



HILL  
COUNTRY  
SPCA



**2022**

**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

*Marley*  
2.5 Years in care

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## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I had the pleasure of joining the HCSPCA on December 12, 2022. Most days I get to see the very best in humanity. Whether it's with our amazing staff or our awesome fosters and adopters, I have the privilege of being surrounded by kindness. Sadly though, the beautiful kindness I see from these folks happens right after the worst moment in a dog or cat's life. From the time I was little I loved animals of all kinds. I was the kid who wanted to take in all the strays and abandoned animals. Still do. Making sure as many animals as possible have a safe place to go to sleep at night, preferably curled up to their human is the reason why I came to the HCSPCA.

Tennis legend Arthur Ashe once said, "Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can." Our staff has kept this focus above all else. As I told them when I first got here, "y'all already know how to take care of animals and from what I've seen and heard from people I've talked to, you do it as well or better than anyone. I am not here to change our animal welfare programs. I am here to help raise awareness and money for our shelter; to bring stability and structure. Get us more money so we can help more animals.

My goal is to work all of us out of a job." Every staff member responded with a smile and the exact same words, "well that's not going to happen" to which I replied, "you're probably right so that just means we have to work harder tomorrow."

As Anatole France said, "Until one has loved an animal, a part of one's soul remains un-awakened." 2023 is going to be a great year for us. I am excited with the direction we are heading and cannot wait for people to see some of our events and ideas come to fruition!

Sincerely,  
**Andrew Davis**  
Executive Director



## 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Caroline Eidson	<i>President</i>	Heather Dickens	<i>Board Member</i>
David Shields	<i>Vice President</i>	Lindy Gerber	<i>Board Member</i>
Teri Hoyt	<i>Secretary</i>	Kendall Reynolds	<i>Board Member</i>
Susan Mahoney	<i>Treasurer</i>	Dana Rowan	<i>Board Member</i>
Tracie Cannon	<i>Board Member</i>	Ann Todd	<i>Board Member</i>

## ADVISORY BOARD

Estela Avery  
Michelle Brune  
Jody Donovan  
Marion Lee

## OUR VALUES

\*Can-do attitude   \*Passion for animals   \*Empathy   \*Teamwork  
\*Reliability

## OUR MISSION

To give every pet in the Hill Country the best life possible through successful rescue, adoption, community relationships, awareness and advocacy.

## OUR VISION

Safety, comfort, home for every pet in the Hill Country. We have a vision of a community with no pet overpopulation.





# 2022 AT A GLANCE

 New Executive Director hired in December!

 350 adoptions

- 234 dogs
- 109 cats
- 6 rabbits
- 1 reptile

 98 foster families

 278 animals fostered

 9555 days fostered

 561 community pets vaccinated

 3000+ lbs of pet food given to families in need

 Volunteer program re-launched (post-COVID)

 80 Critter Campers attended summer camp in June & July

 Successful Paddy's Party fundraiser that allowed us to purchase and install brand new kennel doors

# 2023 Priorities

## Community Support Programs

Focus on redirecting animals from coming into our shelter through community support programs that focus on keeping pets in their homes and the prevention of pet overpopulation through spay and neuter services.

## Human Resources

Attract, retain, and support our staff, volunteers, and foster families.

## Training Opportunities

Develop and expand training opportunities for staff, volunteers, foster parents, and adopters.

## Donor Outreach

Increase and expand grant and private donor outreach contributions.

## Veterinary Care

Strengthen and expand partnerships with local veterinarian offices/clinics.

## Partnership Opportunities

Identify and execute collaborative partnerships to improve animal welfare. Maintain an active role in the Texas Hill Country Animal Welfare community.

## Resource Development

Monitor and assess market conditions along with new opportunities for resource development, funding diversification and enhancing shelter financial management as well as donor retention strategies.

# DOG PROGRAM

## HIGHLIGHTS

	2020	2021	2022
Animals in care at beginning of year	48	31	26
Total Intakes	439	299	284
Adoptions	430	282	234
Transferred	2	14	19
Returned to owner	5	2	2
Euthanized	0	1	6
Died in Care	18	5	7
Animals in care at end of year	31	26	47

Every year we start with a mission of ensuring the best possible care for the animals in our shelter. This year, one of our staff members was able to attend a Dogs Play For Life Mentorship which has improved our dog-to dog testing, play groups, and daily enrichment activities. Additionally, with an increase in volunteers, we have been able to provide more one-on-one training and enrichment for our long-term dogs and those with higher behavioral needs.

We worked with 11 partner shelters to save 147 dogs who were euthanasia listed due to time, space, or medical status.

