Friendship Animal Protective League of Lorain County

2022 Impact Report



Friendship is giving pets a leg up!

Shrek and Fiona were 5-month-old siblings found running the streets as strays. Oddly enough, both puppies had breaks to the same leg which required amputation. With your support, we were able to get them the care they needed. Both Shrek and Fiona were adopted and can be seen with their new families above!

MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

GREG WILLEY



I am a self-admitted animal welfare nerd. I not only love rolling around on the floor with one of our rescue dogs or allowing a kitten to use me as a human cat tree, but also love poring over local and national animal welfare statistics and data. I have been in the field now for over 20 years. I have seen a dramatic swing over those two decades. The live release rate (the percentage of animals leaving a shelter on all four feet) in Ohio in 2001 was under 30%. You have to remember this is before Sarah McLachlan was making us cry, singing "In the Arms of the Angels" on ASPCA commercials. But over time, we have witnessed a dramatic shift. Most shelters in the state and across the country have a live release rate well above 80%! What does that mean?

It means that we are really making a difference. It means most animals are going to get a second chance. It means that things can get better if we really put our minds to it.

Then 2022 hit…

It has been hard to avoid new stories of overcrowded shelters across the United States. Daniel De Vise wrote, "in the first nine months of 2022, more animals entered shelters than left them by a margin of 7.3%, according to a report by the nonprofit Shelter Animals Count." Put another way, every week, more animals come in to our shelter than the amount being adopted out and leaving. Well… right now, shelters across the country are only finding homes for 93 pets a week.

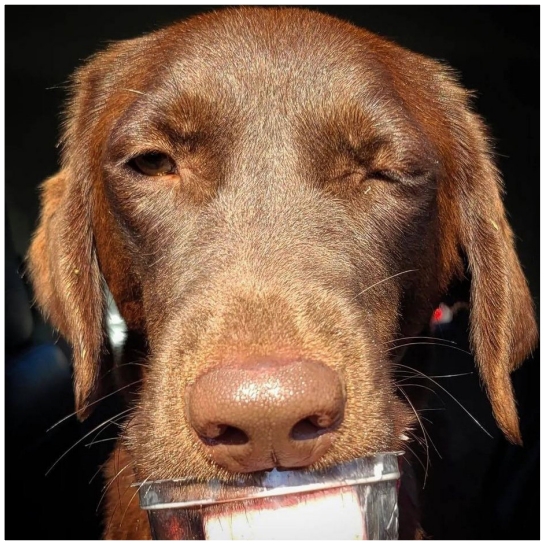
That is why it is so essential that shelters like ours step up! This year we helped animals from throughout Northeast Ohio of course. But our shelter also helped animals from Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Texas, Kentucky and West Virginia. Already this year, we are coordinating with rescues and shelters in Tennessee and Indiana. So many people need help, and we have the ability to provide that space. It may not seem like much when we help six dogs from an overcrowded shelter… but for those six dogs, it means everything.

Your support makes everything we do at Friendship APL possible. Every second chance we provide. Every life we save. It is because of you.

Sincerely,

Greg Willey

Executive Director



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SUPPLY WISH LIST

Cats

- Canned Cat and Kitten Food
- Dry Cat and Kitten Food
- Kitten Milk Replacement
- Cat Litter (Non-Clumping)
- Cat Beds
- Cat Toys

Dogs

- Dry Dog and Puppy Food
- Canned Dog and Puppy Food
- Puppy Pads
- Dog Beds
- Dog Toys
- 4-Foot Leashes

Cleaning

- Bleach
- Paper Towels
- Dish Sponges
- Hand Sanitizer and Hand Soap
- Liquid Laundry Detergent
- Tall Kitchen Trash Bags
- Trash Bags (45 gallon)

Medical

- Saline Solution
- Q-Tips
- Latex-Free, Non-Powdered Gloves (Size: Large)

Small Animals

- Pine Bedding
- Small Animal Food
- Timothy Hay
- Small Animal Treats
- Critter Water Bottles
- Untreated Wood Chew Sticks

Miscellaneous

- Pet-Safe Salt
- Gift Cards for Pet Stores/Gas
- Copy Paper
- Tape/Staples/White-Out/ Highlighters/Dry Erase Markers
- Gently Used Towels, Sheets, Blankets, and Comforters

FRIENDSHIP APL PARTNERS WITH BISSELL PET FOUNDATION



Dogs and cats arrive in carriers after a private flight funded by the Bissell Pet Foundation.

