



ANIMAL PROTECTION OF NEW MEXICO
ANIMAL PROTECTION VOTERS

2016

ANNUAL REPORT

BOTH ARMS OF ADVOCACY TO
PROTECT NEW MEXICO'S ANIMALS



Animal Protection of New Mexico's mission is to advocate the rights of animals by effecting systemic change, resulting in the humane treatment of all animals.

Animal Protection Voters' mission is to actively promote and support animal-friendly legislation at the local, state, and federal levels, to build an effective political voice for animal advocacy in New Mexico, and to hold New Mexico's elected and appointed officials accountable on animal issues.



Animal Protection of New Mexico

APNM.org | 505-265-2322

Albuquerque Office:

PO Box 11395

Albuquerque, NM 87192

Santa Fe Office:

1111 Paseo de Peralta

Santa Fe, NM 87501

Board of Directors

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Charles Fox, *Secretary*

Susan Diaz, *Treasurer*

Tom Alexander, *Director*

Joan David, *Director*

Kelly McEwen, *Director*

Advisory Board

Robanne Harrison

Robert Shelton



Animal Protection Voters

APVNM.org | 505-265-2322

Albuquerque Office:

PO Box 11651

Albuquerque, NM 87192

Santa Fe Office:

1111 Paseo de Peralta

Santa Fe, NM 87501

Board of Directors

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Adopted dog, Buck, visits his horse friend, Cisco.

In 1994, a caller to our fledgling Animal Cruelty Hotline reported a bizarre and previously-unheard-of kind of horse cruelty: “horse tripping” was taking place in the small southern New Mexico town of Vado. This one call triggered Animal Protection of New Mexico’s vibrant campaign to ban horse tripping in our state. Once we video-documented this terrible “sport” and showed the public, the momentum to help horses was unstoppable. Caring people from all backgrounds—horse advocates, rodeo cowboys, law enforcement officials, veterinarians—spoke up and helped us stop this pointless cruelty. In the 1995 legislative session, lawmakers led by Democrat Gary King banned the practice. Republican Governor Gary Johnson signed the bill into law.

Twenty-two years later we find ourselves still fighting to prevent other kinds of institutionalized cruelty to horses, like the decades-old practice of horrific and unnecessary horse slaughter. In the intervening years, we’ve chipped away at stubborn systems and ideas that reinforce the horse slaughter industry. We’ve created fresh, life-affirming systems that prove this: a humane reality for horses and other animals can and does work.

Specifically, February 2016 brought a significant victory for horses when a state district court, ruling on a 2013 lawsuit by New Mexico’s Attorney General, determined a horse slaughterhouse could not operate in our state. This positive momentum set the stage for us to keep working to ensure New Mexico’s horses can no longer be sold for slaughter anywhere.

This Annual Report’s centerfold timeline—focused on horses—reminds readers of the absolute necessity of sustained pressure over time to create realities that yield a brighter future for vulnerable animals. In fact, for nonprofits like ours whose mission

involves substantial and long-term systemic change, the best practice of sustainability is essential for our success.

In 2016, the staff and boards of Animal Protection of New Mexico and its legislative arm, Animal Protection Voters, embarked on a path to sustainability through the rigorous process of strategic planning. Guided by a strategic planning consultant who volunteered his services to us, our organizations created a strategic plan designed to help us achieve our vision: making “humane” the new normal. We determined that our sustainability depends on a combination of financial strength, meaningful mission-driven impact, and support for those who make lasting changes possible.

The roadmap we created, combined with 14 goals to achieve within the next decade, is articulated on page 22 of this Annual Report. These priorities are now the focus of all our strategic decision-making.

Of course, APNM’s stunning 2016 achievements went well beyond crucial help for horses and long-term planning. We ensured 29 chimpanzees at long last reached permanent sanctuary, launched Humane Communities initiatives in three communities, twice sued a government agency for indefensible cougar killing policies, and extended our powerful educational offerings to more native nations. These and other extraordinary outcomes were possible because of our generous and determined supporters.

Reaching even more of our ambitious goals that bring relief to animals requires staying on a path comprised of inquiry, focus, balance, compassion, and community. We remain grateful to all those who share our hopeful vision.



Robert Schutz,
APV Board President

Elisabeth Jennings,
Executive Director

Anne Coller,
APNM Board President



406

Number of cases handled this year by our
Animal Cruelty Hotline case manager

Rewards totaling up to

\$35,000

Offered in

5

Animal cruelty cases to
prompt tips to solve cases

"Hi Alan, Thank you for the advice! I really appreciate your ongoing oversight of this, as I'm just a regular citizen who happens to be a responsible dog and horse owner. I've talked with the surrounding neighbors, who would rather not make waves. They're also sickened by what goes on at this house, so I appreciate your guidance. This Thanksgiving I'm thankful for you and people like you."

Animal Cruelty Hotline caller

Adopted dogs Drake and Ninja take a play break in their backyard.

CHALLENGING ANIMAL CRUELTY

In April 2016, Albuquerque Animal Welfare Department officers charged a city resident with several counts of cockfighting-related offenses and animal cruelty. Fifty-six birds, many with health issues, were relinquished by the resident and housed at the Westside Shelter. When the Albuquerque shelter needed help placing these birds, APNM's Cruelty Case Manager acted swiftly and sought out potential sanctuaries. First, Santuario de Karuna in Tijeras, NM, adopted all the hens and a few roosters. Next, three Colorado sanctuaries stepped up to take all but 17 birds, including many of the health-compromised ones. Finally, two more were adopted by carefully screened individuals, and the last 15 were taken in by another bird rescue organization.

