

Dane County Humane Society's

# family tails

Spring 2021 • Issue 13

100<sup>YRS</sup>

Celebrating  
100 years!

Building Trust  
with Pets for Life

Owl Rescue  
Inspires Young Artist

Creating a Legacy

New  
Beginnings





## Pam McCloud Smith, Executive Director

Dear Friends,

As we celebrate our centennial anniversary throughout 2021, we look back at all the successes and challenges we have faced to help get us here. Throughout our 100 years of service, DCHS has always risen up to do what our community needs. I can say with great certainty that where we are today can be attributed to our community's consistent and generous support, and our staff and volunteers' dedication to caring for animals and people.

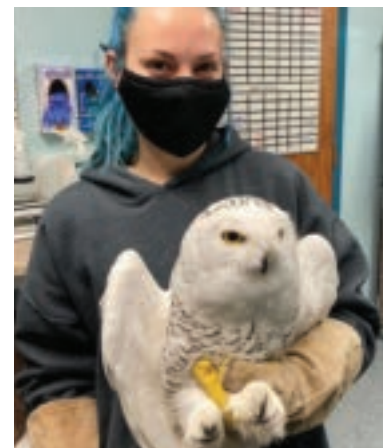
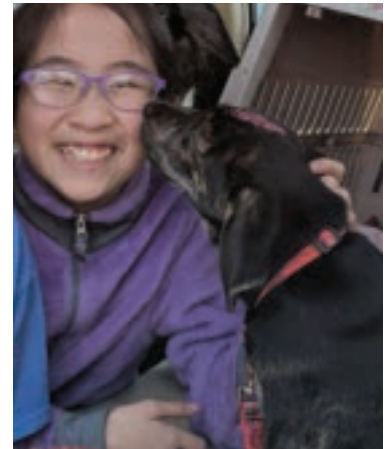
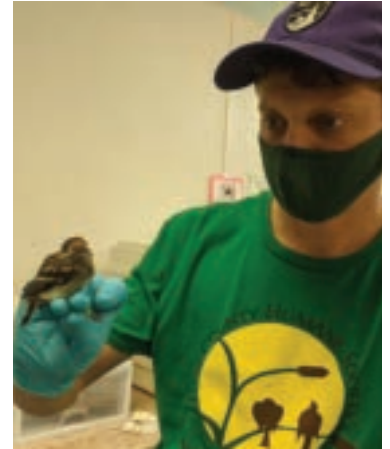
Since our founding in 1921, we have remained committed to helping our community. Our humble beginnings of housing lost and abandoned animals in our founder Ida Kittleson's basement are what inspire our successes today as the second largest shelter in Wisconsin. Despite our different facilities through the years, our dedication to help those around us, as well as our vision for a more humane future, has and always will remain the same.

Over the span of a century, we have blossomed into an organization capable of providing refuge, healing and new beginnings to thousands of animals every year. Our operations have expanded to include a multitude of programs and services offered through the support of over 90 talented staff members and 800 dedicated volunteers.

Much of our success has sprouted from the challenges we have overcome along the way. Nothing better exemplifies this strength than our navigation through 2020. Despite the hardships brought on by COVID-19 and resources being spread thin, we were able to come up with new and creative ways to continue supporting the Dane County community.

For 100 years, we have been rooted in our dedication to our community. It is thanks to the generosity and support of those around us that we continue our growth as an organization. With you, we look forward to another 100 years of creating a more humane community.

Pam McCloud Smith, Executive Director





# Upcoming Events



## Bark & Wine

***Saturday, October 16, 2021***

How can sipping a glass of wine and indulging in tasty treats help animals? When you do those things as a part of Bark & Wine, your support goes directly toward animals in need! Join us at Bark & Wine this year and you can look forward to a peek behind the scenes at DCHS, opportunities to connect with fellow animal lovers, an auction overflowing with great finds and (of course!) plenty of adorable animals. Plus, we're excited for the special twist on this year's event to honor our year-long centennial celebration! Be a part of the community that saves thousands of lives each year!



## Giving Tuesday

***Tuesday, November 30, 2021***

#GivingTuesday is a global day of giving fueled by the desire to make a positive impact in our world. On Tuesday, November 30, community members around the world will come together to celebrate kindness and generosity! Be sure to follow along this #GivingTuesday with DCHS on Facebook, Instagram and our website as we share wonderful stories of animals you have helped in 2021! Interested in inspiring others to help animals in need? Connect with Amy Good at (608) 838-0413 ext. 129 to become a matching gift challenger.



## Camp Pawprint

***Starting in Fall 2021***

Planning for upcoming school breaks? Children ages 7-12 can spend their time off from school with DCHS. Camp Pawprint offers animal-related lessons, interactions with our classroom animals, opportunities to complete service projects for the shelter and behind-the-scenes tours to learn more about the care of our adoptable and wild animals.

