Fostering Kindness through Humane Education
Message from the President

On behalf of the Board of Directors of NHES, I thank you—our generous donors—for doing your part to help create a more humane world because without you, our work would not be possible.

This past fiscal year marked a major milestone in NHES’ history: NHES was founded in 1948 by Mrs. Anna C. Briggs (Mrs. Briggs) and January 1, 2018 marked the beginning of NHES’ 70th Anniversary Year. Reaching this milestone reiterated that NHES has withstood the test of time and it also prodded me to think about the evolution of the animal welfare field, and the role that NHES and its programs have played in this process.

For those of us who work in the animal welfare field and you—humane-minded persons who have supported NHES throughout the years—we sometimes lose sight of the progress that has been made on behalf of animals because we are well aware that neglect and abuse of companion animals is still commonplace; as is the continued killing of healthy cats and dogs in our nation’s animal control facilities in order to make room for the next wave of abandoned cats and dogs. But, we must remind ourselves that we, as a society, have made measurable progress toward the creation of a more humane world for animals in our country, and NHES has played a meaningful role in helping to bring about this progress.

In the 40’s 50’s and 60’s, for which the data is really sketchy, Mrs. Briggs taught us that untold tens of millions of cats and dogs were being killed in America. During these decades, it was not uncommon to find dog pounds located near municipal dumps for ease of disposing of the animals that were being killed as a means of population control. The shooting of dogs—especially in rural areas—was also included as an acceptable means of death in addition to suffocation in gas chambers, electrocution and yes, even drowning.

During this same timeframe, an ever-increasing number of nonprofit animal welfare organizations came into existence to combat this senseless killing, including NHES, which was among the trailblazing no-kill organizations. In 70 years, NHES has never killed a healthy animal—and never will.

In the 90’s, the data was becoming more reliable and we—as a society—were killing an estimated 20 million animals a year.

Today, in 2018, as a society, we are killing an estimated 3 million cats and dogs a year. While this number—3 million—is still deplorable and far beyond the pale, it is proof that the arc of civilization does, in fact, bend towards progress—because 17 million less cats and dogs being killed today than were being killed in the 90’s represents measurably significant progress. There is, however, much work to be done and with your help, NHES will continue to do its part, albeit a small part in the wide scheme of things, to achieve an even greater reduction in animal suffering in the years to come via its programs:
(1) Humane Education & Advocacy that fosters a sentiment of kindness to animals in children and adults.

(2) The Briggs Animal Adoption Center, NHES’ flagship animal care and adoption facility that has established standard-setting guidelines for animal care and adoption services.

(3) Spay Today which reduces the overpopulation of unwanted animals through the humane practice of providing reduced-cost spay and neuter services.

(4) Alliance Partnerships that establish cooperative efforts with other standard-setting organizations such as The Network for Endangered Sea Turtles, Friends of Felines—Hatteras Island, and Operation Catnip.

In FY 2018, we welcomed 9,204 visitors from 21 states, Puerto Rico, and Washington, D.C. to the NHES campus. As in past years, we spread our humane message across the country; we spayed/neutered, fed, micro-chipped, placed in quality adoptive homes, or otherwise helped 7,484 cats and dogs, 200 sea turtles, untold hundreds of ground-nesting birds, and also Monarch Butterflies.

As you review our activities and accomplishments during the past year, we hope that you will be pleased with our efforts.

On behalf of The Board of Directors of NHES, I invite you to come visit with us and to take a tour of the NHES campus so that you can see first-hand how your charitable donations are being put to work to help rescue, rehabilitate and decrease the suffering of our animal friends. We believe you will like what you find here. We’re located slightly more than an hour’s drive from Washington, D.C., in the beautiful countryside of Jefferson County, West Virginia. We hope to see you soon—and we thank you!

Jim Taylor, President
Humane Education & Advocacy

In 1954, Alice Morgan Wright, NHES board member wrote of NHES, “In 1948 we incorporated, a small group of us, to carry on what we think is one of the urgent needs of our time, Humane Education.” Today, this urgent need is still with us, and the NHES Humane Education & Advocacy Program is doing its part to meet this need by providing humane education services to help bring about the creation of a more humane world.

