



# 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Persistence. Innovation. Compassion.



## The year 2020 brought unprecedented challenges.

The COVID-19 pandemic forced the MD SPCA to adapt and innovate to continue serving pets and people when they needed us most.

Adoptions, education, and other programs were moved online. At the same time, we met the community's urgent need for pet food assistance and veterinary care.



**1,587**  
ADOPTIONS



**7,600**  
PETS RECEIVED  
VET CARE



**11,000**  
PETS RECEIVED PET  
FOOD ASSISTANCE

A web version of this report with video content is available at [mdspca.org/annualreport](https://mdspca.org/annualreport).

# Programs in 2020

## PERSIST & INNOVATE

### Adapting to the Pandemic

#### Relying on Our Foster Parents

In March, the MD SPCA temporarily closed our facilities to the public for everyone's safety. Clearing the shelter, we transferred 69 animals to incredible foster homes. The MD SPCA continued to provide fosters with food, medicine, vet care, and other supports. The generosity of our fosters—and our staff's dedication—was truly incredible.

Over the course of the year, more than 1,500 pets stayed with volunteer foster parents.

#### A New Way to Adopt

In April, the MD SPCA pivoted to a virtual adoption process. Our new platform allowed people to browse available pets and apply online. Adopters would complete a phone interview and virtual meet-and-greet before arranging a contactless pickup. The MD SPCA placed almost 1,600 pets in forever homes despite the pandemic.

We're currently developing plans to reopen our shelter to the public, allowing the community to see our pets up close. At the same time, we'll continue virtual adoptions. This hybrid approach will allow clients to choose their preferred process.



#### Spay/Neuter Surgeries

We spayed/neutered over 3,600 animals, including homeless pets as well as owned pets from under-resourced communities. The MD SPCA implemented curbside service to protect clients and staff.

#### Humane Education for Children

When the pandemic closed schools, the MD SPCA was forced to suspend our Wagging Tales Academy program. We shifted focus to our Teacher Led Curriculum, creating new resources to support virtual education.

The MD SPCA also created Virtual Story Time, where children could read to pets live via Zoom. We had participants from across Maryland, other states, and even other countries. The New York Times highlighted Story Time in an article on children's activities.

In total, 8,791 children participated in Wagging Tales programs during 2020.





## WHERE WE'RE NEEDED

# Emergency Response in the Community



### The Lucy Community Fund

The pandemic cratered the economy. Families and pets needed help in a big way. The Lucy Community Fund was born, helping us expand emergency services. It funded our pet food pantry, temporary pet housing following disasters, and our Wagging Tales program teaching children kindness to animals. Post-pandemic, it will also support therapy pet visits to senior centers and nursing homes. Learn more at [mdspca.org/lucyfund](https://mdspca.org/lucyfund).



### Pet Food Assistance for the Community

Many families struggled to feed their pets, facing the impossible choice of whether to give them up. The MD SPCA launched the Kibble Connection pet food pantry to meet this critical need. Twice weekly, pet owners made appointments to pick up free dog and cat food from our shelter and other community locations.

We served over 11,000 pets and 2,800 families during 2020. The pet food pantry will continue to be a core MD SPCA service moving forward.



### Helping Pets After a Gas Explosion

A gas explosion in Baltimore destroyed many homes. The MD SPCA fostered dogs from one of the displaced families while they searched for a new residence. We also provided medical care to another pet affected by the explosion. Our veterinary team cleaned the dog's eyes and ears, provided antibiotics and antihistamines, and removed several masses.





### Resources for Pet Parents

Our admissions team helped hundreds of struggling pet parents. Clients received free behavior consultations, referrals to resources, and support rehoming pets when there was no better option.



### Free Veterinary Clinics

Many pet families couldn't afford (or access) veterinary care. In partnership with PetSmart Charities, the MD SPCA launched our Paw Plus program to bring free veterinary clinics to under-resourced neighborhoods. We held four clinics, serving 322 pets from 194 families.

Following this success, the MD SPCA has expanded our clinics in 2021, working with nonprofits like Esperanza Center to reach new communities.

