Dear Friends,

The Potter League for Animals has served the animals and people of Newport County since 1929. We are proud to be your Animal Resource Center and to offer our unique support and programs to the voiceless, helpless animals who rely on the care and compassion of humans.

As an open-admission shelter, the Potter League welcomes and provides compassionate care for all pets – the good, the bad, the ugly, the adorable, the healthy, sick, injured. Some animals can be with us for extended periods as we prepare them for adoption. For this reason, we work hard to ensure the animals are as comfortable and stress-free as possible in the shelter. Enrichment activities, toys, beds, places to hide, attention from volunteers, and classical music are all steps to make their shelter stay more relaxing.

Our mission to find homes for the homeless and to connect friends for life is our most important and rewarding work. We are proud to share that 962 pets were connected with their new friends for life in 2015. Another 355 lost animals were returned to their worried owners. Almost 2,500 more animals received training and veterinary care through our community programs.

The Potter League is here to make a life-changing, and frequently lifesaving, difference for every animal. Our work and the lending hand we offer are all made possible because of you. Donors are our heroes. You are the animals’ heroes.

Please know that YOU made a difference to thousands of pets entering the shelter. Your donations are at work every day as we prevent cruelty and suffering, instill a humane ethic with our humane education programs, and provide for the immediate veterinary, training and housing needs for animals. A major part of the Potter League’s funding comes from generous donors within the community, and we are so very grateful.

This year important organizational processes have been improved to ensure the best practices, leadership and efficiencies. As our new strategic planning process unfolds, we will be looking at all of our programs to find ways to better serve animals and the community. Collaboration, advocacy and outreach to underserved neighborhoods will become more important than ever to improve the Potter League’s overall efforts for animals.

Because they can’t help themselves, we invite you, through these pages, to see how your donations are spent to help animals in so many ways. And we heartily thank you for being part of this life-saving effort.

Sincerely,

Ellen Ford                                                   M. Christie Smith, CAWA
Board President                                         Executive Director

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Helping Homeless Animals

The Potter League staff is dedicated to finding the right home for all adoptable animals. The Customer Care staff assist potential adopters in finding a good fit based on an animal’s personality and an adopter’s lifestyle. This fiscal year a total of 962 animals which included 361 dogs, 496 cats and 105 small mammals/other animals were placed in loving homes.

Animals who arrive at the Potter League receive exceptional care from our dedicated staff of Animal Care Associates and volunteers. 1,485 animals found their way to the shelter either by owner relinquishment, strays, acquired by animal control officers or transferred from other shelters. 502 stray animals were brought to the Potter League and 355 lost pets were reunited with their families. Our staff continually educates the public about the importance of microchips and ID tags. Microchip clinics were offered as a reliable way to return lost animals to their worried owners. 176 dogs and cats are safer now. Our successful Fetching Friends Transport program saved 259 dogs and puppies from overpopulated shelters in the south and matched them with families in Rhode Island, nearby Massachusetts and Connecticut.

All Potter League animals receive a medical exam prior to being placed on the adoption floor. In addition, dogs and cats receive a behavior evaluation to help determine their personality and ensure the best match for their new home. Our new surgical suite allows for spaying and neutering services to be done on the premise and provides a less stressful experience for our pets.

We collect and report our statistics according to a nationally recognized formula and measure our success through the “Live Release Rate,” the placement rate for all cats and dogs that come to us for rehoming, regardless of their age, temperment or physical condition. In the last year, 1,235 pets were adopted, reunited, or transferred to placement partners. At the end of the Fiscal Year 2015 (July 31, 2015), our overall Live Release Rate was 91.2%. Reaching our goal to save the lives of all healthy and treatable companion animals takes resources and community support. Together, we are saving lives, preventing cruelty and enriching the lives of animals and people who love them.

“...That dog no one wanted became my constant companion and my best friend.”

Dear Potter League,

I adopted Howie (known as Brady then) in May of 2007. A week earlier, I took him for a walk around the building and, as I sat down next to him in the grass and he nuzzled up to me putting me on my back, I knew then he was coming home with me. In August of 2015, we came full circle as I lay down next him in the grass behind the veterinarian’s office and held him as he was put down.

Despite his quirks, I couldn’t have asked for a better dog. Every day when I got home he greeted me at the door with his tail wagging (unless he done something wrong or had escaped). He loved nothing more than going for a walk, lounging in the sun or begging for food.

Howie had been returned twice before I adopted him. The Potter League did not give up on him, allowing me to take a chance on a 1½ year old, skinny, scruffy looking (albeit cute) dog who was on medicated food that seemingly, no one wanted. Taking a chance on him 8 ½ years ago turned out to be one the best things I’ve ever done. That dog no one wanted became my constant companion and my best friend. I cannot thank the people at the Potter League enough for bringing the two of us together.

