



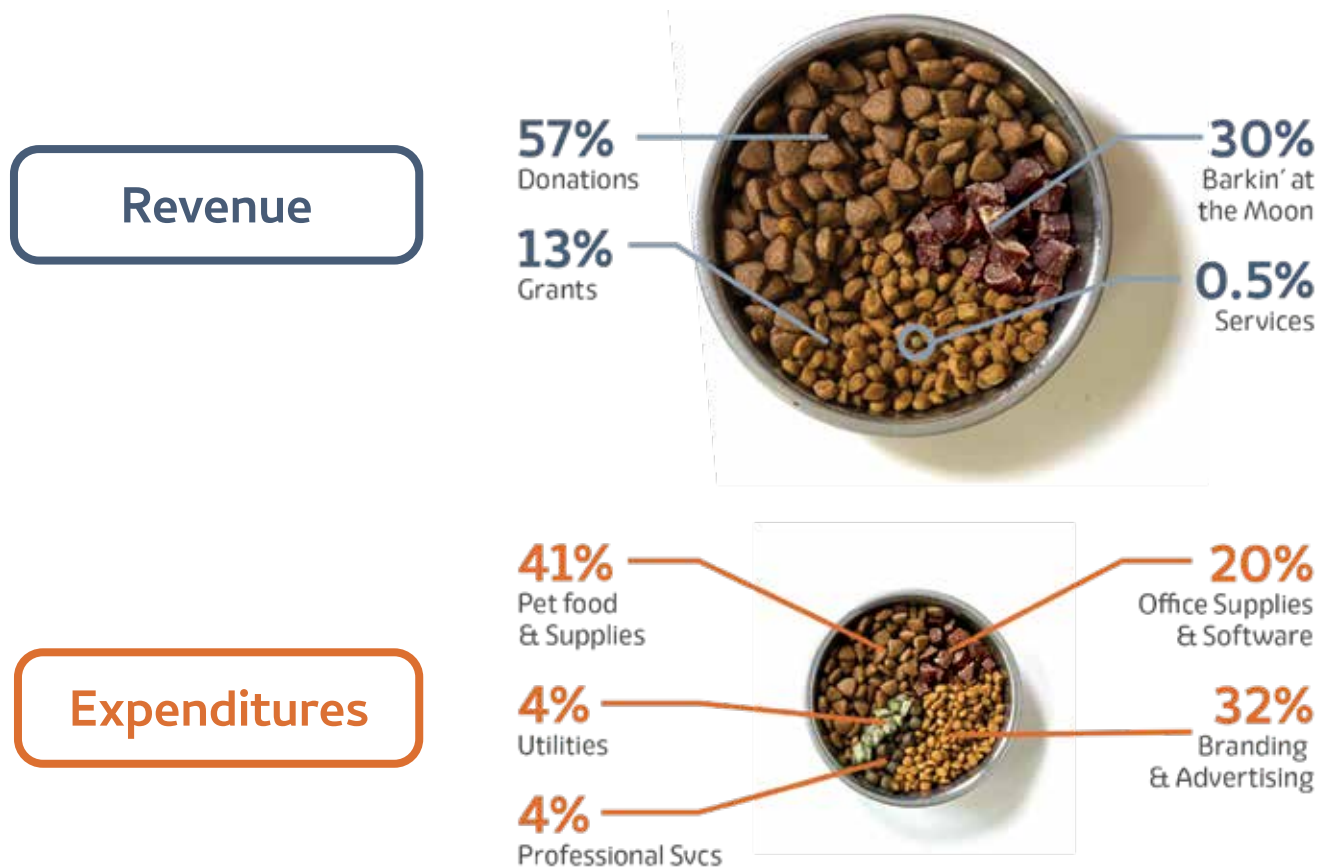
**SYDNEY'S
FRIENDS**
HELPING PETS LIVE BETTER

2025 Annual Report

Mel and Sydney

A look at the numbers

In 2025, Sydney's Friends brought in a total of \$38,685.53 in donations, grants, and sponsorships. Our operating expenses were \$20,134.47.



