



# Impact Report

2022



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Founder & Executive Director

**Nancy Hadeed**

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Internal Policies

**Mary Harris**

Director & Treasurer

**Halima Zachariah**

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**Cheryll Rodgers**

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Partnerships

**Danielle Jacobsen**

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Sanctuary and Rescue

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**Kristin Kenney**

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## ADVISORY BOARD & VOLUNTEERS

**Julia Dixon**, US Advisor

**Sharon Gerson Panek**, US Advisor

**Lindsey Malouin**, US Advisor

**Jo Sandeman-Allen**, UK Advisor

**Len Buttici**, Honorary Board Member

**Giovanna Pari**, Overseas Adoptions & Transports

**Chris Kelly**, Webmaster

**Alexandra McNamara**, US Fosters



# Impact

582

animals rescued

479

animals rehomed

6

Flew the Coop  
airlifts

\$210k

USD raised

180

community animals fed via food donations

# Impact

304  
travel buddies

50+  
fosters

3,850  
petition signatures

200+  
animals spayed/neutered

30

dogs given life  
saving  
heartworm  
treatment

# Mission





# A Year of Growth

2022 was an extraordinary year full of hope and promise and packed with challenges.

In 2022, we rescued 582 dogs and cats and rehomed 479. It's likely the number is a touch higher given the many cats and occasional community animals we help find homes for, but do not officially track. Our numbers, as is, are stunning and this has been achieved despite an adverse post-pandemic climate for adoptions.

Early in 2022, we were fortunate to find a formidable ally and sponsor in Christopher Harding, the co-owner of Hodges Bay Resort & Spa, whose charity, Flew the Coop, sponsored our six airlifts and enabled 136 of our animals to reach their forever homes.

Our friends at Animal Haven continued to be a strong bastion of support, finding great homes for our dogs (and a few cats) while taking on some of our toughest medical cases. Our US advisory Board Members Sharon Gerson Panek and Julia Dixon continued to show up for us strongly, not only by rehoming of our dogs, but on island to help with rescue and sponsoring our recent "End Animal Abuse" protest in November. New and strong US alliances with North Shore Animal League and Bideawee provided us with an extended reach of potential forever homes for our animals.

We have made new friends but have held tightly to our stalwart long-time supporters. These are the individuals who pop up with dog food when times are desperate, donate to cover our vet bills, bring old sheets and towels for our airlifts, support our fundraisers, and sometimes just offer kind words of thanks and encouragement when we most need it.



That kind of support can never be discounted. It is the fuel that keeps us moving.

I don't want to forget Antigua's local business community of animal lovers, who have been strong supporters. In particular, Susanna Salvia Adarri of The Inn at English Harbour, who is equally as fierce and passionate in her love and protection of Antigua's stray dogs and cats.

Travel buddies continue to be our main source of transportation for puppies. In 2022, 304 airline passengers transported our pups to their forever homes, giving them a second chance for full lives. After what seemed like forever, the Canadian borders re-opened late last year and our friends in Canada, including Len Butticci, Cindy Bennett, Sarah Amanda, Barbara Harrison, and others welcomed our dogs to their shores once again.

We started building our Sanctuary at the height of the pandemic in May 2020. At any given time, the Sanctuary is home to approximately 50 dogs and 30 puppies. It has been a tough road with puppies, as we are often tasked with caring for young litters vulnerable to deadly diseases like parvovirus and leptospirosis. We have raised and spent thousands of dollars to create as sanitary an area as possible for our pups to protect them from contagions. Additionally, we have instituted new policies to ensure puppies are fostered until old enough for vaccinations and relocation to the puppy park at the Sanctuary.

We have almost finished Phase 1 of the Building Plan for the Sanctuary, which includes a Clinic, Catterie, Bryden's Puppy Pens and Park, and the Axxess Annex. We are continuing to build because we have a much bigger vision for the Sanctuary: We envision it as a destination for travelers and a landmark for animal welfare in the Caribbean. To that end, we are creating a Memorial Park and Gift Shop, Fosters' Walk of Fame, Walking Trail, and Boarding Unit. Most important in the coming year is the Isolation and Hurricane Unit, which will enable us to pick up more dogs and also make sure that if a hurricane hits, all the animals will have adequate and safe shelter. It will also contain a puppy unit dedicated to protecting puppies from disease.

