

animal humane society

**Report to the Community  
July 2014-June 2015**



## IN 2015 ANIMAL HUMANE SOCIETY REACHED A HARD-FOUGHT MILESTONE.

Over the past decade we've worked toward an ambitious goal: saving 90 percent of the animals that come through our doors. Month by month we've inched toward that goal, building momentum with each new advance. This year we've surpassed it, placing 91.2 percent of the animals in our care.

Your generosity has fueled our progress. As we have reduced intake and found more proactive ways to help both people and animals, we've been able to devote more resources to the needs of individual animals while still providing exceptional care for the population as a whole.

Over the past 18 months we've invested in expanded behavior programs, advanced medical treatments, foster care, and post-adoption support to help even the most challenged animals get a second chance.

As a result of these new investments, our humane euthanasia rate dropped from 16.6 percent to 8.8 percent in the past year.

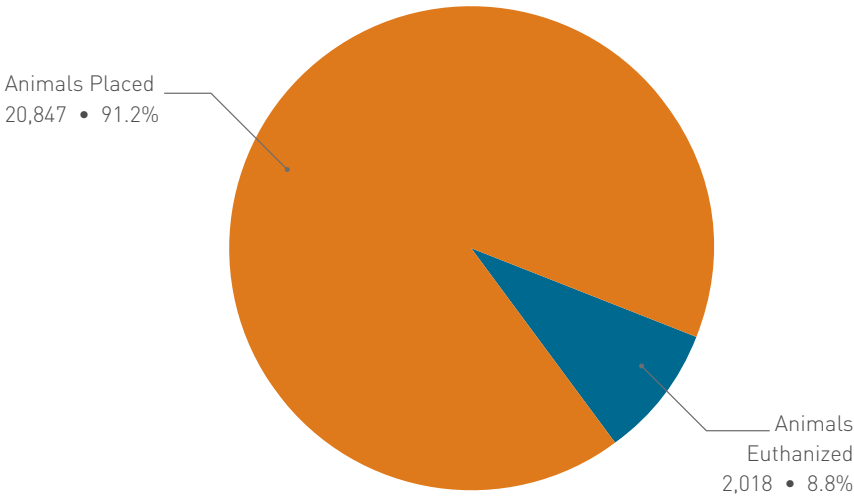
But that incredible advance is not all we have to celebrate. This report includes highlights from each of our program areas—and you'll find accomplishments and aspirations worth cheering on every page.

Your support makes it all possible. [Thank you.](#)

# About the Animals

## COMPANION ANIMAL OUTCOMES

TOTAL: 22,865



More than 91 percent of the animals in our care during FY15 were placed in the community. As a result, euthanasia fell to its lowest level ever.

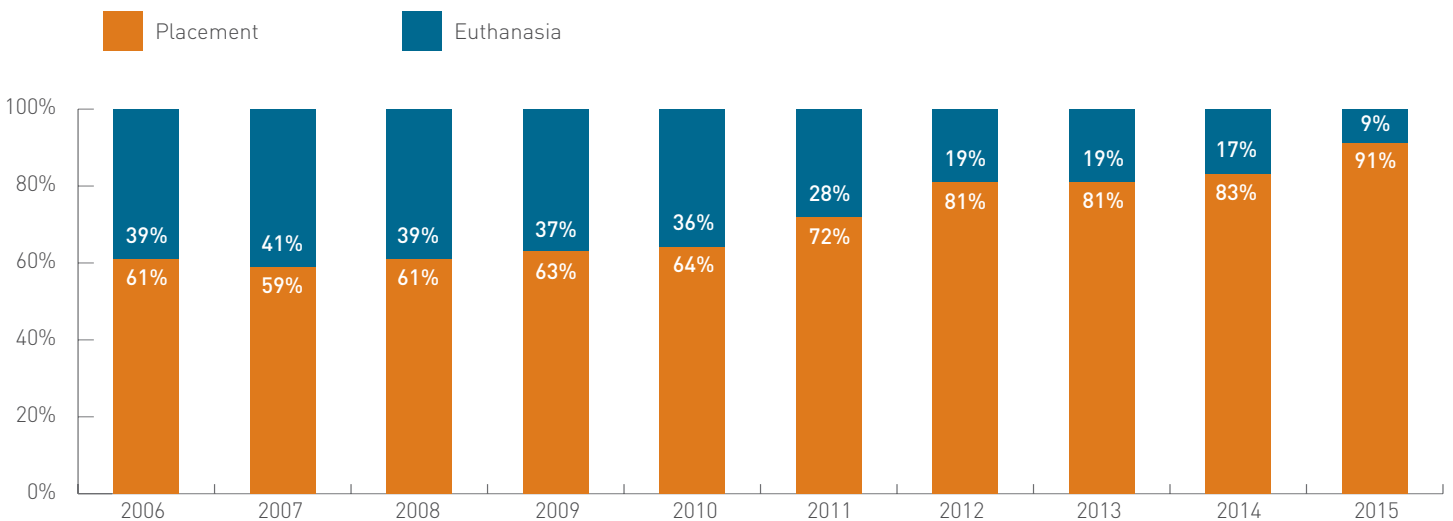
## PLACEMENT RATE (LIVE RELEASE RATE)