Cockfighting is a cruel and illegal practice, but for these birds, the fight is over, thanks to the collaborative efforts of law enforcement and APNM's Cruelty Case Manager.

Helping birds forced to fight was just one of over 400 cruelty and neglect cases that APNM's Cruelty Case Manager addressed in 2016. Calls related to dog neglect dominate the case load, comprising more than 1 in 4 calls, suggesting the need for improvement of local ordinances and

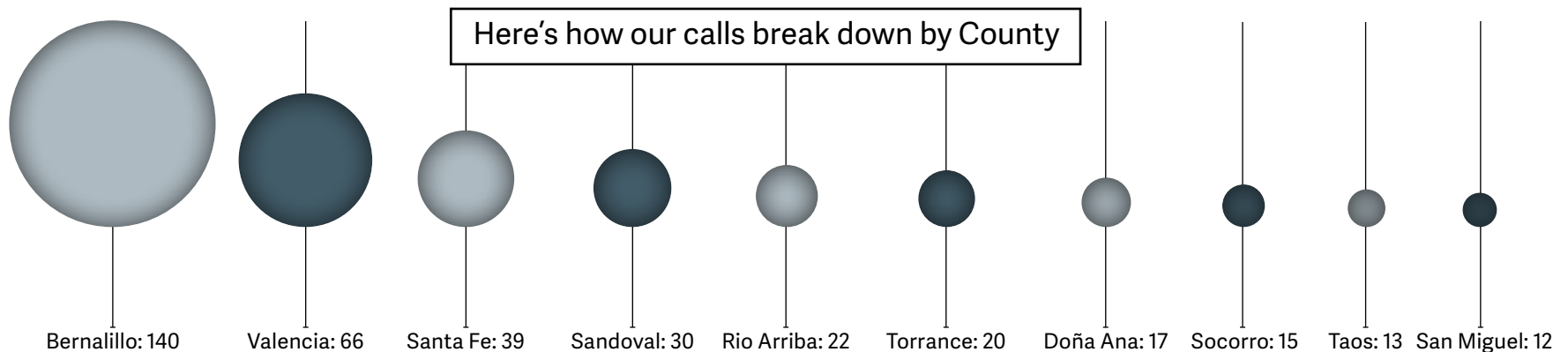
their enforcement, and enhanced education about humanely caring for dogs. (See Humane Communities initiatives on page 7). Assisting callers from all over New Mexico with their animal-related concerns is a central part of APNM's Challenging Animal Cruelty program. This crucial and very demanding work can only be sustained year-round with properly trained primary and relief staff, allowing for rest and recuperation from constantly hearing about animal trauma reported on the hotline.

APNM deepened its commitment to cross-training across many program areas in 2016, and the Cruelty Hotline management is now benefiting from these efforts.

APNM's Cruelty Case Manager also plays an important educational role in the community. About 10% of callers seek advice and information from this expert staff member. In August, APNM's Cruelty Case Manager presented valuable insights to hundreds of veterinarians and veterinary technicians at the Southwest Veterinary Symposium, covering the scope of APNM's cruelty hotline, animal cruelty and neglect, and how animal laws relate to the veterinary profession. In October, the Cruelty Case Manager spoke about the Link between animal cruelty and domestic violence at a gathering of the Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women.



A rescued rooster in sanctuary





\$12,000

Funds APNM helped the Animal Sheltering Board distribute (from state spay/neuter license plate income) to help Aztec, Grants, Deming, and Silver City pay for local, low-cost spay/neuter surgeries

**113 providers in
23 counties**

Scope of the CARE network, which includes veterinary clinics, boarding facilities, animal shelters, foster homes, and transport volunteers

**56 families
87 animals**

Reached safety through CARE

"We are so pleased to be partnering with APNM! Please know we take your support very seriously and hope to make long term progress with the Humane Communities program!"

Tina Holguin, Shelter Director, Animal Welfare Coalition of Northeastern New Mexico

"Thank you isn't enough to express my gratitude; I hope that once I get myself back on my feet that I can give back because it is a great program!"

CARE client

Rescued felines Alvin and Joey enjoy lounging in the sun.

BUILDING FOUNDATIONS TO KEEP ANIMALS SAFE

The calls started coming in rapid succession: concerned residents and overwhelmed shelter employees and volunteers in Valencia County were pleading for APNM's help. Rampant dog and cat overpopulation, an overcrowded facility, and staffing shortages resulted in a nightmarish situation inside the aging, county-owned and -operated animal shelter in Los Lunas. Shelter animal health and public confidence were being affected. Those calls gave rise to APNM's Humane Communities: Valencia County project. By the end of 2016, our collaborative efforts with the shelter resulted in dramatic improvements for the animals, staff, volunteers, and the public.

APNM's Building Foundations to Keep Animals Safe program, a collection of core initiatives and pilot projects, addresses immediate needs however, and whenever, possible, while working on root causes of problems in order to create a New Mexico where "humane" is the new normal.

Humane Communities Through outreach and support services, APNM's Humane Communities initiatives unite residents, local leaders, and businesses to improve the welfare of animals in neighborhoods throughout the state. Thanks to generous support from the ASPCA, Doris Goodwin Walbridge Foundation, and private donors, APNM identified and delivered support specific to the needs of communities within Santa Fe, San Miguel, and Valencia counties throughout 2016. From providing resources for shelters, assisting with government contract negotiations, and funding law enforcement training in certain regions, to helping get dogs off chains in others, APNM builds lasting change for animals.

