

# Fund-A-Need

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## *The Power of the Sun, **the Future of the Animals***

Tonight, we are grateful for each of you, for all you do, and for how much you help us achieve our mission. Tonight, we are going to ask for your help once again — this time to further strengthen the New Hampshire SPCA and its future for the animals and people we serve.

Our special “Fund-A-Need” project this year is an investment in financial strength, economic stability, and planet conservation. It is an investment in Solar Energy.

### **Rising Costs**

You are most likely aware of the dramatically rising cost of electricity that we have all seen in the past few months. Unitil, our power company, received approval from the NH Public Utilities Commission for a 77% increase per kW. Other companies have



gone even higher. Although this increase won't be effective until December 1<sup>st</sup>, we have already seen our monthly electric expense jump from \$4,900 in September of 2021 to \$8,800 this past September. Annualized, we anticipate that our electric costs will increase from \$42,000 per year to nearly \$80,000, and even higher if costs continue to rise. That represents a lot of dog or cat food, vaccinations, or medical procedures!

As you know, our new arena and additional barn began serving farm animals just last winter. We have been so excited at the increase of horses and barn animals that we have been able to rehabilitate and rehome. It's truly a transformational space. What you may not be aware of is that the roof expanse of the arena and barn were designed for a mammoth solar installation.

**We are now at the crossroads of the right time to do it, and the right thing to do.**

The timing is right because the cost of energy is consuming funding that could be going to save more lives. The timing is also right because with the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act, non-profit organizations can now take advantage of a 30% financial incentive when installing solar. This makes the outright purchase and return on investment undeniable.

## The Right Thing to Do for the Environment

The NHSPCA strives to be a good steward, of our mission, our supporters, our finances, and our planet. As a steward of the



planet, we have completed projects such as converting to wood pellet boilers to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels, and the creation of our beautiful rain gardens to better manage stormwater

and reduce erosion. At this time, we wish to further reduce our reliance on unclean and costly energy supplied by power companies. Unlike fossil fuels such as coal and oil that emit toxic fumes, solar energy provides clean and sustainable power. A typical 5kW solar system installation is as effective as planting over 80 trees annually and reduces 8 tons of greenhouse gas annually. Our array will be 65 times larger and more effective.

This is the right thing to do for environmental stewardship, as well as our financial stewardship.

## The Plan

The New Hampshire SPCA intends to install solar arrays on our Equine Center for Transformative Care and Hope's Barn as well as on the Learning & Adoption Center buildings. The total number of solar panels will be a truly impactful 325. According to the experts at Revision Energy, the combined arrays will produce approximately 60% of the total kW needed to operate the NHSPCA for the entire year. Some months less, others more, depending on the season. Overall, we anticipate that the arrays will generate some 175,000 kW out of the approximately 275,000 kW that we consume. As energy costs rise, the financial savings will become greater and greater.



## Please help...

*Gifts can be made by check, credit card, from a family or charitable foundation, or through a stock or IRA distribution. To make your most generous gift you may also make your gift based on a 2-year pledge.*

Again, the kW energy savings is important, but what it translates to is less money spent on electricity and more available to save lives. Less overhead, more food, medical care and forever homes for the animals that need us.

Our Board of Directors and Finance Committee have determined that with the 30% project incentive, it is clear, that the outright purchase of the array is in the best interest of the agency and the animals.

### The budget for the project is as follows:

Total Cost before Tax Credit:	\$409,681
30% Project Tax Credit:	- \$122,604
<b>Funding Needed:</b>	<b>\$287,077</b>

We hope that tonight will be a strong start to raising the funds needed for this important project.

We ask you tonight, to please, raise your paddle high to help this project move forward.



**PORT CITY**  
VETERINARY REFERRAL HOSPITAL

*Special thanks to our friends at Port City Veterinary Referral Hospital for their \$5,000 matching gift to this year's Special Fund.*