experiences more positive. Help make a new shelter happen so that we can do even better for them.

This annual report highlights all of the great work from 2018 that Tri-County Humane Society was able to accomplish.

You'll see amazing statistics and outstanding programs showing how we've embraced new models of effectiveness and efficiency in the service of both people and pets.

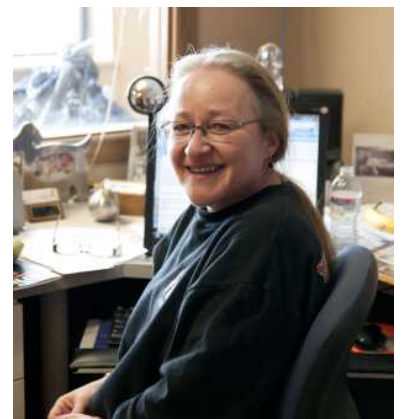
It has truly been another stellar year for TCHS, all made possible by the generosity of people like you who care about animals!

Thank you, on behalf of the animals -

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vicki Davis".

Vicki Davis, CAWA

Vicki Davis is the only Certified Animal Welfare Administrator (CAWA) in the State of Minnesota. She has dedicated 34 years advocating for animals at the Tri-County Humane Society.



2018 Highlights



Placed **3,123** pets
(placement rate: 95.6%)



Received 2,270 cats.



Received 743 dogs.



Received 254
other animals.



Performed 2,181 surgeries
(1,969 on-site, 212 off-site)
on shelter pets.



Hosted 23 MN SNAP and
22 Animal Humane Society
Veterinary Centers
(formerly Kindest Cut) low-cost
mobile spay/neuter clinics.



Placed 1,204 pets in foster homes.
Top 3 reasons animals
were placed in foster care:

1. Pregnant
2. Too young/small
3. Medical issues



Volunteers put in over
18,800 total hours.



Finished 2018 with
21,428 Facebook followers



2018 Employees

Executive Director

Vicki Davis

HR/Operations Manager

Jon Rand

Office Manager

Lisa Pederson

Customer Service Manager

Anna Stratton

Customer Service Leads

Adam Lewis

Cassandra Watters

Animal Care Manager

Laura Lund

Animal Care Technicians

Bonnie Alexander

Rose Hegerle

Foster Care Coordinator

Karissa Bot

Kallie Braun

Director of Philanthropy

Marit Ortega

Tauna Quimby

Volunteer Coordinator

Kate Kompas

Marketing

Kayla Koscielniak

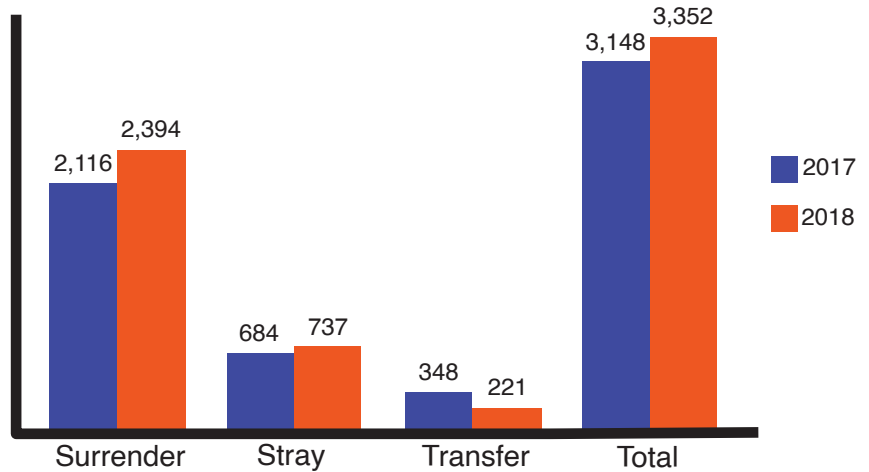
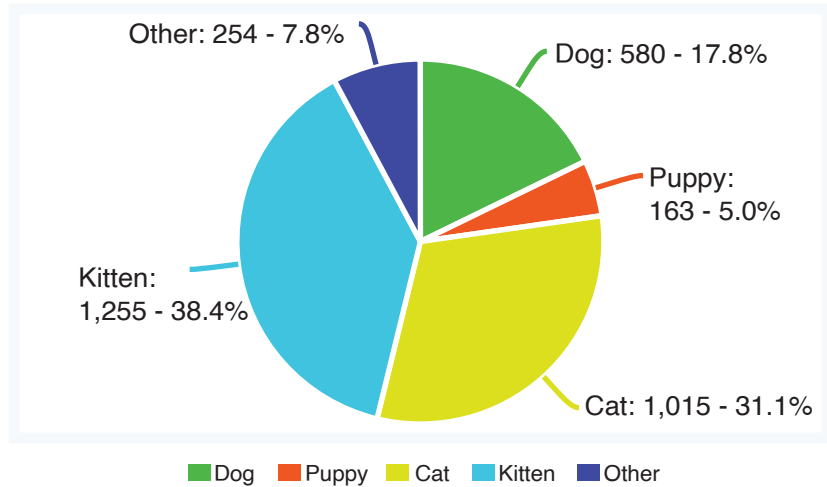
Staff