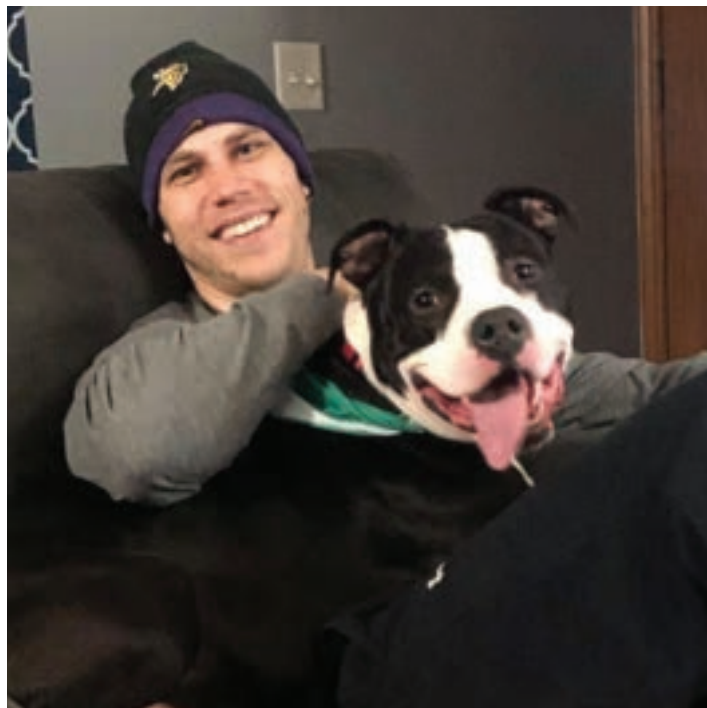
Join us as we play games and engage in activities with other animal lovers. Our goal is to educate on how to care for, support and appreciate all living things.

To learn more about our fall programs, visit us at [giveshelter.org/education](https://giveshelter.org/education).

## Dogs Experience New, Exciting Adventures

Michael Gust never had a dog growing up, but his love for them has been fulfilled by a new DCHS program that allows staff and volunteers to take dogs home temporarily for outings and overnight (O&O) stays.

Michael, a volunteer whose apartment isn't a good fit for a full-time dog, was excited when the O&O program began in October 2020. His first house guest was Dandy, a lovable pit bull terrier mix. Michael offered him a little extra training to help him get adopted quicker.



"That individual time working on manners and behavior really sets them up for their best chance of finding a forever home. It's so rewarding for that reason," Michael said. Bennett, his second O&O dog, was anxious at first, but eventually settled down. "You could see him starting to take deep breaths and just melting into the carpet, taking a nap," Michael said.

Dogs chosen for the O&O program are often stressed at the shelter and allowing them to participate in overnight stays or outings helps dogs relax.

"We learn more about the dog's personality when we can see how they behave in different settings while on outings. We can sometimes find out about hidden skills or challenges they have, so we can tailor our training to their needs or share information about their unique personalities with potential adopters," says Erin Kruckenberg, DCHS Canine Behavior Specialist.

The program allows the dogs to practice the training they've received at DCHS in a home environment, while volunteers benefit from a temporary pet. The program has offered a new route for volunteers to stay involved safely during the pandemic.

"Some of our volunteers can't have dogs permanently in their living situation, but really love getting the one-on-one time of picking up a dog for overnights and outings," Erin said.

## Support DCHS through Facebook fundraisers

Help animals at Dane County Humane Society and in our community by creating a Facebook fundraiser! Go to [facebook.com/fund/GiveShelter/](https://facebook.com/fund/GiveShelter/) and create a fundraiser to celebrate your birthday, anniversary, your pet's adoption day or other special occasion. Provide compassion and care to pets, livestock and wildlife at DCHS. In 2020, Facebook fundraisers raised over \$46,000 for animals in need – enough to cover the costs for both our foster program and Felines in Treatment Center for a year! Join us and create a fundraiser today!





## An Insider's View of the DCHS Mission

Our Directors' Council supporters make a significant impact on the mission and enjoy behind-the-scenes experiences. Directors' Council members give at least \$1,000 over 12 months (\$84/month) in supporting the lifesaving work of DCHS.

To show our gratitude for their dedication and connect them to the mission they so generously support, we invite Directors' Council members to engage in unique animal experiences with us. Special experiences in 2020 included a presentation by our Wildlife Rehabilitator about bird banding and a virtual in-depth look at our Pets for Life program, which provides animal resources and information for families in our community.

Past Directors' Council experiences have also included interactive Kittens and Koffee, a tour of our Wildlife Center, including viewing of a raptor pen, participation in a baby turtle release, an insider view of the process for transfer dogs arriving at the shelter and behind-

the-scenes tours of Animal Medical Services and the Horse and Livestock Barn.

As Directors' Council member Mary Manering reflects, "Through our participation in Directors' Council special events and opportunities, my husband Dennis and I have developed an even greater understanding of everything DCHS does for animals, both domestic and wild. We realize how important it is to continue our financial commitment to DCHS in order to help animals, and people, in need. This is an easy decision for us, as no other organization in Dane County provides this array of services. We know our donations are put to good use."

Join the Directors' Council and receive invitations to exclusive animal experiences throughout the year.

For questions regarding the DCHS Directors' Council, please contact Gwen Kochan, Associate Director of Development at [gkochan@giveshelter.org](mailto:gkochan@giveshelter.org) or (608) 838-0413 ext. 117.





## Two Years of Thrift Store Success

We just celebrated our second anniversary at Dane County Humane Society Thrift Store! We opened in January 2019 and quickly performed beyond our expectations, necessitating a move to a larger location in March 2020. Our bright, new store is three times the size of the previous store and is in a much more visible location on Watts Road in Madison, just across from Woodman's West. We closed temporarily for the move and due to COVID, but we were able to reopen to shoppers in June. Despite the pandemic, sales and donations continue to be strong, thanks to you!

All profits generated by the store support the important work we do to help people and animals across our community. The store provides high quality, low priced, gently used household items, including pet supplies, to people in the community. Plus, thrift

shopping is great for the environment! Shoppers enjoy participating in our Tote Tuesday discounts, our Rover's Rewards frequent shopper program and our weekly dot discount sales.

