

ANNUAL REPORT

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WORDS FROM OUR **DIRECTOR**

The Western Pennsylvania Humane Society has been opening its doors to animals in need for 133 years. Today's economy allows for many luxuries that were not a part of the everyday life in 1874. Fortunately, this increased wealth allows for more people to own pets, which, in turn, allows our organization to adopt animals out daily. However, wealth is also a detriment for many pets since there are people who feel that animals, like other possessions, are disposable—which increases our pet surrender numbers annually. With over 13,000 animals dropped off last year we had our work cut out for us. It is the ability of our staff to balance competing needs, which helps us to reflectively make decisions and allows us to help as many animals in our care that we possibly can. We will strive to educate our region on the honor it is to own a pet in one's household and continue to make adoption placements in loving forever homes—helping to end the throwaway mind-set over time.

I am proud as I look at the department's dedication to our mission. It is only through working as a team that we are able to put more animals in homes, reduce euthanasia and educate our region on responsible pet ownership. It may seem like a daunting task, yet I know the team we have in place has the skill set and passion to meet this challenge. We have made huge strides already and I only see us moving forward towards our goals.

The strength and longevity of Pittsburgh's oldest pet charity is grounded in a philosophy of prevention through education. We strive to educate and interact with people on a continuous basis. It is our hope that if you are having a problem with your pet that you will contact us first, prior to dropping the animal off, allowing for both you and the animal to be successful. Our goal is to be a resource for the community. Should you have a question or need some animal-based information, our website is a great place to start. Just go to www.wpahumane.org for shelter information and www.opendoorshelters.com for open door shelter information and philosophy.

Thank you for your support which allows us to be in the community taking care of those who cannot speak for themselves. It is our honor to do the work that we do and you make it all possible. I am grateful for your commitment to our cause.

Warmly,



Lee Nesler
Executive Director

SHELTER CARE

ANIMAL CARE AND PLACEMENT

North Shore – Live Animal Intakes	Canine	Feline	Other	Total
Owner Surrender/Return/Requested Euthanasia	2,367	3,752	341	6,460
Stray/Unowned	635	2,577	67	3,279
Humane Investigation/Confiscation/Transfer	135	217	14	366

Fallen Timber – Live Animal Intakes	Canine	Feline	Other	Total
Owner Surrender/Return/Requested Euthanasia	940	1,420	58	2,418
Stray/Unowned	116	498	3	617
Transfer*	23	7	0	30

* All Humane Investigations and Confiscation intakes are processed through the Northside Shelter.

North Shore – Outcomes	Canine	Feline	Other	Total
Adoptions	1,588	2,777	256	4,621
Owner requested euthanasia	526	358	48	932
Non-adoptable euthanasia**	1,188	3,241	76	4,505
Adoptable euthanasia	7	136	0	143

Fallen Timber – Outcomes	Canine	Feline	Other	Total
Adoptions	487	738	28	1,253
Owner requested euthanasia	1	1	0	2
Non-adoptable euthanasia**	416	1,204	22	1,642
Adoptable euthanasia	4	16	0	20

Overall Organization Totals for FY07

Intake of Live Animals – 13,243	Non-Adoptable Euthanasia** – 6,050
Adoptions – 5,874	Adoptable Euthanasia – 163
Owner Requested Euthanasia – 1,514	

** Non-adoptable animals include those with severe medical or behavioral factors, or rigorous adoption limitations.

The Western PA Humane Society is an “open door shelter,” meaning that we never turn away an unwanted or homeless pet. Over the past year, we have provided housing and care for over 13,000 owner released and stray animals in Allegheny County and surrounding areas—which is an increase of 3.9% over the previous year. Animals receive vaccinations as well as supplements to keep the spread of disease to a minimum. In order to reduce stress, we provide enrichment activities to our four-legged friends while they are in the shelter. There are also more permanent adoption sites within local PetSmart stores this year, which has freed up cage space in our shelters and has enabled us to help more cats find homes. Our radio, media, offsite events and advertisement campaign have aided in public awareness of our adoptable animals and our facility locations. Thanks to the staff, volunteers and supporters for their assistance in helping more pets find their new families!

THE MARY MCCUNE MEMORIAL ANIMAL CLINIC

Rates for services at the Mary McCune Memorial Animal Clinic are very competitive and we get bombarded with requests for appointments. Last year we saw 9,200 animals—which was an increase of 46% over the previous year! Membership in the Western PA Humane Society entitles individuals to a discount at our clinic and helps us continue this vital service for the community.

