On any given day, some 300 dogs and cats are in residence. Located in East Smithfield and Wellsboro, PA, it is the only no kill shelter in Bradford, Tioga and surrounding counties. Its donors and adopters come from throughout the country. In particular, ACS' progress during the last six years has been notable. The sanctuary has earned national recognition for innovative programs, its lifesaving mission to rescue, rehabilitate and adopt homeless animals and to advocate for the wellbeing of all animals.

Animal Care Sanctuary is one of the few shelters in the nation that has its own veterinary and behavior staff. It has adopted standards of the American Association of Shelter Veterinarians and participates in Maddie's Shelter Medicine Program at Cornell's College of Veterinary Medicine. The college's vet staff tours ACS facilities annually, offering recommendations for improving the animals' medical and behavior programs.

The aging exterior dog runs on both the north and south sides of the building have deteriorated beyond repair. Today, shelters and sanctuaries look for alternative housing that reduces stress and promotes health for the dogs while also allowing staff, volunteers, adopters and visitors a much more personal opportunity to interact with the dogs. Such an alternative housing design would contribute to the dogs' adoptability, which is the ultimate ACS goal.
CELEBRATING OVER 50 YEARS!

Founded in 1967, by Lesley Sinclair, Animal Care Sanctuary is one of the oldest and largest no-kill sanctuaries for companion animals in the nation.

Our lifesaving mission envisions a community that promotes turning compassion into action for dogs and cats by adopting healthy animals into loving homes, promoting the human-animal bond through outreach, education and advocacy, spaying and neutering to end the suffering of over-population and to improve public health, and the humane and compassionate treatment of all animals.

Our three pillars include:

**Animal Rescue:**
- Mobile Transport Program: Used to rescue dogs and cats from other shelters across the country and to transport community companion animals for low cost spay/neuter/vaccination services.
- Adoptions
- Foster Program
- Smokey’s Fund: Emergency Fund for senior/special needs animals.
- Barn Cat Program: Adoption of spay/neuter/vaccinated feral “working” cats in exchange for food, water and shelter.
- Owner Surrender

**Community Collaboration:**
- Community Clinic: Providing low cost spay/neuter and other services to the community including wellness visits.
- Pet Food Pantry: We serve low income, elderly, veterans and those facing job loss who may otherwise be unable to care for their pets due to financial hardship.
- Public Dog Park: First and only dog park in Wellsboro, PA.
- Love on a Leash: Therapy dog training.

**Education:**
- Humane Education Programs: For pre-school through college age students.
- Pre-Veterinary Internship Program
- Behaviorist Consultations: To help adopters and animals transition to their forever home.
- Advocacy: Engaging lawmakers on the importance of animal welfare legislation.
Located in **East Smithfield and Wellsboro**, Pennsylvania, we have a total of over 200 acres and, on any given day, some 200+ dogs and cats are in residence.

Our progress during the last six years has been notable. We have adopted the standards of the American Association of Shelter Veterinarians and participate in Maddie’s Shelter Medicine Program at Cornell’s College of Veterinary Medicine.

The sanctuary has earned **national recognition** for our innovative programs and is one of the few shelters in the nation that has its own veterinary and behavior staff.

Having veterinarians on staff ensure that all our animals are vaccinated, spay/neutered and micro-chipped for identification so they are healthy and ready for adoption.

They also enable us to run two busy community wellness clinics which provide an accessible, affordable source of vaccinations and spay/neuter surgery for pet owners in Bradford and Tioga counties in Pennsylvania and New York communities.

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**2018 Accomplishments:**

* Placed over 690 animals into loving homes
* Performed over 4,900 visits/spay/neuter surgeries
* Distributed 20,000 pounds of pet food through the community pet food pantries

**2019 Accomplishments** *(as of June 30, 2019):*

* Placed over 512 animals into loving homes
* Performed 1,500 spay/neuter surgeries
* Started clinic and kennel renovations
* Launched new mobile transport program
* Opened dog park in Wellsboro, PA
In 2018 alone, our veterinarians conducted over 5,000 community clinic visits; of which 3,288 visits were in the East Smithfield clinic.

