

MAKING TRACKS

A PUBLICATION OF ANIMAL PROTECTION OF NEW MEXICO 2018 ISSUE 1



Life. Untethered.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends of the Animals,

With the 2018 legislative session just barely in our rear view mirror, it's a perfect time to remember the many opportunities animal advocates have to make a marked difference in the lives of animals—*right in our own communities*. So many of you took important action for animals during the 30-day session of the New Mexico State Legislature. *Thank you.*

New Mexico is unique in so many ways, but one way stands out in our favor: the relatively small population of our state. This means that the degrees of separation among **all** of us are fairly few. For example, if we need to reach an important policymaker to discuss our serious animal protection issues but we don't know them personally, chances are that someone we know *does* know that person. Please think about the connections you have that can help animals and let us know.

Further, being able to reach our legislators and other policymakers in a meaningful way is a lot easier in New Mexico, since our citizen legislators make themselves very available to their constituents. This is especially so outside the chaotic atmosphere of busy legislative sessions.

As you look around the state and evaluate all the many ways in which animals are regularly in danger of harm, please remember that *you* can make a difference in their lives. It is no exaggeration to say that ***your voice and your actions matter tremendously***. For example:

Is it possible for you to spearhead changes to a local ordinance to protect dogs kept on chains, or those forced to perform in circuses?

Do you know the owners of animal-related businesses like veterinarians, boarding kennels, groomers, etc. who could help our Companion Animal Rescue Effort (CARE) initiative provide services for victims of domestic violence and their animals?

Could you promote New Mexico's spay-neuter license plate in your neighborhood or at your workplace?

Do you belong to a book club, civic group, or other organization that could promote animal initiatives?

Do you know tax preparers who would inform their clients about the opportunity to donate their state tax refunds to help spay and neuter dogs and cats (via the Animal Care & Facility Fund), and/or help homeless horses (via the Horse Shelter Rescue Fund)?

As you can see, **local** opportunities to help animals are only limited by your imagination. Contact us if the idea of magnifying your advocacy for animals appeals to you. Thank you, as always, for starting with your caring heart and moving it into action.

Sincerely yours,

Elisabeth Jennings
Executive Director

MAKING TRACKS™

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On the Cover: Stormy. Photo by
Jim Snowden.

A Fence Makes All the Difference



Stormy. Photo by Lyndi Martinez/APNM

The joy of an untethered dog is a heartwarming sight. Stormy is living proof. APNM's *Humane Communities: Santa Fe* initiative recently began a pilot fencing project, designed to improve the lives of dogs who are tethered outside for lack of a suitable fenced enclosure. Stormy, a lively young dog, and her family were the lucky recipients of the project's very first fence, constructed in Santa Fe County.

Continued next page

As a pilot initiative, the *Humane Communities* team is working case by case, enlisting the support of local animal services officers and tips from community members to approach potential candidates for a dog fence. Once it's clear that help is needed and welcomed, the team moves ahead with planning the design and construction.

Santa Fe County is of particular interest because in January of 2017, the Santa Fe Board of County Commissioners responded to overwhelming public support and unanimously approved a ban on tethering any animal, except in a few restricted circumstances. The 2017 improvements to the Santa Fe County Animal Control Ordinance marked the first amendments to the ordinance in more than 25 years. A citizen advisory committee is working on the implementation details, including necessary public education about the new law, which becomes effective in mid-2018.

An anonymous tip brought Stormy to our attention. APNM Program Manager Eileen McCarthy and APNM Program Coordinator Lyndi Martinez reached out to Stormy's family. The family adopted Stormy when she was a puppy and she soon became a beloved part of the family. Although she sleeps indoors at night, she is a high-energy girl who always wants to know what is happening outdoors. And her family couldn't afford to build a fence to keep her safely in the backyard. That meant Stormy spent her days tethered outside. All the neighbors loved Stormy and visited her regularly, but they were concerned about her well-being, too. APNM was pleased to be able to offer the help that was needed in order to make a sad situation better, safer, and more humane.

