



Nantucket Island  
**Safe Harbor** for Animals



# Beyond Rescue

Building Hope for Animals and Our Community





## **Nantucket is an island of natural beauty and rich history.**

Our beaches, waters and conservation land are home to countless species, and pets are a mainstay of our island's culture. For over a decade, NiSHA has sheltered lost and homeless animals, connected rescue pets with loving families, supported pet families in difficult times, and given seniors and children the love and connection they crave.







## Current Rental Space:

**NiSHA outgrew its 700 square foot rental space at Offshore Animal Hospital after the first year in 2012. Additionally, our landlord needs their space back to expand veterinary services.**

The island's high cost of living, aging demographics, severe housing shortage, and increasing mental health challenges have increased the need for NiSHA's services.

Since 2012, we've sheltered over 3,000 animals. Together we can create a new rescue and education center so we never turn away an animal in need.





Our recent strategic plan—developed with significant input from our Nantucket community—addresses these growing issues and offers a roadmap for our next decade: NiSHA will become Nantucket's animal wellbeing center, expanding our programs to rescue animals, educate the public, and assist our local community. In order to do all we can for Nantucket pets and their families, we need our own facility.





## Our New Home Will Include:

- Rescue and Adoption Shelter
- Education and Community Center
- On-Site Spay/Neuter Services for Shelter Animals
- Memorial Gardens and Open Space
- Pet-Friendly Staff Housing





## Who Will Benefit From Our New Campus?

- Abandoned or relinquished animals
- Seniors with pets
- Low-income pet families
- Children of all ages
- Animals with anxiety or behavioral challenges
- Lost or stray pets
- Hospital patients
- Assisted living residents
- People grieving the loss of their beloved pets
- Our entire community!



NiSHA gives animals a second chance to find loving homes, provides financial and practical assistance for pet families in need, improves animal wellbeing through education and behavior training, and provides animal-assisted therapy to schools, hospitals and senior centers. In our new home, we will offer new services and help even more animals and people.





## Dog Rescue

We currently house approximately 200 dogs each year. These dogs include:

- Stray or Lost (40%)
- Relinquished by local residents (20%)
- Transferred from other shelters (40%)



The average length of stay is 45 days and we need space for at least twelve adult dogs and/or seventeen puppies at a time. Our dogs will have bright and open spaces to ensure their physical and mental wellbeing until they can be reunited with their families or adopted into new homes.

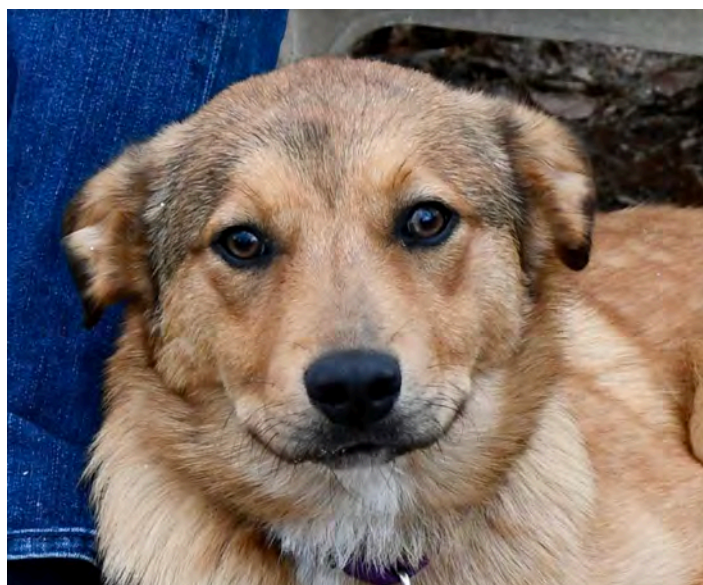




## Designated Safe Spaces

Approximately 200 dogs and cats per year need to be quarantined for 48 hours when they arrive at NiSHA.

The Town of Nantucket leases space from us each year. They require NiSHA to have at least one available kennel for lost or stray animals at all times.



Two separate isolation spaces for dogs and cats will each have their own air systems so NiSHA can house animals with different contagious viruses simultaneously. This ensures our healthy animals remain safe at all times.





# Cat Rescue

We house approximately 175 cats each year with an average length of stay of 39 days.

We need space for 16-22 healthy cats at a time.

