

2015

THE YEAR IN REVIEW



2015 ANNUAL REPORT FOR



Dear Friends,

Thanks to your support, the introduction of many new programs this year allowed BARCS to save thousands of animals. We are happy to report that again this year not a single healthy animal was euthanized. As Baltimore City's only open admission shelter and highest intake shelter in the State of Maryland - one with both limited resources and limited space - we are tasked with taking in every animal brought to our doorstep. Giving the promise of adoption, rescue or owner redemption to all healthy animals has been our goal since the beginning. With your support and donations, we have been able to make this dream a reality for several years now and counting. Through your support we will also continue to increase the number of medical cases we can provide treatment to in order to save all adoptable animals and find loving families to all those in need.

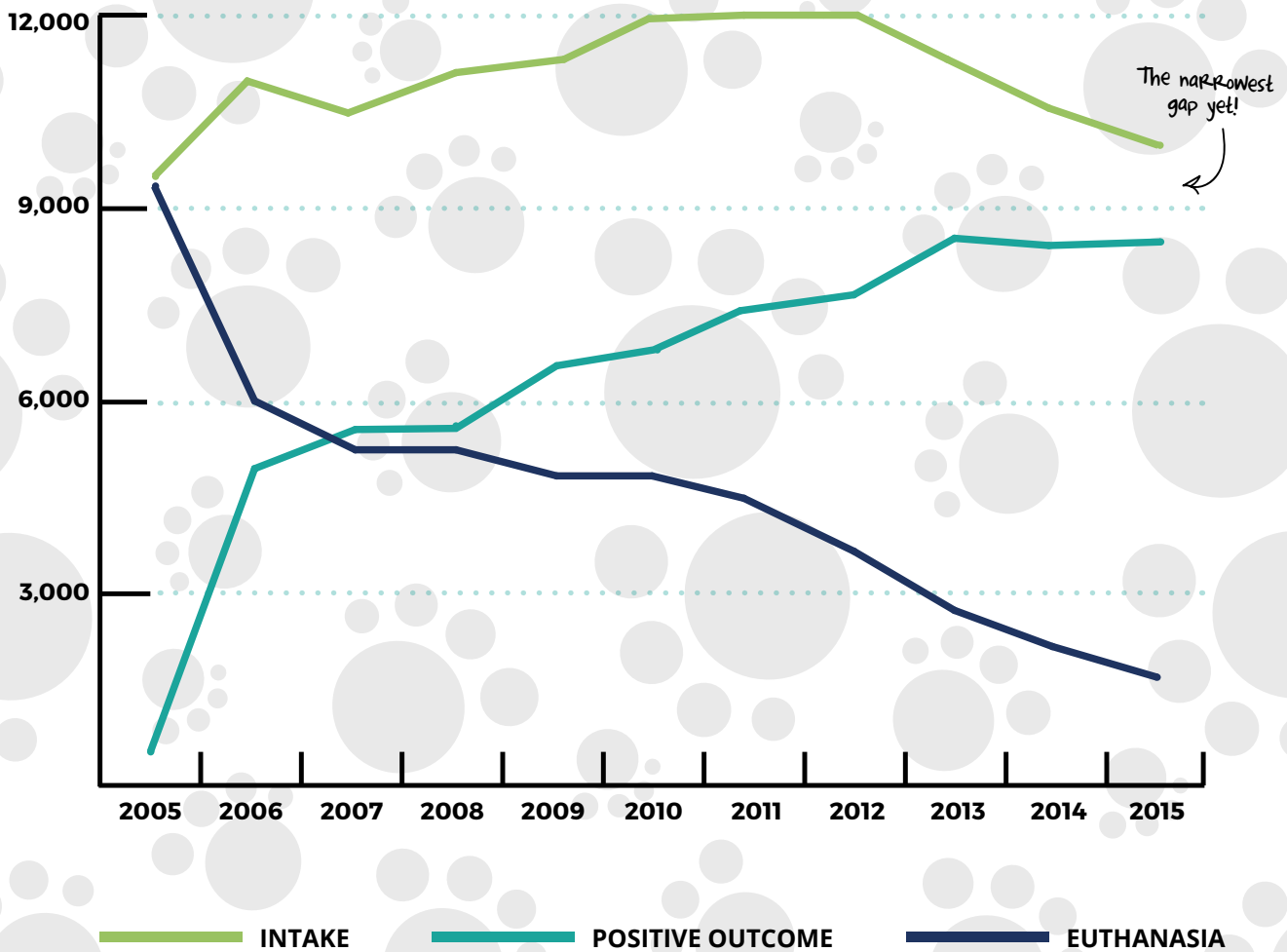
In 2015 we saved a record 80% of the animals that came to BARCS. It was only a decade ago that the save rate under the city-operated shelter - housed in our very same building - was a dismal 2%. It has been remarkable, inspirational and fulfilling to see the changes from day one until now - but we are not done. With each new year, there are new challenges to face, lives to be saved and improvements to be made. BARCS will enter into 2016 with a heavy focus on keeping pets with the good families who love them. By focusing on intake prevention, by providing resources like free behavioral training and advice, a public pet food bank, spay/neutering services and our monthly low-cost vaccination clinic, BARCS' lifesaving reach will stretch beyond our shelter and into the community. We are excited for all that is to come in 2016.



