



# *Report to the Community*

January 2010 - June 2011



animal humane society

After a rough puppy start, Olive is thriving with adopters  
Katelyn Henneman and Tom Doohar.

# Message from the CEO

**You have taken a giant leap for animals with us and we can't thank you enough.**

More than 18 months ago, we embarked on a journey together to improve the quality of lives of animals in our community. So much good has come from the work and dedication of our employees, volunteers and board members, all of which has been supported by your generosity and goodwill.

It is a rare opportunity for any one of us to be associated with transformational change in animal welfare – transformation that has had such a positive impact on the animals in our community. With your loyal support and unwavering trust, our *Bound for Home* initiative has done just that, increasing animal placement to 80% and reducing euthanasia by an astounding 41%.

Your commitment to our mission of engaging the hearts, hands and minds of the community to do more for animals has provided us with boundless opportunities for the future.



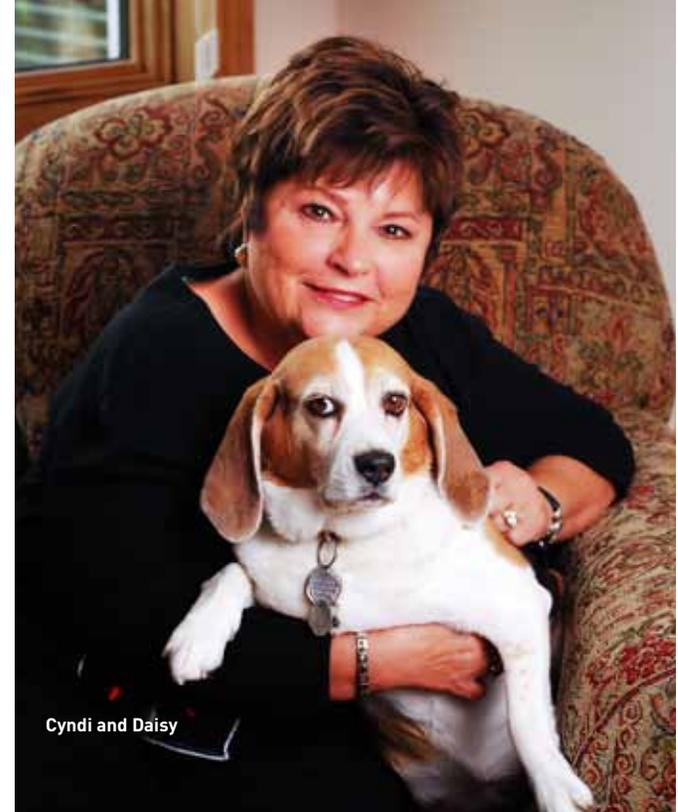
Janelle Dixon  
CEO/President



Cyndi Leshner  
Chair, Board of Directors



Janelle and Blanca



Cyndi and Daisy



Sheepdog mix Eddie is loved by  
Director of Customer Service Cindy Johnson.



## She almost didn't need a kennel

"We run three to four miles every day," says Michael Roehl, referring to his new three-year-old Alaskan malamute companion, Suko. "She's great. She loves other dogs, she's really active, and of course, she looks amazing. She's a malamute!" Suko was surrendered at AHS through the new surrender by appointment process which began in January 2011. Because her arrival was expected at the facility, a team was waiting to learn all about her and Suko was able to receive an immediate

health exam and behavior assessment. She was brought in at 3:39 p.m., seen by veterinary technicians at 3:56 p.m., given the all-clear and was at the adoption center at 4:21 p.m. Because AHS's website stays up-to-the-minute, Michael and his wife Erica saw Suko online three minutes after her photo was posted. They had her on her way to her new home at 5:33 p.m. Suko was at the shelter for just two hours! Michael says, "It was just meant to be."

### JANUARY 2010 – JUNE 2011

• Our surrender by appointment process was implemented in January 2011 to manage the flow of animals into our shelters and to ensure quicker placements and shorter length of stays and it is

a success. By having a personal exchange with a pet owner, we have been able to receive more detailed information about each animal surrendered which has helped our efforts with potential adopters.

