

ANNUAL REPORT

2025



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A Letter From Our Founder and Executive Director

In **2025**, FIDO Indy celebrated our 20th year of serving the animal welfare needs of the Indianapolis community. During our early years, our mission was to improve the quality of life of outside dogs and our name, F.I.D.O., was an acronym for Friends of Indianapolis Dogs Outside. Over the years, FIDO Indy grew from a small team of 5 volunteers and an annual budget of \$40,000 to a staff of 11 employees, 50 regular volunteers, 50 occasional volunteers, and a budget of \$715,000.

Over the years, we began helping as many inside dogs as outside dogs, because people in financial need, doing the best they could to care for their dogs, needed our help too. It was the right thing to do, helping these folks, even though their dogs were not “outside dogs”. We also began helping almost as many cats with food and spay/neuter as we did dogs through our programs. There was a great need for this assistance for house cats, so we stepped up to help. In 2024, we realized that we could not do it all and needed to make some tough choices to ensure FIDO's long-term financial health and organizational sustainability.

In 2025, we made several strategic decisions, acknowledging that we have limits and cannot do it all. **We changed our mission to include support for all dogs in need, both outside and inside dogs, and their families.** We changed our name and logo to FIDO Indy. We spent 2025 gradually transitioning our cat assistance and expenses to our partners with Indy Neighborhood Cats who are now our co-partner for new client registration and the pet food pantry. They manage procurement of cat food and house cat spay/neuter assistance. In 2025, FIDO Indy also made the strategic decision to **focus our resources on acute/crisis support for dogs vs long-term/maintenance support. This enabled us to help more people in crisis with their dogs more quickly, including those struggling with the recent cuts to SNAP and other benefits, and those people coping with recent evictions.**

This new focus enables us to help more new clients with targeted spay/neuter assistance to **have a greater positive impact on our local dog overpopulation crisis.** Throughout 2025, Indianapolis still lacked an immediate open-admission shelter for stray, abandoned, and uncared for dogs. FIDO Indy stepped up, to provide a temporary, but immediate, **safe haven for hundreds of these dogs**, using minimal financial resources, until we could transfer them to one of our rescue partners.

Due to many of these strategic changes, FIDO Indy achieved financial successes in 2025. We worked diligently to use our resources wisely and minimize expenses. We were also lucky to receive funding from **12 foundation grants** and worked to acquire 6 corporate sponsorships. We also received the incredible generosity of many **new** and **existing individual donors** in the fourth quarter of 2025, celebrating the highest total annual individual contributions in FIDO Indy's history. Due to these fundraising successes, FIDO Indy celebrated a net positive income of \$119,481, and a growth in operating reserve to 6.5 months.

Many unmet dog welfare needs remain in our community. However, FIDO Indy is in a better financial position with greater organizational sustainability to help address these unmet needs. **FIDO Indy is here for the long haul to help people with their dogs when they need us most, while also working at the roots of our city's dog welfare issues.**

Darcie Kurtz
Founder and Executive Director



OUTREACH

In 2025, our outreach team was lead by two core part-time case managers completing multiple home visits at least three days a week. When the weather became severe, other team members would join them on outreach to help outside dogs more quickly. FIDO Indy completed a total of **1,512 home visits** in 2025.

Just like in 2024, we continued to find more stray, abandoned, and unwanted dogs in need of an immediate safe haven. **FIDO Indy was able to triage 198 animals during 2025** and provided that temporary safe haven either in staff homes, boarded pro bono at Golden Post Kennels, or at our warehouse building. IndyHumane and Southside Animal Shelter were our rescue partners that took in the majority of the animals when space opened up at their shelters.

In 2025, our veterinary outreach program continued to go strong. Our volunteer veterinarian Cindy Baker and her case manager assistant provided in-home basic veterinary care every other week. They completed **167 visits** throughout the year and focused on alleviating the suffering of dogs in homes of clients who were elderly, disabled, or without transportation.

SPAY/NEUTER

FIDO Indy requires clients to comply with spay/neuter to receive assistance through our other programs. The pet overpopulation crisis was still apparent in Indianapolis throughout 2025. This is why spay/neuter assistance program targets the core of our local pet overpopulation problem while also yielding health and behavioral benefits to the animals.

FIDO Indy removes all barriers to spay/neuter by **scheduling, transporting, and funding the surgeries** at our two spay/neuter clinic partners, IndyHumane Downtown Clinic and the FACE Low-Cost Animal Clinic.

