



December 31, 2024

Dear Distinguished Officials of Durham County,

The Animal Protection Society of Durham (APS) is a nonprofit organization committed to the humane treatment of all animals in Durham County. Our partnership with Durham County began in 1990, through which we manage the Durham County Animal Shelter, ensuring care and boarding for stray, abandoned, and neglected animals. Our top priority is to provide the highest quality of care for the animals in the shelter.

In line with our contract for caring for the animals, APS adheres to the highest standards of care based on current animal welfare guidelines. This commitment includes maintaining and updating all staff vaccinations, certifications, training, and procedures. APS provides \$187,000 in subsidies to the County Shelter Operations Budget, made possible by the dedicated efforts of our staff and the generous support of Durham residents. These funds demonstrate that our community values our mission and expects excellent care for animals.

As part of our ongoing partnership with the County of Durham and the Durham County Sheriff's Department, we have attached a detailed budget. This budget has been prepared with careful consideration to keep our costs low while ensuring high-quality service to our community. With Durham continuing to grow, our budget reflects the necessary adjustments to accommodate this change. In the 2024 fiscal year, we received 4,667 animals, and our intake numbers are expected to rise as our community expands. Our proposal requests a county contribution of \$1,222,097, making the total Shelter Operations Budget, including the APS Subsidy and adoption fees, \$1,619,087.77.

APS of Durham is providing a subsidy of \$187,840.77 to support the shelter's operations. Additionally, we cover the salaries and benefits of 11 highly skilled employees within our full organizational budget to ensure best practices and continuity in shelter operations. Our organization also relies on funds raised from donors and grants to care for exceptionally sick and injured animals, which are not included in this budget.



The Animal Protection Society of Durham
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To execute this contract with the excellence that our community expects, we highlight the importance of specific positions that are essential yet not funded through this contract or public funds. Their salaries and benefits are covered by APS of Durham, its donors, supporters, and grant providers, amounting to an additional contribution of over \$814,000 per year to the community and the County of Durham.

- **Executive Director, CAWA** - Certified Animal Welfare Administrator manages the operation of the shelter, all APS departments and department heads.
- **Medical Director, DVM**- Our Medical Director/Shelter Veterinarian provides care to all animals in the shelter. This person treats all stray and surrendered animals and offers support to the Durham Sheriff's Animal Services for cruelty investigations and prosecutions. They also oversee the medical manager, part-time surgeon, and medical team.
- **Part-Time Surgical Veterinarian, DVM**- Licensed veterinarian who works up to twenty hours a week focusing on spaying/neutering or providing medical procedures for the shelter animals.
- **Medical Manager**- Manages the medical team and department in coordination with the Medical Director. This person is also the medical contact for all foster parents with sick or injured foster animals.
- **Surgical Assistant** - Assists in the medical department and with all surgical procedures.
- **Development Director**- Raises funds through community events, donor outreach, grant research and more to enable shelter services such as aiding citizens with redemption costs or low-cost spaying and neutering for the community. Manages the development and marketing team.
- **Database and Development Coordinator**- Manages the donor database, helps cultivate and assist donors who want to help the shelter animals.
- **Events and Communications Manager** - Responsible for all community and staff events inside and outside the shelter and oversees all adoption/shelter promotions.
- **Behavior Manager, MA, KPA-CTP** - Responsible for developing, implementing and monitoring all APS of Durham programs intended to identify, correct and prevent problem behavior in animals, and reducing the number of surrendered animals.
- **Behavior Assistant** - Assists the Behavior Manager with identifying, preventing, and helping animals with behavior challenges in the shelter.
- **Volunteer and Foster Manager** - Recruits and oversees shelter volunteers and foster parents who donate their time, homes, and skills to the shelter.



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In addition to our dedicated staff, APS of Durham has over 600 active volunteers who assist with various day-to-day activities at our shelter. These volunteers are committed to the animals in our care and significantly enhance the shelter environment through their compassion and kindness. On any given day, we care for approximately 250 animals, each with unique needs. Our volunteers help with tasks such as walking, socializing, cleaning, feeding, and addressing any emergent needs that arise.

The contributions of our volunteers are vital; they have collectively provided over 20,000 hours of support to our shelter.

Our vision at APS is that no pets are displaced or unwanted, and that all animals and people are treated with compassion and respect. We strive to ensure that community services are accessible to everyone. Our focus is on improving the lives of pets and their owners in Durham County. We assist the community by providing life-saving medical care, free and reduced-cost spay/neuter surgeries in partnership with local businesses, pet food assistance, ID tags, free microchips, and behavior assistance and training supplies. These services are made possible through our essential partnerships with Durham County and our efforts to secure grants, sponsorships, event funding, and ongoing contributions from dedicated supporters. As the only animal shelter in Durham County, we understand the importance of our mission, and we take pride in the work we do through our partnerships. Our team is committed to meeting the needs of our community and making a significant impact on animal homelessness.

APS is enthusiastic about starting another year of providing these essential services to our community. We value our collaboration with Durham County leadership to manage our dynamic, progressive, and singular open-admission animal shelter. With your support, we will continue to be a crucial resource for our community and an organization that brings pride to Durham County. Thank you for your time and consideration in reviewing our budget proposal. Please feel free to contact me directly with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Executive Director



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