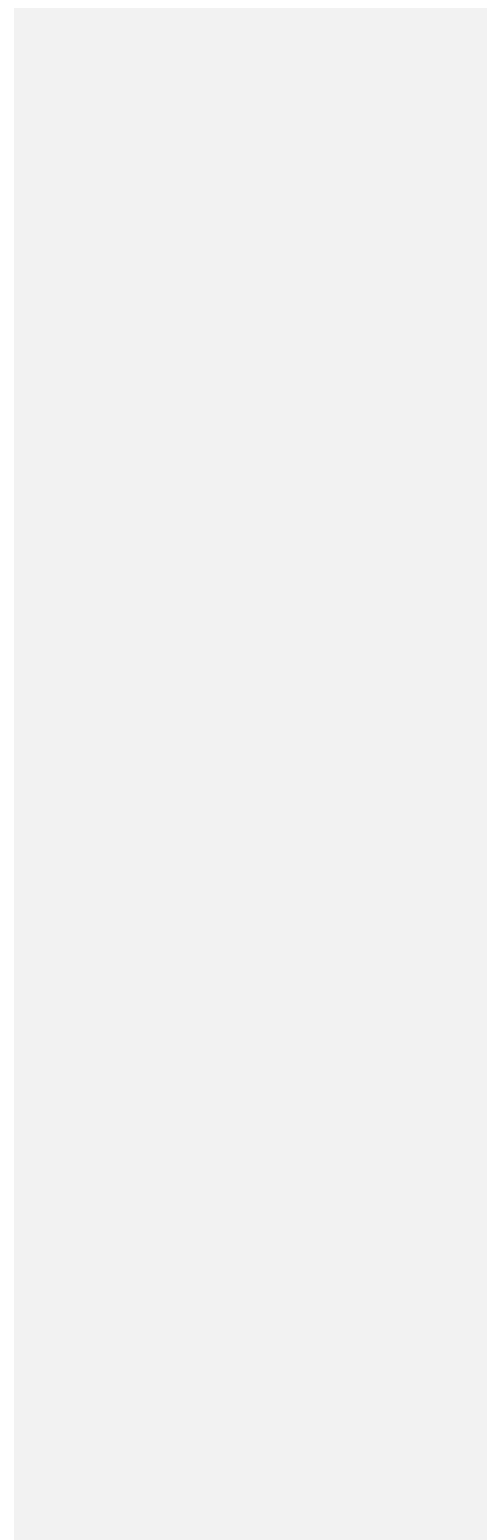




# 2018 REPORT





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## **INTRODUCTION**

After 2017, our priority was to find a family for the remaining dogs from the Òdena shelter. 2018 has been a year of growth for our association in all areas, while still focusing on finding a family for the dogs that were still living in the residence. We are now very happy to confirm that Doctor, the last dog left, now has a family. Throughout the year, both the number of volunteers and their participation has grown beyond our expectations. Plus, the number of shelters contacted has also been greater than expected, and the activities we have planned have been carried out in full, with the last-minute surprise of the Dog&Roll concert. Finally, 2018 has been the year in which we've celebrated the first edition of the VI award with 500 euros and 200 volunteer hours. The Tàrrega shelter, this year's winner, was so grateful for the initiative that we've accepted the challenge and in 2019 there will be a new edition with an even bigger prize.

## **MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND FULL MEMBERS**

The board of directors has undergone a restructuring so that the functions of each member better fit their title: the four members of the board are still the same, each with a different role. Their responsibilities are detailed in our statutes, which can be found on our website:

- President: Jaime Mateu.
- Vice-president: Jordi Pastor.
- Secretary: Francesc Ribes.
- Treasurer: Marta Morera.



These four roles are filled by full members. According to the rights and duties defined in articles 5 and 6 of our statutes, on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2019, the full members of Voluntarios Itinerantes, who therefore have the right to vote in the General Assembly that will take place during the first trimester of this year are the following:

Mónica Caicedo Sánchez  
Elisabeth Kossman  
Juan Lozano Cámara  
Jaime Mateu Pérez  
Marta Morera Rius  
Robin Motheral  
Jordi Pastor García  
Francisco Javier Rauet Creus  
Francesc Ribes Gegúndez  
Luis Ródenas Balaña  
Johny Caicedo  
Eliana Profeta  
Alejandro Scandroli  
Marc Martin Serra  
Paula Aguilar



## STATUS OF THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES SET FOR 2018

In the last report, we set a series of goals for the 2018-2020 period, which has guided our actions throughout the year. We will analyze them in detail below.