Animal Humane Society achieved a Placement Rate of 91.2 percent during the 12 months ending June 30, 2015. Placement Rate is calculated using the Asilomar Live Release Rate formula, which is calculated by dividing total live outcomes (adoptions, transfers, and

returns) by total outcomes (total live outcomes plus euthanasia). Companion animals surrendered for end-of-life services (owner requested euthanasia) are excluded from this calculation.

Over the past decade, Animal Humane Society's Placement Rate has improved

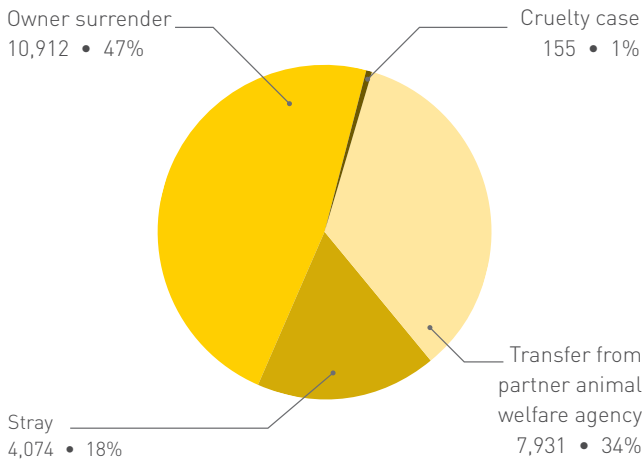
dramatically, from 59 percent in FY07 to more than 91 percent in FY15. Our efforts to help more animals become adoptable through medical, behavioral, and foster programs has reduced euthanasia by more than 78 percent.



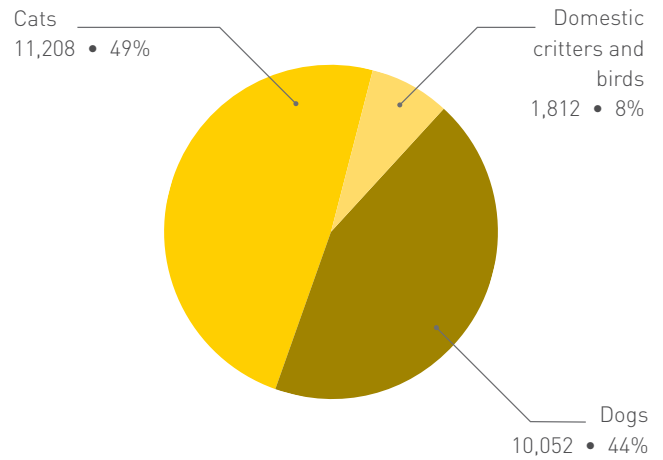
# COMPANION ANIMAL INTAKE

The number of companion animals in our shelters increased by 8 percent in FY15.  
TOTAL: 23,072

## Companion animal intake by reason for surrender



## Companion animal intake by species



AHS helps thousands of dogs, cats, and critters in need find loving homes each year – and no animal is ever turned away. AHS takes in every animal surrendered to us regardless of its health, age, breed or behavior. This commitment to open admission guarantees shelter and care to thousands of animals that would otherwise have no safe refuge.

## OTHER INTAKE PROGRAMS

Although the focus of our work is companion animals, we also partnered with the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Minnesota to provide emergency care for 1,474 injured and orphaned wild animals. In addition, 1,946 pets were surrendered for compassionate end-of-life euthanasia, a program for pet owners with limited incomes who can't afford the same service at a private-practice veterinarian. Animals served by these two programs are not included in the companion animal intake, placement, and euthanasia statistics in this report.

