A Letter from Our President

When people think of an animal shelter, naturally they think of homeless animals—stray dogs, feral cats, abandoned bunnies—those sad stories that pull at our heart strings.

But behind every animal is a human. And Nantucket Safe Harbor for Animals is dedicated to helping the people of Nantucket just as we do its animals.

Many of our grant-funded programs focus on assisting people with their pets: our Seniors with Pets Assistance (SPA) Program helps seniors care for their animals; the Lucky Whiskers and Wags Program offers financial aid to people with an acutely ill or injured pet; and Spay/Neuter Island Pets Program (SNIPP) grants vouchers to those families wanting to ensure their pets don’t have unexpected litters.

Our educational programs for both children and adults teach the rewards of adoption, the perils of pet overpopulation, the links between animal and human abuse, dog/child safety, what to do with injured wildlife, and more. NSHA board members and volunteers are often out in public or on social media sites guiding and educating island citizens.

Counseling and guidance during times of hardship—whether it be finding pet-friendly housing or helping modify a pet’s behavior—are also daily occurrences at the shelter. This counseling helps a family decide to keep their pet, to re-home one that is not a good fit, or perhaps to find a new one to add to their clan.

In addition to our formal programs, our staff and volunteers go out of their way to help people find their wayward pets. From being the first to respond to lost dog reports to making and posting signs about a missing beloved cat, our staff and volunteers are often on the front lines when the missing pet alarm is sounded.

As much as we love to spend time with the kittens and puppies at the shelter, we know that caring about animals is caring about people. Your support allows us to do this very real work for the people and animals of Nantucket every day. Thank you!

—Pam Murphy
Adoptions. NSHA finds new homes for those pets which can no longer stay with their families.

Animal Shelter. NSHA takes in and cares for Nantucket’s stray and surrendered pets. We never turn away an animal in need.

Community Outreach. NSHA visits community groups in order to publicize our services for animals and to educate about pet overpopulation, pet adoption, and the humane treatment of animals.

Humane Education. NSHA’s Humane Education Program focuses on teaching young people the value of humane thinking and behavior.

Land to Sea Cat Rescue. NSHA helps overcrowded Massachusetts shelters with their overflow of cats and kittens, finding them loving homes on Nantucket.

Little Mountain Rescue. Stray dogs from Mississippi are vaccinated, sterilized, and transported to Nantucket, where Stray dogs from Mississippi are

NSHA, among them: BD, Bella, Floyd, Gwen, Joey, Oreo, Rusty, Theo, Walter, and Zippy!

A big SHOUT OUT to all the animals who volunteer their time and skills to help at NSHA, among them: BD, Bella, Floyd, Gwen, Joey, Oreo, Rusty, Theo, Walter, and Zippy!

WHO WE ARE

Lucky Whiskers and Wags Fund. Covers the costs of animals needing surgery, medications, or other medical care. The Carlee Charitable Trust and the Community Foundation for Nantucket help fund this invaluable program.

Seniors with Pets Assistance (SPA) Program. Helps seniors care for their pets. Thanks to the Michael C. Graham Foundation.

Spay/Neuter Island Pets Program (SNIPP). Offers low-cost sterilizations to island animals. The M. S. Worthington Foundation helps fund this community program.

Stray Dog Shelter. NSHA is the Town’s contracted stray dog shelter. Lost dogs brought in by Nantucket’s Animal Control Officer or island citizens are cared for until their owners are found.

Volunteer Program. NSHA offers the opportunity for over 100 volunteers to find rewarding ways to give back to their community.
OUR HAPPY TAILS

Bandanarama!
NSHA’s most surprising educational opportunity? Our “Adopt Me” and “Jus’ got Adopted” dog bandanas. When out and about, our adoptable dogs sport the “Adopt Me” bandanas to let people know that they are looking for a home. And the final task of an adoption is to present a dog with his or her own “Jus’ Got Adopted” bandana. Originated at Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Utah, both bandanas spark great conversations—on the boat, at the airport, on Main Street—that educate about shelters and the benefits and rewards of adoption.

