

Animal Folks Manual Will Help Veterinarians Nationwide

Veterinarians are mandated reporters of animal cruelty in Minnesota.* Many veterinarians are not aware of this, or are unsure of what to do if they encounter suspected cruelty in their practice.

Animal Folks developed a manual to assist veterinarians in how to identify cruelty and set up protocols in their clinic so they're prepared to handle cases as they arise, and how and to whom to report it.

We worked collaboratively with local and national subject experts to develop the content. The manual serves as a training tool at our educational workshops, and is available in both print and electronic versions for veterinarians. We've distributed hundreds of copies of our printed version, and 4,670 people downloaded it from our website in 2016.



Since publishing the manual, we've been contacted by veterinarians and animal welfarists nationwide, requesting that we adapt the manual for their state (the content was developed based on Minnesota laws). Two states and the ASPCA have provided Animal Folks with funding to adapt the manual for their use – Oklahoma and Massachusetts. Not only will the manual assist them in preventing animal cruelty in their state, but it also provides Animal Folks with a source of revenue to fund our programs.

* Mandated under Minn. Rules 9100.0700 subp.1 for direct knowledge of inhumane treatment to animals (as professional conduct for veterinary license) and under Minn. Stat. sec. 346.37 subd. 6 for "known or suspected cases of abuse, cruelty, or neglect" for pet and companion animals.

OUR MISSION

The mission of Animal Folks is to protect animals and fight animal cruelty by creating a modern system of animal law enforcement in Minnesota.

OUR POSITIONING

Public safety and crime prevention.

WHO WE SERVE

Animals in Minnesota. We also serve Minnesota residents who believe animals should be treated humanely and authorities who are involved in the enforcement of animal law.



OUR PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Animal Folks accomplishes its mission through five primary programs: 1) Animal Cruelty Research, 2) Criminal & Civil Justice; 3) Animal Law System Reform; 4) Animal Law Resources; and 5) Outreach & Communication.

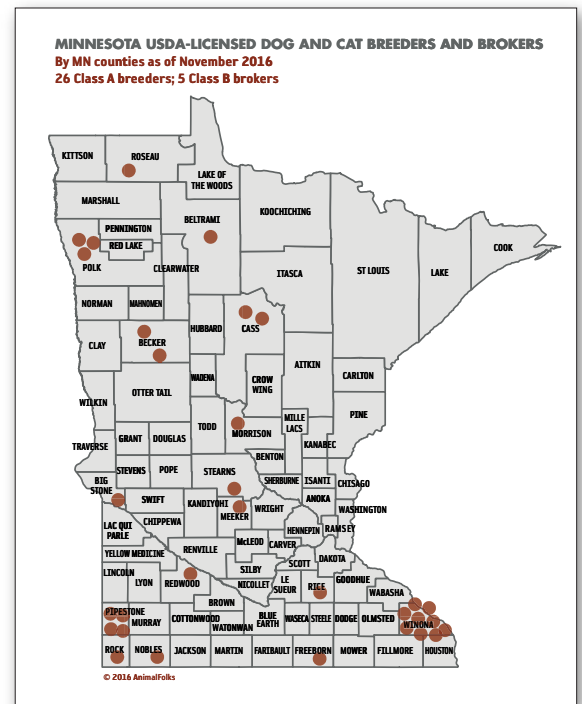
PROGRAM GOALS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PROGRAM 1: Animal Cruelty Research

GOAL: To research animal cruelty cases and issues pertaining to crimes against animals, and provide credible Minnesota-specific data to the public, agencies and organizations upon request.

2016 Strategies and Actions

- **Animal Cruelty Databank** — During 2016, Animal Folks continued its study of animal cruelty cases (statewide) in all 87 Minnesota counties from 2008-2013. By the end of 2016, over 90 percent of the cases had been collected, and 70 percent of the cases had been coded with pro bono assistance from attorneys and volunteers at 3M.
- **Data Requests** — Animal Folks submitted multiple data requests to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, state agencies, and local law enforcement for information related to licensing violations and animal cruelty cases. The data collected is used to file or support cruelty complaints, supplement training of authorities, and generate awareness about animal cruelty issues in Minnesota.
- **Commercial dog breeding** — Animal Folks gathered data, including USDA inspection reports and enforcement efforts, on commercial dog and cat breeding facilities in Minnesota. This research is used to generate awareness about puppy and kitten mills and track if violations are occurring.
- **Pet Store-Breeder Pipeline** — Working with partners in Iowa and other states, Animal Folks collected Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (CVIs) for commercial breeding facilities throughout the Midwest. The information is used to track shipments to and from commercial breeding facilities, pet stores, and pet brokers throughout the nation.
- **Pet Stores** — Working with the pet store owner, Animal Folks conducted a study of a pet store (Angel's Pet World) that had previously purchased puppies from a Minnesota breeder/broker, but has since adopted a humane pet store business model. The information collected, including puppies purchased, veterinary costs by owner for treatment of sickly animals, pricing, and other factors, was used to support our work to educate consumers about the pet trade.