CARE A domestic violence victim entering a family shelter had to find temporary foster care for her three Chihuahuas, one of whom had only three legs. Leaving the dogs behind would have put them at risk of injury or death by her abuser. APNM's CARE helpline manager arranged for a CARE volunteer to pick up the dogs at a safe location and transport them to a CARE veterinary service provider in another county. Within three weeks after dropping her dogs off for CARE assistance, the client found new, safe housing and was ready to retrieve her beloved companion animals. She met the CARE volunteer at the same safe location and was joyful at being reunited with her beloved Chihuahuas.

APNM's Companion Animal Rescue Effort (CARE) initiative provides safe, emergency housing for companion animals of domestic violence victims. Thanks to effective outreach, stewardship, and fundraising, APNM's CARE network now spans 23 New Mexico counties and includes 113 providers (boarding facilities, veterinary clinics, animal shelters, foster homes, transport volunteers). APNM's CARE helpline received 56 calls from individuals in 2016, and we provided meaningful assistance to each one of them, making sure that 87 animals reached safety. APNM launched a successful CARE crowdfunder in November, raising over \$6,000 to pay for the life-saving services. As part of that effort, two brave survivors of domestic violence shared their poignant stories in a powerful video to create awareness and support for CARE (watch the video here: <http://bit.ly/2sMeC9I>).

Spay/Neuter In 2016, APNM helped the state's Animal Sheltering Board develop an effective distribution plan for \$12,000 of state spay/neuter license plate funds to address dog and cat overpopulation in Aztec, Grants, Deming, and Silver City. By reaching out to tax preparers and the public, APNM intensified promotion of the new option for New Mexicans to donate their state tax refunds to a statewide spay/neuter fund via the Pit-D form.

There are approximately 50 public and private animal shelters in New Mexico, over 40 low-cost spay/neuter programs, countless animal welfare organizations and individual advocates, and tens of thousands of kind people who adopt animals into

their families. Throughout the year APNM provided advice and support regarding companion animals, assistance programs, resources, best practices, government relations, and community involvement for those involved in rescue and sheltering.



At the Valencia County Animal Shelter, a canine guest relaxes in the clean, new kennel environment.



46

Number of horses, donkeys, and mules helped by Equine Protection Fund's Emergency Feed services

67

Number of equines and their families helped by Equine Protection Fund's veterinary care, gelding, and Trail's End services

818

Number of equines helped since the Equine Protection Fund began

"THANK YOU SOOO MUCH! There is nothing like good-smelling horse food to make a horse RUN to his feed bin! Thank you again and I will always remember your organization's kindness."

Equine Protection Fund client

Bitsy, a rescued miniature horse, loves to spend time with his goat friend, Floyd.

PROTECTING HORSES, DONKEYS, AND MULES

The woman's voice on the phone was full of concern and worry. She was troubled because her family could not afford to geld their new stallion. Their horse Sun Dance had a special condition which required a more expensive and complicated gelding surgery than the family realized when they brought him home from the auction. With financial pressures mounting, the caller felt she might be forced to sell Sun Dance, again putting him at risk of being sold for slaughter.

After thanking her for reaching out for help, something not everyone is comfortable doing, we told her about our Equine Protection Fund gelding assistance service. Our Equine Protection Fund case manager jumped into action and approved the costs of the special surgery, which Sun Dance underwent successfully. Today, Sun Dance is living a happy and healthy life with his family.

Services for Equines In 2016, we offered hope to equines and the people who care about them, helping 113 equines just this year alone. Our Equine Protection Fund endowment, ensuring perpetual help for equines, grew to over \$195,000, thanks to visionary donors committed to humane equine care. Whether helping a family with the purchase of emergency feed or supporting equine shelters by paying a portion of veterinary bills, the individual stories convince us that our dedicated and sometimes tedious daily work makes a lasting difference.

APNM staff served on a New Mexico Livestock Board advisory committee that ensured the successful distribution of over \$30,000 to New Mexico's licensed equine shelters from the state's Horse Shelter Rescue Fund. This Fund's revenue is generated by voluntary donations of state tax refunds, a system spearheaded by Animal Protection Voters in 2013 and promoted by Animal Protection of New Mexico ever since.

Protecting Equines from Slaughter Sun Dance's story and others like his prove that humane options for all equines are within our reach with vision and determination. Through legislation, advocacy, and vital services, we drive that vision. We remain a steadfast champion in protecting horses, donkeys, and mules from the panic, fear, and pain of slaughter.

This year we celebrated as New Mexico spearheaded and won a case that permanently barred would-be horse slaughterer Valley Meat Company from opening a facility in our state. Our gratitude goes to former Attorney General Gary

King, current AG Hector Balderas, and their staffs for protecting New Mexicans from the horror of a horse slaughter plant.

Thanks to powerful leadership from New Mexico's U.S. Senator Udall, no Congressional funding of horse slaughter plant inspections was approved in 2016, keeping plants from operating in the United States.

Protecting equines and supporting equine stewardship is the right thing to do for New Mexico, and our strategic work has a significant national impact—but we're only successful because of supporters who stand staunchly with us. Thank you for making these miracles possible.



Sun Dance with his human companion.



