2018 AVMA 
ANNUAL REPORT
ACTION AND IMPACT | Powered by You
Our Core Values

Our core values drive the AVMA to be:

- **ETHICAL:** We act with integrity, honesty and respect.
- **INCLUSIVE:** We represent and support a diverse community of veterinarians with unique perspectives.
- **SCIENCE-BASED:** We lead with science, providing trusted and evidence-based information, and promote research to improve the health and well-being of animals and humans.
- **ANIMAL-FOCUSED:** We support veterinarians in their stewardship of animal health and welfare and their role in promoting public health.
- **MEMBER-CENTRIC:** We are accountable to the needs of our members.
- **SUPPORTIVE:** We invest in the development of our staff and volunteer leaders.
- **FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE:** We practice prudent financial decision-making and accountability.
- **EFFICIENT:** We continuously assess and improve our delivery of products and services.
- **INNOVATIVE:** We promote creativity and embrace change.

Our Vision

To be the trusted leader in protecting, promoting and advancing a strong, unified veterinary profession that meets the needs of society.

Our Mission

To lead the profession by advocating for its members and advancing the science and practice of veterinary medicine to improve animal and human health.
As 2018 came to a close, the AVMA experienced the largest member growth in its history, with the addition of more than 2,300 members in one year. We surpassed our 2018 membership goal of 93,000 and ended the year with more than 93,400 members.

We couldn’t be more pleased to reach this milestone. Three out of every four veterinarians are members of this great association. Such strong membership numbers make our voice stronger, and to have so many veterinarians stand together is crucial to the success of the veterinary profession.

Our surveys also revealed in 2018 that we are making tremendous strides in maximizing member value. This growth in our member satisfaction rate tells us that you see value in what we bring to our members. Our efforts are having a positive impact on your success.

These successes are made possible through the great visionary leadership of our Board of Directors, our House of Delegates, our entity volunteers, and our AVMA staff, all of whom are truly dedicated to serving our members and the entire veterinary community. For that, we are extremely proud. The continued excellent work by our volunteer councils and committees, task forces, panels, and working groups, is instrumental in ensuring that we continue to remain engaged with our members and focused on your needs. What we are seeing—and what you are experiencing—is true collaboration at the highest levels.

And this is why we are here. To serve you—our members—and provide actionable resources, tools, and programs to make your careers more enjoyable, practices more successful, and membership more valuable.

This year’s annual report highlights some of our key achievements and is focused on the primary pillars of our ongoing AVMA strategy:

• Driving lifelong member value in the AVMA
• Enhancing professional development and lifelong learning
• Innovating through data management and business intelligence
• Advancing professional policy and practice
• Leveraging relationships and world-class advocacy efforts

These pillars help guide us as we make membership the center of what we do. We are more focused than ever on our strategic planning, on listening to our members’ needs, on delivering the value you are seeking, and on ensuring we have the plans and budgets in place to support you.

We continue to bring passion and energy to our efforts. We are humbled to serve you and will remain focused on you. Thank you for your service to veterinary medicine.

This is our passion. This is our profession.
Here at the AVMA, member interests are at the heart of what we do, and our volunteers are critical to our success and relevancy, and to helping us fulfill our mission.

From our Board of Directors to our House of Delegates and our dozens of councils, committees, task forces, panels, and working groups, our dedicated volunteers provide countless hours of effort, driven by a passion to ensure that the needs of more than 93,000 members are met and that the veterinary profession remains strongly positioned to effect positive change.

These champions of animal and human health also champion organized veterinary medicine. Today, during times of both challenge and opportunity, organized veterinary medicine is more important than ever to those who provide veterinary services and to those who rely on those services.

Subject-matter experts and leaders across the veterinary profession serve as AVMA volunteer speakers and presenters, sharing their knowledge with the greater veterinary community. We also rely on the expertise and input of veterinarians and other professionals as we develop resources, policies, and educational tools for the profession on issues as diverse as federal and state advocacy, veterinary economics, animal welfare, and antimicrobials and pharmaceuticals.

