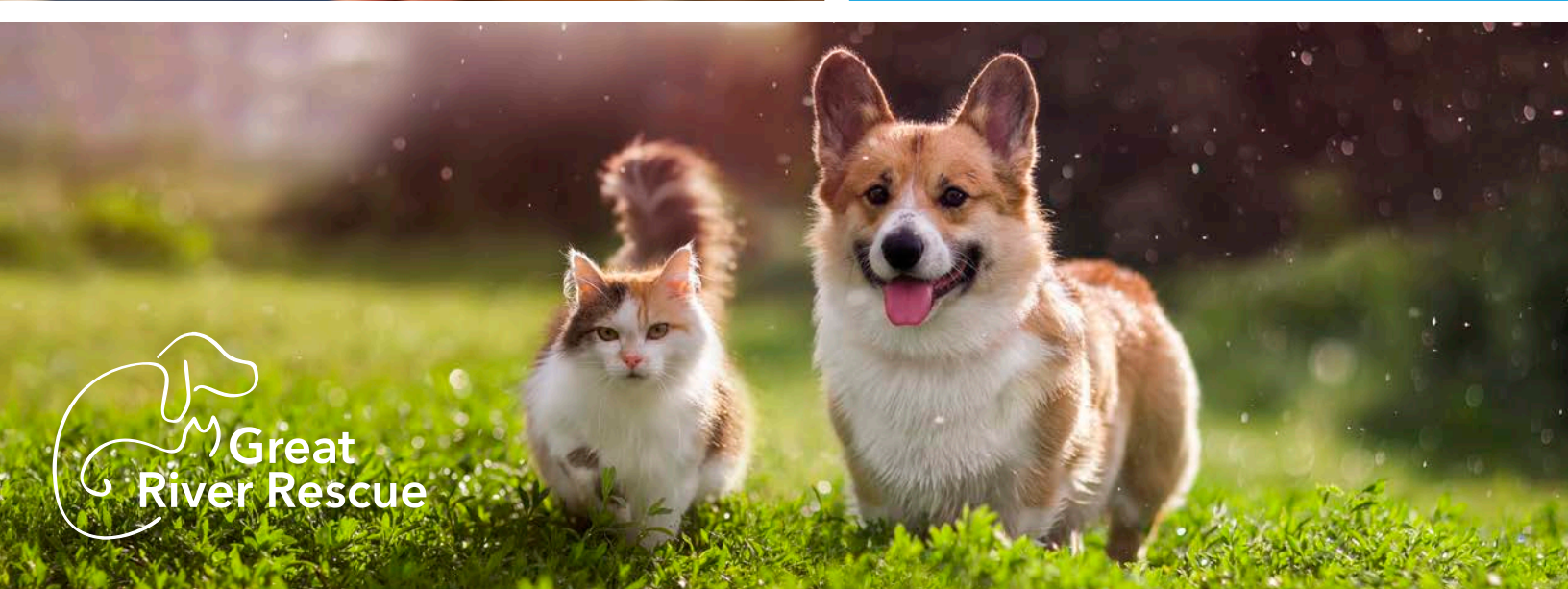


Annual Report

| 2022 FISCAL YEAR |



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Director



Dear Supporters of Great River Rescue,

I am so proud of our staff, volunteers and supporters for their efforts in 2022. Admittedly, it was another year of uncertainty and challenges. As you know, there was inflation, supply shortages, workforce shortages, and so many other volatile things happening in the world that affected Great River Rescue. Across the entire shelter industry in the United States, we have seen an increase in animal admissions, and a decrease in outcomes. This is putting extra pressure on shelters and rescues, foster caregivers, volunteers, and supporters.

Despite all of this, we remained steadfast in our work to save companion animals. We completed 342 adoptions, which was the most we've done since 2019. We continued to operate our low-cost spay/neuter program Pet Fixers and completed 664 spay/neuter surgeries. We also held three low-cost Wellness Clinics and served 90 pets with vaccinations and other preventative care treatments. In addition to this, our Outreach Committee got involved in various summer day camp programs, teaching over 700 kids about being safe around animals and responsible pet care.