These cats include:

- Lost or given up by local residents (15%)
- Feral kittens trapped on island (55%)
- Transferred from over-burdened shelters (30%)



Bright, stress-free spaces will provide access to fresh air and sunshine. The cat wing includes a peaceful serenity garden for both cats and people to enjoy.





## Education & Training Center

To create a world where animals are treated with kindness and compassion, we must provide an inspiring culture for learning. Our Education Wing will host children and adults, and provide essential services for animal families.

- Educational programs for all ages
- Dog training and behavior classes
- Nail trim clinics for cats and dogs
- Animal therapy training and certification courses
- Community events
- Meeting space for volunteers









## Memorial Garden

This tranquil, beautiful space for reflection will be open to the public.

A serene garden full of flowers and trees centered around a meditative reflection pool will welcome visitors alongside memorial benches and stones for lost pets.

Additionally, NiSHA will offer grief counseling and end-of-life assistance for companion animals, ensuring peaceful and humane transitions for our most beloved friends.





## Serenity Garden and Open Space





## Affordable and Pet-Friendly Housing

Essential to NiSHA's future, affordable employee housing units will include outdoor space for pets to have fresh air and enrichment. Phase one will include one of two duplexes as well as a basement apartment for visiting veterinarians, behavior specialists, or other professionals offering continuing education opportunities.







## Community Assistance

Our new facility will allow us to expand our services rescuing animals, educating the public, and assisting pets and their families.

- Pet Behavior Counseling & Training
- Spay & Neuter Assistance
- Resource Center for Comprehensive Animal Education
- Animal Assisted Therapy
- Pet Food Pantry
- Companion Animal Adoption Opportunities
- Disaster Preparedness Training
- Temporary Shelter for Lost or Unwanted Pets
- Animal Memorial and Grief Services
- Wildlife Information
- Farm Animal Support
- Pet-Friendly Housing for Staff













# What will it take to build a new home for NiSHA?

## A Capital Campaign to Raise \$20M

75% RAISED!

GIFT LEVEL	GIFTS NEEDED
\$4,000,000	
\$1,000,000	      
\$500,000	        
\$250,000	         
\$100,000	                         

Many gifts of \$50,000, \$25,000 and < \$25,000

 = gift has been secured





# NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

A gift to NiSHA's Beyond Rescue capital campaign will impact thousands of animals and people each year, and help create a community that cares for every animal in need. Your naming gift allows us to publicly acknowledge your generosity. You may also use a naming gift to honor a family member, beloved animal or friend.



**Animal Rescue Center**

**\$5M**

**\$1M**



**Staff Housing Units - 2**

**NAMED**



**Training & Education Center**

**NAMED**



**Cat Adoption Center**

**NAMED**



**Dog Adoption Center**

**NAMED**



**Public Memorial Garden**

**\$500K**

- Small Animal Adoption Center**
- Welcome Area**
- Feline Enrichment Area**
- Animal Arrival Centers - 2**
- Dog Greeting Courtyard**
- Serenity Garden**

**\$250K**

- Dog Play Yards - 4**
- Cat Meet and Greet**
- Cat Porches - 2**
- Medical Treatment**
- Counseling Room - NAMED**

