



NYSAPF is the voice of New York's humane societies, SPCAs, non-profit and municipal animal shelters as well as animal welfare organizations which focus on homeless animals.

TESTIMONY TO THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE HEARING ON AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS/PARKS AND RECREATION

SFY 27 STATE BUDGET

**Presented by Libby Post, Executive Director of the NYS Animal Protection Federation
Monday, January 27, 2026**

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony to you today on behalf of the New York State Animal Protection Federation (NYSAPF). The Federation represents all the humane societies and SPCAs as well as non-profit and municipal animal shelters across the state. From a policy perspective, our focus is two-fold—on the organizational strength and financial sustainability of our memberships and on the health and well-being of companion animals—mainly dogs, cats, puppies and kittens but also other domesticated animals such as rabbits and birds. Our members also include animal welfare organizations such as the ASPCA, the Humane Society of the United States, Feral Cat Focus on Western New York and the Animal Alliance of Greater Syracuse.

Companion Animal Capital Fund

Since the inception of the Companion Animal Capital Fund, the legislature, along with the governor, have allocated a total \$48M to help close to 100 shelters across New York build or upgrade their facilities. We want to thank Governor Hochul, Agriculture Commissioner Richard Ball and his staff at the Division of Animal Industry, Assemblymember Deborah Glick, State Senator Joseph Addabbo, Assembly Agriculture Committee Chair Donna Lupardo, Senate Agriculture Committee Chair Michelle Hinchey and the members in each house for their on-going support and leadership of the Fund.

The Fund was established by the Legislature in 2017 and we're hoping for you to reaffirm your commitment with your legacy allocation of \$5M to match what the Governor has put in the budget to bring the Fund to \$10M.

The Companion Animal Care Standards Act for Shelters and Rescues came into effect on December 15, 2025. We know that more and more organizations have and will continue apply for this funding. We expect there to be close to, if not more than, 50 applicants for the RFP for the FY26 funding which is due at the end of the month. The need is there--our 2026 Capital Needs Survey found that 42 shelters across New York have capital needs of over \$113.8M. An appropriation of \$10M in FY27 for the CACF means that more animal sheltering organizations will be able to apply and make the capital changes needed to meet the new standards.

While the need is great, priority has to also be given to making sure that once these awards are announced the funding flows. As the State Comptroller pointed out in his January 2025 report, "The Critical Role of

New York State Animal Protection Federation Testimony to the Joint Legislative Hearing on Agriculture and Markets

On FY27 Budget

Nonprofits in New York,” nonprofits routinely wait months, if not longer, for their contracts to be executed. The same goes for the CACF contracts. For example, the contracts for the grants awarded in January of 2025 have still not been completed.

The Federation has made good on its promise to provide no-cost consulting to shelters or rescues across the State, regardless of their membership status, so that they’ll be ready to meet the standards. To date, we’ve working with over 90 organizations giving them a detailed road map on what needs to be done to be in compliance. To date, we have received \$481,000 in grant funding from the Weiderhold Foundation, the NY Community Trust and the ASPCA to do this work. We made good on our promise to the Legislature and because of this work we know that the need for the Companion Animal Capital Fund is greater than ever.

Addendum A: Listing of CACF Grants

Animal Crimes Fund

Since the inception of the Federation’s Animal Crimes conference nearly a decade ago, the recognition of the severity of animal cruelty and crimes has increased among law enforcement—from local District Attorneys to law enforcement and the State Police. In fact, the Federation is working hand in hand with the State Police to provide animal crimes training for their folks and other law enforcement across the state. Because of this important work, we have also seen an increase in the number of animals brought to shelters for housing and care.

Many of us remember the January 19, 2024, a headline in the Times-Union that read “Animal Seized from Unregistered Animal Rescue.” On February 2nd, the same paper’s headline read “Animal Rescue Operators Charged with Cruelty.” The story behind these headlines is simple and disturbing. A so-called animal rescue brought in dogs from Texas. A house in Latham was raided by Mohawk Hudson Humane Society’s humane law enforcement personnel and the Town of Colonie Animal Control. Over 100 animals were taken from the home—they were living in squalor. Dead animals were found in a freezer. In the first month, the cost to care for those animals was over \$300,000.

