Impact Report 2021



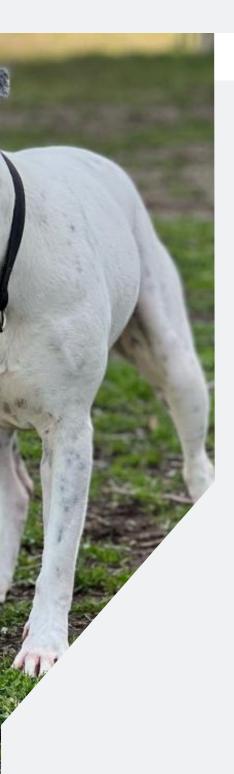


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Letter from the CEO

At the Tulsa SPCA, 2021 was notable for change and challenges. However, resilience is the one word I use to describe the year. While navigating through the pandemic supplied plenty of opportunities to be discouraged, there have been encouraging signals as well.

One of the most important signals was seeing how many people, in a time of uncertainty and isolation, turned to animals to help compensate for lost companionship and human interaction. Over the years, the animals in our lives have slowly moved from the periphery of our day-to-day routines to being a central part of our families. We believe this is another step forward to helping more people understand not only the importance and value of the animals in their homes, but also the permanent commitment to them as a member of the family.

Our efforts at the Tulsa SPCA will continue to revolve around rescue, rehabilitation, and rehoming of animals in need, but we are also doing our best to offer resources to help keep animals with the families who love them in times of uncertainty.

In most cases, this type of assistance comes in the form of food, medical care and education on the responsibilities of owning a pet. Through our low-cost clinic and cruelty investigation program, we have the opportunity to help people learn about proper pet care so they are better able to keep their pets in their home with the people they love.

Additionally, we continue to work hard to make sure if a dog or cat does end up in our shelter, we are taking care of their needs to the best of our ability. Because of our commitment to this, we determine capacity at our shelter

"None of what we do is possible without the generosity of our donors."



based on staffing levels. Each animal in our care is allocated a minimum of 15 minutes for cleaning/feeding each day and an additional 30 minutes of enrichment. The staffing challenges experienced by many this year have impacted us, as well.

Volunteers, including foster families, help mitigate the challenge somewhat, but not completely. We are aware of the difficult nature of this work and know how crucial our staff is to the well-being of our animals. Without our staff's dedication and compassion, we would not be able to care for the animals who need our services.

None of what we do is possible without the generosity of our donors. In a time when money is tight and people aren't sure about the future, I continue to be overwhelmed by the benevolence of those in our community. Most of the revenue to support our programs comes from private donations. We are not a part of any type of "parent" organization nor do we receive money from the city of Tulsa. We save lives because you give us the means to do so.

Thank you for your kindness and willingness to be a part of our mission to improve the lives of dogs and cats, and their human companions. With your help, future years will be even more successful!

Mindy Tiner CEO, Tulsa SPCA

2021 Statistics





FOR DOGS

▼17%

2020

2021

30

25

days

days

Average length of stay*

*length of stay refers to the number of days an animal is with a shelter from intake to adoption



2020

2021

51

34

days

days

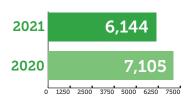
41,285 lbs

of food distributed

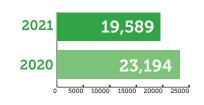
1,518

cruelty cases resolved

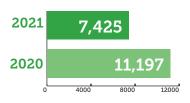












Kodiak's Journey

Thousands of dogs and cats have been treated for low-cost at the Tulsa SPCA's John & Tricia Arend Clinic for minor issues such as infections and abuse. Although we aren't completely sure of Kodiak's past, his medical condition fell into the latter category.

Kodiak was brought to the Tulsa SPCA in October 2021 with severe injuries to his face, mouth, and jaw, in addition to swelling and abrasions on his legs and feet. He was immediately sedated to ease his pain and when all was said and done, Tulsa SPCA veterinarians removed fractured teeth, repositioned his jaw after discovering a broken mandible and sutured it in place. For days following the surgery, clinic staff hand-fed Kodiak as there was concern eating from a bowl could reinjure his extremely fragile mouth. Even though he was in a tremendous amount of pain, Kodiak never showed aggression or fear.

For several weeks, Kodiak was kept on pain medication and antibiotics. About a month following the surgery, clinic staff noticed the muscles on the top of his head had begun to recede. After several tests were done, it was the general consensus that nerve damage had occurred, most likely from being thrown from a car or hit by a vehicle.

