



To **save the hungry**, the **helpless**, the **lost**, and the **little ones** just struggling to survive; to **house and feed** as many animals as possible; to **ease the suffering** of the weak and unloved.

FOOD BANK AND  
ANIMAL SHELTER  
EXPENSES

## \$723,300

## IMPACT SNAPSHOT

# 670

Volunteers Enriched the  
Lives of Our Felines

# 339

Felines Matched with New  
Companions in 2023

# 392

Cats and Kittens Rescued  
in 2023

# 18,032,880

Pounds of Lifesaving Food  
Distributed Across MT to Date

## From the Director

Dear Friends,

AniMeals celebrated 20 years of service in 2023! We exist because of your commitment to fostering a more compassionate and humane community in Missoula County.

Look at what we accomplished together in 2023.

**We Rescued:** AniMeals took in 392 cats -- 181 strays, 133 owner surrenders, and 45 cats transferred in from other facilities. If returned post-adoption, we used any time spent in a home to inform a better future for our felines.

**We Fed:** Our supporters donated 13 tons of kibble to the animal food bank. First, we filled our shelter cat's bellies. Then, we distributed nearly 6.44 tons of animal food to homebound individuals, families in crisis, and to community cat caretakers.

**We Healed:** AniMeals took in cats with significant, but treatable or manageable, medical conditions largely because of our working relationship with Animal Blessings Pet Hospital. Dr. Zirbel and her team donated \$155,000 of in-kind medical services to AniMeals felines. Your donations covered the remaining costs of emergency vet visits, bloodwork, dentals, and prescription medications and food. Our partnerships are the salve that mend precious lives.

AniMeals is excited for 2024! Our new maternity ward will isolate vulnerable kittens from the general cat population this Kitten Season. We also updated our standard operating procedures to reflect the best management practices in animal care. For the first time ever, a veterinarian is conducting in-shelter visits to create treatment plans for our felines without driving across town. We are improving our services every day.

The need is still great right where we are. There is no shortage of stray cats or kitten litters showing up at our shelter door. Owner surrender requests come in daily due to the housing crisis, insurmountable veterinary expenses, or pet food insecurity. None of these situations come with easy solutions, but we are well-staffed with 10 compassionate employees equipped to help.

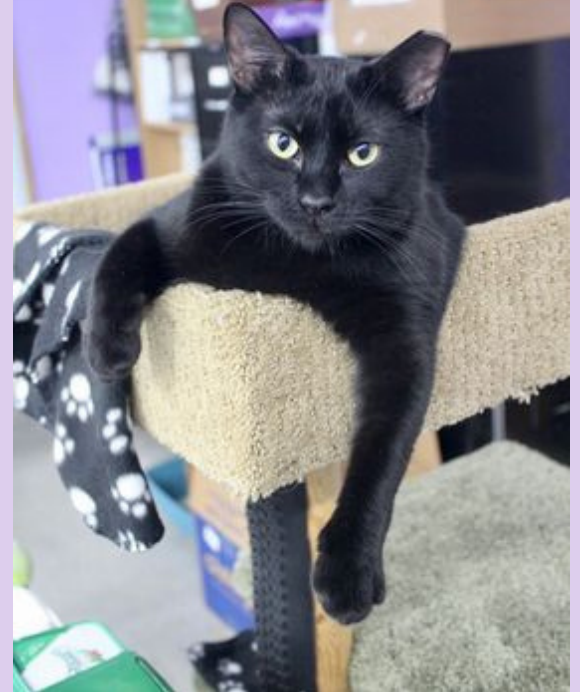
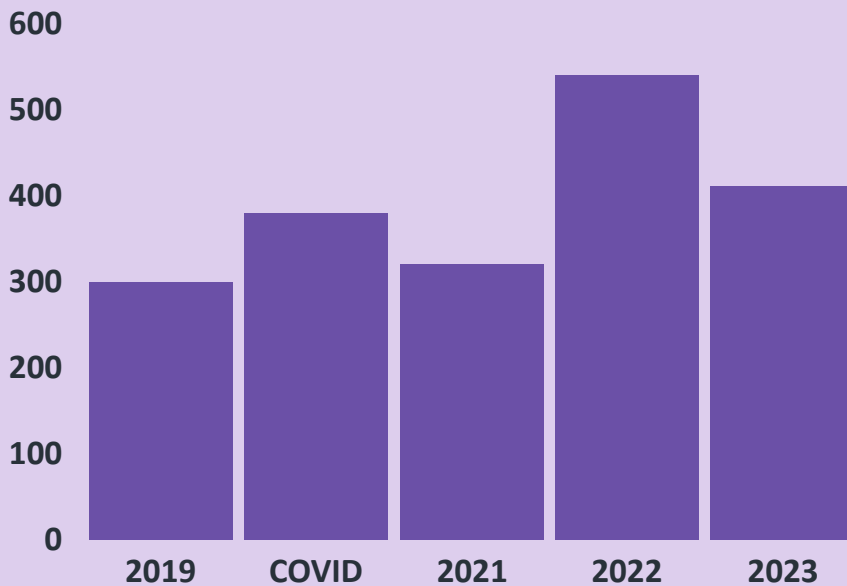
Thanks for believing in and supporting this transformative work. We are strengthening the human-animal bond together.

