

Animal Tracks

Animal Humane Society | Winter 2018

MODEL BEHAVIOR

Helping shy and fearful
dogs build confidence
and trust



ALSO INSIDE:
OUR FY18 ANNUAL REPORT



animal humane society



Animal Humane Society (AHS) engages the hearts, hands, and minds of the community to help animals. Every year AHS cares for more than 23,000 companion animals in need and helps thousands more through programs for people and pets.

As the leading animal welfare organization in the Upper Midwest, AHS is transforming the way shelters care for animals and engage their communities. From innovative medical and behavior programs to investments in outreach and advocacy, AHS is advancing animal welfare and creating a more humane world for animals everywhere.

AHS receives no federal, state or government funding and relies solely on private donations, special events, adoption and program fees, and merchandise sales.

Board of Directors

Paul Kaminski, *Chair*
Donna Zimmerman, *Vice Chair*
Dick Hall, *Secretary*
Jennifer McNeal, *Treasurer*
Tom Hoch, *Past Chair*
Dr. Trevor Ames
Kaywin Feldman
Dr. Bianca Fine
Greg Foster
Lisa Hannum
Stacy Pagano
Kelly Palmer
Susan Palombo
Diana Purcel
Mark Specker
Tina Wilcox
Janelle Dixon, *President & CEO*

Staff Leadership

Janelle Dixon, *President & CEO*
Eileen Lay, *Chief Operating & Financial Officer*
Lisa B. Bonds, *Chief Advancement Officer*
Kathy Mock, *Chief Government Affairs & Community Engagement Officer*

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

A Message from Janelle Dixon

This issue of Animal Tracks includes our FY18 Annual Report — and what an incredible year it's been.



With your support we continue to serve more people and animals than ever before — all while expanding our services, creating innovative new approaches, and charting a bold path forward.

Last year more than 95 percent of the 23,634 animals in our care were placed in homes, reunited with owners, or released to our placement partners. That's the fourth year in a row our placement rate has exceeded 90 percent. Together we're saving more lives than ever before.

Your support fuels our innovation. In FY18 we began testing a new model for housing dogs — one that could transform the way shelters everywhere provide care. Our dog habitat prototype in Golden Valley allows dogs to live in groups where they can exhibit a full range of natural behaviors, including socialization and play. What we learn from our prototype will inform our plans for housing dogs moving forward. It's already shaping how we care for shy and fearful dogs like Sahara, whose incredible story is featured on the cover of this issue.

This is the year we also took new steps to strengthen our commitment to people and pets in underserved communities. Construction began on a new full-service AHS Veterinary Center and community program space on University Avenue in St. Paul. When it opens, this new clinic will help us expand free and low-cost veterinary care where it's needed most.

We have so much more to celebrate, and you'll find innovations and accomplishments worth cheering for throughout this issue.

Our work is as vital today as it's ever been — and your support makes it all possible. On behalf of the animals and people we serve, I extend my gratitude.

Best,

Janelle Dixon, President & CEO

Contents

10 MODEL BEHAVIOR

Innovations in behavior rehabilitation help shy and fearful dogs build confidence and trust

18 The Power of Partnership

AHS and local rescue organizations team up to help animals in need

4 Petcetera

- 4 AHS rescues dogs, cats, and horses in major humane cases
- 5 Tune in to Pet Dish TV
- 6 Kindest Cut clinics renamed AHS Veterinary Centers
- 7 A new way to make the world a better place for animals
- 7 AHS offers 30 days of free pet insurance for adopters
- 8 AHS celebrates 140 years of caring for animals
- 9 AHS named a 2018 Top Workplace

22 Report to the Community

Accomplishments from the 2018 fiscal year

IN EVERY ISSUE

- 2 A message from Janelle Dixon
- 30 Locations, hours, and services

Animal Tracks

Winter 2018

Director of Communications and Brand
Paul Sorenson

Editor
Mary Tan

Associate Editor
Shanna Haugland

Designers
Jackie Lehmann
Kelsie Young

Contributors
Zoe Clarke
Kelly Erickson
Maggie Flanagan
Rose Miller
Zach Nugent
Lindsay Shimizu

Animal Tracks is published twice a year.

Mission

To engage the hearts, hands, and minds of the community to help animals.

Vision

To compassionately and responsibly create a more humane world for animals.

Core Values

Be good to animals.
Partner with people.
Lead responsibly with compassion.

On the cover:

Sahara and her friends overcame their shy and fearful behavior with the help of AHS staff and volunteers.

AHS rescues dogs, cats, and horses in major humane cases

It's been a busy six months for our humane investigations team.

In May, we assisted the Dakota County Sheriff's Office in seizing animals from a rural property rented by Caycee Bregel, founder of Minnesota Animal Rescue. Investigators discovered 60 dead cats on the property, and removed a total of 51 living cats, 12 dogs, and one guinea pig. The animals were brought to our Golden Valley shelter where investigators and veterinarians conducted forensic examinations, and staff provided extensive medical and behavioral care. After rehabilitation and treatment, the dogs, guinea pig, and 39 of the cats were placed through our adoption or rescue partner program. Bregel has been charged with 13 counts of mistreatment of animals, including one felony count.

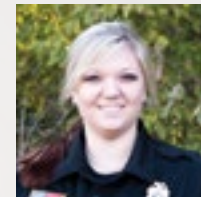
In June, we removed more than 70 horses from a rural Minnesota property. Deputies from the Watonwan County Sheriff's Office requested assistance from AHS after discovering dead animals and dozens of ponies living in deep mud and manure with overgrown hooves. The hooves — some overgrown 6 to 8 inches — made it difficult for the horses to walk and stand, and reflected months or even years of neglect. The horses' former owner, Michael Johnson, has been charged with three counts of mistreatment of animals.

In August, we worked alongside the Blaine Police Department to rescue 19 dogs and 11 cats from unsanitary and overcrowded conditions in a private home. The animals — including several Lhasa Apso mixes and one Siamese cat — ranged in age from four days old to seniors. The younger animals were generally healthy, while the older animals suffered from health issues including skin and eye infections and severe matting. Three newborn puppies died shortly after arriving at our shelter, but the remaining animals were placed for adoption or with one of our rescue partners.

AHS welcomes two new humane agents

We are proud to welcome two new full-time humane agents to our investigations team.

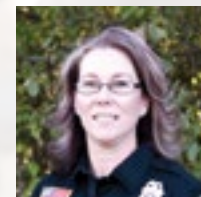
AGENT ASHLEY PUDAS



Agent Pudas is no stranger to AHS. Before serving as an animal control officer for Minneapolis

Animal Care and Control, Pudas worked as a veterinary technician at our Coon Rapids shelter. A lifelong animal lover, she has a German Shepherd and three parrots — some of whom she rescued during her time as an animal control officer. Agent Pudas and Agent Keith Streff oversee the Twin Cities area and southern Minnesota.

