

## SUCCESS BY THE NUMBERS

In FY 2016-2017

**2** emergency assistance grants were awarded to veterinary students, helping them to further their education

**3** Rusk Veterinary Assistance grant(s) was awarded to families whose pets were in need of critical medical procedures

**300** pets received wellness exams, vaccinations and a year-long supply of flea and heartworm preventative, all at no cost to the homebound owner

**31** companion animals of homebound community members are now eating pain-free thanks to completed dentals

**21,962** was generously contributed by veterinarians through the TVMF auction at the 2017 TVMA Annual Conference in College Station

## FINANCIALS

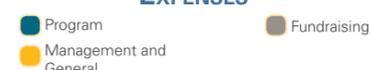
FUNDING IMPACT BY PROGRAM



REVENUE



EXPENSES



## WHO WE ARE

Our Mission

TVMF promotes the well-being of animals and strengthens the human-animal bond in partnership with Texas veterinary professionals.

Our Vision

Professional integrity and public education for responsible stewardship of animals

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## WHO WE ARE

TexVetPets.org

TexVetPets.org, a program provided in partnership by TVMF and TVMA, provides online pet health information with an emphasis on current, reliable and peer-reviewed content. TexVetPets.org connects pet owners with reliable, accurate information from veterinary professionals outside of the exam room.

Memorial Gift Program

TVMF's Memorial Gift Program is for those who wish to remember a deceased individual or pet. Memorial donations help fund the efforts of the Foundation, including the Emergency Student Grant Fund, stethoscopes for new veterinary students, owner education programs and the Rusk Veterinary Assistance Grant program.

Online Pet Memory Gallery

TVMF provides a wonderful and lasting way for pet owners to celebrate the special bond between humans and animals while paying tribute to the memory of a beloved pet. With a \$10 gift, pet owners may create an online memorial for their beloved animals. All donations made in honor of a pet in the online Pet Memorial Gallery benefit the TVMF PALS (Pets Assisting the Lives of Seniors) program.



In memory of TVMF PALS recipient Chi Chi Rose 2002-2017



## DEAR FRIENDS,

As we close the door on another successful fiscal year at the Texas Veterinary Medical Foundation (TVMF), I remain immensely proud and deeply humbled by the growth of TVMF's community-based programs thanks to the generosity of our donors, veterinary professionals and nonprofit partners. When I began my term as president of TVMF in 2011, we were just embarking with Meal on Wheels (MOW) on a joint vision to provide veterinary care free of charge to the pets of low-income, elderly, homebound clients.

In 2012, the TVMF PALS (Pets Assisting the Lives of Seniors) program was launched in Austin with just five volunteer veterinarians serving 40 pets. By the end of 2016, the TVMF PALS program had expanded to include Austin, Bryan/College Station and Dallas, with 17 volunteer veterinarians serving a total of 300 pets (and with more than 200 pets on waiting lists). The program continues to flourish as TVMF forges new collaborations with MOW in other Texas communities. In fact, I am so pleased to share that the TVMF PALS program expand into the Houston metro area in October of 2017 with future plans for expansion across Texas in the years to come.

In addition to the TVMF PALS program, TVMF also has increased its support of veterinary students, expanded our Rusk Veterinary Assistance Grants and further developed its relationship with TexVetPets.org—a robust online portal through which pet owners are connecting with veterinary professionals for accurate, timely information on a variety of pet health topics.

As I look back on what we have accomplished in the past several years, I am honored to share these accomplishments and their impact with the very generous supporters who continue to make TVMF's programs possible. It is only through your partnership that we are able to care for animals, advance the veterinary profession and serve pet owners. Thank you for all you have done to help preserve the human-animal bond here in Texas. I hope you enjoy reading about our shared achievements in the 2016-2017 fiscal year.

Warm Regards,

**J. Scott Mellina, DVM**  
TVMF President

## TVMF PALS PROGRAM



Long-time Dallas residents Doris and Horatio Smith were always careful to maintain the health of their little dog, Buddy. However, as they struggled to make ends meet on a fixed income, providing for all of Buddy's needs grew more and more difficult. The Smiths started receiving a monthly delivery of pet food through the VNATX Meals on Wheels Pet Care Program two years ago. When the VNA announced its new partnership with TVMF to provide veterinary care to pets in the Meals on Wheels pet care program, the Smiths made sure they were one of the first clients on the list!

Buddy had his first veterinarian visit with Dr. Lavender at Metro Paws Animal Hospital in December 2016. When Buddy returned home after the appointment, both Mr. and Mrs. Smith were so glad to see him and appreciative of the veterinary care he had received. Mrs. Smith commented to the pet transport volunteer that Mr. Smith usually presents a tough exterior, but in this case, he melted when Buddy came home.

## STUDENT SUPPORT

TVMF is committed to ensuring the infusion of bright new medical talent into the profession by supporting students at the Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences (TAMU-CVM) through awards, emergency grants, donations of medical supplies and sponsoring educational lectures.



Cade L. is a fourth-year veterinary student at TAMU-CVM. In September 2016, his wife, Katelyn, was diagnosed with breast cancer. Faced with mounting medical bills, including travel back and forth to MD Anderson in

Houston, Cade and Katelyn were unsure how they would pay for her treatments. TVMF awarded Cade with an emergency student grant to help defray the cost of their expenses so Katelyn could receive the treatment she needs while Cade continues his studies at TAMU-CVM.



Veterinary students at TAMU-CVM are the primary volunteers for the TVMF PALS program in Bryan/College Station. Fourth-year students pick up the pets from clients' homes, obtain a history of the pet, examine the

pet with an attending veterinarian and then deliver that pet home after giving it a bath. In February, veterinary students also made and delivered Valentine's Day gift baskets to TVMF PALS clients like Mr. Washington and his dog, Blackie.



In April, TVMF sponsored a panel discussion on *Incorporating Philanthropy into Your Veterinary Practice*. Speakers included veterinarians, hospital staff and members of the TVMF Board of Trustees. The discussion was a great success, with more than 120 students in attendance.

## RUSK VETERINARY ASSISTANCE GRANTS



Smokey the dog is a beloved companion to his owner, Norma, and her young children. In January, Smokey was attacked by another dog. Unfortunately, his wounds were so severe that the veterinarian recommended surgical amputation of his left front leg. Smokey's family was devastated. Their young, happy dog was suffering, and they were struggling to pay for his treatment.

Smokey's veterinarian applied to TVMF for a Rusk Veterinary Assistance Grant to pay for the costly surgery. TVMF granted his request, and Smokey was able to undergo surgery without delay. Smokey's surgery went well, and he is now fully recovered and back to being his happy, bouncy self.

Rusk Veterinary Assistance Grants are one-time financial assistance grants for families in need of life-saving or life-changing veterinary care that will save their pet from euthanasia or prolonged suffering. For pets like Smokey, these grants offer hope that animals will be able to regain their quality of life and continue to provide love and joy to their families.