Because Stormy's fence had to be built to accommodate a sloping hill, APNM needed the help of professionals. **High Country Fencing** in Santa Fe knew exactly how to tackle

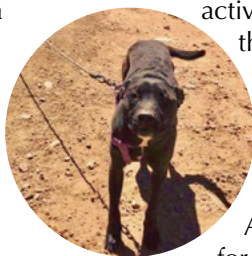
the challenge. Plans in place, they put up posts on one day, and returned several days later to construct the entire fence. The day the fence went up, Stormy enjoyed all the activity and attention. Everyone wondered if she knew that all this activity was just for her!

The end result was a beautiful fence with two gates and a large yard for Stormy which adjoined her family's home. Stormy could now enjoy playing in her yard, and relaxing under the portal.

As the workers left, the team checked the fence for anything that could possibly injure a curious, energetic young dog. Everyone's excitement grew, until Stormy's family removed her tether, led her through a gate, and released her. The *Humane Communities* team was holding back tears as Stormy immediately raced up the hill to give them all kisses. Although a few tears may have been shed, Stormy kissed them away as she ran back and forth from person to person, stopping to check out features of her yard along the way. For just the cost of a fence, a renewed sense of freedom and happiness was gained by all.

Stormy's family said:

"We are so happy for Stormy, and thankful to Animal Protection of New Mexico for building this awesome area and that Stormy does not have to be tied up anymore. She looks so much happier and we were so happy to be able to help her with that little bit of freedom and security."



APNM is very grateful to the Doris Goodwin Walbridge Foundation for their generous support to make the work of *Humane Communities: Santa Fe* possible. We welcome donations to our *Humane Communities* fencing fund, so that we can continue to build more fences and let more dogs experience the joy of an untethered life.

APNM's Humane Communities team cuddles with Stormy. Photo by Jim Snowden.



BREAKING NEWS

2018 LEGISLATIVE RECAP

Funding for Statewide, Affordable, Accessible Spay/Neuter Services? Taxpayer Savings on Lowered Sheltering and Euthanasia Costs? Mirror Bills HB 64 and SB 51 Got Us Closer Than Ever

Every year a bill is reintroduced, there are no guarantees that it will follow the previous path with the same support. So when Animal Protection Voters (APV) sat with House Bill (HB) 64 sponsors before the House Business & Industry Committee—where the same legislation creating a spay/neuter funding mechanism from pet food manufacturer fees had passed the prior year—we were prepared to advocate fully without taking anything for granted.

That preparation paid off, as the committee testimony and debate on HB 64 lasted over one hour. When the committee finally passed the bill by a 7-4 vote, APV staff and supporters soon acknowledged that the legislation still needed to overcome the difficult obstacle last year's bill faced: a Senate Finance Committee hearing.

Geared up for the next steps on both bills, our lobby team and supporters were soon thrilled to hear the great news—Senate Bill 51 was scheduled for a Senate Finance Committee hearing!

The hearing went well and SB 51 passed the Senate Finance Committee by a unanimous 12-0 vote. Now we knew it was possible that one of the bills could reach the Governor's desk. Soon thereafter it was HB 64 that passed through the entire New Mexico Legislature and made its way to Governor Susana Martinez. APV staff worked around the clock to cultivate astounding levels of additional support for the legislation and delivered key

information to the Governor, the one person with the power to make the bill a law.

Unfortunately, the Governor chose to veto the bill. We shared everyone's utter disappointment, and thought of the 70,000 homeless dogs and cats that would be euthanized in the next year, with nothing new in place to begin to make a real difference in reversing New Mexico's expensive and tragic pet overpopulation problem.


But all of us who've been involved in the Legislature know that changing laws takes time, sometimes a long time. This session saw more progress and more support for the bill from an even broader segment of the community than last year. That momentum gives us hope for 2019, when we will see a new Governor in office who may see more clearly the humane and cost-saving benefits of enacting HB 64's funding mechanism.

Our message to you is this: Don't give up now. When we are this close, please stay with this effort and keep pushing forward. The only way we will truly fail is if we stop trying—and we cannot afford to do that. New Mexico's dogs and cats are counting on us.

Why Raise the Manufacturer Fees on Pet Food?

Other states—including those smaller than New Mexico—charge pet food manufacturers higher annual fees and dedicate those funds to low-cost spay/neuter services. In those states, animal shelter intake and euthanasia numbers have decreased, and the pet food industry continues to thrive. Even if pet food manufacturers passed along HB 64's fee increase to consumers by proportionally increasing retail prices, the result would be mere pennies: the best estimates showed New Mexican families would spend only \$1.38 per dog/cat for an entire year. And on the back-end, far fewer of our tax dollars would go toward euthanizing healthy adoptable animals in our shelters.