We will never know for sure what happened to Kodiak before he found his way to the Tulsa SPCA. What we do know is the treatment he received from the Tulsa SPCA Clinic was extraordinary and gave him the opportunity to live a healthy life with a new family. Kodiak is just one story that highlights the care needed for homeless dogs and cats who find themselves in harm's way. The Tulsa SPCA has risen to the occasion many times to give these dogs and cats a second chance.

We recently asked his adopters how Kodiak is adjusting. "We love him so much," they said. Five words that speak volumes.





Teddi's New Life

Many people often stereotype rescue dogs as being neglected, abused or abandoned. In reality, many Tulsa SPCA dogs and cats are surrendered by their owners for multiple reasons.

Sometimes people can simply no longer care for their pets, and these dogs and cats arrive at the shelter house-trained, obedient and in good health. It is never an easy choice to give up a pet.

Teddi is one of these dogs. Teddi was surrendered to the Tulsa SPCA in October 2021. Luckily, he was only at the shelter for nine days before finding his forever home. Sometimes dogs and cats who come from indoor lifestyles are surrendered and find it hard to acclimate to life in a shelter.

Teddi's family says this about him, "We love him so much. Teddi comes to work

with me every day and the customers just love him, too! Thank you so much for allowing me to have him."

Without the Tulsa SPCA available for owners to surrender their pets, these animals could end up on the streets, hungry, lost and scared. We provide an environment that is safe and filled with love while these perfectly "normal pets" wait for new homes to call their own.





Wonder: a Rescue Story

When Tim Geen found a 40-pound mother dog in a wooded area in rural North Tulsa, it was a wonder that she and her six puppies were still alive.



"It makes it all worthwhile to see great dogs like these rescued." — Tim Geen

Tim, the cruelty investigation officer at the Tulsa SPCA, received a phone call from a good samaritan about starving dogs on the property.

When Tim went to the location, it was "completely overgrown with snakes and rats with no signs of dogs," said Tim. "I even ran across the body of a dead cow in the field and saw that something had been munching on it." He thought that perhaps the missing dogs were trying to eat the cow, so he kept searching. Soon he found an old rusty shed covered with overgrowth and vines, and that is when he heard one of the puppies.

He came back with traps expecting it would be hard to capture the entire family, but as soon as he put out hamburger and chicken, the desperate dogs jumped into the traps to get something to eat. "The momma dog was a sweet, all white mixed breed and she cuddled up with me immediately," Tim said. She was probably dumped in the woods by an owner...something that happens often without great results as domesticated dogs aren't meant for the wild and end up getting sick, eaten or even shot by landowners. But "Wonder," as she was named by the Tulsa SPCA, hit the jackpot when Tim found her. "It makes it all worthwhile to see great dogs like these rescued," said Tim.

Soon after, Wonder and the pups were cared for by the clinical team at the Tulsa SPCA. "The skinny dogs were treated for fleas and ticks, and given

vaccinations," said Lauren Holder, animal connections officer. Wonder was a little worse off than her pups with heartworm and Ehrlichia, so she stayed at the Tulsa SPCA for a month before she was ready for adoption. Lauren said that Wonder was five years old and by the time she was adopted had increased her weight to 53 pounds.

"After naming the momma dog 'Wonder,' we decided to name the rest of the pups something unique, so we kept it in the 'bread' family," said Erin Johnson, clinic manager, "Pumpernickel, Brioche, Rye, Crumpet, Ciabatta and Croissant." They were all adopted within a month and placed in loving homes.

Wonder's adoptive mom, Donetta Jamieson said, "Wonder is my baby. She is the best dog ever and loves to cuddle and play." And Pumpernickel went to live with Allison Duncan who said, "His new name is Oakley, and he loves people and is a big goofball. We love snuggling, running and playing."

Last year alone, we investigated 1,518 cruelty cases and this was just one. In all, 25 people contributed their time and care to make sure this family was rescued, treated for starvation and health issues, and adopted. And it's even more if you count all of the people who regularly provide financial support so that dogs like these can lead the lives they were meant to lead. Isn't that a great feeling?

Princess Void: Foster to Forever Home

On April Fool's Day 2021, Princess Void, just a few weeks old at the time, became a resident of the Tulsa SPCA. As kittens need a high level of attention, Princess Void was placed in a foster home. Little did we know she would remain there for three and a half months.