AGENT AMANDA OQUIST



Agent Oquist comes to AHS with 15 years of experience in law enforcement, including 12

years as a deputy in the Pine County Sheriff's Office. She also served as a 911 dispatcher in Pine County and as a police officer in Missouri. Agent Oquist has a passion for all types of animals. She is the proud parent of six children, eight horses, 10 cattle, two goats, a dog, and four cats. Oquist and Agent Wade Hanson are responsible for investigating animal cruelty in the northern half of the state.

The addition of these two new agents will help further our efforts to combat animal abuse and neglect throughout Minnesota.

Tune in to Pet Dish TV



AHS is excited to announce our new video series, Pet Dish TV! These fun, bite-sized videos showcase animals in our care and the incredible work that your support makes possible. They're also full of useful information for you and your pet — like teaching dog park etiquette and solving litter box issues in cats.



Check out the latest episodes and subscribe at animalhumanesociety.org/petdishtv.

STOCK DONATIONS



This holiday season, you can give a gift that benefits homeless animals in our community and provides tax savings for you by donating appreciated stock to Animal Humane Society.

When you donate stock, you'll receive its fair market value and avoid paying capital gains taxes. Even better, the proceeds from the sale of your donated stock will go to work immediately to help the animals in our care.

For more information on making the holidays brighter through a gift of stock visit animalhumanesociety.org/stock.

Kindest Cut clinics renamed AHS Veterinary Centers

Kindest Cut clinics have been renamed Animal Humane Society Veterinary Centers. The new name, which took effect in August, reflects the expanded mission of our clinics and will make it easier for people to find, understand, and use our low-cost services.



AHS launched Kindest Cut in 2011 to provide low-cost spay/neuter surgeries for pets of people living in low-income households. The program has since grown, additionally serving pets of military personnel and veterans, and other nonprofit rescue organizations. We've also expanded our services, including wellness and preventative care, dental services, and specialty surgeries.

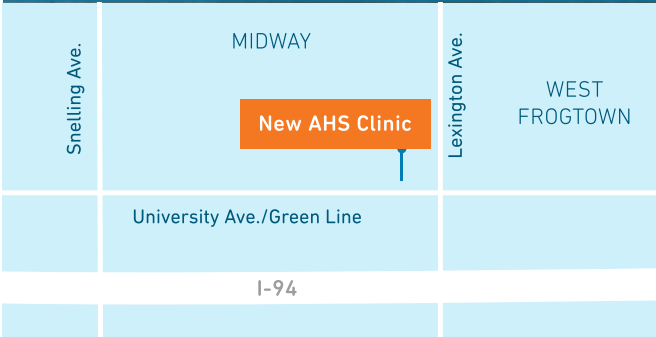
Our veterinary centers include a brick-and-mortar clinic at AHS in Golden Valley and a mobile clinic that offers spay/neuter surgeries in communities across the greater Twin Cities metro area.

Visit animalhumanesociety.org/vetcenters or call **952-435-7738** for more information.



New clinic in St. Paul
Animal Humane Society
1159 University Avenue West
St. Paul, MN 55104

Demolition and construction have begun on the future site of Animal Humane Society's new community program and veterinary center. AHS will occupy the building in phases, with training facilities and program spaces opening in 2019 and a full-service veterinary clinic in 2020.



A new way to make the world a better place for animals

People often give to causes that mean the most to them, but more and more, they're making donations on behalf of the people they love. That's why we're happy to announce new, easy-to-use tools you can use to fuel your own personal fundraiser!

Whether it's a birthday, holiday, wedding, fitness challenge (or just because!), you can use any occasion as an opportunity to support AHS and the thousands of animals we care for each year.


Fundraise on your own schedule and motivate your friends and family to rally around the animals who need us most.

Ready to get started?

Starting a fundraiser is easier than you'd think — it takes just a few minutes — and every dollar you raise makes new beginnings possible for homeless animals in our community.

Visit animalhumanesociety.org/DIY-fundraising to start your own fundraiser today.






AHS offers 30 days of free pet insurance for adopters

Every dog and cat adoption at Animal Humane Society includes spay/neuter surgery, vaccinations, parasite treatments, a free collar and ID tag, and a free post-adoption exam with a local veterinarian. Now adopters have one more way to safeguard the health of their pets.

New adopters receive 30 days of free pet insurance through PetFirst. This offer includes 100 percent reimbursement for two incidents (up to \$500 each) after a \$50 deductible — with no waiting period. This new partnership with PetFirst is just one of the many ways we support adopters along every step of pet parenthood.

To learn more about what's included in every AHS adoption, visit animalhumanesociety.org/adoption-fees.





1878 – 2018 140 years of caring for animals



This year marks the 140th anniversary of Animal Humane Society. To celebrate, we've assembled some highlights of the work your support has made possible.

1870s The organizations that came together over time to form AHS trace their roots back to February 1878, when the Minneapolis Society for the Prevention of Cruelty and the St. Paul Society for the Prevention of Cruelty were established to protect both children and animals from abuse and neglect.

1910s In the early 20th century, work to protect children shifted to other organizations, and the Minneapolis and St. Paul societies were renamed to reflect their focus on animals.

1920s The Minneapolis organization — then known as the Animal Rescue League of Hennepin County — opened its first shelter in 1926, funded with a generous bequest from Florence Barton Loring.

1950s St. Paul Humane Society opened a new shelter on Beulah Lane in 1954. The street leading to the shelter was named in honor of Beulah Bartlett, who led the organization for more than 40 years. The expanded and renovated building is still in use today.

1960s In 1965, the Animal Rescue League became the Animal Humane Society of Hennepin County and launched plans to build a new 25,000-square-foot shelter in Golden Valley. The new shelter opened in 1967 and was expanded twice in the 1990s.

2000s Mergers and acquisitions led to further expansion. In 2000, the St. Paul organization merged with the St. Croix Animal Shelter in Woodbury to form the Humane Society for Companion Animals. In 2001, Animal Humane Society of Hennepin County acquired and renovated a recently closed animal shelter in Coon Rapids. Finally, in 2007, Animal Humane Society of Hennepin County, Humane Society for Companion Animals, and West Metro Humane Society in Buffalo merged to create one organization known as Animal Humane Society.

Although many things have changed in 140 years, AHS remains committed to engaging the hearts, hands, and minds of the community to help animals. Your support makes it possible.

For more history, including historical photos, see animalhumanesociety.org/anniversary.

AHS named a 2018 Top Workplace



AHS has been recognized as a 2018 Top Workplace by the Star Tribune. The designation is based on the results of an employee survey at AHS and more than 600 Twin Cities metro organizations.

"This honor is particularly meaningful because it reflects how our employees feel about AHS," says President & CEO Janelle Dixon. "We're committed to making AHS a great place to work."