Vice Presidential Treatment

“VIPooch!,” “Biden family adopts Nantucket shelter dog,” “Beau Biden’s New Dog Gets Vice-Presidential Treatment” are just a few of the headlines read ‘round the world announcing that Vice President Joe Biden’s son and his family adopted one of Nantucket Safe Harbor for Animals’ “Mississippi Mutts.”

The Inquirer & Mirror, Channel 5 news, Huffington Post, the Wall Street Journal, and several other media outlets, including one in Great Britain and several in Mississippi, all thought this little dog’s rags-to-riches story was worth some air (or ink) time. Pictures of “Nurse Peggy” boarding Air Force Two with her new family went viral within 48 hours.

Peggy was one of the lucky ones. Found abandoned on the side of the road in rural Mississippi, she was selected by “Little Mountain Rescue” to travel to Nantucket as part of NSHA’s “Mississippi Mutts” program. While her Nantucket foster mom was walking her downtown, the Biden family noticed her “Adopt Me” bandana, fell for her, and the adoption was completed that weekend. Now that’s the kind of “presidential pardon” we can all get on board with!

Volunteer Lori Smith, foster mom Susan Warner, the Biden children, and a Secret Service agent with “Peggy,” now “Indi.”

Comings and Goings at a Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Animals IN</th>
<th>Animals OUT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dogs</strong></td>
<td><strong>180</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 surrenders</td>
<td>65 adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46 Little Mountain Rescue</td>
<td>111 reclaimed strays</td>
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<tr>
<td>112 strays</td>
<td>2 humane euthanasia due to illness</td>
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<td><strong>Cats</strong></td>
<td><strong>80</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>23 surrenders</td>
<td>52 adopted</td>
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<tr>
<td>35 from other shelters</td>
<td>6 reclaimed strays</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 strays</td>
<td>3 humane euthanasia due to illness</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Rabbits</strong></td>
<td><strong>6</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>6 surrenders</td>
<td>6 adopted</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Guinea</strong></td>
<td><strong>1</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1 surrender</td>
<td>1 adopted</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Birds</strong></td>
<td><strong>4</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 surrenders</td>
<td>4 adopted</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>271</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2013=169, a 60% increase!)</td>
<td>(2013=173, a 45% increase!)</td>
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OUR HAPPIEST TAILS

All of our adoptions are special, but there are some that remain in our hearts for just a little bit longer. The following animals were with us at the shelter long enough that when each was adopted in his or her time, parties were held, shouts went out over social media, and more than one happy tear was shed. Our volunteers and fosterers worked their magic on these long-timers by showing them loving kindness every day, encouraging the growth of their confidence, and retraining and working with them until each was ready to begin their new life. Holly was with us for 8 months, Vivi for 6 months, and Katniss 1 year and 2 months.

When Holly was returned to our shelter, she was fearful, lacking confidence, and suffering from bad skin allergies. NSHA worked first to clear up her skin, by giving her special baths and putting her on a very strict diet. Next, Lori and her team used BAT (see story, page 11, for more on this training technique) to desensitize her to men. Holly was also fostered in a wonderful home environment with Dagmar Klein, allowing her lots of time out of the shelter. All this focused attention and socialization gave Holly the enormous boost in confidence she needed to find her forever home. A summer resident saw Holly’s picture at an educational table at the Stop & Shop, drove over to the shelter right away, took Holly for a walk, and a love match was made then and there.

Katniss was a young cat rescued with her litter of 6 kittens who came to us from another shelter after her babies had all found homes. She was excessively shy: fearful of everyone and everything. Staff and volunteers worked with Katniss, housing her in our busiest area (after our quietest area allowed her only to hide) until she gained confidence. Though many potential adopters were drawn to her, the fact that she couldn’t be picked up and would not sit in a lap caused many to pass her by. Finally, the perfect home arrived: someone who lives alone with one other cat. Katniss is now best friends with that kitty, and her savior, Dee, is working with her to improve her skills further.