• Our free behavior helpline assists pet owners seven days a week by providing resources and behavior tips.



Great Dane girl Blanca calls CEO/  
President Janelle Dixon "mom."



## There to help in Joplin

“As soon as it happened, I volunteered to go,” says AHS employee Jenney Miller. A team of six staff members made the trek to Joplin, Missouri in May 2011 to care for more than 1,200 animals left homeless after a devastating tornado ravaged the town.

The team worked 12-hour days in severe heat and some even slept on motel room floors. “It was

very emotional. One older woman had lost her home and was looking for her little cat with the pink collar and bell. I knew just the one! This poor woman came in and I was the lucky person to take her right to her beloved cat. I’ll never forget it,” Jenney says.

### JANUARY 2010 – JUNE 2011

- Partner rescue groups assist us with special needs animals. Nearly 1,600 animals were released to 112 rescue organizations, helping to give

these animals a chance to become beloved pets.

- AHS worked with the ASCPA in advance of the expected flooding in Louisiana to take in 75 animals in the spring of 2011.



Pollyanna is spoiled by Board member Kristi Skordahl.



## A long journey to the right home

“Short smooth coat, brown eyes, droopy ears, long tail.” That was at the top of Oscar’s intake form when he arrived at AHS from a rescue group in Oklahoma. But that was just the beginning. He had more than 50 BB shot wounds, tested positive for heartworm, and had a hemorrhage in the back of his right eye. AHS veterinary staff helped him on his way, along with vets from private practice who donated their time. Although he would eventually lose one eye, the family who chose him thinks he’s just perfect.

“He was the classic underdog!” says Gina Jamison, whose daughter Isabelle fell in love with the black Lab during *Unleashed* summer camp. “Even though he had problems, I could tell he was super sweet.” Gina adds, “Now he talks, he smiles, he even lies on the bed like he’s always been there. We love him.”

### JANUARY 2010 – JUNE 2011

• In an effort to place more cats in homes, we reduced the adoption fee for adult cats to \$50 in September of 2010, resulting in an immediate increase of cats finding loving

homes. *Double the Love*, which waives the fee for a second cat, meant an additional 777 cats went home.

• An extensive pet behavior online library is available on our website at [www.animalhumanesociety.org](http://www.animalhumanesociety.org). Some 62,000 people visit our site each month.



Marty and Buffy are the treasured pets of supporter Mark Lepsche.



## It's wild here

Cottontail rabbits, gray squirrels, mallards and raccoons. Those are the most often treated wildlife creatures that Wildlife Veterinary Technician Nicole Wallace sees. "In the summer, it's turtles galore. Sadly, they are often run over by cars. So when people bring them in, we repair them if we can with a fiberglass epoxy dome, a man-made shell. There isn't a lot of formal education for this, so we all learn by doing."

This year, a tiny opossum was brought in after being attacked by two dogs. He had a broken rib, a broken leg, lung contusions and over 20 puncture wounds. Fortunately he recovered, doubled his weight and was returned to the wild "as we try to do with all the animals we treat," Nicole says. "It's so rewarding. I can't imagine doing anything else."

### JANUARY 2010 – JUNE 2011

● At our Golden Valley facility, staff cared for 3,581 wildlife that were brought to us.

● Nearly 11,000 people participated in community programs and shelter tours at our five locations.

● We launched our new online store [sitstayshop.org](http://sitstayshop.org) in May 2011.



Lulu was adopted within two days at the Adoption Center.



## Her steps are big for animals

Sydney Durfee doesn't have a pet at home. Not yet, anyway. "When I'm 18 and I move out on my own, I'm getting a cat right away!" Until then, she's found a way to get what she calls her "pet fix" through her Grandma's cat, Princess, and her commitment to the annual AHS Walk for Animals. It's the nation's largest human/pet walk, held to raise funds to care for the homeless and neglected animals that come through our doors.

