



DogsTrustUSA



DOGS TRUST USA

Annual Report 2019

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Dogs Trust USA Annual Report

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Front cover: Bethany Marbut, executive director of Felines and Canines Rescue Center, Alabama, with Pickle.

Our mission:

Dogs Trust USA is dedicated to improving the lives of dogs across the United States - and around the world.



Introduction from the President, Owen Sharp

After marking our very first year of operation as a not-for-profit organization in 2018, 2019 has been an incredibly successful second year for Dogs Trust USA. Our dedicated team has been working closely with partners, new and old, to improve the lives of dogs across the country, sharing our dog welfare knowledge, veterinary skills and rehoming best practice to help make a difference where it's needed the most.

I'd like to extend my gratitude to our founding donors, whose support has enabled us to grow Dogs Trust USA significantly over the course of the year. Thanks to the generous donations we have received, we have been able to work behind-the-scenes on developing a Dogs Trust USA Dog School pilot in New York and Los Angeles, which we are now in a position to deliver in 2020. Training and behavior is one of the major focuses for Dogs Trust USA this year, and we hope through launching Dogs Trust USA Dog School, we can help give dogs and their owners the tools they need to live harmoniously together and, in turn, reduce the number of dogs relinquished in these target areas.

The hard work doesn't stop there. Over the past 12 months, we've been able to expand our grant program and now proudly support 14 organizations across the USA, of which 11 are new grants awarded in 2019. From providing funds to cover spay/neutering and microchipping costs to assisting with a pet foster program for dogs of servicemen and women and providing hurricane relief aid for pets affected by or at risk of natural disasters in Florida and Georgia, we ensure all the organizations we support share our vision and values, with dog welfare at the heart of every activity we undertake and every cause we support.

Shelter staff are the heartbeat of every dog welfare organization and so I'm very excited to announce that in addition to our Dogs Trust USA Dog School pilots in Los Angeles and New York, we're in the process of developing a program of professional development for staff and volunteers within US shelters and rescue organizations. This initiative, to be rolled out in 2020, will provide a holistic package of training opportunities for shelter staff, with a view to improving dog welfare standards in rescue organizations in the US. In addition to this training,

two grantees from Wisconsin Humane Society and Kentucky Humane Society visited our affiliate charity, Dogs Trust, to attend their first conference for professional behaviorists held in Oxford, England. We hope to bring more of our partners and experts together to share our knowledge over the course of the coming year.

At Dogs Trust USA, we pride ourselves on our dedication to improving dog welfare using up-to-date scientific research, and during the year we've been able to undertake an exciting research project, Canine Welfare in California. Thanks to the support and expertise of the research team at our affiliate charity, Dogs Trust, we are going to build on this work in 2020 and will undertake a larger study of canine welfare across the whole of the US. We hope this ambitious study will help us to pinpoint the areas that most need our help and provide us the data we need to structure our plans for the future. We sincerely look forward to working with a variety of partners on this important project in the coming year.

We have been able to effect major change for the lives of thousands of dogs through Dogs Trust USA in such a short period of time, due in large part to the generous support and commitment of our founding donors. I'd like to extend my thanks once again for your continued support in helping us make a difference to the lives of thousands of dogs in the United States in 2019. With 3.3 million lost or abandoned dogs living in shelters across the US, and an astronomical 670,000 of these being euthanized each year, there is still a lot of work to be done. I look forward to continuing to work together to help the US dog population live happy, healthy lives over the next 12 months and save the lives of more dogs in the future.

With warmest regards,



Owen Sharp
President, Dogs Trust USA



A note from Dogs Trust USA founding donor, Georgina Bloomberg

"I am delighted to have supported Dogs Trust USA since its inception in early 2018. What makes this organization special for me is their sole purpose and focus on canine welfare and their ability to combine this with 128 years of knowledge, expertise and innovation provided by their affiliate charity Dogs Trust in the UK who have managed, through a variety of programs and innovations, to reduce the number of dogs euthanized in UK pounds by over 80% in the last 20 years. I have been lucky enough to visit a Dogs Trust no-kill shelter in the UK to see their world class facilities in person and also to see their Dog Schools in action.

