

# 2022 Annual Report



The National Humane Education Society



## Message from The President

On behalf of The Board of Directors of The National Humane Education Society (NHES), I thank you—our generous donors—for your support in helping us “to foster a sentiment of kindness to animals in children and adults.” Without you, our work would not be possible.

The end of Fiscal Year 2022 brought with it a great deal of sadness for NHES because of the death of Virginia Briggs Dungan, our longest serving member of The Board of Directors. To her, other than her family, working and volunteering in the animal welfare field was the most meaningful endeavor of her life, which began in the 1950’s during her teen years caring for animals at Peace Plantation Animal Sanctuary and continuing until contemporary times as Treasurer of NHES until her death in 2022. Her life was characterized by empathy and compassion for animals and people, and was “A Life Well Lived.” We miss her.

With this loss also came the challenges of addressing the lingering financial effects of the pandemic, but we—The Board of Directors—had prepared accordingly and with your help, were able to meet these challenges for yet another year.

Ever so slowly, towards the end of the year, we began to see somewhat of a return to normalcy. Elementary schools began welcoming the return of our humane educators, our rescue and rehabilitation of neglected and abused animals continued uninterrupted, and the public began to schedule spay/neuter procedures for their companion animals. Our alliance partners in North Carolina and Florida also began to see these same glimpses of normalcy return to their program services—and we certainly hope this trend continues well into the future.

I also hope that you will feel the same sense of pride that I feel as you read about our efforts to create a more humane world for our animal friends during the past year. Truly, without you—our supporters—none of our meaningful work on behalf of animals could have been accomplished.

As always, I invite you to come visit with us and to take a tour of the NHES campus so that you can see firsthand how your charitable donations are being put to work to help rescue and rehabilitate neglected and abused animals and to educate our nation’s elementary school children.

Best regards,

  
Jim Taylor





## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

James D. Taylor, President

Cynthia L. Taylor, Vice President

Virginia Briggs Dungan, Treasurer

Christina B. Fernandez, Secretary

Margaret Janes, D.V.M., Director

Anne Small, Director

Ernest Lico, Director



### *Our Mission:*

*"Fostering a sentiment of kindness to animals in children and adults."*

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Gold  
Transparency  
2022

**Candid.**

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#### **Programs of NHES:**

Briggs Animal Adoption Center

Spay Today

Since 1948, The National Humane Education Society (NHES) has been tirelessly working to “foster a sentiment of kindness to animals in children and adults” through written articles, educational materials, and free educational programs. By doing so, we have been emulating NHES founder, Anna C. Briggs’ philosophical belief system that *“Animals have intrinsic value in and of themselves and are deserving of our protection.”*

Throughout the year, we kept our supporters informed about 47 legislative issues impacting animals and the environment. We greatly appreciate our supporters who joined us in making a difference for animals by contacting their representatives and advocating for legislation to help animals. We are especially thankful to those of you who signed and returned the Convicted Animal Abuser Registry Petition urging governors in your state to create a statewide animal abuser registry to help prevent innocent animals from ending up in the evil hands of animal abusers.

**Animal welfare highlights impacting farm animals and companion animals included:**



**Hope for Getting Pregnant Pigs Out of Constraining Gestation Stalls**

*Paws Up!* Congresswoman Veronica Escobar and Congresswoman Nancy Mace introduced the PIGS Act of 2022. This amendment to the Animal Welfare Act would ban the drastic confinement of pregnant pigs.



**California Representative Tony Cardenas Re-introduced H.R. 3335, the Greyhound Protection Act of 2021.**

*Paws Up!* After a year fraught with uncertainty amid the pandemic, California Congressman Tony Cardenas has re-introduced H.R. 3335, The Greyhound Protection Act. This bill would phase out all live dog racing in the United States. As more states pass legislation to end dog racing, a few states, like West Virginia and Iowa, are holding out as long as they can. Legislators have decided that enough is enough, and have introduced a bill that would ban greyhound racing nationwide!





### Cats Are Protected from Painful Declawing

Paws Up! Maryland joined New York’s efforts to protect cats from the cruel procedure of amputating their claws and part of the bone. The law went into effect on October 1, 2022. Under the law, veterinarians are not allowed to declaw any cat unless it is for a medical reason. Any veterinarian who violates the law may have to pay a fine up to \$1,000.