	Dogs	Cats	Rabbits	Total
North Shore Clinic Visits	3,966	4,501	2	8,469
Spay/Neuter Surgeries	838	1,490	53	2,381
Elizabeth Clinic Visits	393	338	0	731
Spay/Neuter Surgeries	369	636	16	1,021

INVESTIGATIONS

The Western PA Humane Society is an organization who is very committed to the enforcement of the animal cruelty laws—we speak for those who cannot speak for themselves. Too often animals suffer abuse or are grossly neglected by the hands of their owners and caregivers. Most of the offenders we encounter are violent people. Abusing animals is often a predictor of other problems in the making—such as violence towards people.

Reports of animal cruelty vary from day to day. Our officers have observed and evaluated all sorts of abusive situations—some were minor offenses while others were so graphic even the magistrates had a difficult time looking at the pictures. Yet, our officers had to deal with these problems everyday. Some of the offenders we meet are extremely defiant and argumentative. This “in-your-face” confrontation is to be expected, but can be very stressful for our officers. Unfortunately, it goes with the job.

Executing search warrants and seizing and confiscating animals is often a challenge—especially so when there are multiple animals in a home. Our officers maintain a report on every case investigated, file citations, and on most occasions argue their cases before the district magistrate without the help of the DA’s office. This is often time consuming and exhausting!

Our office assistant, Shelley Rosenberg, takes most of the calls and e-mails to our investigation department and networks with local shelters to compare information. She has established herself as a reliable source for information.

With the help of The Pittsburgh Foundation, Dan Eckenrode was elevated from a part-time Humane Police Officer to full-time status in March 2007. Dan has proven himself to be very effective and has demonstrated his devotion to this line of work. He works tirelessly to conduct numerous investigations, rescue and confiscate animals when necessary and prosecute court cases.

Bob Gosser and Cathy Bricker are two of a kind! They both are very zealous in their pursuit of conducting investigations—it’s almost like turning two pit bulls loose on an actor. They both have that “I gotcha” mentality. Both are very dedicated officers.

In keeping with our mission to “Prevent Animal Cruelty,” our investigation department is very committed to speak for the helpless animals that so desperately need help.

The Western PA Humane Society Investigations Team includes:

Ron Smith, *Chief Humane Police Officer*
Robert G. Gosser, *Humane Police Officer, Full-Time*
Cathy Bricker, *Humane Police Officer, Full-Time*
Dan Eckenrode, *Humane Police Officer, Full-Time*

Phone, Mail and Personal Complaints – 1,331

By County:	Inspections Performed:
Allegheny – 1,122	Farms/Stables – 46
Armstrong – 53	Pet Stores – 101
Butler – 71	Circuses/Carnivals/Petting Zoos – 2
Westmoreland – 84	Pre-adoption home checks – 284

Nature of Complaints:	Outcomes:
Neglect/Abuse – 1,221	Solved with Warning and Advice – 1,227
Abandonment – 104	Rescues and Confiscations – 400
Miscellaneous – 2	Hearings Attended – 77
	Citations Filed – 104

Follow-Up Visits in All Counties: 1,581

Total Miles Traveled: 57,762

LOUISE SHAW DILL MEMORIAL PET CEMETERY

At the difficult time when you need to say good-bye to a beloved pet, it is reassuring to know that a place exists where you can visit your best friend and know he or she is resting peacefully, nearby to other pets, and regularly tended to by dedicated animal lovers. The pastoral setting of the Louise Shaw Dill Memorial Pet Cemetery is the perfect place. Learn more about our services online, at wpahumane.org.

Plots reserved last fiscal year – 20
Total plots reserved – 163
Entire interred population – 3,137

VOLUNTEER PARTICIPATION

Volunteers have ensured that every dog receives at least one walk per day, most days multiple walks, and on weekends four or more! Our cats, kittens, bunnies and guinea pigs receive regular snuggles, pets and attention from volunteers. A wonderful group of volunteers attends our ongoing Saturday Clicker Training for Shelter Dogs classes, and continues to use this method to increase the adoptability of our more challenging canines.

So many of our dogs, cats and bunnies have found a permanent placement because our volunteers have fallen in love with them and taken them home. Our volunteers have also talked about the shelter animals with their friends, neighbors and co-workers which has resulted in many being adopted to wonderful families.