Our advocacy efforts are made stronger through the voices of more than 35,000 individuals who make up the AVMA Congressional Advocacy Network (AVMA CAN). This community of veterinarians, veterinary students, and friends of veterinary medicine bolsters our advocacy work by reaching out to lawmakers on legislation that impacts our profession and by sharing their personal stories on important issues. AVMA CAN volunteers play a key role in standing up for the veterinary profession and safeguarding the future of veterinary medicine.

Volunteering allows people to connect and contribute to their veterinary community, making it a better place for all. To our volunteers both past and present—we thank you for all that you have done and continue to do.

We are grateful to you for your service.
Membership at a Glance

A record reached: 93,400+
POWERED BY YOU

Membership by Growth

Membership by Species

Membership by Employment Category

*The "No Information Provided" segments of the charts indicate that the AVMA is missing information in these areas. Please take a moment to help us gather this information by visiting the AVMA’s online Member Center at avma.org/myprofile and updating your member profile. Doing so ensures your access to relevant AVMA information and helps the AVMA compile and maintain the most complete picture of the profession.
Driving lifelong member value in the AVMA

Every veterinarian has a home in the AVMA community. It’s a place where veterinarians from all facets of the profession can access valuable products and services at all stages of their career and life. We’re working every day to develop practical tools and resources that members can utilize to improve their practices, careers, and lives.

Wellbeing

The AVMA continues to develop tools and resources that empower our members to take ownership of their wellbeing and make mindful decisions that contribute to their good health.

Action:
The AVMA, the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges and Zoetis hosted the 2018 Veterinary Wellbeing Summit, bringing together experts to address wellbeing strategies and tips for veterinary professionals.

Impact:
The summit was the launching point for “100 Healthy Tips to Support a Culture of Wellbeing,” a new guide that offers strategies and practical steps for work and home to create a positive work environment and support healthful living. The guide is available on the AVMA website (avma.org) and addresses each of the nine unique dimensions that contribute to wellbeing: creative, emotional, environmental, financial, intellectual, occupational, physical, social, and spiritual.

Veterinary Economics

The AVMA is the industry leader and most trusted source of complete and unbiased financial and market information that is insightful, data-driven, and relevant to the veterinary profession. Through research, analysis, and reporting work, the AVMA in 2018 focused its efforts on targeted economic issues.

Action:
The AVMA conducted robust and comprehensive surveys and research related to colleges of veterinary medicine graduating seniors, the veterinary workforce, and practice ownership, the findings of which were communicated across events, publications, and social media.

Impact:
Determining data-driven trends helps project the economic state of the profession and allows us to explore how economic factors and potential policy changes affect the industry.

Action:
The AVMA veterinary economics team, professionals from various allied groups, and educational and industry leaders came together for the annual AVMA Economic Summit to present current data and research regarding issues impacting the economic sustainability of the veterinary profession.

Impact:
Content presented at the Economic Summit provided participants with insights into the future picture of the profession and how decisions today can influence the profession—and AVMA members—tomorrow.
Virtual Career Fairs and the AVMA Veterinary Career Center

Busy schedules can create challenges; technology can provide opportunities. The AVMA Veterinary Career Center (VCC) and our virtual career fairs are accessible to you from any mobile device or computer. These AVMA member benefits are here to help those looking for jobs or those looking for someone to hire.

Action:
Our first-ever virtual career fair was held in 2018, with more planned in the future. The VCC continues to be the niche professional job board used extensively by veterinary employers to find the quality candidates they need.

Impact:
The virtual career fair and the VCC allowed our members to interact with employers, explore career options, add to staff, and easily consider the next step in their career path.
Veterinary Student and Early Career Initiatives

As they matriculate, veterinary students will join a professionally diverse and passionate group striving to improve the health and wellbeing of animals, humans, and the environment we share. First, they must navigate veterinary school, and the AVMA is here for them each step of the way.

**Action:**
The AVMA launched MyVeterinaryLife.com, a microsite devoted exclusively to veterinary students and those early in their veterinary careers.

**Impact:**
MyVeterinaryLife.com provides the tools and resources to support three areas of critical importance to students and early-career veterinarians: career development, financial health, and wellbeing. The information is organized based on career stage, so it’s easy to find the most relevant content—whether in veterinary school, in transition from school to the workforce, or already working as a veterinarian in the early stages of career.