### Humane Education Outreach Highlights

Our Humane Education Team (H.E. Team) continued to feel the effects from the pandemic as schools restricted visitors. Near the end of the school year, however, some schools began lifting restrictions and the H.E. Team excitedly visited over 3,000 children/youth in Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey, and Ohio, and resumed hosting its summer camp—much to the delight of new and returning campers. See highlights below:



Shari & Trixie

(one of the youngest therapy dogs we partnered with in Mullica Township, NJ)

Summer camp parent testimonial:

*“Thank you so much for the wonderful camp. My son has never had such an enriching experience! He loved every day and came home begging to attend another NHES camp. I see how hard you guys worked and all the details you paid attention to were amazing. Hunter learned a lot. Most camps, my kid comes home overly tired, grouchy, and has adopted some bad behaviors. But not at cool to care camp! Thanks so much for having this program.”*



## The Briggs Animal Adoption Center

NHES' flagship animal care facility, the Briggs Animal Adoption Center (BAAC), underwent some much-needed renovations this year. Thanks to generous donor support, we were able to (1) replace sections of our 20-plus-year-old roof, (2) install sail shades in the play yards, (3) construct improved dividing walls in the kennel runs, and (4) construct a new delivery platform. To help increase exercise and time outside for our many canine friends, the front play yard was extended and divided into five smaller individual yards.





Due to the constant demands of animal homelessness, we continued to work with animal rescues in Mississippi, North Carolina, Virginia, and other rural parts of West Virginia to take in neglected, abused, and abandoned animals who were at-risk of being euthanized in high-kill animal control facilities. We are only able to continue these significant rescue efforts because of you—our kind supporters.

It takes a team of dedicated staff to help care for the many cats and dogs who come through our doors. BAAC can humanely house up to 80 dogs and 125 cats at any given time. We are grateful for our staff's tireless efforts to care for the countless animals who arrive in varying conditions. We are also thankful to you—our supporters—who drop off donations from our wish list or volunteer your time to socialize and brush our cats and/or walk and play with our dogs. These actions help us move forward and continue to create differences in the lives of animals who deserve second chances that are characterized with love and kindness from humans.



BAAC Adoption Staff stuffing Kong treats for our canines' enrichment

### Volunteers Provide Invaluable Socialization & Fun for Our Animals

Our volunteer coordinator shares:

*"We have two volunteers in particular who began volunteering in January and come weekly—if not multiple times a week. They continue to work with the shy and unsocialized dogs but have also spent a lot of time with the dogs that have a lot of energy and really need extra time out of their kennel. One of them sometimes walks seven or eight dogs a day and also spends time with others in their kennel or play yard. Thank you!"*



Daphne, one of our senior dogs, returning from the groomers

## In-House Dog Trainer

Over half of the dogs at BAAC come from animal cruelty cases where they have been starved, chained 24/7, or lived in a home with too many other dogs. BAAC's dog trainer may well offer these dogs their first kind interaction with a human being. Our trainer has met multiple dog transports from myriad states and, once to twice a month, she—along with other staff—meets dog transports from Mid-South Animal Welfare Foundation that brings dogs from as far away as Mississippi and Alabama.

Almost daily, our staff and volunteers walk dogs on our Rehabilitative Dog Walking Path to foster bonds of trust. They frequently walk shyer dogs with more outgoing dogs to help socialize them. These outings give shyer dogs opportunities to gain more confidence.



Highlight story from our trainer about five Australian Shepherd mix puppies:



*“Talkeetna was one of five puppies that we received who had no socialization when we got them. We continue to consistently work with them to get them to come around. Talkeetna was adopted by a wonderful previous adopter after numerous visits here with her other dog, as well as multiple home visits. Talkeetna is now doing very well in her home after being adopted in May.”*







## BAAC's Adoption Counselors Help Create Happy Fur-Endings

On any given day, our adoption counselors sift through countless adoption applications from potential adopters to find the “best match” for the cats and dogs who are waiting for their forever homes. This process is vital in helping our counselors match adopters with the energy/temperament level of the animals—especially dogs—in our care.



