



People Rescuing Animals ... Animals Rescuing People.®



Tony La Russa's  
Animal  
Rescue  
Foundation

# 2019 - 2020 Annual Report

Dear ARF Family,

After closing last year outperforming rescue and adoption projections, breaking outreach records in humane education, earning praise in Washington D.C. for our Pets and Vets program, and successfully completing our Campaign for Pets and Vets, ARF had high hopes for 2020. A global pandemic put a disheartening pause to much of that momentum. But the one thing COVID-19 has not impacted is the need for ARF's core programming of rescuing and finding loving homes for animals.

As a designated essential service, one of our first rescues during the pandemic shutdown was John, a 12-year-old pup who is both blind and deaf. Despite his special needs, John had a lot of love to give. We knew the right family was out there for him. Your generosity enabled our adoptions team to quickly develop a winning path for virtual, contactless adoptions to ensure animals like John continue to safely find homes as beloved pets. Today, John is treasured as "the perfect companion" by his adopters.

We're also working hard during these challenging economic times to keep pets out of shelters in the first place. As stress and isolation continue to weigh heavily on families, the comforting presence and unconditional love of a pet make a huge difference. Thanks to your support of ARF's assistance programs, fewer families face the heartbreaking decision of surrendering their pet during this crisis as we provide food, veterinary care, and other resources for those struggling with medical and financial challenges.

Even though we've adapted how we work, we've never strayed from the overwhelming sense of why. This has been a year like no other, and we remain grateful and humbled by your support. It keeps us fighting every day – through triumphs and challenges — to save more lives and fulfill our mission of People Rescuing Animals ... Animals Rescuing People®.

With sincerest thanks,



Elena Bicker, *Executive Director*



# 288

**animals rescued  
during COVID-19**

ARF was one of the first shelters during the California Bay Area's COVID-19 shelter-in-place

mandate to resume adoptions utilizing a safe, no-contact, virtual process.

During the first 16 weeks of the pandemic, ARF rescued 288 dogs and cats from shelters struggling with limited resources and closures. Of those animals, 53 required complex or specialty medical care.

# 1,886

cats and dogs rescued

During the initial months of the COVID-19 pandemic, ARF saw a dramatic increase in pet adoption and fostering.

Prior to the shelter-in-place mandate, ARF typically received 50-100 adoption inquiries per week. From the months of March through June, during the height of the pandemic and shutdown, ARF's median application flow increased to 200-250 per week.

At the height of adoption interest, one litter of puppies received more than 900 applications in just two days.