In 2025, we were able to successfully fix **1,207 pets** many of which had not previously been to a veterinarian and had produced multiple litters in the past. These pets also received vaccinations and a microchip at the time of their procedure if needed.

FENCING

The FIDO Indy fencing program provides large, secure, fenced enclosures as a humane alternative to dog tethering. Under the leadership of our fence program coordinator, we were able to construct **137 fence builds** in 2025. We continued to build fences for dogs in greatest need of a safe enclosure when outside, including those:

- that would otherwise spend much of their lives outside tethered or in a small pen,
- with owners who were elderly or disabled, especially in the case of large, strong dogs,
- that could not safely go outside due to potential attacks by stray dogs in their neighborhood, and/or
- dogs with a history of escaping and running loose in their neighborhood.



PET FOOD PANTRY

The FIDO Indy and Indy Neighborhood Cats (INC) Pet Food Pantry provided a total of **81,000 pounds of dry dog and cat food**. We also provided other low-cost pet supplies including dog and cat flea treatment, dewormer, treats, toys, inside training crates, canned dog and cat food, and cat litter.

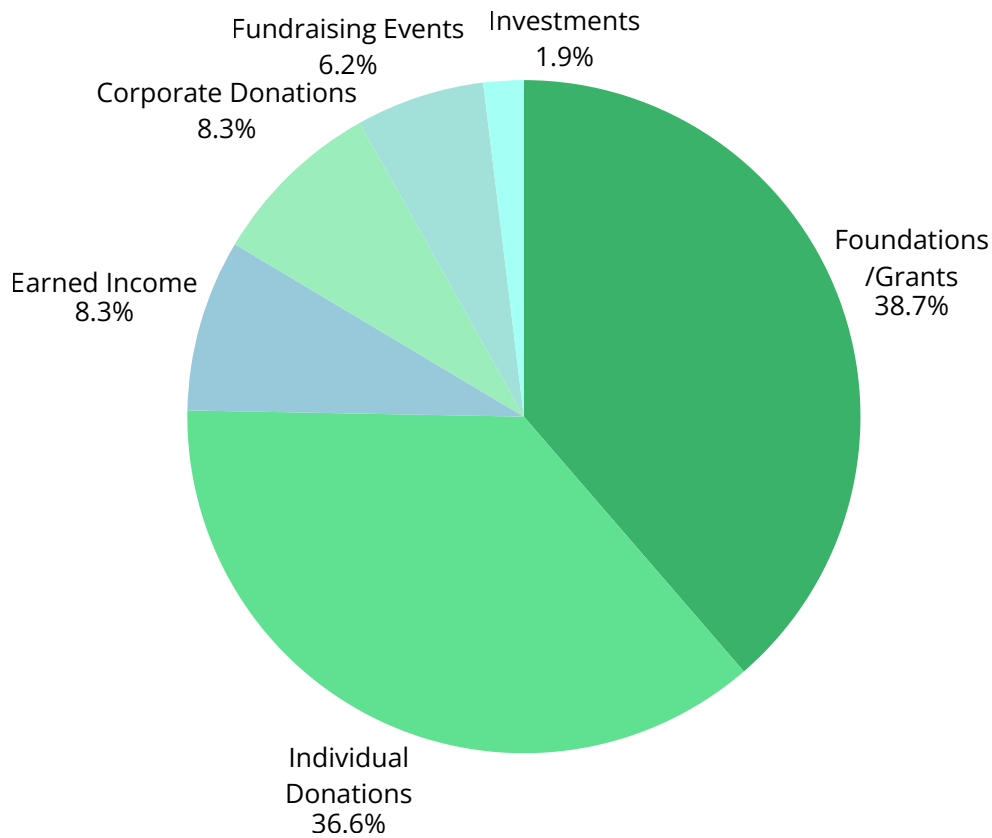
In early 2025, we transitioned our Pet Food Pantry to focus on those clients in acute crisis versus long-term support. The transition went smoothly as clients understood this was to ensure we could continue to help more people in crisis. As clients transitioned from FIDO Indy services, we provided resources and information on alternative low-cost pet food and supply options.



