



Fort Wayne Animal Care and Control
HELPING PEOPLE . HELPING ANIMALS

20

FORT WAYNE ANIMAL
CARE AND CONTROL

GRATITUDE
REPORT

19



LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



Amy Jo Sites

As 2019 comes to an end, I am awed by the advancements our shelter has achieved when it comes to animal welfare. Every year we strive to not only find the best possible outcome for each animal in our care, but to continue being a resource for the community with their animal needs.

In late August, we officially launched our Pet Assistance and Rehoming program. Our goal for the program is to prevent pets from having to enter the shelter by keeping them at home where they're already loved. We began by asking those individuals who were thinking about surrendering their pets to contact one of our pet assistance and rehoming specialists. Our staff would work one-on-one with pet owners to address the underlying issues that may prevent the owner from keeping their pet. Often times, pets may be surrendered as a reaction to something that could easily be remedied.

Common behavior issues like potty training, barking, or even chewing can lead owners to be frustrated and ultimately want to surrender their pet. Many times, frustrating behaviors can easily be curbed with the right information and training tips. Our staff takes the time to assist these frustrated owners with this information and hopefully get them to take the initiative to correct the behaviors. We support and promote training methods that use positive reinforcement for good behaviors.

We recognize and understand keeping pets in the home isn't always a possibility. If rehoming or surrendering the pet to the shelter is the only option, we first attempt to help the owner rehome their pet on their own. The staff works with the pet owner to navigate the 'Adopt-a-Pet' website by helping them create a profile to highlight their pet's best qualities. By empowering the pet owner to rehome their own pet, they have the opportunity to be part of the deciding factor as to who gets to love them next. Should rehoming the pet not be a viable option, the owner is able to surrender their pet to us so we can determine the best outcome possible. We are hoping to expand the program by enlisting various partners that can help with the common reasons pets are surrendered to the shelter.

Whether it is providing discounted or complementary basic medical care, training, or temporary boarding, these are all resources that can be provided to reduce the chances of pets being surrendered. We have been pleased with the initial results of the program and are continuing to work at obtaining more resources for pet owners to keep their beloved furry friends.

Before



After



A YEAR IN REVIEW

In the spring of 2019 a kind man frantically came through our doors carrying three tiny kittens. He had lit his burn pile and much to his horror, realized a stray mama cat had hidden her kittens in there. He grabbed them and rushed them to our facility for help. Our veterinary team jumped into action to offer supportive care. At just a couple weeks old, it would be a miracle if they survived. Luckily, thanks to an amazing foster, two of these kittens are alive and well and have been adopted into loving homes.

2019 Intake: 9,715 an avg 26.6 per day

Dogs

2017: 4,336
2018: 4,413
2019: 4,132

Cats

2017: 5,623
2018: 5,281
2019: 5,120

Small Animals

2017: 514
2018: 539
2019: 463



NEW INITIATIVES

PET ASSISTANCE AND REHOMING

In August we fully launched our Pet Assistance and Rehoming. This initiative is designed to offer support to keep pets in homes where they're already loved. Often, pet owners just aren't aware of some of the resources available to them. By calling to speak with a pet retention specialist we can offer resources to help work through frustrations with training or temporary gaps in care. This program does not effect our intake of stray animals.



This little pup is one of our favorite success stories from the program. One of our animal control officers was at a home for a call where an owner was surrendering her animals. They had fleas and she was at her wits end dealing with the problem. Thanks to a grant from Seresto our officer was able to provide collars that offer 8 months of flea protection and the grateful owner was able to get a handle on the problem.

IN-HOUSE ANIMAL CARE

This was a groundbreaking year for our veterinary team!

Our Paws for Progress capital campaign allowed us to complete the remodel of our medical area which increased our surgery capacity and relieved a bottle neck in the process of getting animals into adoptions. This would not have been possible without our generous donors.

