OUR APPROACH

We refer to our work as full-circle advocacy, in recognition of the value of efforts by both Animal Protection of New Mexico, and its legislative arm, Animal Protection Voters. Our powerful approach means we don’t just call for change. Rather, we do our homework, thoroughly research the impacts that policy changes will have, and create the conditions on the ground that make change possible, valuable, and sustainable. Then we continue—relentlessly—to push for changes in policies and practices that consider the animals’ point of view.

For example, when we pushed to make sure horse slaughter could not get a foothold in our state, we developed a dramatically stronger safety net for at-risk horses, mules, and donkeys in New Mexico. We believe that equines deserve humane treatment throughout their lives, and our Equine Protection Fund services directly and pragmatically support that position. Through feed assistance, veterinary/farrier care, and gelding/immunocontraceptive birth prevention methods that have helped so many equines and their families, we are proving that a strong equine safety net is both effective and feasible.

In all of APNM/APV’s programs, our sensible approach brings us closer, every day, to our vision: to make humane the new normal in New Mexico.

Elisabeth Jennings, Executive Director
Animal Protection of New Mexico
Animal Protection Voters

Anne Coller, Board President
Animal Protection of New Mexico

Robert Schutz, Board President
Animal Protection Voters
2019 BIG WINS & EFFORTS

- Coyote killing contests banned statewide
- More equine direct services, more help for wild/free-roaming horses, exposing horse racing cruelties
- Relentless efforts to get chimps to sanctuary
- New statewide animal shelter survey
- Saved lives through the Animal Cruelty Hotline and the CARE domestic violence helpline
- Changed hearts with *The Animal Connection* humane education curriculum
- Aided families with our Humane Communities projects in Santa Fe County, Mora County, McKinley County, and Santa Rosa
2019: SUSTAINABILITY & CAPACITY BUILDING

PROGRAMS

- Growth of the Equine Protection Fund Endowment to $1.2 million should yield over $40,000 annually for equine direct services by December 2022
- Expansion of Humane Communities: McKinley County to include outreach and direct services for dogs at risk, in addition to funding animal transfers to other states
- Expanded capacity for humane education curriculum

OPERATIONS

- Robust APNM operating reserves (a nonprofit best practice)
- “Clean,” unqualified APNM/APNM Foundation 2018 audit (done in 2019)
- Expanded development department to generate increased funding for programs
- Growth in APV income and support
- Budget discipline, data-driven decisions
- Continuous improvement across the organization
- Strategic and annual planning
- Magnified volunteer engagement
“For me, it comes down to a question of whether I am a man or just a consumer. Whether to reason or just to rationalize. Whether to heed my conscience or my every craving, to assert my free will or just my will. Whether to side with the powerful and comfortable or with the weak, afflicted, and forgotten.”

–Matthew Scully, author, journalist, speech writer
CARE Program Services exist to save the lives of those affected by domestic violence. By coordinating temporary foster care for the animals of those affected by domestic violence, we help empower them to leave the abusive environment...so that victims of domestic violence become survivors. In 2019, our Helpline answered 88 calls about 202 animals. We coordinated temporary foster care services for 104 animals (from 35 families). We utilized our network of 111 CARE Network Providers. And we reunited 51 animals with their families, all now safe from domestic violence.

Humane Communities brings spay/neuter, fencing, and animal protection to specific communities through local partnerships. Humane Communities implements on-the-ground initiatives aimed at improving the welfare of animals. We identify and deliver support specific to the local needs and challenges of communities within each locality. By uniting residents, local leaders, and businesses to improve the welfare of animals, we have been able to advance effective solutions and enable sustainable change. In 2019, we helped secure funding for 300 spay/neuter surgeries in Santa Rosa, funded the transfer of 3,679 McKinley County animals to out-of-state shelters for a greater chance of adoption, provided doghouses and straw for 40 dogs, and funded 244 spay/neuters and 182 Rabies vaccinations in Mora County. We also funded 20 Animal Control Officer (ACO) training scholarships for ACO’s in 11 counties. And 10 dogs in Santa Fe got off tethers and now enjoy the freedom of a fenced backyard through our fencing initiative. In July, the Santa Fe ordinance limiting dog tethering went into effect (we helped pass it in 2018).
Two dogs enjoy their safe new backyard enclosure. Through our Humane Communities: Santa Fe project, we help provide fencing to eligible families so their dogs can experience time outside, safely, without being tethered.