"With over 670,000 dogs still being euthanized in our pounds every year, I believe dogs in the US (and the organizations who love and care for them), can benefit enormously from Dogs Trust USA's expertise in all areas of canine welfare. That's why my foundation has committed to supporting Dogs Trust USA for the long term. I would encourage anyone who is not already involved to find out more and see how you too can help this wonderful organization who love dogs just as much as I do!"

Georgina Bloomberg,
The Emma and Georgina Bloomberg Foundation



Dogs Trust USA Dog School

In 2020, Dogs Trust USA will be rolling out the next phase of its life-saving work, introducing Dogs Trust USA Dog School to New York and Los Angeles. This vital training program is aimed at strengthening the bond between dogs and their owners and as a result, helping to improve the quality of life of hundreds of dogs living in these cities. The pilot will be delivered by senior Dogs Trust staff who have a wealth of experience in establishing Dog School classes in new locations and delivering training classes to an exceptionally high standard. We hope the project will have a lasting impact on reducing the number of dogs relinquished to shelters and increasing the number of successful adoptions in these regions.

What is Dog School?

Dogs Trust USA's affiliate charity, Dogs Trust is the UK's largest dog welfare charity and is globally recognized as a pioneer of dog welfare, both for its ongoing rehabilitation and rehoming programs, and as a leading voice in canine behavior and training. The charity's no-kill policy means they never euthanize a healthy dog. Instead they endeavor to find homes for all 15,000 dogs that find themselves in one of their 21 rehoming centers (shelters) each year, no matter how long it takes.

Successful rehoming is often dependent on ongoing training and behavior support, with return-to-shelter rates intrinsically linked to owners who struggle to cope with problem behaviors. Research shows that training both increases the likelihood of successful adoptions and reduces the number of dogs returned to pounds because owners are unable to cope with preventable behavior problems.

To help give dogs and owners the foundations they need to develop a strong bond and reduce the likelihood of dogs being handed in or returned to shelters, the charity launched Dogs Trust Dog School in 2017, a national network of experienced trainers providing fun, educational courses for dogs and their owners based on up-to-date scientific research. Using kind, reward-based methods, Dog School teaches basic training skills to dogs of all ages, shapes and sizes and from all walks of life. Courses are five weeks in length and cover a program of essential behavior topics week-to-week, in welcoming, informal, hour-long classes. These include how to teach dogs to walk nicely on a leash, how to sit when asked, how to come back when called and how to settle in a public space.

Aimed at helping to give dogs and owners the knowledge they need to cope with everyday life, Dogs Trust USA Dog School will offer invaluable advice, guidance and training to help keep dogs and their owners living happily together. Each week, trainers will work closely with their four-legged students and their owners to teach basic behaviors in a fun, friendly manner. Lessons are carefully constructed to maximize the bond between dogs and owners and make day-to-day life run more smoothly. To ensure both two-and-four-legged participants get the most from their lessons (and to limit distractions), classes are small and intimate, with a maximum of six dogs per class and two trainers. Each dog and owner are allocated their own safe space within the classroom and there are specific classes offered for senior dogs, rescue dogs, adolescent dogs and puppies, each with a particular focus. After completing the course, four-legged friends will graduate from Dog School with full barks and use the skills they have learned to go on to lead happy, healthy lives with their devoted owners.

Since its inception in 2017, Dogs Trust Dog School has delivered 6,408 classes in 31 locations across the UK, helping 5,113 dogs and 8,855 owners learn the skills they need to enjoy happy lives. We are currently working on a schedule for delivery of the pilot in Los Angeles and New York, with the aim to deliver over 300 Dog School classes in these areas over the course of 2020. The first pilot is due to begin in the summer with others to follow throughout the year.