Total surgeries

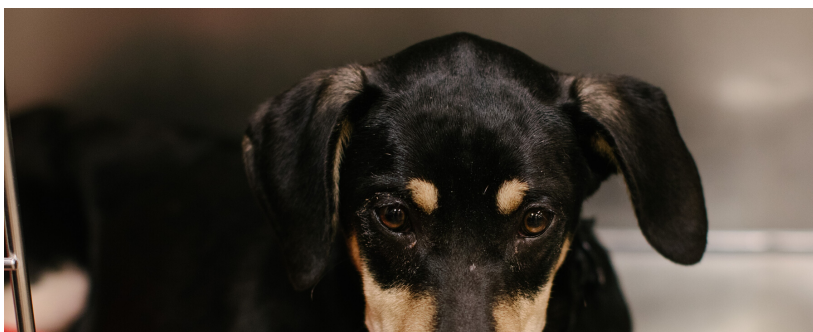
3,080

Total
Community Cat
surgeries

1,004

Average
surgeries/ day

12.9



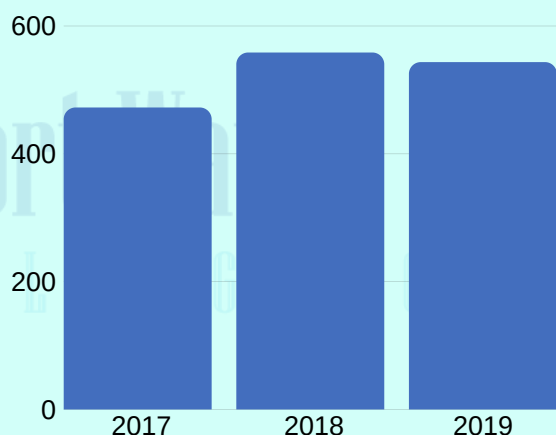
TRANSFER PARTNERS

We often work together with area rescues and shelters to save as many lives as possible.

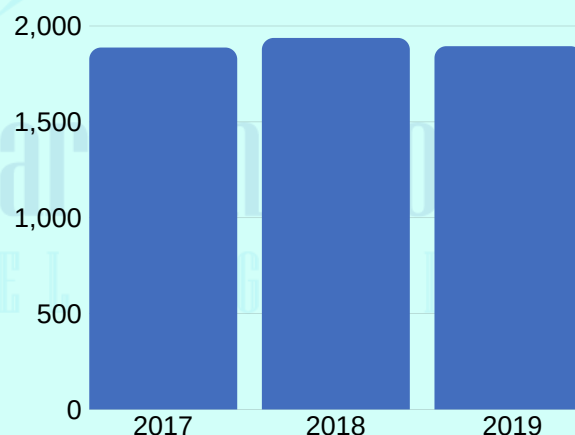
We work closely with our coalition partner, the Allen County SPCA, who pulled 782 Cats and 426 dogs for adoption and 164 cats for the working cat program.

We work with several 501c3 approved rescue groups and area shelters. In 2019 we transferred 37 cats and 117 dogs to rescue and shelter partners other than the Allen County SPCA.

Dogs Transferred Out



Cats Transferred Out



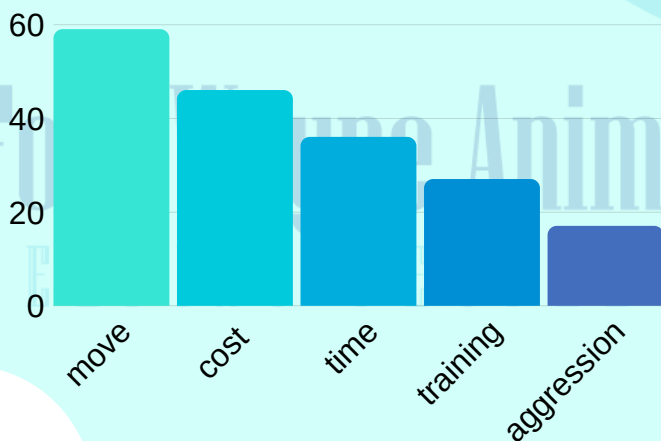


FIRST LINE OF COMMUNICATION

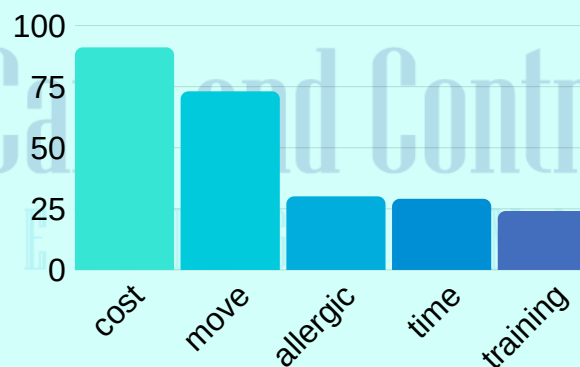
Our dispatchers serve as the first line of communication with the public. In 2019, our dispatchers answered 29,568 phone calls between five positions.

