



# 2021

# IMPACT REPORT

Love. Resilience. Compassion.  
These are your stories of hope.

# A WARM WELCOME

from Sonya Reichel,  
our Executive Director



2021 was a staggering year for the GTHS. Expanding our service offering allowed our organization to offer hope to over 3000 people in need in our community. We did this while simultaneously looking to the future and planning the path for continued delivery of service for the next 25 years and beyond. Together, with our donors and stakeholders, we sketched out a vision for the future, substantiated it with a sustainability plan and recruited a team of community leaders to bring our dream to life.

**Two themes were undeniable in 2021;** the first, that pets improve the health and wellness of people. With mental health challenges on the rise and isolation continuing to fragment society, pets have facilitated life improving wellness outcomes for hundreds of community members. The second, was that when food insecurity or access to housing affects a household, pets are impacted too. Now, more than ever, our community needs greater access to veterinary care, emergency services and behavioural resources and the GTHS has the programs in place to respond.

Finally, in 2021, the GTHS Board of Directors put a stake in the ground. Our greatest challenge and risk for the future is our urgent need for capital expansion. We are urgently in need of a new home and will be building a Regional Centre for Pets and People to serve our community for the next several decades. Read about our progress towards this goal in this report.

As always, this Impact Report is addressed directly to you, our donors. The stories we share are your stories. The statistics and progress are directly a result of your investment in our mission. I think of even greater note are the results we have had against the backdrop of Covid-19 and the limitations of our small facility. We have used 'out of the box' thinking to remove barriers and change lives. Together, we are building for impact to realize a brighter future for those most vulnerable in our community.

## This is Beans!



After arriving at GTHS, in May 2021, with an unknown prognosis and quality of life, Beans, the little kitten that could, just celebrated his first birthday. Diagnosed with thoracic hemivertebrae (deformed vertebrae) Beans has about 80% use of his back legs. Beans is a persistent cat who hasn't let anything come in the way of his will to LIVE fully. This lucky boy was adopted by his amazing foster family!

# A WARM WELCOME

Continued



*Photo credit - Gotcha! Photo Studio*

The 2021 GTHS Impact Report

# A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



I joined the Board of the GTHS 7 years ago. It has been a privilege to be part of such an outstanding and vital component of our community. Each year my appreciation for the value of the service provided to our community grows and 2021 was certainly no exception. Within the organization I marvel at the resilience and commitment of our staff and volunteers. We have faced challenges, overcome them, and turned them into opportunities. We have successfully navigated a path through the pandemic producing results that in many cases exceeded expectations.

Our 5 Strategic Pillars positioned us well to impact positive change in all that we do. Starting with the support of a Humane Community accomplished through a team with the appropriate skill and culture has been critical to our success. Outside our doors the creation and maintenance of a vibrant profile and reputation helps to let our constituents know and take part in our community engagement. Providing leadership in pet wellness has yielded tremendous outcomes for near record levels of animals and finally strength in financial management and effective fundraising provide the foundation for stability and future growth.

I would be remiss if I didn't make note of the planning and kick off of our significant capital campaign in pursuit of our soon to be built Regional Centre for Pets and People. Feasibility studies have been undertaken, location identified, land purchased, Capital Campaign team assembled and fundraising commenced. All of this in 2021 in addition to doing our day jobs. I congratulate Sonya along with her staff and volunteer team for an outstanding performance. I would also like to thank all of my Board colleagues for the support and wisdom you provide.

**Dave Garner**

*Board Chair, Georgian Triangle Humane Society*



# THE NEED FOR THE WORK OF THE GTHS

The Georgian Triangle Humane Society believes in a better world for pets and people, a reality where our dreams of accessible animal care and the eradication of animal homelessness and food insecurity are possible. Together, with you our donors, we are changing lives and offering hope.

