

# Annual Report

2021



FRIENDS OF INDIANAPOLIS DOGS OUTSIDE

# A Message from the Executive Director

2021 was a year of significant growth for FIDO. Despite the lingering effects of the pandemic, including periodic staffing shortages, supply chain issues, and increased costs for materials and services, FIDO was able to grow our core programs to better meet the growing animal welfare needs of our community.

In 2021, we hired our first full-time outreach program and fence program leaders. As a result, we tripled the number of home visits and doubled the number of fence projects compared to the previous year. We also expanded FIDO's spay/neuter program by doubling the number of animal transports each month to our partner spay/neuter clinics. As a result, we nearly doubled the number of animals receiving spay/neuter surgeries and vaccinations compared to 2020.

With in-person events becoming safe again, FIDO expanded our fundraising activities and began developing a donor cultivation plan. As a result, we were able to significantly increase our revenue to match our increasing expenses.

*I am encouraged by FIDO's growth and accomplishments in 2021. It was truly a team effort made possible by the trust and cooperation of our clients, the dedication and hard work of our staff and volunteers, and the guidance and support of our board, donors and partner agencies.*

**-Darcie Kurtz**

Founder and Executive Director



# Our Programs

## Outreach

There are thousands of dogs living on chain or in a small pen in disadvantaged neighborhoods in Indianapolis. FIDO is the only animal welfare organization in the city with a proactive outreach program to find these dogs and offer information and resources to their owners.

## Spay/Neuter

When the number of unwanted dogs and cats in our city is reduced, the overall quality of life for the animals is improved. For that reason, FIDO requires compliance with spay/neuter to receive assistance through our other programs. FIDO's assistance with dog and cat food, basic pet supplies, and dog fencing is a strong incentive for spay/neuter compliance. In turn, FIDO removes all barriers to spay/neuter by scheduling, transporting and funding the surgeries and vaccinations at our two spay/neuter clinic partners, FACE Low-Cost Animal Clinic and Indyhumane Downtown Clinic.

## Fencing

FIDO offers a unique service to disadvantaged dog owners in Indianapolis by providing large secure fenced enclosures at a nominal fee. FIDO works to maximize the size of the fenced enclosures, while minimizing the number of costly fence panels, by tying onto existing structures. FIDO also requires constructing the fenced enclosure next to the house to facilitate bringing the dogs inside to be part of the family. Our fence program not only frees dogs from the end of a chain, but also securely contains dogs that could be a public safety risk if they escaped their own yards.

## Pet Food Pantry

FIDO operates the only monthly pet food pantry in Indianapolis for income-qualified pet owners and community cat caretakers. This program provides a strong incentive for spay/neuter compliance and keeps many pets fed, in their own homes, and out of our local overburdened animal shelter system.

**FIND - FIX - FEED - FENCE**

# OUTREACH

In 2021, FIDO hired our first full-time outreach program leader, in addition to a part-time case manager, to not only find outside dogs in need of help, but to also regularly follow up to ensure that improved conditions were maintained. FIDO targeted our city's eight animal "hot spots" with the greatest number of calls to Indianapolis Animal Care Services and also assisted their officers by triaging their backlogged dog neglect cases during extreme weather. Our increased staffing enabled us to reach over three times the number of households in 2021 compared to the previous year.



**1,252**

home visits and  
IACS triage runs  
completed



# SPAY / NEUTER

Previously, there was a 50% no-show rate when our clients transported their own animals to our partner spay/neuter clinics. Therefore, in 2021, FIDO began transporting all animals we scheduled for surgery. This necessitated doubling our transport days from 4 days to 8 days each month. As a result, we were able to ensure spay/neuter with vaccinations for nearly twice the number of animals in 2021 as compared to the previous year. Many of the animals FIDO served in 2021 had not previously been to a veterinarian and had reproduced multiple previous litters.