When animals come into a shelter from a cruelty case, they can’t just be put on a shelf in a closet like a television. They are live evidence that need to be cared for—veterinary, enrichment and training, food, a comfortable place to lay down their heads and the staff to do it all. This costs money and most of the time the shelters are not compensated for what they spend. They must raise private philanthropic dollars to make ends meet.

This year, the SPCA Serving Cattaraugus County, was part of a case where 42 dogs, mostly Dachshunds, and 11 cats were brought to the shelter through an animal crimes case. The expenses before they were relinquished was approximately \$43,000. This includes cost of care, medical, special food, and other supplies. Once the animal were relinquished to the shelter, after the first court hearing, most of those animals went into foster care eliminating most the shelter’s expenses. However, medical expenses aren’t done yet as the shelter still has five dogs that were sent to the Cornell Veterinary School for \$10,000 worth of extensive medical care. Luckily, the shelter was able to raise \$20,000 to help cover the costs but didn’t receive any financial support from any other sources.

The SPCA Serving Erie County is experiencing a significant and sustained increase in the number and complexity of animal cruelty cases requiring intervention. In 2025, the organization seized 1,172 animals, including domestic and farm animals, through criminal animal cruelty investigations—a 61.4% increase

from the 726 animals seized in 2024. This sharp rise has placed extraordinary demands on shelter capacity, staffing, medical services, and financial resources.

Cruelty cases increasingly involve large-scale seizures, severe neglect, and unsafe environments that require specialized response protocols, including full personal protective equipment (PPE), extended on-scene operations, and prolonged animal rehabilitation. The following cases are a small example and exemplify the escalating scope and cost of these investigations.

In February 2025, the SPCA Serving Erie County executed a search and seizure warrant at a residence in Hamburg, NY, resulting in the removal of 32 Newfoundland-type dogs. The property was condemned due to hazardous conditions, requiring staff to operate in full PPE and respirators. The dogs, ranging from two months to eight years of age, were largely inbred and exhibited significant medical and behavioral concerns. Confined to a small living area and bedroom with extensive accumulation of urine and feces, the animals had never been properly socialized, trained, or exposed to fresh air or sanitary conditions. The intake of this large-breed population severely strained shelter capacity, veterinary services, and behavioral support programs. The animals required up to 68 days of care, at a direct cost of \$18,980 for daily care and medical treatment alone. The owner was indigent and unable to contribute to the animals' care, leaving the SPCA to absorb all associated expenses, including behavioral rehabilitation, staffing, and PPE replacement.

In May 2025, the SPCA Serving Erie County seized 58 cats and three dogs from an unsanitary and flea-infested residence in Blasdell, NY. The home was deemed uninhabitable by local code enforcement, and staff were again required to utilize full PPE and respirators to safely remove the animals. Despite the owners' belief that only 20 animals were present, officers ultimately responded to the property 72 times to set and monitor humane traps in order to remove all 61 animals safely. Many of the animals were suffering from severe flea infestations, flea allergy dermatitis, upper respiratory infections, severe dental disease, eye infections, and poor body condition due to prolonged overcrowding and neglect. The animals required extensive veterinary care and remained in SPCA custody for up to 109 days, placing significant strain on shelter resources. Medical treatment and daily care costs totaled \$48,814, exclusive of additional PPE, staffing, and ongoing care costs incurred during stabilization and recovery.

It's not just companion animals that come to shelter in an animal crimes case. In November 2025, the same SPCA conducted a large-scale seizure at a farm in Brant, NY, involving individuals with two prior animal cruelty convictions in other counties. Over the past two decades, more than 1,000 animals have been seized from these individuals. In the most recent case, over 210 animals were removed, including companion animals and more than 190 farm animals such as goats, sheep, chickens, ducks, and geese. This ongoing case required the rapid mobilization of resources, including off-site barn rentals, specialized staffing, feed procurement, veterinary and farrier services, and long-term housing. Many of these animals remain in SPCA care, and while the full cost of this investigation is still being calculated, the financial burden on the organization is already substantial.

