



#### Coco's Cupboard 2023 Annual Report

#### A letter from Suzanne Aaron, President of Coco's Cupboard



#### THANK YOU!

As we step into the exciting possibilities of 2024, I can't help but reflect on the incredible journey we've shared throughout 2023. Your unwavering support has been the driving force behind Coco's Cupboard and Tails of Hope, making each success even more special.

Now, let's dive into the heartwarming numbers that define our accomplishments in 2023. Together, we achieved:

- 152 Dog Adoptions
- 322 Cat Adoptions
- 41 Service Dog Adoptions

These numbers represent more than statistics; they signify lives changed, families formed, and the impact of a compassionate community. Each adoption is a testament to the collective efforts of everyone involved – from our dedicated volunteers, donors, and supporters like you.

As we embark on a new year, we can't wait to see what we achieve together. Your continued support ensures that we can make a difference in the lives of more animals. Thank you for being the heart of our community and for making 2023 an extraordinary year.

I can't wait to see you soon at an upcoming event or at Coco's School!

Warm regards,

Suzanne Aaron

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President, Coco's Cupboard 🐾

# 2023 Impact Highlights

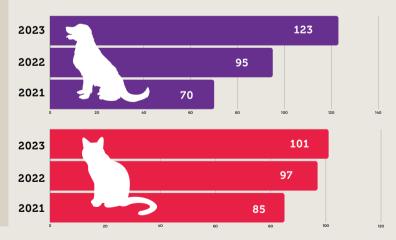
#### **Adoptions**



## Intake



#### # Animals in Current Care





Over 5,800 pounds of dog and cat food donated



Over 460 dogs and cats spayed and neutered through the pet owner program

## From School Dream to Reality: Celebrating Milestones and Looking Ahead!

We are thrilled to share a momentous achievement with all our supporters – in September of last year, we successfully paid off our loan on the schoolhouse! This incredible milestone was made possible by the unwavering commitment of each and every one of you to our mission. While this is a significant accomplishment, our journey doesn't end here. There are still projects to be completed, and we will be relying on your continued support.

Maintaining our line of credit means that fundraising remains crucial, as always. To further bolster our efforts, we are actively engaging our dedicated Board of Directors. Our board comprises a diverse and passionate group, and together, we are charting a strategic course. This includes a comprehensive plan, which involves revitalizing the capital campaign to secure company sponsorships, organizing two major annual fundraisers, and continuing our regular local events.



Looking ahead, there are exciting projects on the horizon for 2024, and we are eager to embark on this journey with you. Some of the upcoming initiatives include painting the auditorium, installing HVAC in the north wing, establishing a surgery center for spay/neuter services, creating a beautiful rainbow bridge at the Memorial Garden, and developing a scenic walking path in the woods. With your help, we're set to make these visions a reality.

But let's take a moment to remember where we started. Reflecting on the transformation from then to now is a powerful reminder of the positive impact we've collectively made. From humble beginnings, we've grown into a vibrant community dedicated to the well-being of our four-legged friends.

It's not just about the infrastructure – we've also made enhancements to our facilities for the furry friends in our care. During the hot months, we installed a pool and a diving deck, providing our dogs with a cool and enjoyable retreat. It's just one of the ways we strive to ensure the well-being and happiness of our canine companions.

As we enter this new year, we express our heartfelt gratitude to all of you for being integral members of the Coco's Cupboard, Tails of Hope, and TAO family. Your support propels us forward, and together, we'll make 2024 a year filled with positive transformations for our rescue and the dogs we cherish.



## From Abandoned School to Kitty Paradise: Celebrating Our Journey

Embarking on an incredible journey, we've witnessed the metamorphosis of an abandoned school into a haven for the cherished animals of Coco's Cupboard. This transformation, fueled by unwavering support, countless hours of planning, and dedicated efforts, stands as a testament to the collective love and passion that has fueled our mission.

A crowning achievement in this endeavor is Kitty Kingdom, an awe-inspiring space that caters to every feline fantasy. This room, filled with love and meticulous attention to detail, is a testament to our commitment to providing the best for our four-legged friends.





Complete with a jungle gym wall, ample comfortable seating, and play space, Kitty Kingdom is the perfect haven to meet and adopt your new feline family member.

Next time you're in Gay, GA, exploring the treasures at our must-visit Thrift Store, take a moment to step into Kitty Kingdom. Feel free to ask a volunteer about spending quality time with our cats or even schedule a visit. The room provides cozy nooks for reading, opportunities for playful interactions with teaser toys, and a chance to unwind with a furry friend on your lap.

Fun fact: Did you know that petting a cat can help lower stress levels and blood pressure? Just saying...



## Breaking the Cycle: Empowering Change Through Spay and Neuter Initiatives

We in rescue know adoptions alone cannot address the exponentially increasing tragedy of pet overpopulation. We must seek and establish how the sterilization of cats and dogs is the cultural norm.

