

# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT



# A MINDSET OF HOPE

COVID's impact on animal welfare seems to have been the opposite of the rest of the world. In 2020, while businesses shut their doors and people worked from home, anxiety hit all time highs. Meanwhile, the animal sheltering world experienced record adoption numbers. While we also experienced unprecedented challenges, we had that one shining light in an otherwise dark year: more animals found homes than ever before.

In 2021, there was hope that life would go back to normal. COVID vaccines arrived and people emerged from their homes to get back to the lives they knew before the pandemic hit. In animal welfare, we were actually fearful. We worried that many of those pets adopted in 2020 would be returned to us as businesses and people resumed their normal routine.

We did experience an incredible influx of animals in need, but the great news is that they weren't those adopted the previous year. Our fears of returned adoptions did not come to pass, which gave us great hope that things were getting better. And while the number of animals in need rose greatly in 2021 due to the increased homeless pet population, Hinsdale Humane Society also saw an increase in the total number of animals being adopted from 2020 to 2021. This wasn't just a glimmer of hope, but it was a light at the end of the tunnel. Life was moving back towards normalcy.

We learned a lot in 2021. We thought the pandemic would leave us as quickly as it appeared. New variants created starts and stops, but what we've been left with is hope. We aren't entering 2022 wondering if things will be okay. We have hope because we've seen that our community of staff, volunteers and supporters can overcome anything thrown at us and we know we'll be able to help even more animals in the year ahead.

Thank you to each and every one of you for your support in helping us fulfill our mission year after year.

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**Tom Van Winkle** CEO, *Hinsdale Humane Society* 

### MISSION

The Tuthill Family Pet Rescue & Resource Center operated by Hinsdale Humane Society is a nonprofit animal shelter providing innovative care and adoption services for all animals, including those that are harder to place. We educate, advocate and adopt out pets, acting as a voice for animals who depend on people for their care. We nurture the human-animal bond through community outreach and progressive programming, to help ensure the compassionate treatment of all animals.



## YEAR THREE

In 2021 we experienced a year of setbacks and subsequent successes. We saw our industry take a few steps forward and then backward.

The adoption boom of 2020 helped pet overpopulation dwindle and allowed us to move a step forward so we could focus on the important work of access to care and helping underserved communities and animals.

Then 2021 set us back with an increase in pet overpopulation due to lack of spay and neuters and a rise in abandonment. We even saw an increase in stray purebred dogs!

Euthanasia lists have been filling up across the country with animals who are the victims of this ebb and flow. Many facilities do not have space or resources because of the influx of animals in need.

Thankfully we were able to help more animals than ever over the past year. 1592 animals found their way into homes through our doors. The goals for 2022 are even higher and we're confident we'll achieve them.

The support we receive makes a difference in every part of our organization and in surrounding communities. From saving more lives and building forever families, to providing vital services like lowcost pet care clinics, helping other facilities with their spay and neuter surgeries and participating in weekly pet food drives with area food pantries, we're here not only for the animals but for people who need help. It is the heart and soul of our work.

We're sure we'll see more challenges in the year ahead, but what the past two years have shown us is that we can do anything with the village of support we have holding us up. The dedication and generosity of donors, sponsors and friends, keeps us moving forward.

One of our long term staff members put it best: "If we can continue to educate the public on altering animals, proper care and training, puppy mills, feral cat colonies, etc., the future will be bright. There will be fewer homeless animals crowding shelters. But I don't think we'll ever go out of business! There will always be a need for training, education and low cost medical care." -Kathy Daly, Receptionist.

Thanks to all of you, we'll be here, continuing to provide the resources needed to help people and their pets live their healthiest, happiest and best lives.