For the Felines,

Ashley Lipscomb  
Executive Director

At AniMeals, we save animals and value every life. We offer sanctuary for special needs cats that are considered “unadoptable” due to physical disabilities, behavioral issues, and emotional distress. We accept the aged, at-risk, blind, injured, and those with treatable or manageable medical conditions like diabetes and hyperthyroidism. We actively seek permanent, loving homes for all felines.

## # of Cats Cared for by Year



## PROGRAMS

## DETAILS

## OUTCOMES

### Safe & Soft Sheltering Services

AniMeals provides exceptional care for all felines that enter our facility, with an emphasis on cats with medical needs and vulnerable kittens. Each cat receives veterinary care within two weeks of entering the shelter. We operate 365 days a year and staff a 24/7 hotline.

- **96%** of felines leave our shelter alive.
- All cats are fixed, vaccinated, microchipped, and dewormed before going home.
- Animal Blessings Veterinary Hospital waived fees for wellness exams and reduced rates for spays and neuters.

### Gaia's Landing

This program removes barriers to adoption for senior and special needs cats by covering medical expenses for the remainder of the cat's life. We pay for exams and prescription food and drugs.

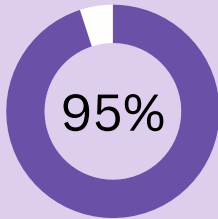
- On average, 90 cats are in this program.
- We matched 34 cats with caring companions through Gaia's Landing.
- Since 2017, 168 cats have found homes through Gaia's Landing.

### Retention in the Home

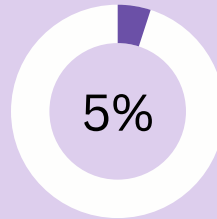
Pets and people are better together. AniMeals offers a fund to help companions cover unexpected vet expenses, return-to-owner services such as low-cost microchipping, and a low-barrier animal food bank.

- AniMeals approved \$1300 in funds to help 7 owned animals receive medical treatment through the Honey Fund.
- A total of 9 cats were returned to their owners because of microchipping.
- We distributed 6.44 tons of pet food.