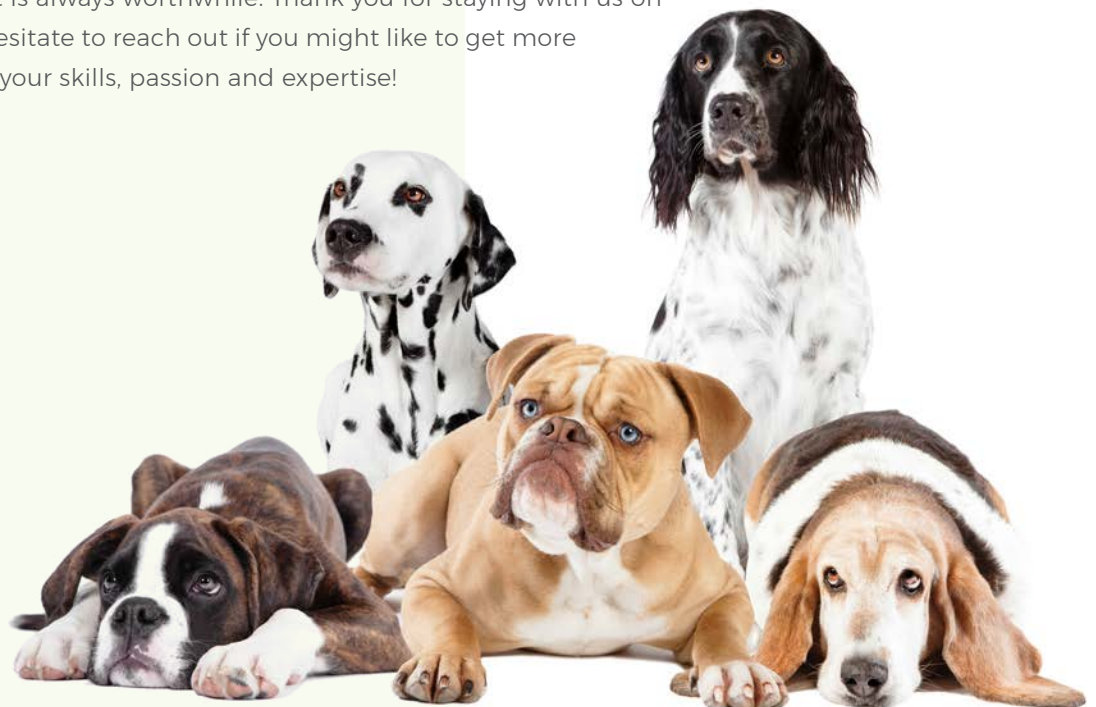
Looking forward, I am very excited for the future. As 2022 ended, the Board of Directors and I were busy working on a new 5-year strategic plan. Some of the things we need to work on include expanding our facility capacity, improving our foster care program, and providing higher quality enrichment for our shelter animals. Ultimately, we need to find a way to attract a veterinarian to meet the needs of our on-site pets. We also need to significantly reduce the length-of-stay for our shelter pets so that they can be in homes, instead of a shelter.

The work is never easy, but it is always worthwhile. Thank you for staying with us on this journey. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you might like to get more involved. We can always use your skills, passion and expertise!

Blessings,

Brandon Mustful

Brandon Mustful
Executive Director



Board Chair

Mission:

Great River Rescue transitions dogs and cats to loving homes, serves as a community resource, and advocates for kind, responsible pet care.

Vision:

Great River Rescue envisions a society of responsible animal guardians in which every animal is treated with respect and care.

Values:

Care, compassion and empathy for animals and people. Accountability to high standards of professional and ethical behavior. Respect and kindness with every decision and interaction.

Board of Directors:

Ann Mork - Chair

Ara Gallo - Vice Chair

Jeanne Edevold Larson - Treasurer

Kevin Johnson - Secretary

Eric Sundem

Jaimee Towers

Kendis Scharenbroich

Jacob Pearlson

Rory Haaland

Dr. Paul Anderson

Message from the Board Chair

Dear Friends of Great River Rescue,

Have you, like many of us, sat down to reflect on the changes in the world these last few years?

Change is an integral part of life for our companion animals at Great River Rescue. They have left their known homes for a place and people unseen. Once they arrive at the shelter, we will be the first to tell you that GRR is not the best place for them either!

Our Bemidji animals belong in the loving, caring families of our adopters. But getting there is a journey. Their journey requires many changes in location, behavior, and people. When they enter our homes we change too, adjusting our schedules, our homes...and shoes when they get chewed up! But the gift of daily joy they bring to our own lives is not measured in shoes. Its measured in our hearts where we keep the most precious memories of our companions.

At Great River Rescue, we are bridges. We are neither the beginning nor end of the journey of our animals. We are a catalyst of change. Good change with all the ups and downs that come with it. The staff, volunteers, and contributors of GRR work tirelessly to bear the weight of that transition. There is no end to the compassion that they have shown in being good stewards to these little (sometimes big) sparks of light and life that are our cats and dogs.