Our world is changing. Inflation is the highest it has been since 1991. Over 5.7 million Canadians are facing food insecurity, while close to half of Canadians are living pay cheque to pay cheque, barely making ends meet – a less visible form of homelessness. What does this mean for our most vulnerable, the animals that rely on us, whose whole world is their home and their family? It means that they all need us more than ever. The response and success of our programming continues to grow:

- Animal companionship through adoption
- Accessible spay & neuter services through the GTHS Animal Hospital for financially limited families, community and barn cats
- Improving the wellness of pets and people through accessible rabies and microchip clinics, emergency medical assistance and emergency board programs, and the pet pantry
- Improvement of mental health for youth through Humane Education

You are offering hope during times of emergency and distress. You are keeping families together. You are being a voice for the voiceless.

The GTHS receives no government funding and relies on the generosity of donors and the funds raised through campaigns and events. You, our donors, are the reason this is all possible. **You keep our lights on, doors open and programs running.**





# WALKATHON

Walkathon Week took place from June 20th to 26th with 111 registrants, 30 teams and all their furry companions! They championed the GTHS by walking, hiking, biking, swimming, running, and kayaking. Together, **we raised a record-breaking \$130,262**, far exceeding the fundraising goal by 30 percent.

# THE GTHS HOSPITAL

The GTHS Animal Hospital **spayed and neutered over 1,540 vulnerable pets** in our community, **subsidizing \$553,500 in veterinary costs**.

The hospital team hosted ten community cat spay & neuter days, **fixing 160 cats**. This service, funded by donors and municipal grants, **prevented 1,920 cats from being born on rural properties** and in outdoor settings making measurable impacts towards our strategic goal of reducing cat overpopulation.

# PET PANTRY

We know that 8.8% of Canadian households experience food insecurity and that when a family struggles to put food on the table, pets are impacted too. This year, the GTHS **offered support to 317 pets through our Pet Pantry service**.





# FOSTER PROGRAM

GTHS foster volunteers are the foundation of this program, dedicating time, resources and compassion to pets in need. Of the 441 cats and 182 dogs fostered, the majority were kittens or puppies, too young to safely enter the shelter environment. These dedicated volunteers **fostered a total of 623 animals, almost 300 more than in 2020.**

Read about Glen & Linda's foster experience here:  
[gths.ca/local-couple-shares-fostering-experience/](https://gths.ca/local-couple-shares-fostering-experience/)



# TRANSFER PROGRAM

Working collaboratively with volunteers, donors and rescue partners, the GTHS runs an animal transfer program that focuses on working together, predominately with Northern communities. **In 2021, 252 dogs and 118 cats were transferred** as part of this program to find loving adoptive homes.

# IMPROVING MENTAL HEALTH

**1,200 youth from our community were impacted** through online GTHS Humane Education programs. Thanks to your donations, the GTHS was able to fully develop and launch a brand-new online program entitled Vets of Tomorrow part I (part II set to be released in 2022). Vets of Tomorrow is designed for secondary school students ages 11-18. This course has two wellness goals for youth; to arm them with the skills necessary to make knowledgeable career choices and to improve their mental health through the development of their emotional and social skill learning.

OVER 500 HOMELESS KITTENS ARRIVE  
AT THE ANIMAL CENTRE EVERY YEAR



# BY THE NUMBERS

## 2021 STATS <<<<<<

**1356** ←  
**ANIMALS SHELTERED**

**1225** ←  
**ADOPTIONS**

**2709** ←  
**TOTAL NUMBER  
OF SURGERIES**

**156** ←  
**RABIES VACCINATIONS**





# BY THE NUMBERS

Continued

## >>>>>> 2021 STATS

→ **91**  
**MICROCHIPS**

→ **2966**  
**TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE  
PROVIDED WITH SERVICES**

→ **1200**  
**TOTAL YOUTH  
IMPACTED**

→ **317**  
**NUMBER OF PETS  
SUPPORTED BY PET PANTRY**



# STORIES OF IMPACT

## FANCY

"In February of 2021 the GTHS saved my cat, Fancy, which gave me the kick I needed to start a business. She had a bad bladder stone, and I was hit with an unexpected \$2,000 surgery bill. I didn't know if I could afford to save her since that was more than my mortgage! GTHS was able to help us through the Emergency Medical Assistance Program to help fund a portion of her surgery. Fancy has been healthy and happy ever since.