Thank you for being by our side for another incredible year.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Brause
Jennifer Brause
Executive Director and Founder

TEN YEAR LIFESAVING TREND FOR DOGS & CATS



What are you looking at in this graph? **Lives saved.**

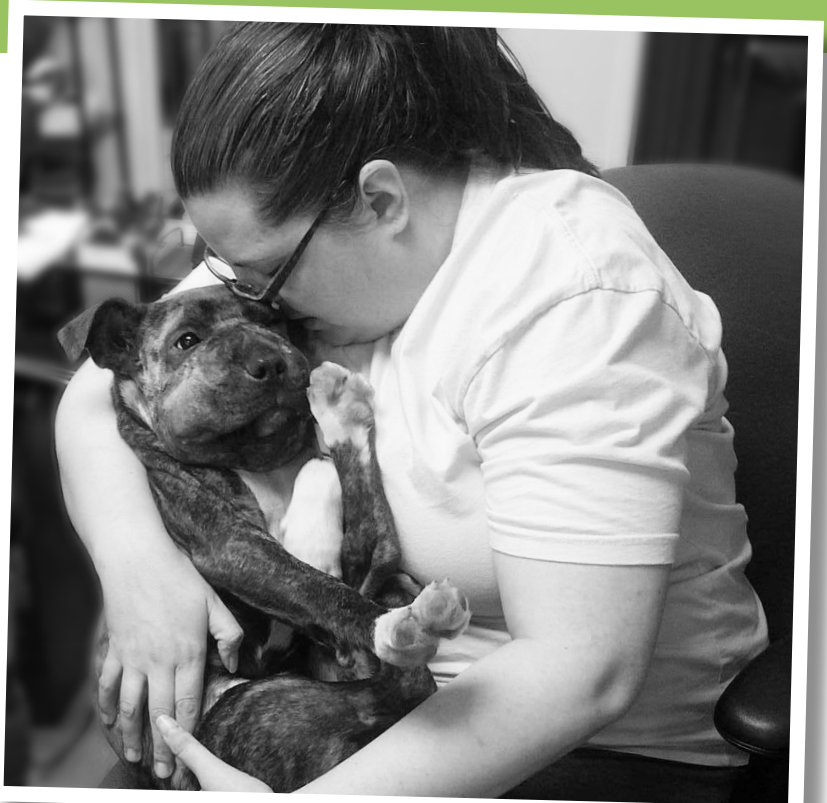
Over the past half decade, by maintaining focus on strategic, life-saving programs and services, we've been able to decrease the number of lost and abandoned pets entering our care ("intake," green line), increase the number of animal lives saved ("positive outcome," teal line), and reduce the number of animals humanely euthanized (navy line). As you can see, the trends are encouraging, and something our community and our supporters can be proud of.

ROBIN'S HAPPY TAIL

HOW YOUR GIFTS SAVED THE LIFE OF AN ABUSED PUPPY.

Without friends like you, homeless and hurting pets like Robin (pictured right) wouldn't be able to wag and give sloppy kisses today. Robin was just a young puppy when she was found in a vacant backyard in horrible condition. Her extremely painful, swollen face was the result of rope being tightly tied around her muzzle for a significant amount of time. Because she could not open her mouth, Robin was unable to eat or drink water for an undetermined amount of time—she was dehydrated and is emaciated. And while those details are already difficult to imagine, they were just the beginning of her medical complications.