PROGRAM 2: Criminal and Civil Justice

GOAL: To investigate and report suspected or known animal cruelty (or related crimes against animals) and provide input to criminal and civil cases throughout the legal process.

2016 Strategies and Actions

- **Animal Cruelty Complaints** — Animal Folks filed complaints for suspected violation of animal cruelty laws (criminal). Examples:
 - Dog breeder, Roseau County — Based on USDA violations, complaint filed with sheriff's office to investigate conditions
 - Horse facility, Clay County — Report, with 8 affidavits, filed with sheriff's office with request for investigation
 - Cat case, Nicollet County — Complaint filed with sheriff's office with request for investigation (multiple cats; suspected hoarding)
 - Dog breeder, Stearns County — Report filed with sheriff's office for follow-up investigation; breeder charged with 3 misdemeanors
 - Har Mar Pet Store, Roseville — Based on USDA violations and repeated citizen complaints over years, report filed with police
- **Licensing Complaints** — Animal Folks filed complaints for suspected violation of regulatory laws. Examples:
 - Clearwater Kennel, USDA-licensed dog breeder — Complaint filed with USDA for investigation of breeder for suspected circumvention of the Animal Welfare Act
 - S Glenice Viken, USDA-licensed dog breeder — Complaint filed for revocation of federal license due to repeated violations
- **Local ordinances** — Animal Folks submitted a multi-page report to Winona County Commissioners about USDA-licensed dog breeders in their community with a request for a moratorium on further permitting of kennels. Report used in testimony to the County Board, and posted on website with 1,148 downloads.
- **Fulfill Citizen Requests** — Animal Folks provided guidance to citizens who requested help in filing complaints or understanding the Pet Lemon Law after purchasing sickly dogs from pet stores or commercial breeders.



PROGRAM 3: Animal Law System Reform

GOAL: To provide leadership and systemic change on issues related to the enforcement of animal law in Minnesota.

2016 Strategies and Actions

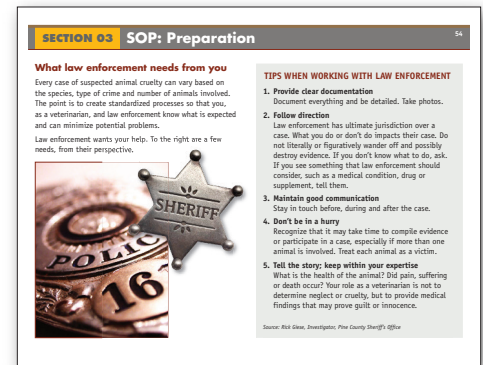
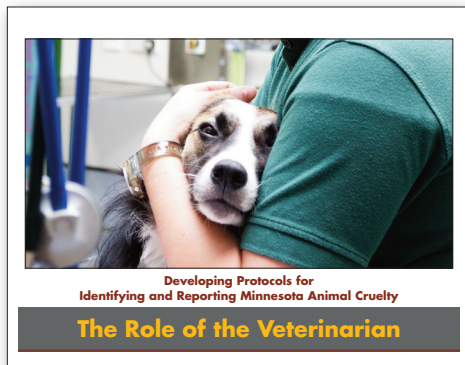
- **Stakeholder engagement** — Animal Folks supports a multi-disciplinary approach for the protection of animals. We speak regularly with local and national stakeholders, such as prosecutors, judges, law enforcement, veterinarians, and others, for advice and discussion of new, systemic ideas for the improved enforcement of animal law. Animal Folks presented at the National Link Coalition meeting in June 2016, sharing information on Minnesota efforts.

PROGRAM 4: Animal Law Resources

GOAL: To foster professionalism and competency by providing training, resources, and support to Minnesota authorities responsible for the enforcement of animal law.

2016 Strategies and Actions

- **Training Materials for Veterinarians** — Animal Folks worked with local and national experts to develop a manual entitled “Reporting Animal Cruelty: Role of Veterinarian: Establishing Protocols to Identify and Report Suspected Animal Cruelty in Minnesota.” A brief explanation of the manual is on page one of this annual report.



- **Animal Cruelty Training for Veterinarians** — In February, Animal Folks partnered with the Minnesota Veterinary Medical Association, offering seminars at their 2016 annual meeting. Over 40 veterinarians and vet technicians attended the full day session, with 65 participants at the break-out session. Animal Folks organized and hosted the training, bringing in local and national speakers to present. Topics and speakers:
 - The Role and Duties of Veterinarians to Animal Cruelty: Julia Wilson, DVM, Executive Director, Minnesota Board of Veterinary Medicine
 - How Veterinarians Can Make a Difference in the Prosecution of Animal Cruelty Cases: Reese Frederickson, Esq., Pine County Attorney
 - Requesting and Preparing for a Forensics Necropsy: Jaclyn Dykstra, DVM, University of Minnesota
 - MN Animal Law – Chapter 343: Louise Dobbe, Esq., former Assistant MN Attorney General, former Assistant County Attorney in Ramsey and Washington Counties
 - The Link: What to Do When You See It: Dr. Randall Lockwood, Senior Vice President for Forensic Sciences, ASPCA
 - What Law Enforcement Needs from Veterinarians: Lindsay Herron, Sergeant, Minneapolis Police Department, and Kathy Mock, Chief Government Affairs and Community Engagement Officer, Animal Humane Society
 - How to Define and Recognize Animal Cruelty and Neglect: Rachel Touroo, DVM, Director, Veterinary Forensics, ASPCA
 - Veterinarians On and Off the Scene and Report Writing: Rachel Touroo, DVM, Director, Veterinary Forensics, ASPCA
 - Cruelty Cases: Clinical Perspective and Reality Check: Lisa McCargar, DVM