Volunteer response has been magnificent for all of our events, namely the Best Friends Ball, Sample of Station Square, off-site adoption events, and other fundraisers. Whenever we ask, volunteers respond with generosity and eagerness.

Our corps of foster home volunteers has been amazing this year. Over 950 cats, kittens, dogs, puppies and bunnies shared a temporary home with volunteers. Fostering a sick or young animal until it is able to be put up for adoption makes all the difference to the lives of our residents—for all of the volunteers who open their hearts and homes to these animals, we want to give a heart-felt “thank you.”

Volunteers also provide much-needed clerical help in almost every department and help staff with in-house events like our vaccine clinics and adoption events.

Our core group of over 500 active volunteers has logged in 15,047 hours at one of our two shelters this year. The network of foster homes has given 44,588 hours to care for our most fragile and at-risk animals. We continue to receive hundreds of volunteer applications and orient an average of forty-five new volunteers a month.

North Shore

Number of Volunteers – 520
Service Hours Contributed – 14,495
Foster Hours – 44,588
Foster Home Volunteers – 172
Animals Cared for in Foster Homes – 961

Elizabeth

Number of Volunteers – 31
Service Hours Contributed – 552.5
Community Service Hours – 50
Foster Home Volunteers – 15
Animals Cared for in Foster Homes – 77

**Each day of foster care is equivalent to 4 hours of volunteer service.*

INDIVIDUAL GIVING AND MEMBERSHIP

According to Charity Navigator and the Giving USA Foundation, overall giving to charities rose 1 percent last year over the previous year, when adjusted for inflation. However, giving to animal organizations actually declined by 1.3 percent in the United States. The Western PA Humane Society is very happy to announce that we saw an increase in both the number of individual donors and the dollars donated. In our most recent fiscal year, we had 1,744 donors—261 more donors than the previous fiscal year—who gave \$367,899 as compared to \$340,558 the prior year. This is an increase of 8% in terms of dollars given to our organization.

Membership income increased by a whopping 38% over the prior year. The number of individual members increased from 3,754 to 4,997—a 33% increase—since last year. This was due in large part to the fact that the WPHS nearly tripled the amount of memberships it sold with adoptions—last year marked the first year that the WPHS built the cost of a six-month membership into every kitten and puppy adoption. This year the Society has revamped its membership program to offer new benefits to its members. Many local organizations are partnering with the WPHS, such as Venture Outdoors, My Three Cats & Co., Misty Pines Dog Park and Vantastic Mobile Grooming, to offer discounts on items and services that WPHS members use on an everyday basis. If you're not a member yet, please go to wpahumane.org and sign up today!

The WPHS made an extra effort last year to reach a wider prospect base through direct mail and our “AnEmail,” a twice-monthly e-newsletter that individuals can sign up for at no charge. In October, 2006 there were 294 people on our email list. By September, 2007, that number reached 2,159. That's an increase of 634% in one year's time! All of our AnEmail subscribers receive information about our upcoming events, adoption promotions, homeless pets, volunteer opportunities, and ways to financially support the Western PA Humane Society.

Some exciting developments for the new fiscal year include continuing our partnership with The Pittsburgh Foundation to bolster our Humane Investigation department. Last fiscal year, The Pittsburgh Foundation pledged to give the WPHS a \$52,741 grant distributed over three years to increase the efficiency of its Humane Investigation department as well as spread awareness about the difference between an animal control issue and an animal cruelty issue. The Society received the first installment of the grant last year which has enabled it to increase its part-time officer's role to a full-time position, ensuring that the officers respond to cases faster and are able to offer coverage every weekend. The WPHS recently mailed an educational brochure about its Humane Police Officers to our supporters asking them to make a donation to keep the department going strong.

BUSINESS RELATIONS AND MEDIA RELATIONS

We are very excited to announce that we expanded our relationship with the local media last year. The WPHS took part in weekly adoption segments on WZPT STAR 100.7 FM and 94.5 3WS FM radio. We also appeared twice monthly on the Dr. Mike Radio Show on Saturday mornings on KDKA 1020AM and had monthly appearances on the KDKA TV Morning Show. Adoptable animals accompanied us on each visit, which accounted for an additional 295 animals being adopted last year over the previous year.

This was the fifth year we partnered with the Pittsburgh Home and Garden Show—despite the parking garage cave in that

postponed the event for several weeks! We raised almost \$2,000 and sent 16 animals to new homes. We were also one of their featured guests on KDKA LIVE, broadcasting from the David L. Lawrence Convention Center.