Adoption day is a celebratory one at BAAC, especially when the animals leaving are ones who have been waiting for a family for a long time or are seniors or have “special needs.” Dogs receive baths before they leave and are delivered to their new homes by an adoption counselor. Before they go, they receive a warm send-off with an overhead announcement on the PA system and cuddles from staff members.

**This past year, BAAC placed hundreds of cats and dogs in loving forever homes where they will never again experience neglect or abuse.** Some of the placements included dogs or cats considered to have “special needs” like Irene and Catlyn.



### Irene's Story

Irene, an 8-week-old puppy, was a dog who many would have considered to have “special needs.” She came to us in the spring of 2021 with her two siblings. During her initial exam, she displayed signs of vision impairment. Within days, our staff veterinarian concluded that Irene's sight challenges were more neurological than congenital. Due to

Irene's unique needs, she was often overlooked by potential adopters. After being with us for 9 months, her forever family finally came!

### Burrough's Testimonial:

*“My husband and I had been to several shelters looking for an older or special needs dog. I heard about Irene (now Zuri) a blind puppy at Briggs through a friend. We ended up adopting her in February a month before she turned one, with most of that time being spent at the shelter. Out of all the shelters we visited, Briggs had the friendliest and most professional employees you could ask for. You could tell they loved their jobs*



*and loved the animals even more. I can't say enough nice things about them, especially Sam and Ellen. Their adoption process with the meet and greets and home visit show they truly care about the placement of these animals. We ended up falling in love with another dog there and adopted him a month later. Both dogs are doing wonderful and we couldn't love them more!"*



### **Catlyn's Story**

In addition to Irene, Catlyn, too, would have been considered to have "special needs." In the summer of 2018, we received Catlyn from a good Samaritan who found her on their property. She was covered in fleas and deer ticks, but overall healthy. During her examination, however, our vet noted that Catlyn had a circumferential scar the whole way around her abdomen distinguishing what looked like a rubber band injury from her

past. Due to her age and her temperamental tendencies, she stayed with us until May of 2022, when she was adopted into her forever home.

Kathy Orrison's Testimonial:

*"I adopted this sweet girl from BAAC in May. Catlyn is a joy and has been the best addition to the family. It is obvious what great care and love she received while at Briggs. I was impressed with the facility and staff. They take great care in making sure the adoption process goes smoothly and each pet is placed in the best forever home. Highly recommend to anyone looking to adopt. Thank you!"*



Kathy Orrison completing Catlyn's adoption paperwork with Sylvia Adams, an adoption counselor



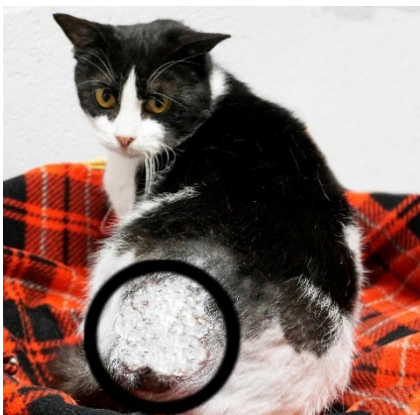
## In-House Veterinary Clinic

To ensure our animals receive prompt medical treatment, we are fortunate to have a passionate veterinary staff (one full-time veterinarian, one part-time volunteer veterinarian, and one veterinary technician). Upon arrival, our rescued cats and dogs receive full checkups; dentals and teeth extractions, if needed; Rabies vaccines and other vaccines; heartworm tests and heartworm preventatives; flea and tick preventatives; microchips; and any necessary surgeries such as limb amputations, hernia repairs, tumor removals, and eye enucleations.

As with all animal rescue work, ours is not without its sadness, but we are given hope as we watch animals fight to live and thrive amidst extreme odds. Here are just two of the hundreds of animals we were able to provide care for because of you—our generous supporters:



**Tessa** arrived in poor health from neglect. Her eyesight was so severely damaged that our veterinary staff had to perform two surgeries to remove ulcers from her eyes. She was also suffering from poor dental health and had to have 10 teeth extracted due to decay. She will require daily eye medications for the rest of her life. The neglect she endured did not affect her. She loves to talk and cuddle.