This year we were able to employ full-time staff, which included two newly-created positions for Sanctuary Manager and Assistant Manager. Our staff are mainly dedicated to caring for our dogs, but some are multifaceted, helping us with the landscaping, maintenance, and ongoing development of the Sanctuary.

In this new year, we are focused on bringing electricity or solar power to the Sanctuary. This will enable us to host bi-monthly spay/neuter clinics for the community. We are also planning to hold two "mega" spay/neuter clinics, bringing overseas veterinarians and technicians to Antigua in order to spay and neuter as many community animals as possible. We will also continue our protests against animal abuse and push for the enforcement of the Animal Protection Act, because laws mean nothing if they are not enforced.

I can't pretend that success year after year comes easy. It requires a herculean effort from our entire team. At the heart of it all are our precious dogs, what an amazing treasure trove. If only all of Antigua could see them the way we do, the pureness of spirit, their overwhelming love and loyalty. They are Antigua's best ambassadors and they are an untapped reservoir of infinite possibilities. They are so deserving, and they keep us going. Somewhere on the horizon we see an Antigua that is a beacon of hope for animals in the entire region, a cruelty free zone where animals are loved and cherished. If we can see it, we can achieve it. Let's continue to fight for them one step at a time.

Your support, generosity, love and kindness means everything to us. From the bottom of our hearts and the depths of our souls, we thank you.



**Joy Farrell**  
Founder & Executive Director

# Fundraising



In between rescuing and caring for animals, our team is tirelessly fundraising year-round. While we often run one-off campaigns to support critical projects (such as airlifts or Sanctuary improvements), we also have a few beloved annual fundraising initiatives.

Our **Annual Calendar** spotlights the dogs and cats that have had an especially important impact on our team, as well as providing a way for adopters to honor their new family members. This year, we were delighted to host a calendar launch party at Karnagio Jolly Harbour.

Our **Mega Foodie Raffle** gives anyone the opportunity to win a delicious meal at one of Antigua's best restaurants. This year, 35 outstanding eateries donated vouchers.

Finally, our annual **Pawprints in the Sand** event brought the community together for a night of food, drink, live music, and a raffle on the beach. The evening was capped off with an in-person and online auction for an original piece of artwork by Gilly Gobinet.



# Sanctuary



# Sanctuary Projects

The Dogs & Cats of Antigua Rescue and Wellness Sanctuary is the heart of our organization. Located on three acres of land in Sea View Farm, the Sanctuary is home to more than 50 animals. This is where most of our dogs spend their time after being rescued, and before traveling to their forever homes.

## 1

### Bryden's Puppy Pens and Park

In early 2022, we launched a GoFundMe to rapidly raise funds to revamp the Puppy Park area of the Sanctuary. This project, which included pouring concrete, reinforcing pens, and installing sun shades, allowed us to provide a safer environment for young pups, who are more susceptible to contracting diseases like parvovirus. The new concrete surface allows for more frequent and effective sanitizing, while the reinforced pens allow for separation of litters.

## 2

### New Pens & Clinic Upgrades

Work never stops at the Sanctuary, and throughout the year we invested in critical capital improvements to build new pens, reinforce and repair existing infrastructure, and begin adding concrete pads to provide a more comfortable surface during the wet season. We also re-roofed many pens to provide better shade, and adjusted drainage. Additionally, we continued to outfit our Clinic, which will eventually host community spay/neuter events.

## 3

### Isolation Unit

Our next major capital project at the Sanctuary will be the development of our isolation and hurricane unit. This building will serve a dual purpose: providing secure quarantine kenneling for animals new to the Sanctuary, and serve as a hurricane-proof facility that can house our entire population in the event of an emergency. Plans for the building are complete, and we are continually fundraising to make this critical piece of infrastructure a reality.