While a minority of shelters successfully use the security petition process in current law in an attempt to require accused abusers to pay these sheltering costs or convince a court to order them to surrender their animal(s), the overwhelming majority have found that process expensive and ineffective. There are some district attorneys who will assist a shelter in this regard, but most will not, especially in rural areas where the shelter has to weigh providing care for the animals or paying a lawyer to prepare the petition and represent the shelter in court.

Of the 47 cases detailed below by the Federation's 2025 Animal Crimes Survey, the cost of care was \$4,426,250. The shelters only received \$795,337 in restitution—18% of the total cost. We know that these cases are just the tip of a growing iceberg.

In consideration of this long-standing and costly problem, the New York State Animal Protection Federation is asking the legislature to create a non-capital \$2.5M NYS Animal Crimes Fund in the FY27 budget. By creating this fund, the impact of such costs to eligible shelters could be significantly alleviated in all regions of the state. If we do not address this issue – especially as shelters and rescues begin compliance measures with the new facilities standards rapidly approaching at the end of this year – this problem will only get worse, especially in more rural parts of the state.

Thank you.

Addendum B: The Federation's 2025 Humane Agenda

ADDENDUM A



NYSAPF is the voice of New York's Humane Societies, SPCAs, Non-Profit and Municipal Animal Shelters

2018-2025 Grants

2025 Grants

Capital Region

Montgomery Co. SPCA (Amsterdam, Montgomery County—NYSAPF Member) – \$310,453.00 for outdoor dog kennels, kennel covers, security equipment, and new cat housing.

Saratoga County Animal Shelter (Ballston Spa, Saratoga County—NYSAPF Member) – \$500,000.00 for a new heating and cooling system.

Central New York

Humane CNY (Liverpool, Onondaga County—NYSAPF Member) – \$126,566.00 to update the entryway with security access, renovate cat cages, modify the HVAC system, and replace the roof.

Humane Society of Rome (Rome, Oneida County—NYSAPF Member) – \$500,000.00 to install new dog enclosures, two isolation rooms, and new cat enclosures.

Town of Verona Animal Shelter (Verona, Oneida County—NYSAPF Member) – \$80,200.00 for updated kennels, chain-link perimeter fencing, resurface flooring, an improved HVAC system, new sinks, and water hose access.

Hudson Valley

Columbia Greene Humane Society (Hudson, Columbia County—NYSAPF Member) – \$500,000.00 for a new HVAC system and to expand the clinic to include isolation, treatment room, X-ray and lab, exam rooms and euthanasia space.

Dutchess County SPCA (Hyde Park, Dutchess County—NYSAPF Member) – \$270,000.00 for new cat cages with upgraded climate control and bedding.

Middletown Humane Society (Middletown, Orange County—NYSAPF Member) – \$500,000.00 for updates and repairs to interior and exterior, upgrading heating/cooling, updated lighting and electrical systems, replacing roof, insulation and painting, alarm system and perimeter fencing.

Ulster Co. SPCA (Kingston, Ulster County—NYSAPF Member)—\$500,000.00 to redesign the kennel, replace the floor, repair floors and walls, and renovate the kitchen, grooming room, and exam room.

Town of Woodbury Animal Shelter (Woodbury, Orange County)—\$490,000.00 for new cat enclosures, larger dog runs, seal and coat floors, and to redesign the organization system of records.

Long Island

City of Long Beach Animal Shelter (Long Beach, Nassau County)—\$225,000.00 for HVAC renovation.

North Shore Animal League (Port Washington, Nassau County)—\$115,344.00 for new security equipment, a back-up generator, and network upgrades.

Patricia LeDew Foundation (Oyster Bay, Nassau County)—\$500,000.00 to install a new X-ray room with new equipment, expand the surgical area, create a new dental site, and design an adoption area specific to senior animals.