Our local community continues to face a fast-growing challenge – a surplus of dogs and cats. County shelters and volunteer humane societies, along with Coco's, continue to remain at or over maximum capacity. On a daily basis, Coco's receives a multitude of requests for assistance including heart-wrenching situations where litters of puppies desperately need help or boxes of kittens are discovered under decks. Yet there aren't enough resources or space to care for them. We understand the frustration this causes, as we all long to provide support for these innocent animals.

To address the root cause, we emphasize the vital importance of spaying and neutering pets. Our commitment is evident in ensuring that all animals in our care undergo sterilization unless medically contraindicated. Through our foster-to-adopt policy, all cats and dogs find forever homes already spayed/neutered, preventing the birth of countless unwanted kittens and puppies. (see pyramids below).

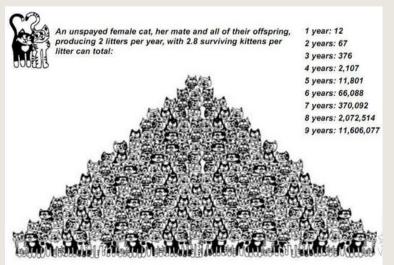
Pet owners from the counties we support, Pike, Meriwether, Lamar and Upson, continue to take advantage of our spay/neuter assistance program by submitting requests via our website. However, we must increase community participation to see a significant reduction in their cat/dog overpopulation. We have and are further developing plans to increase participation in 2024.

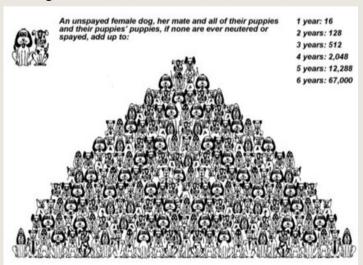
Due to a nationwide veterinarian shortage, nonprofit clinics struggle to recruit staff, leading to challenges for both high-volume clinics and local full-service veterinary clinics. This results in limited surgery appointments, extended wait times, and increased costs for Coco's Cupboard and other rescues.

To address these issues, we've launched a fundraising initiative. In November, we exceeded our \$10,000 goal on Giving Tuesday, enabling us to establish an on-site surgery room at Coco's School. This dedicated facility will streamline our spay and neuter program, reducing surgery costs and wait times. With the support of two local volunteer veterinarians and experienced volunteers, the new surgical suite will also benefit local rescue groups, providing more spay/neuter opportunities. We are energized by the potential to save countless dogs and cats from lives of unwanted suffering.

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Each day 10,000 humans are born in the U.S.-- and each day 70,000 puppies and kittens are born. As long as these birth rates exist, there will never be enough homes for all the animals.





## Building a Village of Compassion: Coco's Cupboard and Our Community Partners Unite for Animal Welfare

Imagine a world where all cats and dogs live in a safe and loving environment. Then imagine a team of people who prioritize animals and the need to address a huge problem we have in our world today. That's who we are! How do you do you do it, you may ask. We can't and don't do this alone. We have community partners who come alongside us, believe in our mission, and bring their gifts and resources to forward our cause. Each week we visit a location that provides space and support for us to showcase our amazing animals.

You hear about villages and how humans come together to support a cause or help others in times of need. We at Coco's Cupboard have the privilege of having a very large one!

#### These are some of our community partners:

- Petco Peachtree City
- Hollywood Feed Fayetteville and Peachtree City
- PetSmart Peachtree City
- PetWants Fayetteville
- Wags to Whiskers Fayetteville
- Fayette Parks and Recreation

Coco's Cupboard fights for every animal in need, working tirelessly to prevent future unwanted litters, surrenders, and abandonments. This is our mission. What does it mean to have a mission? It means to utilize all resources to accomplish a specific task. It means to unite with others to make a change or difference. It means to view all successes and challenges through the lens of attaining a specific goal.

In 2023, Coco's Cupboard Inc. found forever families for 322 cats and 152 dogs. Our team of volunteers put their heart and soul into creating opportunities to bring out the best in our rescue dogs and cats and celebrate each placement no matter how long it may take. Our motivation, as we wait for their family to find them, is the joy and happiness our animals bring the people who visit our events and our headquarters.

Come visit us, volunteer with us, and pray with us to join in the fun and the mission! We promise it will fill your heart!





### Coco's Cupboard Inc.

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"Rescue the mistreated, Save the injured, Love the abandoned."

We are a 501 (c) (3) non-profit humane society. We are here to stem the tide of abandoned dogs and cats in the southern crescent of Atlanta.

Serving Pike, Meriwether, Lamar, Upson, Fayette Counties

For more information, visit us online:

www.cocoscupboardinc.org