



Safe Beds Report FY 23/24

Another busy year for the Safe Beds team with 140 animals placed in the program. Team members with social work expertise and a burgeoning relationship with UTAS have provided the impetus for us to further the multiple-disciplinary approach in addressing the needs of vulnerable people and their companion animals.

From the Australian Institute of Family Studies "...practitioners, including social workers, psychologists and others who work with women and children in crisis, need to factor family animals into safety planning."

Wrapping services around vulnerable people and their animals is a relatively new concept from an operational perspective, as we have historically been responsible for the enforcement of animal cruelty legislation and have somewhat siloed our activities to vulnerable animals.

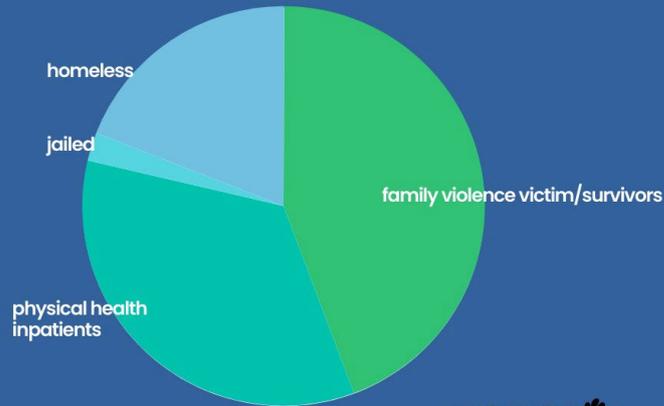
Our Safe Beds team visit our clients in hospitals to discuss the needs of their animals, becoming a part of the healthcare journey for those clients experiencing life-altering medical episodes. We have to balance the needs of the animals with the needs of our clients, next of kin and caseworkers to ensure that we are considering all the angles and have all the information we need to make informed decisions.

We hold regular meetings with caseworkers and their clients to share information on the animals' well-being and to understand possible lengths of stay for individual animals.

We continue to struggle with animals being in foster care for many months, having instituted a plan to move animals between homes, therefore managing expectations and attachment issues. Our foster carers are often shocked at the length of time victim/survivors stay on the social housing wait list before a home is made available to them, sharing our frustration at the lack of housing available.

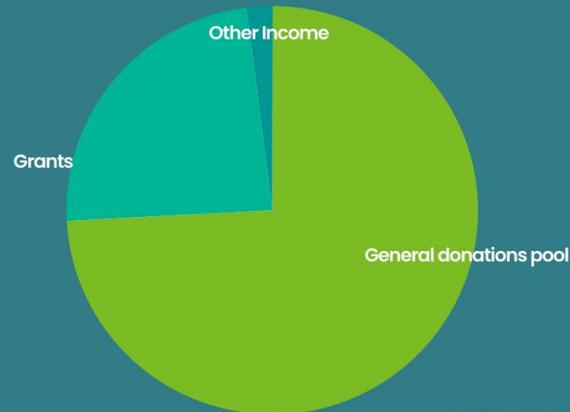
With the support of community service agencies (with either former or current clients in the Safe Beds program) and the Council on the Ageing (COTA), we embarked upon a period of information gathering via surveys and face-to-face consultations to inform Safe Beds' operations and our advocacy agenda. Advocating for older clients, either with support in the home or entering aged care, is our next focus area.

Total number of animals 140



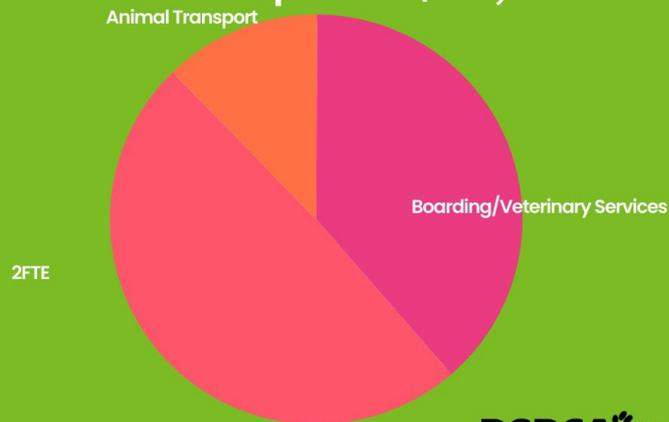
RSPCA
Tasmania

Safe Beds income \$257,496



RSPCA
Tasmania

Safe Beds expenses \$257,496



RSPCA
Tasmania