Though she's only 14 years old, Sydney has discovered that she can make an adult-sized contribution every year. "I did the Walk for Animals two years ago and raised \$700 in donations. This past year I topped it by earning \$800! I love doing the Walk."

### JANUARY 2010 – JUNE 2011

- Participants in the Walk for Animals helped raise more than \$1 million each year for the animals at AHS.

- At the Fall Wine Dinner, generous donors helped raise funds for Kindest Cut's mobile spay/neuter surgical unit.

- Whisker Whirl, a party for people and their pets, has become a "must attend" winter event, attracting more than 500 people and 225 dogs.



Zuzu is the boss of  
Laurie Brickley,  
VP of Marketing and  
Communications.



## Tito, Mr. Congeniality

Tito, a rat terrier who belongs to Sarah Jerome, used to bark at everything. “Cars, people, skateboarders, even school busses. We were working with him a lot, and had made some improvements, but he still barked at every other dog when we walked him.”

Sarah heard good things from a friend about AHS’s animal training classes, so she visited our website where she saw a class called *Reactive Rovers*. Designed for dogs that bark or growl at other dogs, this class helps dogs and their owners learn to greet other dogs politely or walk past

other dogs without a big commotion.

“We’ve really learned to manage his fear reaction, which is much nicer for all of us,” says Sarah.

“Now we can walk together with no problem, which is good because he really needs the exercise!”

### JANUARY 2010 – JUNE 2011

- Our training school attracted 2,216 participants. More than 50 classes and socialization opportunities are offered each week, from puppy kindergarten to certified therapy animal programs.

- Weekly camps for kids in grades 3–12 run in the summer months. More than 700 campers experienced life at AHS.

- Animal House, our pet boarding facility in Golden Valley, was “home” to 3,687 pet guests.



Zack is supporter Delores Sundbye's sunshine.



## My Fair Edie

Edith Shumaker, better known as “Edie,” has volunteered nearly 30,000 hours in many capacities at AHS. Most importantly, she has been the foundation of our *Canine Adoption Preparation* program for the last twenty years. This program helps dogs who are fearful, neglected or shy and need a little extra care to come out of their shells and trust humans. Edie helps get them ready for adoption.

Edie volunteers five days a week, working with approximately seven to 10 dogs each week, and

has an uncanny ability to remember each of them. Undeniably, she has changed the ultimate outcome for thousands of animals over the years. “I just felt strongly that with a little help, we could find homes for more pets,” Edie says. Always modest she adds, “It’s a very rewarding thing to do. All you really need to do it is good shoes. I’m on my feet all the time.”

### JANUARY 2010 – JUNE 2011

- More than 900 animals went through our Adoption Preparation program, helping them to overcome their fears and be more comfortable in new surroundings.

- Volunteers are crucial to the successes we have experienced in the past 18 months. 1,881 volunteers contributed 173,712 hours!

- Nearly 3,000 animals were helped by our foster volunteers who care for young and special needs animals in their homes.



The high-spirited Miss Maggie  
is adored by supporters  
Roger and Nancy McCabe.



## Kindness for Kelly

“Our friend asked us to care for a runaway Sheltie he was fostering for a couple of weeks while he went out of town. That was two years ago,” says Thomas Peters of New Brighton, MN. “He called her Cali, like California, but we call her Kelly.” In June of 2011, Thomas and his wife Rosemary brought Kelly to *Kindest Cut*, a mobile surgical unit which provides low cost spay/neuter surgeries

for cats, dogs and rabbits in the Minneapolis - St. Paul area. Services are geared toward pet owners with limited incomes and are performed by licensed veterinarians who are skilled at small animal care. “Their services were wonderful, just wonderful! We couldn’t have afforded it otherwise,” says Rosemary.

### JANUARY 2010 – JUNE 2011

● Providing spay/neuter surgery is a core program of our organization. Nearly 17,000 animals received this surgery at our five shelters prior to adoption.

● In partnership with Kindest Cut, we launched a mobile spay/neuter clinic for the pets of people in need in May 2011. In the first month alone, 900 pets were sterilized.