**1. Members.** We wanted to end 2018 with 100 members, but the number reached was 83, the same number we had at the end of 2017. Although we have gained 11 new members, we also lost 11 members, therefore the number has stayed the same. For 2019, we will make an extra effort to find new members to support our association.

**2. Teaming.** In 2018, we have almost doubled the number of *teamers*, reaching 55 members. Growth is slower than expected. Many people register and deregister frequently, many times due to errors in the application. However, toward the end of the year the number of *teamers* has remained stable and they have been contacted by us personally.

**3. Fairs.** For the third year in a row, we have participated in fairs organized by the volunteers at the CAAC of Barcelona in Plaza Catalonia for la Mercé and Christmas. We've also added new events to the calendar: we participated in the first fair organized in Viladecans as well as the Martial Arts Benefit in L'Hospitalet de Llobregat.



**4. VI Prize.** In its first edition the prize was well-received by all the shelters where we collaborate and, of the projects presented, Empathy and Tàrrega were selected. After a very close vote, the winning project was Tàrrega, who then decided to share the award with the other participant so that work could be done on both shelters.

**5. Food drives/activities at shopping centres.** In 2017, we organized a food drive in Vallirana and distributed the donations among several shelters. In 2018, we changed the location of the food drive to the Mercadona supermarket in de Sant Vicenç dels Horts. We also coordinated with the different shelters and associations we know so that they could come and pick up their donations directly at the supermarket, in order to optimize our resources.

In 2018, we have also increased our network of shops and businesses that give donations or act as a pick-up point. This is the case of the Pataners shop in Barcelona, which collaborates in the sales of our merchandizing and promotes our initiatives (we gave the Christmas baskets to the raffle winners in their location, for example) or Jardiland in Gavà, which collects all kinds of donations, mainly food, for our association.

**6. Collaborations with shelters.** This year we have honoured the Itinerantes (nomadic) name and continuously collaborated with five shelters: Animals Sense Sostre, Societat Protectora d'Animals de Tàrrega, Protectora de Animes de Cervera-La Segarra, Proyecto Empathia (Valls) and Asociación de Rescate y Defensa Animal



(ARDA, El Vendrell), as well as visiting Caldes Animal (Caldes de Montbui). At each shelter, we have tried to contribute and learn as much as possible. This year, we will continue to collaborate with all these shelters, and we hope to grow and collaborate with even more.

**7. Followers on social media networks.** Both our Facebook and Instagram pages have continued to grow in followers and interactions. Throughout 2018, we have used various promotions on our social media networks to spread the word about our most relevant events and the results have been very positive. We hope to keep growing in 2019.

On the other hand, we take advantage of any opportunity that presents itself to spread the word about our association on traditional communication channels. In November, we had the opportunity to participate in the radio program *La tarde con Brahim* (7deRàdio) to explain who we are and what we do.

