

2017

For the Innocents



The GoNorth Animal Transport Collaborative is a project of Peaceful Kingdom, a 501(c)3 animal welfare organization founded in 2000 to introduce innovative approaches to ending animal overpopulation in Knox County, TN, and surrounding counties.

GoNorth Transport Collaborative 2017



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I need a ride!

Mission

The **GoNorth Transport Collaborative** is a group of animal shelters in east Tennessee that work together to transport animals to under-capacity animal shelters in several northern states. The mission of the GoNorth project is to eliminate euthanasia for space in participating shelters.

Why GoNorth Exists

Most shelters in east Tennessee are perpetually overcrowded due to random breeding by the large number of unaltered pets. Pet overpopulation is generally not a problem in northern states, where spaying and neutering of pets is a routine part of responsible pet ownership.

Affordable, easily-accessible spay/neuter programs are the solution to ending animal overpopulation. However, it will take "time on task" to dramatically reduce the birth rate.

Transporting southern shelter animals to northern shelters is a lifesaving bridge to the day that pet supply and adoption demand are in balance.

How GoNorth Works

Sending shelters propose healthy, well-socialized candidates for transport. Canine candidates must pass an ASPCA "SAFER" behavioral test, which is a screening for aggression. Destination shelters review proposed passenger lists. Usually, all candidates are accepted.

Prior to transport, all the animals are vaccinated (Distemper/ Parvo, Bordetella, Rabies), dewormed, heartworm tested (dogs over 6 months only), treated for fleas and ticks, and given heartworm and flea/tick preventative. If they are not already spayed or neutered, they will be spayed or neutered at the destination shelter prior to adoption. Every animal also receives a health certificate from a veterinarian prior to transport (as required by federal and state law).

On the day of transport, animals are brought to one of several pickup locations. The transport takes place overnight, and the animals sleep through the trip. The vehicle arrives at the destination in the early morning, with staff and volunteers ready to welcome the animals.

Dogs are transported to partner shelters in Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Ohio, and New Jersey. These shelters have large veterinary clinics, obedience training classes, behavior modification specialists, and multiple adoption sites. The animals get fantastic care and typically find homes within a week or two.

Results

A total of **2682 animals** (mostly dogs and puppies) were transported to northern shelters **in 2017**. Since the program's inception in 2012, 11,275 animals have been transported from east Tennessee to partner shelters in northern states. Most sending shelters report that they have been able to eliminate euthanasia for space as a result of being able to send animals north.

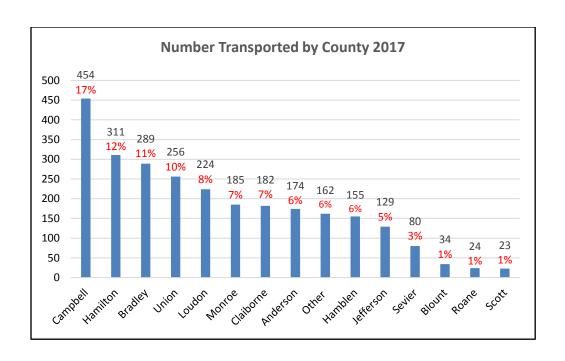
Sending Shelters

GoNorth primarily assists municipal shelters in east Tennessee. In counties where there is no shelter, or where the municipal shelter does not participate in GoNorth, animal rescue groups sometimes participate. Below is a map of east Tennessee counties showing participating shelters and rescue groups, followed by a table with the names of participants.

Counties participating in GoNorth



County	Participating organizations	
Anderson	Anderson County Animal Holding Facility, Oak Ridge Animal Shelter	
Blount	Blount County Animal Center	
Bradley	Bradley County SPCA, Cleveland for a No-Kill City	
Campbell	Campbell County Animal Shelter, Friends of Campbell County Animals	
Claiborne	Claiborne County Animal Shelter	
Hamblen	Morristown Hamblen Humane Society	
Hamilton	Humane Educational Society, McKamey Animal Center	
Jefferson	Humane Society of Jefferson County	
Loudon	Loudon County Animal Shelter	
Monroe	Monroe County Animal Shelter	
Roane	Rockwood Animal Shelter, Roane County Paws	
Scott	For the Love of Paws	
Sevier	Sevier County Humane Society, Pets Without Parents	
Union	Union County Humane Society	



Destination Shelters

Primary transport partners in 2017: Michigan Humane Society in Rochester Hills MI Wisconsin Humane Society in Milwaukee WI

Other destinations:

