



PROTECTING ANIMALS

AN ENDURING AND SUSTAINABLE APPROACH

← →
2017 ANNUAL
REPORT

← →
ANIMAL PROTECTION OF NEW MEXICO
ANIMAL PROTECTION VOTERS



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.



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In 1998, APNM celebrated a significant improvement in cougar management practices in New Mexico. After spearheading informed advocacy on behalf of New Mexico's iconic cougars for three years, APNM persuaded the New Mexico Game Commission to adopt its first ever Cougar Management Plan, which included hunting quotas and zone management. This marked the first time the killing of cougars in our state would be subject to meaningful restrictions.

Since that time, protections for cougars have been subject to inconsistent policies driven by changing game commissions. On the one hand, in 2008, ten years after those first cougar quotas were established, female cougars were finally given the protection they should have had all along, and a costly and wasteful program that preemptively killed cougars in the southeast part of New Mexico was scrapped.

But on the other hand, later still, in 2015, the New Mexico Game Commission approved a highly controversial and scientifically bankrupt rule that allowed recreational trapping of cougars. This one action reversed any progress the department might have made over the years to persuade the public they were serious about science-based policies. APNM responded by suing the Commission in both state and federal court. So far, a judge has twice denied attempts to dismiss the federal suit. We are hopeful science will prevail in the courts.

Clearly, protecting keystone species and other magnificent animals requires the longest view possible.

This Annual Report's centerfold timeline—focused on wildlife—reminds us of the countless opportunities we have for improving policies for our state's magnificent wild neighbors.

As Animal Protection of New Mexico and its legislative arm, Animal Protection Voters, seek stronger protections for all animals, we are grateful our supporters understand that our work must be enduring and sustainable. Toward that end, many of our 2017 achievements bolstered our endurance and our resilience:

- The Equine Protection Fund, which reached the impressive milestone of helping its 949th equine to date, also grew its endowment component to over \$400,000, ensuring lasting assistance for needy horses, donkeys, and mules.
- APV spearheaded the passage of House Bill 219, which establishes a permanent and sustainable home for the crucial state Animal Sheltering Board.
- And APV's own critical sustainability was enhanced with the creation of the APV Endowment, which grew to over \$70,000 in its first year.
- Many of APNM's signature programs continued on their long-term path to success. Forty-two chimpanzees moved from Alamogordo to permanent sanctuary after enduring years of unbearable pain and suffering in labs. Seventy-nine wait for their turn at sanctuary in 2018 and beyond. Helping make all this possible, the Chimpanzee Sanctuary Fund granted \$198,000 for the chimps' care in sanctuary.

- Thanks to new donors, *The Animal Connection* expanded its message of compassion to students in Algodones, and CARE services were refined, reaching victims of domestic violence with lifesaving support.
- Within its Humane Communities-Valencia County, Humane Communities-Santa Fe, and Humane Communities-Las Vegas initiatives, APNM secured funding in hard-pressed communities for spay/neuter services, shelter improvements, technical support, professional development/training, law enforcement training, and shelter enhancements, and created pragmatic ways to get dogs off chains.
- APV was instrumental in pushing Santa Fe to ban circuses with wild animals, and joined others in securing Santa Fe County's successful ban on dog tethering.

Our work going forward involves creating sustainable, fundamental changes to the many challenging issues that have remained unaddressed for decades and even generations. This means our work is not easy. But as our society becomes more sensitive to the suffering of animals and intolerant of cruelty, there are more openings for implementing humane approaches to pressing issues.

As our supporters know, we are determined to ensure humane treatment for horses, statewide funding for spay/neuter, restrictions on traps and poisons on public lands, and humane disposition of domestic horses, among many other humane outcomes that caring New Mexicans want and deserve.



Anne Coller,
APNM Board President



Elisabeth Jennings,
APNM/APV Executive Director



Robert Schutz,
APV Board President



\$10,000

Grant secured from the Bonner Family Foundation supporting training scholarships for animal services officers.

\$5,000

Reward payout from a 2016 case in which Moose, a beloved Great Dane, was attacked and killed by burglars at a Sandia Park home. The arrest of two perpetrators was facilitated by the reward.

397

Number of calls received on the Cruelty Hotline.

up to \$6,000

2017 reward offered for Scooby, a Raton, NM Chihuahua who was run over, then zipped into a purse and left behind a dumpster, still alive.

CHALLENGING ANIMAL CRUELTY

Pixie, a seven-month-old German shepherd puppy, had never been outside the trailer home. She only knew the trailer and the man—but the man had never been gone this long before, and she was getting so hungry and thirsty. Suddenly, the door opened and a strange person stepped inside. Pixie shrank back into a corner, cowering...

Kathe MacLaren of the Animal Protection Association of Socorro and Marguerite Sweeney of The Grizz Project (a Socorro area rescue organization), alerted APNM's Cruelty Case Manager to the plight of a young dog in Socorro County. Her guardian, an elderly man, was in the hospital for heart surgery, but Pixie had been left behind in the trailer without food or water.

In cooperation with the guardian, a neighbor checked on the dog and provided her with food and water. The

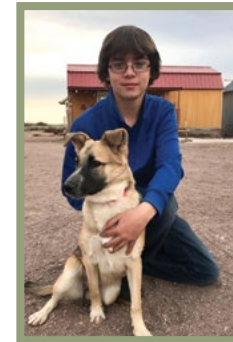
neighbor expressed concern that the trailer was filthy and had substantial urine and feces buildup. He noted that although Pixie was extremely fearful and unsocialized, he managed to coax her out of the trailer and contain her on the property.

APNM's Cruelty Case Manager acted as the go-between with the hospital. He learned that Pixie's guardian would be undergoing a lengthy rehabilitation, which would cause him to be unable to care for his dog. The guardian agreed to surrender Pixie so that she could be placed in a loving home.

After being evaluated at the veterinary clinic, Pixie was offered for adoption, and within days, a family stepped forward. They renamed her "Maya" and welcomed her into their home and hearts. Maya has bonded closely with their son, accompanying him everywhere—even golfing!