Over the past few years, AHS has worked to improve employee benefits, enhance onboarding and professional development opportunities, and raise our starting wage. We also offer nontraditional benefits like opportunities to interact with animals, pet-friendly workspaces, discounts on veterinary care and pet boarding, and free pet adoption.

"This achievement wouldn't be possible without the commitment, dedication, and passion that each and every one of our employees brings to work," says Dixon. "The more than 2,000 volunteers who offer their time and support are also a key part of our success."



SAVE THE DATE WHISKER WHIRL

A GALA TO BENEFIT



2.16.19

NEW LOCATION
MINNEAPOLIS
CONVENTION CENTER

animalhumanesociety.org/whiskerwhirl
763-432-4842



MODEL BEHAVIOR

Innovations in behavior rehabilitation help shy and fearful dogs build confidence and trust

by Mary Tan

Sahara shook and cowered in a Mississippi animal shelter. For months potential adopters walked by her kennel without stopping to meet her. The shelter was overcrowded and filled with confident, energetic dogs, so the meek, red and white Staffordshire Terrier mix was easy to miss.

She had come to the shelter after roaming the streets of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, picked up by a local animal control officer. When she arrived, shelter staff discovered her collar was embedded in her neck. Volunteers and staff removed the collar and treated her painful, infected wounds.

But Sahara's emotional wounds

were harder to treat. Shelter staff selected Sahara for a transport to Animal Humane Society, where she could get the rehabilitation she needed to prepare for a new life with a loving family.

In July, the 33-pound canine made the 1,100-mile journey to AHS in Golden Valley, where her medical treatment continued. But Sahara exhibited the same behaviors in Minnesota she had in Mississippi — crouching in the back of her kennel, shaking, and burying her head when veterinary technicians attempted to pet her. It was clear she wanted to be invisible to those who came in contact with her.

For the first few days at AHS, Sahara showed no signs of improvement. She didn't want to leave her kennel, especially when a leash was attached to her collar. Liv Hagen, who leads the behavior modification and rehabilitation program at AHS, knew Sahara needed additional help to overcome her fears.

Hagen embraced the challenge. Last year her team helped more than a thousand dogs and cats overcome behavioral issues in preparation for adoption.

Learning by example

Sahara's rehabilitation started with daily visits with adoption preparation volunteers. They would spend time sitting with her, hoping to make her feel more comfortable. Still unable to get Sahara out of her kennel, Hagen started spending one-on-one time with her.

At the same time, Hagen was also seeing firsthand how Animal Humane Society's new group housing prototype was helping dogs with similar challenges.

Opened earlier this year, the habitat prototype houses up to six dogs at a time and includes a shared space for socialization and play as well as individual dens for rest and sleep. "We had wonderful success with some of the shy and fearful dogs we put in that space," says Hagen. "Spending time playing with other dogs helped them

come out of their shells and learn how to relax and be dogs."

But Sahara wasn't ready for that kind of environment. "Her behavior was so severe I didn't think she would do well with the high energy levels in the habitat," says Hagen.

Then inspiration struck. Hagen and her team were working with two other dogs — Labrador Retriever mixes Chance and Lyla — who were almost as shy and fearful as Sahara. "I thought 'What if we could create a version of the habitat just for them?'"

"Dogs tailor their behavior to meet the needs of other dogs..."

—Liv Hagen

The dogs were living in individual kennels in a behavior rehabilitation ward, so introducing them was as simple as opening the kennel doors and allowing them to meet in the corridor. "It was a small space, so there was some concern if they didn't get along, but the potential rewards

"Spending time playing with other dogs helped them come out of their shells and learn how to relax and be dogs."

—Liv Hagen

outweighed those risks," says Hagen.

The first to emerge was Chance, who immediately greeted Lyla. The two began playing, but an apprehensive Sahara stayed behind in the safety of her kennel.

"Sahara perked up her head, so I knew she was interested," says Hagen. "The next day we had a magical moment. Chance walked into Sahara's kennel and coaxed her out. They started to play immediately and soon Lyla joined in the fun."

It quickly became apparent that Sahara would do whatever Chance and Lyla were doing, so they went to veterinary checks and behavioral sessions as a trio.

After several days of continued rehabilitation and playtime, all three dogs were ready for adoption. All three were adopted within a week.

Hagen was thrilled her idea worked. "Dogs tailor their behavior to meet the needs of other dogs, which is exactly what happened with these three. I can't tell you how excited I was when this happened. It was an emotional moment for me."



AHS Behavior Manager Liv Hagen playing with Molly, Poppyseed, and Lyla.

New beginnings

Sahara, now known as Poppyseed, lives with Carli Lavavich, her adopter, and Roo, another dog adopted from AHS. "When I saw Poppy I knew she would be the perfect companion for my pit bull, Roo, who was also a shy dog when I first brought her home," says Lavavich.

"Poppy follows her younger sister around, and Roo is teaching



Sahara (Poppyseed)

Staffordshire Terrier mix
Female, 2 years old



Chance (Molly)

Labrador Retriever mix
Female, 4 years old



Lyla

Labrador Retriever mix
Female, 1 year old



Carli Lavavich and Poppyseed



Hennen family and Molly



Molly McCabe and Lyla

her how to play and have fun. They're both such sweet dogs. It's so fun to be around them and watch them grow," adds Lavavich. "I have a soft spot for these special animals."

Chance, now called Molly, lives with the Hennen family, including two young children, two cats, and another dog.

"We knew she was shy and fearful and it would take time to work with her, but we also knew she was right for us," says Fred Hennen. "Everyone in the family is helping her feel protected and loved."

Molly McCabe came to the shelter to meet another dog she had spotted on our website, but after meeting Lyla, it took only minutes to realize they were perfect for each other. "I knew she was the one," says McCabe. "I suffer from severe anxiety, so we're going on a mental health recovery journey together. Lyla is slowly gaining more confidence every day."

Success stories

Poppy, Molly, and Lyla are not alone. AHS staff and volunteers have helped nearly 15,000 shelter animals through the adoption preparation program, which was created in 1992.

Today, every animal that comes to AHS is assessed by a behavior specialist. "We have specialized programs to address all kinds of behavioral challenges, from cats with litter box issues to dogs who are jumpy, mouthy, and possessive," says Hagen. She and her team — including more than 40 volunteers and fosters — work with animals for weeks and even months to help them succeed.

AHS can successfully address most behavior issues, but a small number of animals experience severe stress that is triggered specifically by the shelter environment. To help those animals, we partner with local rescue organizations who can support animals in long-term foster care. (See page 18 to read more about these partnerships.)

The success of these behavior programs has helped reduce euthanasia dramatically over the past decade, says AHS President & CEO Janelle Dixon.