Anti-Cruelty Society in Chicago IL Greenville Humane Society in Greenville SC St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center in Madison NJ



Key Personnel

Project Coordinator	Carmen Trammell		
Transport Coordinator	Deonna Light		
Lead Driver; Co-Driver Jeff Sindlinger; Scott Gunter			
Van Manager	Campbell County Animal Shelter		
Sending Shelter Coordinators			
Anderson: Carrie Brandt, Katrina Hall	Jefferson: Kris Spencer		
Blount: Kristin Baksa	Loudon: April Kennedy		
Bradley: Kristin Harvey	Monroe: Liz Sneed		
Campbell: Patricia Siwinski	Roane: Amy Johnson		
Claiborne: Misti Sandifer	Scott: Lauren Jeffers		
Hamblen: Sheila Jackson	Sevier: Michaela Schommer, Amy Ogle		
Hamilton: Katie Christie, Chasity Garrett	Union: Tammy Rouse		
Destination Shelter Coordinators			
Michigan Humane Society	Marcelena Mace, Josh Redder		
Wisconsin Humane Society	Peggy Volkert		

Income and Expenses

Income

Income Source	Amount
Grants*	60,000
Individual Donors	22,426
Total	\$82,426

^{*}The grants above support transport expenses only (not pre-transport vetting expenses).

Expenses

Expense Item	Amount
Vehicle payments	8,460
Maintenance/Repairs	5,952
Insurance	3,350
Fuel	11,364
Driver per diem (2 drivers/trip)	28,800
Van cleaning, supplies, equipment	12,000
Misc. contracted services	12,500
Total	\$82,426

Vital Statistics for 2017

Animals Transported 2682
Number of Transports 108
Average Animals per Transport 25

Total Expenses \$82,426
Average Monthly Expenses \$6,869
Average Cost per Transport \$763
Average Cost per Animal \$31

Impact

East Tennessee shelter statistics are improving, i.e., more animals are saved, and fewer are euthanized. Following are shelter outcomes from 12 years ago, 7 years ago, and the past two years.

	% Rehomed*	% Euthanized	Sample size**
2005	32%	68%	Data from 8 shelters
2010	39%	61%	Data from 8 shelters
2016	75%	25%	Data from 13 shelters
2017	79%	21%	Data from 12 shelters

^{*}Rehomed means adopted, rescued, transported, or reclaimed.

The ongoing improvement is due to several factors:

<u>Spaying/neutering of adopted shelter animals before releasing them to the adopters</u>. This policy has eliminated a self-perpetuating cycle of reproduction.

<u>Low-cost and subsidized spay/neuter resources for the general public</u>. Low-income pet owners can now afford to have their pets altered.

<u>Innovative adoption programs</u>. Shelters now promote their animals via social media, special events, satellite adoption centers, and partnerships with pet supply stores that host regular adoption fairs.

<u>Active volunteer programs</u>. Volunteers play a vital role the innovative adoption programs mentioned above. In addition, volunteers do everything from providing foster homes for sick, injured, or underage animals to assisting veterinarians during spay/neuter surgeries. An active volunteer program often makes the difference between an adequate shelter and a great shelter.

<u>The rise in rescue groups</u>. Shelters now have active relationships with local, regional, and national rescue groups. Rescue groups take animals out of the shelter and assume full responsibility for their health and welfare.

<u>Northern transport</u>. Many wonderful northern shelters do not have enough animals to meet their adoption demand. GoNorth Transport has partnered with these undercapacity shelters to transfer

pets from our overcrowded east Tennessee shelters. The opportunity to send the oversupply of adoptable animals to northern destination shelters has largely eliminated the need to euthanize for space in southern sending shelters.

A 2017 euthanasia rate of 21% obviously indicates that there is room for further improvement. The big challenges relate to cats (particularly feral cats) and Pit Bulls. Cats are prolific breeders — much more so than dogs. Pit Bulls are notoriously overbred, and fill animal shelters. Northern shelters have these challenges just as southern shelters do, and are not able to accept our cats and Pit Bulls because they have so many of their own.

The progress that has been made in recent years is cause for great optimism. Society at large now expects humane treatment for companion animals, and will no longer accept euthanasia as the default outcome for shelter animals. There is no turning back the clock!

