



Impact Report 2020



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Creating a community of healthy pets and empowered pet owners in the East Side Pet District
East St. Louis | Cahokia Heights | Washington Park | Fairmont City

Dear GPG Family



Last year redefined our concept of space. Space we put between ourselves and others for the collective good. Homes were carved into spaces for work, school and new hobbies. We made space on the walls for pictures of family we would not be able to see and space on the mantle for holiday cards that reminded us to celebrate. And we learned that our hearts can hold space for grief, fear, compassion and patience all at once. In January 2020, Gateway Pet Guardians moved 9.5 miles east, and across the river, to a new building with 54,000 square feet of opportunity.

This increased space allowed us to establish a full-service veterinary clinic, serve 27 percent more animals annually, reduce the time between intake and adoption by 45 days, and ultimately support more families in their life-long journey as pet owners. During this extremely hard year, you left space for us in your thoughts, schedules and charitable giving. For that, we are humbled and grateful. Because of you, 2021 will be a year of mindful growth, industry-leading initiatives and unflappable commitment to community and mission.



*Emily Stuart, Executive Director
emily@gatewaypets.org*



We are living through an unprecedented moment in time. Having to delay our opening to the public so soon after celebrating our move to East St. Louis in 2020 was not what we had planned. As we have done since the inception of Gateway Pet Guardians, we quickly changed course and responded to the many challenges thrown our way. With the support of generous donors and committed volunteers and staff, we were able to realize our goal of providing community members access to affordable veterinary care and pet resources, as well as respond to the emergency needs of our community and beloved pets.

To all our donors and supporters who have let us share in their generosity, and on behalf of our dedicated Board, I offer my sincere gratitude. Thank you for joining us to champion a thriving pet welfare community!

Angela Schaefer, Board President

2020

was a paw-some
year for us!

.....
96% SAVE RATE



18 TONS

Food & litter distributed to
the communities we serve



113.5 TONS

Food & litter distributed to
St. Louis organizations through
Rescue Bank Partnership

Utilizing active volunteers

\$220,069

Total savings

8,184

Total hours



Utilizing active foster parents
& families

\$309,727

Total savings

28,157

Total hours



Dog and Cat Intakes | 820



Pet Food Pantry Families | 86

Community Hotline Calls | 1,564



2,511

Dog training
hours provided

\$41,827

Total provided in emergency
vet services to the communities
we serve



1,010

Community pets served

- Spay/Neuter | 467
- Rabies vaccines | 417
- Nail trims | 79
- \$45 basic care exams | 47



\$184,872

Funds saved by reducing
length of stay by 45 days,
increasing our intake by 48%



Total Animals
Impacted

3,480

*27% increase
compared to 2019*



\$195 adoption fee
(average cost per
pet - \$248)

782 ADOPTIONS

 **486**

**56% MORE
ADOPTIONS IN
2020 THAN 2019**

 **296**

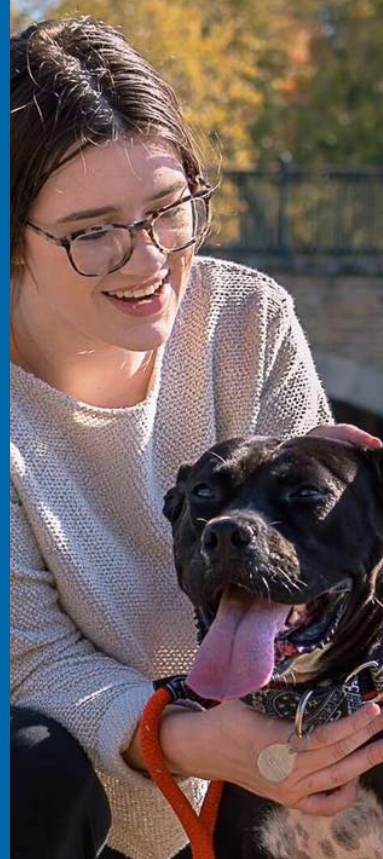
34% of adult dogs
rescued were treated
for heartworms 



Meet Brigitte + Bader

The Unicorn Foster Program gave Brigitte the emotional, educational and technical support she needed to foster a dog with significant behavioral challenges. Without the program she would never have taken Jelly Bean (now Bader) and Bader would likely still be living in the shelter to this day. After over a year in the shelter, Bader was adopted by a family who loves her both in spite of and because of her behaviors.

☀️ *Read more at gatewaypets.org/bader*



Meet Gold + His Family

The Pet Crisis Fund kept Gold and his family together by providing emergency veterinary care after he was shot multiple times out in his yard. Gold's family rushed him to an emergency vet where they were quoted \$4,200 for treatment. As they could not afford surgery, the emergency vet recommended euthanasia. His family remembered Gateway Pet Guardians as we have helped the family with their pets in the past. Our team responded quickly and performed surgery on Gold. His leg had to be amputated but his life was spared. Gold returned home where his family happily nursed him back to health.

☀️ *Read more at gatewaypets.org/gold*

Pet Resource Center Updates Made Possible by Your Capital Campaign Contributions



Surgery Suite & Exam Rooms



Adoption Floor

Welcome Center & Pet Retail Store



Daycare & Training Room



Meet Garfield

A community member called about a cat in distress at her home. A stray cat got trapped down in her basement. Thinking the cat would be feral, we baited and set a trap. Within seconds, the cat devoured the lasagna bait and yowled for more. To say this cat loved lasagna is an understatement. With his love for lasagna, we named him Garfield the Cat.

We noticed this big ol' friendly tomcat's leg was injured so we took him to our clinic. He ended up having his injured leg amputated, but that did not stop him from showing as much love and affection as he possibly could. Spoiler alert - he was adopted!



Watch his story on video at gatewaypets.org/garfield



Meet Sky

After a gunshot wound to the shoulder, Sky and her family rushed to an emergency clinic for help. As they could not afford treatment, they reached out to us for help. Find out how the East Side Pet Crisis Fund helped keep Sky and her family together by providing emergency veterinary care.



Read more at gatewaypets.org/sky



Opened a 54,000 sq. ft. facility in East St. Louis in March, creating the largest pet resource center in the region.



Established the first-ever vet clinic in East St. Louis, offering subsidized veterinary care to more than 500 pets since opening in August.



Largest transfer partner for St. Clair County Animal Services. Became the Rescue Bank Affiliate partner for St. Louis region.



Prevented 1,352,694 unwanted pets from being born through the spay/neuter of 642 dogs and cats. Saved St. Clair County \$135,269,400 (\$100 basic care estimate per animal).



Earned Points of Light Service Enterprise certification. Received 100/100 rating by Charity Navigator and achieved 2020 Platinum Seal of Transparency status from Guidestar.

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*Thank you to our family of contributors, funders and volunteers,
both big and small, who helped us accomplish great things in 2020!*



Coupler and
Coupler



Kathryn Favre
Charitable Foundation