We are grateful to you, donors and regular shoppers alike, for your incredible role in making the store a success. In addition, we're supported by the efforts of a small but dedicated team of volunteers. The store is currently open Sunday and Monday from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Tuesday through Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Our friendly staff and volunteers look forward to welcoming you and helping you to find that perfect treasure!



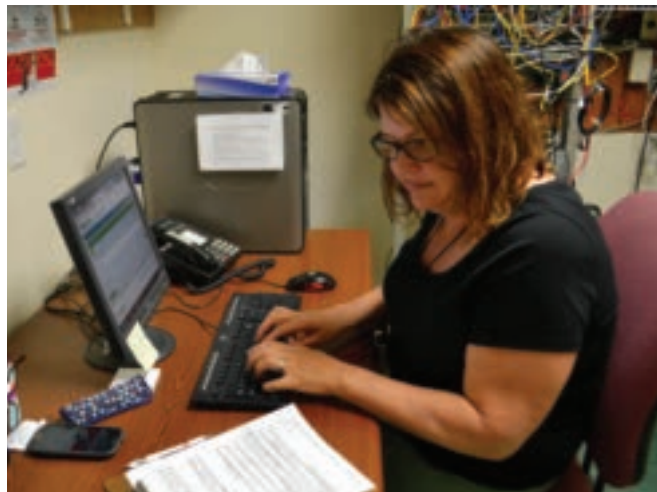




## What To Do If Your Pet is Missing

As pet owners, we try to do our best to keep our animals safe, but accidents can happen and pets can go missing. Hopefully, you never have to go through this. Should it happen, here are some tips to get your pet home.

- Contact DCHS or your local shelter. We will look through our found pet database and see if your pet has been brought in or reported by the public. Even if no match is immediately found, we will take a report from you should your animal arrive to us.
- Contact local veterinarians, the police department and Animal Services.
- Make sure your pet's microchip information is current.
- Post on social media, including adding your pet to lost/ found pet Facebook pages and reach out to your neighbors on the social networking service, Nextdoor.
- Make flyers with a current photo, their name, sex, breed, coloration, size and age. Also include details about where they were last seen. Make sure your flyer is noticeable! Put it on bright paper or posterboard to grab people's attention. If comfortable, knock on doors in the area to get the flyers directly to your neighbors. Most businesses will allow flyers to be hung in a communal area, so ask around!
- Encourage your pet to come home by leaving out food, a blanket, their favorite toy, etc. For cats, it's also beneficial to leave out their used litter box. Your pet will likely be out and about at night so explore your neighborhood with their favorite treats and look everywhere!



Once you've found your pet, take down flyers, notify shelters and vets, and update social media. If needed, visit DCHS to get your pet an ID tag and a microchip.

For more tips and tricks, or to file a lost pet report, visit [giveshelter.org/lostpet](https://giveshelter.org/lostpet).



## Building Trusting Relationships with People and Their Pets

Pets for Life Program Coordinator Abbi Middleton first met Cheva in summer 2018 while performing door-to-door outreach. When Abbi rang the doorbell, a stocky American Pitbull Terrier named Cheva emerged with bellowing barks. Cheva's owner Owen joined her, looking at his barking dog lovingly. "Come on in," he said to Abbi. "She won't actually bite."

Although she didn't receive a warm welcome from Cheva, Abbi could not help but notice the warmhearted relationship that Owen and his dog shared. Despite Cheva's initial wariness towards strangers, she proved to be noticeably kind and gentle toward people she knew and trusted.

"I could not fathom how this older gentleman had this huge 'barky' dog at first," Abbi says. "But after entering his home and experiencing the bond between Owen and Cheva, I quickly realized that Cheva was just a sweet little cuddle bug who kept Owen company and never failed to bring him joy."

It did not take long for Abbi to develop a lasting friendship with Cheva and Owen. Abbi frequently visited the two, delivering supplies and learning

everything about Cheva, from her favorite toys to her love for regular car rides.

"For Cheva, trusting Abbi did not happen overnight," says Owen's granddaughter Shelby. "However, my grandfather on the other hand trusted Abbi with his best friend's life since day one. Abbi, who is so compassionate about her job, took the time to build a relationship with Cheva and my grandfather. She would stop by my grandfather's home to check in on him, his dog and cat. But more than that, she would sit down with him and visit and work on bonding with Cheva."

After a few months visiting with Cheva at Owen's home, Abbi decided to bring her in to Dane County Humane Society for her vaccinations. Although Cheva enjoyed the car ride, she grew anxious when they arrived at the shelter. Sensing her worries, Abbi brought Cheva into an outdoor dog yard where she would be more comfortable while our Animal Medical Services staff helped with her exam. Abbi held Cheva in her arms throughout the entire process, giving her the sense of security she needed to remain patient and calm until it was time to go home.



When Owen passed away last summer, his granddaughter Shelby took Cheva in. Soon after, Shelby noticed Cheva's skin issues flaring up and contacted Abbi for her help. Cheva was also due for her vaccinations and was experiencing a potential ear infection. All of this combined with the stress related to sudden changes in Cheva's life posed a new challenge for Abbi and our medical staff.

After two years of commitment to earning Cheva's trust, Abbi was able to bring her into the building where she received treatment from Dr. Uri Donnett. Thanks to their incredible teamwork, Cheva was able to undergo a relaxing and positive veterinary experience. Of course, she was happy to go for another car ride, just as she used to with Owen.