--Chris S.
Humane Education

Educating the Community

The Potter League is committed to Humane Education because animals are an important part of our well-being and deserve to be respected. They are family and our mission is to foster the relationships between people and animals. As a result, we presented 344 single and multi-lessons to 3,215 students at local schools on Aquidneck Island and neighboring Tiverton. During these informative sessions, students learned about various humane topics including responsible pet care, the needs and behaviors of animals, wildlife and the environment and to respect all living things.

Potter League staff and volunteers gave 161 students a tour of our LEED Gold building and highlighted the important work an animal shelter provides to the community. 111 kids in Grades 2-6 attended the Happy Tails Summer Camp program with many of the week long camps filling to capacity. Two of the six weeks offered are held in conjunction with the Middletown YMCA. The single day school vacation week camps held during December, February and April breaks welcomed 97 kids with many indoor activities during the long winter months. All the camps provided kids with a rewarding experience working with animals and provided lessons to help them make responsible decisions regarding animals and people in their lives.

The Reading Fur Fun literacy program provided 76 reluctant readers the opportunity to read to a dog to improve the child’s reading skills. In addition, 171 enthusiastic Girl Scouts received a special Potter League Patch. The Morris Education Center located at the Potter League also hosted a number of birthday parties offering 155 party-goers a wild time enjoying hands-on activities, animal-themed games and crafts as well as a visit by a Potter League pet.

Potter Pet University is a free monthly lecture series designed to increase community awareness on animal issues. Guest speakers share their expertise on animal-related topics which range from animal behavior and rabbit care to wildlife rehabilitation.

2015 marked the 100th Anniversary of Be Kind to Animals Week. This week, which is celebrated the first week in May each year, highlights compassion towards all animals and is celebrated with poster contests throughout the country. Our poster contest yielded over 99 entries from talented students in grades 2-12. The week culminated with an awards ceremony in honor of the poster winners.

Dear Potter League,

Hi! It’s me, “Roxy”, formerly known as “Jasmine”. I was adopted in June and have settled into my new home beautifully! Tracy and Steve are my two big humans and Anna is my little human who is four. Tracy and Steve adopted me with hopes that I might be able to bring comfort to Anna because she suffers from anxiety due to something called, Aspergers Syndrome. When Anna and I were introduced, I have to say, it was love at first sight. I admit I was a little nervous, but Anna was gentle and very sweet and she gave me a big hug. I gave her a kiss on her nose in return to let her know that it was okay and that I loved her hug. We spent the rest of the day playing and getting to know each other. Anna drew a picture of me and made me a little bed by the window so that I could look outside. When it was time to go to bed, I noticed that Anna seemed a little afraid, so to help ease her mind, I jumped into her bed and snuggled up next to her. Within minutes we were both fast asleep.

My favorite time of the day is spent with Anna. She reads her books to me or I watch her color. She’s no longer afraid of the dark because I sleep with her every night. We are the best of friends/sisters!

—Roxy

“She’s no longer afraid of the dark because I sleep with her every night.”

Roxy
Providing Positive Reinforcement

There is nothing better than a well trained dog! Strengthening the human-animal bond is a key element of the Potter League’s mission. We strive to make the Potter League the community resource center for all animal-related topics. Our Behavior and Training Center provided 3,025 dogs and puppies with a variety of classes including playgroups, obedience classes, specialty classes, new and potential adopter classes as well as Canine Good Citizen Preparation classes. Our Behavior Helpline and private consultations help families with animal-related behavior questions. By offering these types of services to educate pet owners and working together, we are able to help keep pets in their homes rather than in the shelter.

New informational programs for potential dog and cat adopters were offered monthly throughout the year. Doggy 101 and Cat Conversations, led by adoption and behavior staff, provide valuable information on what to expect when adding a new dog or cat to the home. Also, Kitten Kindergarten, a fun, interactive event to help give kittens the skills to be a healthy, well-socialized adult cat, was introduced.

Embracing Community Support

The Potter League is truly fortunate to have a constant flow of volunteer support. This fiscal year 1,250 volunteers donated 30,068 hours of time to help in all areas of the Potter League. Many of these volunteers can be seen at the shelter on a daily basis cleaning kennels and cat rooms, assisting at the front desk or socializing cats and walking dogs around the grounds. Many volunteers work behind the scenes lending a hand at fundraising events, community outreach, teaching in classrooms, collecting donation jar and data entry. There are also specialized groups of volunteers such as the HeadStart team who work one-on-one with behaviorally challenged dogs to teach them basic obedience and prepare them for adoption. Our Kneady Cat Team works with shy or fearful cats to give them lots of TLC and a better chance at getting adopted. Without these amazing people, the Potter League would not be able to keep up with the daily demands of an animal shelter.

