

### HINSDALE HUMANE Society



### A YEAR OF HEALING, HOPE, & HAPPINESS

Just as we were coming out of the COVID crisis, we launched right into the animal welfare crisis, a pandemic in its own right that has affected the entire population of rescues. Look at any animal shelter social media feed and you'll see evidence of how pervasive this crisis has been.

Because spay/neuter surgeries were considered non-essential during COVID, it is projected that 3 million surgeries did not occur, resulting in countless litters and pets flooding the system nationwide.

But with every bit of heartache, there is hope, if you look for it. Take the record numbers of discarded, abused, and stray, unclaimed pets coming through our doors. Yes, that's sad, but we also adopted nearly 300 more animals than we did last year!

With every call we took from concerned households that had found a stray mama cat and her litter of kittens, we found heroes who took the time to learn from us how to trap them safely and care for them so the mama was not separated from her babies too soon. As a result, we have 122 new amazing foster families in our system, helping to manage the pet population explosion.

The veterinarian shortage has also had animal welfare reeling, with shelters desperate to have their pets spayed and neutered. Our incredible Dr. Kristin Tvrdik was there on the front lines with her medical team and performed a record-breaking 3002 spay/neuter surgeries: 1693 surgeries for other rescue groups, 1258 for our own animals and 70 for clients who needed help.

This annual report will tell more about the year of crisis we've just come through and the healing we've done to get to the other side in a place of hope and happiness.

While the battle against pet overpopulation and homelessness wages on, we're happy that we can be here to fight against it, thanks to the generosity of the businesses, donors, adopters, and friends like you, who support our work and mission every day.

#### **MISSION:**

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.





With sincere gratitude,



Jacki Rossi Executive Director, Hinsdale Humane Society







The Villages we serve include: Brookfield, Burr Ridge, Clarendon Hills, Hinsdale, Indian Head Park, LaGrange, La Grange Park, Oak Brook, Western Springs, Westmont, Willow Springs, and Willowbrook.

In a year that ended with us having to reach out with an S.O.S. cry for financial help, we have experienced our share of highs and lows.

After moving into our new building at the end of 2018, we were operating here for only 16 months when we had to close down due to the pandemic. Because our doors had to be closed, we held appointment-only adoptions, had no visitors, and almost no events for most of 2020 and 2021.

During COVID, spay/neuters were not considered essential, resulting in litters of puppies and kittens and giving rise to the animal welfare crisis. Expenses for shelters everywhere have gone up due to taking in more animals and to inflation. For HHS, donations had also decreased.

With more animals in the system than ever before, we took them into our offices, had them in our adoption rooms and utilized every foster home possible to get more of them to safety with us.

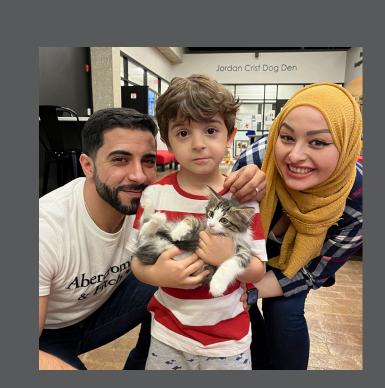
2022 hit us hard as we returned to "normal" and worked at reconnecting with our supporters. That's when we reached out with a Save Our Shelter S.O.S. campaign. We needed the community to continue to support us so we could continue to help animals at the rapidly increasing rate we were receiving them.

We are constantly battling the assumption that, because we are in a wealthy zip code, we must have a lot of money. Our bigger building further feeds into this perception. Additionally, the location of our building is "out of sight, out of mind," posing even more challenges.

We are no different than others in crisis and found ourselves in a position in which we had to reach out and ask for help. When we did, many donors told us they were surprised to hear we were struggling. And then they asked how they could help. The outpouring of support was so touching and made all the difference to the future of HHS.

Because adoption fees don't come close to covering the costs of caring for the animals, we have been working diligently to build up our programming revenue and our medical revenue by supporting other rescue groups with low-cost spay/neuters. With the funding that came in through the S.O.S. campaign, we have now begun to build a bridge to the future as we continue to grow revenue in other areas of our organization. The dozen communities we support were there for us, helping in so many ways. There were donors who adopted from us 40 years ago, recent adopters, small and large businesses rallying with support and fundraising and supply drives, and even children coming in with piggy banks to help. It has been incredibly heartwarming to see how the communities have responded.

Thanks to all of you, we'll be here to celebrate our 70th anniversary and to continue providing the resources needed to help people and their pets live their healthiest, happiest and best lives.



# 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 generous supporters, we are able to:

- Improve public safety and health conditions, as our Animal Care and Medical Team helps thousands of homeless animals that might otherwise roam the streets.
- Provide financial relief to local families in need through our Community Resources such as our affordable pet care clinics, pet food banks and camperships.
- 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 animal welfare and safety, encouraging compassion through numerous initiatives such as summer camps, and volunteer opportunities, like our Compassionate Kids Corps, Animal Advocates Club and more.