That experience gave me the revelation that I needed to make extra income to save for emergencies while building our future. I started a side hustle which turned into my full-time business by May. I haven't looked back since and am so grateful for where this journey took us."

Kianna is now the owner of By the Bay Marketing and a proud 10th Anniversary Walkathon Community Sponsor!



## PEARL

A couple days before Christmas, Pearl's family lost their home in a devastating fire. Pearl was the only one out of their three pets that was able to be saved. Pearl was unconscious when she was pulled out of the house but thankfully the firefighters were able to resuscitate her. Pearl's family left their home with only her, the clothes on their backs, and the mom's purse. They had lost everything.

Unfortunately, later that day Pearl was rushed to an emergency veterinary clinic with smoke inhalation complications. The mom gave the only money she had in her purse and begged them to save her. Through the GTHS Emergency Medical Assistance Program, funded by our donors, Pearl's medical bills were paid, and her life was, once again, saved.

Pearl's family is SO thankful and happy to share her story of survival!





## PERCY

Percy arrived at GTHS as an emergency medical case with an urgent need for surgery for a prolapsed rectum. Even after his corrective surgery, performed at the GTHS Animal Hospital, his prognosis was uncertain.

Although the surgery went well, Percy's recovery was difficult, especially as a young pup. While healing he experienced extreme discomfort but that discomfort didn't stop him from being his silly, goofy self. He continued to make people laugh and demand all the love and affection from staff and volunteers. It wasn't until about a month post-op that he was finally given the all-clear by our medical team and he quickly captured the hearts of an amazing family! He has been in his home for almost a whole year now and is happy, healthy and thriving.

## ARYA

Arya took the GTHS Pet Sitter Course in 2021 and since then has taken every single virtual course we have to offer. She has had such an amazing experience she has turned her passion for pets and people into her very own business.

"I really enjoyed taking the Pet Sitter Course at GTHS. I had so much fun being a part of the program and it helped me learn a lot about pet sitting and animal care. After I took the courses at GTHS, I was able to start my own pet sitting and pet care business Paws N'Hands. Thank you GTHS!"

You can find Arya on Instagram at [@pawsn.hands](https://www.instagram.com/pawsn.hands)





# LEADERSHIP

Our leadership team guides the GTHS. They focus on advancing our mission to deliver innovative programs and compassionate services that enhance the lives of pets in need and the people that care for them.



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<b>David Garner, Chair</b>	<b>Garnet Pratt</b>
<b>Elizabeth Comuzzi</b>	<b>Teri Band</b>
<b>Ashley Kulchycki</b>	<b>Nadine Finbow</b>
<b>Kelly Glass</b>	<b>Kevin Swanborough</b>
<b>Barbara Foster</b>	<b>Monika Merz</b>
	<b>Susan Brooke</b>

## SENIOR MANAGEMENT

<b>Sonya Reichel</b> <i>Executive Director</i>	<b>Dr. Anick Amaro</b> <i>Director of Medicine</i>
<b>Glenda Green</b> <i>Director of Operations</i>	<b>Robin Rafferty</b> <i>Animal Care Manager</i>
<b>Karen Marsh</b> <i>Community Programs &amp; Customer Care Manager</i>	<b>Kelly O'Neil</b> <i>Campaign Manager</i>
	<b>Sue LaJambe</b> <i>Treasure Tails Manager</i>

# TREASURE TAILS

Treasure Tails continued to adapt in 2021, offering curbside pick-up when in-store retail shopping was restricted.

**10 local businesses** joined the "Friends of Treasure Tails." These generous supporters donate high-quality merchandise and services to Treasure Tails.

A dedicated team of **30 volunteers** ensured shoppers experienced the thrill of the thrift, both in-store and at outdoor pop-up tent sales during the summer. Their hard work and your generous donations ensured \$130,000 in sales, with all funds going directly to the care of our animals!





# TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK

→ **255**  
**TOTAL NUMBER OF  
VOLUNTEERS IN 2021**

→ **16,165**  
**NUMBER OF VOLUNTEER  
HOURS COMPLETED**

“When I moved to Wasaga Beach in 2013, the first thing I did was look for an animal shelter as I previously volunteered in one. This, of course, led me to the GTHS. The first week I was there, I was so impressed with the care, love, and compassion given by the staff and other volunteers. I’ve always enjoyed caring for cats and I have been in numerous positions in this capacity. The atmosphere at the GTHS is always so positive! **The GTHS is truly a happy place to work – it’s like a second home for me.** We help find good homes for animals and much more. The GTHS is always looking towards the future and bettering themselves and the conditions for all the animals in their care. As a volunteer, it’s the happiest place to work and to be among such positive people.”

**Judy Sterling**, a GTHS volunteer of 5 years





# FRIENDS OF THE ANIMAL SOCIETY

Thank you to our Friends of the Animal Society major gift donors! Thank you for being leaders in your community and impacting the lives of pets and people in need. **The following donors are part of the GTHS annual giving program.**

## Visionary Donors (\$5,000+)

- Anonymous
- Teri Band
- David & Helen Capin
- Estate Of Elizabeth Demings
- Estate Of Roland Rodwell
- David & Pat Garner
- The Kathleen, Mary & Walter Foundation
- JET Mundy Family Charitable Foundation
- Shirley Haines
- Jon Levy
- David & Sharon Lewis
- Daniel McAreavey
- Monika Merz
- Richard & Edwina Mills
- Pam Odam
- OslerBrook Golf Club and Country Club
- Cheryl Prince
- Lynne & Sean Seawright
- Stefania & Juan Speck
- In memory of Tim Thorney
- Cynthia Torokvei
- Jane Walker
- Sheri & Jeff Watchorn
- Christine Yorke
- The Zoey Foundation

## Leadership Donors (\$1,500 - \$4,999)

- Anonymous
- Candy Armstrong
- Maria Armstrong
- Mary Ayers
- Brick House Home Inspection Services
- Campbell Mechanical Ltd.
- Todd & Rochelle Christensen
- Carol Deffett
- Zosia Edwards
- Estate Of Barbara Joyce McLaughlan
- Honda of Canada Employee Giving
- Green Briar Charitable Giving
- Lisa Garrett
- Iain Green
- Jim & Fiona Green
- David & Valita Lloyd
- HM Carstensen Medicine Corp
- Honda of Canada MFG
- Carolyn Hubbard
- John Mills
- Barbara Mitton
- Willa Napier
- Veronica Onyskiw
- Elizabeth Parker
- Bob Promaine
- Town of Wasaga Beach
- Jane Walker
- Alan Swick
- Zubek, Emo, Patten & Thomsen Limited

## Compassion Donors (\$750 - \$1,499)

- Anonymous
- Marc Amormino
- Morley Ashton
- Aspen & Ivy
- Carolin Barnstaple
- Bruce Power L.P.
- Al & Diane Chatterson
- Carolyn Convey
- Blue Mountain Confectionery Limited
- Margo & Michael Boyd
- James Brown
- Joanne Brown
- Ken & Louise Brown
- Gord Canning
- Al & Diane Chatterson
- Codrington Public School
- Carolyn Convey
- Jackie Corker
- Scott Elliott
- Mary Enrico
- Estate of Judy Roberts
- Family Capital Corp
- Karen Fawcett
- Barbara Flynn
- Andy & Wendy Foubert
- Miles Goacher
- Lesley Green
- Susan Gunn
- Katherine Harris
- David Henderson
- Jeff & Jeri Henderson
- Carolyn Hubbard
- Joey & Nick Hughson
- Keleher & Co
- Jill Kitchen
- Andree Lovell
- Megan Macdonald
- George & Ann Marr
- Jean Marc Maurice
- Marye McCaig
- Municipality of Meaford
- Meaghan Morley
- Margaret Morrison
- Wendy Muller
- Judy Nash
- Parkbridge Communities
- Ron & Barb Picot
- Elizabeth Pitts
- Gerry Plomp
- Prasad Family Foundation
- Diane Purser
- Rotary Club of Collingwood
- Rotary Club of Meaford
- Rotary Club of Wasaga Beach
- Pam Royal
- Janet Saddler
- Jennifer Scholte
- Andreas Schwartz
- Ellen Spring
- Steve Sly
- Kevin St. Thomas
- Anne Stewart
- Town of the Blue Mountains
- Jean Thompson
- Phyllis Thrush
- Mary Tighe
- Jim White



**Meet GTHS donors, the Watchorns**

# COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The GTHS is thankful for the on-going annual support and commitment from local businesses, foundations and clubs to fund essential programs and services that change lives.