Last summer we were very pleased to partner with wpxi.com during our “summer web campaign.” Over 842,000 people saw one of five Western PA Humane Society ads displayed on their website and 2,537 people took the time to look at our adoptable animals on-line. We thank WPXI for their support!

EDUCATION AND HUMANE EDUCATION

The WPHS Humane Education Department has been creating widening circles of learning in the community. We have taught classes about Dog Safety, Careers with Animals, Living with Birds and Life with Bunnies to great acclaim from educators, parents and students alike. A new area of education has been added to address the Health Benefits of Interaction with Animals.

In the past year we taught over 3,400 preschool children in Allegheny County. Thirty-six assemblies were presented that included over 3,600 students in grades K- 5. Over 500 middle school students learned about pet care and how it is very similar to child care. The Western PA Humane Society has been invited to present in 10 school districts to spread the word about interaction with animals. We have spoken to university classes on three different occasions about Animals in the Workplace. We are also pleased to announce that the continued support of the Louise S. and Robert S. Kahn Foundation allowed us to teach bite prevention classes to over 6,000 students enrolled in Allegheny County Head Start and DART Early Learning Initiative classrooms last year!

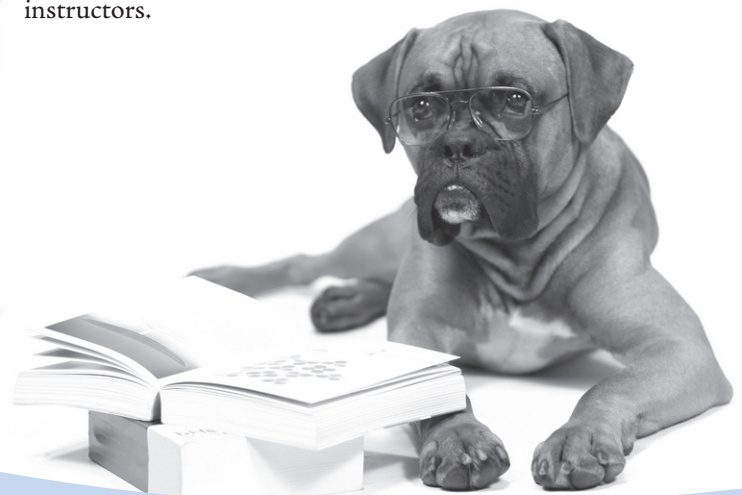
Our newest affiliation is with students on the campus of the University of Pittsburgh. The “Women for a Multicultural Tomorrow” group sponsor visits each week that reach 50 – 150 college students. During the past year there were 11 tours of the shelter, all of which were focused on specific learning topics.

The WPHS completed 144 obedience training classes during FY2007. Over the last year we underwent a number of changes to meet our goals of improving the quality of our classes and increasing participation. We concentrated on staggering our basic obedience class offerings to take advantage of the continuous availability of dogs from the shelter and also added an additional instructor to facilitate this staggered schedule. The shelter increased the number of classes offered in the peak months and reduced the number during slower months. Although we reduced the number of classes by 1%, our classes are running at 89% capacity with an increase in income of 20% over the previous year. There has also been an increase in the number of dogs that are

continuing on to our advanced level classes and in the number of dogs from the general public that are registering for classes here at the WPHS. This brings more dogs and people to the shelter to “show off” our beautiful facility and the adoptable dogs.

Our therapy dog training program continues to expand as well, offering two tracts for dogs to take to get ready for the CGC/ TDI exam; one designed for younger dogs the other for adult dogs. Upon successfully achieving their CGC/TDI license, dogs can join our Dynamic Dogs class putting into practice what they’ve learned. Our instructor Marsha Robbins leads this group to the University of Pittsburgh each week to interact with students and the general public. Alternatively, Joy Kealey assists interested K9 owners in finding a facility looking for TDI dogs in a more clinical setting. Both of these groups have helped to spread the word about our CGC/TDI program.

This year was a year to “test the waters” for new classes by providing canine performance sports and activity classes such as Rally and Clicks for Tricks. We also introduced our first children’s camp, Dynamic Duet this year. We plan to offer several camps next summer designed for the young K9 and animal enthusiasts in our community and to continue to expand our offerings in Rally, Agility, Flyball and others. We continue to grow due to the positive experience our matriculated students have had at our classes and because of the superb work of our dedicated instructors.