Food donations

> 10,000 lbs
of dry pet food

> 400 lbs
of treats

> 1800 cans
of pet food

36 ozs
of kitten
milk replacer

Corporate grants

The North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association gifted Sydney's Friends a Friends for Animals Grant!

We were also honored to be part of the 2025 Subaru Loves Pets initiative, gave direct funding through a grant administered by the ASPCA®.



Why this matters

There's something remarkable about the bond between a person and their pet. It shows up in a senior's face when her cat curls up beside her. In the way a dog reminds a struggling dad that someone is always glad he came home.

Pets don't ask questions. They just love. That love is genuinely good medicine.

This is our WHY. It's why we push ourselves, and why we're asking you to help out when you can. Feeding pets is feeding people.

When Meals and Wheels leaves pet food on a neighbor's porch, she stops skipping her own meals. When an unsheltered family knows their dog is taken care of, they're more likely to accept the help they need. When a child still has their best friend by their side through the hardest year of their life, something in them stays intact.

Thank you for making it possible.



Joyce and Lilly

"When I adopted Lilly, Sydney's Friends helped me get the supplies I needed. She's my family."

- Joyce

"Sydney's Friends helped me feed Sparky when we fell on hard times."

- Jay R.



Jay and Sparky

Spreading the love



Looking ahead

Dear Friends and Supporters,

When we started Sydney's Friends in April of 2025, we didn't have everything mapped out—we just knew there was a need, and we wanted to help.

What happened next is because of you.

In less than a year, this became something bigger than we imagined. We've been able to provide pet food and supplies to families in our community, support shelters and rescues, and partner with organizations like Meals on Wheels to make sure people don't have to choose between feeding themselves and feeding their pets.

But beyond the numbers, ***there are moments from this year that we'll never forget.***



Our founder, Mel holds Oliver while visiting Charlotte and Cora at their lemonade stand

The messages that come with donations made in memory of a beloved pet. Contributions given in honor of someone who loved animals deeply. A child setting up a lemonade stand to raise money for Sydney's Friends. Seeing so many people show up and support us at ***Barkin' at the Moon***. Those are the moments that stay with us. They're personal, and we don't take them lightly.

That kind of support is built on trust.



Sadie, a pup from New Leash on Life, stole the show in her tutu at this year's Barkin' at the Moon.

"In less than a year, this became something bigger than we imagined."

We want to be clear about who we are and how we operate. We value transparency. We value accountability. And we understand that every dollar given to Sydney's Friends represents someone's belief in what we're doing.

We don't take that for granted.

From the beginning, our focus has been to get help directly to the people and animals who need it. Show up, do the work, and be honest about it. We believe in respect for our fellow humans, for animals, and for the planet. As we grow, those values won't change.

This organization exists because people in this community care deeply. That care isn't just about animals, but about doing things the right way. As we look ahead, we're just getting started. There is more we can do, more partnerships to build, and more people and pets we want to reach. Thank you for being part of our first year. Thank you for trusting us, supporting us, and believing in what this can become.

We're honored to do this work with you.

With gratitude,



Melanie Wilder, Director
Sydney's Friends



Donation drop-offs

Food & supply drop-off locations

Animal Hospital North

Bennett Funeral Services

**The Chapel Church
Hickory**

**Conover Veterinary
Hospital**

Crescent Moon Cafe

Dockside Seafood Co.

Family Pet Cremations

Groomer Has It

Hideaway Kennels

Jenkins Funeral Home

**Pops Old Company Store
and Tavern**

**The Starnes Aycock
Law Firm**

Ways to help

Inspired? Want to be part of the change you want to see in the world? We could use your help in so many ways:

- Donate money or pet food
- Send supplies from our Amazon Wish List
- Become a monthly donor
- Make a gift in honor or memory of a loved one
- Remember Sydney's Friends in your will or trust
- See if your employer will match your donation
- Ask your employer about volunteer grants (some companies donate based on employee volunteer hours)
- Organize a workplace giving campaign
- Host a fundraiser for Sydney's Friends
- Sponsor a food drive
- Support an event like Barkin' at the Moon
- Partner with us as a distribution site
- Make your business a drop-off location



www.sydneyfriends.com