"Investing in expanded behavior programs and advanced medical treatments and partnering with other rescue organizations means we can help even more animals," says Dixon. "As a result, we were able to place

"Investing in expanded behavior programs and advanced medical treatments and partnering with other rescue organizations means we can help even more animals."

—Janelle Dixon

more than 95 percent of the animals who were entrusted to our care last year."

Dixon is grateful for the community support that makes this intensive, specialized work possible. "We're learning so much from the habitat about how to help animals. This is just one of many success stories so far — and we're just getting started."

The families of Poppy, Molly, and Lyla are excited about the future and what it will bring for their new furry family members. They know there's a long journey ahead to give the dogs the confidence they need, but it's all worth it.

It's worth it for Hagen, too. "I went into this profession wanting to make a difference for animals. These three went from being heartbroken, homeless dogs to family pets who will be loved and cherished for who they are. There's no better validation than that."



AHS offers five programs to address behavior challenges:

1. Adoption Preparation

Geared toward dogs that show signs of stress in shelter, display shy and fearful behaviors, and avoid interacting with people.

2. Possessive Pooches

Helps dogs who guard food or valued objects such as a pig's ear, toy, or food bowl.

3. Courageous Kitties

For owner-surrendered cats with a history of being friendly and social but now display shy or fearful behavior in shelter.

4. Office Cats

Alternative housing in staff offices to help fearful cats become candidates for adoption.

5. Fresh Start

For cats with a history of litter box issues.

Give the gift of a second chance

Every animal deserves a home to call their own and a family to love. At Animal Humane Society, we work tirelessly to ensure homeless animals in our community receive a second chance and a new beginning. From expert veterinary care and lifesaving surgeries to behavior rehabilitation and foster care, we pour our hearts into every animal — but we can't do it without your help. Make a gift and change the life of an animal in need.

► **Donate today at**
animalhumanesociety.org



KAISER'S SECOND CHANCE

When Kaiser arrived at AHS you could see every bone in her body. Weighing only 34 pounds, the skeletal pit bull mix was barely clinging to life. Her big, brown eyes told a heartbreaking story.

Kaiser's previous family had recently moved and were unable to take her along. They thought they had found a new home for their dog with a neighbor, but when they returned for a visit a few months later, they were shocked and disgusted with what they found. Their happy, healthy dog was skin and bones. She was deprived of food and clean water for so long she was nearly unrecognizable. Luckily, they knew they could count on AHS for help.

Nursing Kaiser back to health was a humbling journey. After being starved for so long, Kaiser's body couldn't accept food like a healthy dog. Our expert veterinarians planned a careful feeding schedule to delicately introduce food back into her system. Unfortunately, her frail body was susceptible to infections and she became ill with multiple respiratory infections shortly after arriving. But we didn't give up on Kaiser.

After two months of loving attention and expert care, Kaiser gained 20 pounds and was finally ready to find a new home. Just days later, Kaiser was adopted. Her new family adores her. Whether they are hiking through the mountains together or

cuddling on the couch, Kaiser is a member of the family and will never be neglected again.

Kaiser is one of thousands of animals who received the care they desperately needed this year. Second chances like hers are only possible thanks to generous animal lovers in our

community. This holiday season you can change the life of an animal like Kaiser.

Give the gift of a second chance today.





THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIP

BY KELLY ERICKSON

AZURE DAVIS, FOUNDER OF
RUFF START RESCUE

AHS AND LOCAL RESCUE ORGANIZATIONS TEAM UP TO HELP ANIMALS IN NEED

When Charles first arrived at Animal Humane Society, everything was a blur. The 9-month-old terrier mix spent hours on transport from Austin, Texas. He waited his turn as the truck was unloaded. He was weighed, vaccinated, combed for fleas, and given a blue paper collar with his name and ID number.

Charles was led to his new kennel where he'd wait for more veterinary and behavior assessments. Most animals move through this process quickly and make their way to adoption, where they typically wait only a few days

to meet their new families. Others are shut down, fearful, or shy and have a difficult time acclimating to shelter life or have behavior or medical issues that require more long-term attention.

Charles needed that extra time and attention. He was stressed and overstimulated — and it soon became apparent that being in the shelter environment was making his behavior worse. Our behavior modification and rehabilitation team went to work developing a plan to address his challenges.

Despite all our efforts, Charles' condition was deteriorating.

Staff believed that Charles would be a great dog in a different environment. He needed to get out of the shelter and



SAM (FORMERLY CHARLES)

into the care of a foster-based rescue organization.

Charles was enrolled in our Partner Placement program, and within days he was placed with 4 Pits Sake Rescue. Once out of the shelter he immediately started improving. His foster family patiently worked with him, redirecting his inappropriate behavior and teaching him good manners. After two months in foster care, a family spotted Charles and made him one of their own. Now named Sam, this pup found his happy new beginning.

HELPING MORE ANIMALS

Over the past several years, AHS has invested in programs to help animals overcome even the most daunting medical and behavioral challenges. We can now treat a wide array of conditions — from ringworm and parvovirus to broken bones and shy and fearful behavior.

Most animals recover and thrive in our care, but some — like Charles — have behavior issues that are triggered or intensified by being in a shelter. Some find the environment so stressful they shut down or display extreme fear and aggression. Others have medical conditions that are difficult to treat effectively in a shelter environment. In these circumstances, AHS recognizes the most compassionate way to help these animals is to get them out of the shelter and into a foster home. That's why AHS partners with nearly 100 rescue organizations around Minnesota to collectively do the best we can to help each individual animal.

Foster-based rescues are often able to provide a long-term environment that is better suited to animals who struggle in shelter — a quieter, individualized space to help them feel more settled, more comfortable, and more confident.

Although AHS has its own foster program, we don't yet have the capacity to support a foster-to-adopt placement process. Our foster volunteers focus primarily on caring for and rehabilitating animals that will eventually return to the shelter for adoption. Demand for foster care is high, and last year more than 400 AHS foster families cared for nearly 2,500 dogs, cats, and critters.

"Partnering with local rescues provides us with more options to help these animals succeed," says Brie Nodgaard, who manages the Partner Placement program at AHS. "Working together means we can tap into their strengths, and they can tap into ours."