The website and social media are increasingly important to our reputation and to the outcomes of the animals. This year a new website design was launched allowing for easy access to adoptable animals, programs and services as well as an enhanced social media capability. We welcomed 210,278 visitors to our website.

Dear Potter League,

A few short months after my daughters and I lost our father/husband to cancer, we were in need of filling a huge void. My daughters asked if we could adopt a pet. A neighbor of ours told us about the Potter League. The first day we went to visit, Rodeo caught our eyes. He’s a beautiful tiger cat that seemed so easy going and loved being pet. He was an easy choice for adoption. Rodeo took no time at all to become accustom to our home. We all look forward to walking in the door because we know he’ll come trotting down the stairs to greet us. He is very playful, he’s a great cuddler, and is my furry alarm clock in the morning. He is friendly to everyone that comes in our home. We thank our lucky stars we found Rodeo. It is more like he rescued us rather than we rescued him. He is such a big part of our little family.

Thank you to the Potter League for taking him in and caring for him as a little kitten. What you do is very special to our furry friends.

--Jane and Family
Potter League Donors

The Potter League is truly grateful to all the individuals, families, businesses, organizations, corporations and foundations for their generous support. Every contribution has a lasting impact on the animals and helps to foster better relationships between people and their animal companions. This list is comprised of gifts received between August 1, 2014 and July 31, 2015 and does not include tickets or goods and services purchased at our special events.

$25,000 +
Anonymous (1)
Mr. James Berwind & Mr. Kevin Clark and The Berwind Fund LLC
Ms. Linea Bostrom and The Amy Morril 2006 Charitable Trust
Prince Charitable Trust
Rhode Island Foundation
van Beuren Charitable Foundation
Mrs. Alfred S. Wilsey

$10,000 - $24,999
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Benson and BankNewport Charitable Fund
Ms. Lee Bailey and The Schwab Charitable Fund
Aetna Foundation
The William D. Laurie, Jr. Family Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. David H. Laurie and Ms. Christine M. Langevin
Mrs. Mary Ann H. Lamont
Ms. Joann C. Kuss
The Anthony & Stacey DiCroce Family Foundation
Mrs. John P. Dolan

$1,000 - $4,999
Anonymous (1)
A. Tesa Architecture
Aetna Foundation
Aquidneck AutoCenter, Inc.
Fritz and Pembroke Attaway
Ms. Lee Bailey and The Schwab Charitable Fund
BankNewport
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Benson and The Hamilton Family Foundation
Betty Byrne de Zahara Charitable Trust
Mr. & Mrs. Edward T. Harvey, Jr. The Helen E. & Stanley H. Grossman Fund and The Rhode Island Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. S. Matthews V. Hamilton, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. William Kahane
Mr. & Mrs. William L. Leatham
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph P. Licameli
Mrs. Mireille A. McGail
Ms. Barbara Miller
Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Nagle
People’s Credit Union
Peto Foundation
Portsmouth Veterinary Clinic
Sophia Ped Dawson Charitable Trust
Mrs. Lorraine N. Vermillion

$5,000 - $9,999
Bank Rhode Island
Mr. & Mrs. Edward T. Harvey, Jr. The Helen E. & Stanley H. Grossman Fund and The Rhode Island Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Richard L. Brickley Jr. and Ms. Leilani Brenner
Mr. & Mrs. Richard L. Brickley Jr. and The Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
Mrs. Josephine B. Brownell
Mr. & Mrs. John F. Burton
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Capodilupo
Mr. & Mrs. John S. Carter, Jr.
Mr. Jon Cohen & Ms. Nancy Donahue
Mr. Michael R. Corcoran
Ms. Elizabeth R. Deblais Yale
Ms. Diane DeMarco, CFRE
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen G. DiCicco
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony DiCroco and The Anthony & Stacey DiCroco Family Foundation
Mrs. John P. Dolan
Mr. & Mrs. David G. Enstone
Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan G. Epstein
Mr. & Mrs. Peter M. Eskeland
Mr. Peter C. Flynn
Mr. & Mrs. Barry J. Ford
Mr. & Mrs. Michael G. Fox
Mrs. Carolyn Frye
Mr. and Mrs. * F. Francis J. Furtado
Ms. Patricia A. Galuska
Gustave White Sotheby’s International Realty
Mr. & Mrs. Martin J. Guyotte

$1,000 - $25,000
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\[ \text{Total Income} = \text{\$1,982,632} \]

\[ \text{Total Expenses} = \text{\$1,839,397} \]

Bequests - Forever Friends Society

With heavy hearts we thank our Forever Friends listed below. Their gifts exemplify their legacy, their values and their commitment to animals.