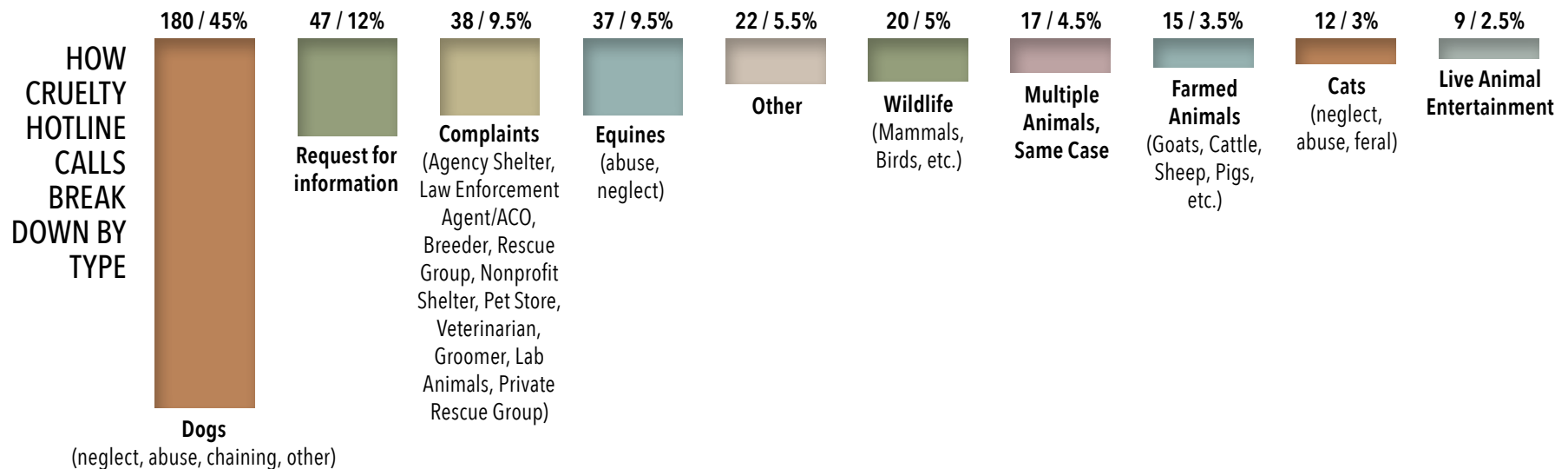
In 2017, 397 callers contacted the Cruelty Hotline, each person looking for help related to an animal in need. In partnership with other caring New Mexicans, APNM's Cruelty Hotline service can help transform a dire

situation into a wonderful outcome for animals. Many calls can be handled quickly, through referrals or sharing needed information. Others are not so easy to resolve, sometimes taking months or even years to come to a conclusion. Calls related to dogs in jeopardy far outweigh any other category of calls received through the Hotline.



Pixie (renamed "Maya") with her human companion

"I wanted you to know the little German shepherd mix is doing very well!! The vet will do a complete check today with shots and whatever else is needed. I'm working now on a foster/forever home. She weighs 38 pounds, looks to be in good health and is not overly thin. She is absolutely a beautiful, young puppy with tons of energy!! THANK you for all you did to help this little girl!!"
Marguerite Sweeney, The Grizz Project, Magdalena, NM





59 families
92 animals
36 referrals

Reached safety through the CARE helpline

\$32,650

ASPCA® grant for Las Vegas and San Miguel County shelter operations

\$11,353

\$4,500

Grants secured from the Dennis Friends Foundation for:
➤ Construction of "meet and greet" area at the Valencia County Animal Shelter for stress-free dog/adoption interactions;
➤ Santa Rosa two-day mobile spay/neuter, vaccination, and microchip clinic

159

Number of dogs and cats spayed/neutered in clinics in two rural communities.

"During a time of crisis, fear, and desperation, the girls (dogs) were quickly housed and safe and I was able to get them back. Thank you for being there every step of the way and being so helpful."

CARE client

"The Humane Communities Program gave us resources both to meet some immediate needs, but also to reach out and educate the community about animal welfare issues and create more awareness of our vision and mission."

AWC Board Chair, Marshall Poole

BUILDING FOUNDATIONS TO KEEP ANIMALS SAFE

When the City of Las Vegas Police Department dispatched Animal Services after hours, the officer on-call knew it was an emergency. Soon, the staff at the Animal Welfare Coalition of Northeastern New Mexico (AWC) Pet Center saw the arrival of two adorable puppies who had been abandoned on a roadside in critical condition.

Roma and Milan, as AWC Pet Center staff named them, had endured unimaginable fear, torment, and pain due to extreme cruelty and neglect that resulted in life-threatening injuries. They were less than one year old. But they had each other and, through APNM's Humane Communities pilot initiative, they had a chance. After extensive veterinary medical treatment, care, and recovery, they survived and thrived. Once Roma and Milan were healthy and strong enough to travel, AWC transferred them to a specialized puppy rescue. Today, they are in a loving home with a kind family, good food, warm beds ... and each other.

APNM's Building Foundations to Keep Animals Safe program, a collection of core initiatives and pilot projects, not only addresses animals' immediate needs, but also creates fundamental improvements in the policies, processes, standards, and services connected to animals in our state.

HUMANE COMMUNITIES

2017 was the second year of APNM's three-year focus in Santa Fe, San Miguel, and Valencia Counties, bringing Humane Communities initiatives to bear where the needs were the greatest. APNM and its partners have been able to advance creative solutions

in those locations, improve the lives of animals, and benefit the communities. APNM's technical assistance came in the form of guidance in strategic planning and operational resources for shelters, facilitating no-cost spay/neuter and vaccination clinics to the public, free straw for companion animals living outdoors in cold weather, training for law enforcement professionals, and alternatives to tethering dogs.

In each location, the unique partnerships and working relationships forged have generated a keen awareness of the value of community outreach, education, collaboration, and cooperation to address animal issues effectively and sustainably. APNM is profoundly grateful to the ASPCA®, the Doris Goodwin Walbridge Foundation, and private donors for supporting APNM's Humane Communities initiatives. Together, we are making "humane" the new normal in New Mexico.

SPAY/NEUTER SUCCESSES

APNM, the AWC, and the ASPCA sponsored two free spay/neuter-vaccination-microchip clinics at the AWC Pet Center in Las Vegas. Mobile surgical teams from Soul Dog Rescue and PAWS New Mexico sterilized 85 dogs and cats for Las Vegas and San Miguel County residents.