Town of Babylon Animal Shelter (Babylon, Suffolk County—NYSAPF Member)—\$105,918.00 for a new washer/dryer system, pressure washers, a dishwasher, slop sink and floor drain gate, riot shields, respirators, head lamps, thermometers, gurney, large scale kennel tops, and fishing nets

Town of Huntington Animal Shelter (Huntington, Suffolk County)—\$225,199.85 for a new HVAC system.

Mohawk Valley

Susquehanna SPCA (Cooperstown, Otsego County—NYSAPF Member)—\$203,056.00 for epoxy flooring, auxiliary heating, UV germicidal air filtration, rain gutters, exterior drainage, countertops and sinks, and security cameras.

North Country

City of Oswego Animal Shelter (Oswego County)—\$500,000.00 to replace the kennels, update the HVAC system, seal floors and non-porous areas, create an exclusive outdoor “relief” area, and install new sinks.

Empire Animal Rescue Society (Salamanca, Cattaraugus County—NYSAPF Member)—\$63,000.00 for new cat condos.

Jefferson County Dog Shelter (Watertown, Jefferson County—NYSAPF Member)—\$500,000.00 to renovate kennels, upgrade the HVAC system, repair the drainage system, and install resin flooring, concrete walls, and sound proofing.

Massena Humane Society (Massena, St. Lawrence County)—\$500,000.00 for enhanced record keeping equipment, upgrades to the kennels, drainage and HVAC system, radiant floor heat, soundproofing, and a new intake area.

Oswego Co. Humane Society (Oswego, Oswego County—NYSAPF Member)—\$500,000.00 for increased cat housing, epoxy flooring, isolation rooms and maternity ward, increased dog housing, a new HVAC, and new water piping.

Town of Bangor Animal Shelter (Bangor, Franklin County)—\$500,000.00 to improve record keeping equipment, upgrade cat cages, upgrade drainage and HVAC, and soundproofing.

Southern Tier

Humane Society of Schuyler County (Montour Fall, Schuyler County—NYSAPF Member) – \$160,323.90 to purchase a generator and electric water heater, replace cat cages, and convert the porch into a “Catio” for enrichment,

SPCA in Cattaraugus County (Olean, Cattaraugus County—NYSAPF Member) – \$237,163.99 to purchase a power washer, a vacuum, two washer and dryer systems, a dishwasher, and an auto generator.

Town of Olean Animal Shelter (Olean, Cattaraugus County) – \$500,000 for a new facility.

Westchester

Paws Crossed Animal Rescue (Elmsford, Westchester County) – \$500,000.00 for a new HVAC system, new doors, epoxy flooring, and painting in 3 kennels.

SPCA of Westchester County (Briarcliff Manor, Westchester Count—NYSAPF Member) – \$175,367.00 for new cat cages.

Western New York

Town of Cheektowaga Animal Shelter (Cheektowaga, Erie County—NYSAPF Member) – \$500,000.00 for upgraded kennels, an upgraded HVAC system, a dedicated isolation area, and soundproofing.

Town of Henrietta Animal Shelter (Henrietta, Monroe County) – \$500,000.00 to construct a new municipal shelter.

Genesee County Animal Shelter (Batavia, Genesee County—NYSAPF Member) – \$450,000.00 to replace kennels, install epoxy flooring and an HVAC system, design play, interaction, and recovery areas, and make upgrades to isolation and veterinary examination areas.

Pet Connection (East Aurora, Erie County) – \$43,042.07 for a new generator and electronic security system.

2024 Grants

Capital Region

Animal Protective Foundation of Schenectady (Scotia, Schenectady County—NYSAPF Member) – \$500,000 to build a new admission entrance and intake facility, create isolation wards and cat housing areas, and install an improved HVAC system.

Long Island

Bideawee (Wantagh, Nassau County—NYSAPF Member) – \$200,000 for roof replacement.

Town of Southampton (Suffolk County—NYSAPF Member Southampton Animal Shelter Foundation) – \$402,608 for kennel replacement and installation of a high-performance epoxy floor system.

Southern Tier

Chenango SPCA (Norwich, Chenango County—NYSAPF Member) – \$500,000 to construct and install isolation and double-sided kennels, including HVAC, septic, plumbing, and electrical systems.