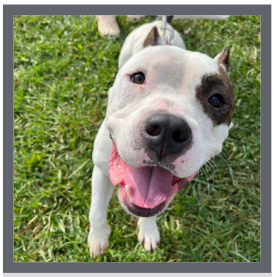
If there is one thing most rescues/shelters agree on, it is that 2022 has been a difficult year for animal welfare organizations. A cry for help from drowning in animals and lacking space has become a daily plea on social media platforms, websites and news stations. Now more than ever, we need to step up and help one another.

The Bissell Pet Foundation created a program to transport pets out of overcrowded shelters – mainly in southern states – to rescue partners with adopters at the ready. In 2021, they expanded these efforts to air travel, making trips shorter and less stressful for the animals. Private planes are utilized to move large groups of animals from full shelters to one location, where they are transferred to partner rescues. Bissell's program has enabled us to channel our amazing adopter community and help other animal shelters struggling with cage space.

Friendship APL has been a partner rescue with Bissell Pet Foundation since the beginning of 2022 and has participated in three air transports. The first trip was in April when our staff drove to Buffalo, New York, to bring seven dogs and nine cats back to our shelter. Right in the midst of a heartworm treatment crisis with a national shortage of medication, Friendship APL had happened to order the treatments in bulk prior to the shortage. All seven dogs collected were heartworm positive, and we were able to treat them. The 16 rescued pets went up for adoption and are now enjoying their new homes! In June, shelter staff embarked on their second trip to Buffalo and pulled seven dogs and five cats from southern shelters.



Enos, one of seven heartworm positive dogs, gives Director Greg Willey a wet kiss! He is now adopted and in a home.



Jimmy Chew came to our shelter to help offset the devastation facing Florida animal shelters. He is now in a loving home.

Our most recent partnership with Bissell Pet Foundation was covered by local news media. The horrific devastation Hurricane Ian brought to Florida in October left not only battered homes and displaced families in its wake, but also lost pets. Bissell Pet Foundation jumped into action and worked with Florida shelters to help clear them of dogs and cats and free up much-needed cage space. Soon after, Friendship APL staff made their way to North Canton, along with other local rescues, to pull seven dogs from the Florida air transport. They would have a chance at a new life. We are happy to report that five have already gone to their new homes!

It is partnerships like the one we have with the Bissell Pet Foundation that make hard times like this one bearable. Every one of us shares the same mission to rescue animals and place them in homes. If we are all able to contribute either by volunteering, adopting or donating, an endless number of lives can be saved!

8,150
animals came into our shelter in 2022

22,750
hours of service from volunteers

5,233
spay/neuter surgeries performed

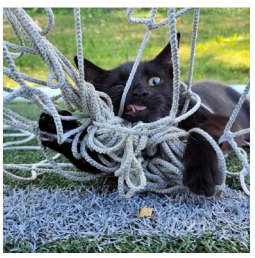
406
cats were trapped, neutered and returned through our TNR program

404
animals were seized by our humane officers

Average length of stay for dogs
15 days
for cats
16 days

705
total animals went into foster care

5,863
animals were adopted

MISSION

We are dedicated to ensuring that no animal should suffer without the basic necessities to live a healthy life, providing the education to promote and nurture the human/animal bond and treating all those who seek our help with kindness, dignity and respect.




CONTACT US

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For hours and directions, visit our website at **friendshipapl.org.**

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