Through our Humane Communities work, in coordination with Soul Dog Rescue, a free spay/neuter clinic in Santa Rosa was fully booked, and delivered safe sterilization surgeries for 300 dogs and cats.

Reunions between CARE clients and their animals are always emotional.
CHALLENGING ANIMAL CRUELTY

APNM’s powerful approach to challenging animal cruelty begins with our operation of the Animal Cruelty Hotline. When calls or emails come into the Hotline, the Animal Cruelty Manager utilizes a network of contacts throughout the state to refer cases to the appropriate law enforcement agency. With rigorous follow up, we keep the case open until a resolution is achieved. The Hotline also serves a powerful secondary role: we track and analyze data to evaluate trends in animal cruelty and to determine priorities for potential policy changes. The Hotline also identifies areas of the state that could benefit from additional law enforcement training and humane education. In this regard, the Hotline serves as a crucial incubator for longer-term, systemic change, which is central to APNM’s mission.

In 2019, our Animal Cruelty Hotline answered **537 calls**. Of those calls, **215 were concerning dog abuse or neglect**. The others included **60 requests for information**, **27 concerning horse neglect**, and **19 calls related to multiple animals at the same site**.

APNM’s Cruelty Hotline Manager is also a subject matter expert and speaks out for animals in various capacities. In 2019, he fought for justice for the endangered wolf named Mia Tuk who was trapped and killed on public land; he spoke at the County Commissioners meeting in support of the Sierra County animal ordinance (which passed); and he worked with city councilors in Santa Fe to build momentum and support for future ordinance improvements regarding extreme weather protocols, safe living conditions for dogs, and dog chaining. He was quoted in the New York Times regarding a cruelty case involving a Cooper’s Hawk found dead in a cage trap, and its relation to violation of the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act.
Mia Tuk (similar to the wolf pictured above) was one of only 87 endangered Mexican gray wolves left in New Mexico.
APNM has worked diligently to ensure that all chimpanzees currently held on Holloman Air Force Base at Alamogordo Primate Facility (APF) be moved to sanctuary so they will have a chance at a richer quality of life. We worked for decades to help the United States end the use of chimpanzees for invasive biomedical testing, and helped support 94 New Mexican chimpanzees in reaching sanctuary in recent years. Ending invasive research on chimpanzees was a long, hard fight, but we could not stop there. Supporting excellent sanctuary care is crucial for the surviving chimpanzees, helping to right some of the great wrongs humans inflicted upon these individuals.

Our Chimpanzee Freedom Party, attended by guest speakers Dr. Sheri Speede of Sanaga-Yong Chimpanzee Rescue in Cameroon, and Bill Woldman from the office of U.S. Senator Tom Udall brought compassionate changemakers of all types together for education, advocacy, and celebration.

And when the National Institutes of Health (NIH) announced in October that none of the 44 chimpanzees remaining in Alamogordo should reach sanctuary, we redoubled our efforts, adding a Washington, DC office; securing powerful, bi-partisan leadership (Senators Udall, Heinrich (D-NM) & Senator Cassidy (R-LA)) who urged the NIH to transfer the APF chimps to sanctuary; and earning media coverage of the plight of the chimps at APF in The New York Times, multiple front-page stories in the Albuquerque Journal, KOAT-TV coverage, and more.
Alamogordo chimps, Nichole and TJ, share a grooming session at Chimp Haven in 2019. Nichole and TJ left Holloman Air Force Base for Chimp Haven in 2018. They have thrived in sanctuary, living as part of a large, mixed-sex chimpanzee family, with access to a variety of innovative housing and excellent behavioral and veterinary care.

U.S. Senators Tom Udall (D-NM), Bill Cassidy (R-LA), and Martin Heinrich (D-NM) argued to NIH that the best place for chimpanzees considered “owned” by the federal government is Chimp Haven, where they will benefit from specialized care and facilities.

Attendees at the 2019 Chimp Freedom Party

Our petition for the chimps on change.org makes it easy for people to call on NIH to do the right thing and move chimpanzees remaining on Holloman Air Force Base to Chimp Haven.
APNM offers unique, inspirational, and practical humane education program curricula for schools, university classes, community events, correctional facilities, and neighborhood associations. The well-established link between animal abuse and interpersonal violence is a key element of our approach to community outreach and training. And this link works both ways: kindness to animals helps to create nurturing relationships between people, and is an effective approach to addressing and changing bullying behavior.

Our classes are taught by humane educators assisted by registered therapy dog teams from Southwest Canine Corps of Volunteers. 