**Action:**
The new AVMA American Pre-Veterinary Medical Association Scholarship awarded three $1,000 scholarships to pre-veterinary students based on leadership, and association and community involvement.

**Impact:**
The scholarships enhanced professional development and lifelong learning and help support the future of veterinary medicine.

**Action:**
The AVMA, along with the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges and the Veterinary Medical Association Executives, continued to lead the Veterinary Debt Initiative, the goal of which is to help veterinarians thrive in financially sustainable and rewarding careers.

**Impact:**
In addition to a continued focus on advocating for federal policies that help ease student loan debt and repayment burdens, the initiative spearheaded online student loan modules on MyVeterinaryLife.com, and online modules on personal finance and student loan repayment on the new AVMA Axon continuing education platform.
AVMA Journals: JAVMA and AJVR

Your JAVMA is ranked number one for authoritative articles, number two for essential professional reading, and number two for diagnostic and treatment information.

Source: 2018 Clinician’s Brief Essential Media Survey

**Action:**
In 2018, AVMA redesigned the news section of JAVMA to increase reader engagement and enjoyment.

**Impact:**
Increased the news' visual appeal while maintaining the credibility, relevance, and objectivity for which the journal is known.

**Action:**
Also in 2018, AVMA provided student AVMA members with free access to the JAVMA mobile app.

**Impact:**
This action helps to further provide access to the JAVMA where and when our members want it, while contributing to the future success of tomorrow’s generation of AVMA members.

AVMA Member Edge®

AVMA Member Edge® provides additional value to your AVMA membership by providing exclusive offers and special deals on many of the products, services, and solutions you use every day, from hotels, travel, and entertainment to essential business resources.

**Action:**
Introduced in 2018, AVMA Member Edge® is your one-stop shop for exclusive AVMA member discounts and special offers from some of the most popular brands in the country.

**Impact:**
Thousands of veterinarians looking to bolster and secure their professional and financial success, accessed dozens of veterinary-specific products, services, and solutions, such as business services, financial solutions, and identity and insurance protection.

5,000+ visits to the JAVMA app for issues published in 2018.
Enhancing professional development and lifelong learning

AVMA continues to lead the profession in providing unparalleled resources that advance veterinarians’ skills and education, helping our members enjoy rewarding and profitable careers. Our focus is on delivering relevant, practical, and fun educational opportunities, and developing partnerships that further expand our support for the profession.

**Action:**
The 2018 AVMA Convention in Denver welcomed more than 9,000 attendees.

**Impact:**
Convention-goers gained an educational edge through best-in-class continuing education opportunities, including hands-on labs, workshops, panels, and lectures taught by experts in veterinary medicine. A variety of networking events provided unlimited opportunities to meet with colleagues, make new friends, and discover products and services that will enhance your veterinary practice and career.

**AVMA Axon™: Online Digital Education**
When we talk with our members, you consistently tell us how much you love AVMA-provided continuing education. We work hard to make sure our instructors and curricula are second to none, and we believe that’s one reason you turn to us for high-quality, independent coursework.

**Action:**
As part of our ongoing digital education evolution, the AVMA launched Lead & Learn in June 2018. Serving as the foundation of our AVMA Axon™ digital education center, these online digital continuing education classes are available both live and on demand. They provide perspectives and resources on the topics that are top of mind for today’s veterinarians.

**Impact:**
An integral part of our new AVMA Axon™ digital education platform, Lead & Learn attracted more than 6,500 registrants for 15 webinars.

**2018 AVMA Convention by the Numbers**

**People**
- **9,154** Total Convention Attendees
- **45%** First Time Attendees
- **78.6%** Veterinarians
- **7.8%** Veterinary Students
- **7.1%** Veterinary Technicians
- **4.3%** Non-Veterinarians/Practice Staff
- **2.2%** Veterinary Technician Students

**Education**
- **1,026** CE Sessions
- **696** CE Presenters
- **93%** Attended CE Sessions

**Experience**
- **95%** Attendees Visited the Exhibit Hall
- **93%** Exhibitor Satisfaction Rating
- **77%** Very Satisfied with CE
Veterinary Leadership Conference

**Action:**

Held in early January each year, the AVMA Veterinary Leadership Conference is the veterinary profession's premier conference for leadership development. The VLC is the perfect place for veterinarians to explore and cultivate leadership skills with a diverse group of colleagues. Attendees include AVMA leaders; staff and volunteers from state veterinary associations; early career veterinarians seeking deeper involvement with veterinary organizations; veterinary student leaders; and others interested in veterinary advocacy and leadership.