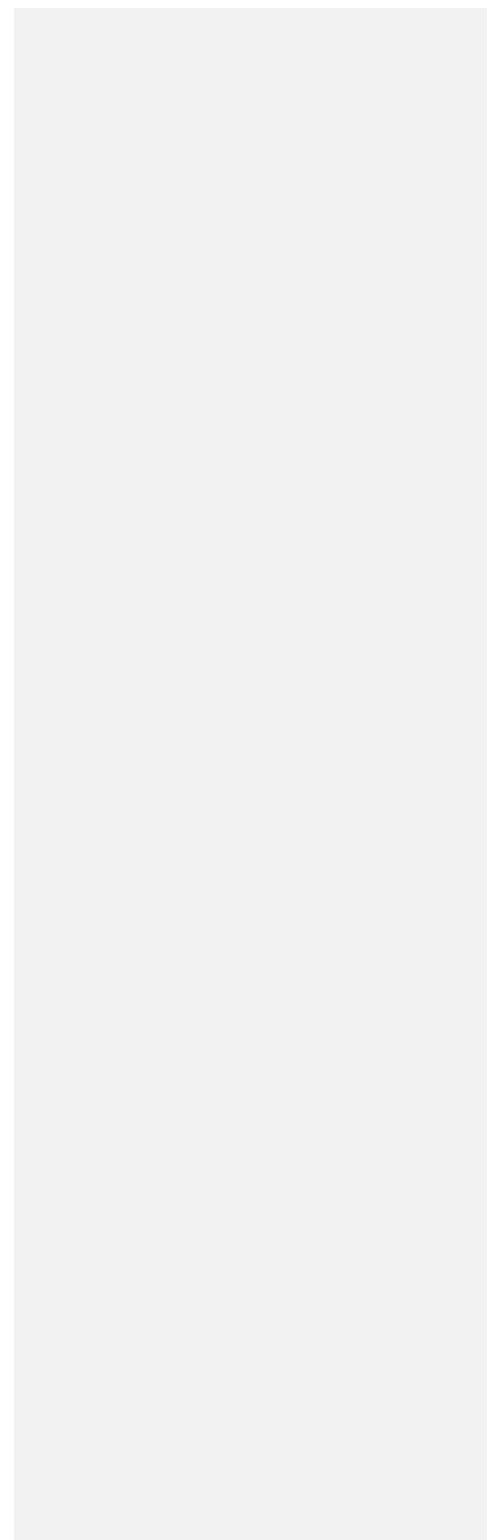
**8. Learn and share knowledge.** In 2018, we created a bimonthly newsletter for members and volunteers to keep everyone posted on what we are doing and explain the new goals for the association. We continue to use our blog to post articles with the aim to improve the volunteer dynamic and inform everyone about our activities throughout the year.

In other news, our president Jaime Mateu, gave two presentations to the students of Serra Marina primary school (Santa Coloma de Gramenet) to promote volunteering and respect for animals. In these presentations, he explained what we do as an association and the importance of adoption to counteract animal abandonment. This is an initiative we hope to continue, but to do so, we need more active collaboration with the teachers.



**9. Volunteers.** Although we called this section “human group” to refer to the composition of our volunteers, we would like to highlight that volunteer attendance throughout the year has exceeded our expectations, not only in the number of volunteers but also in the number of visits. We will continue working to train our volunteers and make the most of each of their skills.

On the other hand, in February we celebrated an event that we hope will become a tradition: Volunteer Day. It’s simply an event to eat, drink, and have a great time together, get to know each other better and form relationships, apart from the normal volunteer tasks.







## ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT IN 2018

### Fairs in Barcelona

For the third year in a row, Voluntarios Itinerantes participated in the **Festa dels Animals**, which takes place during the la Mercè festival in September as well as the **Millor Adopta** fair in December. Both events are organized by the city of Barcelona through the CAACB and take place in Plaza Catalonia. The results of the Festa dels Animals were very positive. Although it is not successful from an economic standpoint, it is great opportunity to network. This year, we met many people interested in volunteering or even becoming members. Throughout the day we attended to anyone who approached our stand and gave them information about what we do. In general, people were very interested in our activities and eager to collaborate. This year, we brought 12 dogs in 2 shifts to promote their adoption. Logistically, this was a lot of work to organize groups of 2 dogs and 3 volunteers, all wearing VI gear and carrying flyers to inform and promote adoption as they walked around Plaza Catalonia. The dogs participated in the exhibitions that took place in the morning and in the afternoon. 2 dogs were adopted as a result well and contacts were made who are interested in fostering. The event was a great success and we were congratulated by the organizers.

At the Millor Adopta fair, we were able to sell our merchandising items, but the results were minimal. This is most likely due to the date of the fair (Saturday 22 December, 3 days before Christmas). Nevertheless, it was an opportunity to promote our association and make new contacts. We participated in the exhibitions for animals in adoption with dogs from Animals Sense Sostre in the same way as La Mercè and the result were also very positive. The eldest of the participating dogs now lives with his foster family.



This year we also participated in the first fair for animals organized by the city of Sant Vicenç dels Horts, in which we collaborated with the dogs from Animals Sense Sostre. We met many new interesting contacts, some interested in becoming volunteers.