Alan Zimmerman,
Alexis Schindele, Annessa
Rosch, Ashley Adamsky, Ashley
Millard, Brandy Yantes, Breanna
Johnson, Brenna Habel, Bryn
Liffrig, Cassandra Watters,
Corynn Soriano, Kayla Carry,
Kaylee Kivel, Mark Bodine,
Rebecka Janey, Rebekah Wallin,
Sara Morales, Chelsea Forner,
Emma Petersen, Ashley Dooley,
Victoria Baumgarten, Amber
Schill, Shelby Keppers, Kaitlyn
Bible-Ericksen, Fay Smith,
Kiahna Hubert, Lauren Schrader

2018 Animal Statistics

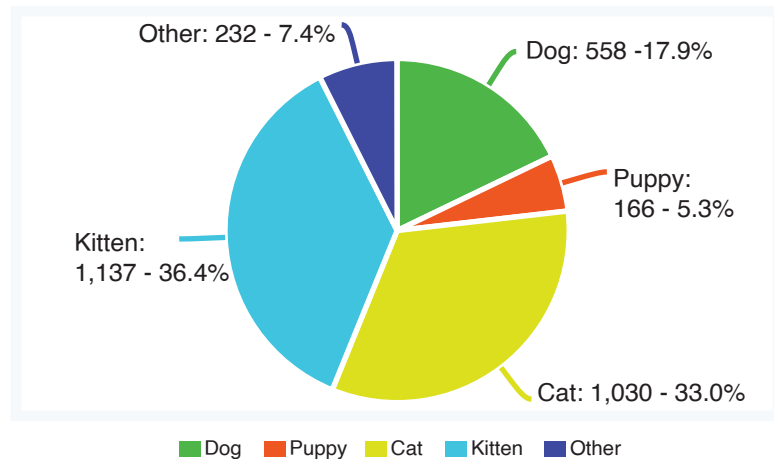
2018 Pets Received

3,267 pets received in 2018
3.6% increase from 2017



2018 Pets Placed

3,123 pets placed in 2018
6.9% increase from 2017



2018 Veterinary Services

Surgeries:

Surgery	2018	2017
Cat Spays	880	716
Cat Neuters	746	658
Dog Spays	150	134
Dog Neuters	201	139
Rabbit Spay	16	16
Rabbit Neuters	17	21
Cryptorchid Neuters	10	13
Swine Neuters	0	2
Dentals	78	69
Dewclaw Removal	1	0
Cherry Eye Repair	2	0
Eye Removals	7	11
Entropion Eyelid Repair	1	3
Fracture Repair	1	0
Hernia Repair	24	18
FHO	3	1
Leg Amputation	5	0
Skin Tag Removal	0	1
Polyp Removal	4	0
Quill Removal	3	0
Suture Repair	4	2
Toe Amputation	1	0
Tumor Removal	11	7
Wound Repair	7	7
Tail Amputation	6	1
Bladder Stone Removal	1	1
Ulnar Osteotomy	1	0
Unsuccessful Spay/ Already Spayed	1	6
Total	2,181	1,826