A WELCOME CHANGE

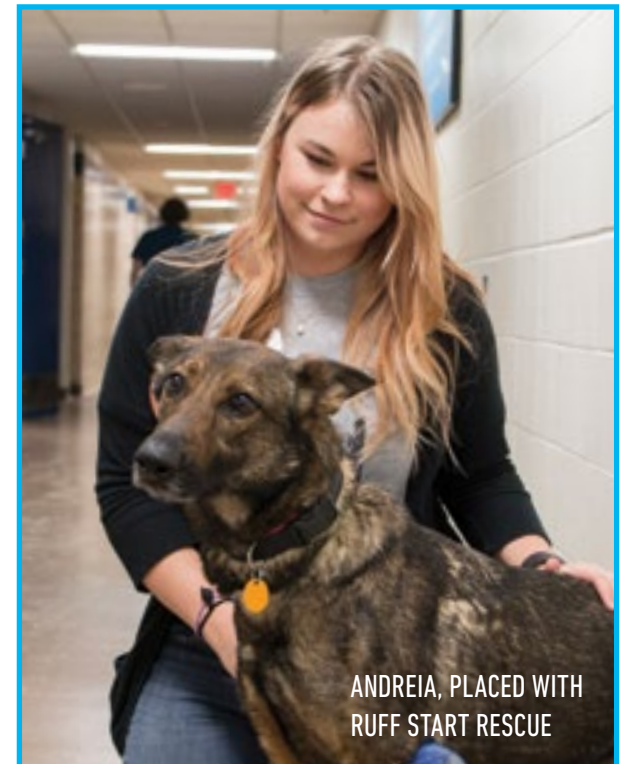
Rescue organizations across the Twin Cities have welcomed the opportunity to collaborate.

Ruff Start Rescue takes in more dogs from AHS than any other rescue partner. "It's such a big deal for us that AHS works with rescue groups like ours," says Ruff Start founder Azure Davis. "We're excited to be able to help the animals who need the [home-based foster] environment we can provide."

Dana Andresen, executive director of Feline Rescue, is equally enthusiastic. Her organization focuses primarily on rehabilitating cats with special challenges, including those who do poorly in a shelter environment. "More than half of our cats come from animal control and open admission shelters like AHS," says Andresen.

LAST YEAR, MORE THAN 93 PERCENT OF THE ANIMALS WHO WERE CANDIDATES FOR PARTNER PLACEMENT WERE CLAIMED BY RESCUES OR PLACED THROUGH AN AHS ADOPTION PROGRAM.

While AHS guarantees admission to every animal, most rescue organizations — including Feline Rescue — limit admission to select animals. "Because of that, we have the unique ability to take the cats with very special needs," says Andresen. "That's our niche."



ANDREIA, PLACED WITH
RUFF START RESCUE



HOW PARTNER PLACEMENT WORKS

Every day, Nodgaard reaches out to dozens of AHS partners with photos and detailed profiles of animals who are candidates for partner placement. Those rescues have seven days to come in and visit with the animals in order to match them with the right foster homes. This placement process was designed in collaboration with rescue partners.

Animals who may be struggling in shelter become candidates for partner placement only after they've been assessed and treated by AHS veterinarians and behavior experts.

"Each animal is treated as an individual," says Anne Johnson, director of shelter support at AHS. "We look at

"PARTNERING WITH LOCAL RESCUES GIVES US MORE OPTIONS TO HELP THESE ANIMALS SUCCEED," SAYS BRIE NODGAARD.



all the options we have to help them succeed in shelter. Ultimately we're trying to do what's best for the animal."

Animals transferred to a rescue partner get the same care from AHS as those who go to adoption, says Johnson. They are sterilized, vaccinated, treated for parasites, and tested for common conditions like heartworm and feline leukemia. AHS also provides a free 30-day supply of any

medications the animal needs — even for conditions diagnosed up to 14 days after they leave our care.

If a candidate for partner placement doesn't receive a commitment within seven days, AHS reevaluates the animal to determine next steps. Last year, more than 93 percent of the animals who were candidates for partner placement were claimed by rescues or placed through an AHS adoption program.

"Sometimes their condition has improved enough that we can work with them in shelter and try to find them a home through adoption," says Johnson. "Placement as a barn or business cat may also be a good option." Humane euthanasia is only considered for those who continue to degrade quickly in shelter.

Last year, AHS placed 1,125 animals with rescue partners — roughly five percent of its 22,296 total placements. But for all its success, the Partner Placement program is often maligned and misunderstood.

"There's a lot of misinformation out there," says Johnson. "Some people criticize AHS because they think we've given up on these animals. They think it's a death sentence, but nothing could be further from the truth. These animals are candidates because we believe in them and want to help them succeed."

SHARING RESOURCES

There's more to these partnerships than simply finding placement for animals.

Rescue partners can also bring animals in their care to AHS Veterinary Centers for low-cost spay/neuter

surgeries, specialty surgeries, and wellness services. AHS sterilizes about 5,000 rescue partner animals each year. "We're able to provide veterinary services to them — from vaccinations to amputations — at a greatly reduced cost. That can add up to thousands of dollars in savings a year for each rescue," says Johnson.

That makes a huge difference for rescues like Ruff Start, says Davis. "Spending less on veterinary care



means we can put more into everything else it takes to save animals."

AHS also shares resources — including donated beds, blankets, and food — with partner organizations.

For Andresen and Feline Rescue, those shared resources include AHS protocols and expertise on topics from shelter medicine to facilities. "That information is invaluable. I believe in not reinventing the wheel — let's start with something that works already and figure out how to tailor it to our environment."

In addition, two AHS veterinarians recently began moonlighting as temporary relief vets for Feline Rescue. "They are giving our own veterinarian the chance to establish protocols," says Andresen. "That, in turn, will help us be more efficient so we can take more cats in need from AHS."

CREATING A BETTER WORLD TOGETHER

The Partner Placement program is part of a larger AHS effort to increase collaboration among Minnesota's animal organizations.

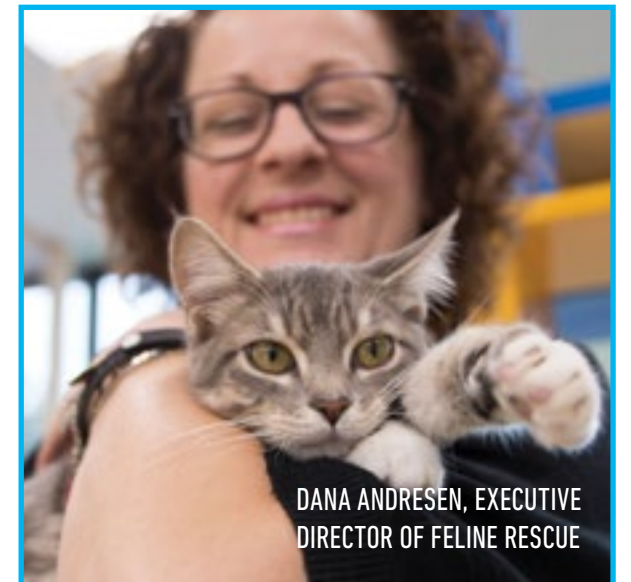
Pet Haven, the state's oldest foster-based rescue, was among the first to partner with AHS. "If we're not engaged and communicating with one another, then we're doing a disservice to the animals," says Sarah Cheesman, Pet Haven's executive director. "It helps to understand where our work overlaps and where we can best support each other."

Andresen appreciates Animal Humane Society's efforts to foster trust and transparency through open communication and behind-the-scenes tours. "There's nothing better than understanding how AHS is being managed and developing relationships with the people who are responsible for making decisions about an animal's future."