## PET PARTNER 2021 LIST \$1,000+

- Axiom Automation
- Baker Tilly
- Barb Blaser & Janet Nielsen, RE/MAX Hallmark
- Barriston Law LLP
- Blue Mountain Honda
- Blue Mountain Veterinary Services
- Boehringer Ingelheim
- Brick House Home Inspection Services
- Canadian Pet Connection
- Chatterson's Home Furniture
- Christine Smith, Royal LePage
- Collingwood Olive Oil Co.
- Comfort Keepers Georgian Triangle
- Dags & Willow Fine Cheese and Gourmet Shop
- de Groot Wealth Management Dominion Securities
- Georgian Bay Law
- Grandma's Beach Treats
- Huronia Alarm & Fire Security Inc.
- Jane Moysey and Lorraine McDonald, Royal LePage
- Jen Scholte Team
- Josh Dolan, Royal LePage
- Keleher & Co.
- Mullin's Pet Market
- Municipality of Meaford
- Nestle Purina
- OslerBrook Golf & Country Club
- Pet Valu Collingwood
- Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory
- Sensor Technology Ltd.
- Sutherland Insurance
- Tails of the Mountain Pet Festival
- Tatham Engineering & Associates Ltd.
- The Collingwood Brewery
- The Flooring Place/Lawrence Glass & Mirror
- The Lake at Blue Mountains
- The Picot Team
- The Rioux Baker Team
- Tim Hortons Collingwood
- Tim Hortons Sunnidale Corners

## FUNDING PARTNERS 2021

- Brian & Henry Smith Gifting
- Bruce Power Corporate Affairs
- Dunnin Foundation
- Ewing, James & Sheila Foundation
- Green Briar Charitable Giving Fund
- IBM Canada
- Kathleen, Mary & Walter Foundation
- Prasad Family Foundation
- RBC Foundation
- Rotary Club of Collingwood
- Rotary Club of South Georgian Bay
- Rotary Club of Wasaga Beach

"This past year has proven to be isolating and lonely for so many members in our community. I believe strongly in the positive impact pets can have on our mental health. While pets don't replace our social interactions with humans, they bring such incredible joy, light and love during times of darkness. The power of the human-animal bond has lifted so many spirits during this pandemic, mine included! The compassionate care and programming offered by the Georgian Triangle Humane Society to both animals and animal lovers alike is such a benefit to our community. I am proud to support the GTHS and excited to watch their growth and future impact."

**Elizabeth de Groot**

*RBC Dominion Securities and Nine, Wine & Dine  
Premier Sponsor, with her beloved dog Daisy*



*Photo credit - Candra Schank Photography*





# OUR NEED FOR A NEW HOME

In 2021, the GTHS launched a capital campaign with the goal of raising funds to build a much-needed animal care and community-focused centre. Years in the making, the launch of this campaign was the culmination of hard work, collaboration, unyielding hope and represents a pivotal moment in GTHS history.

The campaign got off to a phenomenal start in 2021 thanks to donations from GTHS family. Board members, volunteers, donors, and staff contributed a total of **\$2,217,974 in pledges** towards the new facility. The team are looking forward to continuing this progress with the Quiet Phase of fundraising which will run into 2023.

The GTHS team are deeply grateful to you, our trailblazing donors, for providing the initial funding for this project.

**In 2025, the Regional Centre for Pets and People will open its doors.** The centre will provide advanced medical care and shelter to animals in need. It will place more animals into safe, loving homes. Accessible, community-focused programs will provide hope and safety to vulnerable members of the community. At-risk youth will find purpose and belonging through educational programming and volunteer opportunities. The centre will be an essential community resource, offering safety, comfort, and warmth: a home to both pets and people of the community.