463 students in 6 communities

Participated in
The Animal Connection programs

394 people in 13 communities

Received special presentations (including four pueblos, pre-school, elementary, and middle schools, plus drug and animal courts)

95 people

In Bernalillo County Youth Center and
Valencia Juvenile Court participated in
The Animal Connection

"Isiah has spoken to us a great deal about The Animal Connection program. We are thankful Isiah is learning about the true meaning of taking care of animals as well as the consequences of neglecting these responsibilities. Thank you for the knowledge and compassion you are teaching."
Parent of 3rd-grade student

"Our school's neighborhood reflects the values of survival mentality and is rife with animal abuse and neglect. ...The Animal Connection has equipped my students to end the cycle of neglect and abuse within the greater community. Uniquely joining expert, caring teachers, well-planned activities, and a range of resources ensures The Animal Connection embodies an excellence that is second to none."
5th-grade teacher

Students get to know therapy dog Scruffy during *The Animal Connection*.

TEACHING COMPASSION FOR ANIMALS

When you enter the west ballroom of the Albuquerque Marriott Hotel, you don't expect to find children crying, clinging to their parents. But this is the Family Cancer Retreat sponsored by Cancer Services of New Mexico. The children are there because either they or one of their parents has been diagnosed with cancer. They have been brought to a strange hotel and separated from their parents who are attending a "cancer retreat." They are frightened. But when 18 registered therapy dog teams and two teachers from *The Animal Connection* walk into that ballroom, the tears vanish and the children gather together to learn how to safely meet and play with dogs. The parents leave to attend workshops, relieved their children have been left in good hands and paws. This is just one of many special presentations APNM's *The Animal Connection* provides.

In the full *The Animal Connection* curriculum, lessons involving the humane stewardship of animals become the vehicle by which the New Mexico Department of Public Education's Common Core curriculum requirements can be taught. Mathematics becomes more relevant when applied to extrapolating the numbers involved with generations of unwanted litters of puppies or kittens. Computer research is more interesting when discovering the costs involved with adopting as opposed to purchasing an animal. Giving group reports to the principal, parents, and classmates is more fun when the topic is "Why a cat is a good choice for our families' companion animal."

Requests for *The Animal Connection* curriculum and other presentations always exceed our budget. But as more people understand the true value of our services to our community as a whole, more institutions, donors, and even individual parents are eager to pay for our valuable lessons of compassion for adults and children.

Because of their unconditional love, vulnerability, and innocence, animals can bring out the best in all of us. Whether it is a senior citizen realizing that a companion animal would bring purpose back into her life, an inmate remembering how things were better when he had his dog with him, or a class of middle-school students deciding to collect blankets and towels for shelter animals, *The Animal Connection* inspires good things to happen.

"I learned animals are like us. They have feelings. We should treat them how we want to be treated."

5th-grade student



The Animal Connection teachers Sherry Mangold, Lyndi Martinez, and Cindy Wacek, with San Miguel County Animal Services Officer Danny Vigil, and therapy dogs Rico (standing) and Xena (in Officer Vigil's arms).



\$250,000

Amount given to accredited sanctuaries through grants from our Chimpanzee Sanctuary Fund

29

Number of chimps moved from laboratory settings to sanctuary

"Everyone said that we would never get these chimps into sanctuary, but you did it! There were a lot of groups helping, but we know it would not have happened if APNM had not made it happen. This is so wonderful!"

Danielle Wilson

"Thanks to your Chimpanzee Sanctuary Fund these chimps are finally enjoying the life of retirement they deserve!"

Chimp Haven

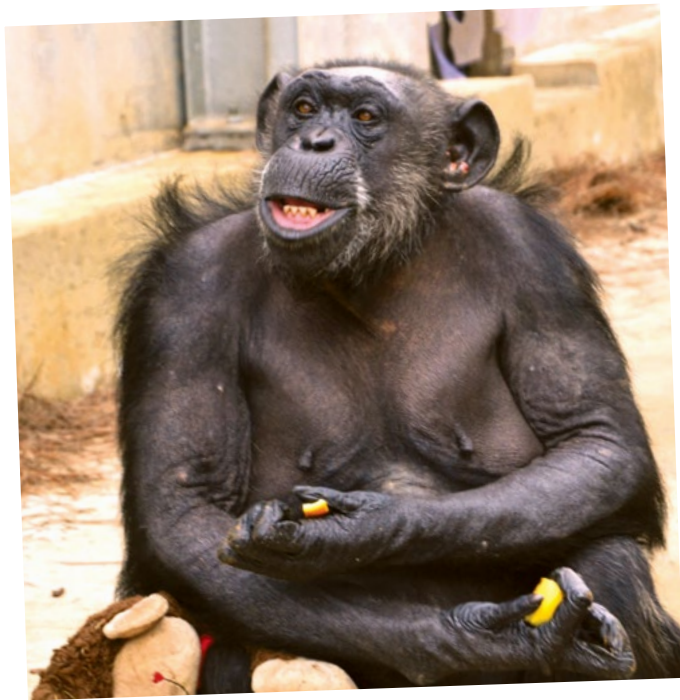
Chimps Kala and Jacob relaxing at Chimp Haven.

SECURING SANCTUARY FOR CHIMPANZEES

From the time Rosie was a baby chimp, people were poking and prodding her for experiments. She was often sick because of the testing. Rosie was tough though, and she was good at making friends with other chimps, when she saw them.

Rosie was one of thousands of chimps who were all forced to live in laboratories, sometimes in very small cages, sometimes held all alone, and often used in experiments which were scary and painful.

But even though some people thought Rosie was just an object and should be used for whatever people thought they could learn, many more people cared about Rosie, were worried about her safety, and were very determined to help her. Animal Protection of New Mexico galvanized caring voices into a tidal wave of positive change.



Rosie holds food and a favorite stuffed toy at Chimp Haven sanctuary.