# Animal Care Team

With more than 50 animals at our Sanctuary at any one time, and another 50-60 animals in our foster network, a lot goes into caring for the dogs and cats of Antigua. From the individuals who rescue sick and injured animals from the streets to our dedicated Sanctuary staff and veterinarians, our organization relies on a growing network of individuals who go above and beyond to help our animals.

Once an animal is accepted for intake, our team begins coordinating their care. Animals at the Sanctuary are assigned a pen, provided with daily meals, constant access to fresh water, and regular enrichment.

An initial veterinary exam is arranged, followed by regular follow-ups or treatment plans. Spay/neuter surgeries and other procedures are conducted at The Ark in St. John's under the care of Dr. Fiona Francis, while regular vaccination clinics are held right at our Sanctuary on a monthly basis to ensure that healthy animals are regularly examined and vaccinated.

Our Sanctuary staff and volunteers oversee daily care and enrichment, while local and remote volunteers coordinate adoptions and placements - all with the shared goal of finding happy endings for every animal in our care.



## SANCTUARY MANAGERS

Valerie Quinland  
Kennel Manager

Michelle Tomlinson  
Assistant Kennel Manager

## SANCTUARY STAFF

Hennesha Joseph  
Anne Lisa Boccia  
Clint Joseph  
Okasi Gunthrope  
Clare Crane  
Beana Friday

## VETERINARY TEAM

Dr. Fiona Francis  
Dr. Diandra Payne  
Dr. Chere Kellman  
Dr. Ibrahim Allaz



# Flew the Coop





# These 136 Animals 'Flew the Coop'

In 2022, we organized six airlifts to the United States in partnership with Flew the Coop, a nonprofit initiative founded by Christopher Harding to transport dogs from the Caribbean to their new lives overseas. With support from Flew the Coop's parent organization, Global Empowerment Mission, DACOA was able to fund airlifts for 136 animals, including adult dogs that otherwise would not be able to fly our due to travel-in-hold restrictions. Airlifts are a massive undertaking and a literal lifeline for our animals as it allows us to send out 20-30 dogs at one time, thus freeing up precious space for new intakes.



Each airlift involves the following preparation, all managed by our volunteers:

- Pre-travel veterinary assessment for each animal, including vaccinations
- Sizing, building, lining, and marking crates for transport
- Securing rescue/foster placement or adoption for each animal prior to travel
- Arranging transport from the Sanctuary or foster homes to the airport in Antigua
- Creating individual import papers for each animal
- Submitting paperwork to U.S. Customs & Border Patrol for clearance
- Booking cargo space with Amerijet for the flight to Miami
- Booking and coordinating with a ground transportation provider from Miami to destinations north
- Creating a route and drop-off plan for each animal and the ground transporter
- Communication with each rescue / adopter to coordinate drop off, paperwork, and ensuring that animals arrive in good health and spirits



# Puppies on the Beach



Our Puppy Beach Days at Hodges Bay Resort & Spa allow us to interact with visitors to the island, while giving our pups a chance to socialize - and in some instances, meet their new forever families!

In partnership with Hodges Bay, and as part of our work with Flew the Coop, DACOA volunteers bring adoptable puppies and dogs to the beach, where guests can walk, swim, and play with them. Additionally, this provides an opportunity to share more about our work on the island and abroad.



# Community





# Travel Buddies



Travel Buddies are a lifeline for our younger puppies (and the occasional cat), who, while still small enough, can fly overseas in-cabin with most US airlines. During cooler months, adult dogs can also fly with travel buddies via cargo to Canadian destinations. The Travel Buddy Program enables DACOA to send adopted or adoptable pups overseas on a regular basis in addition to our airlifts. Without this method of transporting our puppies, there would be a far greater number of stray dogs in Antigua.

Being a travel buddy costs nothing to the traveler - DACOA covers the cost of the animal's airline fee and provides a carrier, collar and leash, wee pads, and health certificate. Our travel buddies often say that flying with a puppy was the highlight of their trip, and they feel good knowing they helped save a life.