# 34

shelter partners

# 224

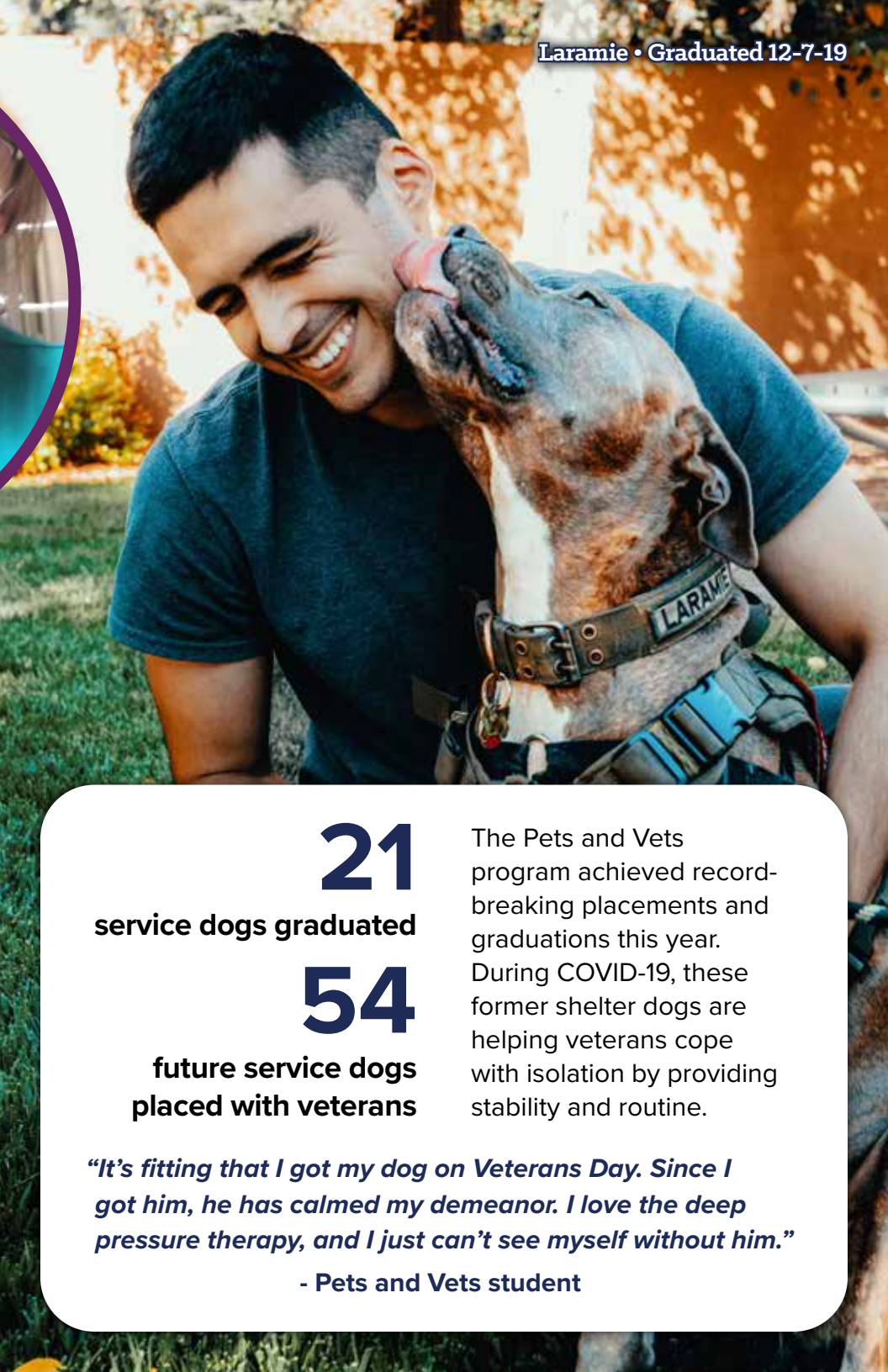
rescue runs



# 3,334

**animals spayed or neutered**

ARF provides low or no-cost surgeries for pets, for non-profits caring for community cats, and to prepare animals for adoption.



# 927

**cats and dogs in foster**

A total of 497 dogs and 430 cats were cared for in 327 amazing volunteer foster homes. That represents 49% of animals rescued. They spent a total of 17,492 days being cared for by loving foster families.



# 42

**foster orientations offered during first 16 weeks of COVID-19 pandemic**

**21**  
**service dogs graduated**

**54**  
**future service dogs placed with veterans**

The Pets and Vets program achieved record-breaking placements and graduations this year. During COVID-19, these former shelter dogs are helping veterans cope with isolation by providing stability and routine.

*“It’s fitting that I got my dog on Veterans Day. Since I got him, he has calmed my demeanor. I love the deep pressure therapy, and I just can’t see myself without him.”*

- Pets and Vets student

# 62,662

gifts made to the  
Campaign for Pets  
and Vets from

# 20,588

donors

The Campaign for Pets and Vets surpassed all expectations and came to a successful close bringing new possibilities for both veterans and animals.

As this report goes to print, the finishing touches are being put on the new training center, expanded

*“Your generosity will echo for generations to come. We cannot overstate our sincere appreciation.”*

- Tony La Russa, co-founder

animal care spaces, and all-weather agility fields.

