

Gwinnett Animal Advisory Council Minutes
Monday, April 13, 2026 – 7:00pm-9:00pm
Innovation Square; Webex

Present: Jeanne Aulbach, Gabrielle Joan Esquivel, Gail LaBerge, Erin Martin, Nahum Nicholas, Lauren Tringali, Dr. Tameka Womack

1. Call to Order

2. Welcome / Announcements

3. Approval of Agenda

The Gwinnett Animal Advisory Council made a motion to approve the posted agenda that was displayed on the monitors in the meeting room.

{Action: Approved; Motion: LaBerge; Second: Nicholas: Vote: (7-0); Aulbach-Yes; Esquivel-Yes; LaBerge-Yes; Martin-Yes; Nicholas-Yes; Tringali-Yes; Womack-Yes}

4. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting –February 23, 2026

{Action: Approved; Motion: Nicholas; Second: Womack: Vote: (7-0); Aulbach-Yes; Esquivel-Yes; LaBerge-Yes; Martin-Yes; Nicholas-Yes; Tringali-Yes; Womack-Yes}

5. Election of Officers: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary

The Gwinnett Animal Advisory Council received two nominations for Chair.

Motion to nominate Nahum Nicholas. {Motion: Tringali; Second: Esquivel}.

Motion to nominate Jeanne Aulbach. {Motion: LaBerge; Second: Womack}.

{Action: Aulbach received majority vote: Vote: Aulbach-Aulbach; Esquivel-Nicholas; LaBerge-Aulbach; Martin-Aulbach; Nicholas-Nicholas; Tringali-Nicholas; Womack-Aulbach}.

Motion to nominate and appoint Gail LaBerge as the Vice Chair. {Action: Approved; Motion: Womack; Second: Aulbach: Vote: (4-0-3); Aulbach-Yes; Esquivel-Abstain; LaBerge-Yes; Martin-Yes; Nicholas-Abstain; Tringali-Abstain; Womack-Yes}

Motion to nominate and appoint Tameka Womack as the Secretary. {Action: Approved; Motion: LaBerge; Second: Aulbach: Vote: (4-0-3); Aulbach-Yes; Esquivel-Abstain; LaBerge-Yes; Martin-Yes; Nicholas-Abstain; Tringali-Abstain; Womack-Yes}

6. Animal Welfare & Enforcement Updates

7. Old Business

8. New Business

- Review and Discussion of Meeting Time Adjustment

The Gwinnett Animal Advisory Council made a motion to keep the regular meeting time at 7:00pm. {Action: Approved; Motion: Martin; Second: Nicholas: Vote: (7-0); Aulbach-Yes; Esquivel-Yes; LaBerge-Yes; Martin-Yes; Nicholas-Yes; Tringali-Yes; Womack-Yes}

- Discussion of a proposal for camera placement within the Shelter
The Gwinnett Animal Advisory Council made a motion to move the discussion of a proposal of camera placement within the shelter to the next meeting {Action: Approved; Motion: Nicholas; Second: Martin; Vote: (7-0); Aulbach-Yes; Esquivel-Yes; LaBerge-Yes; Martin-Yes; Nicholas-Yes; Tringali-Yes; Womack-Yes}

The Gwinnett Animal Advisory Council made a motion to schedule a tour of the shelter on Saturday, June 20th, 2026 at 10:00am. {Action: Approved; Motion: Nicholas; Second: LaBerge; Vote: (7-0); Aulbach-Yes; Esquivel-Yes; LaBerge-Yes; Martin-Yes; Nicholas-Yes; Tringali-Yes; Womack-Yes}

- Discussion of a proposal for an external audit
- Discussion of proposed bylaw updates
- Discussion of a proposal to create County email addresses for each Appointee, e.g. AACDistrict2@gwinnettcountry.com

9. Public Comments

10. Adjournment

{Action: Adjourn; Motion: Laberge; Second: Nicholas; Vote: (7-0); Aulbach-Yes; Esquivel-Yes; LaBerge-Yes; Martin-Yes; Nicholas-Yes; Tringali-Yes; Womack-Yes}