On July 17, Princess Void finally found her forever home. Her family says this about her, "We kept her name, love the name! Our vet was impressed at how healthy and sweet she is. She settled in quickly and is now the spoiled queen (maybe an upgrade of her name is called for!) of our house."

Whether an animal remains at the shelter or is placed in foster care, expenses are incurred to keep it healthy and happy. Many animals the Tulsa SPCA intakes require a spay or neuter surgery, vaccinations, microchips and in some cases, extensive medical services. This, along with food, staff hours, toys, and training supplies, adds up.

Princess Void is living her best life. Our goal is to support dogs and cats from intake to adoption with the love and attention they deserve.





Tulsa SPCA's average cost per stay to host an animal.



Donate or sign up to be a foster at tulsaspca.org

All animals adopted from the Tulsa SPCA are:

- Spayed or neutered
- Vaccinated
- Heartworm or FIV/FeLV tested
- Given preventions (flea/tick, heartworm)
- Microchipped

Community Engagement









Due to the continued impact and presence of COVID-19, our Community Engagement programs were still on hold throughout 2021. We look forward to getting them started again soon!

The Tulsa SPCA has been offering our Pets Are Love (PAL) program, grounded in the philosophy and practice of Animal-Assisted Therapy, since the early 1990s. Our volunteers take pre-screened and pre-trained dogs (and, occasionally, cats) for scheduled visits to facilities in the Tulsa area on an ongoing basis. Although our program focuses on nursing homes, we also serve hospital geriatric units and other facilities that care for patients away from their homes and their companion animals. Most skilled nursing facilities are unable to maintain a pet program as part of their service, and many residents, although they can no longer care for them, desperately miss their pets. We see the value of our PAL program reflected on the faces of the residents and patients we serve every time we arrive. During our stay, our calm and quiet dogs and cats are talked to, held and cuddled. Studies have shown that such visitations provide emotional outlets for patients, and lead to increased socialization, relaxed mood, and an overall reduction of blood pressure, as well as boosting the general health of the people we serve.

The Tulsa SPCA offers interactive tours of our facilities to interested groups in the public. Scheduled in advance, tours include an informative walk-through of our shelter, cat colony room, vet clinic and outdoor runs. Depending on the interests of the group, our tour might focus on the financial needs of the shelter, the needs and origins of our dogs and cats or the shelter's daily operations. Every tour is a cooperative effort between the Tulsa SPCA tour guide and the group leader.

Our Mobile Adoption Center (MAC) helps connect adoption-ready dogs and cats to their forever homes in the Tulsa community. We enjoy attending community events and parades, as well as visiting retail partners.

The Tulsa SPCA partners with local schools to provide educational presentations for elementary and middle school students. Depending on the goals and needs of the teachers or administrators requesting the school visit, our presentations might cover information about the mission of the Tulsa SPCA, humane pet care, animal needs in general or understanding the differences between the ways pets and humans experience the world.

Youth Volunteer and Cat Foster Family of the Year



Skyla Eller 2021 Youth Volunteer of the Year

Each year the Tulsa SPCA honors an individual 17 years of age or younger who demonstrates exceptional dedication and commitment to the Tulsa SPCA, our mission, and the animals in our care.

Our 2021 award was given to Skyla Eller, who contributed 30 hours of service in 2021 by helping with dog socialization, clinic aid and clinic reception. Skyla says, "A big thing that impacted me to start volunteering at the Tulsa SPCA is the fact that I have loved animals for as long as I can remember, and I knew that it was what I was meant to do. I've seen ASPCA commercials as a kid, and I couldn't wait until I was old enough to start volunteering, but as a child I had no idea about the impact this organization had on animals' lives. Now I'm older and I'm working with animals every day at an animal hospital and I am so grateful to the Tulsa SPCA for being my first door opener into this career I've wanted since I was little."