They have been the primary department working with pet owners for the new pet retention and re-homing program and have done a great job compiling resources. See below for a break down of the top 5 surrender reasons for the 222 dogs and 264 cats surrendered in 2019. We hope to see those numbers decrease as we move forward.

Top 5 dog surrender reasons



Top 5 cat surrender reasons



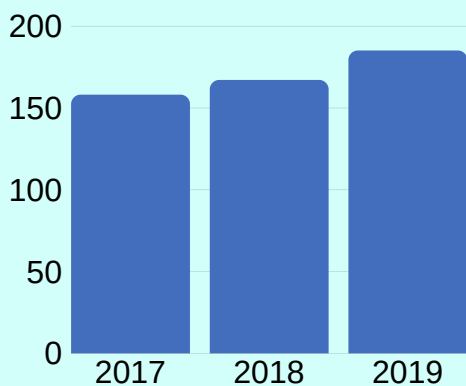


SAVING LIVES

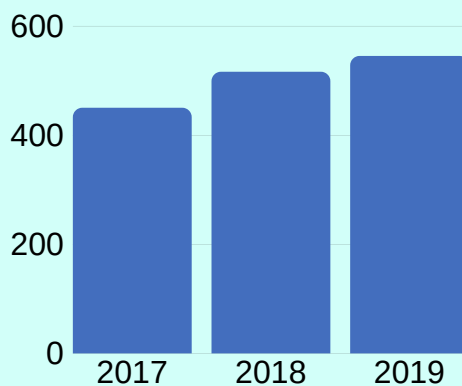
IN THE COMMUNITY

We have 12 animal control officers who serve Fort Wayne and, as of October 1st, the New Haven city limits. They completed a total of 20,449 calls for service in 2019. Of those calls for service 6,155 were calls to investigate suspected cruelty or neglect. The officers work to promote public safety and completed 1,090 bite investigations in 2019.

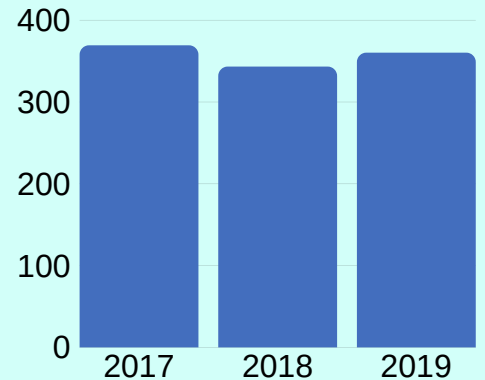
Bites to Juveniles



Bites to Adults



Bites to Animals





TEACHING HEARTS

Every year our Humane Education department teaches hundreds of children compassion, empathy and kindness toward animals and people. They do this through summer camps, educational tours, scout programs, classroom visits and by providing more than 14,000 copies of the magazine Kind News to area classrooms.

Read to the
Animals Participants

169

Summer Camp
Participants

45

Tour, Scout and
Classroom Program
Participants

724

There's a deeper reason we teach empathy and kindness toward animals. Researchers have found significant correlations between animal abuse, domestic violence, elder abuse and other forms of violence - known as "The Link". By reaching children at a young age and teaching kindness toward animals - we're working to stop this cycle of violence.



VOLUNTEERS

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Our volunteers make a huge difference in the level of care we're able to offer the animals. They help with everything from cleaning kennels, writing donor thank you's, to giving baths to the dogs and socializing animals.

Total Volunteer
Hours:

14,453.58

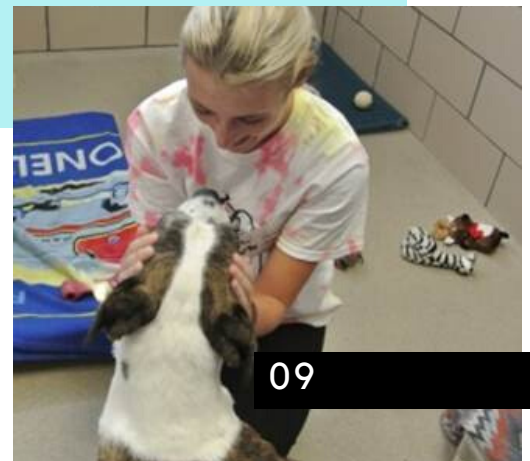
This is the equivalent of 6.95
more full time staff members.