# Fosters



Both in Antigua and abroad, our network of fosters provide safe havens for DACOA rescues while they wait for their forever homes. In Antigua, we rely on local foster homes to provide shelter, care, and love to our most vulnerable animals - such as litters of newborn puppies or injured animals in recovery. Overseas, our fosters enable us to place adoptable animals in key markets where they have a strong chance of finding forever homes, or while we arrange placement with partner rescue organizations.

"We rescued our own potcake from Dogs & Cats of Antigua last April and wanted to pay it forward, while socializing our own pup. It was fun and fulfilling!"

The Levine Family



# Celebrating Heroes

Our first annual Calendar Launch and Awards gathering, held at the beautiful Karnagio Jolly Harbour, saw awards handed out to four very special recipients.

Click [here](#) to watch a video from the event.



Hero of the Year  
Foster of the Year  
Foster of the Year  
Corporate Supporter of the Year

Kate Sheppard (above, left)  
Vicki Bullet (above, right)  
Sister Ann Ita  
Hodges Bay Resort & Spa



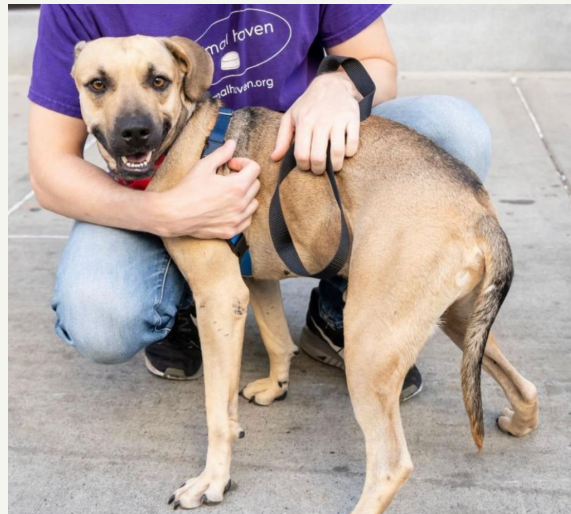
# Taking on the Toughest Cases

Sadly, many of the animals that cross our path in Antigua have severe medical conditions or injuries. Whether born with abnormalities or suffering from abuse and accidents, we do our best to provide compassion and medical care to help them on the road to recovery. Thankfully, we are not alone in this - we are beyond grateful for the support of **Animal Haven**, a nonprofit shelter located in New York City, and their team of exceptional veterinarians, who go above and beyond to help our most dire cases. These are just two lives that Animal Haven helped us save - and find loving forever homes for.



## Alfee (fka Alfredo)

Alfee was born with an intra-hepatic shunt, a condition that affects the liver. When we rescued Alfee, we didn't know what was wrong with him - he was underdeveloped and had clear neurological issues, which sometimes caused him to walk in circles. Without the advanced diagnostic equipment available to vets in the US, our veterinary team was unable to diagnose him further. Animal Haven accepted Alfee, and he was soon on a plane to NYC, where he was immediately admitted to the emergency hospital. Alfee was started on a round-the-clock medication regimen to support his liver and help him gain strength and mobility, and today he is a happy, healthy, and incredibly loving pup.



## Tindall

Tindall was found in late 2021 after being hit by a car. At the time, he had been dragging his paralyzed hind legs around for several days before we got a call to help. We found that Tindall had a crushed thoracic vertebrae, broken dorsal processes, and a likely cord resection. The outlook was grim, and typically the guidance for such a badly injured dog is to humanely euthanize. However, we took a chance on Tindall - he had a fighting spirit that we could not ignore. After months of recuperation and care with one of our Directors, Tindall not only gained strength, but started walking. Today, he's an incredibly happy, playful boy who has only a slight wobble to hint at his sad beginning.



# Our First Reunion



Hosted at the beautiful Bittersweet Farm in Warwick, New York, our first official North American reunion was a huge hit. We loved seeing our pups come together to meet each other, romp, swim, snack, and get loads of belly rubs. It was an especially rewarding opportunity for our Directors and volunteers, who were able to reunite with their fosters and animals they helped place in new homes in the US.