This year, the Humane Education & Advocacy program distributed nearly 2,488,859 educational letters (an increase of 2% from last year) appealing to individuals to spay/neuter, adopt, volunteer or otherwise take action to help create a more humane world for animals.

Humane educators and program staff presented to or otherwise engaged 18,091 children and adults across the country with our humane message. These children and adults included visitors to the NHES campus, Cool to Care camp attendees, children’s groups such as the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Boys and Girls Clubs, Chamber of Commerce members, and elementary school students along the east coast such as:

- New York: 685 students
- Maryland: 1,910 students
- Virginia: 750 students
- West Virginia: 3,638 students
Cool To Care Camps

Each year, humane educators provide three weeks of Cool to Care Camps (Camps) for children entering the 1st through 9th grades. Each of the Camps is packed with cooperative activities, creative projects, thematic crafts, volunteer projects, and guided interactions with animals. This year, these activities fostered a sentiment of kindness to animals by helping the children practice socially responsible behaviors with animals both wild and domestic. Here are some photographs from our Camps:
Humane educators presented two Teaching Kindness Workshops. One was held in the Humane Education & Training Center on the NHES Campus and the other in Ona, West Virginia. Participants received practical guidance for group management, best practices in youth outreach, public speaking fundamentals, and participant recruitment. Attendees also learned how to lead 6 unique humane education activities in classroom or animal-sheltering settings.
Action Alerts

Each year, humane educators compose and distribute action alerts advocating for the humane treatment of animals to private companies and to local, state and federal governments. These alerts include new and pending pieces of legislation, corporate decisions, and ordinances affecting animal welfare throughout the United States.

Each action alert includes a link to enable readers to contact the appropriate official to express his/her stance regarding each animal welfare issue. Every action alert is posted to the NHES website and NHES’ Facebook and Twitter pages. A select number of action alerts are also featured in NHES’ monthly e-newsletter and pending legislation is emailed to residents of affected states.
This year, humane educators composed and distributed 92 action alerts and here is just a sampling:

- New Jersey Bill A-772 Will Increase The Penalty for Animal Abuse
- California May Become First State To Ban Retail Sale of Puppies, Kittens
- An Arizona Senator is Pushing for State Animal Cruelty Registry
- New Bill in NY Would Keep Tenants from Leaving pets Behind
- New York Passes The Elephant Protection Act
- Forsyth County, GA, May Pass Ordinance to Keep Animal Abusers Away from Pets
- NJ State Commission of Investigation Uncovers Abuse of Power at NJSPCA
- Denver, Colorado, May Pass City-Wide Ban on Cat Declaw Surgeries
- PUPPPERS Act Would Ban Painful Experimentation of Dogs By the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- Massachusetts Seeks To Protect Abandoned Animals
Educational Materials

NHES humane educators distributed 12,529 humane education guides, educational brochures, and informational posters (an increase of 9% from last year) to humane societies, service agencies, veterinary offices, schools, and rescue groups in 34 states—and even more educational material was downloaded for free from nhes.org, copied and distributed.

These materials were distributed across the country and the following is a sampling of some of the recipient organizations:

Chino Valley Animal Shelter, AZ    Longmont Humane Society, CO    Faithful Friends Animal Society, DE
TLC PetSnip, Inc., FL    Henry County Humane Society, GA    ANH Bear Lake, ID
Linda’s Magnificent Mutt Rescue, IL    Hope for Animals Rescue Team, KY    Humane Society of Louisiana, LA
Old Drum & Friends Animal Shelter, MO    Hope After School, MD    Coastal Humane Society, ME
Brother Wolf Animal Rescue, NC    Nassau County SPCA, NY    Pay It Forward For Pets, OH
Lycoming County SPCA, PA    Helotes Humane Society, TX    Angleton Animal Control Adoption Ctr., TX
Twin County Humane Society, VA    One Animal World, WA    Humane Society of Montgomery Co., VA
Canadian Animal Assistance Team, Canada
Spay Today operates from the NHES campus and serves as a tangible example of NHES’ commitment to reducing the number of homeless animals through the humane solution of spaying and neutering. **Since its creation in 1994 with one part-time employee and two participating veterinarians, Spay Today has grown to include a staff of five employees and 27 participating veterinary clinics in the tristate area and through June 30, 2018, provided 69,456 spay/neuter procedures.**