	January 2026	February 2026	March 2026	Q1 2026 Total	Q1 2025 Total
Bill Atkinson Animal Welfare Center Visitors	1,545	1,769	1,863	5,177	5,008
Canine Intakes	259	290	331	880	881
Feline Intakes	91	68	142	301	280
Other Animal Intakes	25	13	25	63	45
Canine Adoptions	143	151	162	456	516
Feline Adoptions	73	36	77	186	203
Other Adoptions	12	8	9	29	20
Return to Owners (Reclaims)	90	113	107	310	402
Canines Sent to Rescue	8	19	28	55	62
Felines Sent to Rescue	14	5	12	31	43
Other Animals Sent to Rescue	1	0	0	1	0
Canine Sent to Foster	12	17	15	44	51
Felines Sent to Foster	10	6	30	46	28
Foster Volunteers	52	44	47	143	136
Foster Volunteer Hours	4,112	3,392	3,400	10,904	20,216
Foster Home Inspections	16	8	17	41	35
Center Volunteers	50	60	58	168	91
Center Volunteer Hours	223.25	202	193.75	619	549
Pounds Distributed through the Pet Food Assistance Program	270.25	157.3	313.4	740.95	478.65
Animals Helped through the Pet Food Assistance Program	23	13	36	72	36
Calls for Service	1,545	1,769	1,863	5,177	4,960
Citations Issued	106	114	145	365	360
Animals Returned in the Field	35	41	39	115	107
Dead Animal Removal	103	109	179	391	342
Barking Dog Complaints	25	29	25	79	86
Leash Law Complaints	33	24	35	92	76
Unlicensed Breeding Complaints	1	0	2	3	2
Animal Bites	41	57	55	153	179
Positive Rabies Cases	0	0	1	1	0

Director Updates:

- Team Training Topics
 - How to Handle Bunnies, Georgia House of Rabbits and Dr. Alex Scales
 - Dangerous and Vicious Dogs

- Emergency Response: Reunification Areas and Fire Extinguishers
- Basics of Taking Event Photography
- Professionalism

Community Outreach:

- Highlighted Events Attended:
 - 11 Career Days
 - Three Dog Days Out (corporate)
 - Two Bark Breaks
 - Two Community Events Attended
 - January 15 Paul Duke STEM High School
 - March 14 Spring Forward for Health Fair at J. B. Williams Park
- New Programs:
 - Helping Paws Youth Program

Field Operations:

- Top Field Citations
 - No Restraint – 152
 - Duty to be Responsible Owner – 63
 - Public Nuisance Animal: Attack without Provocation – 48
 - Damages Property of Others – 48
 - Repeatedly Found at Large – 21

Animal Advisory Council

April 13, 2026



Construction Update



Personnel – January-March 2026

- 64 Authorized Positions
- 58 Filled Positions
- 6 Vacant Positions

New Hires

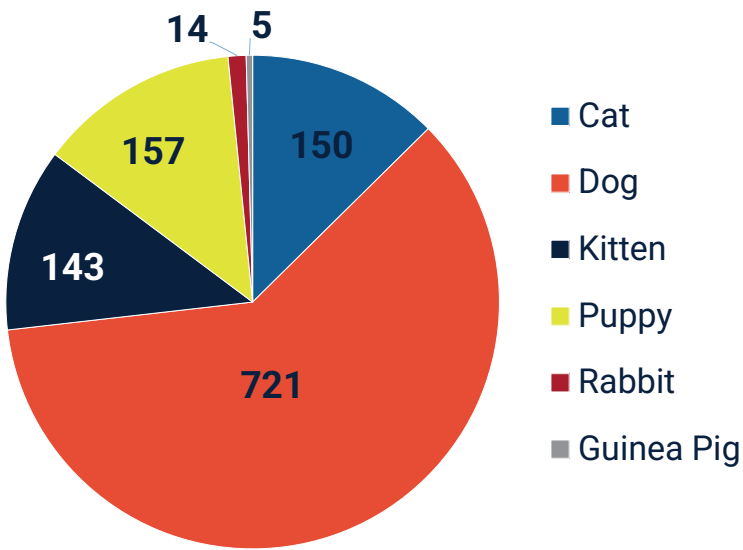
- ACO I (1)
- ACO I (Pending)
- ACO III (Pending)
- Day Field Coordinator (Pending)