# Advocacy





# Ending Animal Cruelty in Antigua



The Animal Health Act of 2017 states that any individual who abuses, neglects, or treats an animal with cruelty will be prosecuted and charged a fine or jailed. Sadly, this is rarely upheld in Antigua & Barbuda, and too often DACOA is left to collect the bodies of animals that have been purposefully poisoned, hit by cars, shot, strangled, suffocated, or worse. This summer, after multiple instances of violence against animals, we launched a petition to raise broader awareness for the dire state of animal welfare in the country. Our petition had 3,850 signatures by year's end, and culminated in a protest in front of Parliament in early October. Our presence resulted in the discussion of animal welfare during Parliament, and a vow from government officials to pursue punishment for individuals found to abuse or neglect animals.



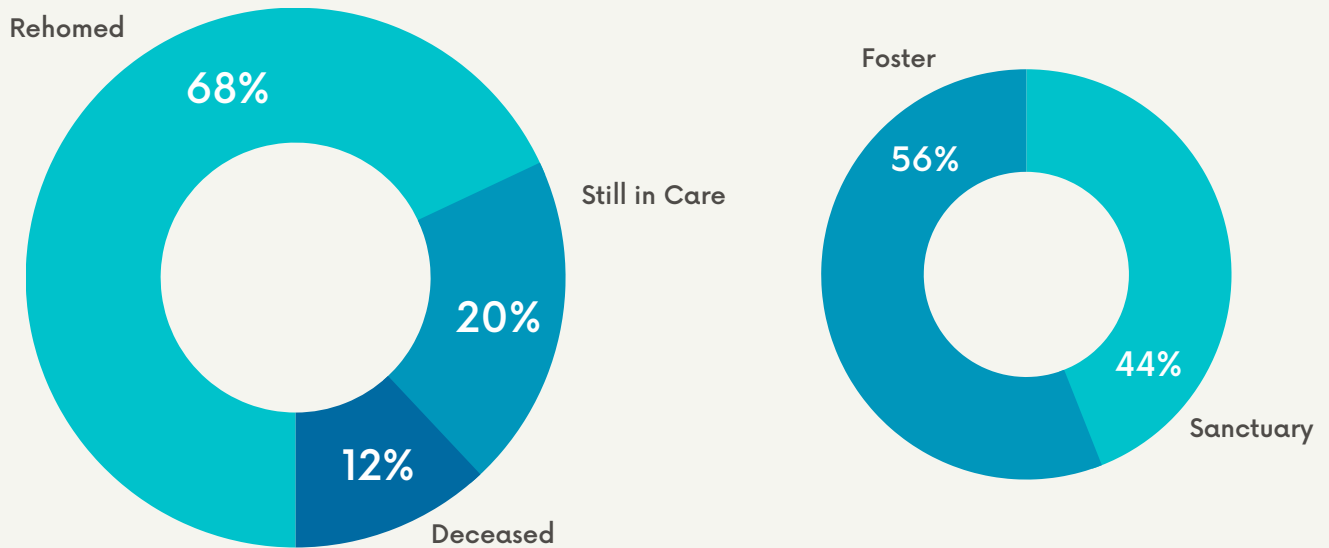
# Data



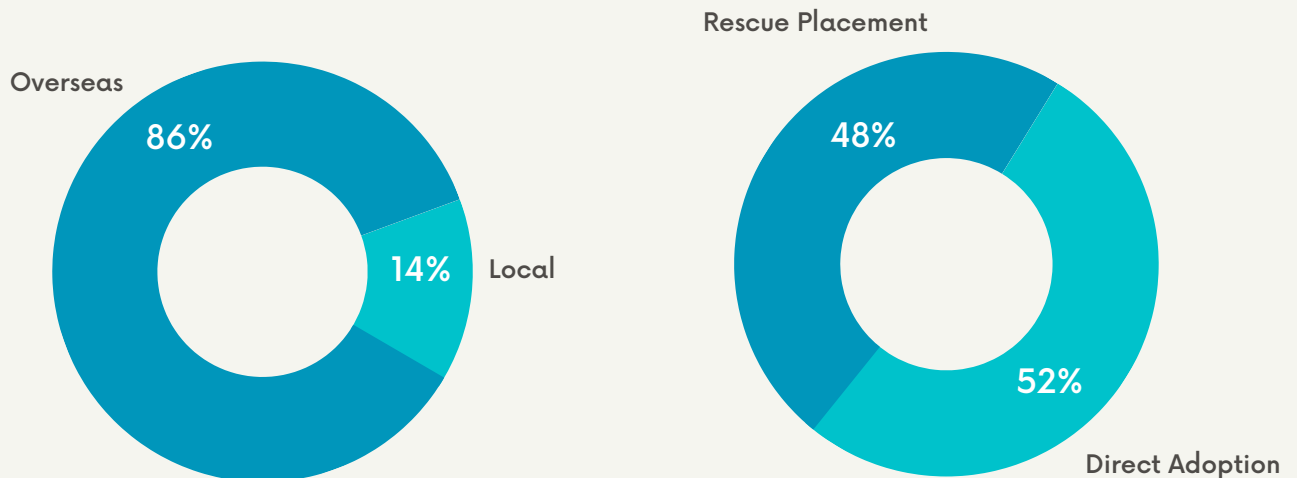
# Intake Data

In 2022, Dogs & Cats of Antigua accepted 582 animals into our care. As a privately-funded, limited-intake shelter, we must carefully balance the capacity of our Sanctuary and foster network with our available resources, including funding and personnel. Sadly, nearly every day brings new calls, emails, texts, and messages asking us to pick up dogs and cats in need - many of which are severely ill or injured. We believe it is important to report transparently on the outcomes of our work to rescue, rehabilitate, and rehome animals - or, provide a compassionate and humane end to their suffering when recommended by our veterinary team.

