

Be The Change Inc



SUMMARY

Mission

Be the Change, Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit no-kill cat rescue that utilizes a foster network and is dedicated to providing safe shelter and adoption for cats at risk of euthanasia from local animal services, shelters and/or individuals who can no longer provide a home for their cats. We are committed to saving the lives of cats and kittens that would otherwise not have been helped and rehoming them. We work as a community to help those that others cannot. We are helping rescue partners by filling a gap to help adoptable animals with basic medical needs, including geriatric and special needs cats.

Contact Information

Primary Address	2235 WASON RD SARASOTA, FL 34231-4268
Alternate Address	2235 Wason Road Sarasota FL 34231 4268
Phone	941 923-1293
Email	juliehansonart@earthlink.net
Website	bethechangeatrescue.org
Facebook	BeTheChangeAnimalRescue

General Information

Nonprofit	Be The Change Inc
Tax Exempt Status	Public Supported Charity
Incorporation Year	2006
State Charitable Solicitations Permit	Yes Mar 2018

BACKGROUND & NEEDS

Impact Statement

We have helped the community by taking in many abandoned and homeless cats that need safe shelter until new homes can be found.

We re-home adoptable cats from local feral trap/release programs.

We have taken in non-adoptable special needs cats from local agencies and are providing them quality lifetime care.

We have helped cats by placing over 1200 into permanent loving homes. We have provided all necessary vet care and continued quality care for the less adoptable cats remaining who have not yet found homes including many geriatric and handicapped cats.

Needs Statement

1. Funds for initial intake for vet package including: spay/neuter, vaccines, testing, worming and microchipping) - female \$85, male \$55 (10,000/year - 2015)
2. Funds for emergency vet care: meds, surgery, lab work and eye care (\$8500/year - 2015)
3. Funds for food, litter, beds, crates and supplies as needed for adoptable cats and sheltering long term cats who are less adoptable (12,000/year - 2015)
4. Funds for overhead costs including transportation, heat and air, fans, housing, advertising, administrative costs, etc. (6,500/year - 2015)
5. Volunteers for foster care, maintenance, daily care, administrative support

Background Statement

As animal lovers and compassionate people, we feel great sadness and helplessness in the face of the ongoing problem of unwanted pets and the fact that every day, hundreds and thousands of innocent, beautiful and loving animals face a lonely and miserable death across this nation, through no fault of their own because there are not enough homes for them all.

One day, in a flash of realization, it occurred to me that I could 'be the change' (I wanted to see in the world). And though I/we can't save them all, by spaying and neutering (to prevent even more unwanted pets) and providing short term foster care for the ones who have not found a home yet or have lost their homes and long term care for the un-adoptables . . . we can make a huge difference for so many.

That year, I ordered a trap and began trapping at the local dump. I found homes for the friendly ones and re-released the others after spaying, testing and vaccinating. And so, I named our rescue . . . Be the Change (you want to see in the World) Inc. And we have and will continue to . . .

I started rescue work with only a love for animals and a quote by Gandhi. After almost 20 years, with my family's full support, we are averaging over 100 adoptions every year. Our biggest year was 2014, when we had almost 250 adoptions. We are now reaching out for help and hoping others will join us and support this work financially and by fostering.

We formed our non-profit organization (501c3) in 2006 and are funded entirely by adoption fees and contributions and my entire income as an artist and a teacher. . . and by faith that we can and will make a difference!

Please become involved, foster and contribute. . . . their lives depend on us."

Statement from the Board Chair

Rescue work is extremely rewarding. Assisting our fosters with keeping up the daily maintenance (feeding,

cleaning and socializing), all of the planned vet visits and the unexpected ones, adoption appointments, phone calls, and all of the other aspects of rescue, housing and re-homing cats requires hard work and dedication. We need more volunteers and foster homes.

We are hoping that more folks will lend a hand here to keep this important work going forward and that we will 'grow' our list of foster families who can find room for rescues at the drop of a hat. When kitties' lives are endangered and we get the call, we need to mobilize quickly and get them safely housed while we work to get their needs met. We hold out for the highest standards in re-homing our 'kids'. We do not allow de-clawing, ever, and we educate the public every day. We require our cats to be kept inside only, except in rare circumstances. We educate each and every new adopter about diet and quality care.

We have been and will remain a small rescue. As such, we can keep our standards high. We have no paid employees now but if that's what it takes to get more help with the work load, then we will work towards that end. When you look at the operating costs of some of the bigger rescues and compare them to ours, it is unbelievable how much we have done and continue to do so with so little. We don't spend money on glitz and glamour, every penny goes to the cats/kittens' needs.