Our donors and supporters spoke up—writing letters, calling members of Congress, sharing our appearances on television, and supporting our efforts locally and all the way to Washington, D.C., where it was demonstrated that chimpanzee research was not really helping people, and how badly the invasive experiments were hurting chimps like Rosie.

After many years of diligent work, one spring day in 2016, Rosie and a group of chimps she lived with rode on a truck again—this time headed to the beautiful sanctuary called Chimp Haven. Rosie was nervous at first, but excited to find lots of soft spaces to take naps and rest. And toys!

And as she got used to living in a bigger space, she was introduced to even more chimps, and she helped them get along and treat each other fairly. Now Rosie is an old chimp, but she has friends who look up to her, and she is thriving, living for the first time with a big chimp family to call her own. It's new for Rosie, but she's getting the hang of things.

Our Chimpanzee Sanctuary Fund is a leading contributor supporting the move of chimps out of laboratories and into sanctuary. We are thrilled to have helped end the use of chimps in invasive testing in the United States and are committed to helping all of New Mexico's chimps reach permanent sanctuary, as well as supporting accredited chimp sanctuaries as they expand.



Nicole (illustration) is one of over 100 chimps still at the Alamogordo Primate Facility waiting for her chance at sanctuary. Help us make sanctuary a reality for more chimps by making a donation to our Chimpanzee Sanctuary Fund. www.ChimpsToSanctuary.org

APNM has spent more than two decades making sure New Mexico's horses aren't viewed and treated as disposable commodities, but rather as the **ICONIC, VALUABLE, and AWE-INSPIRING** animals they are, **DESERVING OF HUMANE TREATMENT THROUGHOUT THEIR LIVES.**





EPF helps
400th
horse

2013

Valley Meat voluntarily dismissed its complaint against APNM. APNM's legislative arm, Animal Protection Voters (APV), killed a legislative memorial to "study the viability of a horse slaughter plant." **APV passed legislation creating a state equine fund, the Horse Shelter Rescue Fund within the NM Livestock Board, allowing voluntary donations of state tax refunds to the Fund. APV also secured \$250,000 for distribution to equine rescues.** Equine Protection Fund expanded beyond helping families and their equines, offering services to animal control agencies. Statewide poll revealed 70% of New Mexicans oppose horse slaughter for human consumption, don't want a horse slaughter plant in their community. AG King issued a formal opinion that horse meat was an adulterated food product and could not be manufactured, sold, or delivered anywhere in New Mexico. AG King sued Valley Meat and others, seeking a temporary restraining order, a preliminary injunction, and a permanent injunction against the horse slaughter operation.

EPF helps
600th
horse

Congress blocked funding for horse slaughter. Valley Meat withdrew its application for wastewater discharge permit needed for horse slaughter plant. **With national partners, APNM began working with Navajo Nation to create a plan for humane management of free-roaming horses there as an alternative to round-ups and transport to slaughter. The comprehensive support offered included gelding and PZP immunocontraceptive expertise.** Equine Protection Fund endowment (Help Our Horses endowment) created. Massive media coverage on horse slaughter.

2014

2015

Congress blocked funding for horse slaughter. Equine Protection Fund helped its 700th horse. Valley Meat again sues APNM. APNM continued planning for work with national partners and Navajo Nation.

EPF helps
800th
horse

Congress blocked funding for horse slaughter. **Judge granted NM Attorney General's 2013 request for permanent injunction, preventing Valley Meat from ever operating its horse slaughter plant.** One in ten calls to cruelty hotline are equine-related (compared to one in four in 2009). Help Our Horses endowment grew to over \$193,000.

2016

2017

Congressional funding of horse slaughter blocked at least through September. Animal Protection Voters' priority bill to give equine shelters first option on horses in custody of NM Livestock Board passed Legislature, but was pocket-vetoed by Governor Martinez. **NM Livestock Board begins considering rule changes to give shelters first right to homeless horses in their custody.**



7 inches

Approximate maximum spread of a spring-loaded steel-jaw trap that can be legally set to capture a cougar (or any other unsuspecting living being)

113

Number of wild Mexican wolves in the U.S., at a minimum, according to a new 2016 study

50%

Percentage of adult female cougars rearing kittens at any given time, making cougar trapping a major cause of kitten starvation

96%

Death rate by starvation of an orphaned cougar kitten

“APNM may be a small organization, but it punches far above its weight. They are no doubt the most effective state animal protection group in the country. It has been my privilege to witness their tenacity and expertise fighting alongside them in the tough battles for New Mexico’s wildlife.”

Nicholas Arrivo, staff attorney for Humane Society of the United States, representing APNM in the cougar trapping lawsuits

PROMOTING COEXISTENCE WITH WILDLIFE

APNM staff and volunteers were rightfully dismayed as we watched the State Game Commission unanimously approve the New Mexico Game and Fish Department's controversial proposed "Cougar Rule" in 2015.

Despite massive opposition, in one swift action the ill-conceived state agency regulation now allowed the use of leg-hold traps and snares on nine million acres of state trust lands, let trappers kill twice as many cougars as previously allowed, and expanded trapping and snaring of cougars on private land, resulting in a five-month-long recreational cougar trapping season for the first time since cougars gained protections roughly 40 years ago.

But we refused to let the story end there.