**Derrick March**  
*Capital Campaign Co-Chair*





# FAMILY CAMPAIGN

In 2021, the GTHS launched a Family Campaign to build a foundation of gifts towards the Regional Centre for Pets and People. The following donors stepped forward in 2021 to make a difference.

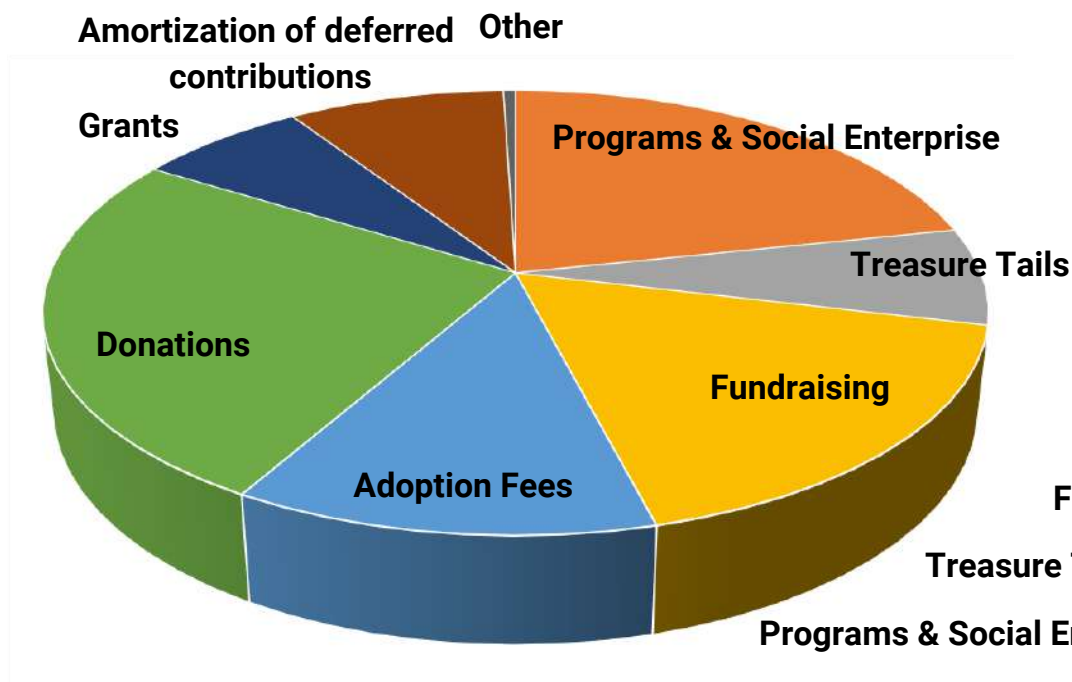
- Monika Merz: Community Education Room
- Derrick and Lynn March: Main Lobby and Large Dog Yard
- Diana Wiszniewska: Dog Enrichment Room
- Teri Band: Cat Cafe
- Willa Napier: Adoption Greeting Room
- Cheryl and Kevin Drynan: Reception Zone
- Kevin and Elke Swanborough: Dog Meet and Greet Room
- John Chapman
- Christine Yorke: Cat Meet and Greet Room
- The Mills and McGowan Family: Catio
- Lynne and Sean Seawright: Three Benches
- Ricki Thompson
- Sheila Norman
- Jan and John Trude: Three Washrooms
- Tim Hortons The Murphy and Trude Group of Restaurant Owners: Kitchen Area in Community Room
- David and Pat Garner: Entrance Vestibule
- John and Leslie Worts
- Charis Developments, Steve Assaff and Family: Dog Holding Suite
- David and Cathy Henderson: Cat Holding Suite and Walkway Tile
- Carolyn Williamson: Cat Surgical Suite

- Elizabeth Comuzzi and Blaine Bell: Team Lunch Area and Kitchen
- Jennifer Hurst
- May Yam and Mike Carstensen: Grooming Room and Picnic Table
- Susan Brooke
- Veronica Onyskiw: Small Animal Holding Room
- Margo and Michael Boyd: Bench
- Garnet Pratt
- The Ubell Family: Bench
- Ashley, John, and Duncan: Bench
- The Haines Family: Bench
- Gordon Canning: Bench
- Marilyn and Richard Young
- Kelly Glass
- Susan Wilson
- Sonya Reichel