Above: Roundhouse Day, 2018. Left to right: Senator Howie Morales; attendees listen closely in the Roundhouse; Representative Carl Trujillo; and Brooke Garcia, Stacy Gruber, and Bobbie Jo Billy (Navajo tribal members and representatives of Gallup-McKinley County Humane Society). Photos by Joseph Newman.



“We were living in a van because we didn’t want to leave our dogs...The shelters couldn’t take us because of them.”

Helping Animals and People Through CARE: “We couldn’t have made it without you.”

Tina* and her mother, Emma,* had escaped an abusive situation. But—with three dogs to care for—their options were few.

“We were living in a van because we didn’t want to leave our dogs,” Tina told APNM. “The shelters couldn’t take us because of them.”

After a shelter advocate connected the women to **APNM’s Companion Animal Rescue Effort (CARE)**, the dogs were immediately given veterinary care and boarding, and Tina and Emma found safety at a domestic violence shelter in Valencia County. Last November, the women and their healthy canines were joyfully reunited at the family’s new home.

New Funding Boosts CARE

CARE’s ability to help people like Tina and Emma got a boost in 2017 when APNM applied for and received two new grants for the program.

The first was a two-year **Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)** federal grant for \$17,085. APNM salutes the New Mexico Crime Victims Reparation Commission, which administers the VOCA grant, for recognizing that **animals can be victims of domestic violence, too,**

and that ensuring their safety saves both human and animal lives. This is because people often put their own safety at risk to protect their companion animals from harm. This recent federal grant is APNM’s first in several years.

PetSmart Charities also awarded CARE a \$10,000 grant to help fund the Helpline and recruit temporary foster homes throughout New Mexico. Interested in joining CARE’s network of 115 providers? Please contact us at 505-803-3770 to learn more.

“We wouldn’t have made it without you,” Tina told the CARE staff after she, her mother, and the dogs were settled in their new home. “This is a very special Thanksgiving for us because we are able to be together, and it wouldn’t have been possible without you.”

And CARE wouldn’t be possible without the generous support of caring people like you, as well as the funders who increasingly understand that companion animals are family, too.

**Names changed.*

Santa Fe

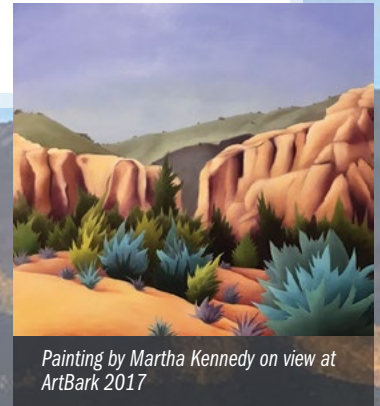
Animal Protection Voters testified before the Santa Fe City Council and Mayor in support of a local ban on wild or exotic animal acts, such as in circuses or other traveling acts. Wild animals in these acts are forced to perform tricks through abuse and intimidation, and are cruelly confined or chained for prolonged periods of time when not performing. Thankfully, the Council approved the measure by an 8-1 vote and the new ordinance is now in effect, ensuring humane entertainment options in Santa Fe.



Santa Fe City Councilor Signe Lindell and APV's Jessica Johnson

Las Vegas

APNM's *Humane Communities: Las Vegas* initiative helped to promote **ArtBark 2017**, a creative fundraiser benefitting the Animal Welfare Coalition of Northeastern New Mexico (AWC Pet Center/Las Vegas Animal Shelter). Kicking off the holiday season with a festive celebration at the Kennedy Alumni Hall Art Gallery at New Mexico Highlands University, the evening was highlighted by an impressive array of donated artwork, live music by the Mild Rovers, and strong community support.



Painting by Martha Kennedy on view at ArtBark 2017

Albuquerque

In October, the international animal rights organization, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), gave a motivational presentation in Albuquerque as part of their Unstoppable tour. APNM was proud to sponsor this presentation that highlighted PETA's work to stop animal abuse all over the globe and honored the work of local animal advocates. Jess Weston, Valencia County Animal Shelter Director, received formal recognition from PETA President Ingrid Newkirk, for the shelter's transformative work to protect animals in New Mexico.