Plans for the future include a clinic at the Golden Valley shelter where an additional 15,000 surgeries will be performed annually.

*cats are cool*

*cats rule*

Kitten Mr. Heslin has a few things to teach us and his adopter Matt Tomkins.



## Keeping it real in the classroom

Barb Kattner, a science teacher at Nellie Stone Johnson Community School in Minneapolis, loves Animal Humane Society's educational programs. "The educators bring such a wonderful learning experience to my classes. I teach a population of children that has limited exposure to animals and a lot of fear. Some don't have pets in their homes at all, so these programs are very practical."

AHS's school programs cover everything from responsible pet care and ownership, to

appropriate interactions with wildlife, animal related careers, dog fighting, and more – all presented with an emphasis on compassion and respect. "My kids just love *'The Good Kind of Giant,'* about a giant who adopts a human child and then doesn't know how to take care of him," says Barb. "It can be a tough group to keep focused, but it's amazing how the kids can get so engaged in this."

### JANUARY 2010 – JUNE 2011

● Our humane education programs are based on teaching compassion and respect for animals. Our educators provided 324 programs in Twin Cities schools to 11,926 students.

● Party like an animal! More than 162 people held their birthday celebrations at one of our locations and some 2,100 people joined the festivities.

● Nearly 100 young people participated in PetSet Youth Club, an on-going, twice-monthly program educating kids in grades 5–8 about animal welfare issues.



Hazel is more than special to Special Events Manager Bobbi Morris.



## And the Emmy goes to...

They say it takes a village to raise a child, but sometimes it takes many communities working together to save a pet. Luckily, AHS works with many rescue organizations that are committed to finding homes for pets. In 2011, Marilou Chanrasmi of Pet Haven, a foster-based rescue, helped transport a three-year-old Husky/cattle dog mix named Emmy from the Leech Lake Indian Reservation in North Central Minnesota to Animal Humane Society.

Emmy was chosen to be featured live on the news at WCCO-TV, where she stole the show with her

blue eyes and her mellow demeanor. Marilou just happened to catch this broadcast and was pleased to see Emmy, who had touched her heart. "Some people may not be aware of the great partnership that has emerged through the Minnesota Partnership for Animal Welfare coalition," says Marilou. "Together, our organizations have been able to give so many dogs like Emmy a second chance."

### JANUARY 2010 – JUNE 2011

- When other animal welfare facilities are too crowded or they are unable to place animals, they call on us to help. 5,812 animals came into our shelters from these partnerships.

- Animal Humane Society is a founding member of the Minnesota Partnership for Animal Welfare (MnPAW) and the Minnesota Horse Welfare Coalition.

- AHS provides temporary housing for animals in need through the Minnesota Alliance for Family and Animal Safety.



AHS supporters Tammy and Michael Hilliard gave Lincoln Geddy Dude a home and a great name.



## From a puppy mill to a Pilates class

In early 2010, Animal Humane Society humane agents were called in after local law enforcement in Todd County heard complaints about a puppy mill operation and requested AHS's help. Sadly, dogs and puppies of various breeds were found living in deplorable conditions with no exercise and little human contact, leaving them very frightened of the outside world. A team from AHS rescued 51 dogs, transporting them to the Twin Cities where they were treated for malnutrition, skin and dental problems and other medical conditions. Learning to trust took the dogs quite

a bit longer. One lucky puppy named Charlie was adopted by Two Harbors, MN resident Chauncy, who worked with him for more than a year to help him overcome his fears. She says, "Charlie needed to explore his world in the smallest of steps for a very long time. My job was to keep him safe and be very kind and gentle with him." These days Charlie is more confident and outgoing on his errands with Chauncy, greeting people in town and playing by the lake. He's even attending a Pilates class with a group of local ladies.

### JANUARY 2010 – JUNE 2011

- Our humane agents received more than 2,000 reports of neglected or harmed animals. Working in 64 Minnesota counties with local law enforcement, our efforts in humane investigations helped 6,219 animals.

