

ARIZONA ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE & SPCA



# GIMMIE *Rescues Rock* SHELTER



# Rescues Rock!

Time seems to be passing at warp speed, and here we are at the end of another incredible year of unprecedented success in finding nearly 4,500 precious animals new homes! Without your compassion, donations, volunteer work, foster homes, and the hundreds of other things you do each day, we couldn't achieve the results we have. It's truly a team effort and our supporters, wonderful staff and incredible volunteers are the "rock stars" of our world.

And, speaking of our world – the world of animal welfare – it is also constantly changing and evolving. If you haven't actually visited the Sonia Breslow Adoption Center, or our Chandler Mall PetMatch Adoption Center, you might think that shelters are still the sad, cold and lonely places of the past. That couldn't be more wrong. The animals we take into our care have great temporary "homes" in our ultra-clean cattery and dog kennels. They have beds, blankets, toys, treats, good food and lots and lots of love. Our staff and volunteers see that they get out and exercise every day. We even have a group of volunteers who take the more active dogs on hikes around the Valley. We have volunteers who have become the "Champion" of a long-time dog/cat and work hard at getting them exposure and finding their perfect home. We may not be as good as a real home, but it's a happy place to visit... for the animals and people alike!

A positive change in the animal welfare world is the realization by most people that commercial, retail puppy stores need to be shut down. Regardless of what you might hear, 99% of puppies being sold in puppy stores come from puppy mills – large, commercial breeding facilities that are only there to make money. The puppies may be cute and sweet, but think of the poor breeding parents, most of whom spend their entire lives in a small wire cage – never knowing a loving touch, a warm place to sleep or any human kindness for the entire 5-6 years they are kept to breed. After they are "finished" breeding, they are either disposed of (killed) or sold to brokers who may auction them off.

Thanks to our good friends at the National Mill Dog Rescue organization, we are working together to save these poor dogs while getting the word out to the public to stop supporting these horrible and cruel mills. If everyone adopts a puppy or dog, and stops buying them, they will close down and go out of business, ending a horrible existence for thousands of innocent animals.

Let's work together so that next year we can report that more wonderful pets have been adopted than any previous year. We have something for everyone...lap dogs/cats, running partners, couch potatoes, comics and entertainers, sweet babies and huge love bugs. A pet brings so much joy and happiness to a family – isn't it time to find your new family member? Come visit us and see the new face of animal welfare.

With Gratitude,

*Judith A. Gardner*

Judith A. Gardner  
President & CEO

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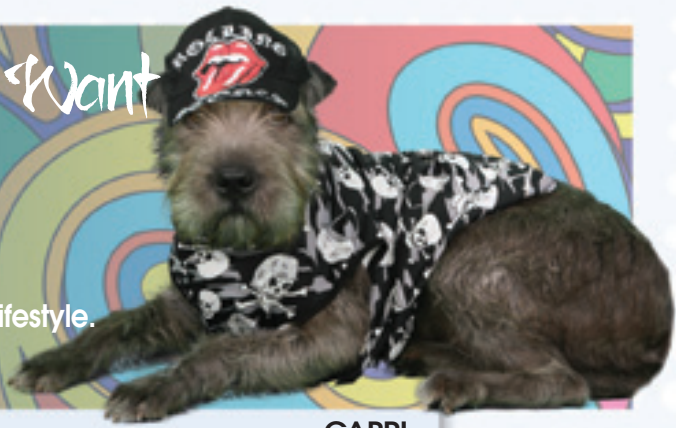


# You Can't Always Get What You Want ...You Get What You Need

ROLLING STONES

AAWL & SPCA 'matchmakers' help you find the pet that fits your lifestyle.

Something for everyone - from purebreds to one-of-a-kind pets.



**CAPRI**

I could be your Rock Star!

