

People Helping Animals

*and Animals
Helping People*



HELEN WOODWARD
ANIMAL CENTER
animalcenter.org

Dear friends of the Center, *it has been an incredible year!*

As I approach my 20th year here at Helen Woodward Animal Center, I am both amazed and inspired by all that has been accomplished by our team. Whether I look out the window and see the hard-working adoptions staff greet yet another transfer of animals, or witness the almost 2,000 children who attend camp this summer, explore every square inch of the Center; Whether enjoying the beautiful sight of a special rider on one of our equine therapists, or observing the new Adoptions building being constructed right across from my office, I can hardly wait to see what the year ahead will hold for your Center.

There are so many important events that mark this past year for me and for the Center but I think what stands out to me more than ever before is our impact around the world. Never before have we had more requests for our time and involvement and more opportunities to support animal welfare groups around the globe. Just in the last few months we have traveled to Nevada, Pennsylvania and Kansas City for the HSUS Expo, not to mention hosting visitors here for our workshops from as far away as Japan. There is truly no other organization that is reaching out to provide support for animal welfare groups around the world. More importantly, we are offering them quality curriculum, with practical applications that they can put into use as soon as they return to their shelter.

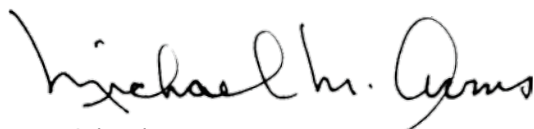
The Adoptions Center is going up at a good pace and we anticipate that we will be able to move in by March of 2019. The newly expanded medical facilities could not come at a better time, as we expand our transfer partnerships with various Texas organizations. Many of these shelters are struggling under the load of surrendered and stray pets that are arriving to already overcrowded facilities every day. The conditions at many of these shelters was challenging to begin with but when you add the impact of Hurricane Harvey, they have become almost unmanageable. We are honored to bring these beautiful pets to the safety of the Center and know that in our new facility we will be able to provide them with the best medical care in the most efficient manner possible.

In the year ahead, I have been asked to share the Center's story in Poland at an international conference and also to work in Japan with animal welfare staff and volunteers trying to "humanize" the shelter experience and provide new and innovative avenues for marketing their beloved pets.

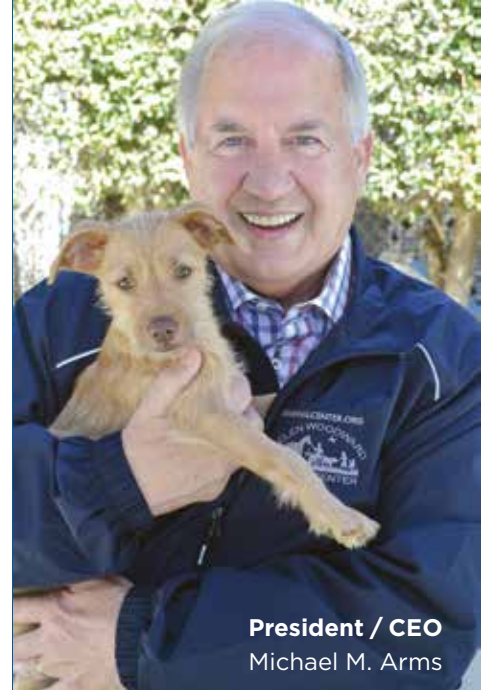
Our work never ends, but it has never been more rewarding either and I ask you to join us in the year ahead as we open our new Adoptions center and expand our reach to new corners of the globe.

Thank you for all that you have done to support Helen Woodward Animal Center in this past year and know that the possibilities are endless in the year ahead.

For a more humane world,



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President & CEO



President / CEO
Michael M. Arms

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Animal Center

Volunteer

From giving your time at any of our fundraising events, to donating your skills or experience to help on Center grounds. Explore the many ways you can help people and pets in need. Visit animalcenter.org

Be Informed

Be in the know of events and fundraisers happening in our community, and across the globe. Subscribe to our e-newsletters, and enjoy our Companion quarterly publication.