Vacancies

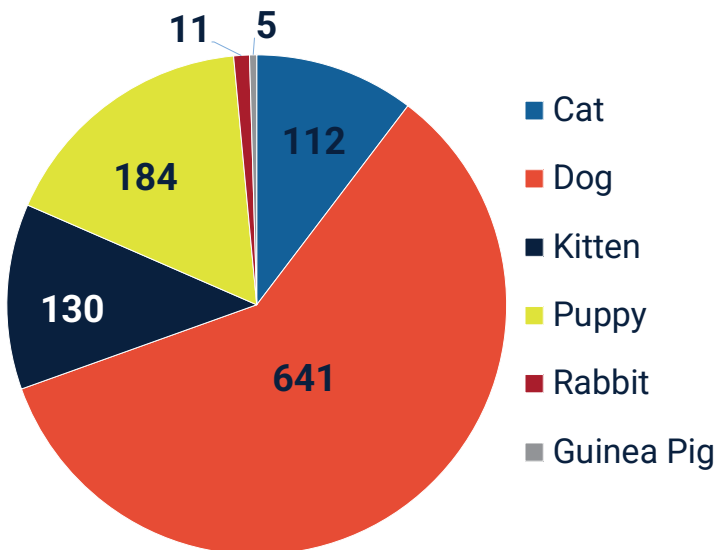
- ACO I (2)
- Part-time ACO I



Animal Intakes



January-March 2026

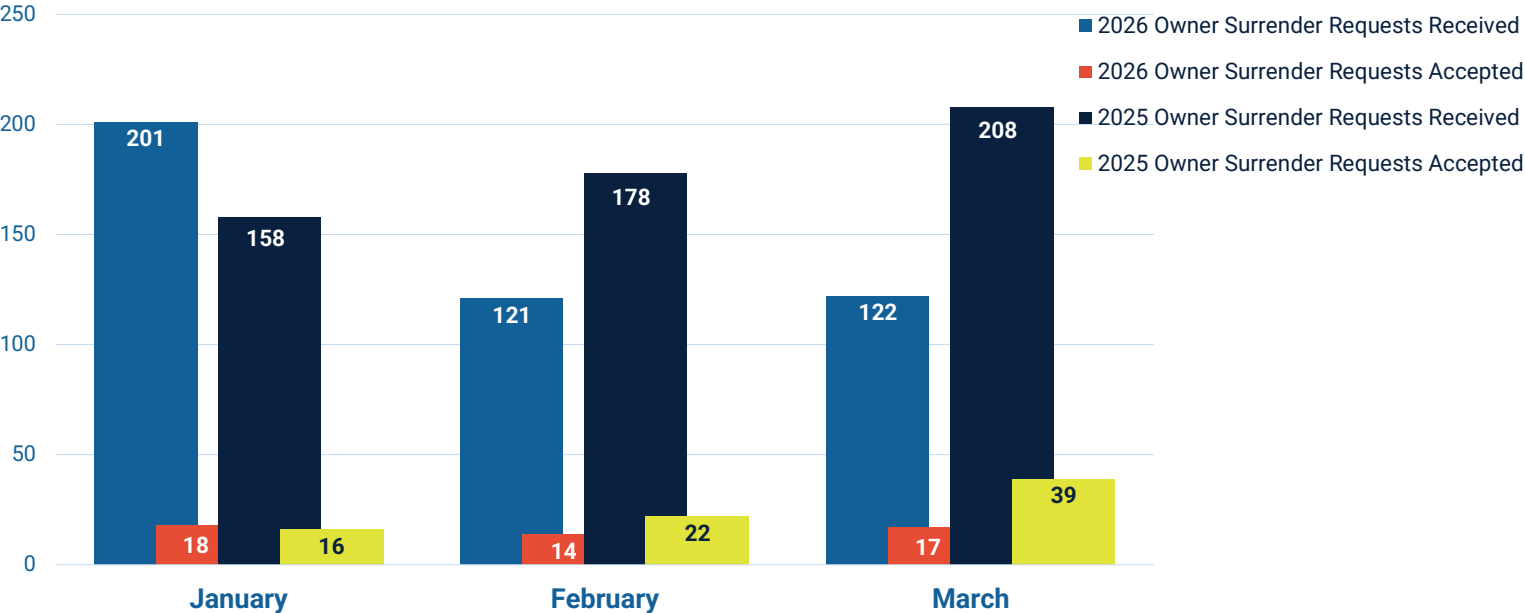


January-March 2025

Animals in Care

As of March 31, 2026	Cats	Dogs	Kittens	Puppies	Other
Available to Adopt (includes In-Foster)	9	135	6	24	2
Awaiting Behavior Assessment/Retest	0	6	0	0	0
Awaiting Transfer/Rescue	0	2	0	0	0
Awaiting Vet Exam	0	0	0	0	0
Awaiting Spay/Neuter	0	0	0	0	0
Bite Quarantine	1	1	0	0	0
In-Foster: Protective Custody/Hold	1	0	23	0	1
Vet Care	2	1	0	0	0
Protective Custody/Hold	0	5	0	0	0
Total Animals in Care: 228*					