*It is uncanny how many times an adopter comes into the AAWL & SPCA Adoption Center knowing exactly what they want and leaving with something totally different! Recently, a woman and her daughter visited our Chandler Mall PetMatch Adoption Center and said, "We know exactly what we want. An older, small, nonallergic dog that is happy to sit on the couch", and fell in love with Maggie, an active 4-month-old Black Lab puppy! Many times adopters will tell you, "I didn't pick her...she chose me". Magic just happens!*

## AN UNLIKELY LOVE AFFAIR



John is your typical guy - he loves sports, cars, home repairs and traveling with his wife. John grew up racing motorcycles and never had time for pets. His wife is just the opposite. She feels a house isn't a home without a loving pet by her side. Second marriages for both, John knew that caring for his wife's beloved cocker, Murphy, was part of the package. Then things changed. There was a darling little nine-month-old Cavalier that had come into AAWL & SPCA very sick, suffering with severe kennel cough. Would John and his wife consider fostering her until she was healthy enough for adoption? John's wife just couldn't say no!

### Love is the best medicine.

It wasn't long until the little Cavalier, now called Gracie, was running around...and running the household. It was clear that she was destined to be their dog (which we lovingly refer to as a failed foster!). Gracie had touched John's heart, creating that magical bond between an animal and a man. Each night John arrives home, he and Gracie have a routine love fest which quickly removes the stress from his day. Maybe, just maybe, pets are our best medicine.

## WORTH THE WAIT

Espi was just a little kitten when she was adopted from AAWL & SPCA. Three years later, the adopters returned her saying "she never learned not to be afraid of their dogs". Extremely shy, our staff and volunteers worked tirelessly to help her gain confidence and begin to trust humans. After a year and a half in our cattery, a woman and her son came in looking for the perfect cat. Then the unexplainable happened. Espi ran over to the little boy and jumped into his arms...something she had never done! Espi was ready to trust, and 'chose' her forever family that day.

Espi is now queen of her family. Her new mom recently wrote, "Espi is the sweetest cat and we love her so much! We are so grateful that AAWL & SPCA stuck by her for so long until we could find her". Or was it the other way around?



AAWL & SPCA Cattery is designed to make cats feel at home while in our care.

Good AAWL & SPCA Foster Families are always needed.



**ZIGGY**

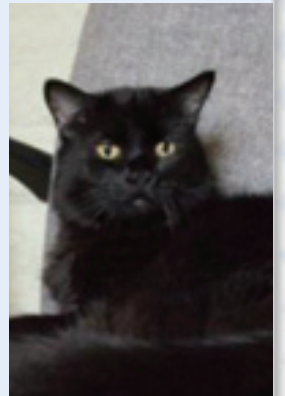
Rock and roll with me today.

*Stray cats are a huge problem in our community. Each year our Foster Department takes in thousands of tiny, adorable kittens until they are old enough to be adopted. The cost to care for them is challenging, but not as much as finding good homes for all of these babies. If not adopted, they can stay in our cattery for extended periods of time, causing other cats and kittens to lose their lives due to lack of cattery space. AAWL & SPCA collaborates with the Alliance for Companion Animals initiative providing free and low-cost spay/neuter services to the public to begin to tackle the core of this problem.*

## NEVER GIVE UP ON LOVE

Panther came to AAWL & SPCA from Maricopa County Animal Control where she was on the euthanasia list for her aggressive temperament. The odds were clearly against her. She was already 5 years old and a large, black, long-haired cat to boot. Plus, she was extremely stressed in the shelter environment and hated the sight, sound and smell of other cats!

Unable to keep her in the AAWL & SPCA Cattery, Panther became an 'office foster' where she could rest comfortably. Because of her temperament, size and age, it was difficult to find the perfect match and forever home for Panther. Four years and one failed adoption later, the original office foster "mom" returned to AAWL & SPCA as a volunteer, reuniting her with Panther. After several months, she knew that Panther was meant to be hers. Loved and happy, Panther now reigns as queen of her forever home office. Meant to be!



## NO MORE BLUES FOR SATCHMO

Satchmo was a street cat that was turned in to Maricopa County Animal Control. He looked like he had a very rough life. He was covered in scars from fighting and some that looked like they may have come from cactus or barbed wire. He was dirty and had a bent ear, but was very friendly with people and extremely tolerant of handling.

