



**partners *in*  
animal welfare**

**2025 IMPACT REPORT**

# about partners in animal welfare

## VISION

We envision a future where every animal in New Jersey, and beyond, is afforded the dignity, respect, and loving care they deserve.

## MISSION

Our mission is to empower local animal welfare organizations by connecting them with life-changing resources and fostering a network of partners to address the critical needs of animals in crisis using robust support, collaborative advocacy, and transformative education.



**join our cause to  
save more animals  
in new jersey**



[partnersinanimalwelfare.org](http://partnersinanimalwelfare.org)



## funding

Providing emergency medical and dental grants for animals in need and creating specialized programs for senior and disabled animals.



## programs

Developing short-term and ongoing programs like our children's reading program for shelters, nonprofit consultations and pet housing assistance for at-risk animals.



## education

Offering live and remote opportunities to learn from animal welfare professionals and network with fellow animal welfare enthusiasts.



[www.partnersinanimalwelfare.org](http://www.partnersinanimalwelfare.org)



@PartnersinAW



@paw.nj

# a message from our founder



*This year, PAW was able to offer more support to New Jersey's most vulnerable animals than ever before. Through our growing grant programs, we focused on reducing the financial burden for local shelters, rescues, and community organizations—ensuring they can keep saying "yes" to animals who need the most help. These grants made it possible to provide emergency medical care, preventive treatment, and safe placement for at-risk animals who might otherwise be overlooked.*

*At the same time, we've seen a significant rise in families struggling to afford veterinary care. Preventing pet surrender has become just as important as supporting animals already in shelters, and PAW is deeply committed to helping people keep their beloved pets. Thanks to your generosity, we're expanding our reach to address both sides of this crisis: alleviating the burden of shelters, rescues and sanctuaries caring for high-need animals, and families unable to afford critical medical care for their pets.*

*As we continue to strengthen our partnerships and refine our approach, I'm inspired every day by the compassion of our PAW community. Your support makes this life-changing work possible. Together, we're building a stronger, more humane New Jersey for animals and the people who love them. Thank you for being part of our mission.*

*Karen B. Sachs*

# helping new jersey's animals in need



## RYDER

Ryder arrived at **Cameron Animal Rescue** in visible discomfort, suffering from severe skin allergies and chronically inflamed eyes that left him in constant pain. Despite dedicated care, he needed advanced interventions to heal.

Thanks to a PAW grant, Ryder received specialized dermatology care at the University of Pennsylvania and is on the road to a full recovery.

## DAISY MARIE

Daisy Marie's life took a frightening turn when she was diagnosed with heartworm disease, a serious and potentially fatal condition if left untreated. When **Friends of Wag On Inn** stepped in, they knew she needed urgent, specialized medical care to address complications from the disease.

With support from a PAW grant, a portion of Daisy Marie's emergency treatment was covered, allowing her rescue to move forward quickly with lifesaving care. This critical intervention put Daisy Marie on a path toward recovery and a healthier future.





## LILY

Lily was surrendered in January when her family could not afford the medical care she needed to breathe comfortably.

After **Halfway Home Animal Rescue Team** stepped in, it became clear she required multiple surgeries to address serious, painful conditions.

With support from a PAW grant, the rescue was able to move forward with Lily's critical medical care, removing a major financial barrier and giving her the chance to live comfortably and pain-free.

## SOURDOUGH

After 11 years, Sourdough was surrendered to a shelter, overweight, confused, and struggling to walk, with large mammary tumors that made breathing difficult. **Halfway Home Animal Rescue Team** pulled her from the shelter and with support from a PAW grant, they were able to cover critical medical costs and move forward with lifesaving surgery.

Sourdough had her mammary tumors removed and was spayed. She is now safe and recovering in foster care—comfortable, loved, and finally living the life she deserves.



**helping new jersey's  
animals in need**



## MOMMA SOPHIA

Sophia was surrendered after experiencing life-threatening complications during labor. Sadly her family could not afford the emergency care she urgently needed. Rushed to Red Bank Veterinary Hospital, she required an emergency C-section and stabilization to survive.

With support from a PAW medical grant, **Pick Your Paw Animal Rescue** was able to move forward with Sophia's emergency surgery, hospitalization, and spay.

Now recovering in foster care, both Sophia and her one surviving puppy are healing well and get to begin the next chapter of their lives in safety and comfort.

## helping new jersey's animals in need

### JAMES

When **Friends of Wag On Inn Rescue** took in James, they knew he would need a life-changing amputation to live comfortably and regain mobility. Even after James was adopted, the rescue remained committed to ensuring he received the surgery he needed.

With support from a PAW grant covering part of the cost, James underwent surgery and was able to heal and thrive in his new home—showing how targeted medical support helps remove barriers to adoption and recovery.





## SHELDON

Sheldon was found wandering alone and taken in by **Friends of Wag On Inn Rescue**, where it quickly became clear he needed extensive dental care to be healthy and adoption-ready.

With support from a PAW grant, Sheldon received the treatment he needed—relieving his pain and removing a major barrier to his future placement.

## MASON & MISTY

Mason and Misty lost the only family they had ever known when their beloved guardian passed away suddenly. Grieving and displaced, they needed both medical care and emotional support to recover.

**Friends of Wag On Inn Rescue** stepped in to give Mason and Misty the stability and support they desperately needed. Providing both medical treatment and emotional rehabilitation, Wag On Inn honored their mom's legacy by ensuring her dogs were safe and cared for during such a painful transition.

Thanks to a grant from PAW, Wag On Inn could focus on helping Mason and Misty adjust and recover without being weighed down by overwhelming veterinary expenses.



# helping new jersey's animals in need

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## ROCKY & PHOEBE

We're honored to have sponsored the transportation costs for two very special pups—Rocky and Phoebe—on their journey to safety with **Chelsea's Hope Boxer Rescue**.