APNM helped the City of Santa Rosa secure a generous \$4,500 grant from the Dennis Friends Foundation for a free spay/neuter-vaccination-microchip clinic. Soul Dog Rescue rolled into town and sterilized 74 dogs and cats from Santa Rosa and Guadalupe County in two days, assisted by an outstanding group of local volunteers.

APNM continued to spread the word that New Mexico taxpayers may donate refunds to a statewide spay/neuter fund administered by the state's Animal Sheltering Board. By the end of 2017, donations for spay/neuter via PIT-D tax forms reached \$34,000. New Mexico's spay/neuter license plates generated another \$55,000 for

spay/neuter services. Based on results from previous fund distributions, this revenue should provide over 1,600 spay/neuters for needy communities.

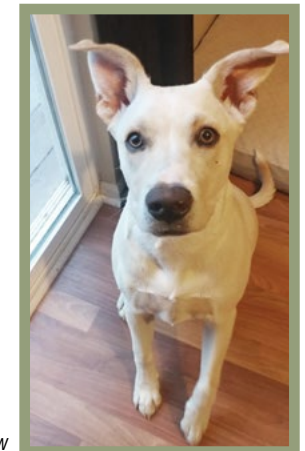
CARE

A woman called APNM's Companion Animal Rescue Effort (CARE) helpline; she and her mother escaped an abusive situation and were living in a van with their three dogs. They couldn't, and wouldn't, enter a domestic violence shelter until they found a temporary place for their animals. APNM's CARE helpline staff immediately secured a confidential safe haven for the dogs, allowing the woman and her mother to enter a domestic violence shelter quickly. CARE took care of the dogs' veterinary needs, including sterilizations and vaccinations. Once the women found a new place to live, CARE safely reunited them with their dogs.

In 2017 almost 100 New Mexicans accessed CARE's safe, emergency housing for companion animals of domestic violence victims. Our life-saving network includes 119 providers (boarding facilities, veterinary clinics, animal shelters, foster homes, transport volunteers) in 23 counties. In 2017, we provided critical assistance to 92 animals and 59 families. CARE obtained two grants in 2017: \$17,085 from the federal Victims of Crime Act and \$10,000 from PetSmart Charities.



Roma and Milan



Milan now

Left: Stormy receives cuddles from Humane Communities staff while her fence is built.



>\$31,000

Equine Protection Fund dollars spent to help equines

132

Total number* of individual equines assisted through the following:

Emergency Feed Assistance: 24 equines

Trail's End (Humane Euthanasia): 15 equines

Gelding Assistance: 33 equines

Veterinary Care Assistance: 73 equines

* Some equines received more than one type of service

"I deeply appreciate the generous reimbursement we received from APNM. Your organization's gift helps us to provide top-notch veterinary care. Thank you again for your support. Most of all, thank you for all that you do for animals in New Mexico, and for the shining inspiration you provide to the rest of us working for animals!"

*Karen Herman, Executive Director,
Sky Mountain Wild Horse Sanctuary*

PROTECTING HORSES, DONKEYS, AND MULES

Santiago was a wreck, and it seemed everything was working against him.

The eighteen-year-old light chestnut stallion lived in a small, filthy pen, surrounded by a maze of other crowded, dirty pens, piles of waste, and heaps of debris. Worst of all, many of the pens were filled with other animals who also suffered under the hot summer sun in southern New Mexico.

The animals could hear and sometimes see each other, but for the most part Santiago suffered alone. Striking blue eyes in a tense face mirrored his hopelessness and despair. Though he had access to water and feed, his hooves were severely overgrown, so he was always in pain. His day-to-day life was filled with stench, suffering, and monotony.

That started to change in 2017 when APNM's Equine Protection Fund and others got involved. Santiago and thirteen other equines were given a new chance at life. Working together, three equine shelters arranged for the care of all these individuals after the New Mexico Livestock Board removed them from these miserable conditions.

Today Santiago resides at a New Mexico equine shelter, where he has a whole team supporting him and rooting for his long-term recovery.

With financial support from the ASPCA®, our Equine Protection Fund was able to pay nearly \$7,300 to help cover the enormous cost of caring for these deprived equines. For Santiago specifically, the Equine Protection Fund helped pay bills for his gelding, pain relief, vaccinations, and much-needed hoof and dental care.

Santiago has many months of recovery ahead. It takes time for older stallions to recover from the gelding procedure, and for survivors of hoarding to be able to trust in the goodness of others. But he's not alone anymore.

You may already know there is no city or county funding available to equine shelters—hard to imagine in a state where horses are commonly referred to as icons and partners—but it's the truth.

Equine shelters licensed by the New Mexico Livestock Board are eligible for funding from the Horse Shelter Rescue Fund, whose monies come only from donations of individual tax refunds by the public. APNM staff were honored to again serve on the committee to disburse \$9,000 from this fund to New Mexico's registered equine rescue facilities in 2017.

All told, in 2017 we helped 132 individual equines through our Equine Protection Fund, providing over \$31,000 in assistance to individuals, families, and shelters, including Four Corners Equine Rescue, Walkin 'N Circles Ranch, End of the Road Ranch, Sky Mountain Wild Horse Sanctuary, and McKinley County Humane Society-Equine Aid.

Strong commitments shown by these and other compassionate individuals, including people who reached out for emergency feed assistance to help keep their beloved equine family members at home through a financial crisis, help us answer challenges not with despair, but with renewed energy and creativity.

New strengths can come out of difficulties, and Santiago is a reminder to us of the power of resilience. With your support, we honor his resilience with a continued commitment to help individuals and work collaboratively to address the root causes of equine cruelty and suffering.



Santiago before

Left: Santiago after, now safe and cared for.



627

Number of students served in
The Animal Connection full curriculum

1,070

Approximate number of people who received
special presentations

114

Number of youth in Bernalillo County
Youth Services Center (juvenile detention)
who received multi-week program

"I like the days you come. Those evenings the
conversations in the pods change from bragging
about what they did that put them here to what
they are missing because they are here. There's
no doubt your program is successful."

Guard, Bernalillo County Youth Services Center

TEACHING COMPASSION FOR ANIMALS

They came into the room reluctantly, taking seats in the back rows. Facial expressions and body language illustrated their petulance and sullenness. One muttered, "Hey, there's a dog." Another, "Can we pet him?" Smiles began to replace frowns.