Now consider that the East Smithfield Medical Clinic is in an aging 20-year-old mobile home that is too small and located some distance away from the kennel and cattery.

**Why a new Community Medical Clinic?**

Consider that we have some 200+ animals in our care at any given time and all of these animals are vaccinated, checked for parasites and disease, spayed or neutered, and micro-chipped for identification so that they are healthy and ready for adoption.

Our veterinarians also staff two very busy community clinics, which provide the only subsidized source of vaccinations and spay or neuter surgery for pet owners in Bradford and Tioga counties in Pennsylvania.
1. Our current clinic is in a mobile home located over 200 feet from the kennel and cattery. Our animals, even sick animals and surgical patients, must be transported outdoors, often in inclement weather.

2. The lobby is very small. Patients often have to wait outside because the lobby is full. The close distance between pets causes them stress and presents the risk of aggressive interaction between dogs. The reception desk is crowded, with no allowance for increased staffing.

3. Having one examination room limits the number of appointments that can be scheduled per hour and causes patients to wait in the lobby for an excessive amount of time.

4. A single holding room must house both dogs and cats, which limits the number of animals we can accommodate and causes them stress.

5. The surgery preparation room is a part of the surgery room, making it more difficult to prepare the animals for surgery and to keep the room clean.
Why a new Kennel?

Our original kennel was built in 1982 and at the time was considered state-of-the-art. It was long and narrow. Each dog had an indoor and outdoor run with doors that allowed it to move freely inside to outside, weather permitting. There was a wide center aisle and drainage ditches in order to clean efficiently every day.

In the 30+ years since our kennel was built, we continued to see it deteriorate to the point where the dog warden deemed a portion unusable.

Today, we know now the needs of shelter dogs are much different. The long narrow buildings with runs have become obsolete. Contrary to the original concept, the layout actually increased stress for dogs. Dogs see, hear and become agitated by many other dogs as well as people through the rows of chain link fences. There is no privacy or tranquility and nothing resembling a home-like environment. The shelter actually produced stress instead of relieving it and led to behaviors that made the animals less adoptable.

“The newly constructed kennel and medical clinic are essential to our lifesaving mission. Safe, comfortable humane housing and medical services under one roof help provide healthy animals. These improvements along with a welcoming entry for the public to see our dogs will enable ACS to find them well-matched forever homes and that is the ultimate goal.”

Joan Smith-Reese
Executive Director
Reasons for a New Kennel

The building was unequipped to provide a healthy environment for the animals.

- Poor air exchange. There was not enough separation in airflow between spaces housing healthy and sick animals and very little fresh-air intake into that airflow. Both of these conditions made it difficult to contain infectious diseases such as kennel cough.
- Poor sewage disposal contributed to disease and odors.
- Porous housing materials. The walls and floors were made of concrete, which is porous and not designed for ease of cleaning. The concrete was crumbling in many places, frequent painting was required and odor levels remained high regardless of how deeply and frequently the surfaces were cleaned.
- Excessive moisture must be constantly squeegeed; it contributes to disease, discomfort and unsafe walking conditions.

The building was in dire need of major, increasingly expensive repair.

- Concrete was continually cracking.
- Chain link was rusted and needed constant repair. Repairs in 2016 exceeded $9,000.
- The guillotine doors were outdated; replacement panels are no longer available.

The kennel provided a very difficult working environment for staff and volunteers.

- There was no separate break area.
- There were poor temperature controls. It is extremely hot in the summer and cold in the winter.
- Staff morale was low because so much time must be taken away from caring for the dogs in order to make constant kennel repairs daily.
- Frequent injuries of staff and animals on deteriorated chain link and doors caused significant stress.
- Volunteers couldn’t work in the kennel due to safety issues.