Finger Lakes

Country Acres Animal Shelter (Homer, Cortland County–NYSAPF Member) – \$289,565.37 to update gates and dividing panels, create two new multi-use rooms, upgrade heating and electrical systems, and create roofing for outdoor spaces.

North County

Jefferson County SPCA (Watertown, Jefferson County–NYSAPF Member) – \$466,292.70 for construction of a new addition, installation of a new HVAC system, and upgraded temperature controls and sound control, and to expand capacity for “Trap-and-Neuter” and low-cost vaccination programs.

Tri Lakes Humane Society (Saranac Lake, Franklin County–NYSAPF Member) – \$500,000 for plumbing upgrades, installation of sound dampening systems, replacement of ventilation and damaged floors, cat porch improvements, and kennel additions.

Western NY

Paw of Orleans County (Albion, Orleans County) – \$51,249 to replace cat kennels, upgrade dog enclosures, upgrade HVAC systems, and replace a heat pump.

Town of Webster (Webster, Monroe County) – \$400,000 to construct dog kennels and rooms and other areas including storage, food preparation, impound housing, and isolation spaces.

Hudson Valley

Pets Alive (Middletown, Orange County–NYSAPF Member) – \$500,000 for new HVAC and installation of kennel equipment, radiant flooring, and acoustical ceiling.

2023 Grants

Capital Region

Albany County Sheriff's Office (Albany, Albany County): \$500,000 to create an auxiliary animal shelter in partnership with the Mohawk Hudson Humane Society.

City of Schenectady (Schenectady, Schenectady County, NYSAPF Member): \$200,000 for updated larger kennels.

New York City

Animal Care & Control of NYC (Manhattan, New York County, NYSAPF Member): \$143,175 to outfit their new shelter system with updated equipment, installation of new kennel tops, a new washer and dryer, and replacement of an aged water heater.

Brooklyn Bridge Animal Welfare Coalition (Brooklyn Heights, Kings County): \$164,719.67 for shelter expansion, design of cat wards dedicated to health and compatibility, installation of windows, and the creation of a full-service medical suite.

Mohawk Valley

Animal Shelter of Schoharie Valley (Howes Cave, Schoharie County, NYSAPF Member): \$500,000 for the renovation of a medical suite and roof renovation.

Southern Tier

Broome County Humane Society (Binghamton, Broome County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$110,879 to improve cat housing and dog kennel design, and acquisition of a generator and a grooming basin.

Finger Lakes

Finger Lakes SPCA of CNY (Auburn, Cayuga County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$482,491.50 for a new facility design including HVAC system.

Hudson Valley

Hudson Valley Humane Society (Pomona, Rockland County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$200,000 to upgrade dog kennels, replace cat enclosures, and increase animal capacity.

Hudson Valley Animal Rescue & Sanctuary (Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$398,495 to increase animal capacity including quarantine area.

North Country

Potsdam Humane Society (Potsdam, St. Lawrence County): \$100,067 for housing and environmental improvements, including updates to laundry room, caging, heating, and renovation of flooring.

Lewis Co. Humane Society (Lowville, Lewis County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$500,000 for new HVAC system, new laundering equipment, creation of cat isolation room, and to repair and update damaged shelter structures.

Long Island

Town of Oyster Bay (Oyster Bay, Nassau County)- \$200,000 for shelter renovation and new HVAC system.

Town of North Hempstead (Manhasset, Nassau County) – \$200,000 for new HVAC system.

Kent Memorial Shelter (Calverton, Suffolk County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$200,000 for new shelter facility with isolation area, including new kennels for dogs and cats.

Pioneers for Animal Welfare Society (Hicksville, Nassau County): \$200,000 for down payment of new facility.

Western New York

SPCA Serving Erie County (W. Seneca, Erie County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$200,000 to improve kennels and outdoor exercise area, renovate cat recovery and nursery area, obtain new HVAC system and security system.

Lollypop Farm (Fairport, Monroe County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$500,000 for the redesign of kennels, to increase animal capacity, and expand the isolation ward.

Wayne Co. Humane Society (Lyons, Wayne County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$500,000 for a new and updated shelter facility including new HVAC.