On-site Surgeries: 1,969

Off-site Surgeries: 212

TCHS Veterinarian
Dr. Anne Lottie

Volunteer Veterinarians:

Dr. Ashley Barott	Dr. Charlie Johnson
Dr. Adam Bennett	Dr. Erica Dolven-Kolle
Dr. Traci Diggs	Dr. Jennifer Melling
Dr. Carol Evans	Dr. Amanda Poepke
Dr. Karen Gjevre	Dr. Thomas Rohman
Dr. Brett Rabe	Dr. Ellen Smith
Dr. Breanna Kelm	Dr. Allie Stevens
Dr. Gina Kobluk	Dr. Laura
Dr. Cal Kobluk	Wilant-Willenbring
Dr. Amy O'Brien	

Veterinary Services

The wellness of the animals is always at the forefront of our minds. We have a dedicated team of animal health care specialists and are so grateful for the services they provided in 2018.

Special thanks to the many local veterinarians who provide us with free and/or low-cost veterinary services:

Advanced Care Pet Hospital
Banfield Pet Hospital
Boysen Animal Hospital
Granite City Pet Hospital
Animal Humane Society
(Formerly Kindest Cut)
Mille Lacs Veterinary Clinic
MN SNAP-Blue Sky Veterinary Services
Pine Cone Pet Hospital
St. Joseph Veterinary Clinic
University of Minnesota
WellHaven Pet Health



Babs

Babs was a small kitten whose tail was injured so close to the body that amputation was the only option. After spending months in foster care healing, Babs is now home.



Our Caring Team

Animals Fostered:

Cats/Kittens	951
Dogs/Puppies	184
Rabbits	61
Guinea Pigs	6
Gecko	1
Rat	1
Total	1,204

Foster Reasons:

Pregnant/ Nursing	430
Too Small/ Young	347
Medical	157
Socialization	96
Upper Respiratory	89
Foster to adopt	51
Lack of Space	18
Adoption Ambassadors	9
Behavior	3
Rehabilitation	3
Long Term	1

Foster Care Program

When an animal is too young, sick, injured, pregnant or just needs someone to teach them basic manners, foster parents help fill the gap between the time the animal is brought to the shelter and the time they are able to be adopted. In 2018, 1,204 animals went through our foster care program.

Top 5 Foster Homes

Nancy Sturtevant	20 Animals	909 Hours	Fostered 361 days
Markfort Family	41 Animals	890 Hours	Fostered 342 days
Marcia Chouinard	25 Animals	639 Hours	Fostered 272 days
Cynthia Ryg	25 Animals	500 Hours	Fostered 354 days
Traci Pollreis	25 Animals	493 Hours	Fostered 232 days

2018 Humane Education Programs / Community Outreach

Book Buddies

TCHS started the initiative in which children read to animals in mid-2017. In our first full year of Book Buddies, little ones read for a total of 218 hours!

Birthday Parties

TCHS hosted 30 birthday parties in 2018.

School Visits

TCHS participated in visits at various KidStop locations, North Junior High School, and other locations, as well as attended the St. Cloud school district's Education Expo.

Pet Therapy Visits

Volunteers went on 56 visits with pets to senior care center/ assisted-living facilities.

Tours

Twenty-four shelter tours were given to schools and youth groups.

Offsite Adoption Events

Animals were sent to 50 offsite adoption events, an increase from 33 in 2017.

Community Events

TCHS participated in 54 community events in 2018, ranging from Summertime by George!, St. Cloud State University kitten de-stress events, Paws to Read, and free educational sessions such as Cat 101 and Doggie 101.

Our Caring Team

Volunteer Program

Tri-County Humane Society had what we believe is a record year for volunteers, with 18,800 hours logged! That's a 12 percent increase from 2017, which was already an outstanding year. Volunteers do everything from animal socialization to cleanup to transportation to special events to cleanup again!

TCHS also got a lot of help through civil service programs (court-ordered time or special project assignments). That program resulted in an additional 1,164 hours of help for the shelter.

We are thankful to have such a wonderful team in place. We always say, it takes a village to raise these critters- thank you volunteers, for being a part of our village!

