



Helping Paws
Animal Network

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Paw Tales - Volume 11, Issue 2

End-of-Year Metrics

January 1 - December 31, 2021

 **\$66,311** - Paid sponsorships for **429** animals in **20** rescue groups

 **\$11,396** - ORAU employee payroll deduction donations

 **\$17,155** - Fundraiser proceeds

 **\$36,295** - Other donations



HPAN's Sponsorship of \$1,500 Helps Three Senior Pups Rescued by MoCo Mutts



MoCo Mutts rescued three senior dogs who were abandoned in Morgan County, Tennessee. Tootie, Hocus, and Hex needed blood work, vaccines, and to be spayed/neutered. They also suffered from skin and eye issues. HPAN was able to sponsor their vet bills so that these sweet senior pups can spend the rest of their days in good health with loving owners. For more information on MoCo Mutts Rescue Center or to make a donation to their cause, please visit their website:

<https://mocomuttsrescuecenter.org/>

For additional information on animals supported by HPAN funds, follow our blog:



<https://helpingpaws37830.wordpress.com/>



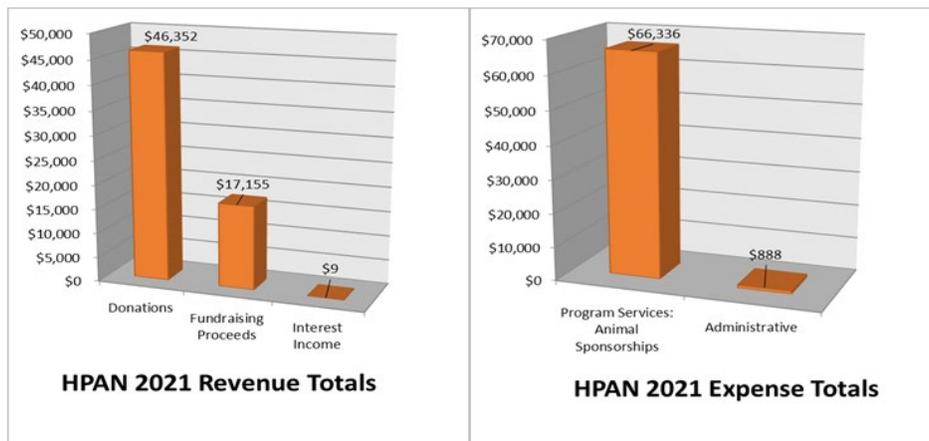
Founder's Thoughts

Written by: Amy Starkey, HPAN Founding Director

When I think about the Helping Paws Animal Network (HPAN) and how far we have come in the last decade, several words come to mind – “resolve,” “commitment,” and “constant,” to name a few. In our humble beginnings in 2011, we had a desire to make a difference in the lives of animals in need. At that point, we had not nailed down our exact mission, but we had resolve - that year we raised \$4,700 and assisted roughly 50 animals. Fast forward to 2021, and the word that comes to mind is “commitment” - we sponsored 429 rescue animals with roughly \$66,000. Never in a half-million years did I think we would be able to make this kind of impact. And speaking of half million, this year we will reach a half-million dollars in sponsorships! That is a LOT of vet bills!

Rescue organizations we sponsor say they would not be able to save the animals they save without knowing HPAN is here to help them. We have seen firsthand the difference MONEY makes in this village of rescue. Without it, rescue groups are limited in the amount of medical care extended to animals.

Over the years, HPAN has had changes in our board and refined our mission, but our vision to “end animal suffering, one rescue at a time” has remained constant. Another constant is the need for funds. We do the absolute best we can at fundraising in the current climate, but it has its limits. The graphic below proves that the needs always exceed our means. Without the large and generous donation we received in 2021, our impact would not have been the same.



Since HPAN lives at ORAU and is the only 501(c)(3) “born and bred” there, we ask for staff support. The lack of on-campus activities has hindered our ability to fundraise like we used to. We miss hosting bake sales, luncheons, craft shows, etc. This means we must ask you to consider donating without receiving anything in return, knowing you are making a BIG difference in the lives of animals. As employees have retired, resigned, or been laid off, we have seen a significant decrease in our regular payroll donations. At one point, we were receiving roughly \$1,200 per month, but now it is less than \$800 per month, which means we can sponsor less than two animals per month at the normal sponsorship level.