A volunteer who transported him to AAWL & SPCA noted that he liked to "sing the blues", so he was christened Satchmo. Satchmo turned out to be about 10 years old and obviously had a rough life. Unlike many cats that come into the shelter, Satchmo instantly made himself at home – after life on the streets and out in the desert, a soft bed and plenty of food must have seemed like heaven. It wasn't long before Satchmo was put up for adoption. In less than a month, the perfect match for Satchmo was made. They were a loving family looking for a mellow, elderly cat that they could love for the rest of his days. Satchmo walked into his new home like he had always lived there and has never looked back.



# Let's Spend the Night Together

ROLLING STONES

AAWL & SPCA provides programs for homeless pets where they can thrive while in our care.

AAWL & SPCA Foster families provide temporary shelter to hundreds of puppies and kittens, cats and dogs, giving them the extra time and love they need.

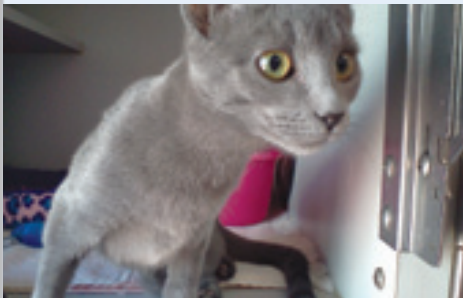


**NAOMI & MALLORYE**

We are available to cuddle tonight.

*AAWL & SPCA works hard to make sure that every homeless animal that is in our care is as comfortable and happy as possible. Almost half of the dogs, cats, puppies and kittens that come to AAWL & SPCA spend some time in the care of one of our wonderful Foster families. Our Foster families provide love and temporary shelter to hundreds of underage puppies and kittens, dogs that are recovering from surgery and cats that need time to trust. 'Gimme A Break' allows volunteers and staff to take an animal home for a weekend or holiday; 'Homeward Bound' is for those animals that can't handle shelter life and are adopted out of homes; 'Slumber Parties' allow potential adopters a night with the dog to see how they adjust to their family; and the 'Champion' program was designed to help long-timers and hard-to-adopt dogs and cats get more exposure and recognition to improve their chances of being adopted.*

## GOING THE EXTRA MILE FOR KITTENS



AAWL & SPCA bravely signed on for the intake of 350 additional kittens through our Foster program to do our part for the community-based Alliance for Companion Animals' Fix.Adopt. Save Campaign.

Two of the thousands of kittens we took into our Foster program had hind leg deformities, but were perfectly healthy and happy in every other way. Doing whatever we can to help save a life, we discovered that one of them, Ashley, had a painful growth that was impeding her mobility and play. Our Veterinarian removed the bone and Ashley was back to being a playful kitten the very next day. After she healed in the care of a Foster family, she was quickly adopted and found her forever family.

## THE POWER OF HOPE

A sweet, but very sick Boxer was brought into AAWL & SPCA by our in-take team after we saw her on a "partner alert" from The Arizona Humane Society (AHS) where she was scheduled for euthanasia if alternative placement couldn't be found for her by 5:00 p.m. She had a broken leg, thinning hair and a small mass on her leg. After naming her "Hope", our medical team set the leg, removed the mass, cleaned her up, and found a wonderful Foster home to keep her until she could recover. It was discovered that she also had severe allergies, which caused some potential adopters to pass her by. Finally, however, Hope found her new family and is living the life of a pampered pooch, just as she should!



AAWL & SPCA doesn't turn animals away because they are old or suffering from a treatable illness.

LINUS

I've been waiting a long time for you.

