

Defenders of Animal Rights, Inc.



2025 Annual Report

Saving lives. Spreading compassion.

410-527-1466 | www.adopt-a-pet.org | feedbackDOAR@gmail.com

14412 Old York Road; Phoenix, MD 21131

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

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Dear Friends and Supporters,

This past year has been one of meaningful progress in our rescue work. Every day, we see the difference compassion can make, as we join together to help animals in need.

Thanks to your support, Defenders provided a safe sanctuary, nutritious meals, medical care, and second chances for 269 animals with nowhere else to turn. Our team worked tirelessly, ensuring that every dog, cat, small animal, and bird who came through our doors received the essential care and comfort they deserved. We couldn't do this without the encouragement and compassion of our donors, volunteers, and community.

This past year also brought important organizational change and growth. Our changeover of leadership was a smooth transition. We focused on improving our programs, expanding our engagement with the public, and making much-needed upgrades to our building.

As we look ahead, we are excited for the opportunities on the horizon. We look forward to reaching as many animals as we can, expanding outreach and education, and improving our shelter for the animals under our care. With your continued support, we will keep building a future where every animal is safe, loved, and cherished.

Thank you for believing in our mission and for supporting our rescue work.

— Erin Gillis, Executive Director



OUR MISSION & VALUES



Mission: To provide the highest level of care for abandoned, abused, and neglected animals.

Vision: A world where every animal is safe and well cared for.

Values: Compassion • Dedication • Progress



2025 BY THE NUMBERS

21

Visits to
Veterinary
Specialists

268

Adoptions

186

Spay &
Neuter
Surgeries

OUTREACH

6 Community Events
8 Petsmart Adoption
Events

269 RESCUED:

208 cats & kittens
56 dogs & puppies
5 small animals

1132

New
Supporting
Members



THE DEFENDERS TEAM



Erin
Shelter Director
Board President/Treasurer



Ashley
Co-Operations Manager
Veterinary Coordinator



Pam
Co-Operations Manager
Transport Coordinator



Abbey
Web & Social Media Manager
Cat Care & Intake Coordinator
Animal Caregiver



Jess
Outreach Coordinator
Administrative Assistant
Animal Caregiver



Deb
Petsmart Coordinator
Enrichment Coordinator
Animal Caregiver



Katy
Animal Caregiver
IT Support



Vince
Animal Caregiver



Christine
Animal Caregiver



Graham
Animal Caregiver

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Erin Gillis - President/Treasurer

Donna Yawman - Secretary

Elizabeth Brooks - Board Chair



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Volunteers
offered their
time and love
in 2025

2025 HIGHLIGHTS

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* Daily enrichment activity goals for all animals were established and carried out.



* In November, we unveiled our new logo! Our online t-shirt sales benefit our rescue work.

* Our Pet Therapy Program was expanded, benefitting our animals and the community!

* Visitation and adoption hours were extended permanently.

* Policies, procedures, staff pay rates, and benefits were all reviewed and updated.



* Many long term shelter residents were among the 268 animals who found loving homes in 2025!



BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS



- Painting & Refresh Phase One completed in our lobby and office areas.
- New signs featuring our updated logo were installed.

Upcoming Projects in 2026:

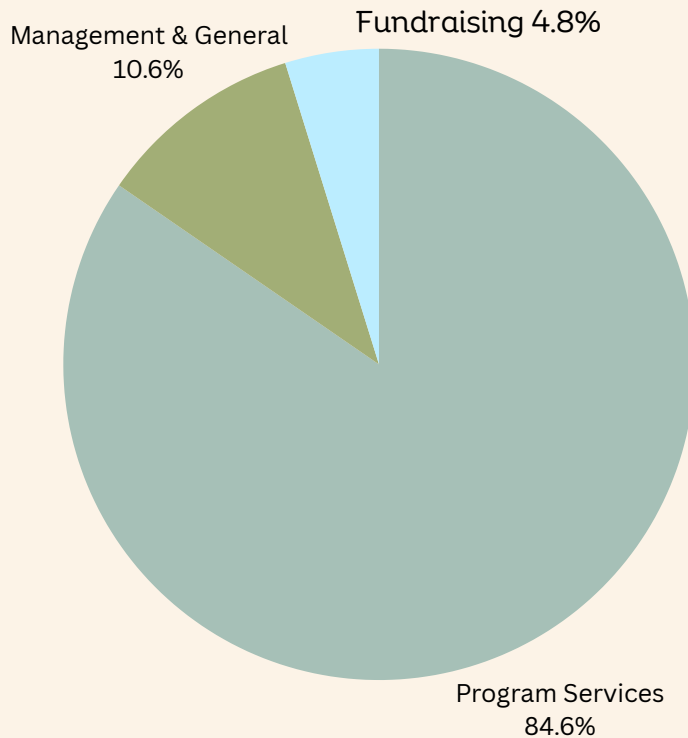
- Generator installation
- Outdoor lighting
- Camera system
- Replacement of failing HVAC unit
- Outdoor visitation and enrichment areas.
- Hiking Trail
- Computer system upgrade
- Painting and Refresh Phase Two



Your support brings our prospective projects to fruition! Thank you!



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



2025 Expense Breakdown

- Total Expenses: \$1,716,499
- Program Management: \$1,452,101 **84.6%**
- Management & General: \$181,455 **10.6%**
- Fundraising: \$82,943 **4.8%**

Expenses for the period 1/1/2025 through 12/31/2025.
 Copies of financial statements and IRS Form 990 are available upon request.
 Defenders of Animal Rights, Inc., is a nonprofit organization.
 Our Federal Tax ID number is 52-1061126.



DIRECTORY OF SERVICES

- Animal Shelter
- Wildlife and Farm Animal Sanctuary
- Rescues, Veterinary Care, Adoptions
- Humane Education
- Pet Therapy Program
- Volunteer Program
- Community Service Projects

SHELTER HOURS OF OPERATION

Tuesday-Friday: 10am - 5pm
Saturday: 10am - 4pm
Sunday & Monday: Closed

We care for our animals
365 days a year.

- Physical Address:
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- Mailing Address:
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