**Ding-A-Ling** arrived at BAAC underweight, malnourished, covered in fleas and scabs, and suffering from painful abscesses from an animal bite. After months of hydrotherapy treatments provided by our veterinary staff, his skin slowly healed. Despite the extreme pain he endured, he is the most relaxed and loveable fellow.

**Tessa and Ding-A-Ling have each been placed in their forever homes with loving human companions who will fulfill lifelong commitments to each of them.**

## Community Support and Fundraising Events

We are thankful to have wonderful support—both nationally and locally. In addition to our regular annual fundraising events that bring in vital funds to help care for our rescued cats and dogs at BAAC, our adoptable dogs had the chance to meet new people and be exposed to new sights, smells, and sounds at several events to benefit homeless animals—the Dog Fest in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, and the Amani Brewery in Martinsburg, West Virginia.



We appreciate all of the families who attend our Adoption Alumni. It is a time when staff can visit with the dogs, and the dogs get to socialize with each other.

## Emergency Pet Food Pantry

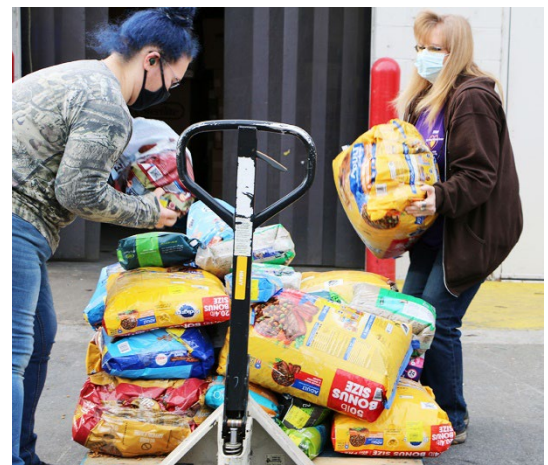
Anyone who has shared their life with companion animals has experienced the unconditional love, loyalty, and comfort they bring. Companion animals help alleviate depression and increase their human companions' overall health. When individuals and families in the community face financial hardship, BAAC is able to help feed beloved cats and dogs and provide some peace of mind by distributing



Reverend John Unger II blesses companion animals at BAAC in honor of St. Francis of Assisi Day.



A dog dressed up for the First Annual Doggy Easter Egg Hunt.





emergency food. This year, BAAC distributed 6,441 lbs. of dog and cat food.

Testimonial from a local food pantry coordinator:

*“Briggs has been a long-time supporter of the Christ Church Cares Food Pantry, by offering monthly donations of pet food and kitty litter. We are so appreciative of the generosity, especially in times like now, when everyone is feeling the pinch of ever-rising inflation.*

*Those who are most appreciative are the clients that we serve, who have pets. Many of our clients are senior citizens that are widowed and alone. Their pets are their constant companion. For some, their pets are like their babies, someone they can care for and love, and they know their pets return their love without conditions. We found this to be especially true during COVID, when so many were shut in for fear of getting exposed to COVID. We heard stories of our clients keeping their pets in the bed with them to keep them warm, sitting in their laps or by their feet during the day to keep them company. We’ve even had a few bring their pets into the pantry with them, truly, as if they were a child.*

*Without the support that Briggs continues to provide to our food pantry, many of our clients wouldn’t be able to keep pets. We believe that for lonely seniors, having a pet is very therapeutic, and just as important to their well-being as the food that we offer them. Thank you, Briggs!!”*

## Spay Today

Spay Today has been helping to humanely decrease animal overpopulation in the quad-state of Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia since 1994. In 2022, Spay Today surpassed a major milestone with aiding in the spaying and neutering of 88,050 cats and dogs. The pandemic’s effects are still being felt with reduced staffing at veterinary clinics, which has resulted in some veterinarians’ choosing to drop out of our Spay Today program. Even with this decline in the number of participating veterinary clinics, Spay Today provided 3,019 reduced-cost spay/neuter procedures this year.



Our Spay Today staff responds to an average of 400 phone messages and 100 email applications per month.



Rescued Kittens

## Alliance Partnerships

### Friends of Felines—Hatteras Island (FOFHI)

is an all-volunteer group dedicated to improving the lives of all community cats—feral, free-roaming and personal companion cats—on this small barrier island on North Carolina’s coast. We at NHES applaud their efforts and provide funding to FOFHI to help them achieve this goal.