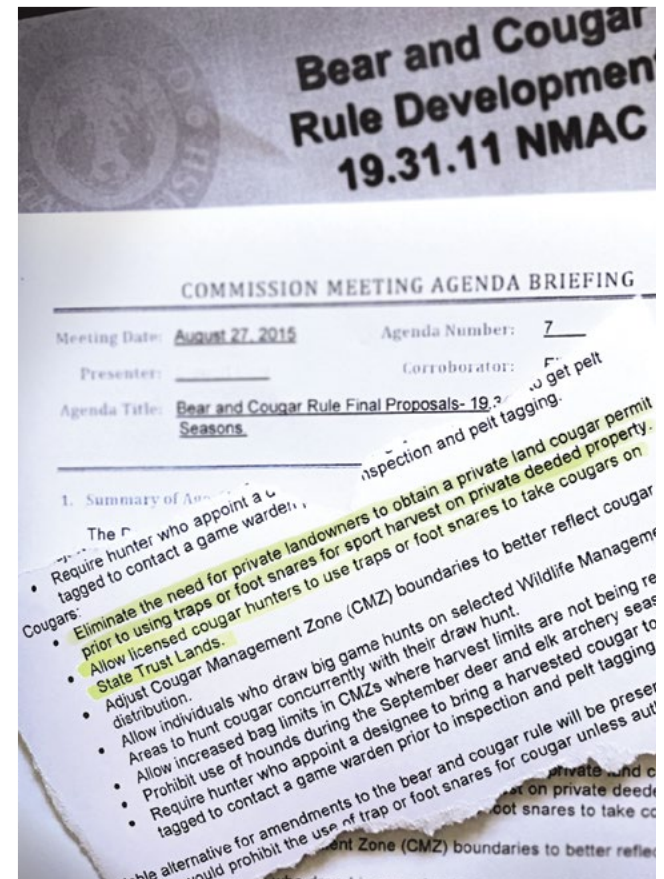
In March 2016, APNM, joined by several impacted New Mexico citizens and the Humane Society of the United States (The HSUS), led a lawsuit in state court to stop the Cougar Rule in its tracks. Then, in June 2016, APNM and the other plaintiffs filed a federal lawsuit to protect endangered species from expanded cougar trapping.

The Cougar Rule expanded cougar killing, despite no accurate estimate of the cougar population. The law requires the State Game Commission to base its decisions on some semblance of facts and science—and the Commission had blatantly failed to do so in this case.

The Rule also invites violations of federal and state law when highly endangered Mexican wolves, as well as nursing mother cougars and their kittens, die because of the expanded trapping in their habitats. There had been no viable review of the impact of indiscriminate trapping on cougars or endangered species.

Throughout 2016, APNM engaged in several stages of litigation in both state and federal court, including successfully fending off the Game Commission's efforts to get our cases dismissed.

Meanwhile, another native species needed protection on a very local level. Beavers, a keystone species vital to the health of our ecosystem by ensuring more vegetation and stable habitat for all species, were threatened by a pair of Santa Fe County resolutions. APNM rallied opposition to proposals to prioritize lethal eradication over coexistence methods, and the resolutions were unanimously tabled by a 4-0 vote.



An excerpt from the New Mexico Game and Fish Department's summary of 2015 Cougar Rule changes, allowing cougar hunters to use traps or foot snares to kill cougars on State Trust Lands.



310,000

Approximate number of dairy cows in New Mexico

2,088

Average number of cows in New Mexico dairy herds (largest in the nation)

150

Number of dairy farms in New Mexico

\$50,000

Recurring state funds secured for the CARE program

"Animal Protection Voters defies all the laws of political physics!"

Senator Jeff Steinborn (D-Las Cruces)

The more we learn about animals and how much they are like us, the more likely we are to choose a healthy, plant-based diet. Visit apnm.org/vegan for recipes.

CHANGING LAWS TO CHANGE LIVES

In early 2016, headlines everywhere were setting the stage for the year's legislative session. The big news? A state financial crisis. State revenues plummeted and we were repeatedly told there was simply no money available for statewide projects and programs—and many agency budgets would, in fact, be cut.

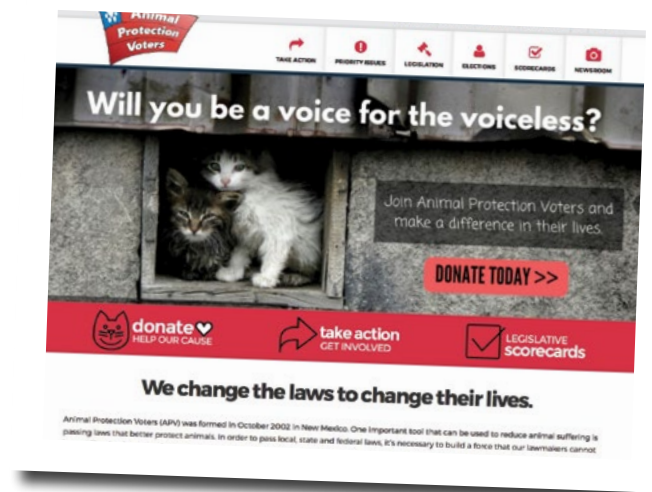
Animal Protection Voters (APV)—the separate legislative arm of Animal Protection of New Mexico—had established its important agenda, launched a new website and blog, and was ready to work for positive change during the 2016 state legislative session, where the focus was (almost exclusively) on fiscal matters.

Even in the face of the grim economic reality, we had no choice but to ask for help where it was needed: new funding to help shelter animals, homeless horses, spay/neuter efforts, and domestic violence victims. Ultimately, no new funds were available for these and many other crucial needs in 2016. However, it was a meaningful success that the established, recurring \$50,000 appropriated for the care of animals in domestic violence cases remained intact, meaning domestic violence victims and their animals could continue to have access to an existing level of CARE (Companion Animal Rescue Effort) services and assistance.