- AHS is part of a coalition that continues to push for puppy and kitten mill legislation that would require licensing and inspection of commercial dog and cat breeding facilities (S.F. 462/H.F. 702). Other

efforts include our opposition to a bill that prohibits documenting animal cruelty through photos and video (S.F. 1118/H.F. 1369).



McDuff and Molly appear at many events with their "parents," AHS volunteers Mike and Deb Kubes.



## Bailey is now eating out of their hands

“He’s not aggressive at all to us. I think they made that up!” jokes Joyce Johnson of Bailey, the beagle/basset mix she and her husband Tom adopted from AHS. “He used to get into the garbage at first, but that’s because he was in cahoots with the cat.” Joyce and Tom have continued using the skills they learned from *Chow Hounds*, a new AHS program which helps dogs that exhibit food bowl guarding and possessiveness.

In the past, dogs like Bailey might have been considered unplaceable, but through this program behavior staff works with dogs to modify their behavior. Animal Care Technician Bridget Melland explains, “We use a system where we continue to replace the bowl with kibble, wet food, treats and even volunteer-made liver and hamburger meatballs. A dog learns there are better things coming to them than just what’s in their bowls.” Staff also works with adopters to make sure the good behavior continues at home.

### JANUARY 2010 – JUNE 2011

- We launched our surrender by appointment process in January 2011. Six months later we saw our animal placement rate soar to 80%.

- Our Lost and Found Online Bulletin Board helps people search for their lost pets or post information about animals they have found.

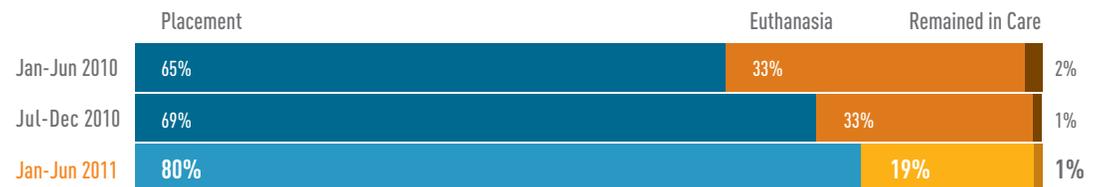
# About the animals

During the past 18 months and with the launch of our Bound for Home initiative, AHS has focused on new ways to help the animals in our community. Through a gradual transformation of programs and service delivery, efforts have been focused on reducing the number of animals coming into the shelter, increasing the number of animals being adopted in the community and reducing the number of animals that are euthanized. One of the biggest changes was implemented in January 2011 when AHS

changed the way in which animals are accepted from the community to a surrender by appointment process that provides us with more detailed information about an animal so we can do our very best to ensure the animal's best and quickest placement. Statistics shared below are in six-month increments, dramatically demonstrating more positive outcomes for more animals in 2011.

## Outcomes for Companion Animals

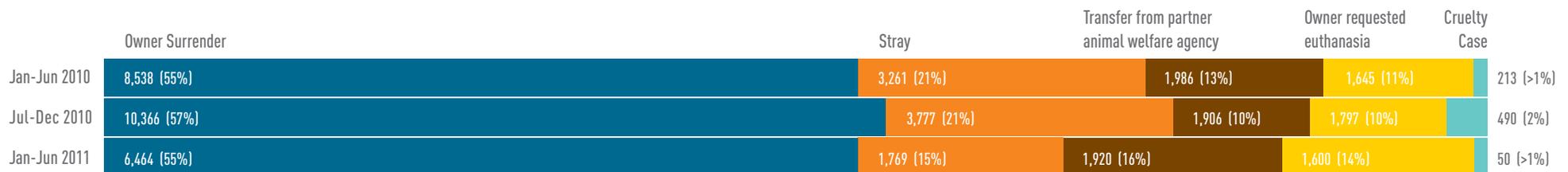
We are very proud of our increased placement rates and dramatic decreases in our euthanasia rates. With your help we remain committed to finding more loving homes for neglected animals and to reducing euthanasia.