Today, Cheva is happy and healthy, living in Shelby's home. She welcomes Abbi's visits with a wagging tail and goofy grin from ear-to-ear.

"Abbi and the work of all of those who are part of the program are appreciated by so many, especially during such hard times," says Shelby. "On behalf of my beloved grandfather and my family we would truly like to thank you for all of the continuing care that Pets for Life has offered a man and his best friend."

Our Pets for Life program works to build lasting relationships in our community through providing animal resources and information to those in need. Thanks to your ongoing support, we are able to keep pets like Cheva happy and healthy in their loving homes.



## Help Animals All Year Long as a Constant Companion

When you become a Constant Companion, your monthly donation provides reliable support to keep thousands of animals at DCHS healthy and safe all year round. The uncertainties of the pandemic meant our Constant Companions provided the vital support to meet the unplanned, unmet and unanticipated needs in our community. You can help us care for thousands of animals when they need it most.

### **It's affordable and flexible.**

Whether you're giving \$10/month or \$100/month, spreading your giving throughout the year is the most convenient way to fit your donations into your personal budget. Plus, you can modify your gift at any time.

### **It's easy.**

When you become a monthly donor, your gift is automatically deducted from your credit card or bank account each month—know your charitable giving is in place for the entire year!

Please become a Constant Companion today at [giveshelter.org/companions](https://giveshelter.org/companions)





## Hip Hip Hoot-ray!

In late September 2020, a family found a Great Horned Owl unable to fly near their home in Cazenovia, Wisconsin. The owl was brought to Sauk County Humane Society, where the staff assists the public in transporting wild animals found in their area to DCHS's Wildlife Center. The bird was admitted to our facility the next day.

Little did we know that we would be admitting two owls—one real bird and one life-like owl drawing by the family's daughter! Great Horned Owls are the largest owl species commonly found in Wisconsin, and we suspect this bird was female due to her especially large size. (Did you know that females are larger than males in many raptor species?)

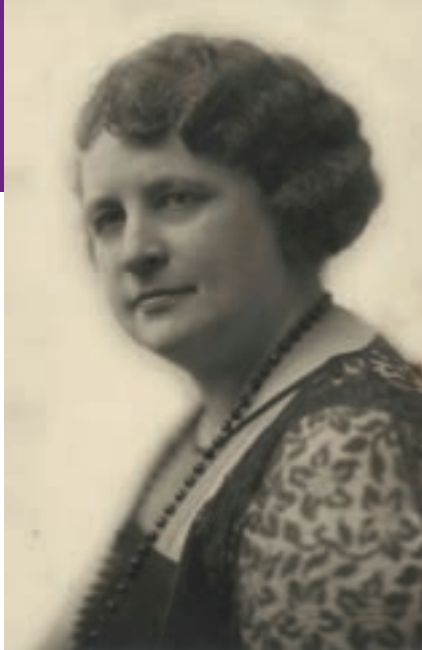
Our wildlife rehabilitators examined the owl and found her right wing had a partial fracture and a large, old wound. Every few days for eight weeks, our wildlife staff cleaned and bandaged her wounds. She was kept inside to

limit her activity, which allowed her to heal. After many weeks, the owl's wound finally closed, and she was moved to a small outdoor enclosure to acclimate to the weather.

Once she no longer needed any medical care, she transitioned to one of our large outdoor flight pens, where she could use her wings again! In no time at all, she was flying up and down the flight pen, and we knew she had enough strength in her wings for release. She was released back to her home territory in November, where we hope she will be able to reunite with a mate before breeding season this year.

As for the owl drawing, it now lives happily on our Wildlife Center's back door as a reminder of the wonderful and caring people we encounter in our efforts to rehabilitate the thousands of wild animals who arrive our center each year.





## BRIGHT BEGINNINGS



# Dane County Humane Society's First Visionary

May 26th, 2021 marks a special day for celebration. On that day 100 years ago, Dane County Humane Society was officially incorporated as an independent, non-profit organization to protect animals from cruelty and neglect. Before our incorporation, we operated as the Dane County Branch of the Wisconsin Humane Society from 1910 to 1921.

Our first visionary, Ida Kittleson, was elected as DCHS's first board president. She was a remarkable and determined woman recognized for a wide array of charitable services, including her support for the American Humane Society, the Wisconsin Federation of Humane Societies and the Neighborhood House.

The well-being of children and animals were Ida's top priorities. When Ida's neighbor, a music teacher, found a stray cat and brought it to her in a violin case, Ida started her journey to help animals. She and her husband Milo, who was Madison's mayor from 1920-1925, actively cared for lost pets and found them new homes if their families could not be found.

At first, homeless pets were housed in Ida's basement. Later, animals were also cared for at Candlin's Pet Hospital and in volunteer foster homes. During its first year, "a vast amount of cruelty and neglect was prevented because of the fact that the Humane Society was in existence," states the 1921 annual report.

A friend who worked with Ida on various community projects said: "Ida's personality kept the Humane Society alive through the years. When it was necessary, she carried the burden alone, for she has always been able to accomplish anything she puts her mind to." Ida served a remarkable 30+ years as board president.

Join us in celebrating our 100-year journey, starting with our visionary leader Ida Kittleson and the hands and hearts of many other community members who have helped us become the world-class animal welfare organization we are today.



# 100<sup>YRS</sup>

## of Caring for Animals and Their People



### 1880

Horses, oxen and donkeys are the primary means of transportation in the 1880s, but some of these animals face neglect and abuse. In 1885, Madison pioneers band together to **prevent cruelty to animals and people**.