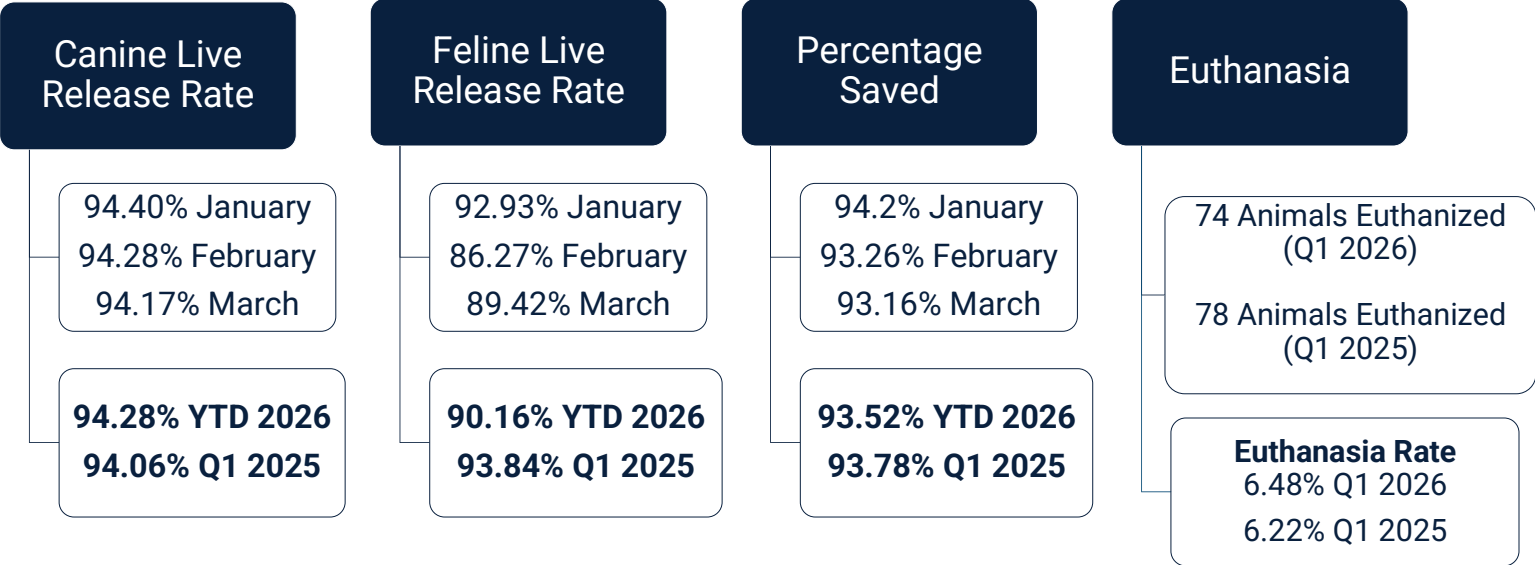
Owner Surrender



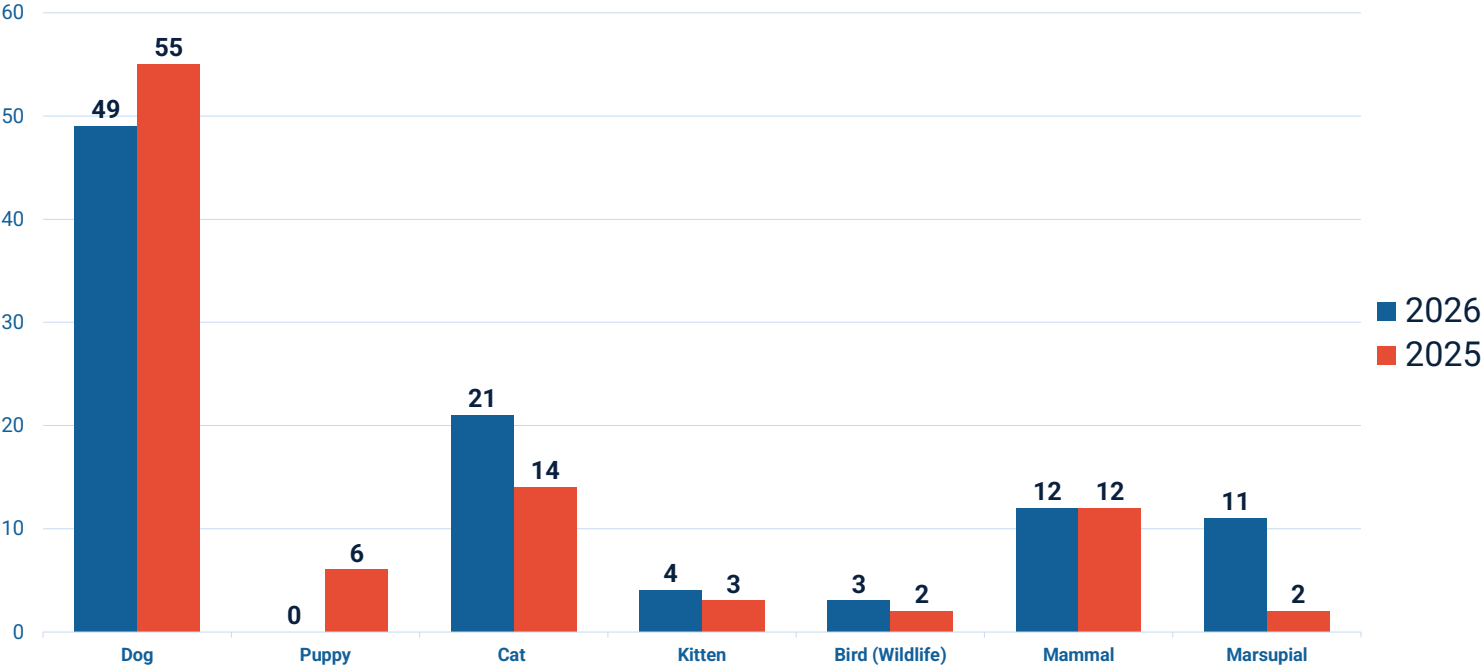
Court Cases – January-March



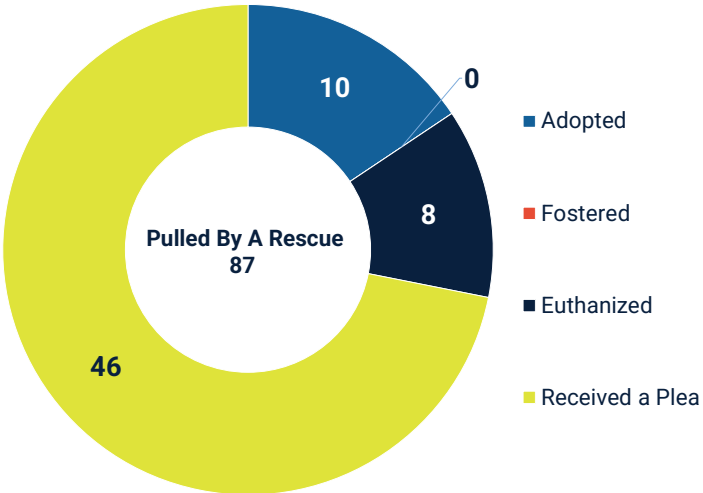
Saved Rate – January-March 2026



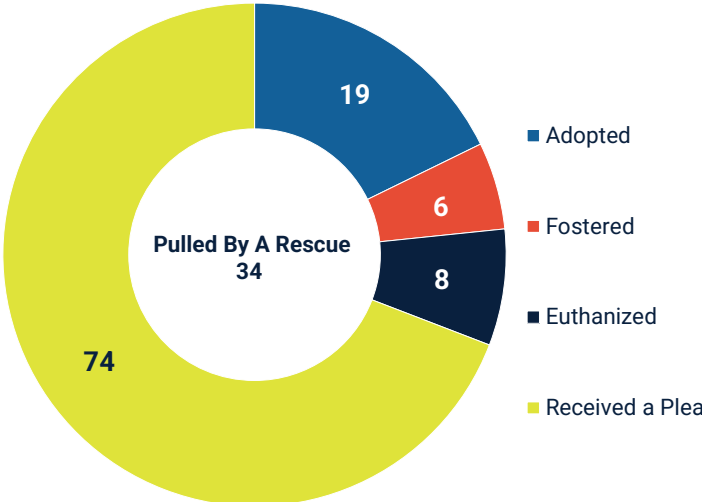
Euthanasia – January-March



Rescue Program

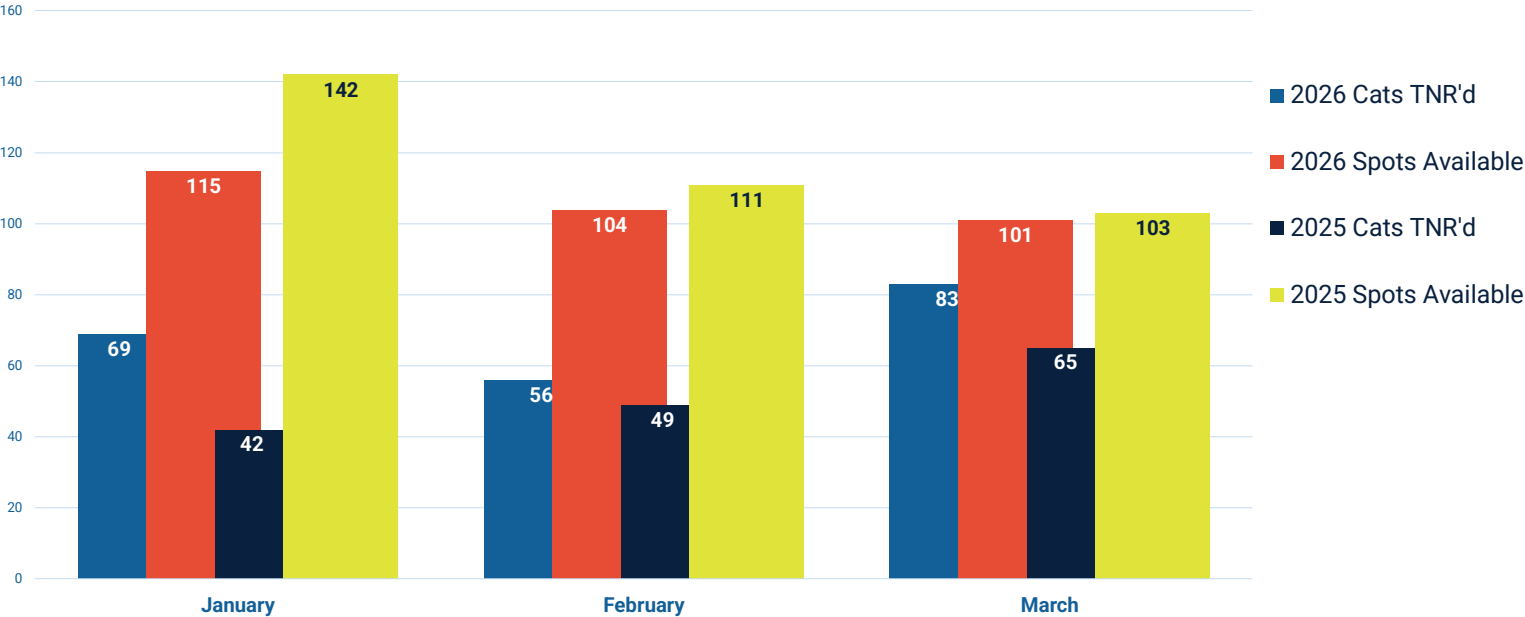


January-March 2026



January-March 2025

Community Cat Program – January-March



Enrichment Activities January-March 2026