This year, through a network of 27 participating veterinary hospitals (up 10% from last year), Spay Today:

- Provided 4,043 reduced-cost spay/neuter procedures. Of these 4,043 animals, 259 were TNR Community Cats—up 10% from last year.

- Assisted clients from 34 counties in 5 states: Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Michigan—and Washington, D.C.

- Provided many rescue groups and humane societies with reduced-cost services throughout the quad-state such as:

  - Dawn’s Cat Sanctuary
  - Forever Love
  - Give Purrs a Chance
  - HBPA
  - Jefferson County Animal Control
  - Little Buddies
  - Morgan County Animal Control
  - Morgan County Humane Society
  - Owen’s Rescue
  - Pat’s Little Angels
  - Rainbow of Love
  - Save the Tails
  - Second Chance Animal Rescue
  - String of Pearls
  - Tails of Hope
Provided information and referral assistance to people across the country to help them locate reduced-cost spay/neuter clinics and rabies clinics.

Provided additional assistance via Anne's Fund which enabled 144 more animals—82 female cats, 11 female dogs, 11 male dogs and 1 male rabbit—to be spayed or neutered.

Participated in National Spay Day in February by providing additional discounts to clients, which helped spay 19 female cats, 2 female dogs and 11 male cats for a total of 32 spay/neuters.

Worked cooperatively with the Horseman’s Benevolent and Protection Association to help spay 20 free-roaming male cats that live around the stables.

“Community Cats”
The Briggs Animal Adoption Center

The Briggs Animal Adoption Center is NHES’ flagship animal care facility and one of the finest animal care facilities in the country. It is a place where thousands of neglected and abused animals throughout the years have come to know their first gentle touch of a human hand. It is a place of remarkable transformation where animals come to shed their fears and once again trust and find comfort in friendship with humans.

The Briggs Animal Adoption Center’s sister organization, Peace Plantation Animal Sanctuary, became operational in 1950. It ceased operations in 2014, and all of NHES’ hands-on animal care services were absorbed by The Briggs Animal Adoption Center. Since 1950 through June 30, 2018, these two facilities have rescued, rehabilitated and placed 37,304 cats and dogs in permanent loving homes in 15 states and Washington, D.C.

This year, The Briggs Animal Adoption Center’s rescue, rehabilitation and adoption efforts included:

- Accepting animals in need from myriad organizations including Potomac Highlands Animal Rescue, Jefferson County Animal Control, Webster County Pound, Page County Animal Shelter, Stray Hearts Animal Rescue, Rainbow of Love Rescue, Pat’s Little Angels Rescue.

- Rescuing abandoned animals and taking in animal victims of Hurricane Florence.

- Accepting companion animals from their human companions who could no longer care for them.

- Providing hands-on rehabilitative care to 503 cats and dogs.

- Placing 299 animals (167 dogs & 132 cats) in quality adopted homes.
Pictured above are some of the dogs that you helped save and place in quality adoptive homes this year.
Pictured above are some of the cats that you helped save and place in quality adoptive homes this year.
At our in-house veterinary hospital, our veterinary medical staff performed:

- 235 spay/neuter procedures
- 125 dental cleanings/tooth extractions, and
- administered 1,842 vaccines to rescued animals

**Food Bank**

- Distributed nearly 10,000 lbs. of food, which helped provide emergency food for an estimated 500 cats and dogs.

“NHES donated pet food and hundreds of 5-in-1 vaccines to local rescues and animal shelters”
Paws of Love Paintings

Animals for adoption at The Briggs Animal Adoption Center showed their artistic side by creating “Paws of Love” paintings. We also made and distributed gift cards from those paintings.
Wonderful Volunteers!

