

PAWSTER

2024

IMPACT REPORT



**SUPPORTING PEOPLE AND
PETS THROUGH CRISIS**

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Paws to Remember

In February of 2024, Pawster’s board of directors met at the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee for a strategic planning session. Our first order of business? Bring our mission statement in alignment with our work.

Specifically, we wanted to solidify how Pawster’s work is meant to help **people** as much as **pets**. Our original mission statement, to “end pet homelessness before it begins,” captured the animal welfare side of things perfectly. Crisis Foster Care prevents companion animals from becoming homeless.

But this mission left out the **people** who make up the families of those dogs, cats, guinea pigs, and rabbits. Moreover, our work does not stop with caring for people’s animals. We also maintain a list of pet-friendly, affordable housing in Middle Tennessee. We help pay for deposits and pet fees to help people move into housing more quickly. We work closely with social workers and case managers at housing agencies, domestic violence shelters, addiction treatment centers, and hospitals.



So what is our mission as an organization? Last February, Pawster’s board of directors discerned a mission statement that incorporates the impact of our work on animal welfare, while bringing the human beings we work with to the center:

“To support people during times of crisis by providing compassionate, temporary care for their pets.”

Support: Pawster aims to walk alongside people during hard times. We are not saviors. We are one part of a support system that leaves people in control of their own future.

Crisis: Pawster is not the solution for all situations, and that’s okay. Our maximum foster period is 3 months, because that is the amount of time we can have the most impact for people during a temporary crisis. We want to do the most we can to support people in the short time we walk alongside them.

Compassion: For both people and animals, our goal is to ground every relationship in compassion, recognizing the inherent dignity of every being.

Thank you for being a part of Pawster’s mission.

Gabe Horton
Executive Director



BY THE NUMBERS

122

ACTIVE
FOSTERS

86%

PETS
REUNITED

153

PETS FOSTERED
IN 2024

345

DONORS
IN 2024

90

FAMILIES
SUPPORTED

17

COUNTIES
SERVED

Karen originally came to Pawster back in 2022, because she needed inpatient treatment for substance use disorder. Foster care meant Karen was able to get the help she needed, and Roxy wasn't surrendered to a shelter.

Recovery doesn't always take right away, though. Throughout 2022, we fostered Roxy 3 separate times. The last time, Karen decided to go to a treatment center out of state to separate herself from unhealthy environments and relationships.



KAREN'S STORY

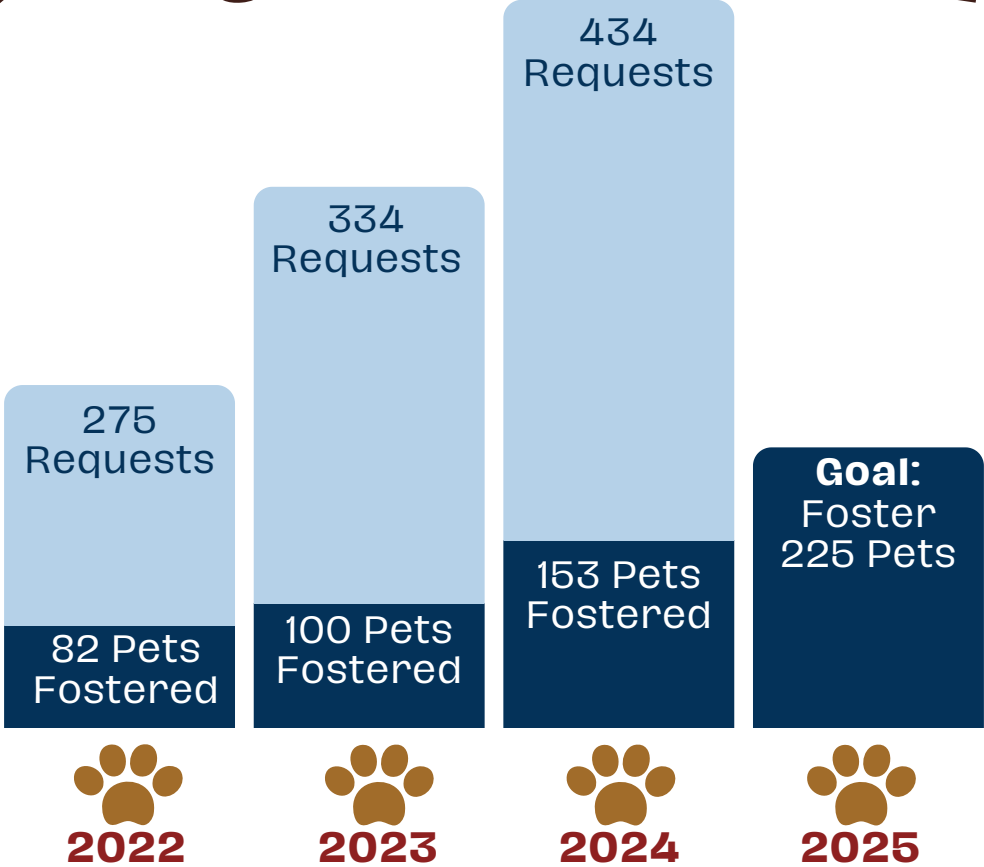
After a month in a treatment center, Karen was able to move into sober living and bring Roxy to their new home together. We found someone willing to transport Roxy across the country, and they were finally reunited for good!