Pets like Robin—who need costly, specialized medical care—are given a chance at health and happiness because of donations



Robin gets snuggles from BARCS Adoption Counselor Lesley S.

from good friends like you. BARCS' lifesaving successes are entirely the result of funding from the community and beyond. **Robin's second chance at life is just one example of your donor dollars at work.**

Robin stayed in an experienced foster home many weeks while she recovered from her many surgeries and procedures. In time, she was adopted to a local Baltimore home, where she enjoys basking in the sunshine of her very-own rooftop deck. Thank you for allowing us to care for special pets like Robin in 2015.

DOG & CAT OUTCOMES COMPARISON REPORT

2015

2014

ANIMAL OUTCOMES

ANIMAL COUNT AT THE BEGINNING OF YEAR		423	537
TOTAL YEARLY INTAKE		10,189	10,852
ADOPTION		4,240	3,856
RETURNED TO OWNER		693	691
TRANSFERRED TO PARTNER AGENCY (RESCUE GROUPS, SHELTERS) ²		2,989	3,481
DIED/LOST IN CARE ³		115	129
EUTHANASIA - OWNER'S REQUEST ^{1*}		169	274
EUTHANASIA - ALL OTHER THAN OWNER'S REQUEST ⁴		2,067	2,512
TOTAL DISPOSITION/OUTCOMES		10,273	10,943
ANIMAL COUNT AT THE END OF YEAR (STILL IN CARE)		339	446
POSITIVE YEARLY OUTCOMES (SAVE RATE)*		80%	77%

**BARCS follows the record keeping practices as set forth by the Asilomar Accords, a universal data matrix for shelters and rescues to track and report critical data. Asilomar Accords do not include owner requested euthanasia in total positive outcomes reporting.*

CHART NOTES:

1) Owner requested euthanasia is a low-cost public service that BARCS provides to Baltimore City pet owners in need. This program is for pets that come to our shelter that are terminally sick, suffering, are unable to be treated or have a dangerous bite history. BARCS' medical team and program staff evaluate all requests for euthanasia, and if we feel those animals can be saved, they are.

2) As the largest animal shelter in our state, BARCS relies heavily on our partnerships with nearby shelters and rescue groups (both locally and nationally) to aid with our high-volume intake. These organizations take not only cats and dogs, but also exotic pets, farm animals and wildlife that come to our shelter.

3) BARCS is an open admission shelter, which means that we take in and care for all animals that come to our door. Because of this, we get dozens of critically sick and injured animals each month. Our

staff veterinarians and Franky Fund partnering clinics work to save the lives of all treatable animals--but sometimes, despite our best efforts, they succumb to their injuries/illnesses. In addition, during the summer months, our shelter takes in hundreds of neonatal kittens. While most of these newborns are able to be saved with round-the-clock care and bottle feeding, some--despite our greatest efforts--are unable to thrive.

4) The most common reasons for euthanasia are due to aggression; animals that are seriously sick and unable to be medically treated; and animals who have reached the end of their lifespan. Also factoring into this selection are cost-to-save, foster availability and shelter space for long-term, intensive care. BARCS saved all healthy and friendly animals again this year, and continues to save more and more medical cases each year thanks to donations to our medical care funds.