The kennel was unable to provide a positive experience for visitors.

- Noise exceeded OSHA requirements for safe hearing levels.
- There was no private space to get acquainted with a dog or a counseling area, both of which are essential aspects for securing successful, permanent adoptions.
- It was unsafe for people to enter the severely deteriorating facility. Consequently, dogs were brought one at a time to prospective adopters.
- Being able to see a number of animals at once impeded the ability to make a connection with one of them and limited adoptions. Some people grew impatient and left.
Construction Plan

Our renovations are directly tied to our growth - as we have built many innovative programs and have adopted out more animals than ever before.

This is about our future and honoring our founder Lesley Sinclair’s legacy and vision.

The goal of the construction is to make the facility a place where employees feel positive and the public enjoys visiting for pet adoption, pet retrieval, pet owner education, the community medical clinic and other animal services. Most importantly, the kennel must house dogs in the healthiest, least stressful manner possible.

Our needs assessment and plan were conducted by:

Shelter Planners of America

They have over 30 years of experience and are recognized as the most experienced and skilled shelter consulting service nationwide.

Front of new Kennel/Clinic

Outside of new Kennel Runs

The need for a new kennel is so urgent that we have begun construction and anticipate completion in Spring 2020.
Donor Recognition

Animal Care Sanctuary will publicly thank and honor the generous people and organizations that support the renovations. There are a number of naming opportunities that will provide a lasting perpetual public tribute or memorial to a beloved individual or pet.

The renovated kennel will have a large, attractive public area that will provide ample space for a recognition wall listing donors of $5,000.00 and above as well as various special plaques. Additionally, all donors will be listed in the Animal Care Sanctuary website, annual report, newsletter and news releases following the opening of the kennel and medical clinic.

Animal Care Sanctuary will have a special celebration when the kennel and clinic are finalized, honoring the generous people who have helped us maximize our lifesaving services to the animals we care for and the community we serve.
A Renaissance to Ensure Healthy Animals, Positive Staff, Happy Visitors and Adopters and a Grateful Community

BENEFITS TO THE ANIMALS

- Healthier, soothing, comfortable, low-stress environment.
- Medical separation between healthy and sick animals through kennel design and sophisticated HVAC system.
- High degree of fresh air to minimize disease transfer.
- Significantly increased access to visitors and adopters will enable a greater number of adoptions in less time and more opportunity for public education.
- There will be an indoor/outdoor kennel design for optimal health, comfort and efficiency:
  1. The indoor portion enables dogs to be comfortable in all climates and eliminates possible over-exposure to harsh weather.
  2. The design allows dogs to be kept safe and dry during cleaning procedures by moving them to outside covered runs, which allows for efficient daily cleaning.
  3. The floors sloped to individual drains will eliminate difficult to clean trench drains, which also lead to cross-contamination.
  4. There will be special sound control materials that will keep the building quiet and noise levels down.
BENEFITS TO THE STAFF/VOLUNTEERS

• A positive, attractive work environment for canine and veterinary staff and volunteers.

• Pleasant, well-designed work space will increase efficiency, lift morale and help prevent burnout.

BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY

• We will have a first rate kennel for the safety and wellbeing of dogs that will engender community pride as the renovated cattery has done. Our housing for both dogs and cats will be among the best in the nation, reflecting a community that truly cares about the needs of its animals.

• Community volunteers will once again be able to walk into the kennel to get dogs for a walk, or work with the dogs in their runs.

• Adopters will again have the opportunity to see multiple animals at once and to interact with them, leading to a better experience and the likelihood of making the best choice.

• The new kennel will enable more adoptions, which will bring more people to Bradford County, who will then spend dollars on hotels, restaurants, gas and the like.

• Putting an improved Medical Clinic under the same roof will provide safer, more efficient medical services to our animals and community pets while enabling more animals to be seen and greater service provided to members of the community.