**Impact:**

Through a unique mix of continuing education sessions, AVMA governance meetings, and networking, attendees expanded and honed their leadership skills while connecting with a diverse network of colleagues from all walks of the veterinary profession.

**IN 2019**

537 Attendees: A record high

94.2% Overall attendee satisfaction rate

90.2% Said leadership skills explored at VLC enhanced their professional life
Advancing professional policy and practice

Our policies, guidance, continuing education, and collaborative activities support the ethical delivery of high-quality veterinary services that are responsive to the needs of patients and clients. AVMA policy informs our advocacy efforts and guides our conversations with key stakeholders, while our informational resources and other products provide practical assistance to support members in the everyday practice of veterinary medicine.

Antimicrobials

Antimicrobial resistance is one of the biggest public health challenges of our time. In 2018, the AVMA worked to provide direction on antimicrobial stewardship for veterinarians and to encourage the adoption of regulatory frameworks that recognize the importance of veterinary oversight for antimicrobial use. Both are key to mitigating the development of antimicrobial resistance.

Action:

At the recommendation of its Committee on Antimicrobials, the AVMA adopted a Definition of Antimicrobial Stewardship and Core Principles that clarify the AVMA’s position regarding antimicrobial stewardship, can be used to develop antimicrobial stewardship plans in any veterinary practice setting, and that have served as the foundation for advocacy and the development of additional resources for members.

Action:

The AVMA shared insights and recommendations with key stakeholders while participating in meetings of the Presidential Advisory Committee on Combating Antimicrobial Resistant Bacteria, the Global Conference on Antimicrobial Resistance hosted by the World Organisation for Animal Health, and the Ad hoc Codex Alimentarius Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance.

Impact:

These actions supported the AVMA’s efforts to promote antimicrobial stewardship and the judicious use of antimicrobials under the oversight of a veterinarian. This helps ensure these valuable drugs can be retained as a vital tool in the veterinarian’s toolkit.

ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

is one of the biggest public health challenges of our time.
Aquatic Veterinary Medicine

The AVMA convened nearly 50 federal and state officials and aquaculture industry leaders to determine how veterinarians will practice aquatic veterinary medicine in the Exclusive Economic Zone of the United States, an area for which there is no state licensure.

**Action:**
Participants recommended to agencies having jurisdiction over the issue that veterinarians practicing in these zones be licensed in at least one state, hold a Category II USDA-APHIS accreditation in that state, and establish and maintain a veterinarian-client-patient relationship. These recommendations are being considered as regulations are being developed.

**Impact:**
Our members can continue to rely on the AVMA to lead in policy that affects the livelihood of veterinarians delivering services to aquatic species in the United States, as well as the health and welfare of these animals.

Ensuring Veterinary Access to Pharmaceuticals

The AVMA responded to multiple challenges in 2018 related to the access, use and/or regulation of therapeutic and potential therapeutic agents such as opioids, cannabis and cannabis-derived products, and those used in an extralabel manner.

**Action:**
The AVMA helped veterinarians respond affirmatively to the opioid crisis by providing resources and education that encouraged veterinarians’ attention to appropriate prescribing and management of controlled substances, as well as the identification and prevention of diversion. The AVMA also responded to opioid shortages and proposed procurement quotas by ensuring awareness by the DEA, FDA, and manufacturers of the resulting negative impacts on veterinary patient care.

**Impact:**
AVMA members now have education and resource materials that assist them in counseling owners regarding the appropriate selection, use, public access expectations, and care for service and emotional support animals as distinct from pets. Veterinarians will also be better prepared to evaluate and certify

Supporting Safe Animal Transport

In 2018, the AVMA continued collaborating with major U.S. airlines and the airlines’ trade association to ensure animals’ readiness for air transport both above and below the wing. The AVMA also continued to provide input to the U.S. Department of Transportation specific to the air transport of service and emotional support animals.