We took in 8 pregnant dogs in 2022 who gave birth to 55 puppies in our care. Pregnant dogs have limited resources as they are not available for public adoption, most shelters are unable to house them due to the risk it poses to the puppies, and the 8 weeks of minimum care for mom and babies.

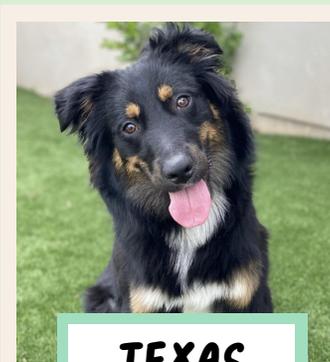
Our adoption return rate increased, as we went from 7.5% in 2021 to 12% in 2022.



**ZELDA**



**POSEIDON**



**TEXAS**



# THE "32"

In May 2022, two of our partner shelters were faced with large scale intakes less than 24 hours apart. In one situation, 49 dogs had to be rescued out of deplorable conditions. In another, over 30 dogs were seized for the second time from a neglectful owner.

In both situations, help was desperately needed. The Hill Country SPCA was able to take 32 dogs needing placement and networked with other area shelters and rescues to ensure all of the dogs found safe placements.

Sadly, several of the dogs had little to no socialization and were extremely fearful of new people. Many had medical conditions, and a majority of the females were pregnant. Despite the massive undertaking at hand, our community and foster families rallied behind us to help save the most vulnerable dogs. In fact, one of our amazing fosters stepped up, taking three of the pregnant females, and set up a nursery for these sweet mothers-to-be. It was all hands-on deck for our staff, volunteers, and fosters, but thanks to them, all but one of these sweet dogs found their forever homes by the end of the year.



While Athena is still on the hunt for her forever home, she's resting comfortably with a foster who's working with her to overcome her trust issues. Every single day she makes little steps, and we know that her forever family is out there!

# CAT PROGRAM

# HIGHLIGHTS

	2020	2021	2022
Animals in care at beginning of year	27	29	28
Total Intakes	232	161	127
Adoptions	190	141	109
Transferred	7	8	5
Returned to owner	1	0	1
Euthanized	4	4	7
Died in Care	29	10	5
Animals in care at end of year	29	28	28

Sadly, the need for assistance for cats in our area remains high. We are seeing an increase in the number of calls for help, including stray cats, feral cat colonies, hoarding cases, and owner surrenders.

This year 33% of our cats came to us as strays, 13% were owner surrenders, 42% were transferred in due to being listed at risk of euthanasia, and the remaining 12% were "other" intakes such as returns or kittens born in care.

84% of our cat intakes were kittens under the age of 6 months.

With the increase in pet ownership, a shortage of affordable pet friendly housing, and the sharp decrease in available veterinary care across the nation, we expect the cat crisis in the Texas Hill Country to continue. Our goal remains to help as many cats as possible while working to provide programs that will address the root causes of cat overpopulation in our area.



**NATE**



**BEAN**



**ESME**



# PHOEBE

Phoebe was found wandering the woods during a bad rainstorm. The people who found her soon noticed her abnormal gait. This gorgeous girl couldn't walk without tripping and falling over herself. The next day, they reached out to us, and we agreed to take her into our program where she was immediately rushed off to our partners at Fredericksburg Equine & Small Animal Veterinary Clinic. No one was sure what was wrong with this sweet girl, but we knew it was neurological. We were able to rule out severe conditions like Rabies and Toxoplasmosis, only to discover we couldn't give her a definitive diagnosis. The most likely explanation is that Phoebe suffers from Cerebellar Hypoplasia, which is also known as "wobbly cat syndrome." While she still falls, exercise continues to strengthen her muscles allowing her to walk around on her own...and she has been scooped up by an amazing family who fell in love with her personality and wobbles!

# MUFFIN

Muffin was born with a condition that caused her sternum to curve inward constricting her heart and lungs. This life-threatening condition required experimental surgery and about 6 weeks in a chest brace! Thanks to our wonderful partners at Fredericksburg Equine & Small Animal Veterinary Clinic, Muffin's surgery was a success. During this time, one of our previous staff members, who also happens to be a Veterinary Technician at FEQVS, took Muffin home to foster her. After three long months, Muffin was fully healed, and as an added bonus, her foster family decided they just couldn't live without this spunky girl!