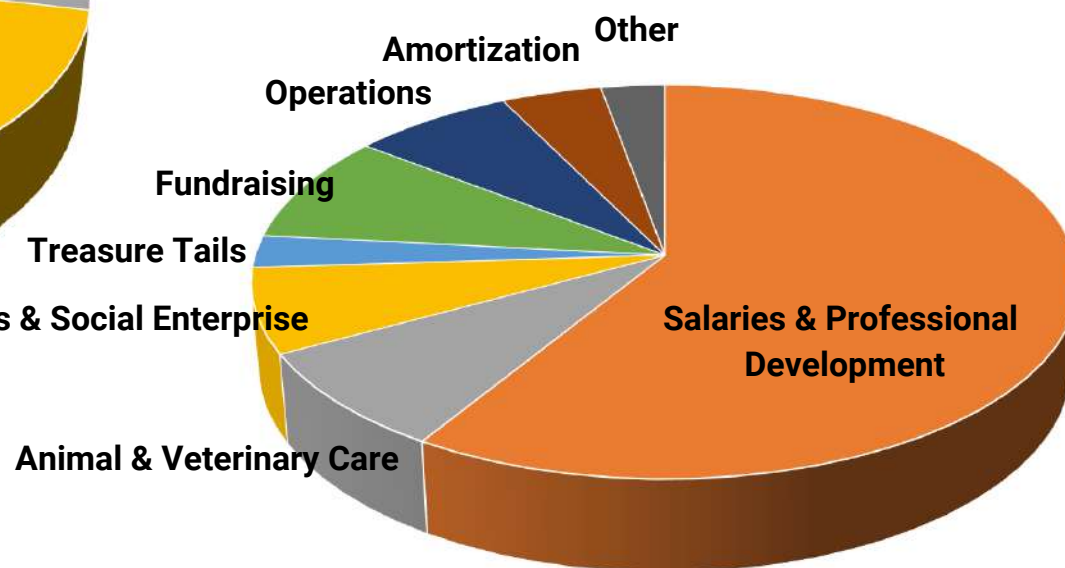
# FINANCES

## REVENUES



**TOTAL REVENUE**  
**\$1,833,130**

## EXPENSES



**TOTAL EXPENSES**  
**\$1,766,487**

# TESTIMONIALS



"I cannot imagine a world without the GTHS, the incredible people who work there and to all those who volunteer and support the GTHS in so many other ways. The GTHS hospital has a positive impact in our local community. As a local business owner, I help as much as possible with surgeries and other areas of need."

**Darcy MacLeod**

*Owner of Brickhouse Home Inspection Services*

"I have been part of the GTHS for the past two years, starting out as a cat care member, which I continue to be. I am also a foster parent, and I did a fun summer position as a recovery volunteer. My most recent role was participating in the hospital as a co-op student. Based on my future plans in veterinary medicine, I acquired a co-op position as a veterinary helper, working alongside the wonderful Dr. Amaro and technician Ashley. It was an amazing learning experience that prepared me for a future career in the field. The GTHS will always have a place in my heart as I attend university. The staff and volunteers at the GTHS have impacted my life in many ways by providing so many insightful learning opportunities!"

**Valentina, a former GTHS co-op student**



"I was looking for a dog to fill a hole in my heart when I saw pictures of Roxy. If it weren't for the excellent staff at the Georgian Triangle Humane Society, I would not be with the new love of my life. Roxy has been wonderful and amazing from day one. No more hole in my heart. Thank you, Georgian Triangle Humane Society!"

**Joe, a 2021 GTHS adopter**





# LEAVE YOUR LEGACY

Including the GTHS in your will is incredibly generous and surprisingly simple.

Leaving your legacy gift means that animals and people in our community will be well taken care of in their time of need, with the love and compassion they require and deserve.

To join the Forever Friends Legacy Program or learn more visit: <https://gths.ca/donatenow/leave-a-legacy/>

