

ANIMAL FARM FOUNDATION

IMPACT REPORT

2024

MEETING THE
EVOLVING NEEDS
OF DOGS AND THEIR
COMMUNITIES



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LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

As I reflect on 2024, my heart is full of gratitude for all that we've accomplished together – and a sense of optimism and resolve for the year ahead.

At Animal Farm Foundation, our mission is to meet the evolving needs of dogs and their communities, and I couldn't be prouder of how we've risen to the challenges this year. What stands out most is how our work unites communities and helps both animals and people thrive.

As you'll read in the following pages, we step up in moments of need. Sometimes, that's during an emergency, as when a pipe burst at Animal Care Centers of New York City's Manhattan shelter and we rushed in to help. Other needs are more predictable, unfortunately, as high costs of living challenge all of us.

One of the initiatives I'm especially proud of is our Family Food Pantry. Through this program, we're able to provide steady, reliable pet food, ensuring families don't have to choose between feeding themselves and their beloved pets. The impact of this program is a testament to the power of compassion, and we're honored to be a small part of the incredible work our partner sites are doing to support families.

Our Old Friends New Loves Program also continues to grow, providing senior dogs

with the care and love they need in their golden years. I hope you'll take a moment to read and watch 13-year-old Shelly's heartwarming story. Near death when she came to us, she is now thriving with her new family and physical therapy routine. She's just one of 12 seniors we successfully placed in adoptive or foster homes in 2024.

We also expanded our shelter consulting services, providing training and tools to help prevent dogs from entering shelters and make sure that when they do, their stays are short and enriched. Our internship program is back in full swing post-pandemic, bringing shelter leaders to our upstate New York farm to learn together and take lessons back to their communities. We're advancing the science-based message that all dogs are individuals, and animal policies and practices should reflect this.

None of this would be possible without the incredible support of our partners, donors, and volunteers. You are the reason we can continue our work, creating inclusive communities where both people and their dogs can thrive.

With heartfelt thanks and optimism,

Bernice Clifford, CPDT-KA
Executive Director



FOUNDATION OVERVIEW

MISSION & VISION

Animal Farm Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to meeting the evolving needs of dogs and their communities. Our mission is rooted in the principle that **all dogs are individuals**.

Every dog deserves to be assessed as an individual, based on their behavior and personality, not assumptions about their breed or appearance. This standard must guide adoption, housing, and community policies to ensure fairness, inclusion, and equity for all dogs and their families.

PROGRAMS

We offer regional and national initiatives that support dogs and the people who care for them. All our work is grounded in animal behavioral science.

OLD FRIEND NEW LOVES - SENIOR DOGS

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & SUPPORT

FAMILY FOOD PANTRY

SANCTUARY FARM ANIMALS

SHELTER CONSULTING & TRAINING

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION

ADVOCACY AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

DOG ADOPTIONS

ALL DOGS ARE INDIVIDUALS

looks don't equal behavior



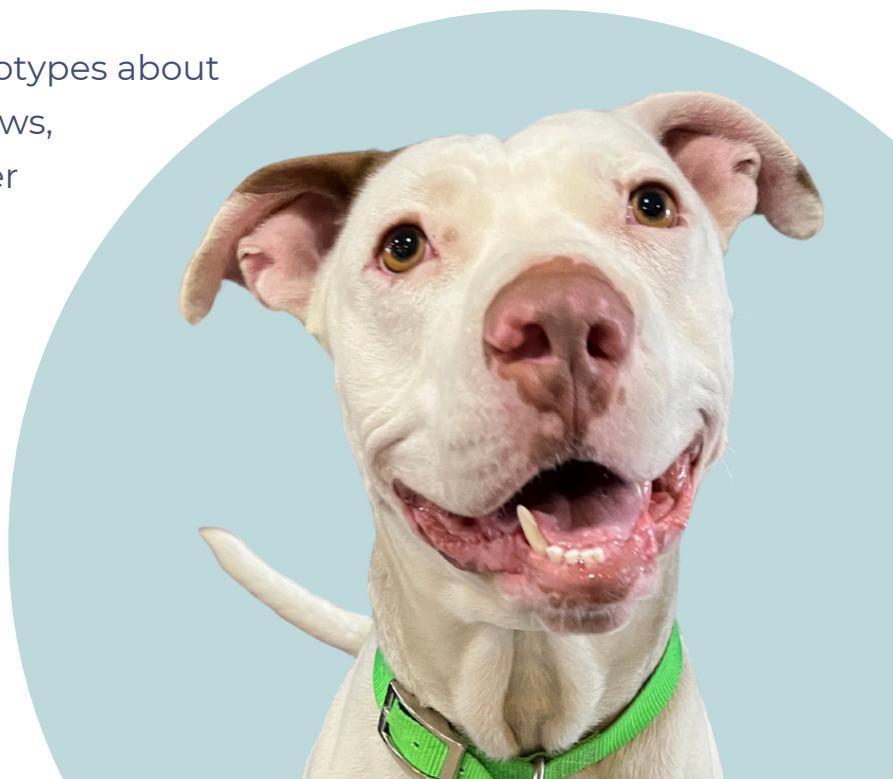
UNDERSTANDING OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLE.