**Action:**
After hosting a roundtable meeting that included representatives from the major airlines, their trade association and the Department of Transportation, the AVMA formed two working groups. The Working Group on Uniform Documentation and Certificates of Veterinary Inspection is focused on integrating airline needs for additional documentation with existing elements of certificates of veterinary inspection, while also assisting the airlines in working toward adoption of electronic certificates to support better security. The Working Group on Veterinary Education is developing continuing education for veterinarians to build awareness of the stressors encountered by animals during airline transport and to help veterinarians better assess animals and make recommendations prior to air travel. A third working group formed previously—the Coordination of Care Working Group—created education and resource materials regarding the types of assistance animals, their appropriate use, and their access to public spaces.

**Impact:**
AVMA members now have education and resource materials that assist them in counseling owners regarding the appropriate selection, use, public access expectations, and care for service and emotional support animals as distinct from pets. Veterinarians will also be better prepared to evaluate and certify
“fitness for transport” of companion animals traveling by airplane, resulting in potentially better outcomes for animals, owners, and airline carriers.

Humane Endings
The veterinary profession has a special responsibility to animals during the final stages of their life. This obligation includes the euthanasia of companion animals and extends to the humane treatment of all animals killed for a range of purposes, including the depopulation of animals during an emergency and the slaughter of animals raised for food.

Action:
From the development of the AVMA Guidelines for the Depopulation of Animals to the start of an interim update on the AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals and the hosting of the AVMA’s second Humane Endings Symposium, helping veterinarians deliver humane endings when necessary was a focal point for the AVMA in 2018.

Impact:
New and updated guidance is available to help veterinarians continue to provide quality end-of-life care for their patients.

Animal Welfare Education
Comprehensive veterinary professional education in animal welfare is critical to the profession and those who work in it, and the AVMA is the leading authority in providing learning opportunities and resources for its members, including veterinary educators.

Action:
The AVMA provided comprehensive animal welfare continuing education at our 2018 convention; hosted the Animal Welfare Assessment Contest™ attended by a record 216 people; conducted a variety of workshops; and completed the content for an animal welfare model syllabus for use in implementing the model veterinary animal welfare curriculum that AVMA published in 2017.

Impact:
The continued coordination and delivery of high-quality animal welfare educational materials enhances the professional development and lifelong learning of AVMA members.
Leveraging relationships and world-class advocacy efforts

We advocate for the interests of the veterinary profession before Congress and federal agencies, leveraging our significant and growing grassroots capability and the AVMA Political Action Committee. We are a trusted partner working hard to provide resources and coordination for the ongoing efforts of state veterinary organizations in their efforts to influence state legislation and state agencies. Where appropriate, we weigh in on issues of high significance that are before state and federal courts. The AVMA’s advocacy for the profession is second to none.

Federal Advocacy: Farm Bill

The AVMA worked closely with lawmakers and other stakeholders to secure support and passage of the 2018 Farm Bill that included critical animal health and welfare programs.

**Action:**
The AVMA secured the inclusion of a proactive, three-pronged approach to animal disease: a new National Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Program, enhanced resources for the existing National Animal Health Laboratory Network, and a new national livestock vaccine bank with immediate attention to foot-and-mouth disease.

**Impact:**
Veterinarians will have more resources to execute effective animal disease detection, prevention, and treatment, such as increased disease surveillance capabilities and improved coordination between federal officials and veterinarians on the ground.

Federal Advocacy: Prescription Mandates

The AVMA lobbied aggressively in opposition to the misleadingly named “Fairness to Pet Owners Act,” which would require veterinarians to provide prescriptions for companion animals whether or not requested by the client and regardless of whether the prescription is ultimately dispensed by the veterinarian or filled by a pharmacy.

**Action:**
The AVMA successfully stopped this bill from moving in the House or Senate.

**Impact:**
Thanks to this work, our members are not subjected to an unnecessary and burdensome law that would force them to waste time complying with complicated regulations instead of focusing on patient care.