Debbie Martin, Director of FOFHI, writes, “*It was a busy year, and we sincerely appreciate the*

*steadfast and generous support from NHES. Our passion to help all animals creates a better world for the future generation.*”

This past year, NHES’ support helped purchase food to feed an average of 100 cats in managed colony sites each day, and to cover a portion of the costs to provide 44 rescued kittens with medical exams and vaccinations before adoption.

FOFHI also sponsored two Trap/Neuter/Release clinics with assistance from Dr. Marty Edwards of Cary, North Carolina. Dr. Edwards and her staff spayed/neutered 101 cats (54 females and 47 males) during these two clinics. An additional 138 cats were spayed/neutered by local island veterinarians bringing the total number of spayed/neutered community cats on Hatteras Island to 239 for the year.



Spay Surgery



Feral Cats Covered  
in Traps Awaiting Surgery







Student with a DVM Coach

**Operation Catnip (OC)** of Gainesville, Florida, is NHES’ longest-standing Alliance Partner. NHES has been providing funding to OC since it was founded in 1998; thereby helping hundreds if not thousands of veterinary students from the University of Florida gain hands on surgical experience and a clear understanding of the overpopulation of feral and free-roaming cats in our country.

Audrey Garrison, Executive Director of Operation Catnip shares:

*“During NHES’ fiscal year, Operation Catnip performed a total of 6,187 spay and neuter surgeries—all except 47 of those were on cats. The 47 spay and neuter surgeries on other species consisted of dogs, rabbits, and guinea pigs. Of those surgeries 4,047 were performed by veterinary students. In addition, veterinary students performed or scrubbed-in on over 200 life-saving surgeries such as amputations, enucleations, and FHOs [hip surgeries]. We all appreciate the long-term support that ... [NHES] has provided, helping to ensure that at least some vet students can graduate as competent and confident clinicians and surgeons.”*



In a temporary clinic space while their new building is being remodeled with numerous students and coaches doing surgery.



**The Network for Endangered Sea Turtles (NEST)** is another one of NHES’ Alliance Partners.

During FY 2022, NEST volunteers discovered and monitored 41 sea turtle nests, and rescued and transported 75 injured turtles to the Sea Turtle Assistance and Rehabilitation Center (STAR Center) at the North Carolina Aquarium in Manteo. Equally important, 320 students participated in a variety of NEST’s training sessions to learn how to properly conduct turtle management efforts. John Cece, President of

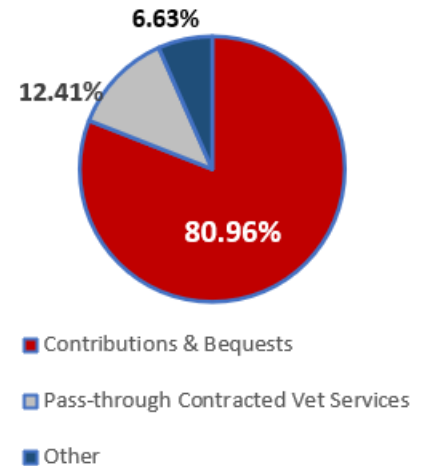
NEST, writes, *“On behalf of all the NEST volunteers, I would like to thank NHES for its continuing support. Your support has allowed the NEST Board of Directors to provide NEST volunteers with the tools and equipment they need to conduct their activities.”*



## Financial Overview

The National Humane Education Society is funded solely by our generous supporters, and we cannot express our gratitude enough for how they join us to create a better world for all animals of the land, air, and sea.

FY 22 Revenue	
Contributions & Bequests	\$ 2,478,350.00
Pass-through Contracted Vet Services	\$ 379,878.00
Other	\$ 202,895.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 3,061,123.00</b>



FY 22 Expenses	
Humane Education	\$ 891,486.00
Alliance Partnerships/PPAS	\$ 12,807.00
Briggs Animal Adoption Center	\$1,232,122.00
Member Services	\$ 191,750.00
Spay Today	\$ 477,933.00
<b>Total Programs</b>	<b>\$ 2,806,098.00</b>
Management & General	\$ 319,603.00
Fundraising/Member Acquisition	\$ 300,577.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 3,426,278.00</b>