Las Cruces

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Las Cruces, through their Social Justice Committee, officially added animal advocacy to their mission in 2017. APNM welcomed the chance to connect with Las Cruces' lively UU community last November. Senator Jeff Steinborn, a wildlife advocate who sponsored a bill in 2017 to ban coyote killing contests, and animal-friendly Representative Bill McCamley also spoke at the gathering.



**Witness animal cruelty or neglect? Call the APNM
Cruelty Hotline 1-877-5-HUMANE**

We can help and refer the situation to the right agency in your area. Confidentially.

Sophia's Giving Circle of Placitas is a group of altruistic Placitas residents who lovingly and generously provide for those in need. One endeavor they have taken on is the sponsorship of *The Animal Connection* curriculum for the 4th-grade classes at Algodones Elementary. This is the second year *The Animal Connection* has served this rural community, and the evaluations clearly show that the teachers, parents, and students are truly appreciative.

In the teachers' words:

"I wish this program was mandatory for all schools... my students share the information from the lessons with their parents. The program enforced the lesson of caring that I try to establish..."

"Our community has many stray dogs making it so necessary to have this program... Students need to understand the responsibilities that accompany having a pet and Sherry (APNM Education Director) spelled that out very clearly. They got it...We are working on being kind to each other and this program works hand in hand with our efforts..."

Parents echo the program's success in teaching both responsibility and empathy:

"Thank you...I know my child enjoyed learning a lot about taking care of animals...she wants the dogs inside at

night...she wants us to brush the dogs' teeth... she checks their collars with two fingers to make sure they aren't too tight...She loved this program and always had something new to teach us..."

"He has taken in two puppies he found beside the trash bins. He was unhappy the way he found them. He discussed with me that pets need to be taken care of, fed, groomed, loved...like a human child."

And the students' comments indicate that their empathy and concern for the humane treatment of animals transitioned into empathy and concern for their peers:

"My favorite part of the program was the therapy dogs. Dogs haven't always been nice to me. Those dogs were all nice to me."

"There is a beautiful Husky on the four way stop and he is on a chain. I want to help that Husky becuz he is on a big chain."

"If I saw someone being mean I would ask them why are you doing that? I would tell a teacher and I would ask what's wrong because there is always a reason a bully does this..."

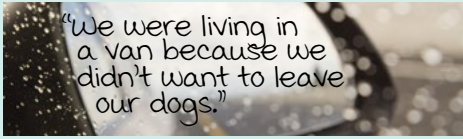
Thank you, Sophia's Giving Circle of Placitas, for making such wonderful things happen in Algodones and its surrounding communities.

A Giving Circle in Action

Photo by Cindy Wacek/APNM



You've Read the Stories. Are You Ready to Help?



Helping Animals and People Through CARE

If you don't have any companion animals of your own, please consider becoming a foster home provider for animal victims of domestic violence. **Email care@apnm.org to learn more.**



A Fence Makes All the Difference

Help more dogs experience life, untethered. Please consider making a donation so we can bring fences to more dogs in need. **apnm.org/donate**



Breaking News: 2018 Legislative Update

It takes humane legislators to pass humane laws. **Get involved and learn more at apvnm.org.**

APNM YOUR GIVING MATTERS

If writing a check and sending it off to your favorite charity feels a bit ho-hum, you may enjoy a giving circle. Joining with others to support a cause you believe in can make giving not only more impactful but also more fun.

Sophia's Giving Circle of Placitas is a special source of support for APNM. This group of friends decided to focus their philanthropy in their own Sandoval County, home to the peaceful communities of Placitas, Bernalillo, and San Felipe Pueblo. APNM's *The Animal Connection* curriculum at Algodones Elementary School has been the proud recipient of the group's combined generosity for two years.


Susan Siebert, a member of Sophia's Giving Circle of Placitas, not only donates to the program but also sits in on presentations during the 12-week course. Along with the 4th graders, Susan has gotten to know Sherry Mangold, APNM's education outreach director, and the gentle rescued therapy dogs who interact with the students.

"'Ms. Sherry' is a fantastic ambassador for pets' nurturance and awareness," says Susan Siebert. "The kids love her. She knows how to talk to that age group; she is real, non-judgmental, and very charismatic in her delivery."