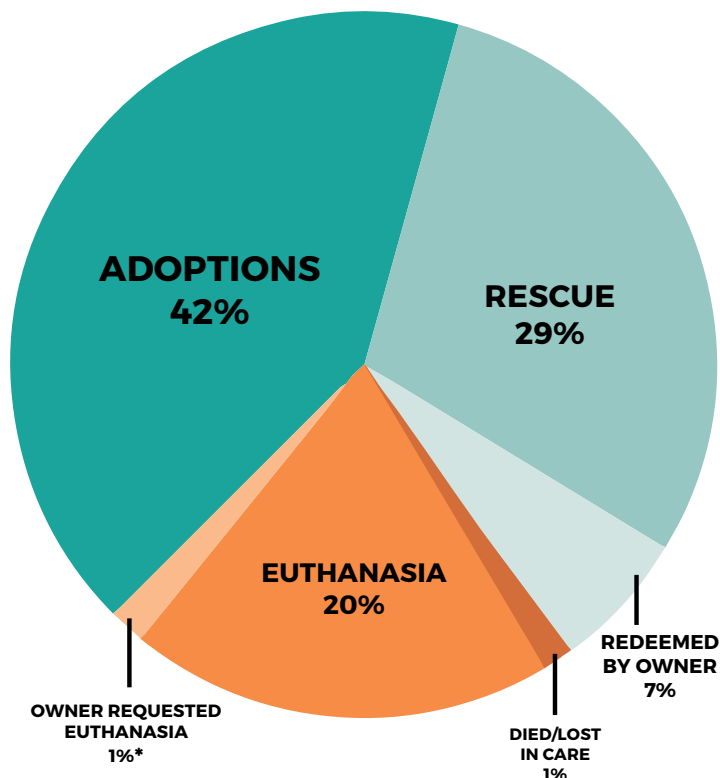
Not included in the Animal Outcome charts, is an additional 3,452 cats, that were cared for in 2015 by the BARCS' Community Cats Program. This program manages outdoor cat populations through Trap, Neuter and Return (TNR), and provides resources to community colony caretakers.

HOW FAR WE'RE COME.

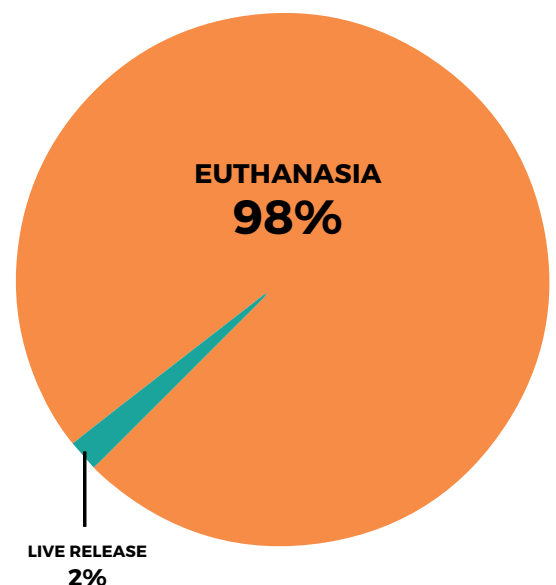
What does progress look like? Formerly the Baltimore City Municipal Animal Shelter, BARCS was recognized as an independent, non-profit organization in July 2005. In the decade to follow, BARCS hired new staff, created new programs and changed the shelter's standard operations. These changes have helped us dramatically increase adoptions and rescues, along with a significant decrease in euthanasia – all on a very-limited, shoestring budget. When you step into our bustling adoption lobby today, it's hard to imagine that only a decade ago, most pets that entered this very-same building lost their lives. Only 2% of the animals were spared, while the other 98% were euthanized without a hope of finding a family. Today in 2015, BARCS is saving 80% of the animals brought to our shelter – a number that positively increases each and every year since our inception.

With your help we can do even more.

DOG & CAT OUTCOMES 2015



2004 (BEFORE BARCS TOOK OVER THE SHELTER):



*BARCS follows the record keeping practices as set forth by the Asilomar Accords, a universal data matrix for shelters and rescues to track and report critical data. Asilomar Accords do not include owner requested euthanasia in total positive outcomes reporting.

2015

Signature

EVENTS & COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



ORIOLES PET CALENDAR

The Baltimore Orioles have helped to raise more than \$400,000 for BARCS over the last six years, through sales of the annual Orioles Pet Calendar. In 2015, \$61,000 was raised through sales online, in our shelter and at the ballpark. On August 21, 2015 during a pregame ceremony at Oriole Park, representatives from Pet+E.R. (funding of printing production) presented a check to BARCS for \$8,000 to kick-off sales. Community partnerships with organizations like the Orioles are lifesaving.



BARCSTOBERFEST

We ran, we wagged, and we raised \$120,000 for the animals! The 11th annual BARCStoberfest, held on a warm, sunny, October day in Baltimore's Patterson Park, was a great success. Thousands of animal lovers and their pets participated the festival, which included a 5K run, costume contests, bake sale, shopping and local food trucks. A big thank you to the 2015 presenting sponsors, Matt and Maria Wieters and our friends at Pet Valu.