These partnerships prove the relationship between AHS and local rescues doesn't have to be contentious.

"Putting judgments and opinions aside, we're all focused on one greater mission — to save as many

FELINE RESCUE STAFF



DANA ANDRESEN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FELINE RESCUE

animals as we possibly can," says Camille Bates of Midwest Animal Rescue and Services. "Ultimately, we'll make a greater impact on the world by working together."

That spirit of collaboration and partnership is worth celebrating, says Johnson. "We're really proud of this program and grateful to our rescue partners for everything we've achieved together so far."

Learn more about our rescue partnerships at animalhumanesociety.org/rescue-partners



Report to the Community

FY18 Annual Report | July 2017 - June 2018

WITH YOUR SUPPORT...

Animal Humane Society continues to advance animal welfare and shape the way animal organizations care for animals and engage their communities.

In fiscal year 2018, we placed more than 95 percent of the animals entrusted to our care. Together we helped 22,296 animals find new homes and served thousands of Minnesota families through free and affordable programs for people and pets.



Adoption and Surrender

AHS helps thousands of dogs, cats, and critters in need find loving homes each year. AHS takes in every animal surrendered regardless of its health, age, breed, or behavior. This commitment to open admission guarantees shelter and care to thousands of animals that would otherwise have no safe refuge.

The success of Animal Humane Society's shelter program is reflected in three key measures: the total number of animals admitted for rehoming, the percentage of animals with live placements (placement rate), and the average length of stay in shelter. AHS continues to achieve strong results across all three metrics.

In the year ended June 30, 2018:

23,634 ANIMALS ARRIVED AT AHS

19,486 ANIMALS ADOPTED

+ **889** ANIMALS REUNITED WITH OWNERS

+ **796** CATS RETURNED TO FIELD

+ **1,125** ANIMALS TRANSFERRED TO PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

22,296 ANIMALS PLACED

95.2%
ANIMALS PLACED

10.1 DAYS

AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY FOR ANIMALS IN SHELTER

Robust medical and behavioral programs contribute to this continued success:

13,446 SPAY/NEUTER SURGERIES

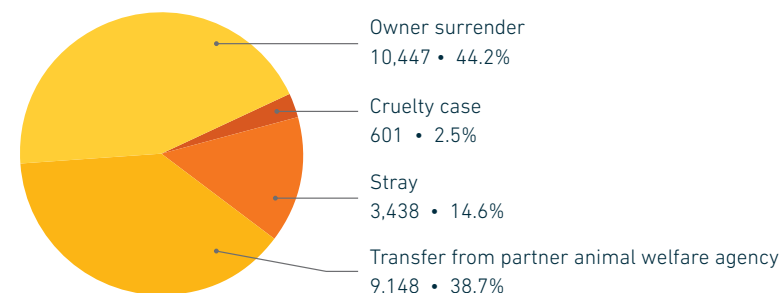
1,129 CATS AND DOGS ENROLLED IN BEHAVIOR PROGRAMS

11,198 STERILIZED FOR PET OWNERS AND OTHER RESCUE GROUPS

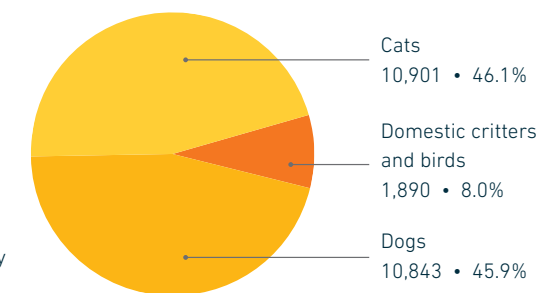
29,511 DIAGNOSED AND TREATED CONDITIONS

COMPANION ANIMAL INTAKE TOTAL: 23,634

Companion animal intake by reason for surrender

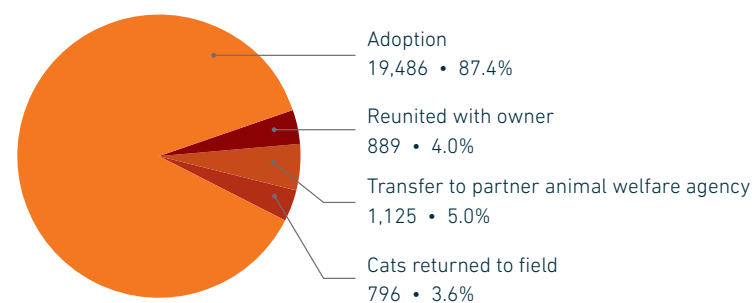


Companion animal intake by species

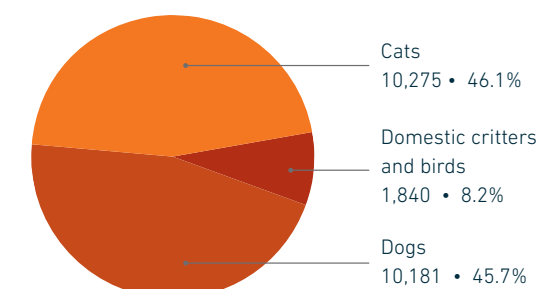


COMPANION ANIMAL PLACEMENT TOTAL: 22,296

Companion animal placement by type

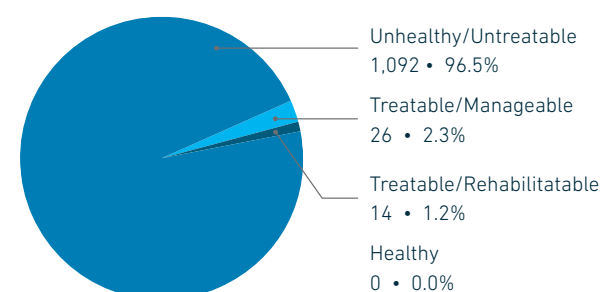


Companion animal placement by species

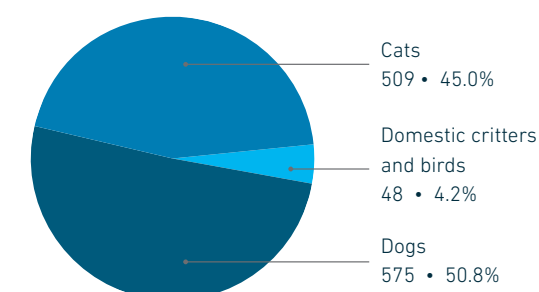


COMPANION ANIMAL EUTHANASIA TOTAL: 1,132

Euthanasia by reason*



Euthanasia by species



*AHS is committed to taking in every animal in need. Unfortunately, some animals come to us with severe or untreatable illnesses or behavior issues that prevent us from placing them in the community. If we cannot help an animal become healthy or suitable for placement, humane euthanasia is the most compassionate alternative. AHS has not euthanized a healthy animal for any reason since 2011. There is no time limit for animals in our adoption centers.