**244** lost animals returned home



# PARTNERSHIPS & WAYS TO GIVE

There are so many ways to help impact the lives of animals in need and provide vital services to our communities. With contributions from our supporters, we are able to:

- Improve public safety and health conditions, as our Animal Care and Medical teams help thousands of homeless animals that might otherwise roam the streets.
- Provide financial relief to local families in need through Community Programs such as our Millstein Vaccination Program low cost pet care clinics, pet food banks, camperships, and dog training scholarships.
- Respond in a timely, urgent manner to animals with emergency medical needs through our Zach Leathers Emergency Medical Fund.
- Teach both children and adults to respect, protect, and understand the animals that share our world. Our Humane Education Program focuses on

IMPACT

### **HUMANE HEROES**

Our monthly membership program provides sustainable income to help save animals and provide programming year-round. It helps make possible stories like Marquis and Tisu, two special needs Pekingese who found themselves at an Indiana shelter after their owner went to hospice care. They made such an odd couple, tiny Tisu and the muppet Marquis, both missing their left eyes. After they were cleared medically, they hit the adoption floor and never looked back. Tisu was adopted first to a couple who spoil him rotten. Marquis was next and now has a new mom that dotes on him daily. Our Humane Heroes help make these stories possible.

### ZACH LEATHERS EMERGENCY MEDICAL FUND

The memory of Zachary Leathers carries on through the mission of the fund established in his name: vital care for special needs animals allowing them to live full and happy lives. The fund launched last summer View of the second seco



animal welfare and safety, encouraging compassion through numerous initiatives such as summer camps, and through volunteer opportunities, like our Compassionate Kids Corps.

- Enhance the well-being of hundreds of children, seniors, patients and healthcare workers through our Therapaws Pet Therapy Program. We visit libraries, eldercare communities and local hospitals, healthcare facilities, hospice patients, and now we can even do virtual visits.
- Nurture the human animal bond and provide ongoing support — moral, financial, and educational — to our military veterans and active duty servicemen and women and military families through the BJ Chimenti Angel Fund for Veterans and Pets Program.



and eight animals have already benefited from Zach's life-saving fund. One of them was Logan. He suffered from a case of parvo and it left his immune system severely compromised, leading him to catch an upper respiratory infection. Logan needed to spend two days at the emergency vet where he had to be put in isolation and receive fluids to help his tiny body bounce back. Fortunately, Logan is a fighter and was able to recover and go home to his new, loving family. In 2021, Zach's Fund saved eight animals and covered over \$18,000 in emergency medical costs.

### **MATCH ME UP CAT CAMPAIGN**

The annual "Match Me Up" Campaign for cat adoptions focuses on finding homes through waived fees and specialized promotion for "harder to adopt" cats. The campaign raised \$4,666 and facilitated adoptions for 39 cats, including seniors, FIV cats, bonded pairs, medical cases, long term residents, and cats that need special homes - cats like Danny. Danny is a sweet and loving boy living with Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV). FIV cats often live long, healthy, and relatively normal lives with no symptoms at all. He was adopted out through this campaign and is now living happily ever after with his canine sister.

### LOVE AN UNDERDOG CAMPAIGN

The Love an Underdog Campaign helps "harder to adopt" dogs find their forever homes by providing dedicated training for adopters to help make the transition from shelter to home as seamless as possible. Flyer came from Texas, was adopted out quickly, but was returned to us for behavior issues. Our Training & Enrichment Manager, Jamie, wrote up a behavioral plan for staff to follow when working with Flyer. He was added to our Love an Underdog Campaign and his future adopters will receive six free one-on-one training sessions. In the meantime, he is in foster care, being trained in his temporary home until a forever family comes for him. Campaigns like this make all the difference in the lives of pets like Flyer.

### **HEIDI GEBAUER MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING**

This annual summer memorial fundraiser carries forward Heidi Gebauer's love, respect and care for animals in need. Heidi visited Hinsdale Humane Society often and encouraged her family to adopt, become vegetarian and be conscious of their use of plastic bags, bottles and straws that negatively impact the environment. We are so grateful to the Gebauer family and Gebauer Tile & Stone for this passionate gesture and for the care, time and love they put into all of it.