Vivi is the prettiest blue pittie you ever did see, with a sleek and shiny blue-gray coat and eyes that make you melt. She came to us after an altercation with the other dog in her home, and with two strikes against her (strike 1 being that she was a pit bull), we knew it might take a while to find her the perfect new family. But we also knew we were up to the challenge. Volunteers immediately began working with Vivi on her dog socialization skills using BAT training techniques (see story, page 11), and taking many long walks with other dogs until she could be calm around them. After six months of this intensive work, Vivi realized that other dogs could be her friends, walking buddies and even join her in the yard for playtime shenanigans. Then we received an intriguing inquiry. A couple who saw Vivi’s picture on Petfinder were looking for a friend for their big blue pittie, Steele. We knew when the potential adopter stated she’d literally been “raised with wolves,” that we had a contender! After a trial, where Vivi met Steele and the other animals in the home, the family came back not only for Vivi’s official adoption, but for her official photoshoot—Vivi’s story and portrait were highlighted in FIDO Friendly magazine!
Bringing back the dog fashion show after a 3-year hiatus and moving to a larger venue paid off in spades for our 2014 Paws for the Cause fundraiser. “Dressed to the K-nines” was a fun, furry fete that you don’t see anywhere else on Nantucket. Twenty canine contestants strutted their stuff donning over-the-top, one-of-a-kind couture to raise $87,000 for the shelter.

Blue Buffalo was our featured sponsor. Thanks to our MC’s Natalie Ciminero and Brian Glowacki; our judges Julie Biondi, Jason Bridges, and Holly Finigan; and to all of our sponsors, donors, contestants and guests, and to Jeff Allen Photography for the wonderful shots of our runway stars, both human and canine!

Like everyone else, we got thoroughly rained out at this year’s Daffodil Festival Dog Parade. But that didn’t stop NSHA from promoting our adoptable dogs. Ralph Lauren welcomed us all with a warm, dry store, festive shirts and tasty dog treats.

Photos with Santa
Thanks to Maria Carey of Charlotte Carey Photography and “Stanta” Harvey, our annual stroll fundraiser, held at Strong Wings, raised over $2,000. Visitors and islanders and their furry friends turned out in their festive finest to have their pets professionally photographed with Santa.

Meet us for our 4th Annual Paws for the Cause, where we present our “Dressed to the K-Nines” dog fashion show. Tuesday, August 4th. Thanks to our Lead Sponsor, Blue Buffalo!
OUR 2014 SUPPORTERS

Businesses
AmazonSmile
Ash + Ames LLC
Atlantic East Real Estate
Audrey Sterk Design
The Beachside at Nantucket
Blue Buffalo Company, LTD
C A Dragon Landscaping LLC
Cape Cod Five Cents Savings Bank
Cisco Brewers
The Cottages at the Boat Basin
Darya Salon
Dune Restaurant
Florabundant
Freedman's of Nantucket
Geronomio's, Ltd.
Glidden & Glidden, P.C.
G. S. Hill Gallery
Hyannis Harbor Tours
Island Treasures
Jeffrey Allen Photography
Johnstons Cashmere
The Liberty Hotel
Lucky Dog Vodka
Madaket Marine
Nantucket Pet Sitter
New York Community Trust
Pumpkin Pond Farm
Roy M. Davis, DMD, PC
Safari Girls
Second Congregational Meeting House
Sheba Enterprises
Siasconset Union Chapel
Sosebee Studio Fine Art Gallery
The Sound Magazine
Thornwell Design, LLC.

Foundations
The Broadus Foundation
Carlee Charitable Trust
The Chipie Family Foundation
Community Foundation for Nantucket
The Gerald H. Ruttenberg Foundation
M.S. Worthington Foundation
The Martha Morse Foundation
Michael C. Graham Foundation
Nantucket Golf Club Foundation, Inc.
The Overbrook Foundation
The Pabis Foundation
The Pickwick Foundation Inc.
Twin Chimney Inc.
Beverly Hall on behalf of The William Froelich Foundation