NHES is very thankful for our wonderful volunteers who give so freely of their time and resources to help create a more humane world. This year, 62 dedicated volunteers donated 2,204 hours to NHES’ programs and events. Through their generous gift of time and most important—love—they helped heal the wounds of animal neglect and abuse, and to all of them we say, **THANK YOU!**

In addition to working directly with the animals, volunteers assisted with a variety of events, including:

**Footin’ For Animals**
20th Annual Adoption Alumni & Blessing of the Animals
Bark at the Moon Glow Walk
17th Annual Pedal for Pooches
Tree Planting
Tails on Trails
Alliance Partnerships

NHES provides funding to other select standard-setting animal welfare organizations whose work embodies one of NHES’ 12 Guiding Principles and helps achieve and optimum reduction in animal suffering. Once again this year, our partners included:

1. Operation Catnip, Gainesville, Florida

Whereas 2018 marked NHES’ 70th Anniversary, it also marked Operation Catnip’s 20th Anniversary. NHES has been supporting Operation Catnip since its founding in 1998, and they wrote the following letter to NHES—please see next page:
Dear NHES,

Thanks to your support, so much has been accomplished during the past 20 years. We are proud of how far we have come and your support has allowed Operation Catnip to become a force in animal welfare.

In the past 20 years 3,502 different individuals volunteered at our clinics. Of those volunteers, 1,121 were vet students and 354 were licensed Veterinarians.

During that same time frame, we have provided medical care to 57,886 cats. Vet students performed 11,095 spay surgeries and 17,188 neuter surgeries. It is humbling when you look at those numbers and realize how much more prepared those students were as they graduated from school and began their careers. Your financial support ensured not only quality care for the cats that came through our monthly clinics but enhanced the quality of care those students provided to the animals in their care after graduation.

We have entered a new phase of our growth as an organization and …

Most of our programming gives vet students at the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine opportunities to build on their coursework through hands on care of community cats. Additionally, our volunteer core consists primarily of students of UF, some of which are not majoring in animal sciences, and these lay students develop a strong sense of awareness for community cats in particular, animal welfare in general.

The National Humane Education Society has been such a large part of our life and growth. We would not be here without you!

All the best,

Audrey Garrison, Executive Director
2. The Network for Endangered Sea Turtles (NEST), Kitty Hawk, North Carolina

NEST rescued 200 turtles and overall, 2018 was a standout year for NEST as revealed in the following letter from of NEST to NHES:

Dear NHES:

On behalf of all NEST volunteers, we thank … NHES for your extremely generous ongoing support. N.E.S.T. has surpassed every single goal set for 2018. We placed Bluetooth temperature data loggers in all the nests laid on our beaches and by mid-season, we were able to predict the emergence times of hatchlings from nests within just a few days. NESTers and beachgoers alike enthusiastically listened to nests with high powered microphones placed beneath the sand. Hatchlings’ movement heard prior to emergence along with temperature predictions signaled volunteers to focus on nests when and where help was needed. We were, along with our friends on Hatteras Island, able to listen to and record the vocalizations of hatchlings before they emerged from their nests. We believe this is the first time loggerhead embryos or hatchlings were ever recorded. (Yes! We now know sea turtle embryos vocalize while they are in the shell.) …

Last year’s successful pilot project at Kitty Hawk Elementary School made the study of sea turtles part of the school’s core curriculum. N.E.S.T. has now expanded the program to include Nags Head Elementary as part of our efforts to train future sea turtle guardians. We are also working to educate students across the nation about sea turtles through breakoutedu.com. We intend to build on these accomplishments by continuing to reach out to other schools and grades in Dare County.

N.E.S.T. not only focused on new projects but also carried out our traditional core work of protecting nests and hatchlings, educating students and the public about our beloved sea turtles and rescuing/rehabilitating injured and cold stunned sea turtles. We rescued and cared for over two hundred juvenile and adult turtles in the past 12 months. We developed a new education brochure and poster and …. 