What does it mean that our work is grounded in the understanding that all dogs are individuals? It means that a dog's behavior isn't determined by its breed label or appearance. Modern science shows us that genetics, environment, and experience shape each dog's personality.

The only way to understand a dog is by observing the individual dog in front of you, not by guessing the breed.

Incorrect assumptions and stereotypes about breed labels lead to ineffective laws, discriminatory policies and longer stays in shelters.

Every dog is an individual. Let's focus on who the dog truly is, not what he or she looks like.



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

At Animal Farm Foundation, we are dedicated to ensuring that every dollar you donate has the greatest possible impact.

Our low administrative budget enables us to deliver more funds directly to our programs to drive positive change for dogs and communities. From providing essential training and enrichment for dogs in shelters to offering innovative programs that promote equality and inclusion for all dogs and owners, your support goes where it matters most.

Together, we're building a future where dogs and their families thrive.



2024



Budget

\$1.7M



Programs

83%



Admin

17%

TRAINING & SUPPORTS TO ANIMAL SHELTERS

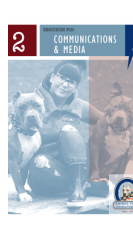
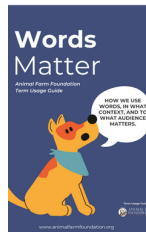
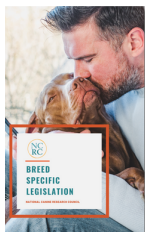
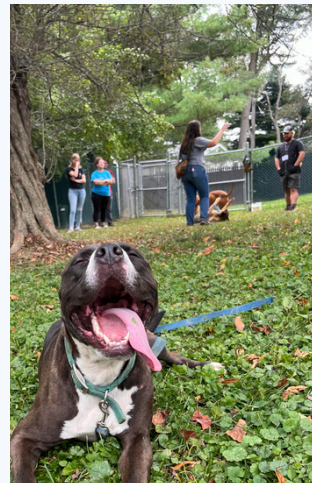
Shelter Consulting. We offer free customized workshops for shelters across the U.S. Topics include keeping dogs out of shelters, increasing quality of life while in shelters, and promoting the treatment of all dogs as individuals. In 2024, we expanded our shelter consulting services to 20+ shelters in 13 states.

Workshops & Retreats. We also reach shelters through workshops at national and regional conferences, on topics ranging from reducing shelter stay times, boosting enrichment, and placing large dogs, to marketing and policy improvement.

In addition, we host professional development retreats on our New York farm, offering hands-on training and a rejuvenating experience. Each year, we invite shelter leaders and staff to apply for our weeklong onsite internship experience and learning community.

Advocacy. AFF challenges biases, promotes inclusive communities, and works to reform discriminatory housing policies and breed bans. We do this through outreach and providing best-practice resources to shelters, state and local governments, and dog owners.

Actionable Toolkits. In 2024, we expanded our library of comprehensive digital toolkits on key topics in sheltering, advocacy, and adoptions. We also updated our posters and training tips to help dogs succeed in new homes. All are available at no cost via our website, as stand-alone tools or companions to our trainings.