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

# HIGHLIGHTS

	2020	2021	2022
Dogs Vaccinated for Rabies	0	228	355
Cats vaccinated for Rabies	0	87	114
Dogs DAPP Vaccinated FREE	0	229	346
Cats FVHCP Vaccinated FREE	0	104	110
Pets Microshipped	0	209	273
Food Assistance Provided	NOT TRACKED	2500 LBS	3500 LBS

We believe it is the responsibility of animal welfare organizations rehoming pets to also have support programs in place to help end animal overpopulation and homelessness. Here at the Hill Country SPCA, we continue to expand our programs to support our community. In 2022, we were able to host two low-cost vaccination clinics on-site at the Hill Country SPCA offering Rabies, DAPP, FVHCP, Microchipping, Heartworm Testing, and Preventatives such as dewormer and flea/heartworm prevention. In addition to this, we partnered with Kerrville Pets Alive to help coordinate and co-host two additional clinics offering Rabies, DHPP, FVHCP, and microchipping for free to Kerr County residents at the KPA office in Kerrville, TX.

We also worked to increase the support our pet food assistance program provides to families in need by providing pet food at local food pantry events. We plan to continue making this program as easily accessible to Hill Country residents as possible so that no pet parents are ever faced with choosing between feeding themselves or their companions.



# YOUTH PROGRAMMING

## CRITTER CAMP

Through fun and engaging activities, campers learn about responsible pet ownership, animal care, animal welfare, and animals from all corners of the world. Campers get to go behind the scenes at the Hill Country SPCA, into areas not seen by the public, to learn about the plight of shelter pets and how they are cared for. Activities include guest speakers from our partners at Fredericksburg Equine & Small Animal Veterinary Clinic who speak with campers about caring for companion animals and wildlife and about how to become a veterinarian.

In 2022, we announced the launch of our scholarship program that held 8 spots for campers who otherwise wouldn't have been able to attend camp due to financial constraints. We filled both week-long sessions, hosting a total of 80 campers between the ages of 6 - 11 years old. We look forward to hosting this impactful program for many years to come and to finding ways to expand and grow outreach.



# FOSTER PROGRAM

# HIGHLIGHTS

	2020	2021	2022
Active Foster Homes	177	78	98
Number of Animals Fostered*	672	315	278
Total Foster Days**	15,326	11,648	9,555

\*Number of animals fostered may show higher than shelter intake numbers because some animals go into multiple foster homes during their time in care. For example, Bottle Puppies may have 3+ foster homes during their stay. When they come in they go into a temporary emergency foster, usually overnight, then we may find them foster(s) who can take them for a few weeks, or longer. If they need to come back earlier due to family emergency or incompatibility, they once again find another foster home.

\*\*Total foster days are calculated based on how many days each individual animal is in foster. Frequently our fosters may take on multiple animals in a year, or even at a time. For example, in 2022 one of our fosters took in three pregnant dogs. One mother had a litter of 6, the other had a litter of 4, and the final mama turned out to not be pregnant. This amazing foster had a total of 13 foster dogs in her home all at the same time, so each day she had them in care counted as 15 total foster days as each pet in her home counted individually.

Our foster program is key to our success. Our shelter operates with 25 dog kennels and 3 community cat rooms. On average, we can house roughly 65 animals on-site, but we can have 100+ in-care. This is because of our amazing and dedicated foster families.

We saw a large spike in foster homes in 2020. Due to the pandemic, people remaining at home were able to assist by fostering. Then as families returned to work, we saw a large dip in available families. However, those active foster families took on more pets on average and kept them for longer. Though we continue to see a decline in the number of animals fostered and the total numbers of days outside the shelter, we have seen an increase in active foster families.

We hope to retain and grow our foster program with exciting new changes in 2023 and beyond, including the re-introduction of overnight & weekend fosters as well as a new "Doggy Day Out" program to help more long-term dogs get mini field trips away from the shelter.



# HEALING HEARTS



## ZENNI

Zenni was born into a feral cat colony where she caught an upper respiratory infection at a young age. Sadly, it caused damage to her eye so severe that it had to be removed. Luckily though, this girl was brought into our shelter where one of our fosters saw how scared and hurt she was and decided to foster her until she could be adopted. All the love and attention really helped this girl come out of her shell, and within a few months, she was adopted! Now her favorite things to do are wear costumes and snuggle up with her human!

## BONITA

Bonita was a senior gal who we saw at one of our partner shelters. As we were walking by her kennel, we heard a family comment on how she was "too old" to take home. Sadly, no one stepped up to adopt this girl, and she was euthanasia listed. We couldn't stand the thought of her final days being in shelter, so we transferred her into our program. It was discovered that Bonita's hips were in extremely bad shape, and the recovery for any type of surgery would likely be too much for her to manage. After 5 months in shelter, she found an amazing hospice foster family where she spent her days as royalty! Bonita has now crossed over the Rainbow Bridge, but we are glad her final days weren't spent in a kennel but in a home surrounded by love.



