

I don't know if there is anything that could have truly prepared us for 2020. Between not being able to hold inperson trainings for our foster parents and community, donations dropping, and the kitten population spiking due to a lack of spay/neuter services, it was a whirlwind!

When things got wild though, our team of staff members, foster parents, donors, and volunteers stepped up to make sure our work didn't skip a beat.

What we were able to accomplish this year is truly incredible. We saved the lives of so many kittens, we supported nearly a dozen rescue partners, and trained hundreds of people from all over the country to care for orphaned newborn kittens.

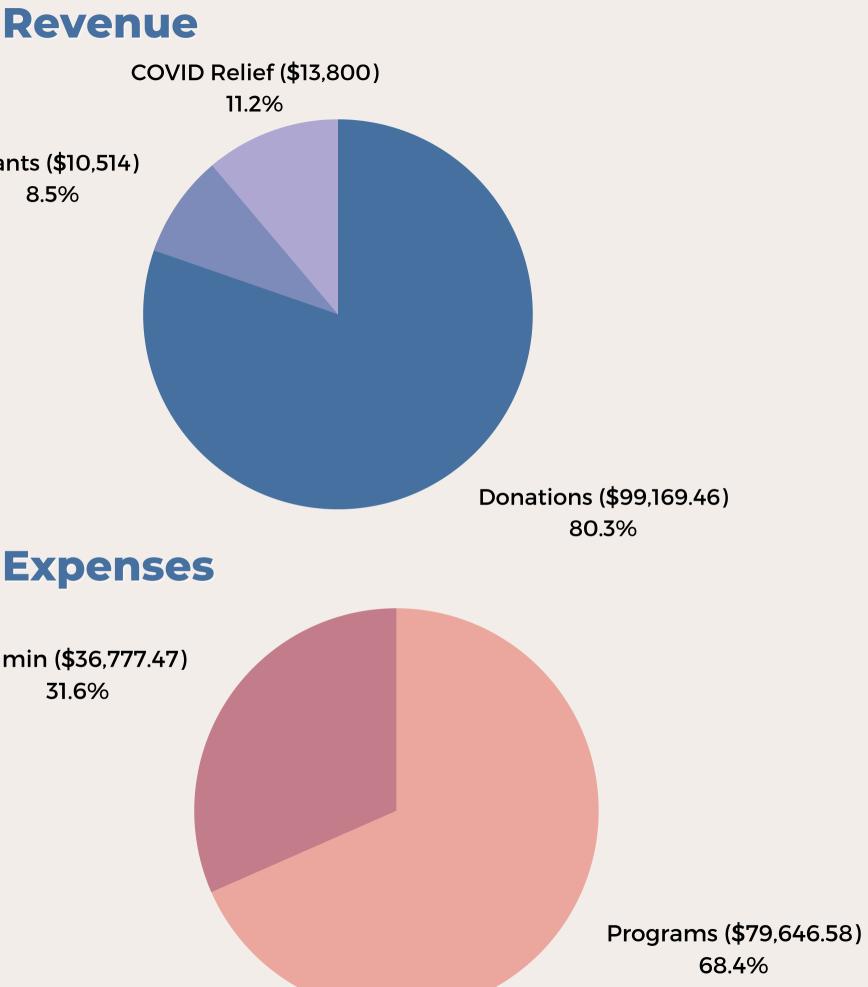
If this is what we can do during a pandemic, I can't wait to see what kind of impact we can make in the years to come!