Federal Advocacy: Public Service Loan Forgiveness

The AVMA helped lead a broad coalition that urged Congress to preserve the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program, which many veterinarians rely upon to offset the lower salaries they receive as nonprofit and public-sector professionals.

**Action:**
Your association mobilized thousands of AVMA members to contact their federal legislators and urge them to maintain and improve the PSLF program. AVMA staff communicated frequently with lawmakers to ultimately defeat efforts to eliminate the program.

**Impact:**
Veterinarians and future veterinarians will continue to be eligible for critical loan forgiveness in exchange for working in a qualified public-sector or nonprofit position while making student loan payments.

AVMA Political Action Committee

The nonpartisan AVMA Political Action Committee is a critical tool that facilitates important dialogue with federal legislators, helping amplify the veterinary voice and pave the way for veterinary issues to be addressed.
State Advocacy

The AVMA serves as a trusted partner for state veterinary medical associations and allied groups, providing resources to strengthen their advocacy efforts at the state level.

Action:

In 2018, the AVMA tracked more than 1,300 bills and 300 regulations, including those related to opioids and prescription drug monitoring programs, animal drug compounding and antimicrobial use, scope-of-practice issues, telemedicine, and licensure issues.

Impact:

By providing resources, support, and counsel to state veterinary medical associations and allied organizations, the AVMA assisted in the efforts to advance veterinary positions on state legislation and regulations before state agencies.

AVMA Ambassador Program

The AVMA officially launched our grassroots Ambassador Program in 2018. This initiative connects veterinarians with their members of Congress so that they can speak directly with lawmakers about important veterinary priorities and build relationships with Congress as “go-to” resources for veterinary issues.

Action:

The AVMA arranged more than 45 in-district meetings and veterinary hospital tours between lawmakers and veterinarians.

Impact:

The Ambassador Program engaged AVMA members in a key component of federal advocacy: personal, in-district constituent interaction. These veterinarians build and strengthen relationships between the veterinary profession and congressional legislators in order to educate them on the veterinary profession, and to advance the AVMA’s legislative and regulatory priorities.
Innovating through data management and business intelligence

We are committed to learning more about the wants and needs of our members, partners, and other stakeholders. Through surveys and environmental scanning, we stay focused on delivering customized member benefits, and tailored products and services.

Monthly Dues Payments:
Renew with Our Free and Convenient Option

You told us that monthly dues payments would be a valuable and convenient option. We listened and, in October 2018, began offering monthly dues payments.

Action:
The implementation of a monthly payment option for member dues and Political Action Committee donations eased the process for many members.

Impact:
More options mean more flexibility and convenience for dues payments and advocacy donations.

Assuring Member Security and Privacy

Protecting our members’ data and privacy are top priorities for the AVMA. You trust us with your information, and we want to be a good steward of your data. Like many other associations, the AVMA collects personal data to provide member services, such as email subscriptions, our journals, and AVMA.org user accounts.

Action:
With the implementation in the European Union of the General Data Processing Regulation, we took steps in 2018 to further ensure that the personal information of our customers and members is properly gathered, stored, and used.

Impact:
Our members, including those living in the EU, and foreign veterinary graduates and students, can be assured that the AVMA protects your privacy and is a secure place for your personal data to be collected and stored.
The AVMA Family

Through ongoing, strategic collaboration, the AVMA Family—the AVMA, the AVMA Trust (AVMA LIFE and AVMA PLIT), the American Veterinary Medical Foundation (AVMF) and the AVMA Political Action Committee (See page 14)—leverages the unique aspects of each organization’s approach to member services, creating a comprehensive program of valuable products and services for all AVMA members.

The AVMA Trust

The AVMA Trust, through AVMA LIFE and AVMA PLIT, offers unparalleled insurance programs and other services available only to AVMA member veterinarians. Whether you’re looking for health insurance, life insurance, liability insurance, or other coverage for yourself, your family, your employees, or your clinic, the AVMA Trust offers the solutions that veterinarians need.

Action:

2018 saw the creation of the AVMA Trust, when AVMA LIFE and AVMA PLIT unified their structure and efforts.

Action:

Expanded Trust membership made services available to veterinary practice staff members.