**The Animal Connection** 12-week curriculum is adaptable for grades 3 through 12, and **The Animal Connection Jr.** 4-week curriculum is appropriate for Pre-K through 2nd grade.

Topics for classrooms and adult audiences include: *Care and Responsibility, Humane Stewardship, and Responsibility Timeline; Life and Death in the Shelter; The Work of the Animal Welfare Officer; Consequences of Chaining; Loose Dog and Bite Safety; The Need for Spaying and Neutering; Animal Fighting: Blood Sports; Read to the Dogs; Service Dogs, Therapy Dogs, Comfort Dogs, and Imposters; The Rewards and Responsibilities of Having a Companion Animal; and more.*

In 2019, **over 800 people (ages 4 – 82) were served** by our humane education classes and presentations.

**Multiple presentations** were given in the counties of Bernalillo, Mora, Sandoval, Santa Fe, San Miguel, Soccoro, and Valencia, and the Pueblos of Isleta, Santa Domingo, and Santa Ana.
Cooper the Therapy Dog, his handler Leah, and APNM humane educator, Lyndi Martinez, teach children *The Animal Connection* at Gonzales Elementary School.

Children enjoy reading to Whitaker the Therapy Dog at La Mesa Elementary School, during *The Animal Connection*.

A first grade class at La Mesa Elementary School, along with their teacher, after a lesson with Buster the Therapy Dog.
“You are our North Star.”
-Sena Fitzpatrick,
McKinley County Humane Society

“I want to tell everyone what Animal Protection of New Mexico means to Dharmahorse Equine Sanctuary.
We run on a shoestring, but we save dozens of horses each year. APNM makes it possible to continue at the times when we are in dire need.

We are so grateful for their compassion. And I feel that APNM is aligned with that focus of care and well being for all equines they can possibly help.

Know that many others are also the recipients of this kindness and support, and Dharmahorse is forever grateful for this organization.”
-Katharine Chrisley Schreiber,
founder and president of Dharmahorse, Las Cruces

“Thank you for being the voice for animals in NM!”
-Supporter*

“Love your organization!
It’s great to have APNM and APV fighting for the rights of animals who have no voice. Keep up the GREAT work!!!”
-Supporter*

“Really enjoy reading your emails and making a small difference in helping our animals!”
-Supporter*

“Thank you so much for being a voice for our treasured wildlife and beloved domestic animals in New Mexico. Your presence, power, and advocacy keeps me hopeful for a better future in all aspects of animal welfare and protection. So very grateful, and will continue to support as much as I can in the future.”
-Supporter*

“Appreciate what you do.
I feel that my donations are going to good use when I donate to APNM.”
-Supporter*

*All Supporter testimonials from 2019 supporter survey.
APNM serves as a voice for all wildlife—working diligently to foster humane coexistence. Our focus on certain keystone species is driven not only by the desire to protect them from cruelty and respect their right to exist, but also by recognizing the necessity of protecting New Mexico’s diverse and interdependent ecosystems. During 2019, we worked with New Mexico’s State Land Commissioner who unveiled her first policy decision at a January press conference: she signed an executive order banning killing contests targeting unprotected species on state trust lands. This action created crucial momentum for the state legislature’s move to ban coyote killing contests later in the spring.

The 5-year Stop Cougar Trapping campaign—which included grassroots action, two lawsuits, and rulemaking advocacy—culminated in a win when the State Game Commission banned recreational cougar trapping and reduced the annual kill limit for cougars overall.

We played a lead role in generating opposition to cruel trapping on public lands—including public comments on weak agency rulemaking that generated powerful media coverage—and called for accountability for the trapper whose illegally-placed neck snare killed a dog named Roxy.

We launched a grassroots campaign calling for an investigation into animal cruelty charges against a trapper that killed “Mia Tuk,” an endangered Mexican wolf. And we fielded beaver conflict complaints to promote humane resolutions and preserve this vital keystone species.
State Land Commissioner Stephanie Garcia Richard announced at a press conference the new policy banning wildlife killing contests on 9 million acres of state trust lands.

Roxy died in a neck snare while hiking with her family on public lands. House Bill 366 (to ban traps, snares, and poisons on public lands) was named Roxy’s Law in her honor.

New Mexico’s State Game Commission voted unanimously to stop the cruel trapping of cougars for “sport,” a hard-won victory following four years of pressure and two lawsuits by Animal Protection of New Mexico and others.