### 1930

DCHS starts observing **Humane Week**. Promoting kindness to animals, this celebration includes showing films in the Capitol Theater and displaying *Be Kind to Animals* posters throughout Madison.



### 1954

The *Wisconsin State Journal* begins featuring **"Dog of the Week."** The hope is to help stray or unwanted dogs find new homes.



### 1946

Alexis Baas serves as the **first education coordinator for DCHS**, sharing his empathy, compassion and kindness to all living things. He supports humane education and focuses on visiting schools for almost 25 years.

### 1921

**DCHS is incorporated on May 26, 1921**, and Ida Kittleson is elected as the first board president. For the next 30 years, she helps DCHS grow from a small group of volunteers to a dynamic organization.



### 1948

**DCHS moves to Candlin Pet Hospital** at 702 W. Wingra Drive, a veterinary clinic owned by Dr. Paul Candlin, DCHS's first veterinarian. The facility remains there for the next 17 years.



### 1965

Doors open to DCHS's first **permanent shelter at 2250 Pennsylvania Avenue**. There is room for 100 dogs and separate rooms for kittens and puppies.

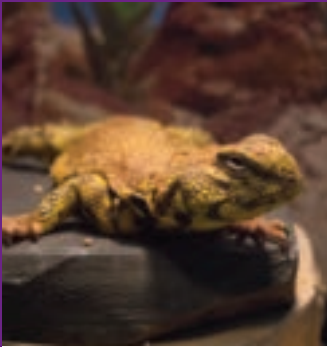


### 1945

When **a fire erupts at DCHS's South Park Street location**, 15-year-old Darrell Sweetmore leaps into action and rescues 10 dogs, 2 cats and a group of rats. He cares for the animals until they all find homes.



This year, we commemorate a century of care and compassion for animals. In this spirit of celebration, we look back at the people, places and programs that have shaped and continue to define Dane County Humane Society and its mission. Learn more at [giveshelter.org/100](http://giveshelter.org/100).



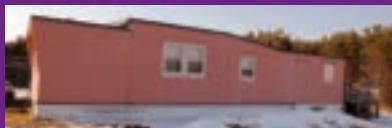
## 1994

**DCHS's popular Camp Pawprint begins** with four, week-long sessions of animal themed activities for children ages 8 to 12. Highlights include meeting a newt, pot-bellied pig, tarantulas and an iguana.



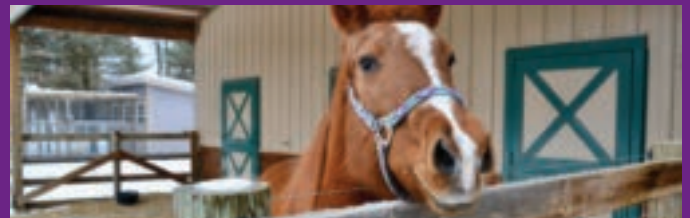
## 2019

**DCHS's Thrift Store** opens to generate revenue to support the important work DCHS does to help the people and animals of our community. It starts in the former Adoption Center West location, and moves to its current location on Watts Road in Madison.



## 2003

DCHS is the **first shelter in the world to treat ringworm**, a highly contagious fungal infection, in a shelter environment. The Felines in Treatment program was originally housed in a 1960s trailer behind the main shelter.



## 2016

The DCHS Equine and Livestock program expands with the **construction of a new barn**. Six stalls with individually fenced paddocks and an indoor arena provide ample space for horses and other barnyard animals.

## 2000

DCHS reaches a long-awaited goal of acquiring more space to house animals, expanding their services, and offering more programs by moving to its **new 29-acre campus at 5132 Voges Road**.



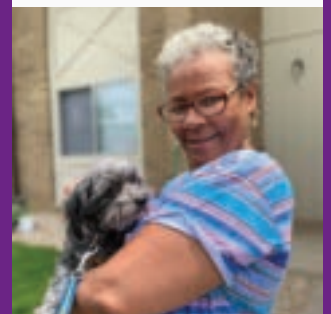
## 2012

DCHS reaches **Adoption Guarantee** status; all healthy and treatable animals at DCHS are guaranteed to stay at DCHS as long as it takes to find new homes.



## 2018

DCHS is selected to partner with Humane Society of the United States in their **Pets for Life** program. The program's goal is to keep pets healthy and happy in their loving homes by providing owner support in underserved communities.



## 2002

**The Wildlife Center** begins to rehabilitate injured, sick and orphaned wildlife in a converted stall in the DCHS barn. Just over 100 wildlife patients are helped in the first year.



## LOOKING FORWARD



# Our Vision for the Future

Our 100-year journey at DCHS has been remarkable. Together, we've made significant strides in elevating the welfare of animals in our community, and it is awe-inspiring to imagine what we can do in the next 100 years! One thing is certain—we'll always act in the spirit of helping people help animals.

Our programs and services have greatly expanded through the years. We have become one of the nation's leading animal welfare organizations in animal care, placement and rehabilitation. Our reach and influence have grown significantly, both regionally and nationally. We look forward to further sharing our best practices and innovations, mentoring and collaborating with other organizations.

Humane education has long been at the heart of our work. We continue to shape a more humane future with education, outreach and resources for our community.

In the past, we only dreamed our local animal intake would someday be low enough that we'd become a destination shelter for animal transports from other communities. Decades of efforts, especially around spay/neuter and reuniting lost pets, have made this lifesaving program possible.