New Adoptions Building

After increasing our adoptions from a few hundred a year when we opened in 1972 to close to 4,000 in 2017, we realized a new Adoptions Center was a top priority. So after years of fundraising in January of 2018, we began the construction of the new adoptions building! Adoptions have temporarily moved to the 'Adoptions Village', which is an area of temporary kennels and offices to use in the interim. The staff and volunteers are continuing to work hard and have transitioned into their new home smoothly while they continue to work hard to find forever homes for orphaned pets. The new building will have many exciting new features including a private entrance for transfer partners bringing in animals, a larger surgical suite with room for two surgery tables, to increase the number of procedures handled daily, double the number of exam rooms so more animals can be processed in less time, kennels that will be completely enclosed to protect the animals from the weather, and a lobby and adoptions area that is more aesthetically pleasing to potential adopters. This construction symbolizes the fulfillment of years of hopes and expectations for the Center's further advancement, and truly creating the "Animal Center of the Future." The new building will open in March of 2019 and the Education buildings are next!

Remember Me Thursday®

Remember Me Thursday® is a global awareness campaign aimed at educating the public on the staggering amount of animals who lose their lives in shelters each year. Using social media to send the message about remembering those who lost their lives in shelters and the importance of pet adoption brings people from all over the world together to give a voice to animals that cannot speak for themselves.

Kristin Chenoweth



On September 28, 2017 individuals and organizations around the world held candle-lighting ceremonies, posted about their experiences, and shone a light on orphaned pets waiting for their forever homes in shelters. The Center

was lucky to have **Kristin Chenoweth**, a TONY and EMMY Award-Winning actress, as a spokesperson for this year. She has supported the movement since it started in 2013 and was able to garner even more attention for this cause, with over fifty celebrities and sports figures. The hashtags #RememberTheRescue and #RememberMeThursday have reached over one billion people on social media since its creation in 2013 and continues to grow at a tremendous rate.

Home 4 the Holidays®

The **Home 4 the Holidays® annual adoption campaign** closed out the year with finding homes for 1,279,809 orphaned pets. The Center proudly collaborates with over 4,000 pet adoption agencies located in all 50 states and in 24 countries to find forever homes for these pets during the holiday season.

Home 4 The Holidays educates the public about the importance of choosing rescue pet adoption over breeders and finding homes for these amazing animals.

Blue Buffalo once again partnered with Helen Woodward Animal Center by providing multi-channel marketing support and underwriting prizes and coupons for participating shelters. Together this program is able to save over a million lives each year, and every year strives to find homes for even more animals spending the holidays in a shelter.

This annual campaign has saved over
14,000,000
pets since it launched in 1999

The Adoptions Department at Helen Woodward Animal Center found homes for **3,476** orphaned animals in 2017!



Adoptions

Due to construction the department moved to the '**Adoptions Village**' and has found great success during its temporary downsizing. This year the department expanded their transfer network and gained a number of new partners. In fact, 95% of the pets that come to the center are brought to us through our transfer network. Every pet that comes through our program receives a full medical exam, spay/neuter if necessary, vaccines, as well as any surgery or medical care needed to give them a long happy life.

The transfer and medical care of these orphaned pets is vital to the program and the Center is proud to be able to take in pets that may have no chance at a shelter with fewer resources.

In 2017, after the tragic wake of Hurricane Harvey that left thousands of families homeless, Helen Woodward Animal Center was able to send a team to Texas to help a new partner organization, Operation Pets Alive, give medical care and transfer animals from Texas to San Diego with the help of our partners at Southwest Airlines. After the initial transport of over 80 animals, the Center has continued to grow this partnership and is continually bringing animals from a state with a very high euthanasia rate to San Diego, where these animals have a chance at finding their forever home.



(above) Danica during recovery.

(left) Danica ready to find her forever family.



Danica's puppies arrive at the center.

Puppies growing up strong, at their 6-week check up.