Individuals
Adams, Jerry
Addeo, Jennifer & John
Addeo, Nick and Meredith Hanson
Albaugh, Joan
Allen, Elisa
Alonso, Acosta V. Fanny
Andrews, Margareta
Antonietti, Eleanor
Achibald, John
Austin, Ursula
Ayotte, Joy
Bailey, Janet
Bailiierre, Anne
Baker, Christy
Baker, Leanne
Baldwin, Gale
Balkind, Bart
Banning, John
Barada, Terry & Tom
Barrett, Donna
Bartlett, Philip
Bassett, Sharon & George
Bates, Barbara
Bean, Nancy
Belash, John
Belichick, Deborah
Believere, Rosemary
Belleveve, Linda
Benson, Marlene
Benz, Charity
Berman, Adam
Berry, Elizabeth
Bessey, James
Bianmonti, Clelia
Bills, Daniel
Biondi, Julie
Boyd, Bishop & William
Blumberg, Margaret
Bole, Jason
Bowen, John
Brandt, William
Breen, John
Brescher III, Jessie & John
Bridges, Jason
Brodbeck, Amanda
Brome, Thomas
Brooks, Betsey
Brown, Mary & David
Brown, Joann
Brown, Kat
Brown, Mary
Brown, Patti
Bryan, Deborah
Burnham, Joann & Edward
Burns, Susan
Bushman, Thomas
Calabrese, Steven
Callaghan, David
Camara, Nancy
Camp, William
Carey, Tracy
Carlin, Jane
Carlo, Kathie
Carlsen, Steven
Carr, Housley and Michael
May
Carr, Bonnie & Oliver
Cashion, Alexandra
Chaffee, Dorothy
Cheney, Stephen
Chevalier, Kristen
Christensen, Cristina
Cimino, Natalie
Clarkson, Joan
Cohen, Steve
Cole, Carolyn
Collum, Jamie
Comstock, Donna & Donald
Condon, Malcolm
Connor, Chris
Connor, Lisa
Cosay, Healy & Gary
Cronin, Megan
Cross, Carol
Cross, Dennis
Cumble, Richard
Dammers, Judy & Steve
Daub, Sandra
Davies, Beth & Wayne
Day, Patricia & William
Day, Henrietta & Philip
Debiasio, Jayne & Brian
Deckard, Amy
Deoley-Culbertson, Deborah
Derry, Justine
Devaney, John
Dey, Penelope
Dias, Kenneth
Didriksen, Helen
Dimartino, Linda & Joseph
Donato, Mark
Donnellan, Verona
Doran, Dennie
Drew, Heidi
Drew, Kathryn
Duane, William
Dugan, Dawn
Dujardin, Trudy
Dunham, Brenda & David
Dunlap, Shellie
Dupre, Denise
Durand, Carolyn
Eisenaugle, Heidi
Eschauzier, Angelina
Ferguson, Caroline
Fernandez, Yolanda
Fisher, Charles
Fitzgerald, Julie
Fitzgerald, Melissa & Steven
Flynn, Kelly
Flynn, Kenny
Flynn, Tracy
Foote, Lissa & Bill
Forsgren, Alison
Forster, Nancy & Alan
Fraizer, Dalton
Fraunfelder, Barbara
Fremlin, Carla
Frosenburg, Barbara
Fuller, Cynthia
Gagliardi, Lisa
Gale, Susie
Gallugi, Michael
Gelder, Gretchen
Gibson, Kara & Steven
Gifford Nigrelli, Jessica
Gifford, Ann
Giovin, Elisabeth
Girard, Rosalie & Brian
Glidden, Kathryn & Richard
Glou, Maggie
Glownack, Tiffany
Godfrey, Mark
Gordon, Beatrice
Gordon, Hannah
Graham, Jennifer
Graham, Kathryn
Graham, Ken
Gray, Ashley
Green, Shannah
Greenberg, Fif
Greenberg, Judith
Greenebaum, Mary & John
Greig, Thomas
Grenier, Tamara
Griffin, Ethan & Bridgett e
Hynes
Grimshaw, Gloria
Grogan, Sarah
Quertin, Kimberly
Gund, Gordon
Gutmann, Charlotte
Hackett, Maureen & James
Hall, Stephanie
Hall, Valerie
Halsewell, Margaret
Hancock, Kristina
Hancock, Woodley Patrick
Harding, Molly
Harkness, Kathryn & Steven
Harris, Janice
Havens, Bonnie & Robert
Hawkins, Craig
Haydock, Kyra
Hays, Lucile & Bill
Hazlegrove, Cary
Hedaa, MaryAnn
Hefir, Lucy
Hefler, Carol
Henke, Gina
Henke, Lisa
Henke, Stephanie
Hicks, Jeanne
Holden, Betsey
Holden, Tessa
Holdgate, Dawn & Michael
Holland, Julie
Holt, Carolyn & Kevin
Homan, Laura
Horowitz, Mary
Hounihan, Louise & William
Huber, Mimi & Dick Sheehan
Hudson, Ema
Hudson, Teresa
Hughes, Jean & Charles
Hunnewell, Nina
Hunter, Craig & Brad
Hurd, Jim
Jaeger, Jan & Fred
Jenkins, Barbara
Johnson, Hannah
Jones, Linda
Jones, Maryam
Kahle, Cindy & Kent
Kania, Kathryn
Karl, Joan
Karp, Jill & Stephen
Keelan, Karen
Keene, Sonya & John Moy
Kennelly, Thomas
Kenyon, Jayne & Niles
Killoy, Kathleen
Klawetter, Siobhan
Klek, Paula
Kohan, Margaret
Kraeulter, Jackie & Eric
Krause, Eliot
Kuhn, Nancy
Laite, Deborah & David
Lampe, Nancy
Landan, Elizabeth
Landry, Paul
Lannan, M. Anne
Lapiene, Robin
LaRocco, Anthony
Lasky, Nicola
Laundry, Robert