Here's to a happy and healthy 2021,

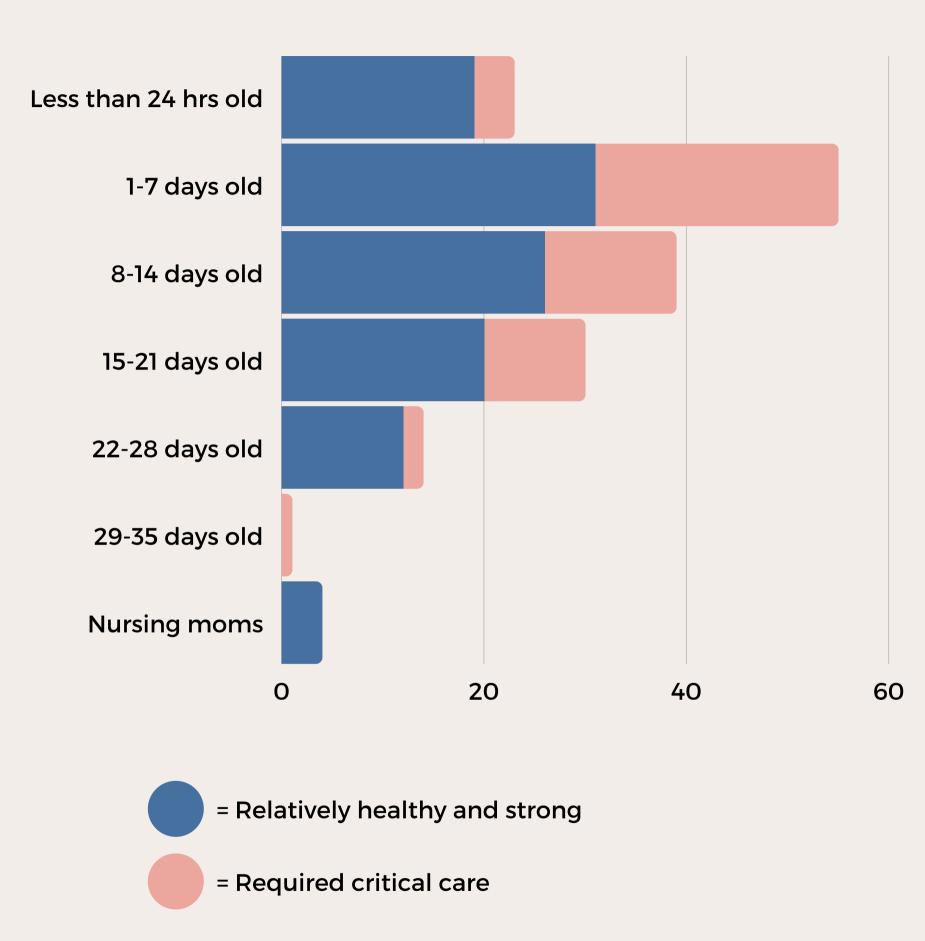
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Andee Bingham **Executive Director** 

Grants (\$10,514) 8.5%



Admin (\$36,777.47) 31.6%





care!

Since our goal is to give a chance to the youngest, sickest, and most injured kittens that other rescues may not have the training, time, or resources to save, 42% of the kittens required critical care for severe illnesses or injuries.

We were able to save the lives of 72% of the orphaned newborn kittens who came into our care, which is roughly 6% above the national average.



love, Flora began to thrive and was eventually adopted by her foster parents!

#### **KITTENS RESCUED**

In 2020 we were able to welcome 166 kittens into our

Flora was just hours old when she came to us covered in thousands of maggots and fly eggs. It took hours to comb them all out of her fur. With medical care, good nutrition, and lots of

#### **RESCUE PARTNERS SUPPORTED**

In 2020 we provided support and resources to animal rescues and municipal shelters in nine counties throughout western North Carolina: Buncombe, McDowell, Transylvania, Rutherford, Haywood, Henderson, Madison, Jackson, and Burke.

Because of these partnerships, the most vulnerable kittens are being saved, communities are being supported, and organizations are taking steps to build their own effective neonate programs.