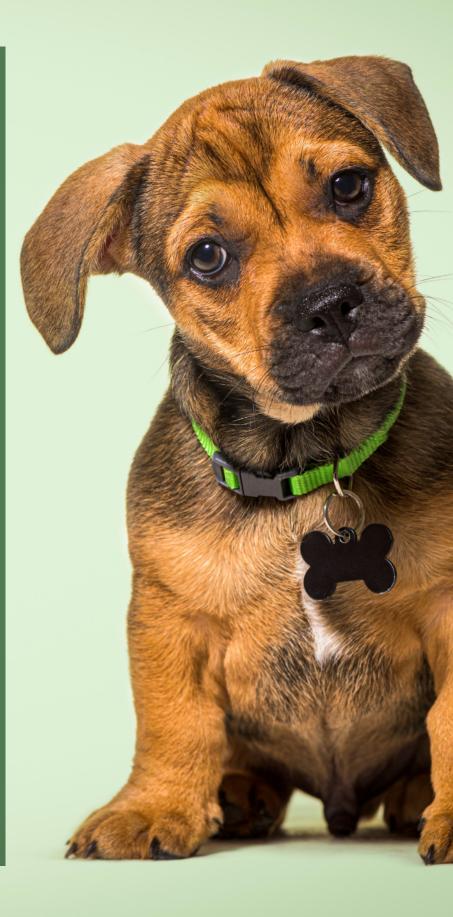
Rebecca Gage and Family 2021 Cat Foster Family of the Year

Last year, the Tulsa SPCA selected Rebecca Gage as our cat Foster Family of the Year, having provided 336 hours of service in 2021.

Rebecca says, "Fostering gave our family the opportunity to serve our community, despite pandemic restrictions, and KNOW we were truly making a small difference. Supporting and protecting our furry companions who cannot speak for themselves and who did not ask for the circumstances that led them to the Tulsa SPCA inspired our family to continue fostering cats and kittens beyond our 'foster fails,' Zap and Olaf Snugglebutt. Socializing and letting go of a playful kitty, knowing they were getting a second chance at life, challenged us to love bigger! We adore the feline additions to our family and now have more appreciation for the impact the Tulsa SPCA's efforts are making in saving the lives of animals and enriching the lives of people in our community."

SOME PEOPLE REFER TO THE TULSA SPCA AS A "NO-KILL" SHELTER BECAUSE ALMOST ALL THE ANIMALS WE SERVE WALK OUT OF OUR DOORS. We

discourage that terminology because no shelter or rescue ever wants to "kill" the animals it is their mission to save. Unfortunately, some open admission shelters are forced to make the difficult decision to euthanize for space. The Tulsa SPCA, as a managed intake shelter, is able to pull animals from open intake shelters as one source of our intakes instead of being in their position. However, the truth is, although never for space, we do sometimes make the decision to euthanize. If an animal is suffering and the cause cannot be treated, we will euthanize. We will also euthanize if an animal is deemed dangerously aggressive. Luckily, we are not forced to make that difficult decision often. The Tulsa SPCA uses the Asilomar Live Release Rate to highlight the number of animals who left our care with a live outcome (adoption, return to owner, etc.). We are pleased to report our live release rate for 2021 was 96%!



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Andrea Maduro

Art Director **Byers Creative**

Suzanne Lucenta

American Waste Control



Offer Your Expertise

The Board of Directors and various committees within the Tulsa SPCA organization are in need of volunteers with these skills:

- Human Resources
- Legal
- **Building Maintenance**
- Operations
- Information Technology
- **Fundraising**
- Financial Planning and Planned Giving

The Board invites you to apply to join a committee. Please email board@tulsaspca.org to offer the Tulsa SPCA your expertise on a volunteer basis.

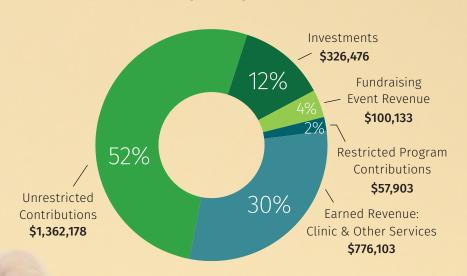


FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY **AND ACCOUNTABILITY** are key to a thriving nonprofit. The Tulsa SPCA is pleased to share our financial outcomes from 2021. We take great pride in maintaining a diverse portfolio of revenue streams and keeping a low ratio of administrative and fundraising expenses compared to program expenses. We are dedicated to being an exceptional steward of your kindness and proud to maintain a Silver Seal of Transparency from independent charity watchdog GuideStar and an Encompass rating of 100 from Charity Navigator. If you are interested in a more detailed view of our financials, we encourage you to view them at www.guidestar.org.

HOW YOUR MONEY IS SPENT

Your gift to the Tulsa SPCA is an investment in the animals and their human companions we serve. Ninety percent of every dollar donated to us is spent directly on animal care and related programs. All funds are spent serving Tulsa animals within our local communities.