Beavers are a keystone species, providing numerous crucial environmental benefits for humans and wildlife. If their activity is causing problems for humans, APNM offers resources for humane solutions.
Since launching this program, APNM has been making plant-based eating more available and accessible through education, free workshops, community events, lively social media engagement, and partnerships. Plant-based eating doesn’t just help protect animals, the environment, and your health. It’s also a powerful way to help protect other people. The industries that produce foods using animal body parts and secretions are extremely harmful to many humans, disproportionately affecting people of color and low-income communities.

During 2019, we offered 16 cooking classes, held 9 workshops, organized 9 community events, and participated in 14 tabling events. Events included film screenings, vegan picnics, and vegan food tasting events.

Our outreach efforts also included working with the University of New Mexico’s dining hall to expand their vegan offerings, coaching three local restaurants on adding vegan menu items, generating petitions to Blake’s and Dion’s requesting new vegan menu items, and working with Santa Fe Public Schools to ensure a vegan option was offered at their Back To School event for the very first time. We’ve also created “Plant-Based Options Available Here” window decals and distributed them to 30 restaurants in Albuquerque and Santa Fe.

Online, we published a New Mexico Vegan Dining Guide, a comprehensive and updated listing of restaurants (by city) with information on whether they offer vegan or vegetarian items on their menus.
Class participants review food labels comparing the nutrition facts from animal-based meats with their plant-based alternatives.

One of our ads in place at the University of New Mexico dining hall, displayed during our promotion of plant-based foods featured on the university menu.

Window decal given to restaurants in Albuquerque and Santa Fe.

Tony Quintana leads a cooking class at the Roadrunner Food Bank’s Healthy Food Center, demonstrating how to prepare plant-based cheese sauce from ingredients frequently available at the Healthy Foods Center.

Volunteer Ambassador Faith Suzio leads a cooking demonstration at the Santa Fe APNM office, demonstrating how to make summer rolls and peanut sauce.
PROTECTING HORSES, MULES, AND DONKEYS

By building a powerful, more secure safety net, APNM is helping to stop horse slaughter for good. We provide emergency feed assistance so families can keep their horses, we geld colts and stallions to stem the breeding of horses, we support equine shelters and agencies with payment for essential veterinary care, we provide financial support for Trail’s End (humane euthanasia) to ensure horses do not suffer if their owners cannot afford the cost of this end-of-life care, we build partnerships with communities, and we work with federal, state, and local agencies to improve policies to help all equines.

During 2019, we worked with and/or gave financial support to 8 licensed equine shelters, and provided financial aid for 72 people for the care of 243 equines. We also expanded partnerships with Native Nations, providing a well upgrade (so a community water supply—available to wild and free-roaming horses—would be functional again), providing for PZP (injectable birth control) to 36 wild mares, and providing gelding and veterinary assistance to a total of 87 equines, assisting 41 people with the care of their equines.

We addressed concerns for more than 400 wild horses on the Carson National Forest, advocating for dramatically increased use of PZP and working to minimize trauma for horses rounded up, removed, and adopted or sold in accordance with the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act. In supporting the Sandoval County Free-Roaming Horse Advisory Council, we are supporting humane, respectful approaches for approximately 140 horses in that region.

We pressed for transparency and accountability at the New Mexico Racing Commission and spoke out against unjustifiable cruelty and deaths of horses used in racing. And with national partners, we organized continued opposition to horse slaughter and continued support for humane, evidence-based, on-range management of horses.
Kimberly Maria and her daughter with their beloved horse, Ariat, waiting for preventive care at the Ramah Navajo Community fall horse clinic. Access to equine veterinary care remains a challenge for many New Mexicans, especially in rural areas. Since the launch of our Equine Protection Fund through the end of 2019, we have helped 1,279 equines.

Patrick waits to have his teeth “floated” at the Ramah Navajo Community fall horse clinic.

Dulce receiving preventive care through partnership at the Ramah Navajo Community horse health clinic.

A young horse with a veterinarian at the Ramah Navajo Community spring gelding clinic.

Photos: APNM
Lobbying and legislative work is done by Animal Protection Voters, a separate 501(c)(4) nonprofit organization, serving primarily as the legislative arm of Animal Protection of New Mexico. Real, systemic changes for animals can only go so far without the strength of laws behind them. APV’s stellar record of enacting animal-friendly legislation has had a profound and positive impact on the state of New Mexico.

94 animal advocates participated in the 2019 Animal Protection Lobby Day at the state Capitol, and APV created a new volunteer program, APV GOATs (Grassroots Organizing & Action Team) that brought even more voices to the Capitol.