NSHA 2014 Annual Report—6
Thanks for Taking it On!

Thanks to the individuals, businesses and groups that organized events to benefit their island’s animals.

Janet Forest walked from Madaket to ‘Sconset in the 3rd Annual Pan Nantucket Walk.

The Liberty Hotel in Boston donated the proceeds of their "Yappy Hour."

Florabundant held a plant sale for us.

Nantucket Island Resorts’ Woof Cottages donates a portion of their proceeds each summer.

Christy Baker organized The 3rd Annual ShamRock Run in March, a 4-mile walk/run beginning and ending at Cisco Brewers.

NSHA 2014 Annual Report–7
Throughout our Annual Report you will see the many different channels through which we receive our funding. Though foundation grants support our special programs, our everyday operating and medical care expenses are significant, and that funding comes from our individual donors. From large sponsorship checks to the coins in our army of blue dog canisters, we are grateful for every cent we receive. We are also very happy to report that such a large majority of those funds goes directly to our animal programs. To see our full financial data, request our Form 990.

**Thoughtful Ways to Give**

Including NSHA in your will is an easy way to support our work. **Planned Gifts** can take many forms, including gifts of cash, life insurance, stock, or real estate. **Tribute Gifts** are thoughtful ways of remembering your animal-loving friends and family. Honor a friend’s birthday or a loved one’s passing with a gift to NSHA. **Recurring Gifts** make it simple for you to give once and let us do the rest!
OUR KIDS CAN (and do)!

From working at the shelter to holding lemonade sales and donating their birthday money, the lengths to which our community’s kids go to help the animals warms our hearts!

A huge THANK YOU to the Seafari Girls for their enormous donation of $1,010! The girls raised money by selling dog cookies they had baked themselves and packaged themselves in bags of their own design and making. We applaud them for their ingenuity, passion and commitment and also thank the community of Nantucket for their generosity.

Dear Nantucket Safe Harbor for Animals,
Thank you for what you do. We admire you, and we decided to give back. We had a lemonade stand and raised a lot of money. Our parents matched that total. Thanks again, and have a great year!

Helen and Jack Ungar and Caroline and Alexandra Elwell raised over $1,100, which is gratefully accepted by volunteer Rebecca Hammond Vaughan.