## Intake Outcomes



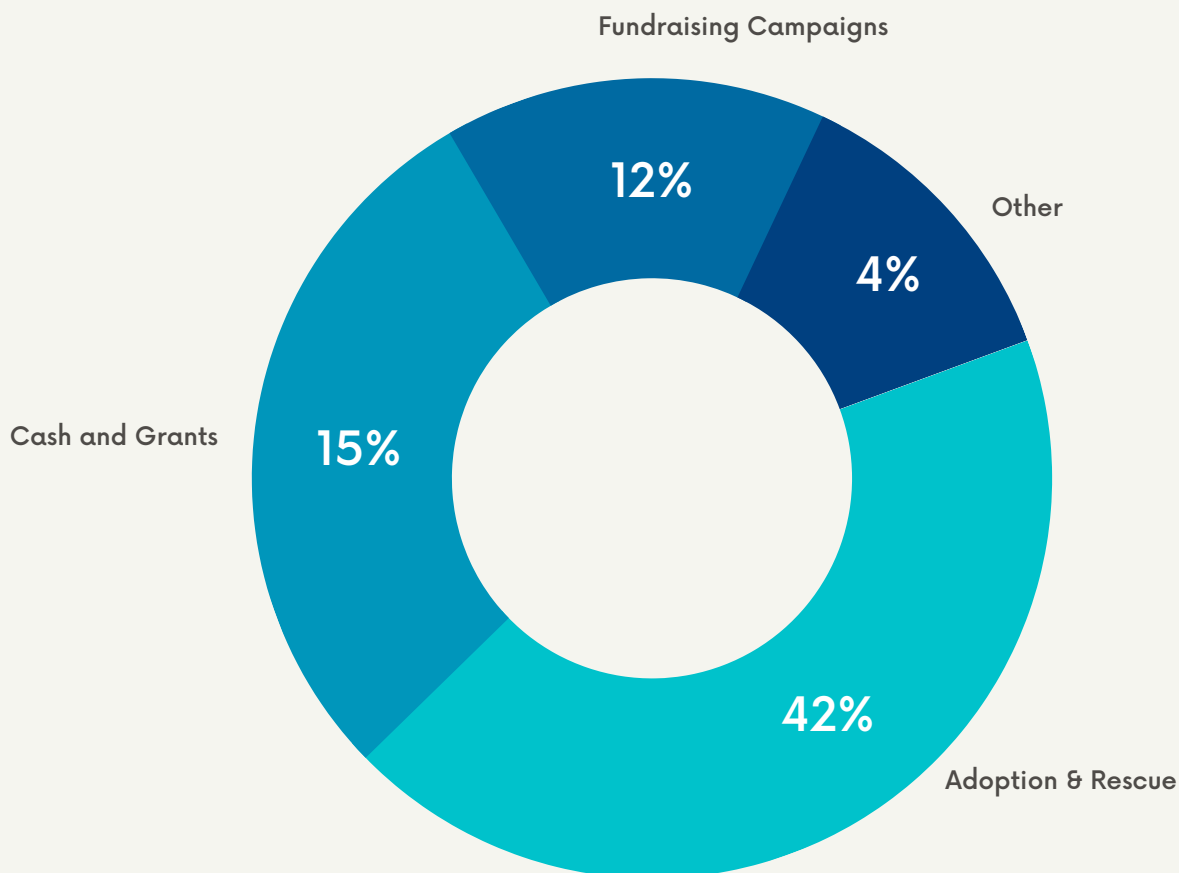
## Rehoming Outcomes



# Fundraising Data

Dogs & Cats of Antigua-US, Inc. is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization based in Lakeville, Massachusetts. This designation allows us to better support and fund our critical on-the-ground work in Antigua & Barbuda, West Indies. As a privately-run organization, we are reliant on the generosity of individual, institutional, and corporate donors to achieve our mission. We do not receive any funding from the government of Antigua & Barbuda. Aside from our Sanctuary staff, which are paid weekly salaries, our entire Board of Directors and Advisory Board is volunteer-run. Less than 5% of funding goes toward salaries or administrative expenses; the remainder goes directly toward programmatic initiatives. Our largest expenses include veterinary care and transportation for animals going overseas.

In 2022, we raised approximately \$210,000 USD, or \$567,000 ECD. The majority of these funds come from adoption fees and transportation fees paid by rescue partners; the remainder of our budget is reliant on the generosity of our donors and grant partners.





# We couldn't do it without...

## RESCUE PARTNERS

Flew the Coop, Global  
Animal Haven, US  
United for Animals Rescue, US  
Pet Recess, US  
K9 Camp & Resort, US  
North Shore Animal League, US  