I, as HPAN’s co-founder/treasurer, and the Board of Directors, Wendy Hill (president), Amparo Atencio (secretary), Chris Kelley, Michael Sharpe, Jennifer Burnette, and Kelly Townsend, would like to humbly ask you to consider partnering with us so we can sustain the ability to assist animals in need. Donating via payroll deduction is easy, and a small amount each pay check is barely noticeable. We are grateful for any amount, and all donations are tax-deductible. The HPAN Payroll Deduction form is on the Forms page of Shortcuts.

If you work somewhere besides ORAU, you can still participate in giving. If your company has giving platforms, such as Benevity or Frontstream, we are on the list! And did you know that you can also list Helping Paws Animal Network as your non-profit of choice on your company Community Shares campaign?

Other ways to give besides sending money: Link your Kroger Plus Cards to us at www.kroger.com/communityrewards and shop www.amazonsmile.com, choosing us as your preferred charity.

However you choose to give, and from the little beating hearts we serve, we THANK YOU!

Rescue Spotlight 🐾

Written by: Susannah Morgan, ORAU

I have been fostering dogs for Small Breed Rescue of East Tennessee (SBRET) since April 2016. When I first started, I remember having a few concerns: How much money am I expected to spend on this dog? What if I don't have a fenced yard for the dog? What happens if this dog doesn't get adopted, am I stuck with it? This dog is awfully cute!! Can I keep it?

All valid concerns that I am sure many people have! However, I could not have asked for a more supportive foster group than SBRET. They cover all vet bills and medications (you don't have to pay and wait for reimbursement), and they are able to supply foster homes with dog beds, crates, toys, food, grooming visits, and even training through donations. If I spend personal money on a foster pup, it's usually on gas to get to an event. This group of fosters is also massively supportive of each other! <3 The directors are in touch with the interests/needs within each foster home and work to make sure that a foster dog will fit. If you work a full-time job, or don't have a big yard, they won't ask you to take a young puppy - but will offer an older more settled dog for you to work with. If you have questions about your foster dog or the dog is just not working out in your home, everyone works together to get you answers and get things sorted. You are never left to handle the dog alone. AND they are always there to remind you of the wonderful feeling you get seeing a pup go to their new forever home. Then, you get to welcome the next abandoned and/or neglected pup into your home and see it blossom under your care. And the cycle starts all over again.

I have been able to personally see 40 pups become beautiful, well-adjusted dogs. My home is a safe place for them to find their feet, blossom, and be ready to love their new forever home when they are adopted. My personal dogs have been great teachers and playmates to the fosters, helping them learn good habits to take with them. With multiple dogs coming through my home, I have learned so much about dog training and dog behavior, which has helped me with my own dogs as well. One of the BEST parts of fostering (shhh - it's a secret!) is that you gain so many AWESOME human friends: hiking buddies, drinks and social time, pool parties and picnics, etc. If you're interested in becoming part of the fostering family, please reach out to me (susannah.morgan1@gmail.com), the rescue (rescue@sbret.com), or check out our Foster Info and Foster Application on our [website!](#)



Merchants of Beer and The Royal Bark Social Club Host HPAN Fundraiser 🎁

The Royal Bark Social Club (a doggy daycare in Knoxville) partnered with Merchants of Beer (a brewery in Knoxville) to host a special event benefitting HPAN on December 18th. During the event, dogs had the opportunity to meet and have their picture taken with Santa during “Pup Pictures with Santa.” There were also games and raffles for humans in attendance. Prizes that were raffled off included gifts like a full-service bath from Royal Bark.

Draft sales made by Merchants of Beer during the event raised \$700 for HPAN. These funds will allow HPAN to provide financial assistance to shelters and rescue groups in need.

Thank you to Merchants of Beer and The Royal Bark Social Club for hosting this fun and festive event!



“Thank you again!!! And again... And again!!!

You guys are a blessing! ❤️

Annette, Almost Home Animal Rescue

“Thank you oodles and oodles!”

Trisha, Campbell County Animal Shelter

“You guys rock! Thank you so much!”

Angela, East TN Mini Horse & Donkey Rescue

“We are grateful - thank you and woof woof from the dogs!”

Kristin, Blount County Animal Welfare Society

“Thank you so much!”

Rachel, Volunteer State Doberman Rescue

“Not enough words to tell you all how much we appreciate this kind act you’ve extended to us! Thanks from all of us.”

Becky, Best Friends Sanctuary, Inc.

“Wahoooo!!! Thank you so much! I appreciate what you guys do and all the privileges you guys extend to animal rescuers. HPAN rocks!!!”

Wendy, East TN Pit Bull Rescue

“We appreciate you!”

Susan, Maryville/Alcoa Animal Rescue Center

“God bless you so much!”

Kimmy, Loudon County Friends of Animals