"Sometimes the subject matter is disturbing," Susan says. "Yesterday I got to handle a very heavy chain that was around a rescued dog's neck. Every child did. But Ms. Sherry sheds light on the positive things that come from love and compassion."

Susan says she and the class's teacher sit together in the back of the room during *The Animal Connection* sessions. "She whispers her wish that every school could have this program," Susan says. "I am so proud to be a part of this project."

Are you interested in a deeper level of involvement and greater impact as a donor? Consider starting a giving circle to magnify your ability to give. We can help! Reach out to Elizabeth Wolf, chief development officer, at elizabeth@apnm.org or 505-933-1123.



The Magic of Giving Circles



A Tribute to a Leader and a Maverick

Florence Krick-Jimenez

New Mexico's animal protection community lost a dedicated and talented friend when Florence Krick-Jimenez of Albuquerque died in late 2017. Without a doubt, throughout her life, Florence was a one-woman force determined to make a positive impact on her community.

Florence had an appreciation and love for all animals, and she found a way to incorporate her passion for animals into everything she did. As a teacher, she inspired her many students to care about animals. Beyond her vocation, Florence was a prolific painter, focusing on the various animal species and their unique qualities. She especially appreciated the humor, beauty, and intelligence she discovered in animals, and her paintings conveyed those qualities.

In 1981, frustrated with what she saw around her in Albuquerque, Florence (along with three other women) co-founded the Albuquerque-based animal rescue organization, New Mexico Animal Friends (nmaf.org). Together, the women developed a network of foster homes for dogs and cats—placing about 40 animals—and they ensured medical care for one horse, all in the organization's first year. As their organization grew, their mission expanded to include more medical care for animals and a robust Trap/Neuter/Return program for cats. Today, NMAF continues to make a meaningful difference for New Mexico's animals.

At the 2015 Milagro Awards celebration, APNM was honored to receive an extensive collection of Florence's animal-themed paintings that APNM offered for sale in a silent auction to benefit all of our programs. In a way, through her artwork, Florence has shared an essential part of herself with many caring New Mexicans.

Because of her dedication to animals, her enduring generosity, and her belief in the ability of every person to make a positive difference, Florence will be deeply missed by New Mexico's animal advocates.

Animals *Still* in Circuses?

For many years, APNM has opposed animal circuses, which force wild animals to perform confusing and painful tricks through violence and intimidation. These acts are cruel and set a poor example for our communities. This issue has been gathering momentum in recent years, and in 2017, moved to the forefront again.

In February of 2017, APNM's Cruelty Case Manager received from an anonymous tipster a video of captive performing elephants held backstage at the Albuquerque stop of the Shrine Circus tour. The video showed two elephants: one backstage, rocking and swaying in apparent distress, displaying an abnormal stereotypic behavior that is a sign of stress; a second elephant displayed stiffness of the hindlimbs indicative of pain, swinging her left hind leg outward as she leaned her weight to the right side while walking. APNM's cruelty case manager wrote the Shriners asking that they stop using animal acts, and issued a press release to shine a light on these incidents and the inherent cruelty of such acts.

Following that case, APNM learned the Garden Brothers Circus tour would be making stops in New Mexico in June and July, featuring elephants owned by Carson & Barnes Circus. Carson & Barnes has a history of animal abuse, including citations for failing to provide animals with adequate veterinary care and forcibly striking an elephant with a bullhook—a sharp steel-tipped weapon resembling a fireplace poker. APNM's cruelty case manager sent letters to local officials and venues across the state, requesting that they not allow the animals to perform. ***Although many of the shows went on as planned, that was not the case in Rio Rancho and Santa Fe: The Santa Fe event was cancelled at the last minute, and the Rio Rancho show proceeded, but without performing animals.***

In November of 2017, APNM's cruelty case manager traveled to Washington, D.C. to attend a PETA-sponsored summit on circus animals, joining representatives from the Humane Society of the United States, the Performing Animal Welfare Society, and other groups concerned about the use of animals in circuses. This opportunity to meet with like-minded activists allowed for a review of the status quo for animals in circuses, and discussions about legislative efforts, key targets, and outreach strategies.

Please sign up for our eAlerts to receive the latest news on ways to make a difference in the lives of long-suffering animals held and used against their will in circuses performing in New Mexico. Visit apnm.org/maillinglist to subscribe.