Please join us in congratulating Brandon Mustful, our Executive Director, on his own change. He will be leaving to pursue aspirations outside of Great River Rescue in 2023. While we are sad to see him go, we can be happy for him that change will bring him wonderful opportunities. Though the transition will present a unique challenge, we are confident with Brandon's help that the shelter will also continue to grow in positive new ways.

Cheers to change!



Ann Mork
2022 Board Chair



Accomplishments

Once again, there were many challenges at GRR and in the world in 2022. However, we persevered and continued to work hard to save companion animal lives. Below is a list of just some of the things Great River Rescue accomplished in 2022:

Spayed/Neutered 664 pets through Pet Fixers

In 2022 we held eight clinics for the public, and had two clinics with Red Lake Rosie's Rescue.

Held three low-cost Wellness Clinics

Our Animal Welfare Committee, in coordination with shelter staff, successfully planned and implemented these clinics which served 90 pets with treatments.

Visited various summer camps to teach kids about being safe around animals

Our Outreach Committee, in coordination with shelter staff, visited several summer camps and reached over 700 kids with our educational materials.

Began impactful partnership with the Animal Humane Society

24 dogs were transported up from the Southern States all the way to GRR to be given a second chance at life.

Revitalized our Mod Squad program

Mod Squad training sessions were held this past summer and two new Mod Squad volunteers were added to the program.

Increased social media outreach

While our Facebook and Instagram following have continued to steadily increase, we launched a TikTok page which gets thousands of views

We win again!

Great River Rescue was once again recognized as the Best Nonprofit and Best Place to Volunteer in the Best of the Bemidji Area Contest.

Touchstone Energy Award

Great River Rescue was awarded the prestigious Touchstone Energy Award for our service to the community.

Began a new strategic planning process

Our 2018 plan was becoming outdated, especially considering major changes in the world over the last few years. Therefore, we started reviewing and renewing our plan in the fall.



Statistics

At Great River Rescue we strive to track our activities which helps us better manage operations. Below is a collection of various statistical data collected from 2022, as well as some comparisons to previous years.

Animal Movements: 2015-2022

Total intakes, adoptions & length of stay by year

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total Intakes	362	420	400	407	392	335	328	300
Total Adoptions	364	353	390	349	360	322	288	342
Average Length of Stay (in days)	47	46	53	30	38	34	33	36

Animal Intake Detail

Animal Intakes 2022	Dog	Cat	Total
Area Pound	20	56	76
Owner Surrender	16	47	63
Stray	1	39	43
Other	75	46	108
Total	112	188	300



Outreach Statistics

Outreach 2018-2022	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Educational Presentations	61	40	4	24	47
New Online Newsletter Subscribers	249	233	321	446	669
Unique Website Visits	35010	39394	39041*	40341	39903
New Facebook Likes	563	574	711	343	800

Other Stats

Stats 2022	Dog	Cat	Total
Spay/Neuter	344	478	922
Requests for Surrender	255	650	808
Vaccinations Given	242	405	647
Vet Visits	11	39	44
Average length of stay	33	37	36 days

Volunteer Data

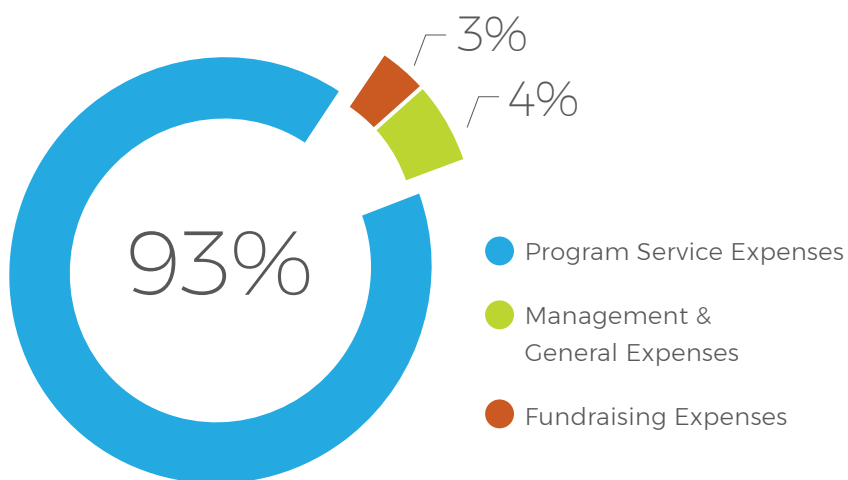
Volunteer Data 2018-2022:

Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total Hours Logged	1963	2884	2702	3212	2508
New Volunteers	54	36	18	55	40
Total Volunteers	85	90	52	83	99

Financial Highlights

While Great River Rescue received substantial financial support from the community, expenses outpaced revenues in 2022. However, many of our indicators of financial health either remained steady or improved. Here are some of the highlights of our financial year:

- » Gift shop revenues increased by nearly 60% over 2021
- » Total donors increased again to 850 which is 53% higher than 2018
- » Average gift size declined which may reflect some of the economic challenges facing our donors
- » Total funds raised from fundraising increased again to double our total from 2018
- » Expenses were just under our budget projections - 99.26%



Revenue Sources

Total Revenue	\$335,469.19
Special Event Fundraisers	19%
Special Project Fundraisers	9%
Earned Revenue	29%
Individual & Business Donations	30%
Grants	7%
In-Kind Donations	8%

Donation Data

Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total Donors	554	647	690	753	850
Average Gift Size	\$107.75	\$111.28	\$112.88	\$132.28	\$113.83

**Total donors number is an estimate. Some of our donations come through a variety of online sources and programs such as Amazon Smile which makes it challenging to track the exact number of donors to the organization. The estimated number is probably lower than the actual.*

More Highlights

Statement of Activities*

Revenues: Year End December 31, 2022

Contributions	\$183,874
Fundraising Events	\$46,316
Program Service Revenue	\$96,820
Investment Income	\$3,563
Other	\$1,433
Total	\$332,006

Statement of Activities*

Expenses: Year End December 31, 2022

Program Service Expenses	\$363,769
Management & General Expenses	\$17,565
Fundraising Expenses	\$9,916
Total	\$391,250

Balance Sheet

December 31, 2022

Current Assets	\$270,544.54
Fixed Assets	\$279,831.52
Total Assets	\$550,376.06
Current Liabilities	\$10,543.64
Long-Term Liabilities	\$0
Total Equity	\$539,832.42
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$550,376.06



| 2022 |

Services Provided

Great River Rescue is a private, non-profit, companion animal shelter located in Bemidji, Minnesota. We make every effort to save, care for, and find homes for each animal that comes through our doors. We provide high-quality care and enrichment for shelter pets and get them into homes with loving and responsible pet owners. Additionally, beginning in 2020, we offer low-cost spay/neuter services through our Pet Fixers program. Great River Rescue is supported by our community who believes in our work and has always been by our side.

Since inception in 1977, Great River Rescue has helped thousands of animals with a second chance at life. We are very proud of these and other efforts which have made our dream a reality and now allows us to provide even greater quality service for more than 300 animals per year.

Some of Great River Rescue's main services include:

- » Taking-in animals from local pounds, pet owners, and those who find strays in their communities
- » Providing quality care for each pet including vaccinations, deworming, flea/tick treatment, blood tests, spay/neuter, daily enrichment, behavior modification, microchipping, and more.
- » Adoption of animals to responsible pet owners
- » Microchipping of owned pets upon request
- » Volunteer opportunities
- » Educational outreach regarding animal welfare related issues
- » Being a resource for the community regarding animal care and welfare issues
- » Low-cost spay/neuter and preventative care services



| 2023 |

Initiatives

Great River Rescue is excited to introduce a new strategic plan with various initiatives aimed at helping us make an even greater impact such as:

- » Reviewing and revising our intake and adoption processes
- » Recruiting and retaining more volunteers and foster care providers
- » Planning for a building expansion or new facility
- » Strengthening our veterinary partnerships
- » Spreading more consistent messaging to the community about our goals
- » Building partnership in animal welfare through the Minnesota Partnership for Animal Welfare

Special Thanks!

Great River Rescue is a community supported organization. Below is a list of just some of the people, businesses, and groups that made 2022 a successful year.



- » The Animal Care Clinic
- » Northern Veterinary Clinic
- » Isaacson Vet Hospital
- » Kevin Johnson and Great River Design
- » Paul Bunyan Communications
- » Mychal Moe for her graphic design work
- » The ASPCA
- » Lueken's Village Foods
- » Dearholt Tax & Accounting
- » All businesses that have doggy banks!
- » MDU Resources Foundation
- » Beltrami Electric Cooperative
- » Ace on the Lake
- » Mix 103.7
- » Paul Bunyan Broadcasting
- » Super 8 Hotel
- » The Midco Foundation
- » The Petco Foundation
- » The Walker Area Foundation
- » Everyone who supports Great River Rescue



Thank you for
your continuing
support of Great
River Rescue!