*Many of the animals being euthanized in our community are put down because they are old, or because they have a serious health condition...even if it can be handled with the right resources and dedication. AAWL & SPCA has found that some of the older pets are perfect for elderly adopters, families that want a quiet, well-trained pet, or those special people who just want to help an older animal live out their final days in peace and comfort. People who adopt from a rescue organization, or shelter, are special. They are not supporting horrible puppy mills by buying a puppy from a puppy store; they are compassionate and loving and realize that animals in shelters have usually come from homes that could not, for whatever reason, keep them.*

## SPOIL HIM!

Zaniel was a young 1-1/2 year-old Affenpinscher that we took in from Maricopa County Animal Control. During his medical checkup it was discovered he had a very severe heart murmur. The heart murmur was so severe, the doctors gave him his life span in weeks, not years. Zaniel lived in a staff member's office and was taken home by her on most weekends. He went on walks, went to restaurants, and bonded with her dogs. He was very loveable and energetic, but was definitely on borrowed time. Since we thought he wouldn't make it very long, we spoiled him constantly with treats, walks and fluffy toys. After two months with no sign of slowing down, Zaniel was put up for adoption, even though everyone in the office had fallen in love with him. His family was informed of his issue and that one day, maybe in 5 years or 5 days, his heart will give out. They said they didn't care, they just wanted to love and spoil him for the rest of his life, however long that is.



## LOVE NEVER QUITS

Puppy mills have been talked about for a long time; however, until you see the impact of puppy mills on the actual dogs who suffer at these horrible breeding facilities, you can't begin to believe how bad it really is.

This year, AAWL & SPCA worked with the National Mill Dog Rescue Group to save some of these wonderful animals who came from puppy mills throughout the Midwest. Most of them required extra medical care, foster homes and other services to prepare them to be adopted into loving homes. Of all the things we've done this year, saving these precious dogs that have never known a tender touch, loving care, room to run and play or a soft place to rest, touched the hearts of our staff and volunteers deeply. Every one of the "mill dogs" have been adopted into new homes where they will never again suffer the neglect and abuse which is all they have ever known.



# Get Off of My Cloud

ROLLING STONES

AAWL & SPCA creates innovative programs to save precious lives.



## MINION & WEASLEY

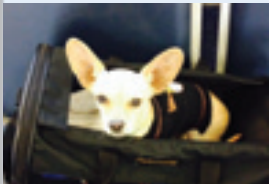
We are cuddle bugs and looking for your love today!

*As a no-kill animal organization, we are constantly evaluating every aspect of animal welfare and looking for ways to save more lives. The cycle of animal homelessness begins with intake - how can we keep animals from entering the shelter system? What can we do about the huge numbers of animals that need homes? Some of our innovative programs that address these issues are: Last Litter, to stop unwanted litters of puppies; our Low-Cost Vet Clinic which helps people who can't afford expensive vet care keep their animals rather than relinquish them; our Education program to teach responsible pet ownership to youngsters; dog training programs to address behavior and obedience issues; our Best Buddy program to help adopters in the crucial first 30 days of adjustment; and, our newest program, Rescue Rally to help Chihuahuas that would otherwise be euthanized fly away to new homes where they are greatly desired.*

## NIGEL'S CANADIAN ADVENTURE IN HIS NEW MOOSE SWEATER!



Of all the dogs killed in our community, the vast majority are Pit Bulls and Chihuahuas. Fortunately, there is a high demand for small dogs in other parts of the country, which led to our newest program, "Rescue Rally". AAWL & SPCA has partnered with US Airways to fly Chihuahuas from Phoenix to other parts of the country where they are in high demand. The first member of our "Pilot" program (sorry), was Nigel, who flew from the desert to the Hamilton/Burlington SPCA in Ontario, Canada. Nigel was taken home by a staff member in preparation for his red-eye flight with his Rescue Rally partner Tremell. Tremell works on the computer systems for US Airways and volunteered to take Nigel to his new home base. After almost 12 hours of travel, he arrived at the Buffalo, New York airport, ready to be taken on the next leg of his journey.