GoNorth Transport Collaborative - 2017 Transports

Date	Number Transported	Destination
9-Jan	32	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
12-Jan	33	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
18-Jan	27	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
18-Jan	14	Toledo Area Humane Society (Maumee OH)
23-Jan	26	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
25-Jan	25	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
30-Jan	20	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
1-Feb	27	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
7-Feb	46	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
9-Feb	21	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
13-Feb	19	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
17-Feb	7	Greenville Humane Society (Greenville SC)
20-Feb	21	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
22-Feb	24	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
27-Feb	27	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
1-Mar	17	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
2-Mar	18	Greenville Humane Society (Greenville SC)
7-Mar	21	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
9-Mar	37	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
13-Mar	23	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
15-Mar	35	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
17-Mar	30	Various NY rescue destinations
20-Mar	17	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
22-Mar	27	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
27-Mar	23	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
29-Mar	18	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
3-Apr	29	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
5-Apr	18	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
11-Apr	6	St Huberts Animal Welfare Center (Madison NJ)
13-Apr	36	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
17-Apr	20	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
20-Apr	32	Greenville Humane Society (Greenville SC)
20-Apr	40	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
24-Apr	17	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
27-Apr	60	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
1-May	22	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
4-May	23	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
7-May	6	St Huberts Animal Welfare Center (Madison NJ)
8-May	9	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
8-May	3	Toledo Area Humane Society (Maumee OH)
10-May	49	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
15-May	26	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
17-May	33	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)

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22-May	29	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
27-May	10	All Herding Breed Dog Rescue (Joliet IL)
27-May	5	St Huberts Animal Welfare Center (Madison NJ)
28-May	18	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
28-May	8	Miscellaneous Rescues
5-Jun	25	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
8-Jun	25	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
12-Jun	29	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
14-Jun	11	New homes (Dallas TX)
14-Jun	23	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
15-Jun	23	Greenville Humane Society (Greenville SC)
17-Jun	22	Humane Society Calumet Area (Munster IN)
19-Jun	21	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
22-Jun	25	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
26-Jun	23	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
5-Jul	35	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
10-Jul	23	Humane Society of Summit County (Twinsburg OH)
10-Jul	20	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
12-Jul	25	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
15-Jul	26	Rescues in Buffalo NY
17-Jul	22	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
19-Jul	22	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
20-Jul	10	Humane Society of Summit County (Twinsburg OH)
26-Jul	23	Friends of Hannah Rescue (Gallatin Tn)
26-Jul	30	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
28-Jul	18	Anti-Cruelty Society (Chicago IL)
31-Jul	28	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
2-Aug	27	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
7-Aug	18	Michigan Humane Society (Westland MI)
8-Aug	36	Humane Society Calumet Area (Munster IN)
9-Aug	30	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
10-Aug	24	Anti-Cruelty Society (Chicago IL)
11-Aug	15	Toledo Area Humane Society (Maumee OH)
11-Aug	17	Wood County Humane Society (Bowling Green OH)
14-Aug	18	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
19-Aug	9	Adoptive Homes
21-Aug	20	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
22-Aug	22	Michigan Humane Society (Westland MI)
24-Aug	35	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
29-Aug	23	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
30-Aug	38	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
1-Sep	14	Humane Society Calumet Area (Munster IN)
1-Sep	11	South Suburban Humane Society (Chicago Heights IL)
6-Sep	32	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)

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8-Sep	10	Greenville Humane Society (Greenville SC)
9-Sep	5	Adoptive Homes
9-Sep	47	Irma Evacuees to Northeastern Rescues
11-Sep	32	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
14-Sep	9	SPCA of Erie County (West Seneca NY)
14-Sep	10	Toronto Humane Society (Canada)
20-Sep	25	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
25-Sep	35	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
27-Sep	28	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
5-Oct	18	Greenville Humane Society (Greenville SC)
11-Oct	15	Greenville Humane Society (Greenville SC)
11-Oct	22	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
16-Oct	17	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
18-Oct	30	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
23-Oct	24	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
25-Oct	21	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
30-Oct	33	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
2-Nov	16	Greenville Humane Society (Greenville SC)
6-Nov	29	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
13-Nov	26	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
15-Nov	17	Humane Society of Summit County (Twinsburg OH)
23-Nov	23	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
27-Nov	20	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
30-Nov	5	Foster homes
4-Dec	21	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
6-Dec	22	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
7-Dec	24	Greenville Humane Society (Greenville SC)
11-Dec	24	Michigan Humane Society (Rochester Hills MI)
13-Dec	22	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
21-Dec	20	Wisconsin Humane Society (Milwaukee WI)
Total	2682	

APPENDIX

Pictures of Transported Animals

See https://gonorthtransport.org/the-passengers/