With special thanks to the founding donors of Dogs Trust USA Dog School:

The Emma and Georgina Bloomberg Foundation
Carrie Denning Jackson (The Ripple Foundation)
Steven A. & Roberta Denning (The Sage Foundation)
The Riggio Foundation
Stephanie & Michael Bulger



The Grant Program:

Our mission to improve the lives of dogs in the US is made possible by partnering with a number of animal welfare organizations across the country whose aims and objectives align with our own vision and values. Through our ongoing grant program, we offer financial assistance of up to \$50,000 to organizations already doing incredible work to improve the lives of hundreds of the nation's dogs. These funds are used to deliver initiatives which will make lasting improvements to dog welfare across the country.

There are already a huge number of shelters and rescue organizations working hard to encourage responsible dog ownership, reduce dog abandonment, increase adoption from shelters or effectively manage local dog populations through spay/neuter programs. Our grant program aims to help these organizations to continue the lifesaving work that is already being carried out up and down the country. To date, 14 grant agreements have been signed between Dogs Trust USA Inc. and USA based not-for-profits. Here's how our grants have helped thousands of dogs across the USA in 2018 and 2019.



The Grant Program: 2018 grants – the difference we have made



You Can Make a Difference, Florida

The funds from Dogs Trust USA's grant provided veterinary assistance vouchers to cover spay/neutering services, vaccinations and emergency vet care for approximately 150 dogs in Florida. As of June 2019, YCMAD reported that a total of 162 vouchers were issued, 85 of which were for vaccinations and 77 for spaying/neutering.

Kentucky Humane Society, Kentucky

Dogs Trust USA committed a year's worth of funding to Kentucky Humane Society to contribute towards their important Pet Retention Programs for Owned Dogs through their pet helpline, along with providing financial assistance vouchers to dog owners throughout the state. To date, their hotline councilors had already spoken to 5,748 dog owners about a range of dog welfare topics. 114 of these owners were identified as being particularly at risk of surrendering their pet and were offered assistance.

So far 16 dogs have received emergency medical assistance through the voucher scheme. 120 dogs have been spayed and neutered (85 of which were Pit Bull type dogs) and 35 dogs received preventative wellness care. In addition, 1 dog owner has been provided with a pet deposit for an apartment rental.



Mississippi Spay and Neuter, Mississippi

A grant was issued to Mississippi Spay and Neuter to offer targeted subsidized spay/neutering vouchers for 667 dogs owned by low income residents from five counties across the state. After a strong start, and despite the tragic death of their CEO and moving facilities, Mississippi Spay and Neuter issued 217 vouchers of which 183 (85%) have been redeemed to date.



The Grant Program: 2019 new grants awarded



The Animal Foundation, Las Vegas, Nevada

Dogs Trust USA awarded a grant to The Animal Foundation to fund a 12-month spay/neutering and microchipping project in an underprivileged area of Las Vegas. Through spaying/neutering 275 dogs and vaccinating and microchipping 225, The Animal Foundation aims to reduce intake and euthanasia rates at their shelter through their 'Pets for Life' program. The initial report revealed that 138 spay/neuter surgeries, 327 vaccinations and 62 microchipping procedures have been carried out so far, with a large outreach event undertaken in November 2019.



Wisconsin Humane Society, Wisconsin

Dogs Trust USA issued a grant to the Wisconsin Humane Society to assist the organization with the continuation of their Pets for Life program. This initiative aims to build relationships with local communities through daily door-to-door outreach, while also providing access to veterinary services in some of the most economically disadvantaged neighborhoods of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. With our support, Wisconsin Humane Society was able to provide 400 free spay/neutering surgeries for owned dogs in underprivileged communities of Milwaukee.