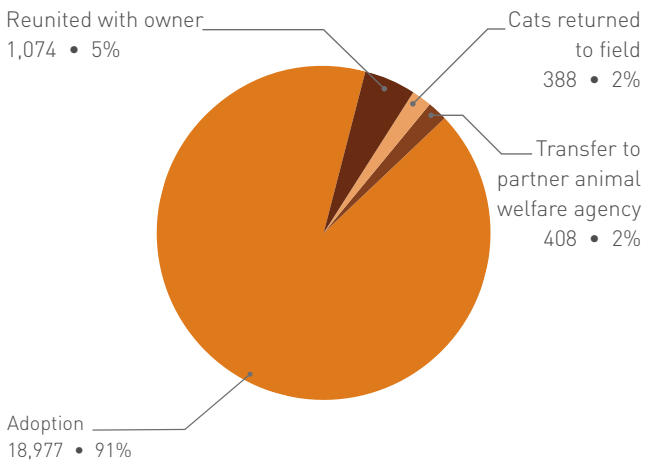


# COMPANION ANIMAL PLACEMENT

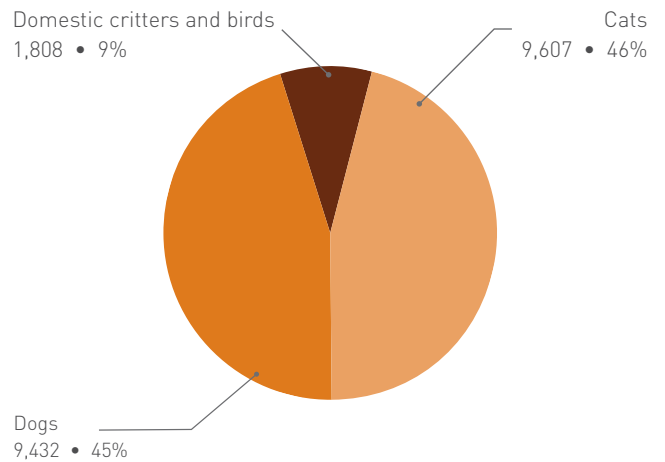
The number of companion animals placed increased by 18 percent in FY15.

TOTAL: 20,847

**Companion animal placement by type**



**Companion animal placement by species**

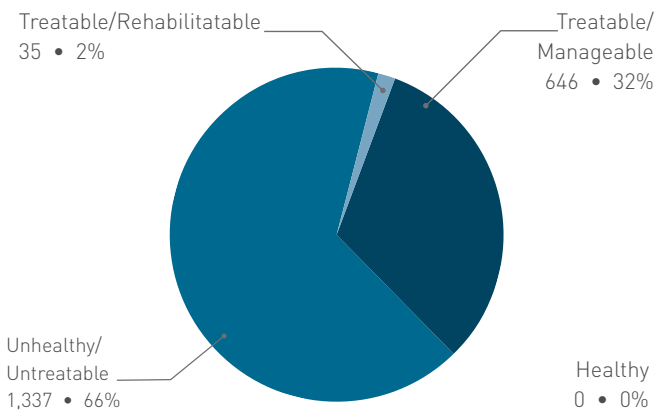


# COMPANION ANIMAL EUTHANASIA

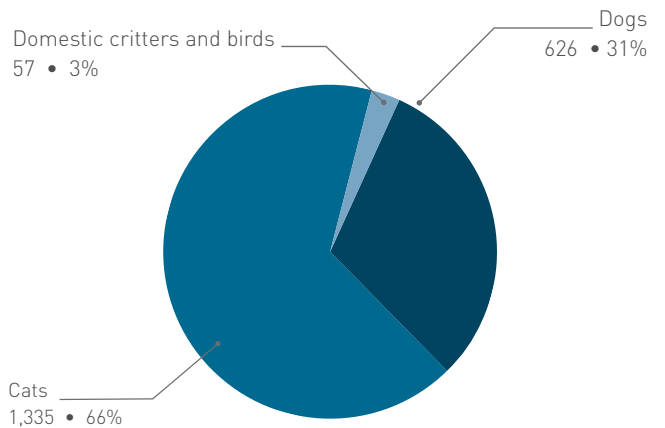
The number of companion animals euthanized decreased by 42 percent in FY15.