A year-and-a-half later, though, came a text from Karen . But it wasn't what we thought:

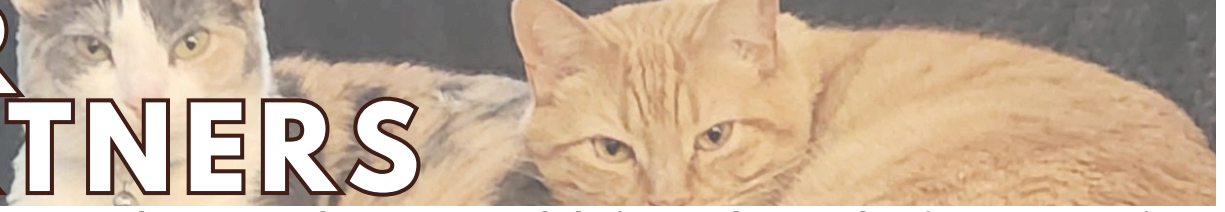
"Hi, this is Karen and Roxy. We are doing great! I have 1 year and 7 months clean!! I am working at a treatment center as a case manager in California, and I have a client who needs foster care for her dog. Do you know if there is any program like Pawster out here?"

Karen's story shows how supporting people along their journey through a crisis can have an impact that lasts long into the future.

Growing to Meet the Need



OUR PARTNERS



Thank you to everyone who gave to keep pets and their people together in 2024! Listed below is every individual, family, church, business or foundation who gave \$500 or more:

\$10,000 and above

Mr. Craig Wiseman, The Wiseman Fund
Ellen and Steve Adams

The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee Animal Welfare Grant
The Foster Furry Fund of the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee
The Human-Animal Alliance

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Barbara and Herbert Fritch, The Fritch Family Giving Fund
Michelson Found Animals Foundation

\$2,500 to \$4,999

Nathan Yates
Play a Role Fund, Play Dance Bar
Mr. and Mrs. Chris Stapleton, Outlaw State of Kind Fund of CFMT
The Delek Fund for Hope
Caterpillar Financial Services Corporation

\$1,000 to \$2,499

Melinda and Jeff Balsler	Vine Street Christian Church
John and Allison Beasley	Laura Galbraith
Bill and Theresa Hook	The Lisa Ross Parker Foundation
Nancy and Gabe Horton-Holmes	Michael McGarvey
Elaine Gray	Sandra Earthman
Dell Technologies	Bart Durham Injury Law

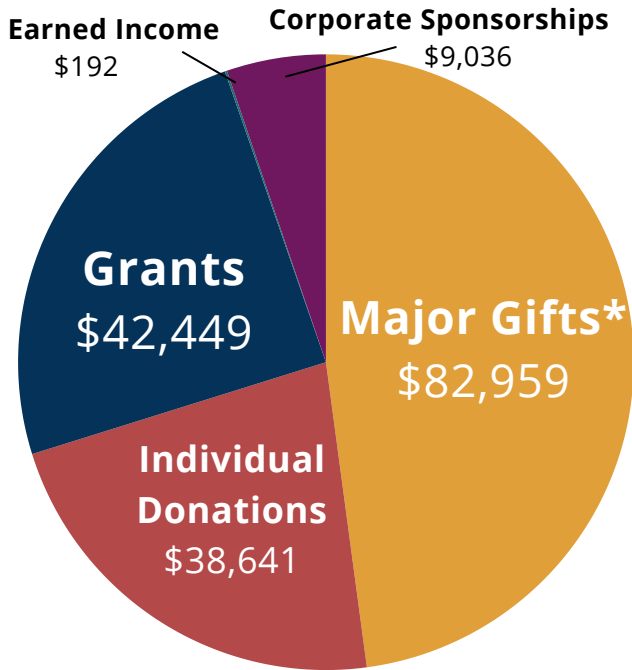
Brenda and Colin Reed Advised Fund of The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee

