

# Best Friend Pet Adoption

## 2023 NEWSLETTER



### How you can help

As an all-volunteer organization with minimal overhead costs, more than 95% of your donation dollars directly impact our cause. Our annual holiday campaign contributes 15% of our total annual donations. Since we're a small, local organization, we seldom receive significant support from corporations or matching programs.

You can securely make monetary donations online through PayPal at [bfpa.org/donate](https://www.bfpa.org/donate) or by mail.

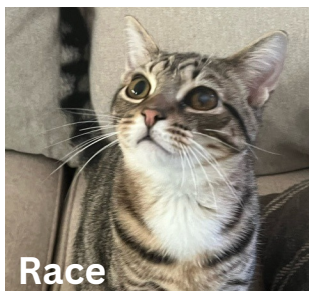
### 2023 - A Year of Transition

BFPA's 25th year has been marked by growth and adaptation. We are grateful to have welcomed several new volunteers who have generously stepped in to assume critical roles on the Board and on our Dog Medical team. Moreover, our Cat Team has flourished this year, enabling us to showcase our feline friends at Petsmart (Cary) on a weekly basis. We also successfully ran our annual fundraisers for the third consecutive year, thanks to the dedication of volunteers who tirelessly manage these events year after year.

While it's been a year of notable achievements, we've also faced a number of challenges along the way. We lost several long-term volunteers who felt it was time to move on and end their tenure. Dog adoptions are down (~20%) and we've seen a dip in the number of people willing to foster, both trends that started emerging in 2022. In fact, we had to temporarily halt dog intake due to a shortage of volunteer resources. In addition, monetary donations continue to be impacted by inflation and rising costs affecting everyone.

However, we are resilient and remain committed to our mission, so your support is more crucial than ever. While monetary donations are essential, we need volunteers willing to play ongoing 'run the business' type roles, and as always, individuals willing to foster animals. Please consider contributing to BFPA in 2024 through donations, fundraising, or volunteering your time. Together, we can continue making a difference in the lives of animals in need.

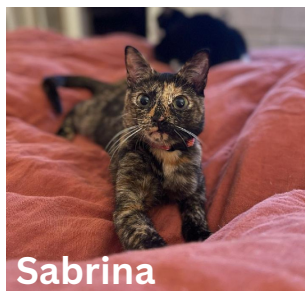
### Cat Tails



Race




Callie




Sabrina

This year, we welcomed 120 cats into our rescue, each with unique needs. While their basic requirements include spaying/neutering, vaccinations, and love from foster homes, some needed extra TLC. **Race** had a corneal adhesion removed from his eye to improve his quality of life, but of course he still can't have a driver's license! **Callie** found herself in a shelter that couldn't care for her due to an unknown tail injury, which necessitated its amputation. **Sabrina** suffered a broken leg when she fell from the cat tree, and this incident continues to puzzle us. In addition, we had a few very young kittens needing expensive formula and a very dedicated foster family to help them thrive. Each kitty's time in rescue can vary due to the various challenges they face, but they all have one thing in common: committed and loving foster homes and funding for their medical needs. Your generous donations make it possible to cover these expenses.

### Typical Veterinary Costs



- \$300 Heartworm Treatment
- \$30 Heartworm Test
- \$150 Spay
- \$100 Neuter
- \$30 Wellness Exams
- \$40 Vaccines (Average)
- \$10 Microchip
- \$24 Flea/Tick/Heartworm Prevention (Monthly)



- \$25 FIV/FLV Test
- \$75 Spay/Neuter (Average)
- \$30 Wellness Exams
- \$30 Vaccines (Average)
- \$10 Microchip
- \$10 Flea/Tick Prevention (Monthly)

## Puppy Paws

In September of this year, BFPA was alerted to a Momma dog, **Abby**, and her **six 4-week old puppies** who had been seized by animal control in Rockingham County. The shelter was desperate to get the family out of the shelter due to the age of the puppies and how susceptible they are to deadly illnesses such as parvovirus. Abby herself was in poor shape with a body scale rating of 2/9, scabs from flystrike on her ears, and an open wound that went approximately 3/4 of the way around her neck from a deeply embedded collar. To top it off, she was also heartworm positive! Thankfully, a BFPA volunteer stepped forward and was able to be both a medical and a triage foster for the entire family for 4 weeks until the puppies were old enough to get their first shots and go off to other foster homes. BFPA desperately needs more volunteers willing to open their homes to dogs like Abby who just need a little medical care, love, and good groceries while waiting for their forever homes!



## Faithful Volunteers

BFPA is an all-volunteer organization, with no paid staff. Most of our volunteers work full-time jobs and generously contribute their spare time to our cause. Volunteerism has been declining in many nonprofits, and we've felt its impact. We not only lost our Director of Volunteers, but several of our long-term volunteers decided to move on after 5-10+ years of service. We are immensely **grateful** for the 25 years of support from dedicated individuals. We're especially **thankful** for those who responded to our call for help this summer, lightening the load for others. The need for assistance with ongoing roles remains, and we invite you to **JOIN US (bfpa.org/volunteer)** and share in the rewarding experience of our work.

## In Memoriam

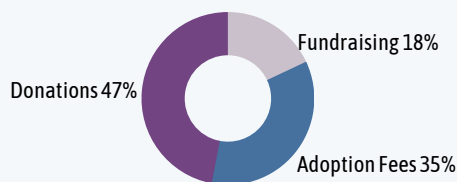


**Richard Baek**, known as 'Rich' to us, began as a puppy foster in 2019 and later became the Director of Volunteers on the BFPA Board in 2020. He generously gave both his time

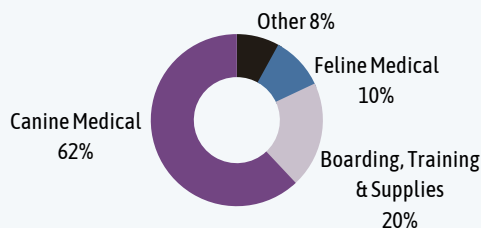
and financial support to BFPA and was always willing to help with any task. Sadly, we lost Rich in early September, leaving a significant void in our hearts and our organization.

## Financials

### BFPA Sources of Income



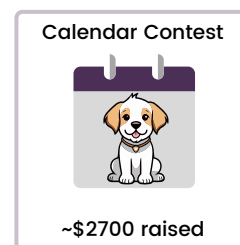
### How Your \$\$ Helped



Donate securely online at [www.bfpa.org/donate](http://www.bfpa.org/donate), or by mail.

## Fundraising

In 2023, we celebrated the success of our key fundraisers for the third consecutive year, thanks to your support and sponsorship! Special thanks to **First Impression Home Staging** for being our Gold Sponsor for the Auction.



## Special Recognitions

We are so grateful to **Kellie Renzi** and the **International Facilities Management Association** for selecting us as beneficiaries for their annual Bingo for Bones event, donating **~\$1200** to BFPA.

A big shout out to the agents at **RE/MAX United** in Cary who organized and invited us to participate in their **Dogs and Donuts** event! We are so thankful for the **~\$1400** raised and donated to BFPA