"Thank you for coming to our shelter and providing essential tools and training ... From conversations about breed labels to being reminded to simply stop and think about each dog as an individual, we're on the right track to save more lives and help our communities in new ways."



Eleanor Sloan, Dog Outcome Coordinator
South Suburban Humane Society (Chicago)

OLD FRIENDS, NEW LOVES

SENIOR DOG SPOTLIGHT

Our Old Friends, New Loves program connects senior dogs with foster and adoptive families so they can live out their lives in a loving home, rather than a shelter.



SHELLY

Second Chances & Unbreakable Bonds

After spending a few weeks in the shelter, Shelly's health began to decline. AFF became concerned that the shelter environment was impacting senior Shelly's quality of life. Fortunately, AFF found a wonderful family willing to take Shelly into Fospice care. Once Shelly moved into a home, she started to thrive again. She is currently still living with her Fospice family and now has enough energy to attend physical therapy, helping her enjoy her golden years happier and healthier.

Total cost of care, food and medical for the Old Friends Program in 2024

\$160,000



**TOMMY
& TOAST**

Two Old Friends, One Loving Home

As part of Animal Farm Foundation's Old Friends Program, two senior dogs found love and comfort in foster care before getting their perfect ending. In 2024, both were adopted by the same wonderful adopter, proving that senior dogs make incredible companions when given the chance. Their journey is a testament to the power of open adoption and the joy of giving older dogs a place to call home.

Percentage of Old Friends who live on comfy couches while awaiting adoption

100%

HELPING FAMILIES STAY TOGETHER



Throughout 2024, rates of hunger and food insecurity continued to rise in the Hudson Valley. As part of our mission to meet the evolving needs of dogs and their communities, Animal Farm Foundation's Family Food Pantry program provided consistent and reliable pet food to **11 local family food pantries** in 2024, giving families a one-stop resource for all their essential food needs and helping them stay together with their pets.



“IT'S VERY HELPFUL TO US PEOPLE IN NEED WHO CAN'T AFFORD CAT OR DOG FOOD. IT'S A WAY FOR US TO KEEP OUR PETS, AND THAT'S REALLY IMPORTANT.”

 **CRYSTAL VANTASSALL**
DUTCHESS OUTREACH
CLIENT



\$34,253

of pet food provided in 2024

+ \$10,279.62

in additional donations from
our partners. Including:



DOG ADOPTIONS

At Animal Farm Foundation, we are committed to providing our dogs with enriching lives while we find them homes. We transfer our dogs from high-volume shelters nationwide, helping to free up space in these shelters for other dogs in need. In 2024, we transferred dogs from shelters in California, Connecticut, Georgia, Florida, New York and Tennessee.