Asparagus and Beet Salad

Spring brings asparagus season and the yearning for a really great salad. This fresh and elegant way to serve asparagus will not disappoint. Try adding roasted carrots for even more vibrant color. Serves 4.

(Recipe adapted from *The Rebar Modern Food Cookbook*)

Ingredients

Vinaigrette

- 1 cup fresh orange juice
- zest of one orange, minced
- 1 shallot, minced
- 2 TBS raspberry or other vinegar
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/2 cup hazelnut oil or vegetable oil

Salad

- 6 oz mixed salad greens
- 4 small beets, roasted
- 1 lb asparagus spears
- 2 TBS chopped hazelnuts, roasted and skins removed*

Directions

Pour orange juice into a small, non-reactive pot and bring to a simmer over medium high heat. Continue to simmer until the liquid is reduced to half a cup. Cool to room temperature. Combine reduction with the next four ingredients and whisk while slowly drizzling in the oil. Set aside while preparing the vegetables.

Peel and slice the beets into rounds or wedges. Toss in a baking pan with olive oil and salt. Bake at 400° for 15-20 minutes until tender. Cool.

Steam or blanch asparagus until just tender. Shock in a bowl of ice water, drain, and spread out on a clean kitchen towel to dry.

Divide greens evenly among individual salad plates. Arrange beet slices and asparagus spears among the greens, drizzle with vinaigrette, and garnish with chopped hazelnuts.

*Skinning hazelnuts:

Bring 4 cups water and 1/4 cup baking soda to a boil. Add 2 cups hazelnuts. Blanch until the water turns black (3-5 mins). Rinse nuts in a colander under cold running water. The skins will slip right off. Dry in a clean kitchen towel and roast in a 325° oven until golden and fragrant.



Want to Up Your Game? Go Vegan

Recent news stories about the benefits of a vegan diet have gone well beyond Food sections in news outlets. The benefits of a vegan diet have been prominently and frequently featured in Sports news as well. That's because more and more athletes—especially professional athletes—are discovering the additional edge they can enjoy by adopting a vegan diet based on nutritious, whole foods. NFL star Tom Brady

is reportedly 80% vegan, and a stunning 11 members of the Tennessee Titans adopted a vegan diet within the last year because they are convinced it helps them lose weight, recover faster, and play better. Other athletes with a vegan/vegetarian edge include several NBA stars, tennis great Venus Williams, and snowboarder Hannah Teeter. **Find out what a vegan diet can do for you and try some recipes at apnm.org/vegan.**



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Making sure animals matter in every New Mexican community.



Wedding? Birthday? Animal Adoption?

Whatever the occasion, consider giving a donation gift to APNM or APV for a truly memorable and special way to mark the event. Donations of \$25 or more include a beautiful announcement card for the recipient. Choose from the “in memory of” collection to remember a departed loved

one, or “in honor of” to celebrate someone on their special occasion. Each 5” x 7” card is beautifully printed in color and hand-addressed. Contact tisha@apnm.org to give your special gift. Visit apnm.org/support/in-memory.php to see the full collection of cards available.

APNM **FACES**



Photo by Randy Nargi

Jessi Princiotto started saying *no* to animal abuse while still in high school, when she refused to participate in an animal dissection lab. Growing up in New York City, she first got involved in animal advocacy through the *Horses Don't Belong in Traffic* campaign and has been involved in helping animals ever since.

Her career started at two NYC ad agencies, where she learned from award-winning art directors, copywriters, photographers, and illustrators. Next, she spent 17 years in Seattle, moved to New Mexico in 2007, then back to the Northwest in 2013. She is frequently working on-site here in New Mexico, and believes that there is nowhere as special and beautiful in the entire country.

In her professional work, she has helped guide nonprofits in health care, education, and animal welfare to achieve bigger, better results. She is the author of *Mall Dogs: Love and Adoption at a Retail Animal Shelter* and has more than 25 years experience advocating for animals (hands-on rescue to legislative advocacy) with organizations in New York, New Mexico, Oregon, and Washington.

When not working for New Mexico's animals as APNM's marketing director, she serves on the board of the Bend Spay+Neuter Project in Oregon, is an avid photographer and painter, and loves hanging out with her husband, Randy, and three beautiful, adopted dogs: ChoCho, Lucia, and Whiskey.