- Enhance the well-being of hundreds of children, seniors, patients and healthcare workers through our Therapaws Pet Therapy Program in libraries, eldercare communities, and local hospitals, healthcare facilities and with hospice patients, and now, even virtually.
- 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.

# 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 Kevin Bacon who was found in Southern Illinois, dumped from his owner's car. He ran as fast as he could to catch up as his family sped away, but when he couldn't run anymore, he walked back to the spot he was pushed out and laid in the road to wait. Officers brought him to safety and found he was skin and bones with possible mange. He came to HHS where he was adopted quickly into a new, loving home.

#### 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 in the summer of 2020. One of many pets receiving lifesaving treatment from the fund was Gregory. The Shepherd puppy came to HHS with "hypospadias," a birth defect in males in which the urethra forms abnormally and in the wrong spot, making urination challenging. The tricky surgical procedure was administered at the VCA Aurora clinic thanks to Zach's fund. Now Gregory is healed and living his best life in his forever home. In 2022, 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 \$4,666.00 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 Mossy. After living outside for the first 7 years of his life, he came to us with injuries from fighting and we found he is FIV+. His injuries were treated, his FIV+ is under control, he is ready to find his forever home and thanks to funding from the Match Me Up campaign, his adoption fee has been waived.

#### 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 quickly, but then 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 when his forever family finally found him, they received six, free one-on-one training sessions. These training sessions helped Flyer to be the best boy that he could be. Campaigns like this make all the difference in the lives of pets like Flyer.

#### **COMMEMORATIVE GIFTS**

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, personalized bricks are available to purchase for engraving and installation in our Carla E. Fisher Memorial Garden. Tributes in the garden become a permanent part of history.

#### **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 \$1800, fully funded our All Abilities Camp, 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 in which we reinforce each other's programs and services for the communities we serve.

A few of these valued partnerships from 2022:

#### **DUPAGE FOUNDATION**

We recognize it's more cost effective, humane, and efficient to keep pets in their homes, rather than them being cycled through the shelter system. We will continue to rescue thousands of dogs and cats each year, from the shelter system to find them new homes, but this is only half the battle. Partnering with DuPage Foundation allows us to provide vital medical services to our shelter animals as well as families in need through spay/neuter vouchers, vaccinations, microchipping, leashes, collars, food and other supplies. Our thanks to DuPage Foundation for making a difference with nonprofits like us.

#### **AUTOBARN SUBARU OF COUNTRYSIDE**

Our friends at Autobarn Subaru of Countryside have been there for us helping support our mission for years, through their Subaru Loves Pets promotions that provide us with financial support to help with adoption, rescue, transport and healthcare for animals in need. It's good to have friends in the community like Subaru.

#### **HINSDALE NURSERIES**

From installing a sprinkler system to donating large planters and trees, to event decor and landscape clean-up, we are so fortunate to have the support of Hinsdale Nurseries. Their continual generosity, loyalty and care for our mission are so very much appreciated and allows us to put our best foot forward to the adopters, volunteers, sponsors, donors and guests who visit our facility each day.

#### **GEBAUER TILE & STONE**

Each year the Gebauer family hosts a memorial golf fundraiser that carries forward Heidi Gebauer's love, respect and care for animals in need. Heidi visited HHS 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 friends who so generously donate to us in Heidi's name each year.



### A YEAR IN OUR MEDICAL CLINIC



#### **STRONGER TOGETHER**

The Irving & Phyllis Millstein Medical Suite in our building allowed our medical team to perform 3002 spay/neuter surgeries, and many special needs surgeries and basic pet care services for our animals, other rescue groups, and for the public.

In 2022, 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.

The outlook for 2023 is even more animals in need. But we're confident our clinic will be able to make an even bigger impact both in our near-in communities and beyond.





# **PROGRAMS & SERVICES**

#### **HUMANE EDUCATION**

Our Humane Education Program served 4,600 children in 2022 and teaches children and adults how to respect, protect, and understand the animals that share our world through camps and other program initiatives.

- Ten weeks of summer camps with 24 campers each for a total of 240 attendees.
- New winter day camps with 173 children of different ages attended, all eager to learn about animal welfare during their holiday break.
- Our All Abilities Camp for children with developmental and cognitive disabilities. The camp was free to attendees because of the generosity of our communities. We received 16 camperships for \$2,450 to cover operational expenses.
- Animal Advocate Academy, a membership program for our youth that gives them access to compassionate kids corps, animal advocates club and other perks.
- Books, Barks, Meow provided children a direct way to help our dogs and cats through enrichment, while boosting literary skills and confidence.
- Our Junior Board hosted multiple successful events that raised over \$3900.