By covering transport, we helped ease a major financial burden, allowing Chelsea's to redirect their limited resources toward critical medical care, including spay/neuter surgeries, vaccinations, heartworm testing, and health certifications.

This is exactly what our mission is about—stepping in where needed to make sure rescues can stretch their funds further and focus on lifesaving care. We're honored to stand beside Chelsea's Hope and so many dedicated partners doing this important work.

**your support makes  
lifesaving care for new  
jersey's animals possible**

Without the support of PAW grants and donors like you, many rescues would be forced to make impossible choices—delaying care, turning animals away, or leaving urgent medical needs unmet.

Your generosity removes financial barriers and ensures animals across New Jersey receive timely lifesaving care, safe transitions, and the chance to heal and thrive.



# grant makers

**connecting donors with the animals they support**

## **TRANSFORMING ANIMALS' LIVES THROUGH PERSONALIZED GRANTS**

In the wake of increasing challenges in animal welfare within New Jersey, exacerbated by the pandemic's effects and rising care costs, every donation can make a profound difference.

**Our Grant Makers Initiative (GMI) redefines giving by connecting your donation directly to animals in need.** By joining the Grant Makers Initiative, you do more than donate; you develop a meaningful bond with the animal(s) you support.

## **CUSTOMIZE YOUR CONTRIBUTION**

Your donation of \$1,000 or more allows us to create a personalized grant to provide direct aid to a specific animal in crisis. The grant can be in your name, in honor of someone special, or in memory of a beloved pet.

Through exclusive updates, including photos, videos, and stories, you'll witness the transformation your contribution makes. Our 'Grants in Action' website and quarterly Impact Reports like this one will showcase the outcomes of your generosity.



# the paw team



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## Maxine Hughes

Maxine is the Global Head of the New Business Group for Markets, JP Morgan Chase & Co. where she has been employed for the past 8 years. Maxine currently serves as Secretary of the FOMTAS Board.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## Robyn Mait Levine

Robyn is an experienced marketing and communications professional with deep expertise in the nonprofit and for-profit sectors. She currently works as a consultant for nonprofit organizations including the Reed Foundation for Autism and HealthyWomen.org.



ADVISORY BOARD

## AJ Albrecht, ESQ.

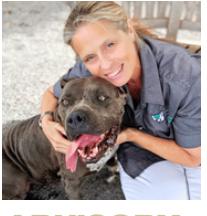
AJ is the Chief Operating Officer for the Animal Legal Defense Fund. A licensed attorney, AJ is the 2020-2021 Chair of the American Bar Association's Animal Law Committee and a past Chair of the New Jersey State Bar Association's Animal Law Committee.



ADVISORY BOARD

## Brian Hackett

Brian recently joined Associated Humane Societies in Newark, New Jersey as Director of Government and Community Relations after serving as Legislative Affairs Manager at the Animal Legal Defense Fund and before that, as New Jersey State Director for the Humane Society of the United States.



ADVISORY BOARD

## Nancy Willis

Nancy is the Vice President of Strategic Growth for the Humane Society of Silicon Valley. Nancy has more than two decades of leadership experience across both nonprofit and for-profit organizations, including the Maui Humane Society, Dave & Cheryl Duffield Foundation, and the Major League Baseball Players Association.



**Karen Sacks, ESQ.**  
FOUNDER &  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Karen is the founder and Executive Director of Partners in Animal Welfare. She created PAW after a career as a lawyer and then founding executive director of Volunteer Lawyers for Justice, a nonprofit she grew into a statewide leader in pro bono legal services during her seventeen year term. Karen has held various leadership roles in animal welfare organizations. She currently serves as the Chair of the board of directors of the Friends of the Montclair Township Animal Shelter and as a NJ Humane Policy Leader for the Humane Society of the United States.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## Karen Moreira

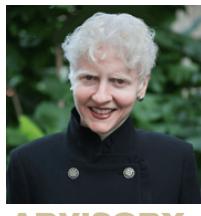
Karen manages in-house litigation at a global Fortune 100 company based in NJ. As a volunteer passionate about animal welfare, she is a Humane Law liaison and avid dog walker at Monmouth County SPCA.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## Stacey Bussel

Stacey is the current Managing Attorney at Disability Rights New Jersey. A vegetarian since the age of 16, animal rights and animal welfare have played an integral role in her life since childhood. Stacey spends her free time with her family including her rescue dog, Darwin, and rescue cat, Tiki.



ADVISORY BOARD

## Claire Sterling

Claire is the Chief Operating Officer at HEART, a New York-based nonprofit offering PreK-12 humane education programs and teaching resources. She previously served as Director, Grant Strategies at the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA).



ADVISORY BOARD

## Faith Krausman, DVM

Dr. Faith Krausman is a veterinarian practicing in New Jersey. Her business is Vet on Wheels, and she does house calls for cats, dogs, and exotics. Faith wrote a book about her work, *101 'Tails' of a House Call Veterinarian*. She is currently at work on a second volume.



## join us on our mission to save more animals in new jersey

Now more than ever far too many animals' lives are at risk, especially healthy dogs, cats and small critters in shelters waiting for their second chance to experience the love and kindness they deserve. **Together we can make a big impact for animals in our community.**

Your tax-deductible gift to Partners in Animal Welfare helps to ensure the animals in our community receive the compassion and care they need.

### MAKE A DONATION:

Use your smartphone camera to scan the QR Code and be automatically directed to our **Donations Page!**



### MAIL CHECKS TO:

**PAW**  
**PO Box 3141**  
**Montclair, NJ 07043**

[ksacks@partnersinanimalwelfare.org](mailto:ksacks@partnersinanimalwelfare.org)  
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