TOTAL: 2,018

**Euthanasia by reason**



**Euthanasia by species**



AHS is committed to taking in every animal in need. Unfortunately, some animals come to us with severe or untreatable illnesses or behavior issues that prevent us from placing them in the community. If we cannot help an animal become healthy or suitable for placement, humane euthanasia is the most compassionate alternative. AHS has not euthanized a healthy animal for any reason since 2011. There is no time limit for animals in our care.



# Program Accomplishments

## ADOPTION AND SURRENDER

In FY15 we helped 18,977 animals find new homes through adoption—more than any other year in the organization’s history.

### Adoption Experience

Adoption centers in all five sites got a colorful new look in FY15, with glass doors and bright colony rooms that encourage visitors to engage with animals. New retail fixtures and comfortable seating areas provide an inviting space for customers to complete adoptions. The adoption process has also been overhauled to provide a more pleasant, personalized, and informative experience.

### Adoption Preparation

Our behavior modification programs helped 687 dogs and 611 cats prepare for adoption, overcoming challenges from fear and aggression to litter box problems.

### Spay/Neuter

AHS veterinarians performed 12,078 sterilization surgeries on animals in our care, ensuring that every dog, cat, and rabbit is spayed or neutered before going to its new home.

### Foster Care

More than 350 foster volunteers cared for 2,685 animals who needed time to recover from surgery or medical treatment, grow old enough for adoption, or prepare for a new home.



## PET SERVICES

Animal Humane Society offers programs to serve all stages of an animal's life.

### **Pet Helpline**

The AHS Pet Helpline (952-HELP-PET) handled 34,188 incoming calls, facilitating surrender appointments and providing free caring and compassionate advice and resources to help with everything from solving behavior problems to finding pet-friendly housing.

### **Training School**

AHS offers more than 70 family-friendly pet training classes each week, along with one-on-one training and socialization sessions, therapy animal courses, playgroups, and rabbit agility classes. In FY15, 1,261 pets attended classes through AHS's Training School.

### **Animal House Boarding**

Animal House, our pet boarding facility in Golden Valley, was home last year to 2,971 pet guests, including dogs, cats, rabbits, ferrets and other small animals.

### **Kindest Cut**

Kindest Cut, operating in partnership with AHS, performed 13,340 spay/neuter surgeries and treated 2,126 patients in their wellness clinic, all at reduced costs for people in need.



## Program Accomplishments (continued)

### RESCUE

Aiding animals in critical situations is core to AHS's work.

#### Humane Investigations

AHS's Humane Investigations unit responds to reports of possible animal cruelty or neglect throughout Minnesota. During FY15, our humane agents received 1,534 requests for assistance and opened 529 formal cases. Investigations took AHS agents into 64 Minnesota counties, impacting the lives of 4,666 animals.

#### Partnerships

AHS collaborates with more than 150 animal welfare organizations in Minnesota and other states. More than 60

rescue organizations assisted AHS by taking in 708 animals that required specialized long-term care. And when other animal welfare facilities are too crowded or are unable to place animals, they call AHS for help. In FY15, we took in 7,214 animals from 114 organizations.

#### Wildlife

In addition to caring for domestic animals, AHS partnered with the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Minnesota to provide emergency care for 1,474 injured and orphaned wild animals.





## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Animal Humane Society works with individuals and organizations across Minnesota to create a more humane world for animals.

### Outreach

Community Outreach offers education programs and free or low-cost services that empower low-income pet owners and improve the lives of pets in under-served communities. These programs served more than 2,700 families in Frogtown and East St. Paul. As a result, 1,481 animals received free spay/neuter surgeries and 1,015 pets received care at free wellness clinics.

### Education

AHS offers programs that foster humane values and compassion for animals, including day camps, a youth club,

scout programs, and other activities for kids and families. Our educational programs served 12,160 people, including 2,253 students through programs in schools and 1,010 in summer camps.

### Community Cats

A new Community Cats program, launched in October 2014, focuses on reducing euthanasia and providing alternative solutions for feral and free-roaming felines through return-to-field and trap-neuter-return programs. This served 592 cats in its first year.