Volunteer Program Community Partners:

We depend on our community for its support in many ways. Thank you to those who worked with us to care for the animals and help them find new homes, including:

Sue Symanietz and her Sartell High School students
Sauk Rapids Rice Schools' Bridges Program
United Way of Central Minnesota
Stearns County Corrections
Sherburne County Corrections
Benton County Corrections
Opportunity Matters

WACOSA
St. Cloud Public Library
Retired and Senior Volunteer Program
Petco
PetSmart
Walmart
Target

Crossroads Center
Local media that publicized our adoptable animals
Missionaries of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Numerous area senior care centers
Boy Scout troops
Girl Scout troops

Mike Nistler

*Above and Beyond
Volunteer of the Year*



Mike has been volunteering with TCHS since August 2017. He is known around our shelter as a cat whisperer. Previous training helped him learn how to connect with even the most skittish felines. TCHS has sent semi-feral foster cats home with Mike, who helps their attitude and disposition turn around. He is also one of our most committed Petco cleaners. Mike is quick to fit transports into his packed schedule. Mike helps ensure the cats' journey there is as stress-free as possible. We look forward to watching Mike work his magic with cats for years to come.

Carol Berg

Adult Volunteer of the Year



Carol has been a Shelter Animal Care volunteer since September 2016. She quickly stood out as the type of person who would jump in with gusto for any task. She's sensitive to animals' needs, is quick to clean up any messes, and is an extremely pleasant presence for our customers. She volunteered at almost every special event hosted by TCHS, and has helped with office tasks as well. She recently added surgery volunteer to her list of duties. TCHS loves having Carol in the shelter, wherever she may be volunteering.

Alonna Mohs

Junior Volunteer of the Year



Alonna is a 12-year-old who has been volunteering for TCHS since July 2017. Alonna quickly distinguished herself as a very capable animal caregiver and enthusiastic worker. She always has a positive attitude. She said her dream is to work at TCHS (when she is old enough, of course!) Until then, she's getting a great education on how to be a wonderful, compassionate helper.

Happy Tails at the Tri-County Humane Society

December 29, 2018

In February of 2008 my grandpa, Bob Skillrud, came to the Tri-County Humane Society looking for a furry companion. He adopted a 9-month-old German Shepherd/Lab, who he named Daisy. The family thought he was crazy, what was a 70-year-old man thinking, adopting a puppy.

Little did we know that Daisy would keep him more active than ever, be his weight-loss buddy and encourage him to make new friends. The two spent their days going for walks with neighborhood friends and their dogs, swimming at the dog park and patrolling the yard for squirrels.

In 2016 my grandpa passed away. Bob's biggest concern as soon as he got sick was who would care for Daisy when he was gone. Being an animal lover and his granddaughter, I couldn't stand to see her leave the family so in with me she moved. She is the most affectionate big dog I have ever encountered. She has been a wonderful foster sister to 11 dogs, consoled countless litters of orphaned kittens and made us laugh every single day.

Our family would like to give a huge thank you to your organization, if not for you we would never have met Daisy. I am thankful every day for my big, goofy, senior girl who helped us through the loss of a family member and reminds us of him every day.

Thank you,

Kate Hillard and the family of Bob Skillrud



Honey

Honey came to our home as a foster; she was our family's first foster.

From the first time we got Honey home she fell into the complete routine as our current dog, Tripp. Honey was apprehensive of Tripp but she soon became a friend and family to Tripp.

Honey is a sweet girl that has so much to offer her humans. She listens very well, loves to play with squeaky toys and has become the master of finding the squeaker very quickly. She has so much love and affection to give that my husband and daughter both fell in love with Honey very quickly. I was trying to help fostering those that need help and if I kept one I would not be helping others. It did not take too long for Honey to break that down.

I will continue to foster when I can maybe in the spring when the family dogs are comfortable with another dog visiting for a little bit.

Thanks TCHS--

Sue, John, & Emily



Happy Tails continued...

Yao

Yao originally came to us after being abandoned by her previous owner. She was very fearful and acted almost semi-feral in the shelter. It was rare that she would allow anyone to get close enough to give her affection. We treated her for a urinary tract infection among other things during her month-long stay with us. She found just the right family with the patience and tender loving care to bring out the best in her.