Financials

Unaudited

Revenue: \$801,731

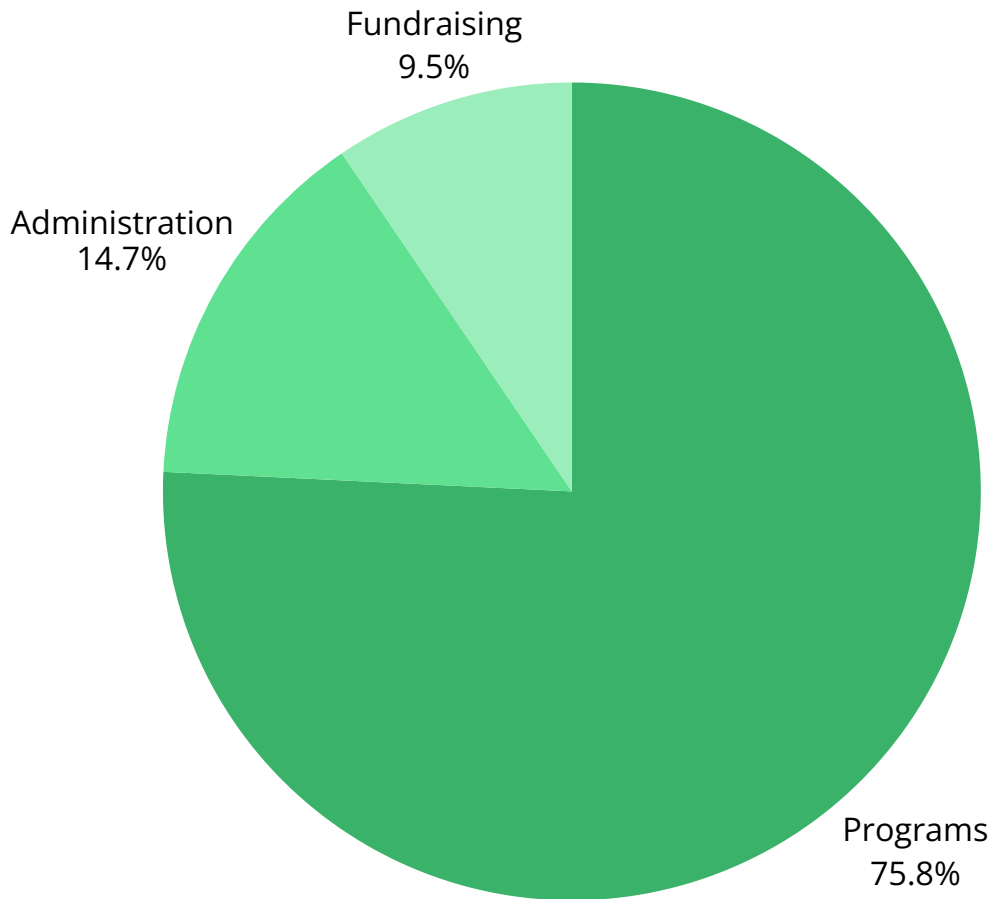


\$310,000	Foundations/Grants
\$293,672	Individual Donations
\$66,786	Corporate Donations
\$66,252	Earned Income / Client Fees
\$49,501	Fundraising Events
\$15,520	Investments

Financials

Unaudited

Expenses: \$682,251



\$516,904	Programs
\$100,462	Administration
\$64,885	Fundraising

Looking Ahead

In 2026, FIDO Indy will focus on providing crisis support for families in need through services that deliver the most significant impact at both the household and community levels. We remain dedicated to ensuring our support remains accessible and effective for the dogs that need us most.

To better serve our clients, we plan to improve our phone, texting, and email communications. These updates will allow us to provide services through all of our programs with greater speed and efficiency. FIDO Indy also intends to maintain our timely response standards for home visits, veterinary care, spay and neuter services, and fencing assistance.

FIDO Indy will expand and refine our proactive alley outreach work in targeted neighborhoods. We will focus on families with the greatest need for outside dog care and spay or neuter support. Our team will also increase neighborhood-wide engagement through door-to-door canvassing, attendance at neighborhood association meetings, and participation in local community events.

Finally, FIDO Indy will take a leading role in addressing the local dog overpopulation crisis. We aim to facilitate at least **1,000 dog spay and neuter surgeries for disadvantaged households** with pets most at risk for reproducing unwanted litters. This initiative is vital to our long-term **goal of reducing the number of at-risk dogs in our community.**



FIDO Indy

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