Danica ...

Most new moms struggle with how to care for their baby, so it is hard to imagine caring for seven newborn pups while fighting through life-threatening medical problems. Once again, animals show us the way and inspire us with their caring nature for their pups and their ability to pull through to live a long life. Danica is truly "mother of the year" in our book. After watching this beautiful little dog deliver seven puppies while dealing with an infection in her mammary glands, extensive ticks, and a foxtail lodged up in her ear she still was happy and put her pups before herself.

She was brought to the center from a rescue partner that did not have the ability to care for this pregnant dog. When she came to the Center she was sweet to everyone, despite the stress and pain she was in.

Because of her infection, she was unable to nurse her puppies, so they were placed in foster care for round-the-clock feedings with some of our dedicated volunteers. After they were placed in foster care Danica underwent surgery to remove the infected tissue and started her long road to recovery, after a full round of antibiotics she is back on the road to health and happiness in her new forever home. Her puppies — who were eventually spayed/neutered — also found their forever homes this year.



Pets Without Walls, that provides no-cost medical care, vaccines, flea and tick medication, and pet food to the pets of the homeless in San Diego.

Pets Without Walls

In 2017, Helen Woodward Animal Center launched a new program, **Pets Without Walls**, that provides no-cost medical care, vaccines, flea and tick medication, and pet food to the pets of the homeless in San Diego. Reacting to the large number of people experiencing homelessness in our community and the fact that 25% of this homeless population has their own pets, the Center wanted to provide assistance to keep these animals with their families.

The Pets Without Walls program's focus is on providing spay/neuter services, no-cost wellness checks, preventive medical care, vaccines, and flea and tick medication to the pets of homeless families, in addition to free pet food to the pets residing in the Alpha Project's temporary shelter, Interfaith Family Housing and Father Joe's Day Center. The food delivery is an extension of our AniMeals program, which has provided food to homebound seniors and those with disabilities since 1984; and will be able to take away the stress of feeding their animals before themselves and keep their animals on a consistent diet to stay healthy. The program has been able to provide medical care and food for over 150 animals since it started and continues to grow.

AniMeals

AniMeals has been providing no-cost pet food to low-income individuals, disabled military personnel, and homebound seniors for over thirty years by partnering with organizations like Meals on Wheels, Jewish Family Services and Wounded Warriors. A majority of elderly individuals on fixed incomes or home-bound individuals who cannot easily acquire food have limited resources to help them, especially when a pet isn't seen as a necessity to many support programs. These individuals are pre-qualified through social service agencies to receive food for themselves, eighty percent of Meals on Wheels clients are low-income and will use their limited resources to feed their animals before themselves. AniMeals knows they are pre-qualified for our program and eliminates the need for that choice.

The program has become an important part of our Pets Without Walls program delivering pet food to fifty pets of the homeless. Companion animals can provide lasting positive effects on their owners, however, the cost and ability to get pet food can be challenging. AniMeals is able to take the stress away by delivering food at no cost to individuals who need our services. In 2017, the program provided animal food to over 6,000 animals in total.

Education

Humane Education was able to impact over 20,000 participants throughout the year through different youth programs including Critter Camp, field trips, scout visits, birthday parties, tours, and our AniMobile mobile classroom that goes to low-income schools across the county. In addition to these programs the Education Department also has an Advancing with Animals program, that helps at-risk youth learn about careers in the animal care industry and provides hands-on experiences. Being able to teach children about the importance of animals and protecting them creates a more compassionate, caring, and empathetic world and creates a legacy of caring.



Education Ambassador Casper helps kids learn about their animal friends, and experience them hands-on.



In 2017, **1,928** lessons were given to over sixty students, the highest number to date.