UNM Health Clinic nurses, social workers, and counselors at two Albuquerque middle schools approached APNM's Education Director with a problem: there are large numbers of students in detention and in-house suspension who are angry, argumentative, disengaged from school, and often fighting with their classmates. Seeking a better way to reach these students, the advisors requested *The Animal Connection* curriculum.

Although budget restraints prevented the full program from being offered, the school personnel, based on their knowledge of the students' backgrounds, chose three topics for pilot programs: "Life and Death in the Shelter," "Blood Sports," and "The Link." For each session, a therapy dog (with a life story illustrating the topic) assisted in the presentations. Students moved to the front, actively took part in the presentations, cuddled with the dog and asked, "What can we do?"

After the bell rang, Luciano remained behind with a drawing in his hand. He explained that when something bothered him and he couldn't sleep, his father advised him to get up and write down a solution to the problem. He handed his drawing to one of *The Animal Connection* teachers, and said, "We've got to find a solution for this."

Humane Education Staff Serve Many Audiences

The Animal Connection 12-week curriculum and *The Animal Connection Jr.* 4-week curriculum remain popular in schools throughout Mora, San Miguel, Santa Fe, Bernalillo, Sandoval, and Valencia counties. Because requests for these curricula continue to surpass the funds available, whenever

possible we provide pilot programs and special one-time presentations. Even these abbreviated classes have far-reaching, positive effects on attendees:

Department of Public Health: "The Americans with Disabilities Act and the Misrepresentation of Service Animals"

Pathways Academy for Autistic Children and Teens: "Developing Responsibility and Concern for Animals," "Loose Dog and Bite Safety"

Santo Domingo Pueblo: "Loose Dog and Bite Safety" presented to parents and children at annual community health fair

Isleta Pueblo elders: Co-presented with Isleta animal control officers on "Reporting Animal Concerns," "Loose Dog and Bite Safety," "Vaccination and Spay/Neuter Resources"

Isleta Pueblo 4-8 year-olds: Summer Library program, "Read to the Dogs" and "Animal Safety"

Santa Ana Pueblo: "Loose Dog and Bite Safety" at after-school program

New Mexico State Fair: "Safe Behavior with Animals" presented twice daily for all fair attendees, "Read to the Dogs" provided daily in the Sensory Zone for autistic children

American Veterinary Chiropractic Association: Presentation on use of therapy dogs in APNM's *The Animal Connection* programs

NM Department of Health: presentation at all-staff gathering on "Americans with Disabilities Act/Service Dogs and Therapy Dogs"

NM Cancer Services: "Loose Dog and Bite Safety for Kids Bernalillo County Sheriff's Department K-9 Unit: "Loose Dog and Bite Safety" at inaugural fundraiser

Carrie Tingley Hospital's Summer Camp: "Care and Responsibility" for teenagers

Rio Rancho Summer School: "Loose Dog and Bite Safety" for grades K-1 and 2-3

Wings for Life (programs to support children with an incarcerated parent): "Loose Dog and Bite Safety"

Habitat for Humanity: "Life and Death in the Shelter" and "The Work of APNM/APV"

"Spay and Neuter" facts to all *The Animal Connection* 5th and 6th grade teachers at Nava, La Mesa, and Algodones. Students wrote letters for their state senator and representative in favor of 2018 bills to fund spay/neuter services.

Cleveland Middle School: "Life and Death in the Shelter." Teachers use this presentation as the kick-off event for the students' community outreach project of providing blankets and toys for Albuquerque animal shelters.

Truman Middle School: "The Link" presentations for 8th grade Health classes. The students then gave a presentation at an all-school assembly.

Mitchell Elementary: "Safe Behavior Around Dogs," and "Read to the Dogs" for 1st grade and Special Education classes.

Carrie Tingley
Children's Hospital
Youth Camp
participants



Luciano's drawing



\$198,000

Chimpanzee Sanctuary Fund grants made in 2017 to support more chimps reaching sanctuary

42

Number of Alamogordo chimps reaching sanctuary in 2017

"In 2017, 42 new Alamogordo chimpanzees were transported to our 200-acre sanctuary, Chimp Haven. As of the end of December, we have reached a historic milestone where we have more chimpanzees in accredited sanctuaries than in research laboratories across the U.S.! Hooray! Your commitment is so deeply appreciated by all our staff and by our chimpanzees who are already here—and by those we look forward to welcoming soon."

Rana Smith, President & CEO, Chimp Haven

SECURING SANCTUARY FOR CHIMPANZEES

On March 1, 2017, eight lives changed for the better. Early that morning, eight chimpanzees kept captive in a New Mexico laboratory—Tessa, Aria, Novella, Jill, Paula Jean, Martha, Blossom, and Whitney—reached sanctuary. They were escorted and cared for by incredible staff who welcomed these precious individuals with professional care, tenderness, and pampering to their new forested home.

Tessa and Aria are now often seen sleeping together, cuddled tightly. Tessa—feisty, fun, playful and smart—is getting a chance at a rich, full life, after surviving a childhood of horrors as an invasive laboratory research subject. The resilience of these chimps is remarkable. Whitney's outgoing and confident. Jill's delighting in new friendships, including with sweet, personable Pierre, finally enjoying life as part of a big chimp family.

These are just eight of the forty-two Alamogordo, New Mexico chimps who reached sanctuary in 2017, thanks to dedicated and tenacious work of sanctuary staff at Chimp Haven, responsible coordination by the National Institutes of Health, and with significant financial support from our Chimpanzee Sanctuary Fund.

We met each update, photo, and bit of information about these chimp survivors' new lives in sanctuary with gratitude as we maintained focus to continue the pace of chimp retirement in the coming months and years.

