



2020 Annual Report

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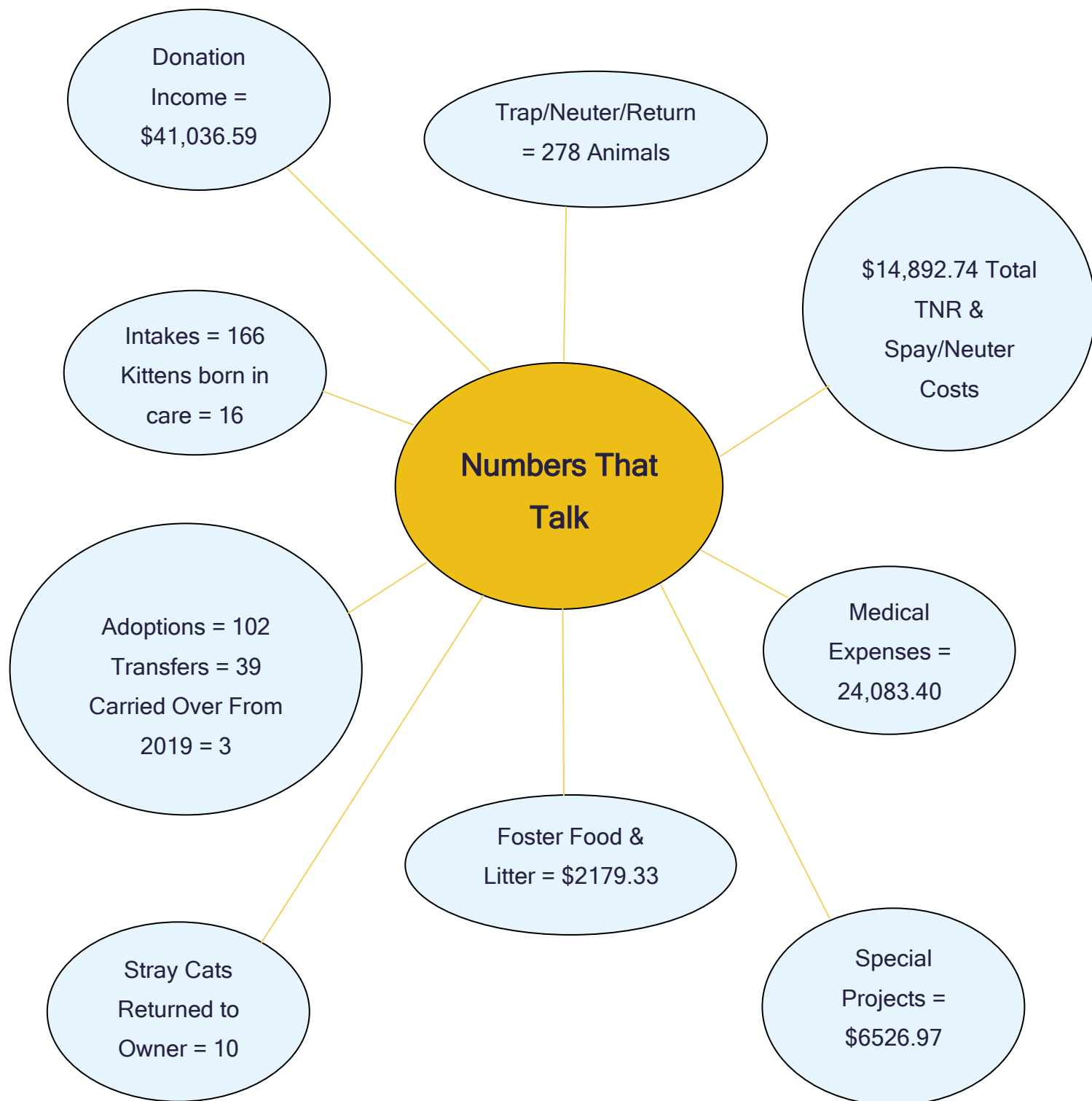
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TO OUR SUPPORTERS



Trap/Neuter/Return

The Mission of Stray Cat Outreach is to help stray, feral and abandoned cats achieve a better quality of life through the humane method of Trap/Neuter/Return. To thereby help reduce the over population and euthanasia rate of cats and to empower the community to care for outside cats with no voice of their own.

In 2020 SCO altered 278 cats, the majority of which were stray cats but also included 5 dogs and rescues that were able to be put into our Adopt Program and for which we were able to find forever homes.

Our TNR efforts took place in 6 towns and cities, and two states - Aiken, Greenwood, Abbeville & Edgefield SC, and Lincolnton, Augusta GA. One of the major challenges we encountered in 2020 was directly related to the Covid 19 outbreak and the interruption of Low Cost Spay & Neuter clinics. They were difficult to find and volunteers were careful in deciding where and when to help.



To Intake or Not to Intake – that is the question!

Why would a TNR mission-based group take animals into their care?