## Program Accomplishments (continued)

### COMMUNITY SUPPORT

The support of loyal donors and friends makes our work possible.

#### Volunteers

Volunteers are critical to our success. A total of 2,483 volunteers contributed 163,515 hours at all five of our sites to help AHS achieve its mission.

#### Donors

Every gift makes a difference. In FY15, 46,932 individual donors contributed more than \$6.4 million to Animal Humane Society. In addition, donors who included AHS in their estate plans contributed more than \$2.4 million in bequests.

#### Philanthropic Events

More than 9,000 people and 3,000 pets attended the Walk for Animals on May 2, raising more than \$1 million to support

AHS. Our two other signature events, Wine Dinner and Whisker Whirl, raised an additional \$520,325.

#### Young Professionals

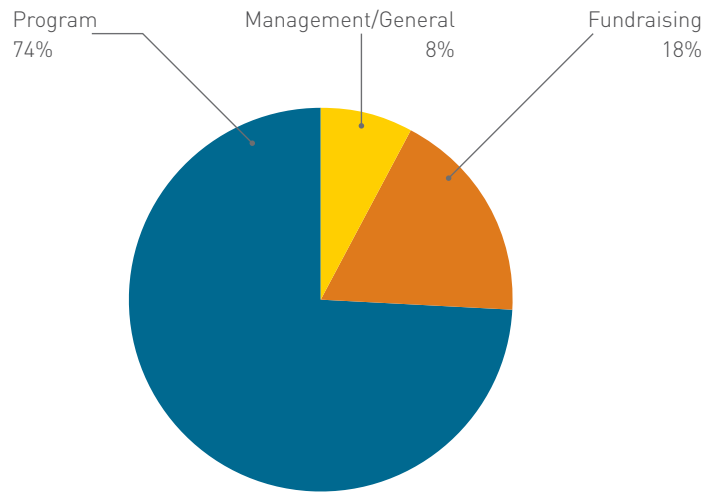
Launched in 2015, The Pack is a new group of young professionals that gather to learn about, take part in, and advocate for the work of AHS while creating an environment for animal lovers to share ideas and build relationships.

#### Advocates

Community support continues to grow online, where 4,169 Animal Advocates, 83,247 Facebook fans, 4,574 Twitter followers, 4,965 Instagram followers, and 3,721 YouTube subscribers shared their passion for AHS.



# Financials



## ANIMAL HUMANE SOCIETY STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the 12 months ended June 30, 2015

### SUPPORT AND REVENUES

Adoption fees and program revenue	5,468,361
Contributions	6,447,057
Wills and estates	2,422,821
In-kind contributions	335,162
Special events and promotions	1,072,664
Investment gain (loss)	65,950
Dividend and interest income	122,912
Other	221,290

### TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUES

16,156,217

### EXPENSES

Program services:	
Rescue and outreach	1,000,639
Adoption and surrender	9,478,771
Pet services	765,695
Supporting services:	
Management and general	1,212,438
Fundraising	2,710,591
Total supporting services	3,923,029

### TOTAL EXPENSES

15,168,134

### CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

988,083



The Minnesota Charities Review Council's Standards of Accountability state that at least 70% of an organization's annual expenses should be for program activity with not more than 30% for management, general, and fundraising expenses combined. Animal Humane Society exceeded this standard by directing 74% of our expenses back into programming for the animals and our community.



The mission of Animal Humane Society is to engage the hearts, hands, and minds of the community to help animals.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Maureen McDonough, Vice Chair  
Paul Kaminski, Secretary  
Scott Schroepfer, Treasurer  
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Dr. Bianca Fine  
Lisa Goodman  
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Jodi Lux  
Lia Melrose  
Susan Palombo  
Dr. Ned Patterson  
Damon Schramm  
Tim Taffe  
Tina Wilcox  
Donna Zimmerman  
Janelle Dixon, President & CEO

## LEADERSHIP

Janelle Dixon, President & CEO  
Eileen Lay, Chief Operating & Financial Officer  
Lisa Bonds, Chief Advancement Officer  
Kathy Mock, Chief Government Affairs & Community Engagement Officer

## AREA SERVED

Animal Humane Society serves animals and people in the seven-county metro area and beyond from its facilities in Anoka, Hennepin, Ramsey, Washington and Wright counties. The Humane Investigations unit provides services throughout Minnesota and western Wisconsin.