For information about these statistics, please see animalhumanesociety.org/stats.

Community Engagement

Animal Humane Society works with individuals and organizations across Minnesota to create a more humane world for animals.

OUTREACH



Our Community Outreach program aims to increase the overall health and well-being of animals by empowering people who live in under-engaged communities through education and resources.

- 7,755 FAMILIES SUPPORTED IN FROGTOWN AND EAST ST. PAUL
- 1,633 FREE SPAY/NEUTER SURGERIES FOR PETS
- 1,296 PETS SERVED AT FREE WELLNESS CLINICS

EDUCATION

Our education programs foster humane values and compassion for animals through day camps, classroom programs, in-shelter tours, and other activities for kids and families.

- 2,028 STUDENTS IN CLASSROOM PROGRAMS
- 1,236 CAMP PARTICIPANTS
- 6,017 SHELTER AND COMMUNITY PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

9,563

PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

New programs include Paint My Pet, Animal Investigators, and expanded offerings for all ages.

WILDLIFE

141 injured and orphaned wild animals received emergency care through a partnership with the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Minnesota.

COMMUNITY CATS

1,187 cats were served through our Community Cats program which focuses on reducing euthanasia and providing alternative solutions for feral and free-roaming cats through return-to-field and trap-neuter-return programs.

Pet Services

Animal Humane Society offers more than just adoption. Our programs serve all stages of an animal's life.

VETERINARY CENTERS

AHS Veterinary Centers (formerly Kindest Cut) deliver low-cost spay/neuter, wellness, dental, and specialty veterinary services for pets of people in need at Melrose Animal Clinic and 15 Twin Cities mobile clinic locations.

- 11,198 SPAY/NEUTER SURGERIES
- 3,953 WELLNESS EXAMS AND PROCEDURES

TRAINING

We offer more than 100 family-friendly pet training classes each week, along with one-on-one training and socialization sessions, therapy animal courses, playgroups, and rabbit agility classes.



PET HELPLINE

Our free Pet Helpline (952-HELP-PET) provides caring, compassionate advice and resources to help people keep and care for their pets.

- 153,696 INCOMING CALLS

ANIMAL HOUSE PET BOARDING

We provide personalized, peace-of-mind boarding so pets feel at home at Animal House in Golden Valley.

- 3,638 PETS FROM 1,101 FAMILIES

END-OF-LIFE SERVICES

AHS provided compassionate end-of-life services, including owner-requested euthanasia for 2,295 pets and a weekly pet loss support group.

3,953

WELLNESS EXAMS AND PROCEDURES

1,414

PETS TRAINED BY AHS TRAINERS

We offer online resources for pet owners, including a lost and found pet bulletin board and behavior resource library at animalhumanesociety.org.



Humane Investigations

Our humane agents investigate possible animal cruelty or neglect throughout Minnesota.

From reports of individual animals lacking proper food, water, or shelter, to larger cases of aiding law enforcement agencies with on-site investigations and seizures, their work takes them across nearly every inch of the state.



1,494
REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

545
FORMAL CASES

67
COUNTIES ASSISTED

5,753
ANIMALS IMPACTED

Critical Response Team

Our Critical Response Team provides specialized expertise to support humane cases that result in the seizure or surrender of animals. Last year, Animal Humane Society removed 1,032 animals from dangerous or unhealthy conditions.



Partnerships

Animal Humane Society proudly partners with rescue organizations to help even the most challenged animals get a second chance.



Animals that experience high stress in shelter and display fearful behavior at AHS will often flourish with rescue groups that can provide a non-shelter environment.

84 LOCAL RESCUE PARTNERS ASSISTED AHS WITH 1,125 ANIMALS (ABOUT 5 PERCENT OF OUR TOTAL PLACEMENTS)

AHS works with rescue groups from other areas of the country where resources for animals are scarce and adoption rates are low.



9,148 ANIMALS WERE TRANSPORTED TO AHS FROM 83 LOCAL AND NATIONAL RESCUE PARTNERS

Community Support

The support of donors, friends, and advocates makes our work possible.

VOLUNTEERS



2,274
ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS



147,735
VOLUNTEER HOURS



400
FOSTER VOLUNTEERS



2,477
ANIMALS FOSTERED

DONORS

50,601
INDIVIDUAL DONORS

\$7.8 MILLION
IN CONTRIBUTIONS

\$4.5 MILLION
IN BEQUESTS

ONLINE ENGAGEMENT

-  **135,309**
PET DISH SUBSCRIBERS
-  **111,280**
FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS
-  **6,991**
TWITTER FOLLOWERS
-  **19,700**
INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS
-  **9,223**
YOUTUBE SUBSCRIBERS

GET YOUR

ANIMAL HUMANE SOCIETY

Walk FOR Animals

2018



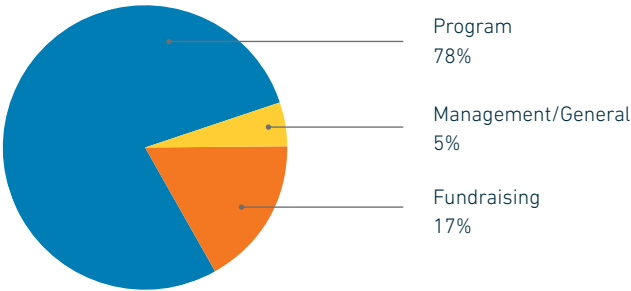
More than 8,500 people and 5,000 pets attended the Walk for Animals on May 5, raising nearly \$1 million to support AHS.



The Minnesota Charities Review Council's Standards of Accountability state that at least 70% of an organization's annual expenses should be for program activity with not more than 30% for management, general, and fundraising expenses combined. Animal Humane Society exceeded this standard by directing 78% of our expenses back into programming for the animals and our community.

Financials

EXPENSES



ANIMAL HUMANE SOCIETY STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the 12 months ended June 30, 2018

SUPPORT AND REVENUES

Adoption fees and program revenue	8,572,392
Contributions	7,878,670
Wills and estates	4,547,033
In-kind contributions	317,385
Special events and promotions	922,605
Investment gain (loss)	253,298
Dividend and interest income	166,836
Other	49,633

TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUES 22,707,852

EXPENSES

Program services:	
Rescue and outreach	3,113,161
Adoption and surrender	12,323,003
Pet services	1,051,655
Supporting services:	
Management and general	1,028,110
Fundraising	3,706,408
Total supporting services	4,734,518

TOTAL EXPENSES 21,222,337

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS 1,485,515



The mission of Animal Humane Society is to engage the hearts, hands, and minds of the community to help animals.