**\$100K**

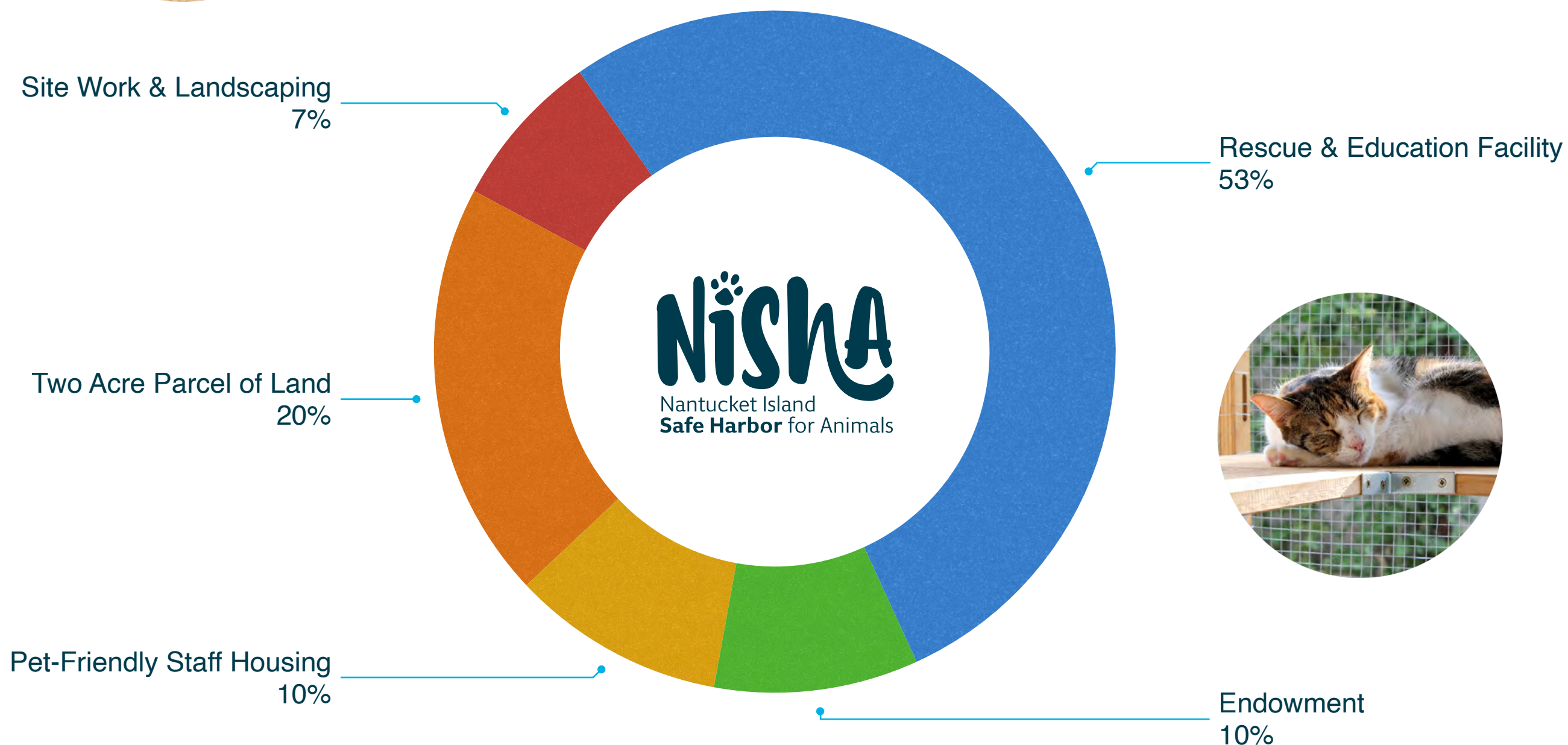
- Pet Food Pantry - NAMED**
- Dog Suites**
- Surgery Suite - NAMED**
- Cat Suites**







## How will these funds be invested?







## Quiet Phase - 2024/2025

Solicit from Board and our  
closest donors first

## Public Phase - Summer 2026

Once we reach 80% of funds  
raised, everyone will know and  
can support our last push.



## Build - 2026

Construction begins









## A Space for Everyone

From children to the elderly, from caring for companion animals to assisting our community. . . NiSHA's new animal wellbeing center will be a welcoming place for all and where no animal in need will ever be turned away.



**We invite you to join us in creating a brighter future for animals and people alike.**

**By supporting NiSHA, you are supporting a legacy of compassion and care on Nantucket.**







## Campaign Committee

Sally Charpie, *Board President & Co-Chair*

Grace Traber, *Board Emeritus & Co-Chair*

Kim Bepler

Kelly McKernan

Arienne Bistany

Laurie Monahan

Mark Clausen

Ann Muhlhauser

Sara Finn

Scott O'Connor

Mimi Huber

Christine Swistro

## The Project Team

O'Connor Custom Builders, Scott O'Connor - *Project Oversight*

The Andersen Company, Scott Andersen - *General Contractor*

Emeritus, Matthew MacEachern - *Lead Architect*

Blue Sky, Nick Collins - *Interior Architect*

Jardins International, Elisabeth O'Rourke - *Landscape Architect*

## Advisory Council

Rick Charpie

Katie Keith

Susan Doughan

Craig Muhlhauser

Robert M Levy

## NiSHA Leadership

Jessica Castineiras, *CEO, Founder*

Stephanie Henke, *Associate Director, Founder*

Piper Hollis, *Campaign Strategist*



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