The 2019 legislative session culminated in a hard-fought, historic victory for coyotes: Senate Bill 76—Coyote Killing Contests Ban—passed each committee and was signed into law by the governor.

Other pro-animal bills supported by APV that passed: Senate Bill 228 (Wildlife Corridors Act), Senate Bill 234 (Pollinator Protection License Plate), and Senate Bill 383 (Game Commission Fair Chase Rulemaking).

APV published its Annual Scorecard, rating each legislator on their voting record for animals, giving citizens a very clear picture of which lawmakers ultimately help animals with their votes.

In local government, APV advised on or lobbied for animal ordinance improvements in Sierra County, City of Las Cruces, and City of Santa Fe in order to protect animals, prevent animal cruelty before it happens, and keep communities safe.
GOAT volunteers reviewed over 1,100 bills, wrote 44 draft Letters to the Editors, made over 2,500 calls for priority legislation, and helped collect over 1,200 petition signatures.

“If you live with an animal companion then you know that their friendship and love is priceless. But many animals, like my dog Grace, have suffered indescribable cruelty. Grace is a rescue from a well-publicized hoarding case in Rowe, New Mexico, where nearly one hundred dogs were held in deplorable conditions. This situation can easily happen again unless strong laws are passed in our state to protect the precious animals who we care so deeply about.

If we love animals and want to see them safe from harm, then we need to rally behind organizations that create positive systemic change; organizations with decades of expertise, dogged commitment, and deep compassion. Animal Protection of New Mexico and Animal Protection Voters are these organizations.

For Grace and all other mistreated dogs and cats, for the magnificent equines who need our help to survive, and to keep safe the coyotes whose soulful howls fill our New Mexican nights—this is why I passionately support APNM and APV.”

–Carlyn Montes De Oca, author, speaker, animal advocate
GOALS: 2020 and the NEXT DECADE

IMPACT

DONE in early 2020

- Pass bill to establish permanent funding for spay/neuter of animals of low-income New Mexicans
- Expand equine protection efforts and secure state funding for equine rescues
- Secure sanctuary for remaining APF chimps
- Deliver The Animal Connection humane education curriculum in more communities
- Maintain all crucial program services and programs
- Ban traps, poisons, and snares on public lands
- Collaborate with native nations to enhance tribal animal protection
- Increase the availability of plant-based foods wherever food is provided/served
- Implement true reforms in horse racing
- Ensure bestiality is illegal
- Make harm to companion animals “domestic abuse” and allow animals’ inclusion in protective orders
- End dog chaining as we know it
- End the sale of horses in NM for slaughter
- Reform the criminal justice system’s approach to animal cruelty
- Establish state-supported animal control officer certification and training

SUSTAINABILITY

- Grow Equine Protection Fund Endowment for even more equine direct services
- Secure sustainable funding for humane education program, and humane communities projects
- Grow APV Endowment for ongoing, hard-hitting legislative successes
- Grow support base for both APNM and APV
- Develop a fund to facilitate wildlife coexistence
A GuideStar (guidestar.org) Platinum rating encourages nonprofit organizations to share their progress and results in important new ways, moving beyond simplistic financial ratios to reflect the meaningful change organizations are making in the world.

Animal Protection of New Mexico and Animal Protection Voters are proud to share the following impact metrics from 2019:

- 5 formal animal protection policies established.
- 2 formal anti-animal policies blocked.
- 118 community events/trainings held.
- 60,524 individuals/groups/animals benefitted from tools, materials, resources (not counting website visits).
- 10 program and organizational innovations.

Financials reflect the 2019 consolidated financial statements for Animal Protection of New Mexico and Animal Protection of New Mexico Foundation. 2019 financials provided have been reviewed by our auditor, and audited financial statements will be available after September 1st, 2020.
In 2019, Animal Protection of New Mexico turned 40. We’ve worked diligently and relentlessly to make sure animals are protected everywhere in New Mexico.

If you’re already a supporter, you must know that none of this progress would be possible without you.

If you haven’t yet supported us, we invite you to join our movement and become part of the change that is *making humane the new normal* in New Mexico.

[apnm.org/donate](http://apnm.org/donate)
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.

Board of Directors: Anne Coller, President; Susan Diaz, Treasurer; Tom Alexander, Secretary; Joan David, Director

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.

Board of Directors: Robert Schutz, President; David Holland, Secretary; Danielle Wilson, Director; James Corcoran, Director; Yolanda Eisenstein, Director; Tracy Burr, Director

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