## Animal Intake

AHS receives both companion animals and wildlife that need care and assistance. Numbers below reflect companion animals only.

### Companion animals received by reason for surrender



### Companion animals received by species



## Animal Placements

AHS provides homes and second chances for dogs, cats and domestic critters.

### Companion animal placements by type

	Adoption	Release to partner animal welfare agency	Reunited with owner
Jan-Jun 2010	7,789 (85%)	621 (7%)	726 (8%)
Jul-Dec 2010	10,123 (88%)	543 (5%)	773 (7%)
Jan-Jun 2011	7,016 (86%)	428 (5%)	739 (9%)

### Companion animal placements by species

	Feline	Canine	Domestic Critter/Bird
Jan-Jun 2010	4,339 (47%)	3,727 (41%)	1,070 (12%)
Jul-Dec 2010	6,532 (57%)	3,539 (31%)	1,368 (12%)
Jan-Jun 2011	3,891 (48%)	3,440 (42%)	852 (10%)

## Humane Euthanasia

AHS is an open admission organization. We strongly believe in providing services for all people and animals in need. Sadly, many animals come to us that we cannot safely and responsibly place in homes. In addition, there continue to be many more animals surrendered by the community than there are people in the community choosing to adopt them. As a result, AHS staff makes the very difficult decision to euthanize some companion animals. In some cases, people seek our services for end-of-life euthanasia in place of private veterinary services.

### Companion animal euthanasia by status

	Unhealthy/Untreatable	Treatable Manageable*	Treatable Rehabilitatable* Healthy*	
Jan-Jun 2010	1,705 (37%)	2,251 (48%)	673 (14%)	14 (1%)
Jul-Dec 2010	2,023 (37%)	2,395 (43%)	1,042 (19%)	70 (1%)
Jan-Jun 2011	852 (43%)	1,018 (51%)	125 (6%)	3 (>1%)

\*no placement options available in community

### Companion animal euthanasia by species

	Feline	Canine	Domestic Critter/Bird
Jan-Jun 2010	3,230 (70%)	1,273 (27%)	140 (3%)
Jul-Dec 2010	3,998 (72%)	1,240 (22%)	292 (6%)
Jan-Jun 2011	1,225 (61%)	686 (34%)	87 (5%)

## Wildlife

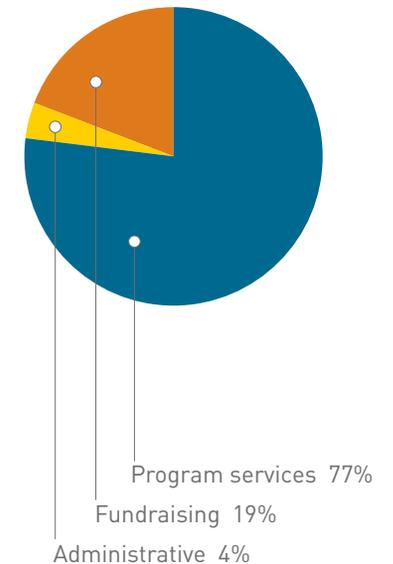
In addition to domestic animals, AHS operates a wildlife program. Through our partnership with Wildlife Rehabilitation and Release, animals are treated and

released back into the wild after rehabilitation. 3,581 wild animals received services through this program between January 2010 and June 2011.

# Financials

## Animal Humane Society Statement of Activities

	<b>2011</b> For the 12 months ended June 30, 2011	<b>2010<sup>1</sup></b> For the 6 months ended June 30, 2010
<b>SUPPORT &amp; REVENUES</b>		
Adoption fees & program revenue	4,208,772	2,187,975
Contributions	5,628,251 <sup>2</sup>	1,642,126
Wills & estates	1,637,918	707,022
In-kind contributions	205,142	67,251
Special events & promotions	828,667	849,329
Investment gain (loss)	933,288	(199,246)
Dividend & interest income	178,903	73,224
Other	<u>57,459</u>	<u>(2,773)</u>
<b>TOTAL SUPPORT &amp; REVENUES</b>	<b>13,678,400</b>	<b>5,324,908</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Program services:		
Rescue	214,991	162,068
Adoption & surrender	8,614,731	3,773,236
Pet services	600,364	240,064
Outreach	422,605	197,035
Supporting services:		
Management & general	444,224	309,717
Fundraising	2,388,656	1,202,808
Total supporting services	<u>2,832,880</u>	<u>1,512,525</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>12,685,571</b>	<b>5,884,928</b>
<b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</b>	<b>992,829</b>	<b>(560,020)</b>