FY18 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Paul Kaminski, *Chair*
- Donna Zimmerman, *Vice Chair*
- Dick Hall, *Secretary*
- Jennifer McNeal, *Treasurer*
- Tom Hoch, *Past Chair*
- Dr. Trevor Ames
- Kaywin Feldman
- Dr. Bianca Fine
- Greg Foster
- Lisa Hannum
- Maureen McDonough
- Stacy Pagano
- Kelly Palmer
- Susan Palombo
- Diana Purcel
- Scott Schroepfer
- Tim Taffe
- E.J. Tso
- Tina Wilcox
- Janelle Dixon, *President & CEO*

LEADERSHIP

- Janelle Dixon, *President & CEO*
- Eileen Lay, *Chief Operating & Financial Officer*
- Lisa Bonds, *Chief Advancement Officer*
- Kathy Mock, *Chief Government Affairs & Community Engagement Officer*

AREA SERVED

Animal Humane Society serves animals and people in the seven-county metro area and beyond from its facilities in Anoka, Hennepin, Ramsey, and Washington counties. The Humane Investigations team serves all of Minnesota.



Connect



Like us on Facebook:

facebook.com/animalhumanesociety



Follow us on Twitter:

twitter.com/animal_humanemn



Follow us on Instagram:

instagram.com/animalhumanemn



**Subscribe to our
YouTube channel:**

youtube.com/animalhumanesociety



Follow us on Tumblr:

animalhumanemn.tumblr.com

Our Services

Adoption

Visit the cats, dogs, rabbits, birds, and small critters available for adoption at our four locations.

animalhumanesociety.org/adoption

Humane investigations

Our humane agents work with law enforcement officers and respond to reports of animal neglect and cruelty each year.

animalhumanesociety.org/investigations

Lost and found pets

Post missing or found pets and view stray animals in our care on our online lost and found bulletin board.

animalhumanesociety.org/lostandfound

Low-cost spay/neuter and wellness

High-quality, low-cost sterilization, dental, specialty surgeries, and wellness services are provided to pets of people in need through our mobile surgical unit and at Melrose Animal Clinic in Golden Valley.

952-435-7738

animalhumanesociety.org/vetcenters

Microchip and nail clinics

Microchip and nail trim clinics are offered monthly at our four locations.

animalhumanesociety.org/microchip

Outreach

AHS offers free or low-cost animal services that empower low-income pet owners and improve the lives of pets in underserved communities.

651-788-4685

animalhumanesociety.org/outreach

Pet boarding

We offer peace of mind pet boarding at Animal House in Golden Valley and at Now Boarding near the Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport.

763-489-2222

animalhumanesociety.org/animalhouse

612-454-4850

nowboardingpets.com

Pet food and supplies

Stock up on all your pet needs — from Purina One® dog and cat food and treats and Tidy Cats® litter, to collars, leashes, toys, and grooming supplies. Available for purchase at all four AHS locations.

Pet Helpline

Our free Pet Helpline at 952-HELP-PET will connect you to caring, compassionate advice and resources for whatever animal issues you may be experiencing.

952-HELP-PET (952-435-7738)

animalhumanesociety.org/pethelp

Pet loss

Humane euthanasia and cremation services are available to the public, and a pet loss support group is offered on Monday evenings in Golden Valley.

animalhumanesociety.org/lossofpet

Pet training

We offer more than 100 classes a week in Coon Rapids, Golden Valley, Woodbury, and at Now Boarding in South Minneapolis.

763-489-2217

animalhumanesociety.org/training

Surrender

Companion animals may be surrendered by appointment at any of our four open admission locations. We provide a safe refuge for thousands of animals each year and no animal is ever turned away. Appointments required.

952-HELP-PET (952-435-7738)

animalhumanesociety.org/surrender

Tours

Tours of our facilities are available by appointment. Maximum group size varies by location.

763-489-2220

animalhumanesociety.org/tours

Youth programs

We offer fun, educational experiences for kids who love animals, including camps, scout programs, story hours, and more.

763-489-2220

animalhumanesociety.org/youth

Ways to Give

Donate

AHS relies on the generosity of individuals like you to care for thousands of animals every year. Your donation helps provide food, shelter, medical care, and most importantly, the love animals deserve while they await happy new homes.

animalhumanesociety.org/donate

Become a Sustainer

By making an ongoing monthly gift, you're providing a reliable source of funding that enables AHS to help animals all year long. Sustaining gifts are an easy and convenient way to make a big impact every month.

animalhumanesociety.org/sustainer

Match your gift

Many companies match their employees' charitable donations. Double your contribution through a matching gift from your employer.

animalhumanesociety.org/matchinggift

Make a memorial or tribute gift

Remember or honor a loved one or pet with a memorial or tribute donation.

animalhumanesociety.org/donate

Leave a legacy

Make a lasting impact on animals by including AHS in your will or estate plan.

animalhumanesociety.org/legacy

Contribute to our wish list

With more than 23,000 animals to care for every year, AHS needs a substantial amount of supplies. You can donate needed items any time.

animalhumanesociety.org/wishlist

Donate a vehicle

Donate your car to care for animals in need. Your vehicle will be towed free of charge and you'll be eligible for a tax deduction.

animalhumanesociety.org/vehicle

Volunteer

Help make the world a more humane place for animals by volunteering with AHS. From walking dogs to assisting with adoptions, volunteers are integral to the work that happens every day at AHS.

animalhumanesociety.org/volunteer

Foster

From the comfort of their own homes, our foster volunteers provide essential care for animals that aren't yet ready for adoption.

animalhumanesociety.org/foster

Contact Us

952-HELP-PET (952-435-7738)

info@animalhumanesociety.org
animalhumanesociety.org

Locations

Coon Rapids

1411 Main St. N.W. • Coon Rapids, MN 55448
763-862-4030

Golden Valley

845 Meadow Lane N. • Golden Valley, MN 55422
763-489-2201

St. Paul

1115 Beulah Lane • St. Paul, MN 55108
651-645-7387

Woodbury

9785 Hudson Road • Woodbury, MN 55125
651-730-6008

Now Boarding

6002 28th Ave. S. • Minneapolis, MN 55450
612-454-4850

Hours

Adoption Centers

Monday through Friday 12 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Pet Helpline

952-HELP-PET (952-435-7738)

Monday through Friday 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Saturday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Incoming Animals

Please call 952-435-7738 to make an appointment to surrender an animal.

Appointments are available:

Monday through Friday 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.



animal humane society

845 Meadow Lane North
Golden Valley, MN 55422

animalhumanesociety.org

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage

PAID

Twin Cities, MN
Permit No. 3866

If you are moving or have received duplicate copies of this magazine, please call 763-489-2210 or email donorservices@animalhumanesociety.org.

 **PURINA**®

From food to litter, we're proud
to support the pets of
Animal Humane Society.



animal humane society

Purina trademarks are owned by Société des Produits Nestlé S.A.
Any other marks are property of their respective owners. Printed in USA.