October 2018 Update: We've had Yao six months now! Introductions are just about complete, and she's a whole new cat! She loves to hang out on the couch to sleep, look out the window, lay on laps, and even lets the kids pet her occasionally. She loves attention, and will be your shadow until you sit down, when she jumps into your lap to get cuddles. She has the loudest purr, and loves playing with toys, and running around the house. You'd never guess this cat came from where she did, and was as freaked out as she used to be! She acts like she's just been a princess all along!

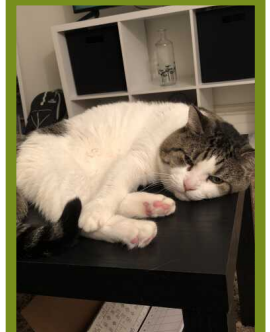


Before

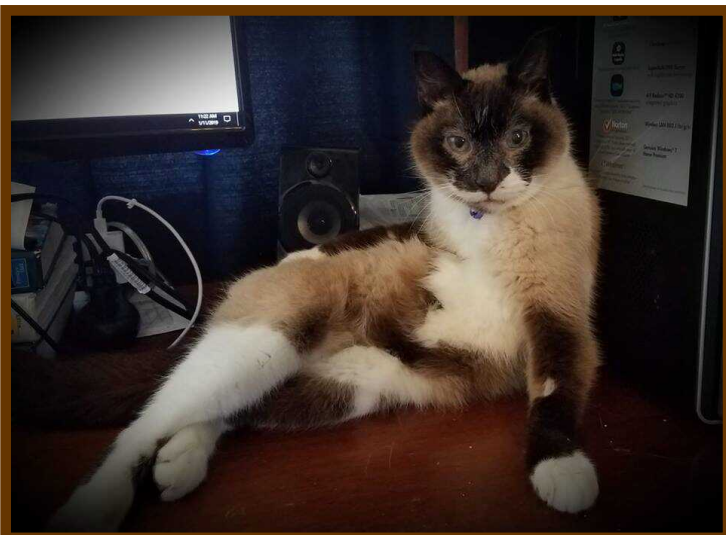
Harold James

Harold James is a senior fella who came in with foot troubles he'd been dealing with for a while. After surgery he got a spring in his step and found his way into a new family's heart. He may look tough, but he's a sweetheart.

Update from his family: He's doing wonderful. He just likes to lay around and get his chin scratched and loves looking out the window.



After



Boris

Boris arrived at TCHS as a stray estimated to be 15 years old. He had dental work and is living with a heart condition. After recovering from his dental surgery and an upper respiratory infection, he's now happy and content spending his golden years relaxing.

Update from his family: Boris loves to lounge around with the younger cats, he is the grandpa of the group. He is always getting much needed tender loving care. He is such a sweet old man.

Networking and Advancement

National Level

The Association for Animal Welfare Advancement (AAWA), formally known as the Society of Animal Welfare Administrators (SAWA), is a professional association dedicated to bringing out the best in animal welfare leaders. It's a nonprofit individual membership organization of professionals in animal welfare, care, and control dedicated to the growth and prestige of the industry. AAWA strives to advocate humane ideals through professional advancement of members. Animal welfare leaders network with peers, establish mentor relationships, share best practices, form successful collaborations, and advance the field.

Tri-County Humane Society Executive Director Vicki Davis serves on the Best Practices AAWA committee and offers representation of the smaller shelters across the nation, most of which do not have the resources to be "state of the art," but want to offer "state of the art" care and services for animals. Tri-County Humane Society strives to stay on top of the latest research in animal welfare (and in some cases, we're the ones breaking new ground)! We owe this growth and leadership to our collaboration with national organizations.

The Association for
**Animal Welfare
Advancement**



State Level

Tri-County Humane Society is a founding member of the Minnesota Partnership in Animal Welfare (MnPAW). MnPAW is a collective voice dedicated to the humane treatment of animals in Minnesota through legislation, training, programs and support services. MnPAW envisions a future where our leadership, advocacy, and training builds a strong collaborative network of animal welfare organizations within Minnesota; promotes humane practices and laws for all animals; and decreases the number of unwanted, lost and neglected companion animals. To achieve this, initiatives focus on spay/neuter, adoption partnerships, education and advocacy. This collaboration continues to expand, be successful, and save the lives of many animals - the one goal all members of MnPAW share foremost.