<sup>1</sup> The Organization has completed the transition from a December 31 fiscal year-end, and now operates under a fiscal calendar ending June 30. This transition resulted in the requirement of a six-month fiscal year for January 1, 2010 through June 30, 2010. The audited financial results of this six-month period are reflected here. Six-month results should not be construed as half-year equivalent due to seasonal patterns not reflected in the January - June timeframe that this short fiscal year represents.

<sup>2</sup> Contributions include donations made to the annual fund, as well as donations designated to the Bound for Home Initiative.

# Board of Directors, Leadership and Partnerships

## Board of Directors

### 2010

Nic Pifer, Chair  
Teresa Morrow, Vice Chair  
Jeff Ament, Treasurer  
Debra Patterson, Secretary

### 2011

Cyndi Leshner, Chair  
Carolyn Smith, Vice Chair  
Jeff Ament, Treasurer  
Boyd Ratchye, Secretary

Scott Aebischer  
Emilie Buchwald  
Dr. Ed Clausman, DVM  
Barb Colombo  
Kerry D'Amato  
Lisa Goodman  
Dean Hedstrom  
Tom Hoch  
Don Jacobsen  
Sheila Kennedy  
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Linda Lee  
Murphy McKee  
Lia Melrose  
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Wayne Popham  
Damon Schramm  
Kristi Skordahl  
Stephanie Swanson  
Dr. Robert Washabau  
Janelle Dixon – CEO  
& President

## Animal Humane Society Leadership

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CEO & President

Ray Aboyan  
Chief Operating Officer

Laurie Brickley  
Vice President  
Marketing & Communications

Eileen Lay  
Chief Financial Officer

Katie Nelsen, CFRE  
Vice President, Development

Debi Thompson  
Vice President, Human Resources

## Partnerships

Animal Humane Society is a member of the National Federation of Humane Societies, Pet Shelters Across America and the Minnesota Alliance for Family and Animal Safety. AHS is a founding member of Minnesota Partnership for Animal Welfare (MnPAW), a coalition of animal welfare organizations in Minnesota, and the Minnesota Horse Welfare Coalition. AHS collaborates with nearly seventy animal welfare organizations in Minnesota, including the University of Minnesota Veterinary School, animal rescues in Oklahoma, Georgia and Iowa and municipal animal control authorities throughout Minnesota and western Wisconsin.

## Find us online

[www.animalhumanesociety.org](http://www.animalhumanesociety.org)  
[www.facebook.com/animalhumanesociety](https://www.facebook.com/animalhumanesociety)  
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[www.youtube.com/animalhumanesociety](https://www.youtube.com/animalhumanesociety)

## About this Report to the Community

Photography: Miroslavich Photography Design: Nancy Gardner  
Can't get enough of the animals featured in this calendar?  
Visit [www.animalhumanesociety.org/wallpaper](http://www.animalhumanesociety.org/wallpaper) for  
downloadable wallpaper.

Our mission is to engage the hearts, hands  
and minds of the community to help animals.





[www.animalhumanesociety.org](http://www.animalhumanesociety.org)

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**Buffalo**

4375 Highway 55 SE  
Buffalo, MN 55313

**Coon Rapids**

1411 Main Street NW  
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55448

**Golden Valley**

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Golden Valley, MN  
55422

**St. Paul**

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St. Paul, MN 55108

**Woodbury**

9785 Hudson Road  
Woodbury, MN 55125