Our Wildlife Center's rapid growth is also a shining example of compassion, rehabilitating ill, orphaned and injured wildlife throughout Wisconsin. The need for wildlife rehabilitation is overwhelming, and we're focusing on growing the next generation of rehabilitators through internships and apprenticeships to help more wildlife.

We continue to look at ways we can keep the human-animal bond intact. The future of companion animal welfare is community-based pet care that keeps animals in their homes, including free and reduced cost veterinary services, owner support, and temporary housing for emergency services. These resources help keep pets with the families who love them.

Thank you for joining us on our journey to make our community better with an ethic of empathy, care and value for people and animals now, and for the next century.





## Create your legacy to help people help animals

Can you believe it? Here at DCHS, we've been providing refuge, healing and new beginnings to the animals of our community for 100 years! It's thanks to supporters like you that our work continues to be possible, so we want to share a powerful way you can be a part of the next 100 years of DCHS.

Have you considered creating a legacy gift to support DCHS? Legacy gifts in your will or other estate plans are powerful ways to support the care of our community's animals, regardless of their age, health status or temperament, for generations to come. And it costs nothing to give today.

By including a legacy gift in your plans, you'll ensure that our Wildlife Center continues the rehabilitation efforts of orphaned, injured and ill wildlife. You'll also be connecting and keeping companion animals with their human families. With your help, we can continue to expand our services, help more people and animals and stay strong and accessible for our community!

In our 100th year, we're aiming for 100 new Legacy Society donors. To make it easier to create your legacy, we have partnered with FreeWill to give you a simple way to write your legally valid will in 20 minutes or less. FreeWill lets you consider your loved ones and pets while ensuring DCHS continues to be a place of refuge and healing for animals for another 100 years! Will you join us for the next generation?

This tool is completely free to use, so **get started on your free legacy plans today by visiting [FreeWill.com/DCHS](https://FreeWill.com/DCHS)**. For large estates, blended families, or other more complex situations, please work with an experienced attorney in our community.

If you have already included us in your legacy plans, please let us know so we can thank you by contacting Amy Good at (608) 838-0413 ext. 129 or [agood@giveshelter.org](mailto:agood@giveshelter.org).



Thanks to supporters like you, animals like Yarrow find hope, healing and

# New Beginnings

at DCHS



On a warm summer day last year, a family spotted a skinny brown cat near their home in Waunakee. She was having difficulty moving and her head tilted oddly. This kitty was clearly in trouble.

The family rushed Yarrow to their veterinarian, who confirmed she was having neurological problems as well as a sinus infection and severe dehydration. Although hungry, she could not coordinate her movements to be able to eat. The good samaritans decided to bring her to DCHS for the critical care she needed.

Our Animal Medical Services team confirmed the community veterinarian's findings. We also discovered Yarrow was covered in lice, and she was attacking her itchy skin. Yarrow was already severely underweight and had gone at least 24 hours without eating. She had a hard time breathing and fell over every time she sneezed. Yarrow did not react to sound, and we suspected she was partially deaf.

The next 24 hours would be critical for Yarrow. "There were so many issues to address, we decided the best plan would be to break them down one-by-one," says DCHS Maddie's® Veterinary Intern, Dr. Shak Makhijani. Dr. Makhijani started her on several medications and ordered a medicated bath to soothe Yarrow's painful skin.

The next day, Yarrow showed some improvement. She was less congested. With a little urging and patience, Yarrow finally ate on her own! In the coming days, she continued to improve. She was a fighter!

On day five, Yarrow was taken into surgery. In addition to a routine spay surgery, our veterinarians took x-rays and completed a thorough ear exam while Yarrow was sedated. As suspected, her head tilt and neurological signs were likely from a middle ear infection.

Whenever we can, we prefer to house cats in offices or rooms to give them more space, especially when they will



have a longer recovery like Yarrow. She moved into the Veterinary Interns' office for extra attention and careful observation. Yarrow was also added to our Creatures-In-Need program so our care staff would know she needed additional care and comfort.

After nearly one month of extensive medical care at DCHS, Yarrow was finally ready for adoption! Although her immediate medical needs were met, Yarrow would likely have chronic upper respiratory infections and asthma. Plus, her head tilt and compulsive behaviors could be permanent. She was going to need a special person to adopt her. We shared Yarrow's story on social media, and thankfully, the post caught the attention of Lauren Liska.

"I love animals and find it so rewarding to help rescue animals in need," said Lauren. "When I read about Yarrow, it said she needed a cat whisperer, and I knew that was me." With a rescue family of three dogs and six cats, Lauren was well experienced with special needs cats. When Lauren met Yarrow, our Adoption Center counselors knew this was a perfect match. With a new name of Olivia, Yarrow's six-week journey at DCHS led to a wonderful, loving home.

With Olivia fitting in with her new family and thriving, Lauren returned to DCHS five months later to adopt another special cat in need.

In December, we joined dozens of shelters nationwide helping a Florida shelter respond to an overwhelming hoarding situation of nearly 500 cats. One of the cats making the journey from Florida to DCHS was Boots. Although he was surprisingly healthy given the situation, Boots was quite shy.

It didn't take long for Boots to make himself at home with Lauren, sitting on her lap, making new friends and forming a close bond with Olivia. "Boots, too, needed a home where he was comfortable and taken care of and I knew I could provide that," said Lauren. "I truly appreciate being able to have both Olivia and Boots in my life."