#### **THERAPAWS PET THERAPY**

Our Therapaws Pet Therapy Program strengthens the humananimal bond and brings the healing power of pets to those needing mental, physical, emotional or educational support. In 2022 we more than doubled the number of Pet Therapy teams in our program, from 30 to 66. Following are some of the services we provided in 2022:

- Young readers from ten local library districts continued to improve their skills by reading to our therapy dogs through the READ program.
- Therapaws pets supported the Humane Education Summer Camps, including our All Abilities Camps.
- Mental health visits to support four local police and fire departments and monthly visits to Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans.

#### **TRAINING & ENRICHMENT PROGRAM**

- Our Training & 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. During 2022, we also:
- Grew our program with the return of in-person classes and 214 one-on-one training sessions were booked.
- Provided adopters with free training sessions for our harder to adopt dogs through our Underdog Campaign.
- Implemented Training Tip Thursdays on our social media to share helpful ideas every week.
- Nearly doubled the revenue in 2022 from our Training Program.







#### **COMMUNITY RESOURCES**

Being there to give back to the communities that support us is ingrained in our mission as an organization. Here are just some of the initiatives for our Community Resources Program during 2022:

- Pet Food Pantries In partnership with HCS Family Services, we provided pet food & care items to populate their pantry for those in need. We served 1400 dogs and cats through our pantries.
- We hosted multiple blood drives with the American Red Cross, generating 25 first time donors and providing enough blood to help more than 112 people.
- We held 4 free rabies and microchip clinics through our partnership with Cook County Animal Control and served 636 animals.

#### **FOSTER PROGRAM**

Our Foster Program opens up space in our shelter to save more lives and provides special-needs animals with an atmosphere where they can thrive, both physically and mentally away from the stress of the shelter environment. In 2022, our foster program grew rapidly to meet the needs of the influx of animals at HHS.

- Over 800 animals were placed in foster homes.
- More than 300 foster families stepped up to foster animals, including puppies, kittens, medical cases and critters.
- We grew our recruitment strategies to onboard more fosters.

#### **VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**

Our Volunteer Program is the backbone of our shelter. Hundreds of volunteers are embedded with our staff in activities such as dog walking and enrichment, cat socializing, kennel cleaning, laundry, greeting visitors at our front desk, special events, foster families and more. In 2022, volunteer program highlights include:

- Over 5,000 hours of service.
- 320 new adult and more than 100 new youth volunteers.

#### **BJ CHIMENTI ANGEL FUND FOR VETERANS AND PETS PROGRAM**

The mission of the BJ Chimenti Angel Fund for Veterans and Pets Program is to nurture the healing powers of the human-animal bond and provide ongoing support to our Veterans and military families. In addition to companion animal matchups, the program provides pet therapy sessions for Veterans and military families, emergency medical pet care support, food pantry support and Veteran volunteer opportunities. During 2022, the first year of the program, we:

- Established important partnerships with the Chicagoland Veterans Association, Wounded Warrior Project, and the Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans.
- Ended the year with a successful companion match up with Jimmy, a Veteran & Phoebe Boofay, a pitbull mix.



# ANIMALRESCUE

#### ED

Ed came from Chicago Animal Care & Control and his video was heartbreaking. He was dragging his back legs on the floor, but had such a fighting spirit. We knew we could help him get through this, and with the okay of our veterinarian, Dr. Kristin, we took him in.

After his medical evaluation, Dr. Kristin put him on medication and he went into foster care with one of our staff members. She reported that he in no way seemed concerned that he could not use his back legs. He was a happy and loving cat.

After a few days on medication and with extra love from his foster family, Ed was climbing a cat tree and walking with all four legs! While he started off wobbly, he got better and better.

He went up for adoption and a very special, long-time volunteer fell in love with him. We were so grateful he would be in good hands.









#### LENNY & CLARICI

The story of Lenny and Clarice touched all of us and highlights the importance of our medical and training teams. This mama, who came to us heartworm positive with her baby, had a rough go and were a very closely bonded pair.

They were adopted in 2021, but returned through no fault of their own. Thankfully, they were adopted again in the Fall of 2022 and their new family is in love. Our trainer has helped get the pair settled in their new home where they can now be spotted in holiday sweaters, living their best lives ever.





### 2022 Financials

FISCAL YEAR: JANUARY I, 2022 - DECEMBER 31, 2022

### \$2,145,403

**BREAKDOWN** 

**OF EXPENSES** 

Fundraising & Donations: 25.39%

- Shelter Operations, Animal Care & Programs and Corporate: 51.98%
- Administration: 22.63%

### \$2,517,915

SOURCES OF REVENUE

- Fundraising, Donations, & Programatic Revenue: 86%
- Adoptions & Other Animal-Related: 14%

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President Dave Garland

Vice President Jay Schaldecker

Secretary Mark Schlosser

Treasurer JoAnn McGuinness

Members

Robby Bartholomai, Brian Davis, Barbara Hollis, Tina Martinez, Laurie McMahon, Alison Muehrcke, Andrew Schmidt, Gail Tavill



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

### NET OPERATING INCOME \$372,512



### THANK YOU For your Support