Governor Martinez, who is allowed to bring non-fiscal matters to “short” session agendas, permitted a so-called “right to farm” bill. Despite our determined and significant opposition, and despite fiery floor debates in both chambers, the bill passed, perpetuating and protecting massive animal factory farms and severely limiting the ability of longstanding New Mexicans to seek legal relief from farm pollution, odors, and flies. APV is proud to have led the substantial fight against the measure, and we must now monitor the bill's effect on animals and communities affected by factory farms.

Reaching beyond our state borders, in 2016 we were reminded of the value of long-term commitment to change. After many years in the making, a federal chemical safety bill that discourages the use of animals in chemical toxicity testing was recently spearheaded by our champion Senator Udall, passed Congress, and signed into law by President Obama.

In the wake of 2016, APV's path forward is simple, powerful, and the same as it ever was: Get involved, commit to change, and never give up.

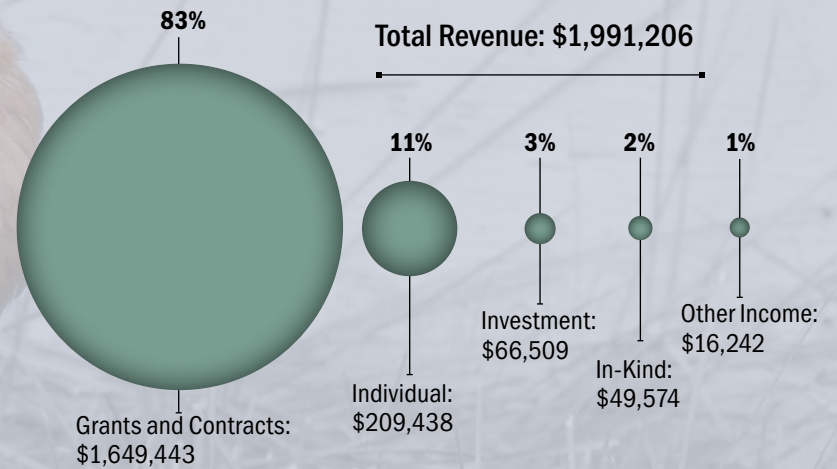
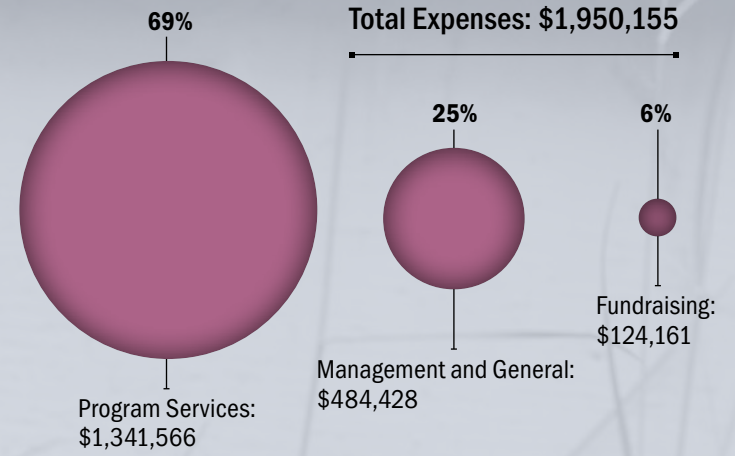


Animal Protection Voters website

The “right to *farm*” bill can more appropriately be called “right to *harm*” for the damage it causes to animals and communities.



FINANCIAL REPORT



Spending Related to Strategic Growth:

Program:	Fundraising:	Administration:
\$573,908	\$109,154	\$335,614

Animal Protection of New Mexico is a Guidestar Exchange Gold Participant.



Adopted chicks, Rose and Blanche, enjoy room to roam at their new home.

APNM AND APV: BOTH ARMS OF ADVOCACY PROTECT NEW MEXICO'S ANIMALS

Our unique combination of a 501(c)3 organization like Animal Protection of New Mexico, along with its legislative arm, Animal Protection Voters, a 501(c)4 organization, allows us to achieve so much more than if we operated only one or the other. To illustrate this, here is how both arms of advocacy impacted **animal sheltering** and **spay/neuter** in New Mexico.

PROBLEM

APV SOLUTION

APNM SOLUTION

Euthanasia in shelters is unregulated, resulting in varying practices, some of which are causing animal suffering.

Passed law creating the Animal Sheltering Board (ASB), so humane euthanasia is regulated, practitioners have to be trained and licensed.
Secured \$192,000 in 2007 and \$325,000 in 2008 in operating money for the ASB.
Passed law granting 6-year extension of ASB's "life".

Recommended experts to serve on ASB in variety of positions.

Many communities lacked modern sheltering and/or spay/neuter facilities and lacked the funds to renovate or build.

Secured \$460,000 in 2007 and \$1,074,500 in 2008 in capital outlay for shelters and a spay/neuter clinic (construction/renovation).

Assisted communities with requests and planning for capital projects (shelters, spay/neuter clinics).

ASB needed more funds and assistance with distribution of those funds for spay/neuter throughout the state.

Passed law creating voluntary state income tax check-off program to support spay/neuter through ASB.
Secured \$100,000 for spay/neuter surgeries, to be administered through ASB.

Created promotional materials for spay/neuter tax check-off, conducted widespread promotion through tax preparers and media.
Conducted comprehensive shelter surveys statewide, provided data to ASB.
Analyzed shelter data and shared with ASB for prioritizing spay/neuter fund distribution based on highest community needs; assisted with creation of forms for application process.