Mrs. Marie Louise Betty
Mrs. Doris H. Cing Mars
Mrs. Esther Lauallen
Mrs. Mena G. O’Connor

In-Kind Gifts

Thank you to the following businesses and individuals who donated gifts and services valued over $250.

Almora Cosmetic, Inc.
Bellevue Wine & Spirits
Billy Black Photography
Black Dog General Store
Bridge To Fitness
Bristol Harbor Inn
Bunrries Unlimited, LLC
C & S Portable Restrooms
Carol Miller Designs
Ms. Carolyn Allen
Chanterelle Boutique Catering
Classic Cruises of Newport
Ciffsde In
Coastal Extreme Brewing Co., LLC
Core Strength & Conditioning
Custom House Coffee
Dynasty Shoes
Edgar, Inc.
Eastern Mountain Sports
Mr. & Mrs. David G. Enstone
Exquisite Events
Mr. Mark C. Fernandez
Flint Audio-Video
Forty 1st North
Francis Malbone House
Frank Antonio Hair & Makeup
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Fisher
Glorious Affairs
Grayson Photo Art
Greenvale Vineyards
Ms. Jamie Hanak
Hyatt Regency Newport
IDC, Inc.
Ms. Leslie Jarbeau
Mr. Jack P. Jefferies
Johnson Brothers of Rhode Island
Lilo
Major League Baseball
Ms. Mary C. Teixeira
Ms. Susan R. Little
Milk & Honey
Newport Country Club
NewportFILM
Newport Harbor Corporation
Newport Lamp & Shade Company
Newport Lobster Co., Inc.
Newport Naked Magazine
Newport Seen
Newport Tent Company, Inc.
Newport Vineyards
Olympic Physical Therapy
Mr. Len Paraggi
PDQ Printing, Inc.
Mr. & Mrs. Alan W. Peacock
Rentals Unlimited
Rhythm Productions
Rhode Island Zoological Society
Ron duPrey Sailing Foundation
Ms. Lisa C. Ruth
Sayles Livingston Flowers
Seaaspe Yacht Charters
Sequinn
Simmons Farm
Style Newport
Team Alvimedica & Kathy Ross
Ms. Aubrielle Tesa
The Newport Daily News
The Spa at the Providence Biltmore
Mr. Eric Vaa
Victorian Ladies Inn
Villari's Martial Arts
Wanumetonomy Golf & Country Club
Wave Length Salon & Spa
Ms. Marguerite Wells
WPRF 12 Fox Providence

Matching Gift Companies

Thank you to the companies listed below for matching their employee's gifts and supporting philanthropy in the workplace.

Aetna Foundation
Amica Companies Foundation
Amica Mutual Insurance Company
Bank of America Matching Gifts
Biogen Idec
Citizens Charitable Foundation
Embrace Home Loans
Exxon Mobile Foundation
FM Global
Grainger
Swarowski Matching Gifts Program
The Plymouth Rock Foundation
United Health Group Employee Giving

Veterinarians

A special thanks to these doctors and veterinary practices who contributed their medical expertise and care to the homeless animals at the Potter League.

Kitty Corner Cat Clinic
Mt. Hope Animal Hospital
Mobile Veterinary Routine Care
Newport Animal Hospital
Portsmouth Veterinary Clinic
Sakonnet Veterinary Hospital
Mark Stamoulis, DVM, DACVIM

We apologize for any inaccuracies in our listings of contributors. Please call our Development Department at 401-846-0592 with any corrections.

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Executive Director
Amy Chamard
Director of Operations
Erin O’Gara Dollard
Director of Development
Kerry McKinnon
Director of Marketing, Communications & Outreach
Nancy Wrathall
Director of Finance & Administration
Pam Collum
Animal Care Manager
Sarah deVries
Behavior Services Manager
Pearl Gonzalez
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Gail Lawson
Volunteer Coordinator

Kristen Beaty
Humane Educator
Anastacia Southland
Humane Educator
Meredith Chapman
Administrative Assistant
Jill Homen
Administrative Assistant

- - -

Veterniary Associates

Amy Bussell
Senior Animal Associates
Jamie Estrella
Nikole Meabe

Animal Care Associates
Brittinie Coray
Michelle D’Arcangelo
Amanda Foster
Samantha Palumbo
Amanda Pimental

Customer Care Associate
Kristen Bessette
Hilary Bliss
Teri MacKinnon
Judie Porter

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Our Mission

The Potter League for Animals is dedicated to making a difference in the lives of animals.

We promote the humane treatment of all animals and provide shelter and care for lost or unwanted companion animals.

Through community education and the fostering of relationships between people and animals, we enhance the animals’ future and enrich the human experience.

Photo credits: Meri Keller, Carol Chabot, Al Tetreault, Mike Clarke, Megan Maguire, Allan Millora, Kim Levin and Kerry McKinnon