Your support provides care and comfort to thousands of animals like Yarrow and Boots every year. Thank you for helping us give animals the time they need to heal and find loving families.



**2,781**

companion  
animals admitted

**684**

animals transferred  
in from other groups

**474**

lost pets reunited  
with their owners



# Dane County Humane Society

**2020**

**Annual Report**

**1,886**

total animals  
adopted

**953** cats adopted

**697** dogs adopted

**236** other species adopted

**2,782**

injured, ill and orphaned animals treated  
at Dane County Humane Society's  
Wildlife Center

## Save Rate

is the percentage of live animals released by means of adoption, redemption and transfer during a given time period. Save Rate does not include the starting animal inventory for the given time period.

Save Rate = (Adoptions +  
Redemptions + Transfers)/Intake



**94%**

save rate for all  
companion animals  
highest save rate ever

**95%**

save rate for cats

**93%**

save rate for dogs







**2,782**

wild animals were  
admitted after being  
found ill, injured  
or orphaned

# 145 Unique Species

admitted during 2020



**106** avian

**24** mammal

**15** reptile/  
amphibian

► Canada Geese are frequently admitted to our Wildlife Center for rehabilitation, and a goose with complex medical needs arrived in November. Caring finders rescued a goose found sitting on the ground in a residential area of Waunakee, unable to fly. On admission, x-rays confirmed that it had been shot and injured. The bird suffered two separate and partially open fractures to its left wing and leg. Patient #20-2643 underwent surgery with University of Wisconsin Veterinary Care – Special Species Health Service and spent two months recovering with the help of licensed wildlife rehabilitators in our wildlife program. This bird was housed in our newly constructed Sundance Center with two other geese until it was successfully released in January 2021.



## Barn

**31** barn animals were cared for  
by Dane County Humane Society

**13** chickens

**6** horses

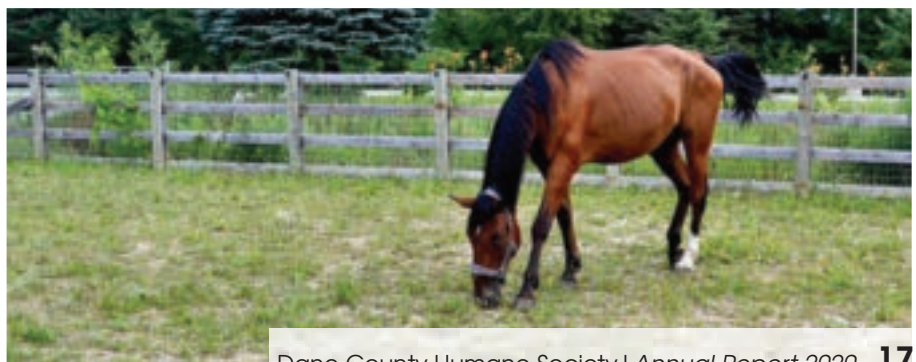
**3** ducks

**2** pigs

**4** geese

**3** turkeys

▼ John, a stunning 16-year-old gelding, came to DCHS as a lost animal. After consistent care and positive reinforcement, this gentle soul was finally adopted 75 days later.



# Animal Medical Services

**7,206**  
medical exams performed

**1,185**  
spay/neuter surgeries performed  
on 700 cats, 453 dogs  
and 32 rabbits

**141**  
dental surgeries performed on  
109 cats and 32 dogs

**82**  
other surgeries performed such as  
amputations, mass removals, enucleations  
and exploratory abdominal

**64**  
UW veterinary students attended ambulatory  
rotations (in-person and virtually) at  
DCHS to learn about shelter medicine and  
management

# Foster

**92** foster families  
provided homes for

**209** cats

**77** dogs

**370** animals needing to  
grow, rest and recover

**84** critters

# F.I.T. Center

**79** cats with dermatophyte (ringworm)  
were treated and cured in Maddie's  
Felines in Treatment Center at DCHS

**49** of those cats were from  
10 different outside organizations

**4** cats were in F.I.T. for just 28 days

During COVID lockdown,  
there was a mom and 8 kittens  
recovering in a foster home for

**31** days

**28** volunteers spent **809**  
hours caring for cats in the F.I.T. Center



◀ Lady in a Fur Coat arrived at DCHS in December 2019 as a stray. During her medical exam, our vets determined Lady needed her ear flaps removed so she could live a healthy and pain-free life. A staff member crocheted Lady an ear bonnet to help her find a home when she was ready in January 2020, and the story went viral! Lady's story was shared on CNN, The Kelly Clarkson Show and international news outlets. This is just one way our staff and volunteers go above and beyond for our animals every day!



# Canine Behavior Team

**70**

dogs were enrolled in DCHS's Behavior Modification program

**52**

puppies were enrolled in Puppy Preschool

**47**

dogs were enrolled in Dog Training 1

**4**

dogs were enrolled in Dog Training 2

# Media Highlights

**Over 300**

Pet of the Week segments on NBC15, News 3 Now, WKOW27, 105.5 Triple M, 94.9 WOLX and Isthmus On Tap

**2,200+**

new Instagram followers (@dchsgiveshelter)

**2,600+**

new Pawprints e-newsletter subscribers

**4,400+**

new Facebook followers across three Facebook pages: Dane County Humane Society (@GiveShelter), Dane County Humane Society's Wildlife Center (@dchswc) and Dane County Humane Society Thrift Store (@DCHSThriftStore)

**Over 5.2 million**

website views in 2020



# Pets for Life

**165** new clients with **245**

pets have received assistance and resources

**48**

were spayed/neutered

**763**

other medications and services were delivered

**337**

received vaccinations

# Volunteers

**760**

volunteers contributed

**39,887**

hours of service

► Throughout the pandemic, we have continued to rely on our volunteers to make lifesaving work happen. A limited number of volunteers were able to continue in their regular roles in adoptions, care and foster, while others stretched to learn new skills or contributed remotely. Dozens of volunteers jumped in to take part in two online art fundraisers and many others discovered new skills by joining our Thrift Store team! No matter where they help, we couldn't do it without the support of these wonderful volunteers!