The Girl Scouts made toys for the dogs.

OUR OUTREACH

Because not all education takes place in a classroom!

Some of the NSHA crew took time out in August to attend an event at the Westmoor Club highlighting the work of the Humane Society of the United States and its president Wayne Pacelle. Our own Jessica Sosebee introduced Wayne and outlined our work at NSHA.

A big thank you to The Nantucket Golf Club Foundation for underwriting our Humane Education traveling library!

Board member and volunteer Susan Kanter Richards and her dog Gwen work with a Girl Scout troop, teaching them about pet adoption.

Board President Pam Murphy talks to a group at a Bartlett’s “Farm Talk.”

NSHA board member Ema Hudson with shelter dogs at the Unitarian Universalists’ Blessing of the Animals in October.

Homes for the Holidays

NSHA again participated in Nantucket holiday events to help spread the word about our adoptable pets.

Board member Connie Mundy decorated our “Tree” for the Nantucket Historical Association’s Festival of Trees.

Volunteers created the decorations highlighting our adoptable pets for our Main Street tree.
Like most dogs, occasionally one of our adoptable canines earns a “Needs Improvement” on his or her report card. Lucky for us, we have our own personal trainer in Lori Smith to help dogs who experience fear, frustration or aggression. Lori has extensive formal training in Behavior Adjustment Training (BAT), including several workshops offered at Best Friends Sanctuary in Utah. With this knowledge, she helps our dogs leave the shelter with the best possible manners.

When a dog exhibits a problem behavior, it is usually because an event in their environment triggers the dog to need something. Fulfillment of the need is called the reward. So a dog who is afraid of men, for example, may bark or lunge at a man (the trigger) and then earn a reward (man backs away) for that behavior. In BAT we teach the dog a new behavior (turn toward mom when the dog sees a man), which earns the same reward (man “disappears” while dog focused on mom), thereby empowering dogs to make good choices.

Along with Lori, six of our volunteers have also been trained in this method, a method that leads to calmer, less reactive dogs. Vivi is one shelter pet who benefitted from this extra training. Many a volunteer worked with her, usually with the aid of a volunteer canine, to help desensitize her to other dogs. Each time she changed her behavior from lunging and barking at a dog to walking calmly by the dog, she got a yummy reward.

Bandit had stranger reactivity. So volunteers took him to a busy environment with a handful of dog treats and rewarded him each time he turned away from the “trigger” (in his case, lots of people).

We want all of our dogs to make the best impression on their new families and to go home equipped with the skills they need to make great lifelong family members. BAT, Lori Smith, and our faithful volunteers are the best tools we have in our box to help them get there.

Not every animal who graces our doorstep is healthy enough to be placed into a new home. And it is our duty and honor to decide when this is the case. When such an animal comes to our shelter—a dog who with surgery would feel world’s better, but who may not survive that surgery; an elderly cat with severe diabetes—our Ethics Committee convenes to discuss every aspect of the situation. And though we have guidelines and protocols, we discuss each case until we all agree on the best course of action for the animal, keeping in mind all of our available resources. If we decide to let the animal go, NSHA volunteers are present for the procedure and formally adopt the animal so that he or she is a part of a “family” before crossing that rainbow bridge.

How—and When—We Say Goodbye to a Shelter Animal

1. Monsters ALWAYS cause Very Good Things
2. ONLY Monsters cause Very Good Things
3. Monsters must keep their DISTANCE, then, over many repetitions GRADUALLY get closer so that the dog is comfortable all the way through.
Thanks to volunteers Beth Faherty and Polly Hallowell, we now have a “Little Free Library.” Bring a book, take a book... or just take a book. Lots of good ones on animals in ours!

2014 By the Numbers

- 0 ➔ Number of **animals** we turned away
- 67 ➔ Number of **families** granted financial assistance
- 128 ➔ Number of **pets** we adopted into new homes
- 149 ➔ Number of **volunteers** who helped
- 491 ➔ Number of **individuals** and **businesses** who made it all possible

NSHA
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PO Box 2844
Nantucket, MA 02584