Wyoming Co. Animal Shelter (Warsaw, Wyoming County): \$318,318 to improve facility design, upgrade mechanical equipment, and provide outdoor enrichment area.

Wyoming Co. SPCA (Attica, Wyoming County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$62,825.89 for roof replacement, repair of driveway and parking area, acquire cat caging and update record keeping technology.

2022 Grants

Capital Region

Animal Protective Foundation of Schenectady (Glenville, Schenectady County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$492,563 for medical supplies, tile flooring, new isolation areas, and increased capacity for dog housing.

Mohawk & Hudson Humane Society (Menands, Albany County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$500,000 for a new veterinary suite that allows for separation of sick dogs from healthy ones.

Super Heroes in Ripped Jeans (Oneonta, Otsego County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$440,347 for renovation of a recently purchased building to increase both canine and feline housing capacity as well as a cat condo and isolation area.

Susquehanna SPCA (Cooperstown, Otsego County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$143,289 for the purchase of veterinary equipment including a stationary radiograph machine, a dental radiograph machine, laser therapy equipment, and surgical cautery tools to provide enhanced medical care for animals.

Hudson Valley

Humane Society of Westchester (New Rochelle, Westchester County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$125,000 for resurfacing of outdoor dog runs, a retaining wall for the dog park, and new cages and floors for the cat area.

Paws Crossed Animal Rescue, Inc. (Elmsford, Westchester County): \$200,000 for a new adoption area, cat rooms, and meet and greet rooms. The addition of a veterinary clinic area, community room, and staff offices are planned as well.

Sullivan County SPCA (Rock Hill, Sullivan County): \$100,000 for an HVAC system, new kennel gates, doors, and fencing that will support animal health, safety, and comfort.

Ulster County SPCA (Kingston, Ulster County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$250,510 for a total renovation of their dog kennel area as well as new paint and new flooring.

Long Island

Animal Rescue Fund of the Hamptons (Easthampton, Suffolk County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$200,000 for a new pressure washing system, plumbing, and HVAC system to support animal health, safety, and comfort.

Bidawee, Inc (Westhampton, Suffolk County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$200,000 for a brand new, state of the art HVAC system.

Town of Brookhaven (Brookhaven, Suffolk County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$146,500 for a shelter renovation to include additional kennels, a dedicated food preparation area, and a meet and greet area.

Town of Hempstead (Hempstead, Nassau County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$52,000 for shelter upgrades and enhancements including better drainage and lighting.

Northern New York

Jefferson County SPCA (Watertown, Jefferson County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$189,767 for expansion of

services in a new veterinary wing for sick or injured animals. This will allow space for dental procedures, surgeries, pre-operative care, post-operative care, and a treatment area for injured pets.

Western New York

Chautauqua County Humane Society (Jamestown, Chautauqua County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$159,677 for increased security, window replacements, an HVAC system, and generator expansion.

Hornell Area Humane Society (Hornell, Steuben County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$ 346,875 for a cattery expansion, and expansion of the space for canine behavior and training sessions. Additional areas will be renovated, including a new food preparation area and a separate area for cleaning supplies.

Pet Pride of New York (Victor, Ontario County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$200,000 for renovations and additions to a new wing of the shelter which will include intake, isolation, veterinary areas as well as a utility room, staff restrooms, and a staff breakroom.

Ten Lives Club (Blasdell, Erie County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$200,000 for shelter expansion and improvement for their cats. Four new living spaces will provide space for additional cats, and the addition of an HVAC system will provide clean air.

2020 Grants

Western New York

Town of Lancaster (Lancaster, Erie County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$228,750 to support a new building with epoxy flooring, new kennels, new drains, a new HVAC system, floor sink, exercise yard, and garage.

Finger Lakes

Humane Society of Yates County (Penn Yan, Yates County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$500,000 to build an addition that houses modern dog kennels, purchase sound panels, and improve drainage. Funding will also allow in-floor heating, a new HVAC system and the construction of enclosed outdoor runs.