In October, we participated in the martial arts fundraiser at Poliesportiu Municipal de Bellvitge Sergio Manzano. We were able to inform attendees about our association and collect donations which went to Animals Sense Sostre.

The animal fairs are a great way to promote our association, our values and objectives, to find followers, volunteers, sponsors and members. However, organizing these events takes a lot of time and the economic profitability is always difficult to predict. We want to continue growing in this area, analysing the usefulness of each event for our objectives and investing our limited resources wisely.

### **Food drive**

In the summer, we organized our second food drive. This time, it took place at the Mercadona supermarket in Sant Vicenç dels Horts on Saturday, July 7<sup>th</sup>. At our first food drive, we aimed to collect 1,000 kilos of food (which we reached) and at our second food drive we collected of 2,000 kilos of dog and cat food. We not only collected food at our stand, but also cleaning products, cheese to administer medication, cat litter, canned food, sausages, etc. It was a huge success thanks to the hard work of our volunteers who organized and set up the event and spoke to the shoppers throughout the day explaining our projects, the needs of the shelter, and advising them on what products are most useful. We were so impressed by the number of people who stopped by to donate something and collaborate.



We also want to give special mention to the following entities for their generous donations: the Guaurderia in store Hospitalet de Llobregat, the *canicross* group, the Marisol perfume store in Sant Vicenç dels Horts and the Eroki supermarket employees in Sant Just Desvern who donated 360 kilos of food and one of which is a Voluntarios Itinerantes volunteer. Finally, we want to thank our Facebook followers who visited our stand to bring their donations.

Thanks to everyone's hard work we were able to distribute the donations among five shelters: Animals Sense Sostre, Asociación de Rescate y Defensa Animal (ARDA), Projecte Empathia, Gats Lliures Vallirana and Proaniplan. Many of them visited our stand and left with a full van and a lot of smiles and appreciation. Following this great experience, we obviously won't wait long to organize another food drive in 2019.

### **Wallapop sales**

A while back, while organizing the warehouse at the shelter where we collaborate most, Animals Sense Sostre (ASS), we found that many donations were in good condition but weren't needed at the shelter. For example: plastic bowls, toys, clothes that don't fit the dogs at the shelter, among other items. We felt bad seeing these articles sitting in the warehouse unused, knowing they had been donated by someone who wanted to help. So, we gave it some thought and asked ourselves, why don't we try to sell some of these items and give the money to the shelter? The idea turned out to be an unexpected success. Every month, our sales from the Wallapop app help to make small repairs, buy cleaning products, cheese or sausages to administer medication or replace plastic bowls with metal ones that last longer. Amparo, who adopted a dog from Animals Sense Sostres, gave us some products she wasn't using at home, and from those sales we made enough money to buy a month's worth of special diet food for four dogs, bleach for two weeks and cat litter for almost a whole month.



This initiative makes us very happy, not only because of the profits made from the used items, but also because it is a perfect example of the values that define us: reuse before throwing away, optimize everything we have by looking for the best use possible, save money instead of wasting it and help those in need.

### **Dog & Roll Concert**

During our two years as an association, Voluntarios Itinerantes has done many new things, but had never hosted a concert, until the opportunity presented itself. Victor Català, guitar player for the group Deceleratrix and nephew of Jordi Pastor, member of the VI board of directors, came up with the idea: a benefit concert for our association and the shelters where we collaborate. The concert featured three bands. They played the music and we took care of the logistics. The event took place at Espai Jove La Fontana on December 29<sup>th</sup>.

We accepted the challenge and started organizing the event. Before the day of the concert, we weren't sure exactly how many people would attend or if we would be able to fill a room with a 400-person capacity. As the first band of the night (Xnight) began to play, we knew that the first VI benefit concert was a great success: over 300 people attended and had a great time with the following two bands: Saturna y Deceleratrix. The party ended around 2am and all the volunteers who helped with the organization were certain that we need to repeat this activity.



## **Visiting new shelters**

In 2018, apart from our weekly visits to Animals Sense Sostre, we have collaborated with four shelters and visited a fifth.