Local Level

The Minnesota Animal Welfare Conference is an annual educational and networking opportunity for the state's animal welfare community. The 17th Annual Minnesota Animal Welfare Conference brought approximately 175 animal welfare professionals, veterinarians and veterinary technicians to St. Cloud. A veterinary track and general animal welfare track were offered, with nationally known speakers: Dr. Aleisha Swartz, DVM; Dr. Rebecca Stuntebeck, DVM; Myles Chadwick, Vice President of Emancipet New School; Ana Zorrilla, CAWA, E.D. and CEO of Louisiana ASPCA; and Rosemarie Crawford, LVT, Director of Educational Programs for National Kitten Coalition. The general track focused on managing people, best practices for transport of companion animals, and promoting adoptions for Felv or FIV positive cats. The veterinary track focused on medical issues specific to shelter medicine. Tri-County Humane Society volunteers to organize this conference because we believe that providing affordable opportunities for continued education and networking among animal welfare professionals is key to making Minnesota a more humane community.



2018 Minnesota Animal Welfare Conference photos



2018 Financials

Income	2018	2017	2018%	2017%
General Contributions	\$ 503,130	\$ 376,579	40%	34%
Spay/Neuter Funds	\$ 73,121	\$ 39,200	6%	4%
Bequests	\$ 10,186	\$ 43,463	1%	4%
Grants	\$ 1,500	\$ 17,400	0%	2%
Fundraising	\$ 148,677	\$ 170,920	12%	15%
MN Conference/Education	\$ 15,994	\$ 16,831	1%	2%
Adoptions/Animal Intake	\$ 422,050	\$ 360,321	33%	32%
Retail	\$ 85,848	\$ 88,733	7%	8%
Total	\$ 1,260,506	\$ 1,113,446	100%	100%

Expenses	2018	2017	2018%	2017%
Animal Care, Adoptions, & Sales Tax	\$ 523,258	\$ 485,905	52%	51%
Management & Development	\$ 251,693	\$ 238,529	25%	25%
Marketing & Communications	\$ 36,912	\$ 37,728	4%	4%
New Building Planning	\$ 4,500	\$ 23,164	0%	2%
Fundraising	\$ 33,209	\$ 32,484	3%	3%
Store Merchandise Expense	\$ 59,980	\$ 54,514	6%	6%
Utilities & Shelter Repairs	\$ 36,633	\$ 34,926	4%	4%
Shelter Supplies, Insurance, & Technology	\$ 61,260	\$ 52,198	6%	5%
Total	\$ 1,007,445	\$ 959,449	100%	100%

2018 Fundraisers

Santa Paws

2018: \$8,460
2017: \$7,817



Companion Walk

2018: \$60,000
2017: \$50,228

Wine Kibbles & Bids

2018: \$106,835
2017: \$76,280



2018: \$23,815
2017: \$40,841



Bloody Mary & Chili

2018: \$2,923
2017: \$1,570



Gift Wrap Booth at Crossroads Center

2018: \$6,913
2017: \$7,430



Flower Fundraiser

2018: \$3,585
2017: \$3,285



Off-Site Coin Banks

2018: \$13,924
2017: \$11,334

Vision for the Future



We Envision:

- A time when TCHS has abundant resources and finances to carry out its mission and visions.
- A time when TCHS will use technology efficiently to meet the needs of all staff, adopters and animals.
- A time when the community will be well educated about the TCHS mission, vision, purpose, and practice.
- A passion to continually explore new options, embrace new opportunities and improve animal care and enrichment techniques.
- A time when TCHS is recognized as the leader in responsible companion animal care.
- The continual development of a sound foundation to support the shelter as it evolves to meet ever-changing community and animal welfare needs.
- A state-of-the-art facility.

"Animals are such agreeable friends - they ask no questions, they pass no criticisms."
-George Eliot