Dogs

- Peanut butter frisbees
- Stuffed Kong toys
- One-on-one walks/bonding
- Frozen and dry treats
- Nylon chew toys
- Field time for exercise

Cats

- Toys
- Catnip after cleaning (cats)
- Free-range cat room (supervised)



Volunteer Highlights – January-March 2026

Center

- S. Fentahun – 42 hours
- L. Kartforosh – 38.5 hours
- A. Long – 36.5 hours
- A. Seasholtz – 22.5 hours
- D. Villatoro – 21.5 hours

Foster

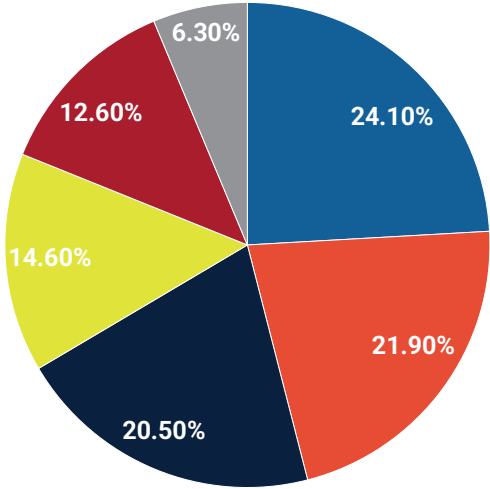
- A. Whitaker – 1,128 hours
- T. Mattos – 618 hours
- H. Johnson – 584 hours
- A. Pruitt – 448 hours
- Three fosters tied with 124 hours



Social Media – January-March 2026

- **Views:** 5,581,534 (+4.7% compared to Q1 2025)
- **Engagement:** 136,626 (-5.4% compared to Q1 2025)
- **Net Followers:** 2,037 (+42.8% compared to Q1 2025)
- **Link Clicks:** 10,133 (+55.7% compared to Q1 2025)

Website – January-March 2026



■ 35 - 44 yrs old ■ 25 - 34 yrs old ■ 45 - 54 yrs old
■ 55 - 64 yrs old ■ 18 - 24 yrs old ■ 65+ yrs old

- 77,895 Users
- 891,947 Views
- 61% Organic Search
- 80% Mobile Device

Upcoming Events & Promotions

- **April 25:** Purrs and Paws Kitten Shower
- **April 25:** Cat Enrichment Lab
- **May 4:** Yappy Hour (Microchipping)
- **June 1 – 5 & June 8 – 12:** Animal Ambassador Camp





GwinnettAnimalWelfare.com
[@GwinnettAnimalWelfare](https://twitter.com/GwinnettAnimalWelfare)