PAWJECT RUNWAY

For the first year ever, our annual four-footed runway show, Pawject Runway, was held at Baltimore's Royal Farms Arena - and boy, was it grand! Each year, this super fun, celebrity-packed event grows and grows, this year raising more than \$125,000 in tickets, monetary donations and in-kind donations for the animals at BARCS. Pawject Runway is hosted by our friends -- our family, Show Your Softside. They're planning, connections, and overall good taste are what make Pawject Runway a premiere event in our city. Thank you so much to all those who joined us in 2015 for the hippest fashion show on four paws.



PROGRAM UPDATE: COMMUNITY CATS

For the past three years, BARCS' Community Cats Program (funded through a grant from Best Friends Animal Society and Petsmart Charities) has saved thousands of lives. The Community Cat Program is the humane, effective way to reduce the number of cats living on our streets through the process of TNR (trap, neuter and release). This program allows community cats* to remain healthy, outdoor cats, which means there are more cages open for indoor cats who need medical care and homes, and less euthanasia due to over-population in shelters. The Community Cats Program also helps to provide

caretakers with support and supplies, and provide education about the issue as well as deterrents to citizens who do not wish to have cats on their property. The program benefits the community by decreasing the number of cats, arranging vaccinations and medical care, and providing rodent control and decreasing the euthanasia of unowned cats.

While the summer of 2016 marks the conclusion of the initial grant funding, we are pleased to announce that the program will continue under leadership donations through our friends at the Petco Foundation and the Maryland Department of Agriculture.

**Community Cats are the unowned stray or feral cats who live outdoors in our neighborhoods.*

PROGRAM TOTALS FROM 2015:

1,806 female cats spayed
1,646 male cats neutered

Cats from program offered for adoption: 448
Cats from program transferred to rescue: 658

Total number of cats served: 3,743

THREE-YEAR PROGRAM TOTALS:

More than 1,000 caregivers provided resources
More than 10,000 spay and neuter surgeries
More than 1,000 local cat colonies helped

BARCS' overall live release rate for cats increases from 60% to more than 80%.

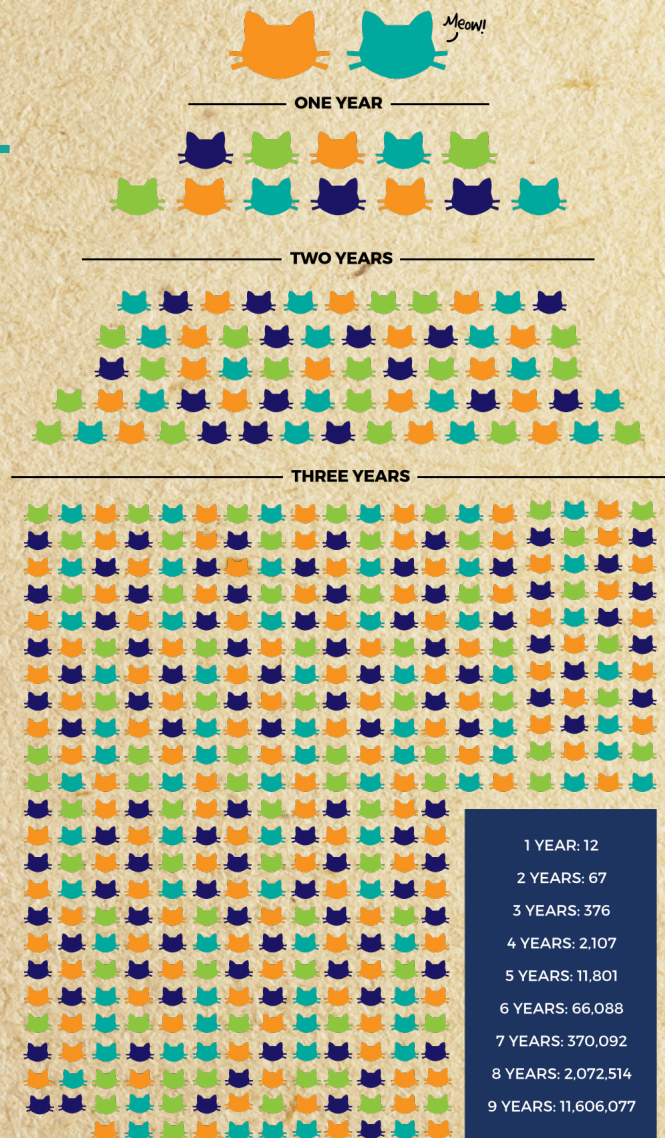


WHY THE ALTERING OF COMMUNITY CATS MATTERS:

Since the inception of the Community Cats Program, BARCS has seen a decline in unwanted litters of kittens. The summertime, or "Kitten Season," as it's called in the sheltering world, may evoke visuals of delightful months full of fluffy, adorable, pudgy babies - but in fact, it is the most difficult time of the year for BARCS and shelters across the nation. Many of the kittens that come through our doors during the summer are underage and too young for adoption, in need of round-the-clock care and often additional medical attention. These circumstances stretch our resources thin. Most of these litters are stray, and come from unaltered community cats, which is why the Community Cats Program was created. Trapping and altering cats in Baltimore City over the past three years has resulted in a downward trend in unwanted stray litters entering our shelter, which allows us to use our resources to focus on finding homes for our adoptable (indoor) adult cats.

Check out the chart to the right.

Did you know that one unaltered female cat, her mate and their offspring producing two litters per year, with 2.8 surviving kittens per litter can result in more than 11 million cats in under a decade? That's a lot of cats!



TALK ABOUT A BUSY YEAR!

When we talk about BARCS

being Maryland's largest animal shelter, we often use huge numbers, such as "11,000 homeless animals come through our doors each year." But what does that really look like? It's hard to imagine because it's a colossal number to wrap your brain around.

So, instead of asking you to line up 11,000 animals in your head, we've broken that statistic down to a day-in-the-life at BARCS in 2015.

4,766

THE NUMBER OF DOGS THAT CAME TO OUR SHELTER IN 2015

963

OF THOSE DOGS WERE STRAYS - PLEASE MICROCHIP AND LICENSE YOUR DOGS

5,423

THE NUMBER OF CATS THAT CAME TO OUR SHELTER IN 2015

25

THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF SPAY/NEUTER SURGERIES PERFORMED BY OUR IN-HOUSE VETERINARY TEAM EACH DAY

THIRTY

THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF ANIMALS SURRENDERED BY THE PUBLIC OR RELEASED FOR CARE TO BARCS BY BALTIMORE CITY ANIMAL CONTROL **EACH DAY**

80%

DOG & CAT SAVE RATE FOR 2015, A RECORD FOR OUR ORGANIZATION...TOGETHER WE CAN SAVE EVEN MORE!

1,091

THE NUMBER OF EXOTIC, FARM AND SMALL COMPANION ANIMALS CARED FOR THIS YEAR

66

THE NUMBER OF PYTHONS THAT CAME TO OUR SHELTER IN A SINGLE DAY IN DECEMBER

300

THE NUMBER OF KENNELS OUR STAFF CLEANS EACH MORNING BEFORE WE OPEN AND THROUGHOUT THE DAY

150

RESCUE ORGANIZATIONS WORK TOGETHER WITH OUR TEAM TO PLACE PETS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

2,700

THE NUMBER OF CATS AND DOGS CARED FOR THROUGH OUR FOSTER PROGRAM.

THANK YOU, FOSTER FAMILIES!

\$8K

IS THE AMOUNT IT COSTS PER
DAY TO OPERATE OUR SHELTER

500

ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS MAKE OUR WORK
POSSIBLE. FROM SHELTER ANIMAL
CARE, TO OPENING THEIR OWN
HOMES TO FOSTER ANIMALS IN
NEED, TO OFFICE ASSISTANCE,
TO FUNDRAISING AND EVENT
SUPPORT.

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!

171

DOGS AND CATS FOUND THEIR
FOREVER HOMES WHILE OUT ON
THE BARCS BFF WAGGIN', OUR
MOBILE ADOPTION VAN.