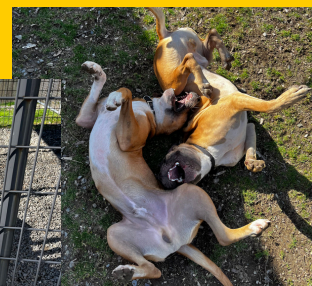


13 shelter
transfer
partners

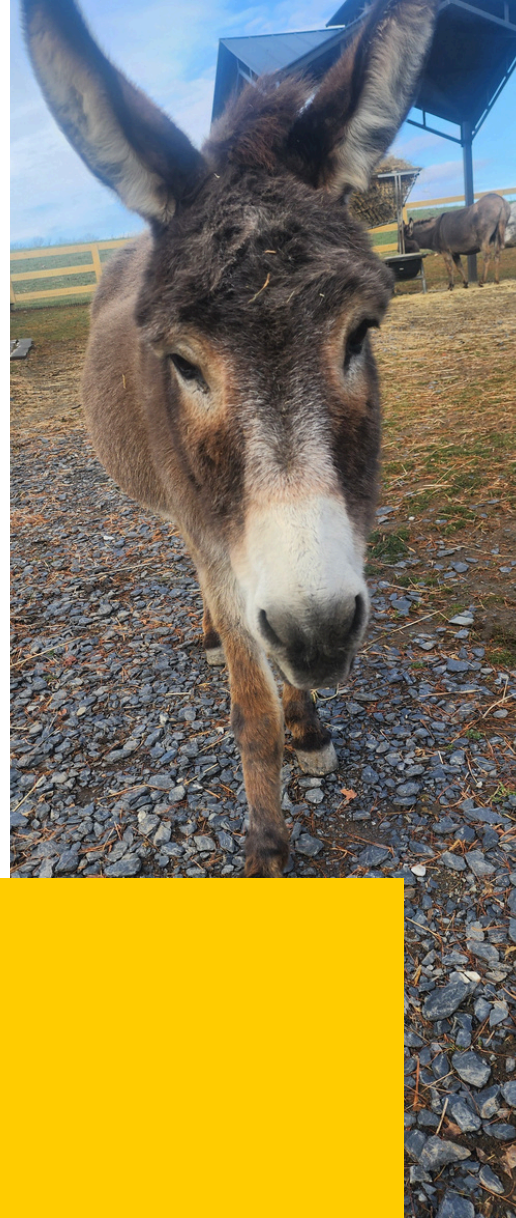
Dogs adopted in 2024 **41**

DOGS IN OUR CARE RECEIVE ATTENTION AND ENRICHMENT THAT EXCEED INDUSTRY STANDARDS.

- PLAYGROUPS
- LOTS OF PEOPLE TIME
- ENRICHMENT TOYS & ACTIVITIES
- BASIC MANNERS & BEHAVIOR TRAINING
- AMPLE WALKS EXPLORING OUR FARM
- OFF-SITE FIELD TRIPS



*SPECIAL THANK YOU
TO OUR DEDICATED TRANSPORT CREW, JANET AND LILLIAN*



SANCTUARY FARM ANIMALS

Our 400+-acre farm in New York's Hudson Valley provides rescued and retired cows, horses, donkeys, and other farm animals with a safe, loving home to live out their lives.

DONKEYS, HORSES, AND COWS ... OH MY!

At Animal Farm Foundation, our sanctuary donkeys offer enrichment opportunities for families, volunteers, and for dogs awaiting adoption at our farm. Our "donkey daycation" experience lets visitors engage with our donkeys in a peaceful farm setting, supporting emotional well-being, socialization, and positive connections between people, animals, and the environment.

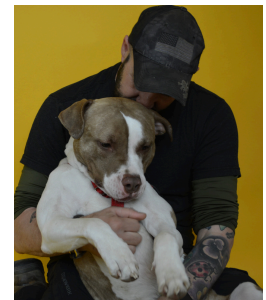


MEET OUR TEAM

DRIVEN & DEDICATED

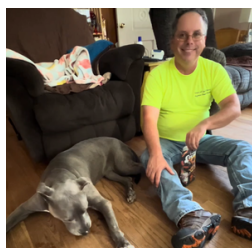
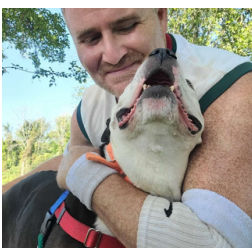
Our small but mighty team brings expertise and passion to all that we do. From dog training to educating shelter leaders, shaping public understanding, and advocating for policy and practice change in animal and human welfare, our staff drives real progress. We foster a positive, supportive workplace culture that strengthens our ability to help people, pets, and communities thrive.

Meet our team:
animalfarmfoundation.org/about



SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS & FOSTERS

OUR IMPACT IS ONLY POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF YOU!





NATIONAL CANINE RESEARCH COUNCIL

A RESEARCH & POLICY THINK TANK

ABOUT

Animal Farm Foundation's research and policy subsidiary, the National Canine Research Council, is a nonprofit think tank focused on the relationships between dogs and people. We publish commentary on reliable research and apply scientific findings to inform public and private policy on issues such as breed-specific legislation, bias in housing and insurance, animal sheltering, and public safety. Our work supports the development of fact-based policies that foster safe, humane communities.

Learn more at nationalcanineresearchcouncil.org.



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