We look forward to utilizing these new spaces to serve more veterans with PTSD and other health challenges

and to rescue more dogs in public shelters. ARF is deeply grateful to you, our donor community, for making this transformational expansion possible.




**Saving  
Both Ends  
of the  
Leash®**



**69,312**

hours generously  
donated by 720  
passionate volunteers

**187,619 LBS**

of food donated by  
 PURINA to support  
shelter animals and  
struggling families

**429**

pets avoided surrender  
to shelters thanks to  
ARF's Pet Safety Net



**44,539**

hearts touched by the  
therapy animals of  
ARF's Pet Hug Pack®

**9,976**

children reached  
through ARF's  
educational programs

**825**

charitable  
veterinary  
exams provided

**1,555**

calls and emails  
answered for pet  
advice and assistance

## arf in the Community

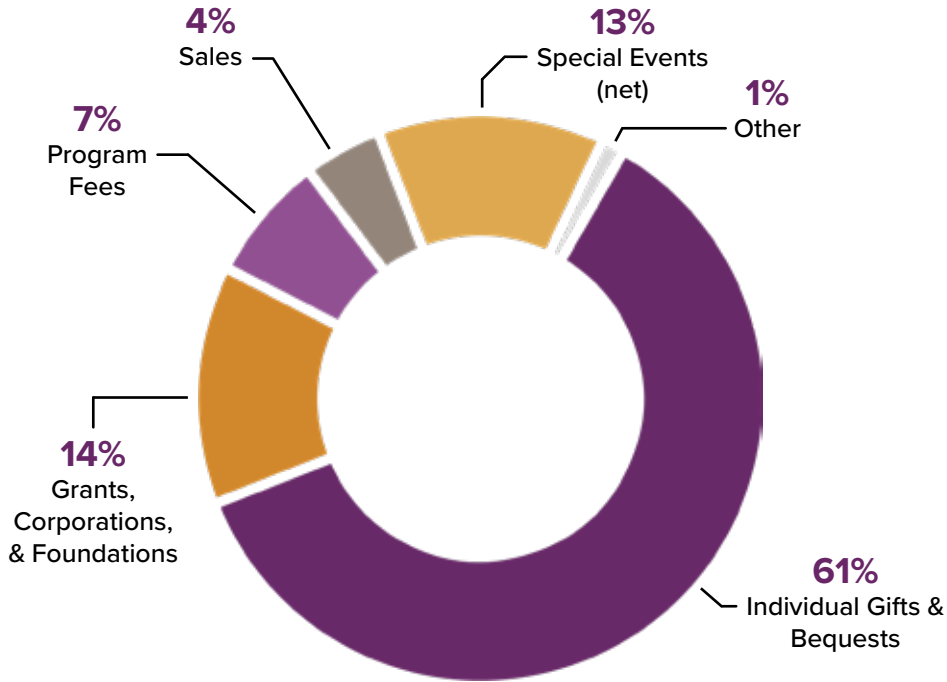
As the pandemic wears on  
and millions face medical  
and financial hardships,  
ARF's assistance programs

keeping families together  
are becoming even more  
critical. ARF strives to keep  
loved pets out of shelters  
and provide the resources  
needed to support families  
and pets in need.

*"When I had a very sick kitty and little  
money, [ARF] took excellent care of her and  
only charged me according to my income.  
Without them, she would have died. They do  
so much good."*