**1,257**

spay / neuter  
surgeries  
facilitated

# PET FOOD PANTRY

FIDO continued our monthly drive-through pantry days, started during the pandemic. We also provided walk-up services at our warehouse two days each week for a variety of other basic pet supplies, such as dog inside training crates, flea treatment, de-wormer, collars, and leashes. Each month, FIDO provided these basic supplies to over 400 households and several thousand dogs and cats. Additionally, we provided nearly 4,000 doses of flea treatment in 2021 to alleviate the misery of fleas in dogs and cats. FIDO also began sharing our warehouse with Indy Neighborhood Cats and Indiana House Rabbit Society to help these groups serve community cats and rabbits with basic supplies.



**166,000**  
pounds of pet  
food provided

# FENCING

In 2021, FIDO hired our first full-time fence program leader, in addition to a part-time fence project assistant, and a part-time scheduler. As a result, we completed 166 fence projects to free 332 dogs from the end of a chain, over twice the numbers served the previous year. FIDO overcame a national steel shortage resulting in ongoing supply chain problems and price increases for our steel kennel panels. In order to maintain our kennel panel inventory, regular trips were made throughout the state to stock up on fence materials.



**166**

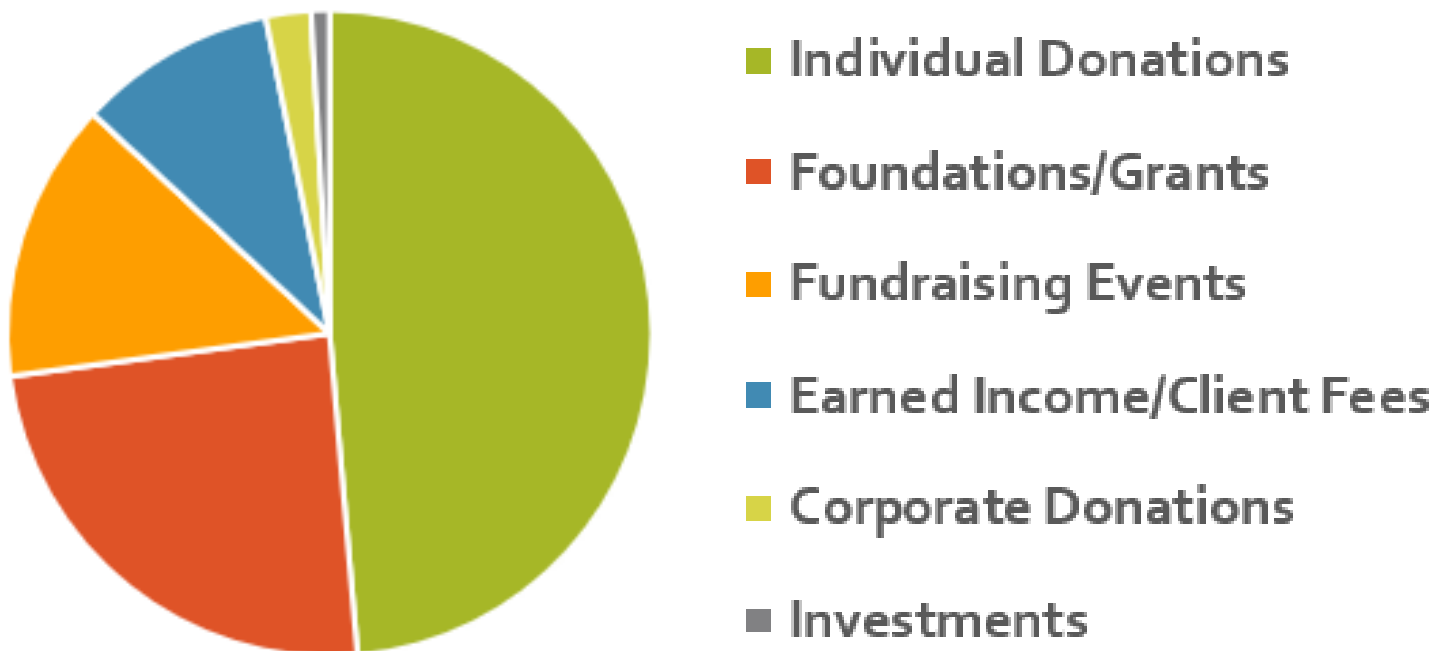
secure fenced enclosures

**332**

dogs freed from the  
end of a chain

# Revenue

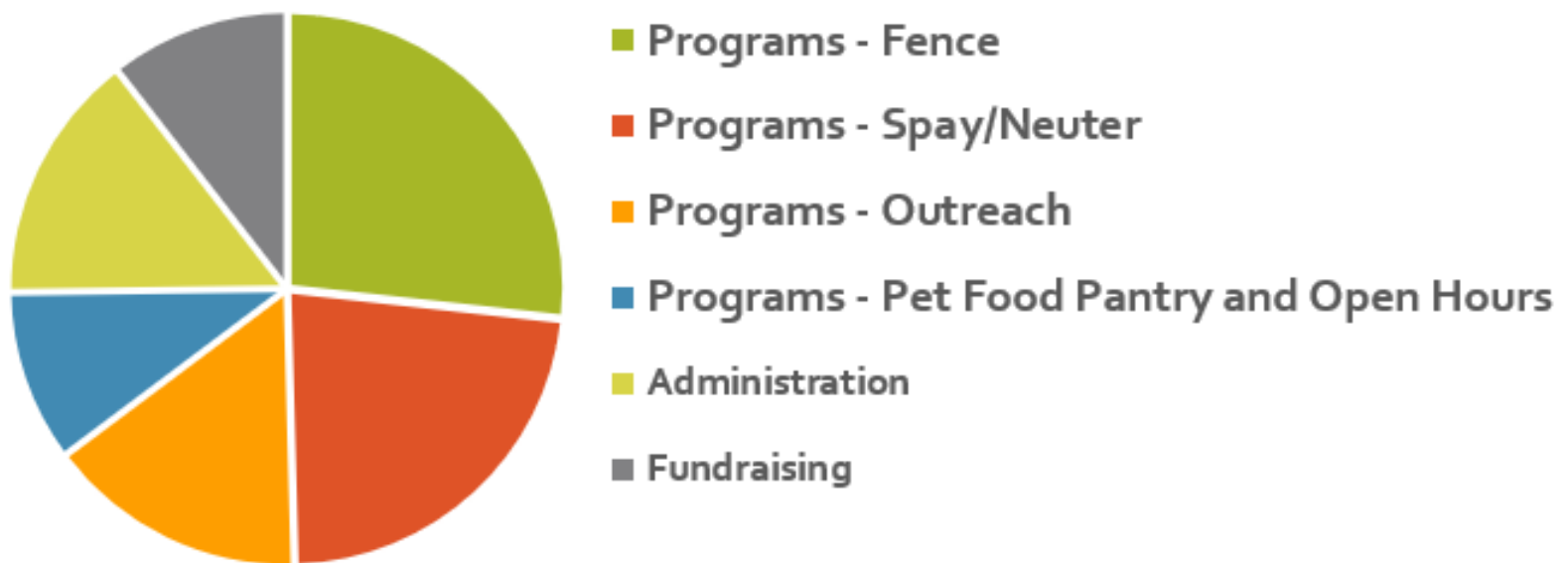
\$205,772	Individual Donations
\$102,706	Foundations/Grants
\$59,250	Fundraising Events
\$42,026	Earned Income/Client Fees
\$9,596	Corporate Donations
\$3,883	Investments
	<b>\$423,235</b>





# Expenses

\$111,721	Programs - Fence
\$95,446	Programs - Spay/Neuter
\$63,521	Programs – Outreach
\$41,879	Programs - Pet Food Pantry and Open Hours
\$61,415	Administration
\$43,927	Fundraising
	<b>\$417,909</b>



# Our Mission

To Improve the Quality of Life of  
Outside Dogs



## Looking AHEAD

In 2022, we are focused on 3 key strategies:

- Delivering effective, mission-aligned services that have a clear operating procedure, defined accountability, and a plan for measuring impact.
- Dedicating resources to better understand and expand individual donor relationships and corporate partnerships.
- Developing and maintaining accurate and consistent messaging that is appealing and accessible to a wide range of audiences.

**FIDO, Inc**

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