Second Chance Animal Sanctuaries, Pennsylvania

This grant helped to fund a 25,000 square foot grass exercise park for both owners and Second Chance's shelter dogs. Second Chance Animal Sanctuaries already have an outdoor exercise trail, but there is no sizeable area suitable for off-lead running, which is a crucial way to allow dogs to let off some steam, meet and play with other dogs and as such, improve their welfare. This revamped outdoor area will allow for the continued training, socializing and exercising of shelter dogs helping to improve their rehabilitation and the shelter's rehoming rates. In turn, it is hoped this vital exercise space will reduce the number of dogs being handed in or returned to shelters. The new park, situated on their existing 'Paw Paw's Patch', is expected to be ready to welcome its first doggie visitors in late spring.



Felines and Canines Rescue Center, Alabama

Dogs Trust USA has issued a 12-month grant to the Felines and Canines Rescue Center in Alabama to cover the veterinary costs of 2,600 dogs transported from their rescue center in Alabama to pre-approved adoption shelters in the Midwest. Felines and Canines Rescue Center is committed to drastically reducing the number of dogs in shelters across Northern Alabama who are sadly put to sleep through no fault of their own.

This vital grant from Dogs Trust USA will help the Felines and Canines Rescue Center become a much-needed hub where dogs are able to undergo veterinary checks, receive vaccinations and be treated and prepared for relocation to the partner shelters, all of which have undergone a thorough assessment to ensure they meet the high standards of dog welfare we expect. The report from the first quarter indicated that the euthanasia rate has reduced by 69% at a major source shelter in Alabama, while 742 dogs were successfully transferred to partner shelters in the Midwest within the first three months of the project.



PACT for animals, Pennsylvania

PACT for animals provides a nationwide emergency pet fostering program for deployed military men and women and dog owners who are experiencing a medical crisis. The foster program aims to place hundreds of dogs in temporary foster homes across the country, giving owners peace of mind that their pet will be well cared for until they are able to be reunited. This scheme hopes to reduce the risk of dogs being given up to shelters as a last resort, because their owners didn't have another option available to them. Over 12 months, PACT for animals are aiming to place 300 animals in foster care. By their first quarter, they were well on their way to this goal, having placed 71 new dogs in the care of temporary foster homes. Dogs Trust USA's grant will go towards aiding the successful running of this important fostering scheme.



Prairie Paws Animal Shelter, Kansas

Dogs Trust USA has provided funding for Prairie Paws Animal Shelter to help with the cost of a 12-month rehoming project geared towards staff attending an extra 58 offsite venues on weekends, in a bid to give more dogs the exposure they need to help them find their forever homes. Through these events, made possible as a result of Dogs Trust USA's grant, Prairie Paws hopes to place a further 100 dogs in loving new homes.



Spay Illinois, Illinois

Thanks to the Dogs Trust USA grant, Spay Illinois will offer free spay/neutering and microchipping at their clinic to 200 owned Pitbull type dogs in Kanakee County. On designated days, Spay Illinois staff will collect the dogs, drive them to the clinic for surgery and return them back to their owners on the same day. Pitbulls are one of the breeds most at risk of euthanasia once they enter shelters and this program will help keep dogs and their owners together, regardless of financial roadblocks, through offering the necessary veterinary services needed to ensure dogs remain healthy and happy in their homes.

First Coast No More Homeless Pets, Florida

With this grant, First Coast No More Homeless Pets will purchase kennels and food bins to deploy to Florida and Georgia as part of the disaster relief effort to help save the lives of hundreds of dogs during hurricane season. This disaster response work was unable to be employed during Hurricane Dorian, but food bins have been lent to the local pet food bank to help disadvantaged families.

Charleston Animal Society, South Carolina

Towards the end of 2019 Dogs Trust USA agreed to provide funding towards Charleston Animal Society's Pets For Life program in the City of North Charleston, South Carolina; to spay/neuter, rabies vaccinate and microchip 384 dogs over a 12-month period. The program involves door to door outreach in underserved neighborhoods in an effort to build trusting relationships, encouraging and offering resources for pets to help keep them healthy and in their homes. Charleston Animal Society hope to see a 10% reduction in dogs aged 6 months of age or younger entering their shelter, a culmination of this project and their work to date.