Their contribution is
invaluable!

Total Active
Volunteers:

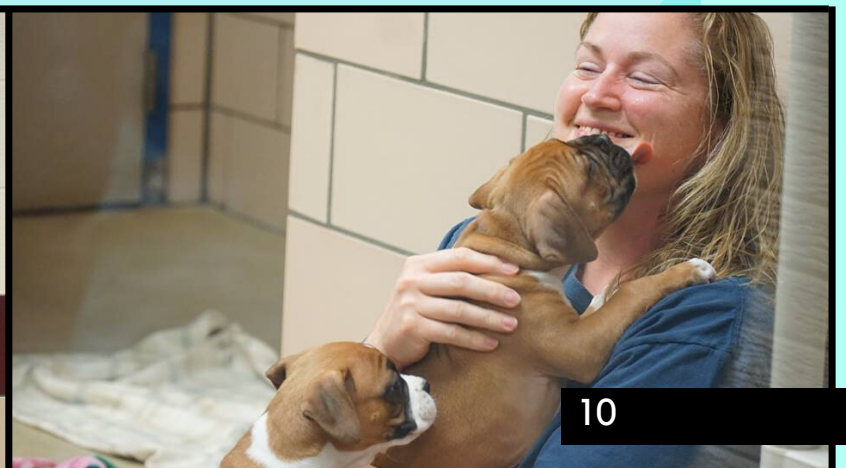
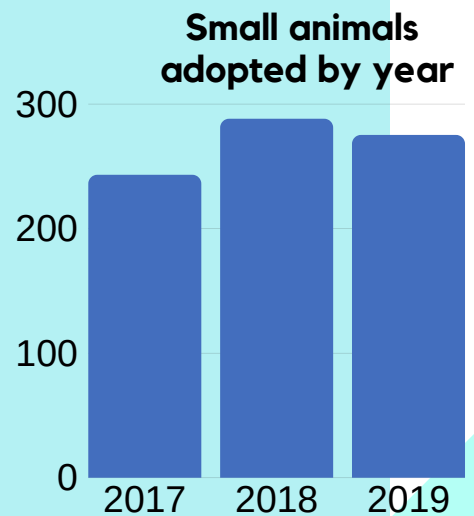
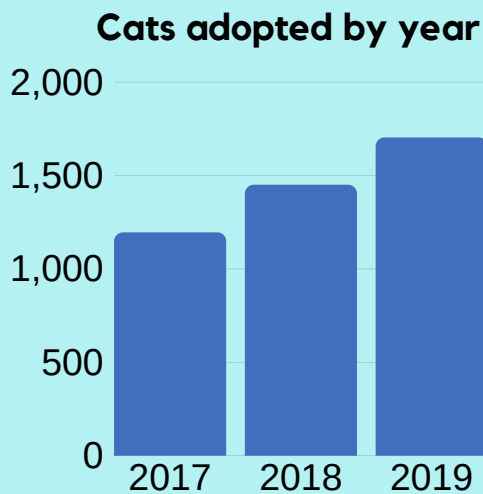
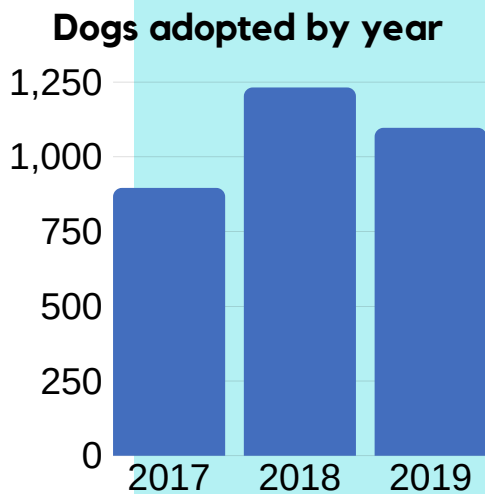
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This is an average of just 5
hours per person! What a
difference a gift of 5 hours
can make!