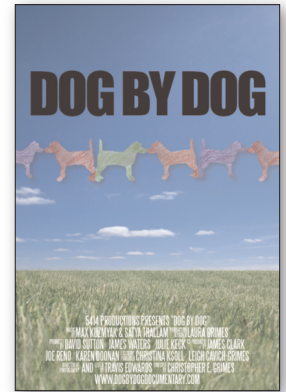
BREAK-OUT SESSION: Be Ready When Suspected Cruelty Walks in the Door: Dr. Randall Lockwood, Senior Vice President for Forensic Sciences, ASPCA and Dr. Rachel Touroo, Director, Veterinary Forensics, ASPCA

PROGRAM 5: Outreach & Communication

GOAL: To educate the public on animal law and cruelty issues, and enhance communication and cooperation between various stakeholders involved in the enforcement of animal law.

2016 Strategies and Actions

- **Community Events** — In June, we hosted a screening of the documentary *Dog By Dog* at the Minnesota History Center. The film explores the commercial dog breeding industry and follows the money trail that allows it to thrive. 146 people attended. In November, we met with and made an animal cruelty presentation to the:
 - **Adult Mental Health Initiative in LeSueur County**
 Throughout 2016, we also co-hosted booths at community events to generate awareness about animal cruelty issues:
 - **Paws on Grand, Canine Carnival, VegFest**
- **Outreach** — Animal Folks attends local and national conferences on animal law, animal forensics, and animal cruelty to collaborate and build relationships. In 2016, these included:
 - **Booth at National Sheriffs' Association Conference**
 - **Booth at MN Veterinarian Medical Association Conference**
 - **Association of Prosecuting Attorneys Conference**
- **Puppy Mill Leaflets and Merchandise** — We created a puppy mill leaflet for events, and launched a retail line of buttons, magnets, t-shirts, yard signs, and more.



ANIMALFOLKS^{MN}

Animal Folks also works with our legislative arm, **Animal Folks MN (AFMN) – Legislative Action**, providing research on various animal issues to support humane legislative efforts. AFMN programs include writing and support of humane legislation at state and local levels, advocacy, and education of animal issues. AFMN Board members: Ann Olson, Deb Ouellette, Kerry D'Amato, Cotton Wilson, Pat Ormston.

FINANCES

Animal Folks is proud to be a Charities Review Council Meets Standards® organization and a Gold Guidestar participant.



STATEMENT – Fiscal Year 2016 — January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Support and Revenue

Individual Contributions	\$82,738
In-kind Contributions	\$104,261
Corp/Fdtn Contributions	\$16,162

Expense

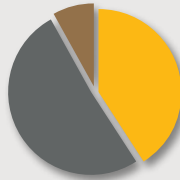
Program Services	\$212,891
Fundraising	\$22,631
Administration	\$26,433

Total Support and Revenue **\$203,161***

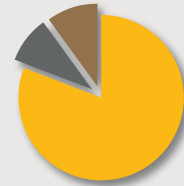
Total Expense **\$261,955**

*Multiple grants and gifts were committed in the 4th quarter of 2016, but received in the 1st quarter of 2017.

■ Individual Contributions	41%
■ In-kind	51%
■ Corp/Fdtn Contributions	8%



■ Program	81%
■ Fundraising	9%
■ Administration	10%



Balance Sheet – Fiscal Year 2016

Assets – Cash	\$61,115
Assets - Accounts Receivable	\$308
Liabilities – Accounts Payable	\$1,176
Net Assets	\$60,247
Liabilities & Net Assets	\$61,423

GOVERNANCE

Animal Folks: Board of Directors

Reese Frederickson, Esq.
 Louise Dobbe, Esq.
 Lisa McCargar, DVM
 John Kingrey, Esq.
 Ann Olson, Executive Director
 Advisor: Cynthia Erickson

Our Team

Ann Olson, Founder and Executive Director
 Amy Lake, Fund Development
 Arianna Pittman, Researcher/Project Manager
 Mike Tincher, Design/Marketing
 Jeff Moravec, Communications/Social Media

VALUES

Values are key to the efforts of Animal Folks. Our actions are guided by our values: Innovation, Respect, Humility, Ethics, and Accuracy.

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