Humane Society of Lincoln County, New Mexico

Dogs Trust USA has agreed to support the Humane Society of Lincoln County with a grant for the purchase of a grooming tub for their new shelter. Staff and volunteers will be able to wash and brush the dogs, spending some quality time with them and having the opportunity to check for burrs, fleas, ticks or any injuries. We hope that these good-looking dogs will make a great impression on potential adopters!

Woofy Acres, California

Dogs Trust USA provided a grant to Woofy Acres, located in the San Fernando Valley area of Southern California to go towards the medical care, feeding and housing of the dogs in their rescue shelter.

Dogs Trust Worldwide, United Kingdom

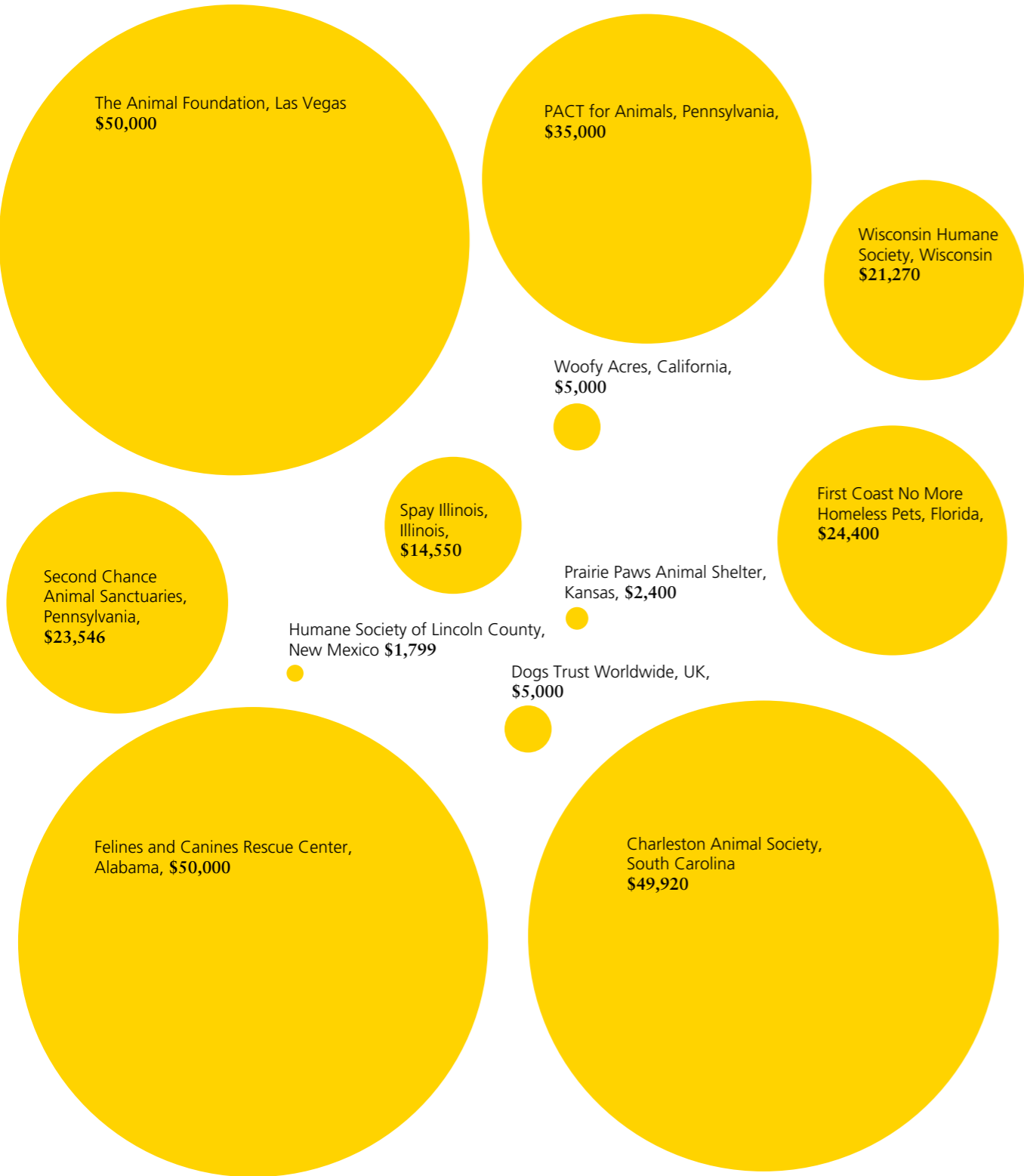
Dogs Trust USA provided a grant to Dogs Trust Worldwide to cover the costs related to Behaviorists from Wisconsin and Kentucky Humane Societies to attend training in the U.K to learn about the work of Dogs Trust in the U.K and attend their conference for professional behaviorists held in Oxford, England.