2021 Revenue **\$2,622,793**



2021 Expenses





\$1,710,569

\$1,910,857



10% –

\$200,288

Donor Spotlight



Kenny Burkett & His 3 Rescue Dogs American Waste Control

American Waste Control is the product of more than 50 years in the waste collection business, founded by visionary Kenneth Burkett. Kenny was inspired by family and challenged by his own work ethic and grit to never give up, no matter how hard the work became, no matter

how many challenges the day brought him.

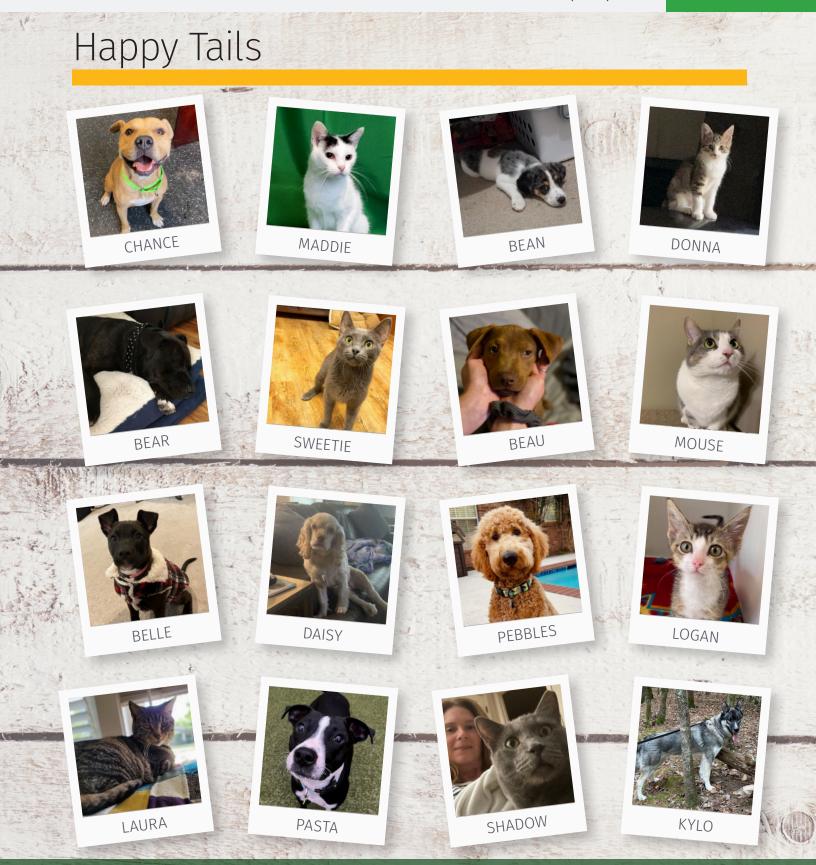
And because he was hauling trash all day and working on his truck all night to keep it running – there was no shortage of challenges Kenny faced. Because of the price Kenny was willing to pay over the years, American Waste Control has grown from a one-truck, one-man operation to a 185-truck fleet with more than 250 employees.

Kenny's mission to take care of his employees, provide excellent service to his customers, serve the Tulsa community, and find sustainable ways to dispose of the waste he hauled has shaped American Waste Control to be the company it is today. At American Waste Control, they view waste as a resource to be used. It's that commitment that drove Kenny to build Oklahoma's first Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) or Mr. Murph, as it is more commonly known. Kenny also built Oklahoma's first Waste-to-Energy landfill, utilizing materials that couldn't be recycled to generate clean

renewable energy for more than 20,000 Oklahomans.

American Waste Control places a significant emphasis on supporting the local community, including it as one of their six core values, stating "Nothing means more to us than serving our city. Tulsa is our homeand it is our priority to make a difference in the lives of people as we build upon a legacy of sustainable living in Oklahoma."

Here at Tulsa SPCA, American Waste Control has been a proud supporter of our mission for over 8 years,. In addition, they had an employee serve as a board member, bringing her knowledge and expertise to our organization as we plan for the future. They are also well known animal welfare advocates, promoting rescue and shelter adoptions, as well as the need for foster homes and community education and awareness.



969 ANIMALS WERE PLACED IN 2021. These are just a few of the many photos we receive from happy Tulsa SPCA adopters.



P.O. Box 581898, Tulsa, OK 74158 918.428.SPCA (7722) tulsaspca.org

Visit tulsaspca.org/donate to learn how you can support the Tulsa SPCA. Email giving@tulsaspca.org to speak with our VP of Philanthropy and Communications about ways to give.