Be the Change gets multiple calls every week from people trying to place their pets who have been turned down by other shelters for lack of space. We work hard to help them as much as possible. We are often the last resort for the cats before the only option left is animal services, where many are euthanized.

Our success stories are many. We try every day to 'be the change' we want to see in the world, one kitty at a time.

Don't leave it to someone else or wait until tomorrow. Be the Change now. Their lives depend on us.

Statement from the CEO/Executive Director

Areas Served

FL- Sarasota

FL- Manatee

FL- DeSoto

FL- Charlotte

Our main focus is with local counties as listed above and we also strive to assist in times of emergency or disaster in our state by taking cats in need as space permits.

Service Categories

Primary Organization Type

Animal Related

Secondary Organization Type

Public & Societal Benefit

Tertiary Organization Type

Animal Related

PROGRAMS

Re-homing Cats and Public Education with a Holistic Approach

Description	Rescued cats are taken in from local sources and individuals to save their lives. We also take in friendly cats from trap/neuter/release programs for rehoming. They are completely vetted (combo test, spay/neuter, microchip, vaccinations, deworming and additional medical attention as required) and released for adoption. We advertise via social media, website, newspaper and word-of-mouth to find potential adoptees. We interview and educate each adoptee regarding diet, care and living conditions and only adopt to qualified adoptees. We particularly educate the public regarding the importance of not declawing, indoor only homes and quality diet.
Budget	\$40,000.00
Category	Animal-Related, General/Other Animal Protection & Welfare
Program Linked to Organizational Strategy	Yes
Population Served	US Families General/Unspecified
Short Term Success	We are saving cats and kittens as we are informed of their need. We provide immediate safe housing. This reduces the impact on animal services and therefore on tax payers. We also provide important education to adoptees regarding the care of cats.
Long Term Success	The long-term success of our program can be measured by the number of permanent-loving homes found for the cats that have moved through this rescue. These cats were not euthanized and have been placed in loving homes where they now provide comfort for their adopted families.
Program Success Monitoring	We look internally at the number of adoptions we have each year and the very few returns (we take back all cats that do not work out in their new environment and re-home them again) to indicate our success.
Program Success Examples	We have adopted over 100 cats in 2016. We have taken in many handicapped cats including those with meningitis and cerebellum hyperplasia and have helped many older cats with lesser medical issues find good homes. We have also taken in and re-homed friendly cats from feral trap/release programs that would normally unfortunately be released back onto the street. We are also providing permanent safe, healthy housing for long term residents who have little chance for adoption.

Comments

Program Comments by Organization

Be the Change, Inc. was created after years of rescue effort by the founder. From the very beginning through its incorporation in 2006 and into the future our goal is to find immediate safe haven and a permanent loving home for every cat in need.

MANAGEMENT

CEO/Executive Director

CEO/Executive Director	No Executive Director
CEO Email	n/a
Experience	

Co-CEO/Executive Director

Experience

Staff & Volunteer Statistics

Full Time Staff	0
Part Time Staff	0
Staff Retention Rate %	n/a
Professional Development	No
Contractors	0
Volunteers	15
Management Reports to Board	N/A
CEO/Executive Director Formal Evaluation	N/A
Senior Management Formal Evaluation	N/A
NonManagement Formal Evaluation	No

Collaborations

Be the Change, Inc. collaborates with St. Francis Animal Rescue by taking cats and by using their spay/neuter voucher program. The local veterinarians we work with include: Palmer Ranch Animal Clinic, Vet Associates of Jacaranda, Laurel Road Veterinary Clinic, West Coast Veterinary Center and Sarasota Animal Medical Center. We occasionally collaborate with our local humane societies. We have rescue partnerships with Animal Services (Sarasota, Manatee, Desoto Counties) where we take in cats/kittens scheduled to be euthanized as well as some difficult to adopt and/or special needs cats.

