



Yellowstone Valley
ANIMAL SHELTER

KEEPING UP WITH THE critters



Moana, adopted May 5th, 2020

**END OF YEAR REPORT
2020**

INTAKES & OUTCOMES

2020

INCOMING ANIMALS



1,480 dogs came into YVAS (strays, owner surrenders, & transfers)

46 of these dogs came in through the Billings Police Department - *not Animal Control*



2,129 cats came into YVAS (strays, owner surrenders, & transfers)

42 of these cats came in through the Humane Society of the United States and were altered (Spay/Neuter) and placed back with rural farmers/ranchers



3,750 total animals came into YVAS - a 27% decrease due to COVID19

Did you know? The shelter takes in all kinds of animals - not just dogs and cats. This could be anything from chickens, fish, turtles, reptiles, bunnies, guinea pigs, and more!

OUTGOING ANIMALS



587 dogs were adopted to new homes

748 lost dogs were reunited with their owners through the shelter. 88% of lost dogs were reunited with their owners



1,262 cats were adopted to new homes

13% of lost cats were reunited with their owners - much higher than the national average of 2%.

**Cats are more likely to find their way home than be reunited through a shelter.*



1,957 total adoptions - only an 18% decrease despite COVID19

95% live-release rate - up from 84% in 2018 & 93% in 2019!

Did you know? Live-release rate is calculated by finding the percentage of animals that leave the shelter alive. Since 2018, YVAS has only euthanized animals for extreme aggression or severe illness - not for population management. Euthanasia has decreased at YVAS by 75% in the last two years alone!

LENGTH OF STAY



4 days is the average amount of time that a dog will stay in the shelter for any reason



9 days is the average amount of time that a cat will stay in the shelter for any reason

VOLUNTEER & FOSTER 2020

VOLUNTEERS

134 volunteers provided service at YVAS - Volunteers vary in age from 10 years old to 80
69 of these volunteers were new to YVAS in 2020
2,121 hours were dedicated by volunteers in 2020 despite COVID19
*saving the shelter **\$57,691.20**



FOSTERS

461 animals were sent out to foster in 2020 - 50 animals less than 2019 despite COVID19!
79 individuals and families are currently enrolled in our foster program

Did you know? YVAS utilizes foster homes for animals that are too young to be adopted out, animals that are injured and need time to heal, and animals that are under-socialized and need extra time before adoption.

ENDING THE CYCLE WITH SPAYS & NEUTERS

Millions of animals are brought to U.S. shelters every year because there simply aren't enough homes for them all. Spaying and neutering is a proven way to end the cycle, reducing the number of unwanted animals. Ending the cycle is an integral part of our mission at YVAS which is why every pet adopted through the shelter is spayed or neutered. In 2020 alone, Yellowstone Valley Animal Shelter altered over 1,700 pets within our community. Of those 1,700 animals, 263 spays/neuters were performed at our public, low-cost Spay & Neuter Clinic for owned pets.



OUTREACH & EDUCATION 2020



FEAR FREE CERTIFIED

Shelter staff decided to make good use of the recent quarantine, furthering their education to become Fear Free Certified. Fear Free is a national program that provides education to shelters, rescues, and volunteers about animals' emotional needs. Fear Free empowers animal caregivers with strategies and techniques designed to reduce the negative emotional states that are commonly experienced in a shelter. YVAS is proud to report that ALL of our staff members have now graduated from this program!

NEW & IMPROVED WEBSITE

After years of struggling with an outdated website, we were SO thrilled to officially announce the launch of our beautiful new site in October. Not only is it pretty to look at, but it's also packed full of information about the shelter, our programs, community resources, and much more. Because the new site is so much more informative, YVAS has seen a 40% decrease in phone calls for general questions; which leaves more time for helping animals and customers at the shelter. Additionally, the new website receives over 6,000 visits per month and is growing.



COVID RELIEF PET FOOD ASSISTANCE

When you have more than you need, build a longer table, not a bigger fence. During quarantine, YVAS launched an Emergency Pet Food Assistance Program to help those in need. The program was designed to help families and individuals who experienced a sudden loss of income due to COVID19. Every week, shelter employees would prepare bags of food, treats, & toys to disperse to families who signed up for the program.

YVAS packaged food bags for over 150 animals through this new program in a matter of weeks!



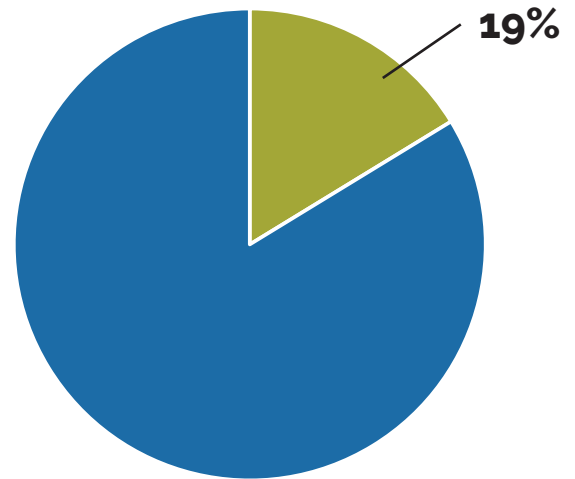
COST OF CARE 2020

MEDICAL EXPENSES

In 2020, \$152,000 was spent providing medical care to the animals that came into the shelter. Many times this is simple care such as spay/neuter surgeries or vaccinations. Other times, this is critical care or complex surgeries.

**Stray animals that need life-saving medical care are stabilized and transferred from the local animal hospitals to YVAS for care.*



2020 Expenses



PROGRAM INCOME

YVAS estimates the cost of caring for an animal in the shelter is \$10/day.

This includes paying staff to clean kennels, animal-safe cleaning products, food, litter, etc. The longer the animal stays at the shelter the more likely the cost is to increase as their susceptibility to illnesses increases. In addition to the daily cost is the cost of spay/neuter, vaccination, microchipping and medical care.

	Cost of Care	Adoption Fee
	\$109	\$160
	\$201.50	\$50

CITY CONTRACT

YVAS received \$274,260 through the contract with the City of Billings to care for the lost and transitioning animals. This is approximately 35% of the total expenses at the shelter.

YVAS is also responsible for the selling and maintenance for all dog & cat City Licensing. The fees collected for animal licenses are split 50/50 between YVAS and the City of Billings. **4,825 licenses were sold in 2020.**