Therapeutic Riding

The **Therapeutic Riding** program benefits individuals with a wide range of cognitive, physical, and emotional challenges and aims to improve the quality of life for these children and adults through weekly interaction with an equine therapist. With the assistance of volunteers, our certified staff guide students through activities and lessons specifically designed to help them progress toward their individual goals. Being able to participate in an activity like this is an opportunity that those with a variety of physical and/or mental challenges might not get out of traditional sports. For the first time, the Therapeutic Riding show this year included an official equestrian judge that could award prizes to our more experienced riders. We have added one horse in 2017 to enhance Therapeutic Riding and allow for more students to be incorporated from our program waitlist. The program has the most riders it has had to date with over 60 students!

Pet Encounter Therapy



New therapy mini-horses Root Beer and Edward enjoy some snacks

The **Pet Encounter Therapy** program brings the incredible emotional benefits of animals to people in a variety of settings including skilled nursing facilities, children's shelters, hospitals, and psychiatric centers.

In 2017, the program provided this vital outreach to 23,748

individuals who were able to experience the unconditional love and tactile benefits of spending time with our amazing animals and their human volunteers. P.E.T. received an exciting new pair of therapy animals last year, Root Beer and Edward. These are two miniature horses that have been bringing joy and a unique experience to our clients. We continue to seek out new partners like San Diego Center for Children where we can benefit those in need.



Buddha, our Therapy Duck, heard about a local 103 year old WWII veteran who missed his duck and wanted to meet one. We headed down to Vi at La Jolla Village, a beautiful retirement community, to make this veteran's wish come true!



Our four full-time veterinarians and veterinary staff treated **11,246** animals in 2017.



Companion Animal Hospital

Companion Animal Hospital is a highly advanced and well-equipped, small animal hospital that offers services to all dogs, cats, reptiles, birds, rabbits, rodents and other exotic pet species.

The Military Fund at the hospital, which offers free vaccinations and spay /neuter services for pets of eligible military members and their families continues to grow as we seek funding to provide this service to even more families.

Equine Hospital



Dr. Vazquez, Sunny and Angel

The **Equine Hospital** is an outstanding facility, which allows accredited veterinarians to use our facilities to provide high-quality veterinary care for the health and welfare of the community's horse population.

Last year they received a new recovery barn through a generous donation and are looking to upgrade even more equipment to improve the facility and provide enhanced life-saving equine care.

Club Pet Boarding



Club Pet Boarding provides daycare, boarding, training, grooming, and other services for its guests. Clients can rest easy knowing their furry family members are enjoying their stay at their "home away from home" with our amazing staff. In the year ahead we will be providing special service bundling options and more ways to receive updates on your best animals stay!



Orphaned Objects

Orphaned Objects is a boutique style resale shop where all sales of top quality donated items provide benefits to the programs and pets at Helen Woodward Animal

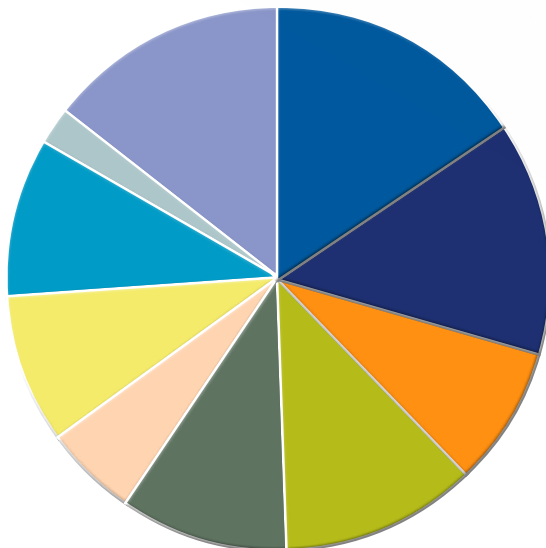
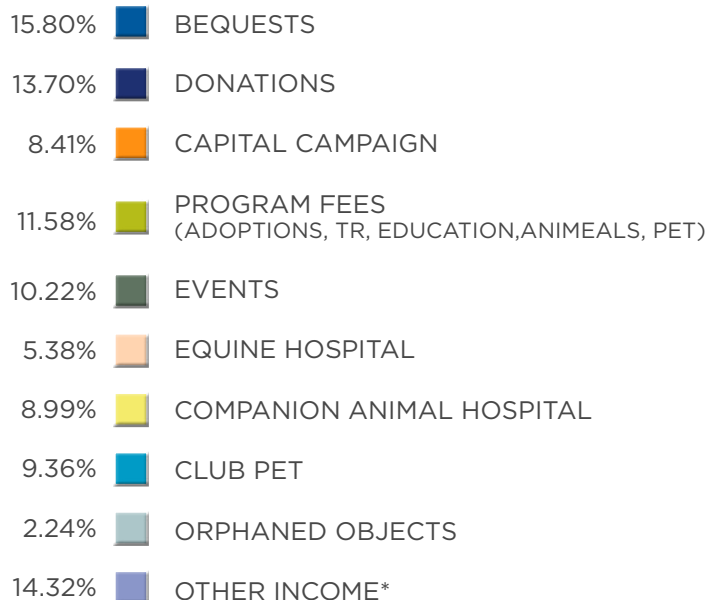
Center. It includes many one-of-a-kind items like furniture, home décor, animal items, toys, jewelry, art, clothing, and much more. Donors provide their gently used items and receive a tax receipt or shop and help save orphaned pets with every purchase.