Working in the field our volunteers come across many scenarios. Imagine young kittens that have been separated from their momma cats, pregnant cats too late in term to spay, and pets that have been abandoned by their owners for reasons unknown. Leaving them to starve or suffer from injury and illness on their own is a difficult thing to witness. With the help of our donors, Stray Cat Outreach was able to accept 166 cats into our program, and 16 kittens were born in our care to pregnant momma cats.

Medical Care

During the year SCO received many calls for help when animals were found injured and ill. There were wonderful people willing to keep these animals but could not afford the vet care it entailed. We felt that just getting these animals into a caring home and off the street was enough for us to help them heal these animals. We are lucky to work with 3 notable veterinary clinics in 3 different towns willing to take emergency appointments and support this effort. Thank you Lincolnton Animal Hospital, Edgefield Vet Clinic and Greenwood Vet Hospital!



There was not only a need to help with things like severe Upper Respiratory Illness and its complications, but also cats and dogs that had been shot, hit by cars, abused by people, and injured by wildlife. Our vets performed at least 6 lifesaving surgeries during the year.

The Happy End - Adoption

What can be done with so many rescue intakes? Find happy forever homes! In 2020 Stray Cat Outreach joined Petfinder and Adopt-a-Pet to advertise our adoptable felines. We made the Petco in Aiken, SC our Saturday base for adoptions and regularly featured darling cats and kittens on our active Facebook page and website.

SCO is also proud to be transfer partners with adoption agencies such as the Atlanta Humane Society in Georgia, Last Chance Animal Rescue in New York state and, new this year, we began working with Panelis in South Carolina. This enabled us to get even more cats and dogs into loving, forever homes.



Income - Expenses

With the help of our generous donors, we were able to succeed and add to our wish list of things to do. A major help received in 2020 was a Trap/Neuter/Return grant from the Susan R. Little Private Charitable Foundation. This \$10,000 grant was used exclusively for our TNR Program. Using the national average TNR cost, that grant spayed and neutered 200 cats!

New to our grant donations in 2020 was the O'Brien Grant, which helped to full our piggy bank with a total of \$4000 in funds for Trap/Neuter/Return and low cost spay and neuter for our rescues and the community!

We were able to get our Kitty Kottage placed, purchase and place colony habitats for the relocation of strays in danger of life, build community cat feeders, contribute to our first Unchain the Dogs project (helping 26 dogs!), add traps to our inventory and other needed expenses to 'run the ship'.



One of the expenses that we are most proud of is the ability to help the community through our Food Pantry program. These costs increased as a direct result of Covid 19 with loss of employment for much of the community.

At no expense our website received a successful ‘facelift’ and we are grateful to the efforts of MerMare Creative for this donation

As an all-volunteer organization we thank our fosters and volunteers for often ‘picking up the tab’ for costs such as gas for their vehicles, office and foster supplies.

Looking Ahead

Although there are already challenges awaiting the SCO team in 2021, many of them the same as in 2020, we are looking ahead to the continuance of our mission, Trap/Neuter/Return. Looking back at 2020 we have learned many lessons and strive to put changes into action to help direct and maximize funds, to better reach out to the community, and to build our volunteer and our donor base.

At the end of 2020 Stray Cat Outreach purchased rescue software, To Your Rescue, developed by a non-profit for non-profit rescue groups. Our goal with the use of this software up from January 2021 will be better record keeping.

If donations are strong enough in 2021, we plan to help dogs tethered to heavy chains again this year. Helping 26 dogs get off chains, and have ample room to exercise, in 2020 was something we were happy that we could help accomplish.

We are currently applying for liability insurance in order to become a formal Petco Foundation Partner and will then be able to apply for a Spay and Neuter grant. Stray Cat Outreach spends almost every Saturday at the Aiken SC Petco store with adoptable cats and has developed a good relationship with the store and its regular customers. We feel confident that once we meet the criteria outlined in the application, we could win a grant this year.

Once again, the Susan R. Little Private Charitable Foundation has allocated Stray Cat Outreach a generous 2021 grant in which to purchase a van for TNR and vet visit use. This will enhance the well-being of those in our care by providing them with a climate controlled and safe means of transportation. The nightmare of the cats being transported to and after medical care and surgery in the back of a pick-up truck in 100° F or freezing temperatures, piled and packed carrier upon carrier or trap upon trap.

To sum 2020 up, we are proud of what we were able to accomplish as a small non-profit and look forward to what 2021 holds in store for stray cats. This is very dependent on donations, and we hope that you may consider donating to Stray Cat Outreach so that we can carry on our mission. Do not think that small donations don't help because they do! Donations can be made by mailing in a check, by using our website donate button which links to a credit card or to PayPal. No donation is too small and every donation is appreciated. Thank you!

HOW TO DONATE:

By Check:

Stray Cat Outreach
C/o Sydnee Voigt
210 Bellefaye Lane
McCormick, SC 29835

Facebook Donation Button with Credit Card or PayPal link:

<https://www.facebook.com/Trap.Neuter.Return.Saves.Lives>

Sydnee Voigt

President

January 10, 2021