



Annual Report

2025

Prepared By
Project Canis Team

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Introduction

Project Canis

Project Canis is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization started by students at the University of Florida to ensure that every shelter animal gets a toy. Project Canis helps cats and dogs in Florida shelters by making and donating pet toys made from recycled materials.

Many animal shelters struggle to get donations and are not financially able to provide toys, which are essential to animals' emotional and physical wellbeing. We are based in Gainesville, Florida but we have donated toys to over 200 shelters and hope to expand that even further.



Vision & Mission

Vision

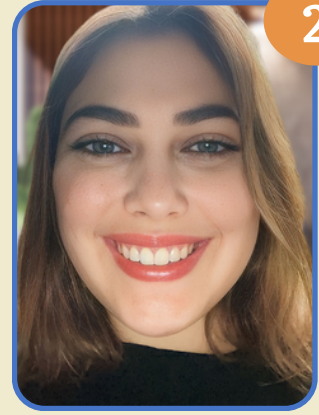
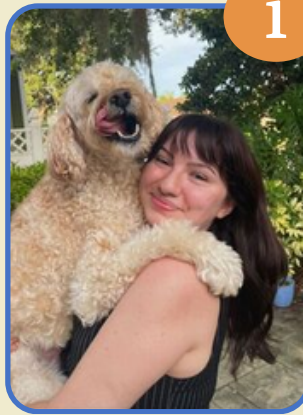
Project Canis is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization started in 2020 by students at the University of Florida to ensure that every shelter animal gets a toy. Project Canis helps cats and dogs in Florida shelters by making and donating pet toys made from recycled materials.

Mission

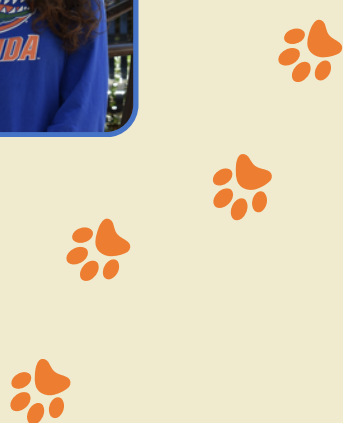
1. To aid animal shelters by providing pet toys for animals in need to further their wellbeing.
2. To provide a service project for individuals and organizations that allows them to give back using few resources.
3. To promote sustainability through reducing waste by encouraging the use of materials in our project that would otherwise be discarded.



Meet The Team



- 01. Isabela Estrada
- 02. Colleen Millerman
- 03. Patricia Fortunato
- 04. Nicole Heskin
- 05. Lisa Vihlborg
- 06. Kaitlin Arnold



Meet the Board

01. Paris Miller, President

02. Mark Springhetti, Vice President

03. Manbir Sidhu, Treasurer

04. Jessica Messano, Secretary

05. Renee Heining, Recruiting Director

06. Jaimie Anzelone, Fundraising
Director

Board Members

Paris Osaze-Allen

Cherie Fine

Joshua Altman

Kendall Schlitt



2025 Highlights



1 Over 9000 Toys Donated!

Together, we created and donated 9,495 toys in 2025! We transformed simple, every day items into thousands of tail-wagging treasures.

2 More Than 170 Shelters Supported!

With the help of volunteers and donors, Project Canis was able to support more than 170 shelters.



Thank you Volunteers!

A huge thank you to our incredible volunteers for turning everyday items into sources of joy for the cats and dogs of Project Canis. Your creativity and dedication prove that it doesn't take much to make a massive difference in a shelter animal's life. We couldn't do this without your hands-on hard work and hearts!



NUMBER OF
VOLUNTEERS
1,840

Service Partners

Thank you

- Cub Scout Pack 372
- American Heritage Girls
- Sunnyside
- Brilliant Earth
- Connections Homeschool
- Girl Scout Brownie Troop 2099
- The Florida District
- Fairchild Wheeler High School Volunteer Club
- TopGolf (Multiple Locations)
- DSW Inc.
- Vystar Credit Union
- Career Institute South Dallas
- VyStar Credit Union
- Troop 10676 Girl Scouts
- Jnana in Action
- UF Men's Club Soccer
- Delta Delta Sigma



Thankful for Donors

Our deepest thanks go to the generous donors who fueled our mission throughout 2025, ensuring every shelter animal has a reason to play. Your contributions have directly provided the resources and shipping needed to get thousands of handmade toys into the paws of dogs and cats in need. Please join us in celebrating our Top Donors below, whose extraordinary support is transforming shelter life one toy at a time!

Thank You to Our Top Donors

- DeBartolo Foundation
- Mike FitzGibbon
- Cara Laurello
- Cherie Fine
- Heather Martin
- Kate MacFall
- Deanna Hemmersmeyer