As of December 31, 2017, seventy-nine New Mexico chimps remain in Alamogordo, waiting for their chance at a sanctuary home capable of meeting their complex needs. Just like Tessa, Aria, and Jill, all of these individuals are survivors with their own desires, wishes,

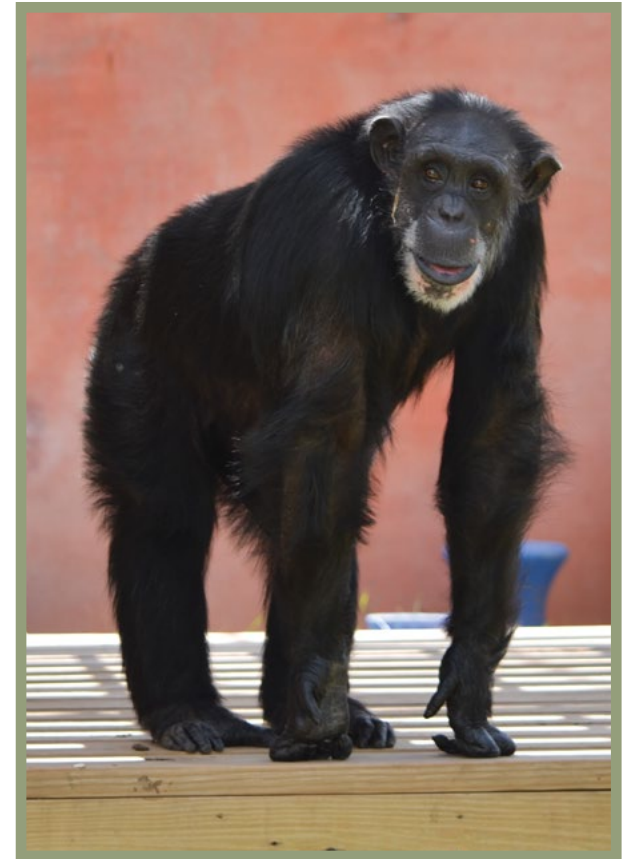
and needs, who at the very least deserve to live the rest of their lives in sanctuary.

With your support, we are committed to ensuring all the surviving New Mexico chimps reach sanctuary by 2019. You believed with us that it was possible to forever end the use of chimps in invasive research across the entire United States and fought with us for years to see that change finally happen.

We mourned together the many chimps who died without ever having the chance to see this moment. We must not waver, now that the stakes are high for some of the sickest, oldest chimps in laboratory settings to reach sanctuary in the coming months. We simply never give up.

Thank you for being by our side as we see through this long-overdue migration for New Mexico's chimpanzees, all deserving in their own right, and who continue to inspire further work for all animals.

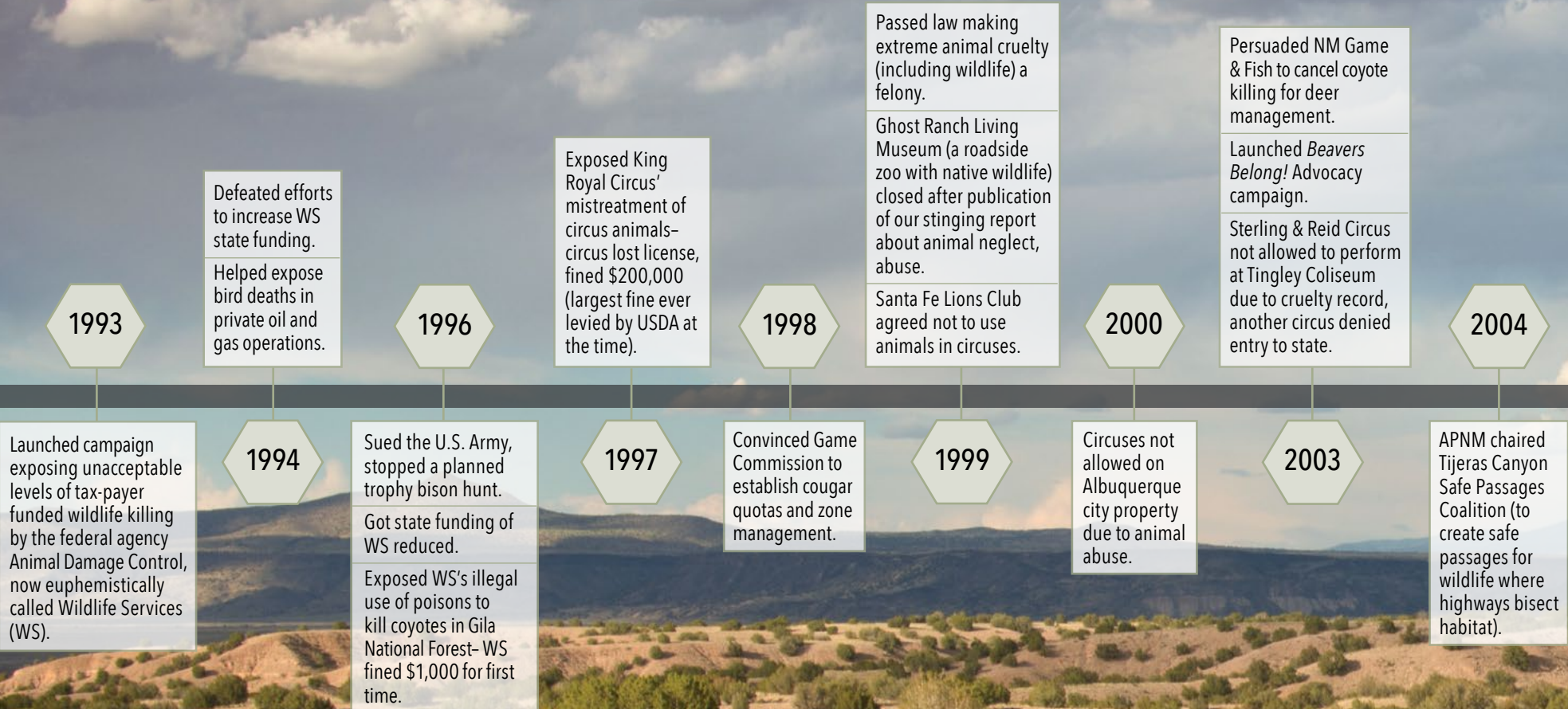
Stay informed of latest action updates and new photos of the chimps in sanctuary: www.ChimpsToSanctuary.org



Whitney at Chimp Haven



Tessa at Chimp Haven



Wildlife victories. A steady path towards

NM Dept. of Transportation approved safe passages recommendations in Tijeras Canyon.

2006

Alamogordo rattlesnake roundup ended, in wake of vocal opposition and event drawing unwelcome activities to Alamogordo.

2008

Published the *Landowners' Guide to Non-Lethal Beaver Solutions*.
Launched *Cougar-Smart New Mexico* program.
Cougar hunter education required.

2011

Introduced bills to ban killing contests and restrict traps/poisons on public lands.

2014

Launched *Stop Cougar Trapping* campaign.
Commissioned poll showing New Mexicans oppose trapping by stunning 3 to 1 margin.
Bill to ban coyote killing contests passed New Mexico Senate (first state to pass this bill in any chamber).