### **MEMORIAL GIFTS AND TRIBUTES**

Gifts in honor or memory of a beloved person or pet, or special event or organization may be made to support our work. Alternatively, fixed price small or large bricks are available to purchase for engraving and installation in our Carla E. Fisher Memorial Garden. Recently, we were shocked to learn of the passing of one of our Therapaws Pet Therapy program volunteers, Terri Czizik. She and her beloved HHS alumni dog, Teddy, visited eldercare facilities. Even though Teddy was blind, he'd enter a building like he owned the place, bringing smiles to the residents. We were humbled by the outpouring of gifts made to us in Terri's memory.

### **CAMPERSHIPS**

We are committed to providing an affordable camp experience for a diverse community of young people in our communities. Camperships are developed to help provide meaningful camp experiences for kids who, because of financial challenges, may not otherwise be able to attend one of the camps. This past summer, 12 camperships totalling \$1,800, fully funded our All Abilities camp which was designed for children with developmental and cognitive disabilities.

### **PARTNERSHIPS**

Partnerships are critical in supporting our mission. These relationships support our work in many ways, including financial support with sponsorships or community fundraisers, supply drives, and cross promotion where we reinforce each other's programs and services for the communities we serve.

Following are just a few of these valued partnerships from 2021:

#### **DUPAGE FOUNDATION**

We recognize that it is more cost effective, humane, and efficient to keep dogs and cats in their homes, rather than having them cycled through the shelter system. We will continue to rescue hundreds of dogs and cats from the shelter system every year, and find them new homes. But, this is only half the battle. Partnering with the DuPage Foundation, allows us to provide vital services to families such as spay/neuter vouchers, vaccinations, microchipping, as well as flea and tick medication, leashes, collars, food and other supplies to families in need.

### WINTRUST (HINSDALE BANK & TRUST)

Our long-time partnership with Wintrust (Hinsdale Bank & Trust) has recently grown to include major event sponsorships, including for our virtual fundraiser, Unleashed. In addition to sponsoring events, they are a valued partner in community events and educational and promotional activities.

#### **HINSDALE NURSERIES**

From installing a sprinkler system to donating large planters and trees, to event decor and lawn clean-up, we are so fortunate to have the support of Hinsdale Nurseries. Their continual generosity and care for our mission is so very much appreciated.

### **STATE FARM - TINA TZINARES**

Tina took over as a local agent in Hinsdale in 2018, became one of our Grand Opening sponsors, and has been supporting our organization ever since—at Christmas with Photos with Santa Paws and during the summer at Dog Spa Day and Goat Yoga. And, she is one of our adopters, giving a forever home to one very adorable pup, Princess Butterball.

### **BURR RIDGE VETERINARY CLINIC**

Burr Ridge Veterinary Clinic is a valued Training and Enrichment Program sponsor. This partnership not only ensures animals who stay with us are happy, active and fulfilled, but also helps ease the transition from shelter life to their forever homes and allows us to take in dogs that need specialized training.

### **SAVWAY FINE WINES & SPIRITS**

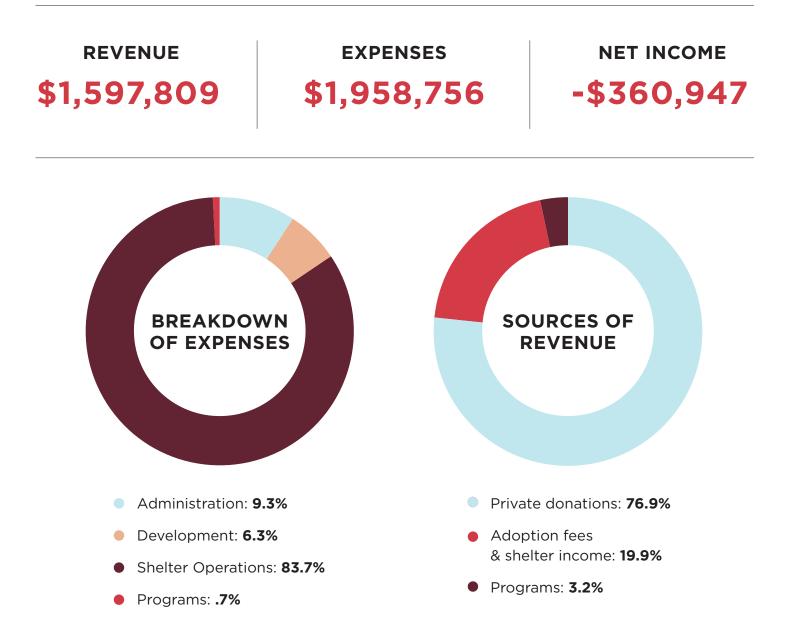
A family owned business for three generations, co-owner Mary Claire Malloy is a passionate animal advocate. She is also a consistent sponsor of our events, providing financial support from her business as well as encouraging her suppliers to donate for our events.