2022  
HEALING HEARTS  
CATS

23

2022

HEALING HEARTS MEDICAL COSTS

\$53,000

2022  
HEALING HEARTS  
DOGS

38

# PADDY'S PARTY

## Auction Donors

Ace Hardware  
 Adega Vinho  
 August E's  
 Barefoot  
 Best Friends Roadhouse and Mercantile  
 Mike and Annie Blakely  
 Burger Burger  
 Camp Hayden  
 Champe and Erin Carter  
 Dogologie  
 Preston Douglas Fischer & Wieser  
 Forte Bookkeeping and Tax, Inc.  
 FBG Cast Iron  
 Garrison Brothers Distillery  
 Gillespie County Historical Society  
 Grape Creek Vineyards  
 Haberdashery  
 Hill and Vine  
 Hondo's on Main  
 Judy's Liquors  
 Kerrville Hills Winery  
 Let's Room  
 Lock, Stock & Barrel  
 Longneck Manor  
 Matthew and Melissa Mabery  
 Mr. Gatti's Pizza  
 National Museum of the Pacific War  
 Native The Nature Shoppe  
 Pontotoc Vineyard Weingarten  
 Prickly Pear Spa  
 Elena Retana  
 Rio Entertainment  
 Stagecoach Stop  
 Texas Heritage Vineyard  
 Venture 19  
 Viveré Catering  
 Kathy Weigand/Western Galleries  
 Jon Whatley, LMT  
 Wildseed Vineyards  
 The Yoga Space  
 Zertz

Since 2006, Paddy's Party has celebrated the legacy of Paddy, a 12 lb. Chihuahua-mix who was thrown from a speeding truck, rescued by caring locals, and nurtured back to health at the Hill Country SPCA. Paddy lived a long and happy life, and her memory serves as a reminder of our mission to care for abandoned and abused animals while they wait for their forever homes.

Held at Texas Wine Collective in April, our guests walked the red carpet dressed as their favorite movie stars for our "A Night at the Movies" themed party. It was a fabulous night of fun and giving, complete with a silent auction, a costume contest, music by Chuck Wehner, and a delicious dinner by REVEL Kitchen & Catering. Let's not forget our big "Paws Up!" appeal that successfully raised \$22,000 for much-needed new kennel doors throughout the shelter!



## Underwriters

Arrowhead Bank  
 Century 21 The Hills Realty  
 First United Bank  
 H-E-B  
 Hill Country Titles  
 Oppenheimer & Co. Inc.  
 Practical Cents  
 Texas Wine Collective  
 Texas Wine Tours