2016

2005

Statewide poll showed 63% of New Mexicans support trap ban on public lands.
Held *Beavers Belong!* training and flow device installation in Taos County.
Started Tijeras Canyon safe passages improvements.

2007

Secured greater protections for female cougars; abolished decades-old preemptive cougar killing program.

2010

Joined other partners in launching *TrapFree New Mexico*.

2013

Helped local advocates pass ordinances against trapping in Los Alamos County and Jemez Springs.
Trained activists in six communities in animal advocacy.

2015

Sued NM Game & Fish—in federal and state court—in response to unscientific and unethical “Cougar Rule,” and for violating the Endangered Species Act (putting endangered wolves and jaguars at risk).
Persuaded Santa Fe County commission to reject proposal to kill beavers on the Santa Fe River.

2017

Santa Fe bans wild and exotic animal acts.
Bill to ban coyote killing contests advances further than ever, through NM Senate and all House committees.
Game Commission’s motions to dismiss federal case denied by judge—twice!
Bill introduced to challenge automatic euthanasia of wildlife defending themselves, acting naturally when threatened.

humane coexistence.



2

Number of states where recreational cougar trapping is allowed (Texas and New Mexico)

26

Number of cougars killed by traps in New Mexico since the 2015 rule change

\$132,974

Cost to date to challenge NM Game and Fish's illegal and indefensible cougar trapping regulation in state and federal court

?

Number of coyotes killed by traps and snares in New Mexico

New Mexico Department of Game & Fish does not regulate coyotes, and their deaths by traps and snares are ***not even tracked.***

PROMOTING COEXISTENCE WITH WILDLIFE

On the long return drive from a State Game Commission meeting in Clayton, a brief visit to the Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge after fueling up the car was the perfect opportunity to ponder the real impact of APNM's work to end recreational wildlife trapping on public lands. As APNM staff and coalition partners snapped photos of beautiful native birds, we gazed out on the landscape where coyotes, bobcats, and other frequently trapped animals live—and our resolve strengthened.

At the May Commission meeting in Clayton, Senator Pete Campos—sponsor of 2017 legislation to restrict traps on public lands—presented his vision for bringing issue stakeholders together for an exploration of the different perspectives and any possible common ground for future trapping regulation changes. His presentation was met with support from the Commission Chair. Without knowing what the outcome would be, APNM was committed to engaging in every single conversation about wildlife protection.

Since that time, APNM has been a leading voice in shaping those stakeholder meetings throughout 2017, ensuring that the wellbeing of wildlife—as well as public land users and their companion animals—was at the forefront of discussions every step of the way. While making suggestions for changes to regulations, we also hold strong to the simplest solution to address all of our animal cruelty, conservation, and public safety concerns: banning recreational trapping on public lands.

But pro-trapping interests remain oblivious to the large, legitimate, and growing movement to end cruel and indiscriminate wildlife killing, and they have opposed any substantive changes to New Mexico's trapping rules.

One thing is clear: Legislation to restrict public land trapping in New Mexico is more relevant than ever. Momentum continues to build for this policy change, both in terms of public sentiment and as indicated by the progression of APNM's lawsuits (one in state court, and one in federal court) against the State Game Commission for its ill-advised 2015 decision to open a recreational cougar trapping season for the first time in 50 years.

In January 2017, the federal court denied the Commission's motion to dismiss our lawsuit. Then, in November 2017, the court denied a second attempt to get APNM's lawsuit thrown out. The state case now remains on hold while the federal court proceeds to hear the merits of our federal case.

Except for Texas, where cougars have no protections whatsoever, New Mexico is the only other state to allow recreational cougar trapping.

APNM and APV will continue to push the envelope on wildlife protections, and none of the 2017 progress would have been possible without dedicated advocates' and charitable support. We thank everyone who is with us in this fight for humane coexistence with the animals inhabiting New Mexico's vast, beautiful, wild landscapes.

“Injuries from traps and snares are not uncommon due to jaw impact or restrictive compression... Trapped animals can suffer injuries to digits, paws, and limbs, or break their teeth, dislocate their shoulders, or tear ligaments trying to escape the trap... Released non-target animals that suffer soft tissue damage such as torn ligaments may appear outwardly capable of surviving, but in fact, may have suffered injuries that compromise their ability to acquire sufficient prey—thereby resulting in death by starvation days or weeks later.”

Dr. Rick Hopkins, wildlife ecologist and researcher whose work has focused on the study of the lives of mammalian carnivores and threatened and endangered wildlife species





1,491

Number of advocates who wrote their state legislators regarding animal protection legislation during the 2017 state legislative session through APV's online form

8

Number of priority bills APV pursued during 2017 session

38

Total number of animal-related bills APV tracked and acted on during 2017 session

70

Number of APV supporters who lobbied their lawmakers at Animal Protection Lobby Day

4

Number of major anti-animal bills defeated by APV lobbying efforts

"As always you are such a professional, outstanding group. I recently shared your material and agenda with other lobbying groups to be used as an example on how to pull such a [citizen lobby] day together."

Eileen Beaulieu



CHANGING LAWS TO CHANGE LIVES

The night the Santa Fe City Council met to vote on the new ordinance banning wild and exotic animal acts in circuses, it was apparent that animal cruelty is not only morally wrong—it is rightly unpopular, too.

After Animal Protection Voters (APV) staff, supporters, and partners had offered testimony before the council, a video containing behind-the-scenes circus footage was about to begin. It was then that one of only five people in the room opposing the ordinance loudly refused to view the video and walked out of the room. The rest of the room, already moved and convinced to support the ordinance, watched as elephants were beaten by sharp “bullhooks” and left to suffer in chains.

While some laws change quickly and other laws take decades to pass, this remains true: Those who bear witness to animal abuse and suffering will always be driven to fight to change the law, no matter how long it takes.

On September 13, 2017, Santa Fe became the latest city in the United States to reject cruel entertainment by banning wild animal circus acts.