RECORD BREAKING ADOPTIONS

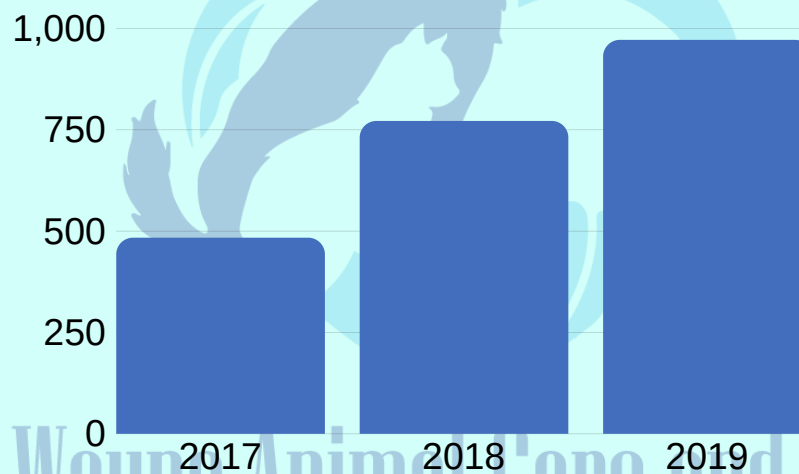
This year we surpassed 3,000 adoptions with 3,196 adoptions. This department has seen more of an increase than any other as we continue to save more lives than ever before. With just five part time staff the department struggled to keep up with demand. Not only have they increased volunteer help with adoptions, but combined two part time positions into one full time using donor dollars. These positions are vital as we strive to have in depth conversations with adopters to make the best matches possible.



FOSTER PROGRAM

When we took a good look at our data from 2018 we realized bottle baby kittens under 4 weeks of age were a population we were struggling to save. These kittens cannot eat on their own and require around the clock care. They cannot survive in our shelter. That meant asking our fosters to take on a lot more. We asked and they stepped up like we never could have imagined.

Our awesome foster team saved 971 animals in 2019, more than doubling the number of animals fostered in 2017.



Fort Wayne Animal Care and Control



A BIG THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

The entire remodel of our medical area cost \$300,000 with half being generously funded by City Council. We began a capital campaign to raise the remaining \$150,000. Our amazing supporters stepped up to the plate with donation after donation coming in. We were so lucky to finish our campaign strong when Petco Foundation awarded us a \$50,000 gift and completed our goal.



When you give a gift at your local store, it makes a difference at your local shelter.



We received a bright Idea Award from Michigan Humane Society for our partnership pieces featuring cold cases with WANE-TV. This project has drawn attention to the link between animal abuse and other forms of abuse.

Fort Wayne Animal Care and Control relies heavily on donor dollars to fund the lifesaving programs mentioned here, including several staff positions. We could not continue to see the incredible growth we have experienced without the support of our donors.

2019 STATISTICS REPORT

As northeast Indiana's only open admission shelter Fort Wayne Animal Care and Control cannot legally turn animals away. As a public safety agency, we will not knowingly place a dangerous animal back into the community.

It is our goal that no healthy, treatable animal is put to sleep in our care.

Shelter Animals Count: 2019 Report Fort Wayne Animal Care and Control

	Dog	Cat	FWACC Other (non- wildlife)	Total
A BEGINNING SHELTER COUNT (01/01/2019)	58	99	15	172
Animal Intake				
B Stray At Large	2,209	2,891	41	5,141
C Relinquished by Owner	844	1,107	303	2,254
D Owner-intended Euthanasia	290	169	6	465
E Transferred in	21	237	8	266
F Other Intakes	768	716	105	1,589
G Total Intakes (Not including owner-intended euthanasia)	4,132	5,120	463	9,715
Live Outcomes				
H Adoption	1,096	1,702	276	3,074
I Returned to Owner	1,642	349	10	2,001
J Transferred Out	538	871	75	1,484
K Returned to Field: includes community cats	0	924	0	924
L Other Live outcomes	7	169	0	176
M Subtotal Live Outcomes	3,283	4,015	361	7,659
Other Outcomes				
N Died in Care	5	49	14	68
O Lost in Care	7	2	15	24
P Shelter Euthanasia	557	888	71	1,516
Q Owner-Intended Euthanasia	289	168	6	463
R Subtotal Other Outcomes	858	1,107	106	2,071
S Total Outcomes	4,141	5,122	467	9,730
T ENDING SHELTER COUNT (12/31/2019)	49	97	11	157
Live Release Rate	85.2%	81%	78.3%	



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Thank You!

Don't forget to follow us on social media! Check out our website fwacc.org!



@fwacc



@fwanimalcontrol



@fwanimalcontrol



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