“TOP DOG” SUPPORTERS

The Western PA Humane Society would like to thank our “Top Dogs.” Top Dogs made individual gifts totaling \$1,000 or more to our general operating fund* during our last fiscal year:

Diane Bandy
Noreen Bartins
Cathy Carberry
Michael Chancellor

Jane Clark
Linda Fisher
George Kesel
Samuel McClung

Barbara Ross
Nell Shaw
Harvey Taylor
Becky & Herb Torbin

Catherine Vaccaro
Dwight Way

* *General operating fund = all non-capital gifts provided where no service or sponsorship recognition was provided in exchange for the donation.*

BEQUESTS, FOUNDATION AND TRUSTS

The Western PA Humane Society received an initial gift from the following trusts and foundations in the last fiscal year:

The Estate of Dorothy Jane Brown
The Estate of Betty Jane Cornett
The Estate of Elizabeth Z. Dougherty

The Estate of Elizabeth Winsor Knable
The Estate of Beatrice Mccaffrey
The Estate of W B Pierce

Leonard A. & Mary Jane Schafer
Foundation

TOP DOG FUNDRAISERS

We saw continued growth and expansion of the relationship department last year. There were a number of events that raised much-needed funds for the shelter—some of our favorites included:

Cocktails for Canines. This monthly fundraiser at Station Square’s Buckhead Saloon raised over \$15,000 in one year and facilitated over a dozen adoptions—including several pit bulls!

Tails on the Catwalk. Kate Harris of Star 100.7 FM hosted this fashion show, featuring designs from SteinMart in the North Hills. Local celebrities like Sally Wiggin, Andrew Shockey and Miss PA USA 2006, Tanya Lehman, graced the catwalk of the McKnight Road Holiday Inn. 160 guests enjoyed hors d’oeuvres, meeting shelter pets, and the chance to win bag raffle items. This was our first annual spring fashion show; we netted \$5,000 for the shelter and found forever homes for 4 animals.

Betsy Ann Chocolates. Proceeds of every sale of this fine chocolate benefited our shelter operations. We raised over \$10,000 last year during the holidays.

Club 4 Life Lapathon. Club 4 Life in Monroeville hosted a Lap-A-Thon in May. It turned out to be a great way for our supporters to “pool” their money by collecting pledges from friends and family and then swimming laps. Of course, many of our shelter pets were there to meet and greet the swimmers. We raised over \$1,000 from this event.

Charity Golf Outing at Cranberry Highland Golf Course. The North Side Civic Development Council Chamber of Commerce Charity Golf Outing benefits the North Side community by providing contributions to deserving North Side non-profit agencies. This year they selected the Western PA Humane Society.

FUNDRAISING

MAJOR EVENTS AND SPONSORSHIP

Everyone had a blast this year at our two largest fundraisers—Sample of Station Square and Best Friends Ball. 476 people came to Station Square in August to receive their “passport” and get a taste of the restaurants in the area. The event was a smashing success—despite the rain and thunderstorms—and netted over \$15,000 for the WPHS. The Best Friends Ball was held at the Western PA Humane Society’s North Shore shelter for the first time last year. Almost 200 people got behind-the-scenes tours of our facilities, mixed and mingled with the shelter animals, and danced the night away. This was such a successful evening that we plan to hold the Ball at the North Shore shelter for years to come. Thank you to all of our Sample of Station Square and Best Friends Ball Sponsors:

Heinz
National City
ClearChannel Communications/3WS Radio
CBS Radio/STAR 100.7 FM
RSSC Architecture
Camp Bow Wow South

PetSmart
Audrey Hillman Fisher Foundation
Schafer Foundation
Bank of New York Mellon
Monti Thompson and Associates
WPHS Board Members