Citizen lobbyist writes a personal letter to her legislators, urging support of animal-friendly legislation

Animal protection laws spearheaded by APV also made remarkable headway at the state level during the 2017 state legislative session. **House Bill 219**, which administratively moved the New Mexico Animal Sheltering Board out of the NM Regulation & Licensing Department and into the New Mexico Board of Veterinary Medicine as the Animal Sheltering Committee, passed the Legislature and was signed by the Governor. The result of this move means:

- Better ability to continue to distribute funds for vital statewide low-cost spay/neuter services,
- Stronger infrastructure for future enforcement of humane euthanasia standards and veterinary care in local shelters, and
- Greater efficiency and capacity for providing resources for companion animals and shelters.

Other bills, while they did not pass, still offer hope and encouragement. Senate Bill 268, a bill introduced for the third time to ban coyote killing contests, advanced further than ever, needing only a House floor vote to pass the Legislature. Senate Bill 286, to ban traps and poisons on public lands, led to the NM Department of Game and Fish agreeing to bring stakeholders together to consider regulation changes. House Bill 390, a bill that would allow homeless horses in the custody of the New Mexico Livestock Board to first go

to rescues, rather than be automatically auctioned for possible slaughter, passed overwhelmingly in its first year of introduction, although it was later pocket-vetoed by Governor Susana Martinez.

And not a single bad anti-animal bill passed, including an anti-whistleblower “ag-gag” bill that targeted drone surveillance of factory farms, and a constitutional amendment to enshrine an unnecessary “right to hunt” that would disallow future wildlife protection measures.

2017 proved to be a positive year for pro-animal legislation, and for building momentum for future policy changes. APV will continue to bear witness to cruelty and fight to change the laws to change animals’ lives.

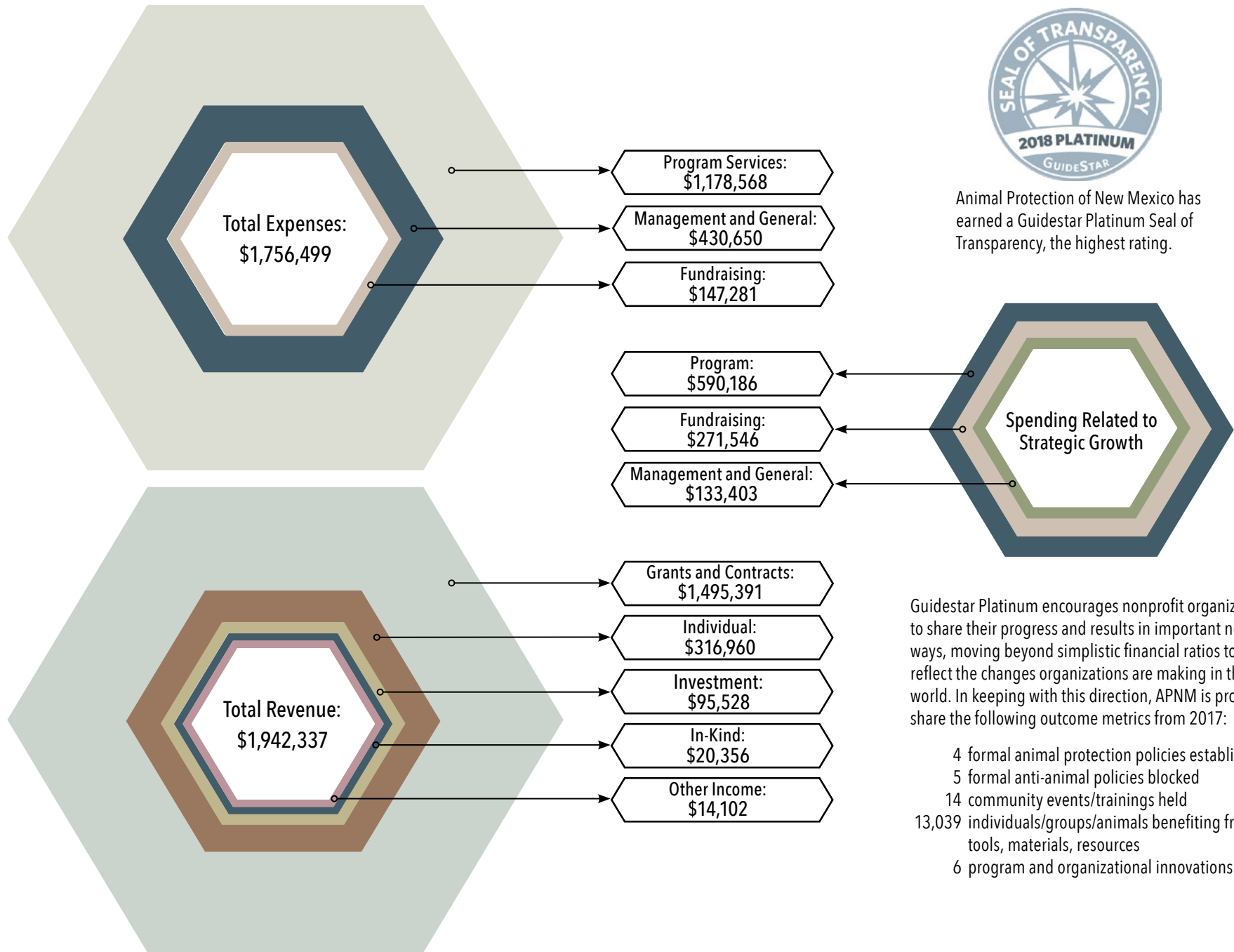


Citizen lobbyists, prepared and ready to meet with their legislators



Rep. Daymon Ely addresses Lobby Day attendees while a therapy dog listens in

FINANCIAL REPORT



SERVICES

Animal Cruelty Hotline

Report suspected animal cruelty.

1-877-5-HUMANE

505-265-2322, ext. 29

Beaver Landowner Guide

Information on non-lethal coexistence with this vital species.

www.apnm.org/beaverguide

CARE (Companion Animal Rescue Effort) Helpline

Request help (temporary foster care) for animals affected by domestic violence.