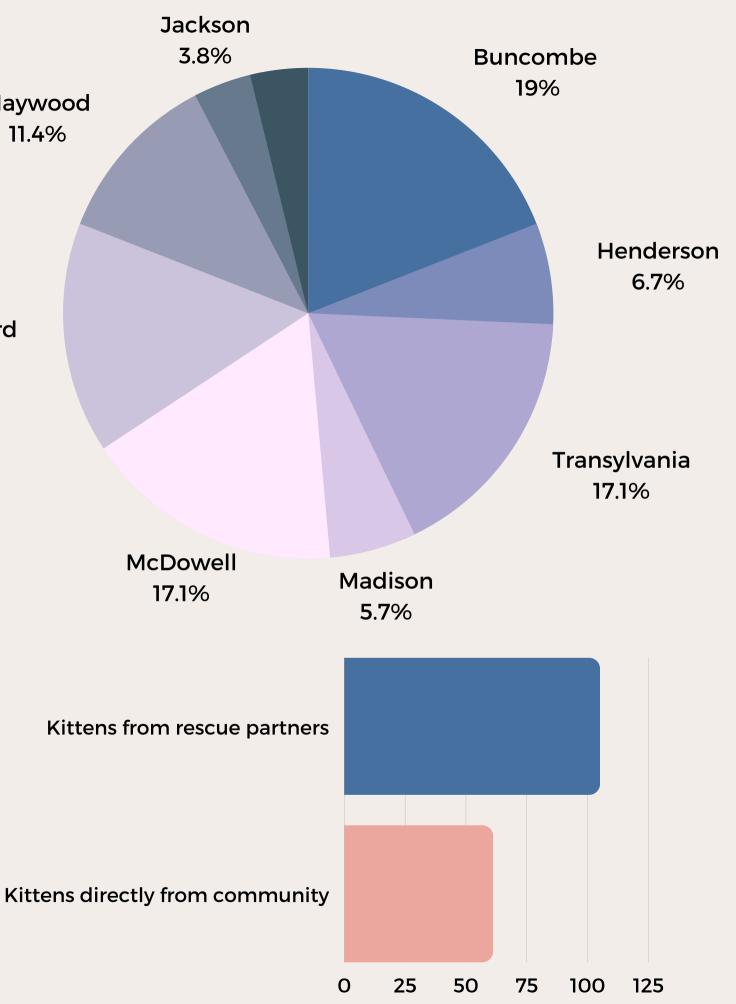


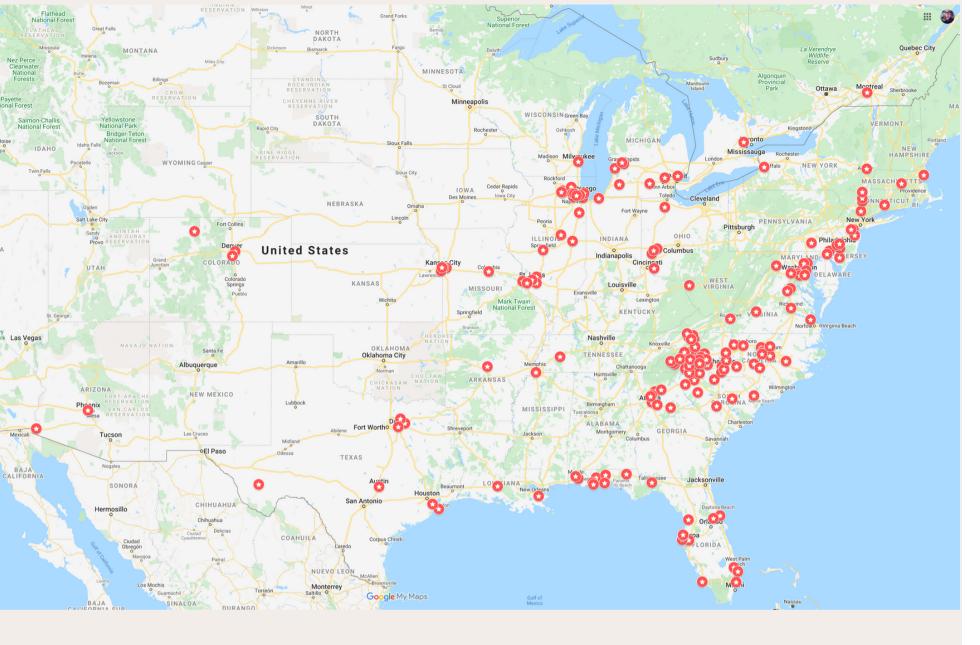
In September, Christopher was found all alone, shivering in a mud puddle in Rutherford County. The folks who found him called our rescue partners, Heart of the Foothills, who in turn called us!

We gave him a nose-to-tail assessment to check for wounds, scrubbed the mud off him with a much-needed bath, then put him in a foster home where we knew he'd get the around-the-clock care he needed to thrive. He grew up big and strong and was recently adopted!

Haywood 11.4%

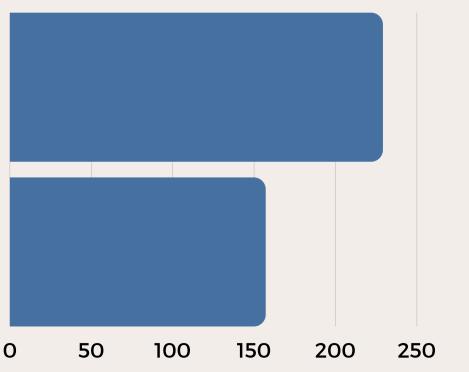
**Rutherford** 15.2%





Previous bottle feeding experience

NO previous bottle feeding experience



## **COMMUNITIES EDUCATED**

In 2020, the pandemic forced us to transition our classes to webinars... which ultimately allowed us to expand our reach and provide lifesaving training to rescuers from all over the country and world!

Through our Bottle Baby Kitten Care 101 webinars, we trained 386 people!

Attendees represented 159 animal rescues and municipal shelters beyond our rescue partners!

And of those who attended, nearly half had no previous bottle feeding experience or knowledge of caring for orphaned newborn kittens!

Hundreds of communities all over the world are now much better prepared to care for neonates.

## LOOKING AHEAD TO 2021

While 2020 was certainly not a year we'd like to repeat (can you relate?), we were able to grow our programs and make a huge impact for orphaned newborns.

We were also able to open our Neonatal Kitten Nursery and Resource Center! Through this new facility, we'll be able to provide comprehensive critical care in-house to kittens like Owen (pictured right). Owen came to us this summer with his umbilical cord wrapped tightly around his foot, leaving it cold, black, and swollen.

It took several weeks of antibiotics, massages, water therapy, laser therapy, a topical ointment, bottle feeding, and a cozy incubator, but we were able to save his life and his foot!

We can't wait to see how many more little lives we'll be able to save in 2021 and in the years to come.

# Learn more about the Nursery and Resource Center at www.kittenalliance.org/nursery