We started the year by continuing our collaboration with Societat Protectora d'Animals in Tàrraga; we agreed to visit them once a month to help give the dogs a quality walk. Little by little we've gotten to know their dogs and at least half enjoy a nice long walk every time we go. In October, after winning the first edition of the Voluntarios Itinerantes prize, our collaboration has increased. From mid-October to mid-November we went three weeks in a row to carry out the project. Over 20 volunteers participated on each of our visits, ready to do whatever was needed to finish the project. For 2019, we've agreed to continue our monthly visits to the shelter.



The Cervera-La Segarra shelter is located close to Tàrrega, and we heard about them thanks to some Òdena volunteers. It's a small shelter with wonderful dogs and volunteers, but they need extra help for bigger projects. They called us in the spring to help prune trees and spread gravel throughout the area so the dogs don't have to run in the mud and to avoid weeds which spread parasites. During four visits we were construction workers, gardeners, cleaners, and of course, dog walkers. At the end of the year, we visited them again to take a food donation, which is always needed. In 2019 we hope to continue our collaboration.

Thanks to our relationship with Tàrrega, we met Montse, founder of Projecte Empathia (Empathy Project), a story you need to see to believe. Montse lives in a big house and cares for 15 senior dogs who come from shelters where they don't have many opportunities to be adopted and have remained for years. When we heard this story, we had to go meet her, and the feeling was mutual from the beginning. We've helped to repair fencing, doors, electrical wiring, moving from one house to another, and of course, loving the dogs. We will continue collaborating with this project and hope that more people will follow Montse's example.

Through one of our members we heard about ARDA (Asociación de Rescate y Defensa Animal), located in El Vendrell, a place where there are no cages. The dogs live in different fenced areas in a forest zone. The volunteers who run the shelter asked us for help to build a patio to hold a pack of hounds. In a month's time, we worked on building a 250 square meter fence for them. It was a great experience for us because it took us back to our time in Òdena, where building was one of the basic pillars of our group.



Finally, at the end of the year, we visited the Caldes Animal shelter in Caldes de Montbui, where we toured their facility and learned how the shelter works. This is one of the goals we have set for 2019: to visit a new shelter every trimester to help them and/or learn from them.

### **Main project: Animals Sense Sostre**

For the second year in a row, the shelter where we have dedicated the most time and effort is **Animals Sense Sostre (ASS)**, in Vallirana, to the point where we now manage any new volunteers that come to the shelter. We've built a strong bond with the team there and our presence and knowledge of the inner workings of the shelter is more than sufficient to be able to train new volunteers.

Apart from our normal Sunday activities, such as walks, reparations, socialization, cleaning, etc. there are two points we would like to highlight above the rest. First, the logistics developed in order to work with dogs in a specific way: we cannot treat scared, insecure, stressed, anxious dogs in the same way we treat the others. That's why we've created a list of these specific dogs and the best volunteers to work with them in each case. This makes their future adoption much easier. Over the last few months we've seen dogs with serious problems find the right family thanks to their improvement in behaviour. Although any adoption is a reason to be happy, the adoption of a dog we've worked with and whose evolution we've been able to follow, is a truly proud and satisfying moment for us.