## Table Sponsors

### **Protector**

Dian Graves Owen Foundation

### **Rescuer**

Dian and Harlan Stai

### **Top Dog**

Estela Hollin-Avery

Sierra Homes

### **Cat's Meow**

Broadway Bank

Michelle Brune

The Cailloux Foundation

Circle U Ranch David Urbanski

Jody Donovan Joseph Financial Partners

Andrew and Melissa Downs

Todd and Caroline Eidson

Jayne and Patrick Elliott WeldWerks

Fredericksburg Dentistry

Linda Gartner

Nancy Green

Mike and Susan Mahoney & Friends

Ken and Barbie Reynolds

Debbie Zabica

### **Best Friend**

Carmen Herrera

Hill Country Memorial

Nancy & Mike Stolpe



## **SPECIAL GRANTS**

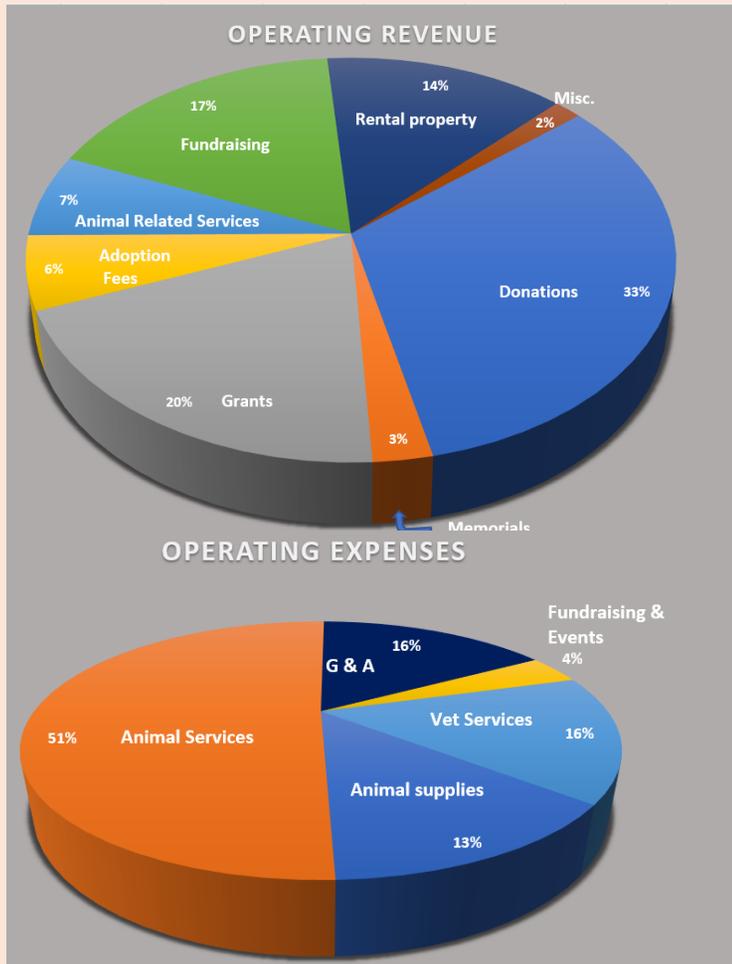
**Adam R Scripps Foundation**  
**Central Texas Electric Operation Round Up**  
**Dogs Playing for Life Mentorship Grant**  
**Friends for Pets Foundation**  
**Heathy Paws Foundation**  
**HEB MyCommunity Investment Program**  
**Joni Elaine Templeton Foundation**  
**Judy Leftwich Calder Foundation**  
**Linda D Lehr Charitable Trust**  
**Perry and Ruby Stevens Charitable Foundation**  
**Petco Love**  
**Petfinder Foundation**  
**REDI Training Grant**  
**Robert W Knox, Sr & Pearl Wallis Knox Charitable Foundation**  
**Schwab Charitable Foundation**  
**The Cailloux Foundation**  
**The Cowden Foundation**  
**The Hal and Charlie Peterson Foundation**  
**The Prentice Foundation**

## **PARTNERSHIPS**

**City of Fredericksburg Animal Control**  
**Fredericksburg Equine & Small Animal**  
**Hill Country Pest Control**  
**Hills Science Diet**  
**Kerr County Animal Services**  
**Kerrville Pets Alive!**  
**Pedernales Veterinary Center**

# FINANCIAL REPORT

Note: The financial information included in this presentation is unaudited and subject to revision upon completion of 2022 subsequent reporting.



## Statement of Financial Position

### ASSETS

#### Current Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	\$129,324
Prepaid expenses	474
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$129,798</b>

#### Other Assets

Endowment fund	\$1,303,105
Property and equipment, net	1,195,769
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>\$2,498,874</b>

**TOTAL ASSETS** \$2,628,672

### LIABILITIES

#### Current Liabilities

Accounts payable, accrued expenses	\$34,660
Prepaid receivables	7,882
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$42,542</b>

#### Net Assets

Without donor restrictions	\$49,491
With donor restrictions	2,536,639
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$2,586,130</b>

**TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS** \$2,628,672

## Statement of Activities

### OPERATING REVENUE

#### Public Support

Donations	\$194,218
Memorials & Honorariums	15,738
Grants	118,660
Adoptions fees	35,383
Animal-related services	39,463
Fundraising events	102,545
Rental property income	81,330
Miscellaneous	9,502

**TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE** \$596,839

### OPERATING EXPENSES

#### Program Services

Animal supplies	\$81,976
Animal services	312,540
Veterinary expenses	100,613
<b>Total Program Services</b>	<b>\$495,129</b>

#### Supporting Services

Fundraising and events	\$22,831
General and administrative	97,406
<b>Total Supporting Services</b>	<b>\$120,237</b>

**TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES** \$615,366

**NET OPERATING LOSS** (\$18,527)

## A Quick note....

The Hill Country SPCA does not receive funding from the federal or state government, the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), or the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA).

Though we have "SPCA" in our name, we are not affiliated with any other SPCA including other local shelters or the ASPCA. Donations made to the ASPCA, or HSUS, do not go towards supporting local shelters.

Instead we rely upon the donations and support of our community. We are so thankful that our supporters allow us to continue to save lives. We couldn't do it without YOU!



**YOUR SUPPORT  
MEANS WE CAN HELP  
MORE ANIMALS IN NEED**

## **WAYS TO DONATE**

Cash, Check, or Credit/Debit Card - *Online or In-person*

Bequests & Estate Planning

Sponsorships

Gifts In-Kind - *We have an Amazon & Walmart Wishlist!*



# 2022 Annual Report

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