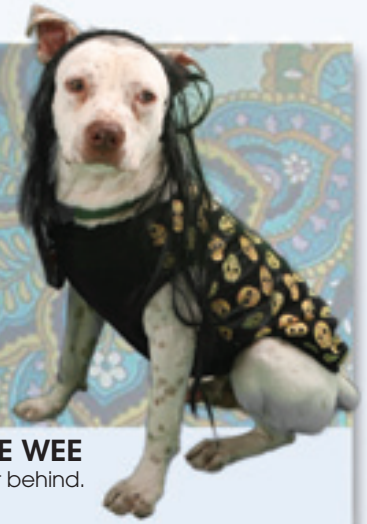
A volunteer from the SPCA had driven 2 hours down from Canada to pick up Nigel, and had quite a welcoming gift; an adorable moose sweater to keep him warm on those cold Canadian nights. Nigel loved his sweater and wore it with pride through the airport and all the way to his new home. The best news...Nigel was adopted 3 hours after he arrived in Canada! We hope to expand the program further in 2014 and save the lives of many more little Chihuahuas.

## "LAST LITTER" OFFERS NO-KILL ALTERNATIVE FOR UNWANTED PUPPIES

Since we started our "Last Litter" program in 2011, we have taken in hundreds of puppies and have provided free spay vouchers for the moms, thereby eliminating future "oops" litters. The pups are spayed or neutered, vaccinated and microchipped before being put up for adoption. The puppies and their mother will be safe in homes and unable to reproduce in the future. These efforts help decrease the cycle of unplanned puppies and reduce the number of homeless animals entering the shelter system.



As a no-kill shelter, AAWL & SPCA goes the extra mile to save a life.  
Once adopted, AAWL & SPCA is there for you through our Best Buddy program.  
AAWL & SPCA's Low Cost Clinic offers full services at low costs.



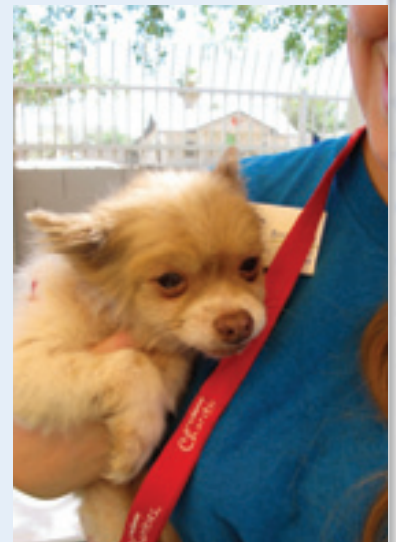
**PEE WEE**  
Too cool to be left behind.

*AAWL & SPCA staff is 'blinded by love' for the animals we rescue — going above and beyond to provide whatever they need, regardless of cost. We have a compassionate and professional medical staff consisting of two full-time veterinarians and eight vet techs who do the obvious (spay and neuter/well checks) and the impossible (treat pets with serious illnesses and complicated orthopedic surgeries). Our staff of trained behaviorists step in to work with dogs who are fearful, shy or in need of tender loving care. Whatever it takes, AAWL & SPCA is there!*

## FROM PUPPY MILL TO HIS FOREVER HOME

Kevin is an adorable little Pomeranian that spent more than six years in a deplorable puppy mill, used for breeding until he was well past his prime. Most dogs in this situation are euthanized or discarded, deemed invaluable by the breeder. But Kevin was one of the lucky ones and ended up at AAWL & SPCA.

Upon examination, it was clear that he was underweight and had numerous dental and health issues. He was frightened by human touch, unsure what was going to happen to him next. With severe dental decay, our Veterinarian removed all of his teeth, giving him relief from extreme pain and the ability to eat again. Little by little he grew healthier, showing his sweet demeanor and his love to cuddle. He touched the hearts of many of our staff and volunteers who wildly celebrated the day he left our arms for his new forever home. He will never need to worry about tomorrow again.