3,452

THE NUMBER OF OUTDOOR CATS THAT WERE
SPAYED/NEUTERED AND VACCINATED IN 2015 BY THE
BARCS' COMMUNITY CATS PROGRAM. THIS PROGRAM
MANAGES OUTDOOR CAT POPULATIONS THROUGH
TRAP, NEUTER AND RETURN (TNR), AND PROVIDES
RESOURCES TO COMMUNITY COLONY CARETAKERS.



FINANCIAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2015 : JULY 1, 2014 - JUNE 30, 2015

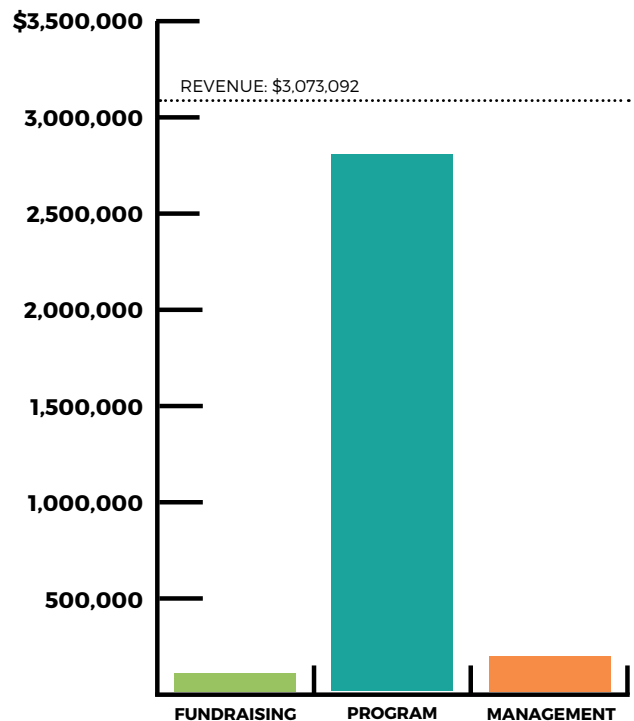
All for the Animals.

There have been many changes to BARCS over the past decade, from new programs and projects, to staff hired and a large increase in adoptions and other positive outcomes—we are always transforming and expanding to save lives. But, we are proud of one thing that has always remained the same—our financial responsibility, to both the animals and our donors.

In fiscal year 2015/2016, BARCS' fundraising expense percentage was an impressively low 8.5%, meaning that for every \$1 you give, more than \$0.91 is allocated directly to helping animals in need.

BARCS is committed to spending your donations on care for homeless pets and serving pet owners in our community, through programs like our monthly low-cost, public vaccination and microchip clinic, spay/neuter programs and remaining the only open-admission shelter in Baltimore.

REVENUE COMPARED TO EXPENSE TYPES: FY 2015/2016



REVENUE

Private Donations: \$818,024
Private Grants: \$215,172
Special Events: \$351,635
Municipal Contracts: \$1,287,717
Fees for Service: \$400,544

- Pet Adoption: \$110,291
- Baltimore City Pet Licenses: \$135,345
- Public Clinic: \$26,582
- Other: \$128,326

TOTAL REVENUE: \$3,073,092

Additional In-Kind Revenue: \$423,690

EXPENSES

Staff Salaries & Benefits: \$1,938,905
Animal Care, Food and Supplies: \$170,838
Animal Medical Expenses: \$396,325
Fundraising: \$103,531 (8.5%, see above)
Restricted Expenses: \$142,056
Administrative: \$127,147

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$2,878,802

So, what's next?

We are proud of our accomplishments over the past few years, but with increased financial support, we can achieve much more.

Our goals are to continue to raise awareness and community support in order to expand our life-saving programs, build a new larger shelter to comfortably house the large volume of animals we receive and enable us to expand our programs and services, and create a more humane city for all of our animals.

Thank you for always being by our side. We can't wait for you to share with us in the successes to come in 2016.

OUR SUCCESS DEPENDS ON YOU

Our incredible accomplishments listed in our 2015 Annual Report could not have been achieved without your support. Our program and services are working to combat pet overpopulation, but we know that there is still much more work to be done.

Your donations create a brighter future for the thousands of lost, unwanted and abandoned pets who enter our care each year through no fault of their own.

Please make a gift to care for the thousands of animals that will come to BARCS in 2016 by visiting our website at baltimoreanimalshelter.org/donate or by mailing a check to our shelter (address below). Thank you.



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