2017 (GAAP) INCOME AND *Expense Statement*

PROVISIONAL

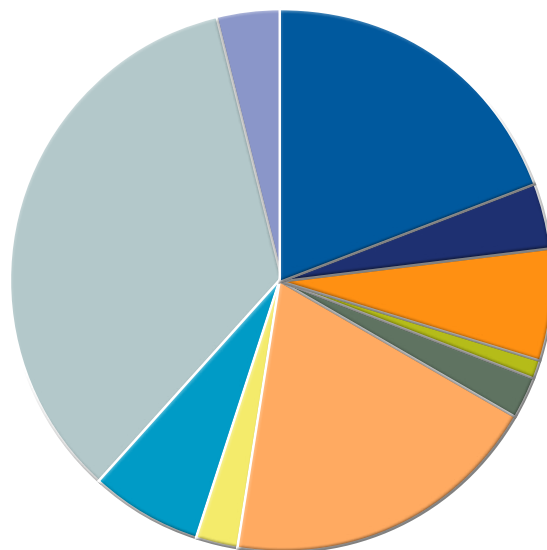
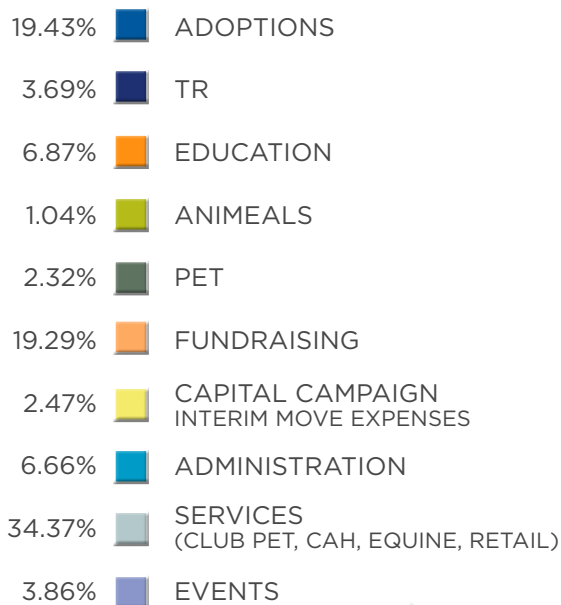
*Our full audited financials are available on-line at animalcenter.org

TOTAL REVENUE: \$14,609,218



TOTAL EXPENSES \$12,433,720

NET REVENUE \$2,175,498



MISSION STATEMENT

Helen Woodward Animal Center's passionate belief that animals help people and people help animals through trust, unconditional love, and respect, creates a legacy of caring. Sharing this philosophy with others, the Center inspires and teaches locally and globally, the importance of the animal human bond.