GOVERNANCE

Board Chair

Board Chair	Julie H Hanson
Company Affiliation	Community Volunteer
Board Term	Dec 2006 to Dec 2018
Board Chair Email	juliehansonart@earthlink.net

Board Members

Name	Affiliation	Status
Mary E Clancy	Community Volunteer	Voting
Julie H Hanson	Community Volunteer	Voting
Amanda Velarde	Community Volunteer	Voting

Board Demographics - Ethnicity

African American/Black	0
Asian American/Pacific Islander	0
Caucasian	3
Hispanic/Latino	0
Native American/American Indian	0
Other	0 0

Board Demographics - Gender

Male	0
Female	3
Not Specified	0

Governance

Board Term Lengths	3
Board Term Limits	99
Board Orientation	No
Number of Full Board Meetings Annually	2
Board Meeting Attendance %	100
Board Self-Evaluation	Yes
Written Board Selection Criteria	Under Development
Percentage of Board Making Monetary Contributions	66
Percentage of Board Making In-Kind Contributions	100
Constituency Includes Client Representation	

Comments

Governance Comments by Organization

Our previous board disbanded at the end of 2015. We only had two board members from January until September, 2016, when we added a third board member.

FINANCIALS

Current Financial Info

Fiscal Year Begins	2017
Fiscal Year Ends	2017
Projected Revenue	\$40,000.00
Projected Expenses	\$40,000.00
Total Projected Revenue includes "in-kind" contributions/ donations	No
Endowment Value	\$0.00
Spending Policy Percentage	0

Capital Campaign

In a Capital Campaign	No
Campaign Goal	0

IRS Form 990s

990 EZ

990 EZ

990 EZ

Solvency

Short Term Solvency

Fiscal Year	2015	2014	2013
Current Ratio: Current Assets/Current Liabilities	--	--	--

Long Term Solvency

Fiscal Year	2015	2014	2013
Long-Term Liabilities/Total Assets	--	--	--

Historical Financial Review

Revenue and Expenses

Fiscal Year	2015	2014	2013
Total Revenue	\$37,863	\$42,488	\$38,627
Total Expenses	\$37,863	\$42,488	\$38,627

Revenue Sources

Fiscal Year	2015	2014	2013
Foundation and Corporation Contributions	\$0	\$0	\$0
Government Contributions	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal	\$0	\$0	\$0
State	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local	\$0	\$0	\$0
Unspecified	\$0	\$0	\$0
Individual Contributions	\$12,938	\$22,244	\$15,691
Indirect Public Support	\$0	\$0	\$0
Earned Revenue	\$24,925	\$20,244	\$22,936
Investment Income, Net of Losses	\$0	\$0	\$0
Membership Dues	\$0	\$0	\$0
Special Events	\$0	\$0	\$0
Revenue In-Kind	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0

Expense Allocation

Fiscal Year	2015	2014	2013
Program Expense	\$37,299	\$41,861	\$38,040
Administration Expense	\$564	\$626	\$587
Fundraising Expense	\$0	\$0	\$0
Payments to Affiliates	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue/Total Expenses	1.00	1.00	1.00
Program Expense/Total Expenses	99%	99%	98%
Fundraising Expense/Contributed Revenue	0%	0%	0%

Assets and Liabilities

Fiscal Year	2015	2014	2013
Total Assets	\$0	\$0	\$0
Current Assets	\$0	\$0	\$0
Long-Term Liabilities	\$0	\$0	\$0
Current Liabilities	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Net Assets	\$0	\$0	\$0

Top Funding Sources

Fiscal Year	2015	2014	2013
Top Funding Source & Dollar Amount	Program Service Revenue \$24,925	Contributions, gifts, grants \$22,244	Program Service Revenue \$22,936
Second Highest Funding Source & Dollar Amount	Contributions, gifts, grants \$12,938	Program Service Revenue \$20,244	Contributions, gifts, grants \$15,691
Third Highest Funding Source & Dollar Amount	0 \$0	0 \$0	0 \$0

Comments

Financial Comments by Organization

We founded Be the Change, Inc. to support cat rescue and rehoming. We are a small organization which is funded by small contributions and adoption fees. When funding isn't sufficient we personally provide funding to continue this effort. Each year the demand is greater and we are seeking funding from other sources to support this work. See attached 990 EZ forms. The organization does not include valuation of non-cash donations in revenue.

Financial Comments by Foundation

Financial information taken from the organization's Federal 990-EZ.

PLANS, POLICIES & LICENSES

Plans

Fundraising Plan	No
Communication Plan	No
Strategic Plan	No
Management Succession Plan	No
Continuity of Operations Plan	No

Policies

Organizational Policies and Procedures	No
Written Conflict of Interest Policy	Yes
Nondiscrimination Policy	No
Directors and Officers Insurance Policy	No
Whistle Blower Policy	No
Document Destruction Policy	No

Government Licenses

Is your organization licensed by the Government?	No
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Planning & Policies Comments

- Planning & Policies Comments by Organization**
- Planning & Policies Comments by Foundation**