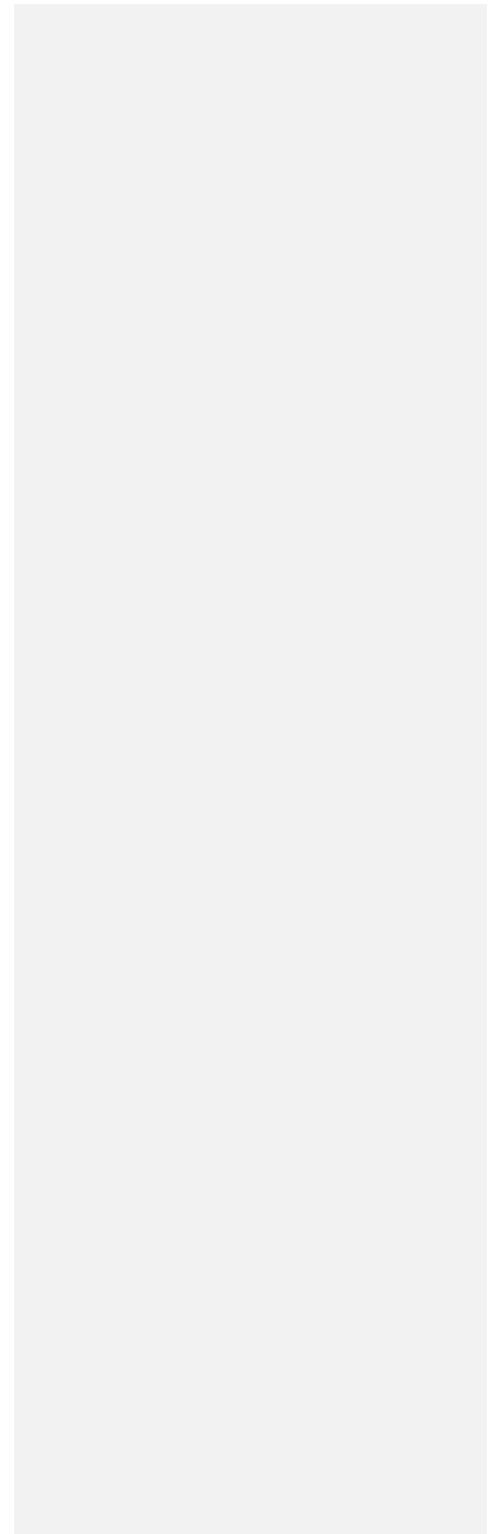


Second, we would like to highlight the work done in the management of a deparasitization protocol at the shelter during the hot months. The money collected at the Sant Jordi fair was designated for this project. We administered internal and external anti-parasite medication to all the dogs in the shelter every six weeks until October. The project was a success and the amount of parasites was drastically reduced.

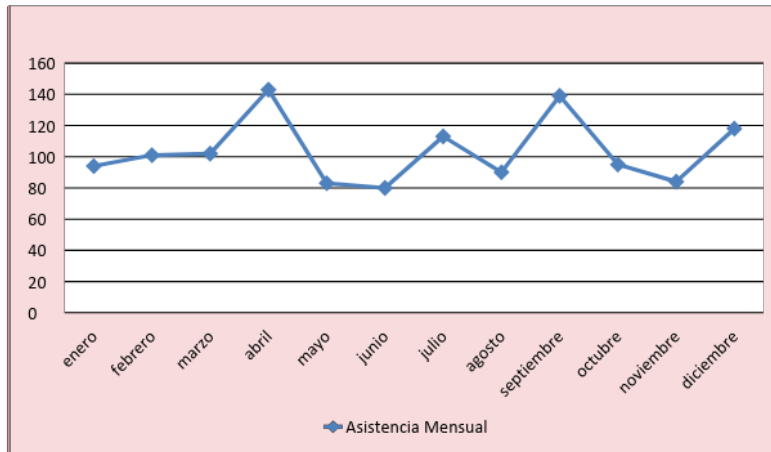
### **Human group**

As with any non-profit organization, our main capital is human. Throughout 2018 over 130 volunteers have participated in our activities, a 30% increase from the number of participants in the previous year. Their profiles couldn't be more different (USA, Sweden, Germany, Venezuela, Argentina, Hungary...) the youngest is 9 and the oldest 72, many are still studying, others working, women continue to make up the majority, and everyone together is dedicated to animal wellbeing.

The level of collaboration with the Voluntarios Itinerantes activities has increased over the previous months and we hope this will set the tone for 2019. People have more knowledge and take on more tasks within the association, which helps keep it alive and growing. The following graph shows the total number of participants by month.







**Comentado [1]:** January  
February  
March  
April  
May  
June  
July  
August  
September  
October  
November  
December

In 2018, we maintained a steady group of approximately 75 volunteers who, although they did not participate in every outing, did participate regularly. Over 40 volunteers attended at least once a month, whereas in the previous year the number of volunteers who participated in one event and never returned was reduced to less than 30%. In most cases, this is due to friends or family members of volunteers who want to experience for themselves what they've been hearing about, and many do come back. This makes us very proud as an association because when someone recommends us it's because they are really enjoying themselves.