Established in 1995, N.E.S.T. is an all-volunteer 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to the protection and conservation of sea turtles and other marine wildlife in the Outer Banks of North Carolina. … We again thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Dennis Pohl, President
"Jo, a rehabilitated loggerhead turtle released to the ocean."

"A loggerhead turtle laying eggs."
"Very rare triplet turtle eggs."

"Turtle track leading to nest site"

"A mother turtle leaving the nest after laying her eggs in the middle of the night"
3. **Friends of Felines, Hatteras Island, North Carolina:**

- Began its 12th year of TNR
- Sponsored 3 TNR Community Cat Clinics with the help of North Carolina State Veterinary School
- 133 community cats were spayed/neutered, micro-chipped, vaccinated for distemper & Rabies, treated for fleas/parasites and ear-tipped for identification
- Continued providing food to the caregivers of the 20 feral cat colonies in the 7 villages on Hatteras Island.

In addition to covering the costs of the micro-chips, NHES funds were also applied to the construction of new feeding stations for some of the island’s ferals.
NHES Campus Grounds

This past year, at the NHES campus, we:

- Continued working cooperatively with the Potomac Valley Audubon Society (PVAS) to manage the 9.4 acres of grasslands for grassland-nesting birds. To reiterate, PVAS informs, “The numbers of grassland-nesting birds dropped precipitously, many losing more than 80% of their population in the past 45 years. Habitat loss, land-use changes, pesticide applications, and early cutting are all conspiring against birds like Northern Bobwhite, Eastern Meadowlark, Bobolink, Vesper Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, Henslow’s Sparrow, and Ring-necked Pheasant.” Of course, we also provided for non-ground-nesting birds such as the Eastern Bluebird.
In late summer, on a 72 degree overcast day, the following 14 species of birds were spotted during a ½ a mile walk along the campus’ walking path:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mourning Dove</td>
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<tr>
<td>Turkey Vulture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Wood-Pewee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tree Swallow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barn Swallow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carolina Wren</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Starling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House Finch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field Sparrow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Song Sparrow</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Goldfinch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Cardinal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House Sparrow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Rough-winged Swallow</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Continued managing the 2.75 acres of wildflower and milkweed fields to serve as a food source, and birthing ground, for the east coast monarch butterfly, which is nearing a “threatened species status” because its population is quietly vanishing due to devastating losses of habitat, particularly habitat containing milkweed because monarch butterflies can only lay eggs on milkweed plants.

Worked with the Cacapon Institute’s CommuniTree project to continue replenishing the rural tree canopy by planting 16 more native trees on the campus, which will provide the additional benefit of helping to protect the watershed of the Potomac River. The total number of trees planted to date in conjunction with the CommuniTree project is 88. Total number of all new tree plantings on the NHES campus is 114.
Fiscal Year 2018 Financial Review

As a small animal welfare organization with a national impact, NHES works very hard each year to achieve an optimum reduction in animal suffering while adhering to sound fiscal policy, and the following is reflective of these efforts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVENUE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions and Bequests</td>
<td>$3,084,782</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pass-through Contracted Vet Services</td>
<td>$523,947</td>
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<td>Other</td>
<td>$284,643</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$3,893,372</td>
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<table>
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<th>EXPENSES</th>
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<tr>
<td>Humane Education</td>
<td>$892,189</td>
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<td>Alliance Partnerships</td>
<td>$22,609</td>
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<td>Briggs Animal Adoption Center</td>
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<td>Peace Plantation Animal Sanctuary</td>
<td>$148</td>
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<tr>
<td>Member Services</td>
<td>$160,666</td>
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<td>Spay Today</td>
<td>$582,328</td>
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<td>Total Programs</td>
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<td>Management &amp; General</td>
<td>$318,978</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>$316,048</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>$3,626,125</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
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The National Humane Education Society Campus
3731 Berryville Pike
Charles Town, West Virginia 25414

www.nhes.org