Our Seniors for Seniors program enables seniors to have senior dogs as companions—whether by adopting, or by hanging out at one of our many “Cuddle Club” events. At Cuddle Club, senior groups come for an afternoon of socializing with the mutts and each other.

We welcome groups of children to Muttville for humane education programs in which they meet senior dogs and learn how to care for them. The dogs love it! (The kids do, too.)

Muttville gets well over a hundred requests a week to rescue senior dogs, mostly from overcrowded shelters whose only other option is euthanasia. We’re able to say yes to 22-23 dogs a week on average. Our decision depends on capacity— including ability to care properly for the dog at intake, foster homes available, medical care available. It’s always difficult to say no. But this year we hit a new record—1,089 dogs rescued!

We divide adoptions into four categories—regular adoptions, hospice adoptions in which an ill dog is placed for love and care for its remaining days, foster families who adopt their foster dogs, and senior citizens who adopt a senior dog. The last category is especially important to us—we think our dogs make perfect companions for seniors, and we try to help seniors adopt by waiving our fee and providing supplies.

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1,029 students served through our humane education program

Senior Socials

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266 People attended Cuddle Clubs

32 Cuddle Club Events

Volunteers are the biggest reason we’re able to do so much with limited resources. Our volunteers do everything from intake and dog-walking to administration and cleanup. Our corporate groups tackle special projects. Thanks for the painting, envelope-stuffing, and inventory-taking!
Muttville is committed to providing our dogs the best possible new beginning. Whether we say yes to a dog depends in part on whether we’re able to provide adequate medical care – care from our own staff, from volunteers, or from adopters themselves.

Many dogs come to us neglected and in ill health. Some have never seen a veterinarian. Every dog who comes to us gets an intake exam to get a better picture of the challenges ahead, along with the care needed for a real new beginning.

In 2018, we rehabbed the top floor in our building to give more space to our veterinary staff and allow them to provide preliminary care more efficiently. Some dogs come to us in terrible pain. We can relieve so much suffering by being able to diagnose and treat soon after the dogs arrive.

When we can perform intake exams more quickly, we can treat dogs more quickly, and find them forever homes more quickly. And the more quickly our dogs are adopted, the more lives we can save.

Our dogs get their new beginnings thanks to so many: our donors, our volunteers, the medical professionals who devote so much time, and our adopters, who continue to invest in the health and well-being of their dogs.

2,221 VOLUNTEER HOURS IN THE VET CLINIC

Veterinarians, vet techs, and dedicated individuals donate their time and expertise to the well-being of our dogs, performing everything from blood draws to surgery, physical therapy and acupuncture.

In 2018, veterinarians contributed 358 hours. Veterinary technicians contributed 171 hours. And other volunteers contributed 1,692 hours in our veterinary suite.

SIGNIFICANT SURGERIES & PROCEDURES IN 2018

- **25.9%** x-rays (201 total, 194 of which were chest x-rays)
- **31.2%** dentals (242)
- **17.1%** echocardiograms (133)
- **10.2%** mass removals (79 total, 47 of which were mammary masses)
- **8.9%** spay/neuter surgeries (69)
- **6.7%** other (52), including hernia repairs, enucleations, cystectomies, jaw repair, and oral-nasal fistula repair

Among Muttville’s unsung heroes are our foster families, who have fostered over 900 dogs in 2018. Many Muttville dogs are adopted so quickly they never go to foster! Our foster families bring scared and often neglected dogs into their homes and give them love and care until they find their forever homes.

Kate and John (with Peanut, above) are not only a foster family, but they’re hospice adopters, too, caring for our most critically ill dogs. “We feel like it’s our calling to take dogs in their final days into our home and hearts and show them the love they deserve,” Kate said.

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300+ FOSTER FAMILIES

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