Financial Statements 2019

Dogs Trust USA is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization qualified to receive tax-deductible contributions. These financial summaries were compiled by management. A copy of the 990 IRS Form and the full audited accounts can be obtained by sending a written request to Mr Owen Sharp, President, Dogs Trust USA, 155 E. 44th Street, 6th Floor, Suite 34, New York, NY 10017.

Twelve grants, totaling \$282,885 were awarded in 2019 to:

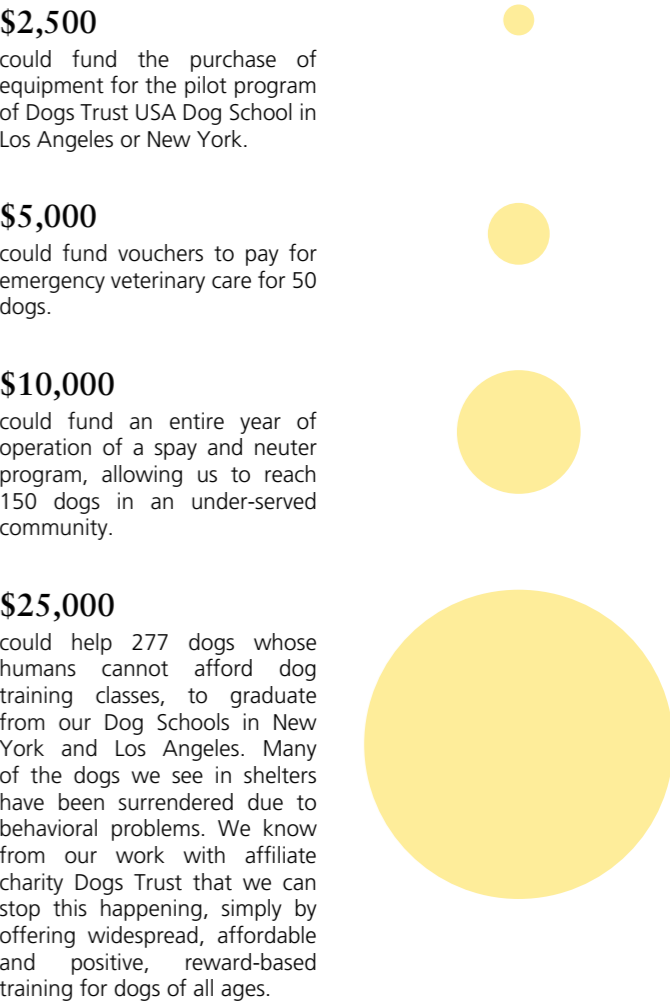


Contributions and grants 2019



Income:	
Donations & grants:	\$459,642
Net surplus:	\$71,676
Expenditure:	
Grants:	\$282,885
Other costs:	\$82,130
Total expenditure:	\$365,014

What your gift can do



If you would like to make a gift to Dogs Trust USA, please make checks out to Dogs Trust USA and send to:

Dogs Trust USA
155 E. 44th Street, 6th Floor, Suite 34, New York, NY 10017

Instructions on making a wire donation:
Thank you for your interest in wiring your donation to Dogs Trust USA. Please email Vice President of Development, Meredith Beck meredith.beck@dogstrustusa.org, to obtain the wire transfer information needed by your bank.