Livingston County (Mount Morris, Livingston County): \$112,500 to support the construction of a new intake area for new dogs, replacement of old kennels, addition of four new isolation kennels, four new primary enclosures for overflow, and an attached and enclosed garage.

Ontario County Humane Society, Inc. (Canandaigua, Ontario County): \$363,030 to support two isolation areas, repair kennels, epoxy surfaces, install new indoor/outdoor runs, build an outdoor play area, install cat condos, HVAC system.

Central New York

Central New York SPCA (Syracuse, Onondaga County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$172,490 to support the shelter's roof replacement.

Hudson Valley

Pets Alive, Inc. (Middletown, Orange County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$500,00 to replace the current kennel with a new modern dog kennel building, improve medical facilities for the animals, and provide dedicated space for adoption and intake.

Town of Saugerties (Saugerties, Ulster County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$500,000 for a new building, indoor and outdoor dog housing, isolation kennels, to install proper drainage, floor heating, and a multi-level exercise and training area.

Long Island

South Hampton Animal Shelter Foundation, Inc. (Hampton Bays, Suffolk County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$500,000 for a new Behavior Training Center, which allows trainers to work with dogs in need of rehabilitation year-round.

2019 Grants

Mid-Hudson Valley

Humane Society of Westchester (New Rochelle, Westchester County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$500,000 to expand and upgrade its facilities by adding a new structure to improve animal socialization, training, and community education.

Dutchess County SPCA, Inc. (Hyde Park, Dutchess County; **NYSAPF Member**): \$312,381 to renovate its 60-year-old facility to improve animal housing, ventilation, and flooring to ensure the safety, sanitation, and health of humans and animals.

Warwick Valley Humane Society, Inc. (Warwick, Orange County): \$500,000 to construct a new facility to improve sanitation, drainage, lighting, and ventilation for improved overall animal wellbeing.

Long Island

North Fork Animal Welfare League, Inc. (Peconic, Suffolk County; **NYSAPF Member**): \$500,000 to renovate its recently purchased facility to create separate rooms for dogs, cats, intake, and isolation, and to improve overall housing quality.

Western NY

City of Dunkirk (Dunkirk, Chautauqua County): \$100,000 to acquire a new building to relocate the current animal control holding center and establish a larger shelter that exceeds minimum standards requirements.

Niagara County SPCA (Niagara Falls, Niagara County; **NYSAPF Member**): \$500,000 to construct an in-house surgical suite to provide much-needed medical services and procedures to sheltered animals.

Southern Tier

Hornell Area Humane Society (Hornell, Steuben County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$93,760 to renovate the current canine housing area to create a separate area for isolation, creating better living surfaces and drainage, and improving ventilation and noise control.

Mohawk Valley

Stevens-Swan Humane Society of Oneida County, Inc. (Utica, Oneida County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$373,500 to increase capacity for animal holding, provision of medical care, isolate sick animals, and improve the structure of enclosures.

Montgomery County SPCA (Amsterdam, Montgomery County; **NYSAPF Member**): \$500,000 to construct a new facility that significantly increases capacity, sanitation, physical wellbeing, and behavioral health.

Finger Lakes

Wayne County Humane Society (Lyons, Wayne County; **NYSAPF Member**): \$138,565 to enhance the dog holding area by improving climate control, ventilation, surfaces, drainage, and lighting.

Central NY

Country Acres Animal Shelter, Inc. (Homer, Cortland County): \$101,365 to construct a quarantine area, outdoor play area, and update current housing facilities.

2018 Grants

Capital Region

Animal Protective Foundation (Scotia, Schenectady County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$220,867 to support the construction of a new feline care center to create group housing environments, to improve medical facilities, and to support the renovation of the current shelter, including a new heating/cooling system for improved ventilation.

Western New York

Lollypop Farm (Fairport, Monroe County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$500,000 for the renovation of the current shelter. The project will add sound-absorbing panels to the dog-holding area and a new heating/cooling system for proper ventilation.

Wyoming County Animal Control (Warsaw, Wyoming County): \$100,000 for the renovation of the current shelter. The project includes the addition of new kennels to increase safety, comfort, and capacity; a new heating/cooling system to improve heating, ventilation, and air quality; and renovations to improve infection control and daily life for the animals.