## AAWL & SPCA'S LOW-COST VET CLINIC KEPT MISSIE HOME



Missie is a 12-year-old Border Collie that had a terrible problem with her teeth. The Vet said she would need 7 extractions and a good cleaning and quoted a price of \$1,000. The elderly couple, who have had Missie for her entire life, live on a fixed income and couldn't afford the expense. They discussed putting her to sleep to keep her from experiencing further pain. Then they learned about AAWL & SPCA's low-cost vet clinic and were able to take care of all of Missie's dental problems for just \$433. Missie's "dad", William, said, "this was my only option or I would have had to put her down. It's just my wife, Missie and me – she is our life. The service was excellent, and I was overwhelmed with gratitude that we were able to help Missie and to keep her with us."



# Beast of Burden

ROLLING STONES

AAWL & SPCA is a leader in promoting humane values through education.

AAWL & SPCA provides educational programs and camps for kids from 7 – 17.

AAWL & SPCA supports adopters with extensive dog training classes.

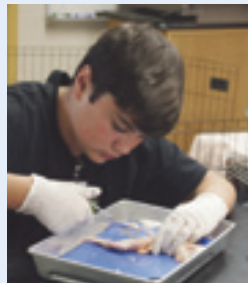
**HOTCH, LINUS & WALT**  
Hanging out and waiting for you.



*It's always difficult to see a high-energy dog having to live in a kennel for weeks at a time. Even though they have a nice bed, good food, treats, toys and lots of love from our staff and volunteers, an active dog doesn't belong in a kennel day and night. They belong in a home. This is where our extensive dog training classes help adopters ensure their new pet is happy, well behaved and a permanent member of the family.*

*We feature interesting pets and 'beasts' in our Education Program for kids from 7-17. Our summer camps, Teen Tracks and other programs offer a great educational experience as well as teaching compassion, and even possibly opening the door to a future in the pet health field through our Camp Vet.*

## STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT VETERINARY MEDICINE CAREERS



Thanks to the generosity of Arizona Agribusiness and Equine Center (AAEC) High Schools this year, AAWL & SPCA hosted our Vet Science Camps in their beautiful Red Mountain Biology classroom and lab. The week-long camps were a perfect way for students interested in careers in Veterinary Medicine to spend their vacation time.

This group of dedicated students was able to get hands-on Veterinary experience including caring for the smallest little bottle-fed kittens, all the way up to the skeletal anatomy of some very large horses. The students were even able to paint the skeletal system on horses that were brought out to us by Arizona Equine Rescue Organization. The stories of these gentle rescue horses will be something these students will remember forever.

## GREAT TRAINING MEANS A HAPPY HOME!

Flo, a 2-year-old Australian Cattle Dog mix saved from euthanasia by AAWL & SPCA did not do well in the kennel environment, exhibiting significant behavior problems which resulted in a longer than normal stay at the shelter. Our expert Adoption Staff matched her with a family that fell in love with her and felt confident that they could address her training issues.

The new family contacted AAWL & SPCA through our behavior help line to inquire about training techniques and tools to reinforce good behavior and avoid the bad. One of AAWL & SPCA's dog trainers offered to visit their home and assess the situation at no cost to the new adopters. Two hours later, the family was thrilled with the new tools provided and was impressed at the commitment of AAWL & SPCA to keep Flo and her new family happy and well-trained!

Flo and her new pet parents just completed AAWL & SPCA's Intermediate Training Course, which certified Flo as an AKC Canine Good Citizen and enabled her to get involved in agility training – just for fun.



# It's All About You

ROLLING STONES

AAWL & SPCA provides support from the time we rescue a homeless pet through the adoption and throughout the pet's life.



**MORGAN**

Looking for a blond, I'm yours.

*You are the key to our success! The Arizona Animal Welfare League & SPCA has continued to grow each year, making an ever larger impact on the homeless, injured, sick and abandoned animals in our community only because you have been here to help. We are not a part of any national organization (sometimes people think we are the ASPCA, which we are not), nor do we receive any government funding. This organization is successful for one reason — our compassionate donors, our wonderful volunteers, our corporate and foundation sponsors and our dedicated and hard-working staff. Thank you from all of your two- and four-legged friends for your support.*

## HERE FOR YOU AND YOUR PET, NO MATTER WHAT

The Arizona Animal Welfare League & SPCA is the Best Place to Adopt — Why? Because we offer so many services that support adopters, and their new pets, which are not available at any other adoption agency.