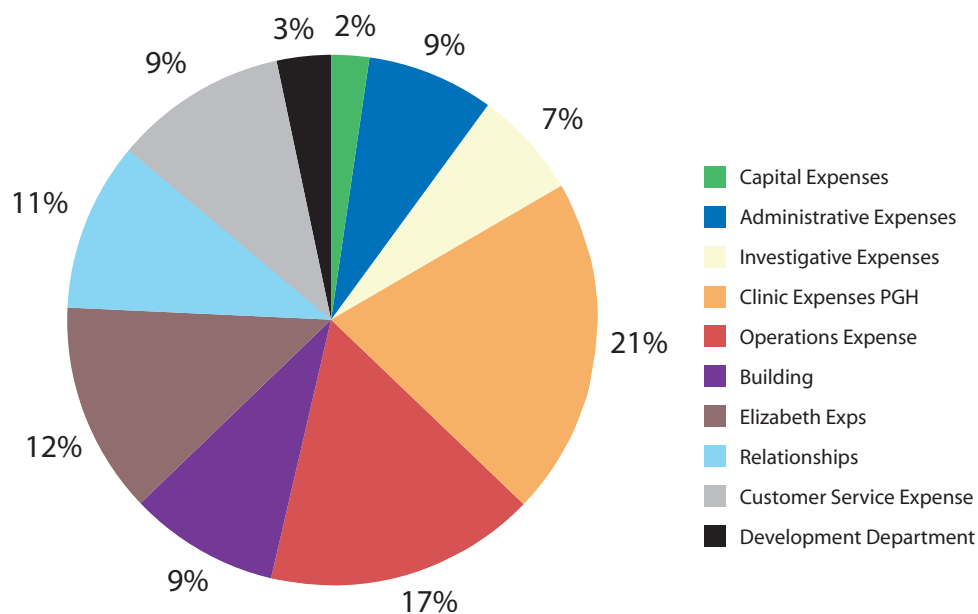
Many other individuals and groups, too numerous to mention, helped raise funds through their events such as craft bazaars, raffles, wish list and printer cartridge drives. Thanks so much for all of your energy and efforts!

WESTERN PA HUMANE SOCIETY FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

PROGRAM EXPENSE

Capital Expenses	\$ 61,718
Administrative Expenses	281,463
Investigative Expenses	211,184
Clinic Expenses PGH	625,206
Operations Expense	547,603
Building	292,548
Elizabeth Expenses	384,984
Relationships	352,674
Customer Service Expenses	291,183
Development Department	110,338
Total Program Expense	\$ 3,158,901

Program Expense



NOTE: The Endowment Asset Accounts consisted of stock securities, bond securities, and cash. It carried a balance of \$11,680,380.60 as of 9/30/07.

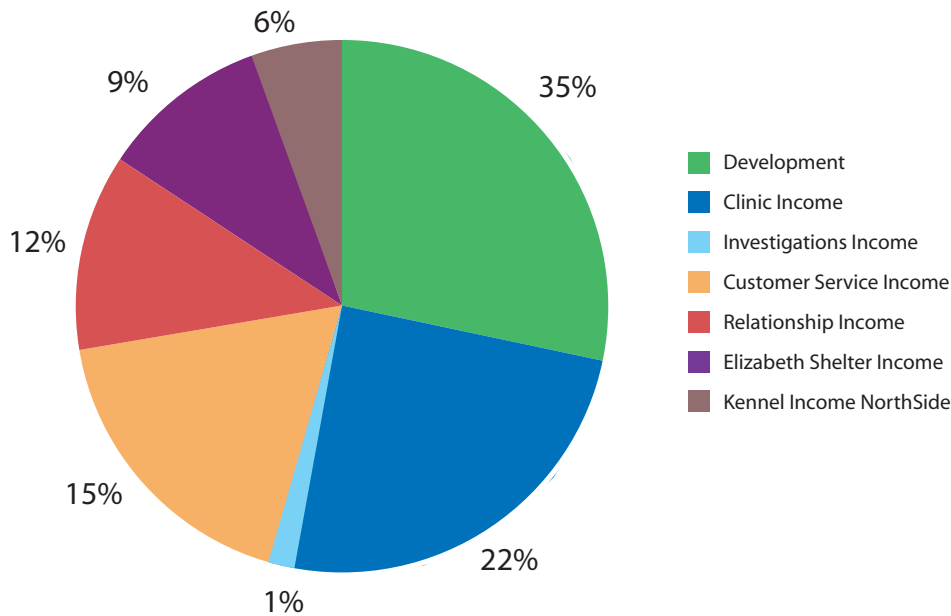
All statistics contained in the Western Pennsylvania Humane Society's 2007 Annual Report are based on the fiscal year, October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2007.

WESTERN PA HUMANE SOCIETY FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FINANCIAL INCOME SUPPORT

Development	\$ 969,032
Clinic Income	621,095
Investigations Income	21,991
Customer Service Income	425,831
Relationship Income	329,205
Elizabeth Shelter Income	241,886
Kennel Income NorthSide	165,510
Total Income	\$ 2,774,550

Financial Income Support



NOTE: The Endowment Asset Accounts supported an excess of program expenses above financial support for the fiscal year 2007.

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