Pictured: Bella



### 2021 FINANCIALS FISCAL YEAR JANUARY 1, 2021 - DECEMBER 31, 2021





### A YEAR IN OUR Medical clinic

### **STRONGER TOGETHER**

The Irving & Phyllis Millstein Medical Suite in our building provided thousands of spay/neuter, special needs surgeries and basic pet care services to our animals, other rescue groups and to the public.

In 2021, the animal welfare industry was left reeling from lack of access to veterinary care. Because we are all stronger together, our medical team jumped in to help other groups in desperate need of spay/neuter surgeries for their homeless pet populations. The numbers show we were able to make a big dent in curbing the homeless pet population.

Not noted in the tally of this year's record numbers, are the numerous special procedures that our animals needed, from eye surgeries to mass removals, all conducted with care and skill by our medical team.

Our Millstein Vaccination Program (MVP) continued to provide low-cost pet care services to assist all pet owners in getting the basic care they need for their pets to remain healthy and happy.

Predictions for 2022 indicate even more animals who will need our help. But we're confident our clinic will be able to make an even bigger impact both in our near-in communities and beyond.



### 2021 HHS CLINIC STATISTICS



### SPAY/NEUTER SURGERIES COMPLETED:







55 Total spay/neuter surgeries for public clients (not including TNR)



Total HHS shelter resident spay/neut surgeries



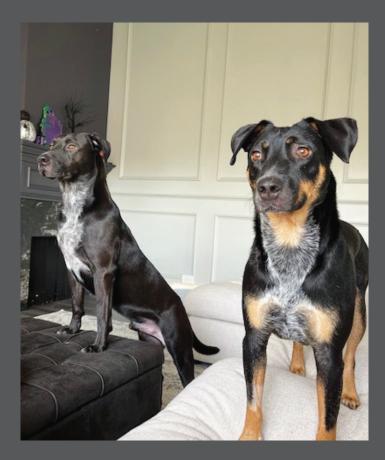
### ANIMALRESCUE

### **FELEX & FIFFY**

This bonded pair covered all the bases of why we do what we do. Felex & Fiffy were a bonded pair who came to us from Alabama. Fiffy was heartworm positive, was a mama dog who was left behind when her puppies were adopted, and she was very shy. Felex was dad to the puppies that were adopted and he was left behind as well, and was also incredibly shy.

They both represented everything we stand for and why we help the underdogs and the ones who get left behind.

We treated Fiffy and she was cleared of her heartworm positive status. It still took almost six months to get them home, but once we did, it was well worth the wait. Their adoptive family sends us updates and they're doing beautifully. They are still shy, but love their family more than anything.





### DASH

Dash was a special case. She had multiple medical issues and required a feeding tube for a while. But she was always a trooper and always ready for a warm lap and some snuggles with everyone around her in the shelter.

The care and determination our staff took in treating her showed the true spirit and passion of the entire team. They would sit on the floor with her and make sure she got enough to eat through her feeding tube, even when there were more than a hundred other animals also in need of care.

In return for all the help she received, once she was feeling better, she strolled around the offices and lifted everyone's spirits with her personality. Dash ended up finding her forever home with one of our staff members, making her story that much sweeter.

# **PROGRAMS & SERVICES**

### **HUMANE EDUCATION**

Our Humane Education Program focuses on building empathy skills, and teaches children and adults how to respect, protect, and understand the animals that share our world.