Action:

Programs were developed to minimize professional and personal risk for our members.
Action:
New programs and services were made available to members, including identity theft insurance, human resources services, and employee benefits, quick-decision underwriting for term life insurance and enhancement of certain disability insurance offerings.

Action:
The launch of a member-focused tradeshow booth served as a one-stop shop for all insurance information and needs.

Impact:
The Trust unification allows the AVMA to continue its focus on providing ongoing value to our members, their families, and employees, and to build enhanced services strategically targeted to meet member needs.

The American Veterinary Medical Foundation

The American Veterinary Medical Foundation (AVMF) is the charitable arm of the AVMA. As an AVMA member, the AVMF is your Foundation, providing veterinarians and veterinary students with resources and programs that advance the science and practice of veterinary medicine.

Action:
To help offset the cost of veterinary medical education and to support the next generation of veterinary students, the AVMF in 2018 provided nearly $500,000 in student scholarships.

Impact:
By investing in the education of America’s veterinary students, we all play a role in ensuring that future veterinarians have the skills and training necessary to treat our pets, safeguard our food supply, and protect public health. The scholarships empower veterinary students to achieve their goals in veterinary medicine and recognize and reward individuals who have made extraordinary accomplishments in their education.

Action:
The AVMF provided two grant programs to help veterinarians, veterinary students, and the animals they care for during times of disaster. Grants of up to $5,000 supported victims of natural disasters from coast to coast and in Puerto Rico. Grants up to $2,000 supported veterinarians and veterinary students who suffered personal losses. Thank you to our generous donors for making this emergency support possible.

Impact:
In 2018, more than $150,000 in disaster relief grants were given to veterinarians and emergency response organizations to help care for animals and people affected by disasters.

Action:
More than 1,200 veterinary practices from all states, Puerto Rico, and Guam are now enrolled in the Veterinary Care Charitable Fund®. The program provides veterinarians with a simple and effective way to offer charitable veterinary services to clients facing personal hardships as well to support animals who are injured or rescued from abuse and neglect.

Impact:
In 2018, the AVMF Veterinary Care Charitable Fund® provided more than $185,000 in reimbursements to enrolled veterinary practices, assisting nearly 700 animals.
Financials at a glance

The AVMA’s strategy was fortified by a structure that allows for more integration and flexibility as we continue to deliver essential products, services, and resources to our members. The framework, serving as the foundation for our strategic and financial objectives, provides a clear understanding of the financial resources that are necessary to implement and support our work.

Our focus for the year has been on growth, driving lifelong member value, enhancing professional development, advancing professional policy and practice, world-class advocacy efforts, and operational efficiency.

Operating Revenue = $40,005,991

- Drive Lifelong Member Value - Dues: 64%
- Drive Lifelong Member Value - AVMA Veterinary Career Center: 20%
- Drive Lifelong Member Value - Other: 15%
- Enhancing Professional Development and Lifelong Learning: 1%

Operating Expense = $41,823,712

- Enhancing Professional Development and Lifelong Learning: 54%
- Drive Lifelong Member Value: 25%
- Drive Lifelong Member Value - AVMA Veterinary Career Center: 11%
- Drive Lifelong Member Value - Other: 10%
- Advocacy: 0%
Monitoring our performance

Through prudent fiscal oversight, the association monitors financial performance using key performance indicators. In addition, the association manages its reserves with two guiding principles: (1) to maintain a level of reserves equal to 50% to 150% of the annual operating expenditures and (2) to ensure alignment to the AVMA’s strategic initiatives. To achieve these targets, the association forecasts its future net income and monitors its reserves quarterly. Over the course of the last five years, the AVMA has maintained its reserves within the policy guidelines with an average reserve percentage of 115%.

The Board of Directors, operating through its Audit Committee and within our system of internal controls and procedures, provides oversight of the financial reporting process and safeguards association assets. Financial strategic planning drives virtually every aspect of our operations, including the ability to provide programs and services to our members. The planning guidelines include business models, financial history and trends, goals—including ways to meet these goals and their corresponding costs, and the capacity to deliver on these goals—financial risk and specific management strategies, benchmarks to monitor progress, and a vision for financial sustainability.