- Emergency Medical Fund® client

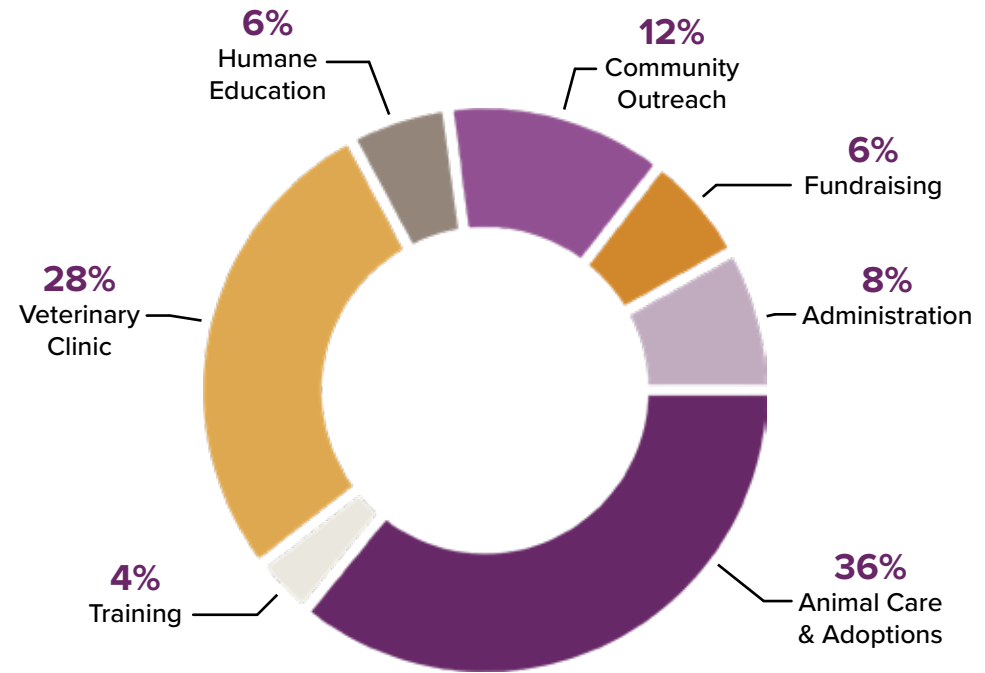
## 2019 - 2020 Fiscal Year Revenue



Individual Gifts & Bequests	\$ 7,054,278
Grants, Corporations, & Foundations	\$ 1,577,201
Program Fees	\$ 831,432
Sales	\$ 517,587
Special Events (net)	\$ 1,497,189
Other	\$ 118,278

**Total\*** **\$11,595,965**

## 2019 - 2020 Fiscal Year Expenses



Animal Care & Adoptions	\$ 2,756,969
Training	\$ 276,483
Veterinary Clinic	\$ 2,122,921
Humane Education	\$ 440,976
Community Outreach	\$ 968,138
Fundraising	\$ 485,187
Administration	\$ 626,895
Program Development Fund	\$ 3,918,366

**Total** **\$11,595,965**



**#1** celebrity-related  
charity by Charity  
Navigator



**13** years of Charity  
Navigator's highest  
rating (★★★★)



**86¢** of every dollar  
goes directly to  
programs

**A responsible steward  
of your giving.**

*\*The above does not include non-cash, in-kind gifts.*

Carl • Rescued 5-4-20



*“I’ve been visiting ARF since elementary school, so I always knew I wanted to adopt from them. During shelter-in-place, I found myself anxious all the time and wanting companionship. Carl’s the most lovable, friendly, and playful cat I’ve ever met. I feel so lucky as a first-time adopter to have him!”*

**- Lindsey, adopter**

*“ARF has been amazing to work with, and we are truly grateful to have a rescue partner whose hearts are in the right place. They have assisted with dogs who required medical attention and that alone is incredibly helpful, especially during these crazy times. They are so easy to get a hold of when we are in need of help — we appreciate all their efforts in taking in all the animals they have pulled from us!”*

**- Alyanna, Tri-City Animal Shelter**



Simon • Rescued 2-14-20



Maxwell • Rescued 6-1-20

*“Every day during shelter-in-place, we have looked at each other and said how lucky we are to have Maxwell. Thank you to the team at ARF for bringing this angel into our life.”*

**- Rachel & Doug, adopters**

## Board of Directors

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Tony La Russa's  
**arf**

# 60

animals rescued  
from disasters  
and other  
emergencies

People Rescuing Animals ... Animals Rescuing People®



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