# The William Woodward Award



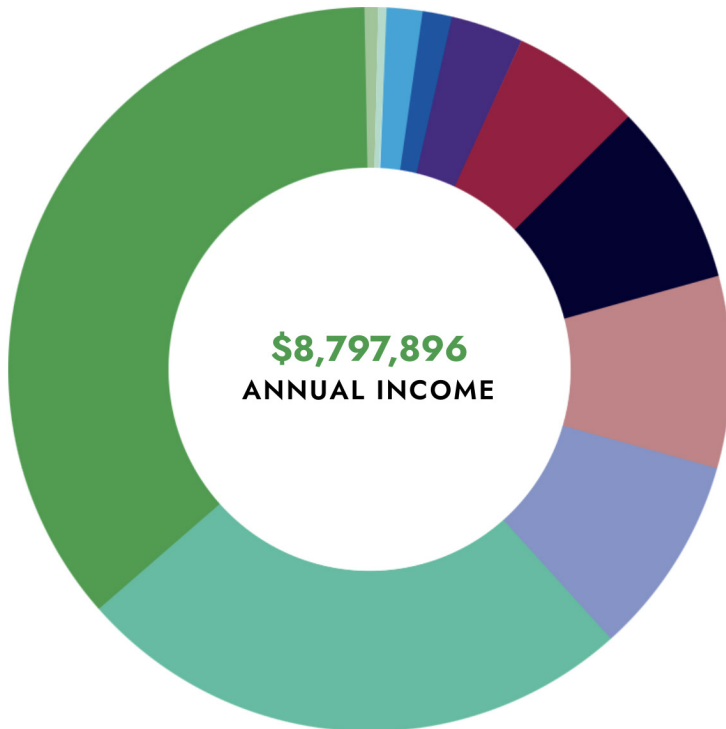
## 2020 RECIPIENT

## Dr. Michelle Meyers

The MD SPCA honored Dr. Michelle Meyers with our 2020 William Woodward Award for outstanding service to pets and people. For over 10 years, Dr. Myers has provided compassionate care to community pets at free vet clinics. She practices veterinary medicine at VCA Columbia Animal Hospital at Hickory Ridge.

# Financials

The pandemic significantly limited our income-earning services, such as adoptions and public training. To ensure we were able to retain our talented staff, the MD SPCA applied for and received funding from the Paycheck Protection Program.

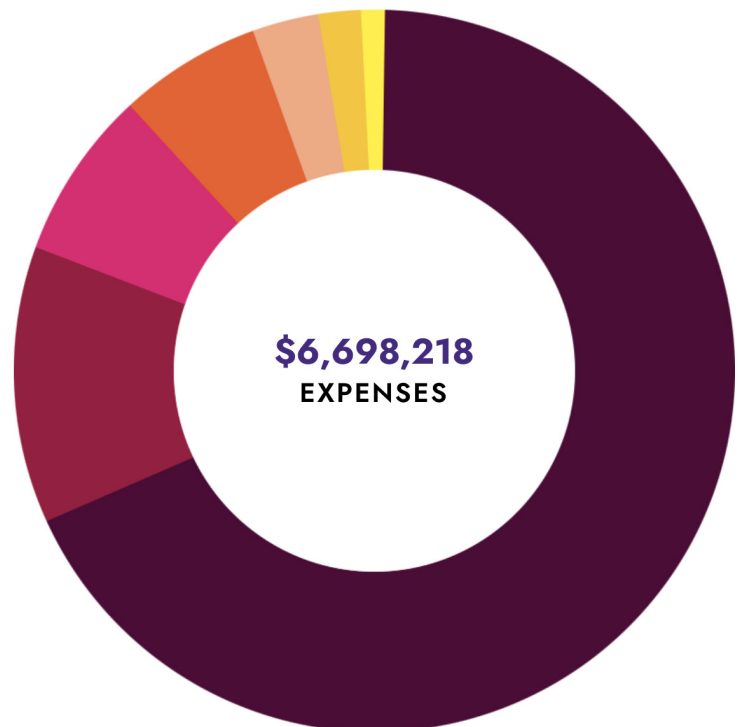


## ANNUAL INCOME

- Department of Agriculture – **\$36,514**
- Other Operations Income – **\$36,562**
- Spay/Neuter Fees – **\$120,370**
- Adoptions – **\$134,554**
- Events – **\$255,684**
- Institutional Contributions – **\$556,190**
- Wellness Clinic – **\$700,069**
- Paycheck Protection Program – **\$754,597**
- Interest/Gains – **\$791,864**
- Individual Contributions – **\$2,204,570**
- Bequests and Planned Giving – **\$3,206,922**

## EXPENSES

- Salaries and Benefits – **\$4,588,650**
- Facilities and Maintenance – **\$811,622**
- Animal Care – **\$500,790**
- Marketing and Events – **\$442,827**
- Office and General – **\$189,003**
- Education – **\$118,954**
- Outside Fees – **\$46,372**



**\$6,698,218**  
EXPENSES

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\* in tribute.

^ Silver Lifesaver, a Lifesaver for a decade or more.

We regret any error or omission—which is solely the responsibility of the Maryland SPCA.