\$500 to \$999

Audra Crosby	Adelicia Company
Danny Rhodes	Rob Cowles
Ashley Anita Christensen	Heidi Holman
Sharon Barnett	Camilla Ann Aikin and Bobby Smiley
Sandra Partridge	Sara J Finley
Anona Johnson and Dr. C. Wright Pinson	Anjelah Johnson-Reyes
Kevin Christian	Bejamin Atkins
Eugenia Winwood	Donald Marler
Bluebird Cafe	

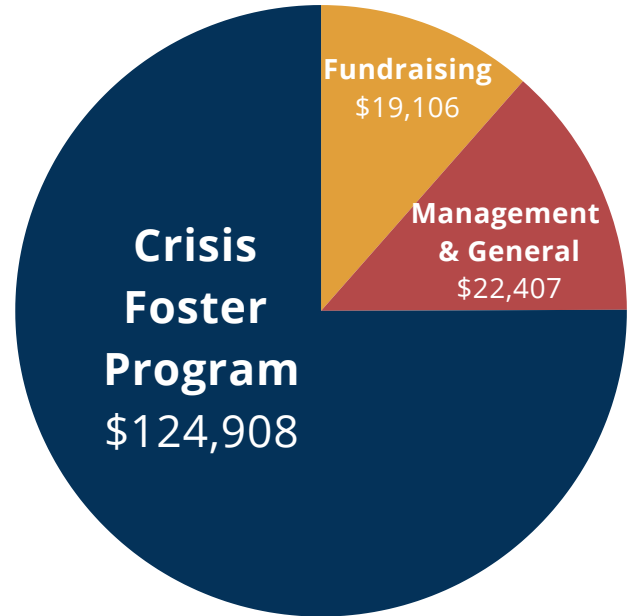
FINANCIALS

2024 Revenue



Total: **\$173,276**

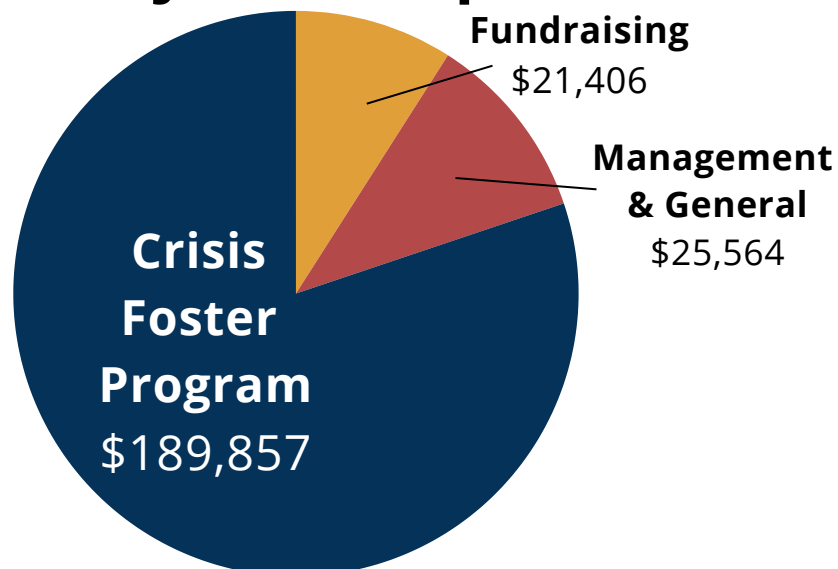
2024 Expenses



Total: **\$166,421**

**Major Gifts are donations totaling \$1,000+ per household annually*

2025 Projected Expenses:



Total: **\$236,827** to foster **225 pets**