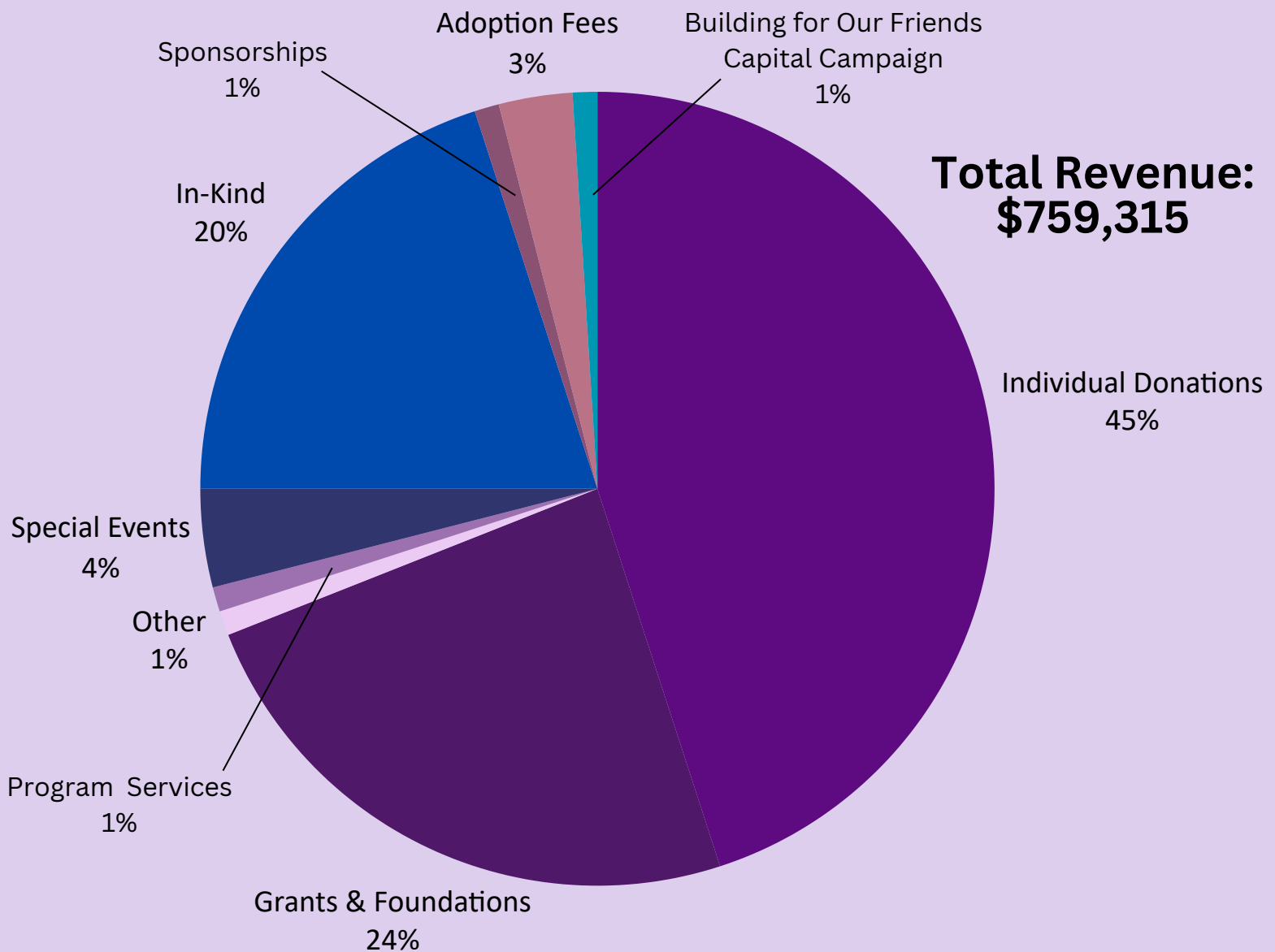
# 2023 Financial Transparency



Programs  
Expenses



Admin/Fundraising  
Expenses



## Sources of Income

# AniMeals Board of Directors

**Karyn Moltzen-President**

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**Josephine Rodgers, Shelter Manager**  
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# THANK YOU

to all our donors, sponsors, and  
dedicated volunteers.



AniMeals gratefully acknowledges the generous contributions of hundreds of individuals, sponsors, foundations and over 670 volunteers who worked tirelessly to care for the most vulnerable animals throughout this extraordinary year. We simply could not have done it without you.

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