We appreciate your support. Dogs Trust USA is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit organization. Our EIN number is 82-2390086. Contributions are tax deductible in accordance with IRS rules and regulations. To find out more visit www.guidestar.org/profile/82-2390086.

Our Founders

Thank you to our generous founding donors and their four-legged friends. They are:

Claire Ambrosio and Jim Michalski
Stephanie Berger
The Emma and Georgina Bloomberg Foundation
Susan Bloomberg – in honor of Hugo, beloved companion of Georgina Bloomberg and a much-loved family member
Stephanie and Michael Bulger
Martha and Kyle Boyd – in memory of Heather, beloved companion of Ian Rose
Jim and Veronica Carbone
Betsy Beers & Bruce Cormicle
Barbara and Rodgin Cohen
Laurie and Brian Conroy (The Conroy Family Foundation)
Manuela & James Goren
Allan Heinberg
Carrie Denning Jackson (The Ripple Foundation)
Marilyn W. & Steven J. Joffe
Peter Nowalk, a Donor Advised Fund of The U.S. Charitable Gift Trust
Jill, Alan, Hilary & Lindsay Rappaport
Frank E. & Kimba Wood Richardson (The Richardson Foundation)
The Riggio Foundation
Rick Rosenthal & Nancy Stephens (The Rosenthal Family Foundation)
The Rivaya Fund of the Jewish Communal Fund
Steven A. & Roberta Denning (The Sage Foundation)
The Flora Family Foundation
Dogs Trust
Dogs Trust Worldwide
Dr Jeffrey Young
Craig Weiner

Our Friends

We would also like to thank the following individuals for their donations during 2019:

Rebecca Abernathy
Tracy Blodgett – in honor of Josh “LJ” O’Doodle, beloved companion of Jan Swatridge
Carlos Medina and Denis Cagna
Lisa Coyle
Madison Hildebrand
Elizabeth Skibinski

With special thanks to the following individuals and organizations who have generously supported Dogs Trust USA with both their time and expertise in the year:

Kimberly Ovitz
Brenda Barnette, Melissa Webber, Annette Ramirez and Karen Knipscheer Cox (Los Angeles Animal Services)
Tessa Benson and Tucker Tooley
Lesley Brog & Annika Stackhouse (Wags and Walks)
Alison Eakle
Leslie Granger & Heather Reynolds (Bideawee)
Judy Greer
Kate Stirling and Margaret Myers (The Wall Group)
Risa Weinstock and Katy Hansen (Animal Care Centers of New York)

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Governance

The Dogs Trust USA Board is responsible for the strategic direction and financial stewardship of Dogs Trust USA. The Board meets twice a year and delegates the responsibility of day to day operations to the executive team. Board members are selected based on knowledge, experience and support for Dogs Trust USA and are unremunerated for their time. The Board undertakes a formal induction process to ensure that directors are aware of their responsibilities and duties to Dogs Trust USA, and that any real or perceived conflicts of interests or loyalty are managed through its conflicts of interest policy.

The Dogs Trust USA Board are;

President: Owen Sharp



Director & Executive Vice President: Helen Walker



Directors: Veronica Carbone



Dr Jeffrey D Young DVM



Dr Susan Monger DVM





Contact us

If you'd like to know more about Dogs Trust USA, please do contact us!

www.dogstrustusa.org

Vice President of Development, Meredith Beck meredith.beck@dogstrustusa.org, Cell: 646-717-7920

Founded in 2017, Dogs Trust USA Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of dogs across the United States - and around the world. Our EIN number is 82-2390086. Contributions are tax deductible in accordance with IRS rules and regulations. To find out more visit www.guidestar.org/profile/82-2390086

A dog is for life, not just for the holidays