## 2018 ECONOMIC REPORT

### Earnings

The total income in 2018 differs slightly from 2017, but if we compare, we should point out that member and sponsor dues made up 80% of earnings in 2017. In 2018 the trend is a decrease in the percentage of dues and an increase in donations, especially due to various activities carried out throughout the year. It's important to diversify different sources of income, considering that the number of members in 2018 suffered a slight decrease. As you can see in the table, almost 71% comes from member and sponsor dues and 29% from different activities (sales of roses on Sant Jordi, Christmas baskets, merchandizing...) Our earnings from the Teaming platform were designated solely for the VI prize, amounting to €500 for the Tàrrega shelter. Keep in mind that the earnings from the Dog&Roll will show in 2019's records and therefore is not considered for 2018.



EARNINGS		2017		2018		2019	
		100.00%	15,626.00 €	100.00%	15,771.01 €	100.00%	19,023.00 €
<b>Dues</b>		78.36%	12,245.00 €	70.83%	11,170.00 €	61.64%	11,725.00 €
	Member dues	72.76%	11,370.00 €	68.92%	10,870.00 €	61.50%	11,700.00 €
	Sponsor dues	5.60%	875.00 €	1.90%	300.00 €	0.13%	25.00 €
<b>Donations</b>		21.64%	3,381.00 €	29.17%	4,601.01 €	38.36%	7,298.00 €
	Various activities	4.17%	651.00 €	17.46%	2,753.98 €	29.35%	5,583.00 €
	Various individual donations	10.90%	1,704.00 €				
	Fairs	0.00%	- €	0.59%	92.53 €		
	Merchandising	3.84%	600.00 €	7.94%	1,252.50 €	4.99%	950.00 €
	Teaming	0.81%	126.00 €	3.18%	502.00 €	4.02%	765.00 €
	Adoptions	1.92%	300.00 €				



**Comentado [2]:** Dues  
Individual donations  
Actividades  
Teaming  
Fairs  
Merchandising  
Adoptions



## Expenses

In 2018 our results mainly from maintaining the dogs from Òdena, which VI took ownership of following its closure. The number has decreased considerably in 2017, given that most of them were adopted in the previous year. The amount invested in this area amounted to €4,450.35, which represents 28% of our earnings. This decrease in costs in 2018 has allowed us to designate a larger amount to the other shelters where we collaborate. The rest of the expenses were used to purchase materials for our different activities (roses for Sant Jordi, materials for fairs, Christmas basket, food for the Dog&Roll concert), which has resulted in a positive outcome that was used for various VI projects. Public relations correspond to the expenses for the volunteer day and other attention to volunteers and members. The merchandising expense has been recovered. This allows VI to share a common image among all volunteers when in public, although it gives us no earnings. Our trend is to increase the percent dedicated to shelter. In 2019, the amount collected at the December concert (€1,500) will be used for the next Voluntarios Itinerantes prize.



EXPENSES		2017		2018		2019	
		% earnings		% earnings		% earnings	
		-	16,388.62 €	-69.60%	10,977.14 €	-60.35%	11,480.56 €
		104.88%					
60. Purchases		-6.39%	998.22 €	-23.11%	3,644.20 €	-36.96%	7,030.00 €
600. Material	Investment in shelters	6.09%	998.22 €	-13.69%	2,158.31 €	36.41%	4,180.00 €
	Materials for fairs and other activities			-9.42%	1,485.89 €	24.82%	2,850.00 €
62. External services		-98.49%	15,390.40 €	-46.50%	7,332.94 €	-23.40%	4,450.56 €
	Residence	-61.34%	9,584.95 €	-27.07%	4,269.98 €	1.96%	225.00 €
	Licenses / training					8.54%	980.00 €
	Veterinary expenses	-29.12%	4,550.84 €	-1.14%	180.37 €		
	Communication (telf-web)			-1.84%	289.92 €	3.52%	404.00 €
	Computer materials			-1.38%	217.00 €		
	Bank expenses	-2.56%	399.25 €	-1.77%	279.35 €	2.63%	301.56 €
	PR and management	-1.66%	260.04 €	-5.02%	792.32 €	9.58%	1,100.00 €
	Merchandising	-3.81%	595.32 €	-8.27%	1,304.00 €	12.54%	1,440.00 €



VOLUNTARIOS  
ITINERANTES