SPCA in Cattaraugus County (Olean, Cattaraugus County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$164,436 for the renovation of the current shelter. The project includes the installation of a new heating/cooling system for improved ventilation and weatherization. The shelter will also create a more welcoming adoption environment.

Town of West Seneca Municipal Shelter (West Seneca, Erie County): \$119,775 for the renovation of the current shelter. The project includes covered kennels and a roof replacement and extension.

Mohawk Valley

Susquehanna SPCA (Cooperstown, Otsego County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$500,000 for the construction of a new animal shelter to replace the current structure. The project includes building a new facility on adjacent land to decrease the flooding risk and to allow for the addition of an adoption counseling area.

Long Island

Town of Islip Municipal Shelter (Islip, Suffolk County): \$498,200 for the construction of a new animal shelter to replace the current structure. The new shelter will replace the 54-year-old current building to increase capacity and improve safety. It also includes the addition of a new surgical suite.

Town of Smithtown Municipal Shelter (Smithtown, Suffolk County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$168,750 for the construction of an addition to the current shelter. The project includes the construction of a new building to house intake of animals, isolation, and trap-neuter-return areas.

Mid-Hudson Valley

Humane Society of Middletown (Middletown, Orange County): \$439,000 for the construction of an addition and renovation of the current shelter. The project includes the construction of a new wing with quarantine and treatment areas and expanded animal housing areas to increase capacity.

SPCA of Westchester (Briarcliff Manor, Westchester County, **NYSAPF Member**): \$500,000 for the construction of a new animal shelter to replace the current structure. The project will consolidate several buildings into a single, modern facility to modernize care.

Central New York

City of Oswego Municipal Shelter (Oswego, Oswego County): \$489,375 for the construction of an addition and renovation of the current shelter. The project will weatherize the existing facility and expand quarantine areas to improve disease control.

North Country

Potsdam Humane Society (Potsdam, St. Lawrence County): \$178,895 for the construction of an addition and renovation of the current shelter. The project will replace heating/cooling units for ventilation improvements, make repairs and modifications to kennels, and install sound-reduction materials. It will also include the construction of a detached building for long-term shelter animals to improve daily life.



The advocacy voice of NY's animal shelters, humane societies, SPCAs, animal welfare organizations and a growing number of rescues

2026 Legislative Agenda

Budget

Companion Animal Capital Fund (CACF). \$10M total allocation. Asking the Legislature to match their legacy allocation of \$5M with the Governor's \$5M for a total of \$10M

Animal Crimes Fund. \$2.5 million in the 2026 State Budget, include language that all legal remedies for cost of care are exhausted (security, dismissal, etc.).

Support

Civil Remedy for Companion Animals (A.2555/S.3703). Introduces a legal path to animal forfeiture that does not require charging offender with a criminal offense.

Make Animal Fighting an Enterprise Crime (A.1816/S.3158). Includes animal fighting as a designated criminal act under the Penal Law's Article 460 Enterprise Corruption statute and provides sentencing enhancements for certain animal fighting offenses.

Expand Insurance Discrimination Law to Cover Renter's Insurance (Bill passed in 2025, was vetoed by the Governor, waiting on reintroduction and bill numbers). Builds upon and improves 2021 law prohibiting such discrimination in the issuance of homeowner's insurance policies.

Animal Crimes Package

Weapons Inclusion Exception in Felony Cruelty Law (S.2603/A.3297). Elevates the penalty for causing physical injury to companion animals through use of a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument while intending to cause serious physical injury.

Appearance Ticket Exception (A.4740/S.5715). Authorizes police/HLE officers or agents to forego the issuance of an appearance ticket and bring a suspect directly into custody if the person is charged with a crime for which the court may order the posting of a security pursuant to the agriculture and markets law.

Livescan Access for SPCA officers (S.1664/A.1196). Provides SPCA officers access to live scan fingerprinting technology that allows officers to complete arrests independently and without the assistance of other law enforcement personnel, saving valuable time and resources.