



## Olympic Mountain Pet Pals

### President's Report 2019

#### Spay and Neuter Services

Goals: In 2001 and 2002, our organization determined that we could best help animals in Jefferson County by providing funds designated to reducing the population of unwanted animals. Our targets were feral and abandoned cats and pets in low-income families without resources to pay for spay and neuter services. Our goal was to make Jefferson County a community with no homeless cats and dogs and to make our local shelter a low or no-kill facility.

Statistics since inception:

**Spay/neuter services** for low income families in Jefferson County funded since inception:

**5,481 animals (2,106 dogs and 3,375 cats)**

In 2019 we funded services for 246 animals, 96 dogs and 150 cats

**Trap/neuter/return for community cats since inception: 2,377**

In 2019: 52 cats

**Total number of spay/neuter procedures to date: 7,858**

Even with conservative estimations of potential population growth, OMPP has prevented many thousands of dog and cat births in our county.

The annual cost of spay/neuter services was approximately \$39,375.

#### Ginger's Fund

Once the spay/neuter programs were underway, the Board voted to add a program that would provide subsidies to our veterinarian partners to use at their discretion for emergency services for pets in low income families. **Ginger's Fund** has provided funding for a total of 616 animals at a cost of \$77,764 since inception. In 2019, we helped 16 animals, total spent was \$5,737.

#### Therapy Dogs

Local dogs can be tested and certified as therapy dogs through our organization. The Pet Pals therapy test combines the AKC Canine Good Citizen test with additional questions. These dogs and their owners form teams for our two outreach programs, Read to Rover and Pets to People.

Read to Rover dogs serve students at Chimacum Creek Primary School, Salish Coast Elementary School, the Quilcene School District and the Jefferson County Library. The program helps children learn to read in a safe and fun environment and encourages the students to love and appreciate dogs.

Pets to People teams visit seniors at Life Care Center, Avamere, and Victoria Place. These dogs brighten the day for many residents who miss having pets of their own.

In 2019, an average of 40 teams were active in these programs.

Our outreach volunteers are wonderful ambassadors for OMPP.

### **Volunteers**

In addition to our therapy dog program volunteers, other volunteers assist with the community cat program. All Board members serve in volunteer capacities in addition to their Board duties. OMPP has no paid staff.

The Board hosted a fun and successful volunteer appreciation event in November.

### **Funding**

Our primary source of funding is individual donations. In 2019 we received donations from 163 individuals as well as generous donations from Quimper Unitarian Universalist Fellowship and the Quilcene-Brinnon Garden Club. We received many in-kind donations as well, which are listed in our semi-annual newsletter.

### **Outreach**

A specially designed flyer was produced and mailed to selected County residents to raise awareness of our programs. Pet Pals was also featured in the “giving” issue of the Port Townsend Leader.

### **Humane Society of Jefferson County**

HSJC helps us to disseminate information on our programs and to encourage people to spay/neuter their pets. The Humane Society acknowledges that OMPP plays an important role in their success at finding homes for all adoptable animals.

### **Veterinarians**

We work with generous and caring local veterinarians at Hadlock Veterinary Clinic, Chimacum Valley Veterinary Clinic, and Oak Bay Animal Hospital. We also support low income spay/neuter services at Center Valley Animal Rescue.