"I love this organization. When I want to write a column about coyotes, wolves, trapping, trophy hunting, whatever, APV and APNM is my one-stop shopping resource. Their amazing in-house experts are informed, authoritative, and bristling with insight. All I need to add is the humor!"

Robert Basler, humorist, renowned international journalist and news editor, and Santa Fe Animal Shelter board director

APNM/APV STRATEGIC PLAN

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Build and Strengthen Our Organizational Culture

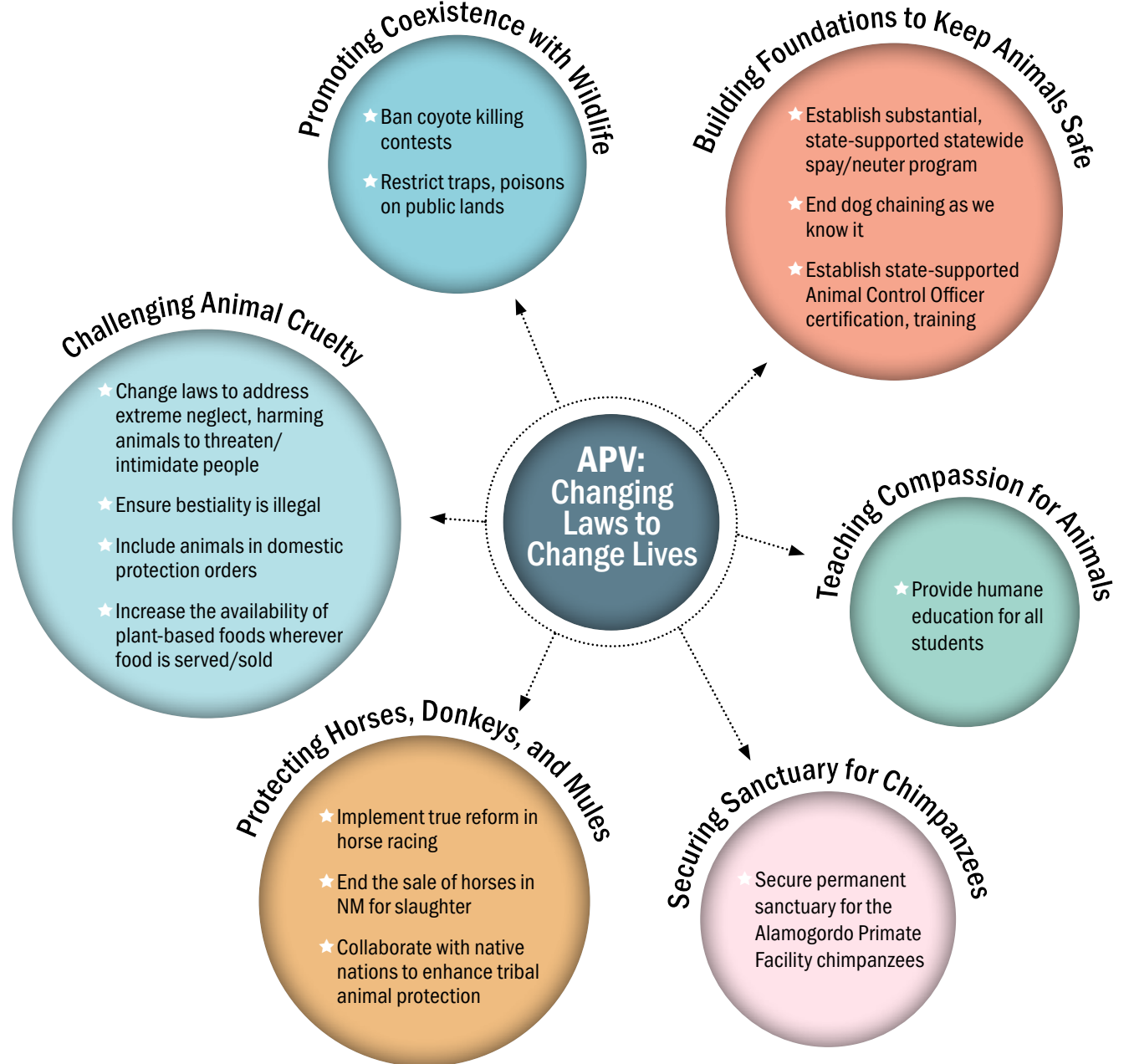
Sharpen Our Brand and Establish Widespread Brand Awareness

Achieve Abundant and Sustainable Funding and Support

VISION:

Making "Humane" the New Normal

THE DECADE AHEAD



FROM OUR MEMBERS

“You seem like the only organization that is tackling a big part of animal abuse by getting to the root of the problem.”

“APNM carries the full strength of a statewide membership that is directed specifically at the issues that concern me most, as a rural New Mexican that faces great opposition whenever I advocate for animals of all kinds in my town and county.”

“You attack the legal issues and get laws changed.”

“Keep up the good work. Thank God for this organization to take care of animals.”

“You guys are the best. We could spin our wheels for hundreds of years trying to get animals recognized as sentient beings, but you are boots on the ground doing the actual work of educating and advocating.”

All quotes taken from 2016 member survey.

Buck loves playing fetch with his companion, Xeina.



Animal Protection of New Mexico

Animal Protection Voters

PO Box 11395

Albuquerque NM 87192



Animal Protection of New Mexico is a 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. Contributions to Animal Protection Voters (a 501(c)4 organization) are not tax-deductible, but help us change the laws to change animals' lives.

Please help us continue this work.

Donate to [APNM: apnm.org/donate](https://apnm.org/donate)

Donate to [APV: apvnm.org/donate](https://apvnm.org/donate)

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