Bideawee, US  
Philly Rescue Angels, US  
Forever Friends, Canada  
Humane Society Durham Region, Canada  
Paws Across the Water, Canada  
Homeward Bound Animal Transport, US

## MAJOR SPONSORS

Global Empowerment Mission  
Hodges Bay Resort & Spa  
The Inn at English Harbour  
A.S. Bryden & Sons

## GRANT FUNDING

John and Wendy Neu Foundation  
Edna Fortescue Estate

## FOSTER NETWORK

From Antigua to Canada, the US, and the UK, we could not achieve our life-saving work without you all.



Thank you, from the  
bottom of our hearts.



# How you can support them:

- [Donate now](#)
- [Become a monthly donor](#)
- [Be a travel buddy](#)
- [Foster an Antigua dog](#)
- Purchase from our [Chewy](#) and [Amazon](#) Wishlists
- [Subscribe to our newsletter](#)
- [Sign our petition](#)
- [Shop with Amazon Smile](#)
- [Share adoptable dogs](#)

For additional opportunities, including sponsorships, please email us at [paws@dogsandcatsantigua.com](mailto:paws@dogsandcatsantigua.com)



## Photo Credits:

Marco Bava:	Cover, 5, 12, 21
Concella Kellman:	8 (left), 18
Frerk Hopf:	15, 17 (middle), 26
Alexandra McNamara:	17 (left, right)
Animal Haven:	18 (right)

Additional photos have been contributed and shared by our incredible team of volunteers, fosters, rescuers, travel buddies, and adopters. We thank you for capturing the spirit of our incredible Antiguan animals.

Thank  
you.

2022