- Summer camps included:
  - » Ten weeks of camps with 16 campers each for a total of 160 attendees (reduced number because of COVID protocols).
  - » Our first All Abilities Animal Friends Camp for children with developmental and cognitive disabilities. Activities encouraged them to get active, express their creativity, and share their emotions. The camp was free to attendees because of the generosity of our communities. We received 12 camperships for \$1,800 to cover operational expenses.
- The Compassionate Kids Corps nurtured young volunteers by teaching them about animal welfare, rescue and care, while showing them how to fulfill real needs within our facility.
- Books Barks Meow provided children a direct way to help our dogs and cats through enrichment, while boosting reading abilities and confidence.
- Our Jr. Board hosted four events that raised funds, including:
  - » Valentine's Day Cookie Sale
  - » Summer Family Movie Night

» Jingle Ball

» Fright Fest Haunted Hallway and Movie Night

### THERAPAWS PET THERAPY

Our Therapaws Pet Therapy programs strengthen the human-animal bond and bring the healing power of pets to those needing mental, physical, emotional or educational support. Like 2020, this past year brought a new wave of Mental Health visits as well. Following are some of the services we provided:

- Support for caregivers at AMITA and RML hospitals in the western suburbs through outdoor visits, providing much-needed breaks to overworked staff.
- In September 2021, we hosted our first in-person visits in 14 months. Our friends in elder care facilities were very happy to see us!
- Young readers from six local library districts continued to improve their skills by reading to our therapy dogs through the "Virtual Read to the Pets" program.
- Therapaws pets supported the Humane Education Summer Camps, including our new All Abilities Camps.
- Mental health visits helped to combat continued pandemic stress for many humans in our communities.

### **TRAINING & ENRICHMENT PROGRAM**

Our Training and Enrichment Program focused on both positive reinforcement classes for pet families and behavioral work for our shelter animals, crucial to keeping those pets mentally healthy while living with us.







#### We also:

- Grew our program with two new trainers and the return of in-person classes.
- Provided adopters with free training sessions for our harder to adopt dogs.
- Implemented Training Tip Thursdays to share helpful ideas every week.
- Created a "Stress-free Vet Visit" video with Burr Ridge Veterinary.

### **COMMUNITY PROGRAMS**

Giving back to the communities that support us is ingrained in our mission as an organization. In the last quarter of 2021, we launched our Community Programs, designed to support those in need with services, supplies and programs. Here are some of the initiatives we launched:

- Pet Food Pantries In partnership with HCS Family Services, we provided pet food & care items to populate their pantry for those in need. We plan to grow our Pantry to help more people directly from our facility.
- We hosted our first annual blood drive with the American Red Cross, generating 24 first time donors and providing enough blood to help 93 people. There will be two drives in 2022 at our facility.
- The Irving & Phyllis Millstein Foundation for Animal Welfare's Millstein Vaccination Program (MVP) provides low-cost pet care services to assist pet owners in getting the basic care they need for their pets to remain healthy and happy.
- The BJ Chimenti Angel Fund for Veterans and Pets was launched in the last quarter of the year, to honor her legacy and selfless spirit by supporting military veterans, active duty servicemen and women and military families with the healing powers of the human-animal bond.

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**President** Dave Garland

Vice President Jay Schaldecker

**Secretary** Mark Schlosser

**Treasurer** JoAnn McGuinness

#### Members

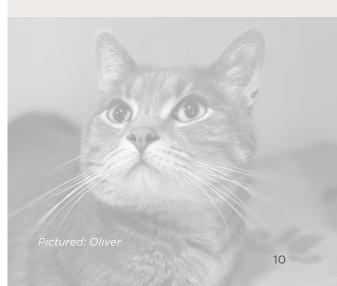
Robby Bartholomai, Brian Davis, Barbara Hollis, Jill Marquardt, Tina Martinez, Laurie McMahon, Alison Muehrcke, Andrew Schmidt



Hinsdale Humane Society is a Platinum level organization on Guidestar, one of the world's largest sources of information on nonprofits.



This annual report is printed on recycled paper.





### THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

THE TUTHILL FAMILY PET RESCUE & RESOURCE CENTER Operated by Hinsdale Humane Society 21 Salt Creek Lane | Hinsdale, IL 60521