### Best Place to Adopt. Guaranteed!

**HAPPY.** Found new forever home

**HEALTHY.** Full medical evaluation and vaccines

**INSURED.** 30 days of free health insurance

**FIXED.** Has been spayed/neutered

**SAFE.** Has a registered microchip

**SOCIAL BUDDY.** Evaluated by behavior staff

**GOOD BOY BUDDY.** Lots of training classes available

**WELL BUDDY.** Medical helpline for first 30 days

**LOW-COST VETERINARY CLINIC.** For lifetime care

**BAD BOY BUDDY.** Free behavior helpline for first 30 days



## GROWING AND SAVING MORE LIVES

	2008	2013
INTAKE	2,227	4,807
ADOPTIONS	1,995	4,200
FOSTER	1,141	1,760
SPAY/NEUTER SURGERIES	1,700	3,172
VOLUNTEERS		
Number of Volunteers	452	953
Volunteer Hours Annual	21,600	54,240
EDUCATION		
Summer Camp Attendees	198	594

# Ain't Too Proud to Beg

ROLLING STONES



Can you please help?

I'm not begging for me...I want to help all those doggies and kitties that are friends of mine. If AAWL & SPCA could just rescue them and give them all the love and attention they gave me, I would be so happy!

You may not know this, but AAWL & SPCA relies totally on your generous donations to help all of us. They have a great veterinary clinic and an animal hospital and they will do whatever it takes to help us...even if we have to have surgery! And then there are all those "ACT"s...I think that means Animal Care Technicians...who feed us and play with us and take us out to exercise. They have to spend a lot of money on food. If we are lucky, we get to meet all the adoption counselors who help us find the perfect family and forever home. All of this costs a LOT of money...and, as you know, we don't even have pockets, let alone wallets and cash!

So, I would really appreciate it if you could find it in your heart to send in a donation...even if it's small, it really means something to all of us. The more you send, the more of my friends AAWL & SPCA can help.

Hope



**HOPE**

Begging you to help my friends.

## Management Team

**Judith Gardner**

President and CEO

**Claudia Channing, DVM**

Chief Veterinarian

**Natalie Lowry, DVM**

Veterinarian

**Stephanie Schlachter, DVM**

Veterinarian

**Patti DuBois**

Chief Operating Officer

**Terri Hawkins**

Chief Financial Officer

**Michelle Ramos**

Director of Education

**Kay Wilder**

Director of Volunteers/Events

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Attorney

Salt River Project

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M&I Bank

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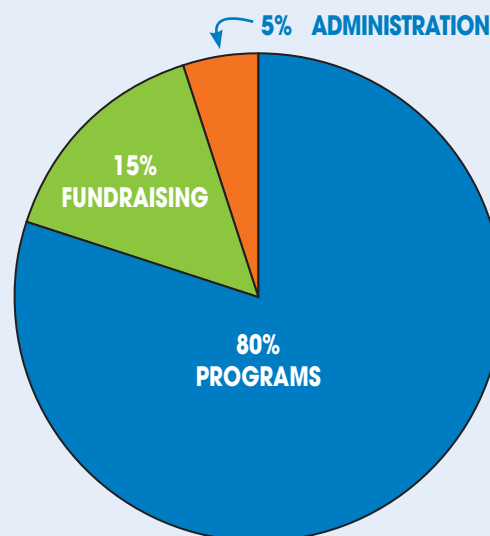
**Bill Domstrand**

Managing Member

Public Action Management

## YOUR DONATIONS MATTER

At AAWL & SPCA, a full 80% of every dollar donated goes directly to our program costs, including food, shelter, medical care, behavior protocols, etc. Every donation is important, and helps us help homeless, neglected, abandoned and abused animals. And, even though they can't say "thank you", the wagging tails and sweet purrs we receive every day definitely let us know.





# GIMME *Rescues Rock* SHELTER

IT'S JUST A GIFT AWAY

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