505-803-3770

care@apnm.org

Disaster Preparedness Guide

Information to help you prepare.

www.apnm.org/disasterprep

Equine Protection Fund

Request help for equines in need.

epf@apnm.org

Legislative Scorecards

See how legislators have voted on animal protection issues. Animal Protection Voters produces a Scorecard annually.

www.apnm.org/scorecards/

NM Animal Laws

Local and state laws that affect animals in New Mexico, organized by city, county, tribe.

www.apnm.org/publications/animal_law/

NM Animal Resources Guide

List of animal-related agencies, organizations, and law enforcement (a valuable resource for those wanting to get more involved in animal welfare).

www.apnm.org/animalresourceguide

Shelter Savvy

Resources and support for the animal shelter community.

www.apnm.org/sheltersavvy

Spay/Neuter Resources

List of low-cost and no-cost spay/neuter programs within New Mexico, organized by county.

www.apnm.org/spayneuter

Vegan Recipes/Dining Guide

Starting point for learning more.

www.apnm.org/veganguide

What to Do with Injured/Sick Wildlife

General information and resources listed by county and by animal type.

www.apnm.org/injuredwildlife

WAYS TO HELP

Support APNM

Make a donation and make a difference for animals throughout the state.

www.apnm.org

Help Horses (and other equines)

Make a donation to our Equine Protection Fund to provide hay, veterinary services, and more to equines in need.

www.EquineProtectionFund.org

Leave a Legacy

Utilize charitable strategies to show your compassion for animals. For ideas: www.apnm.org/giving

Help Chimps Reach Sanctuary

Make a donation to help the remaining New Mexico chimps get to sanctuary...before it's too late.

www.ChimpsToSanctuary.org

Support Animal Friendly Laws

Contribute to Animal Protection Voters to ensure animals have a voice in the State Capitol.

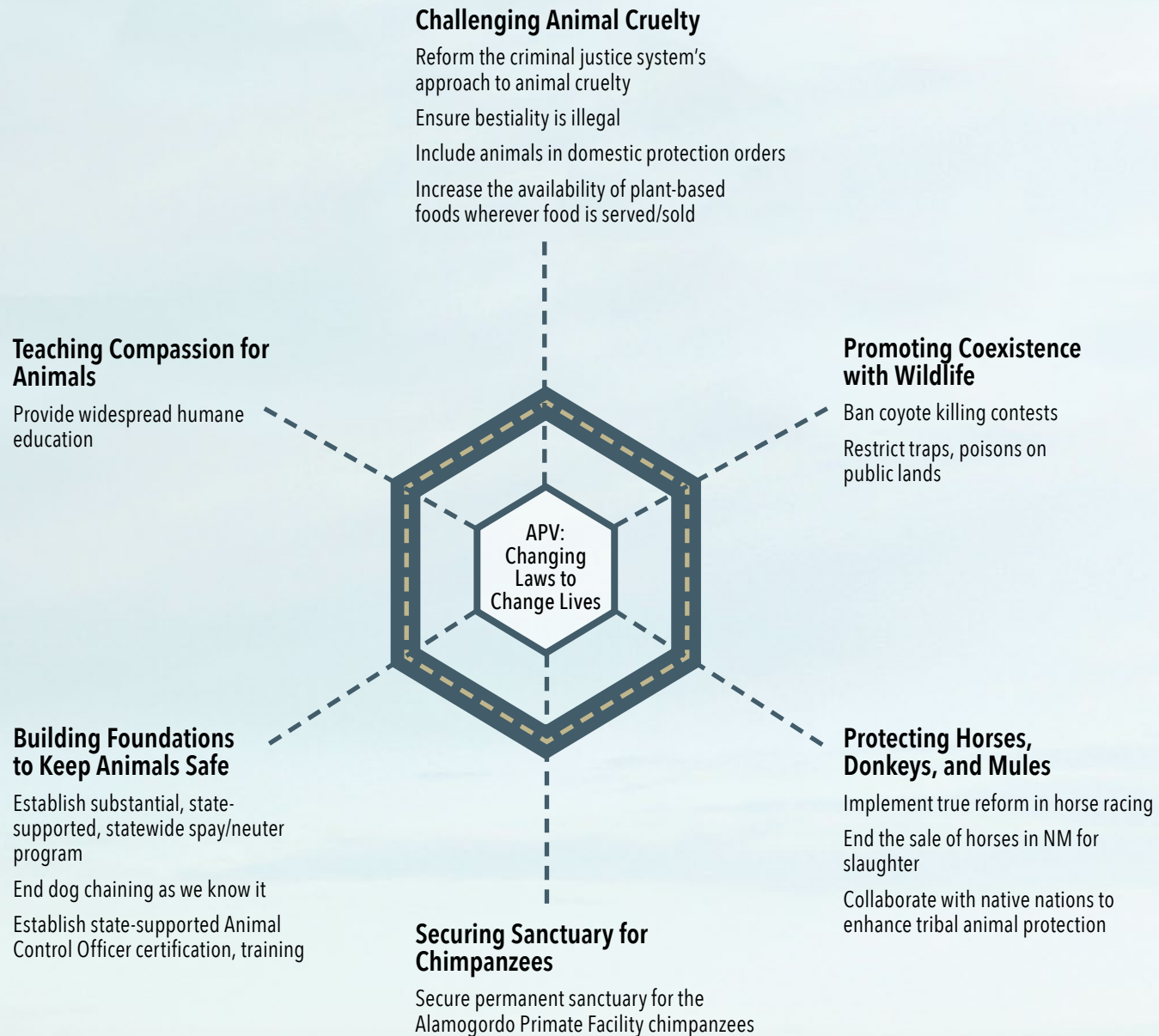
www.apnm.org

Volunteer

Consider volunteering. Learn more:

www.apnm.org/get_involved/volunteer.php

THE DECADE AHEAD: APNM AND APV WORK TOGETHER TO CHANGE THE FUTURE FOR ANIMALS



"Humanity can no longer stand by in silence while our wildlife are being used, abused, and exploited. It is time we all stand together, to be the voice of the voiceless, before it's too late."

Paul Oxtan



Please help us continue this work.

Donate to APNM: apnm.org/donate

Donate to APV: apvnm.org/donate

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.

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Animal Protection of New Mexico

Animal Protection Voters

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"Most caring people stop their cars to allow wildlife to cross the road or are willing to aid an injured animal. However, fewer people take the time to make a bequest to an organization with a proven track record of saving vulnerable animals from harm. I have included APNM/ APV in my estate planning, because they are just that kind of organization. It's the easiest and most effective way to help animals who need us the most."

JC Corcoran, Santa Fe

"We've chosen to include APNM in our estate planning because of its focus on systemic change, its proven effectiveness, and its dedication to a compassionate and just vision for nearly 40 years. Our dream is to support APNM in this work as far into the future as we can."

*Susan Diaz and Steven DeRoma,
Albuquerque*