## Independent Fundraisers

**\$125,047**

was donated to DCHS through

**149**

Facebook fundraisers and

**136**

independent events,

**109**

hosted by local businesses and

**27**

hosted by kids

## Keeping Pets in Their Homes

**25,250**

pounds of pet food and cat litter were donated to local food pantries

**320,651**

pounds of pet food and cat litter have been donated to local food pantries since the program began in 2011

DCHS collaborates with Community Action Coalition for South Central Wisconsin. This partnership helps keep pets in the homes of those experiencing economic hardship.

## Humane Education

**65**

humane education events reached about

**1,000**

adults and kids via Camp Pawprint, shelter tours, presentations, field trips, scout workshops and Humane Heroes Club



# Major Events

**58** different organizations provided cash and in-kind sponsorships to support DCHS

**349**

supporters joined Toto's Gala online which raised over

**\$193,390**

**248**

Party Boxes and

**87**

Doggie Bags were sold, welcoming

**511**

attendees to Bark & Wine online, which raised

**\$159,880**

## 2020 Board of Directors

Joseph S. Goode  
President

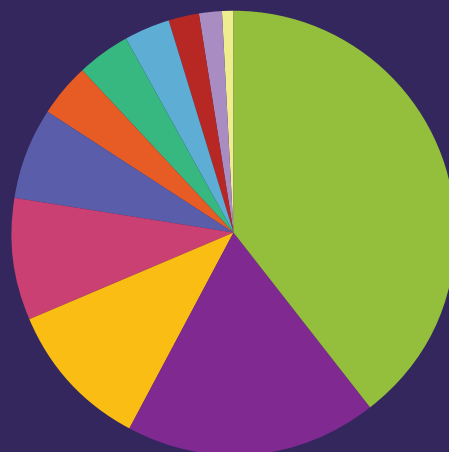
Laura Murray  
Vice President

Cathy Holmes  
Secretary

Shirley Crocker  
Treasurer

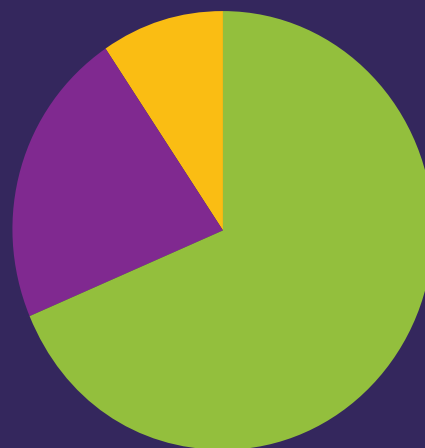
Lilly Bickers  
Joy Cardin  
Sara Colopy  
Joel Davidson

Julie Fagan  
Amy Johnson  
Mark Knipfer  
Maggie Premo



**Revenue**

Individual Donations	\$2,110,477	39.50%
Bequests	\$ 982,866	18.40%
Payroll Protection Program Loan	\$ 572,900	10.72%
Program Services & Fees	\$ 480,002	8.98%
Major Events	\$ 353,270	6.61%
Municipal Contracts	\$ 214,637	4.02%
Grants	\$ 209,969	3.93%
Thrift Store	\$ 174,234	3.26%
Independent Events	\$ 125,047	2.34%
Investments & Misc. Income	\$ 85,193	1.60%
Merchandise Sales	\$ 34,424	0.64%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,343,019</b>	<b>100%</b>



**Expenses**

Direct Program Expenses	\$3,133,768	68.77%
Fundraising, Marketing & Thrift Store	\$1,002,065	21.98%
Shelter Administration	\$ 421,340	9.25%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,557,173</b>	<b>100%</b>



**DANE COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY**  
5132 Voges Road  
Madison, WI 53718  
giveshelter.org



## Your Legacy Can Help Shape the Next 100 Years

Growing up, Sarah Haselschwardt's family always included dogs. She and her two sisters took the lead in caring for them. When she moved back to her hometown of Madison in 2018, she found herself dogless.

Sarah started volunteering weekly as a Canine Companion. "Volunteering at DCHS almost satisfied my hankering for my own dog. Knowing that I'm not in a position to be wholly available for a dog at this point in my life, I'm passionate about people who want to provide a loving home for a dog," says Sarah.

Because of her love for all animals and the companionship she knows they give to so many people, Sarah is one of our beloved regular donors. Recently, Sarah made the decision to include us in her estate plans, "Because I want DCHS to continue their wonderful way of matching wonderful pets to people who love and need them beyond my lifetime."

Sarah's commitment to creating a legacy for animals means a more humane community for all of us. Will you join her in providing healing, hope and homes for generations to come?

### Learn More

It's easy to create your own legacy for animals in our community. Contact Amy Good at (608) 838-0413 ext. 129, [agood@giveshelter.org](mailto:agood@giveshelter.org) or visit [giveshelter.org/legacy](https://giveshelter.org/legacy)

