

Dane County Humane Society's

family tails

Spring 2022 • Issue 14



2021 Annual
Report Inside

Keeping Pets With the
Families Who Love Them

Two Little Winter Birds

Becoming a Hero to
Animals in Need

Creating New
Families





Pam McCloud Smith, Executive Director

Dear Friends,

As we look ahead to the animals we'll help and families we'll create, I'd like to thank you, our most loyal supporters, and celebrate another successful trip around the sun for DCHS. In this issue of *Family Tails*, I am excited to share with you our annual report and highlights we experienced throughout 2021.

Over the past year, Dane County Humane Society has celebrated a multitude of accomplishments, most notably our centennial anniversary. To help commemorate 100 years of helping people help animals, we developed a series of virtual campaigns to highlight our past, present, and future as an organization. We even held a birthday party for the organization in which the public and DCHS staff were invited to celebrate together. Our animals, too, joined in on the fun, with one of our shelter dogs, Bruno, kicking off the celebration as he enjoyed a delicious birthday pupcake.

Our Pets for Life Program experienced growth and success in 2021, and we now have 550 clients and 850 pets that we help in our designated service areas. Pets for Life delivered over 12,000 pounds of dog and cat food and litter and nearly 3,000 medications and services to pet owners throughout the community. We also hosted three Community Dog and Cat Day events that provided free wellness exams, vaccines, and microchips to many owned pets in need. This program continues to be an important part of our operations and the future of animal welfare.

Each and every one of our successes are made possible through your gifts and support of our programs and events. I want to thank you so much for your connection in helping to sustain Dane County Humane Society's goals and mission to be a leader in creating a more humane community, focusing on the human relationship with animals and the positive difference they make in our lives.

Pam McCloud Smith

Pam McCloud Smith, Executive Director



New Program Connects Seniors With Pets

At Dane County Humane Society (DCHS), we believe anyone who wants to love and care for a pet should be able to do so. Unfortunately, the cost to bring a furry friend home may seem out of reach for some.

Last summer, DCHS partnered with Pets for the Elderly to help reduce the cost of adopting a companion animal for seniors in our community. DCHS received \$4,000 in funding to use from June through December so adopters age 60 years and older could get up to \$50 off their adoption fee.

Virgean Ostrand had been searching for a year and a half for a dachshund when she spotted one on DCHS's website one Sunday evening in June 2021. She and her husband, Dale, left their Door County home the next morning to make the more-than-two-hour drive to DCHS to meet Kona.

Virgean had heard about the nationwide Pets for the Elderly program, but when she and her husband decided to meet Kona, they did not know DCHS was a program partner. They learned during their adoption counseling session that DCHS partners with Pets for the Elderly to offer discounted adoption fees.

"I think it's a great option," Virgean says of the ability to adopt and receive a senior discount. "I'm hoping that more people can take advantage of the program. It really helped."

Seniors living on fixed incomes may believe they can't afford to get a pet. But Pets for the Elderly and DCHS believe all seniors should be able to enjoy the comfort, companionship, and love of a pet. The discount afforded through Pets for the Elderly makes it possible for seniors to provide shelter animals with loving homes.

Kona had been surrendered weeks earlier because his family had been battling various medical issues and felt they couldn't provide him with the attention he deserved.

Upon bringing Kona home, the Ostrands noticed very little transition. "He was the best trained family-friendly dog you ever met. Of course, he attached himself to my husband, little bugger," Virgean says with a laugh. "He's just the perfect little doggie."

"I hope the senior discount program can continue," says Virgean, adding that they haven't been without a dog in 43 years. "Kona has made such a difference in our life. He made our lives bearable when I lost Oscar, my little longhair doxie."

During the first six months of the program at DCHS, 41 dogs, 57 cats, and 2 guinea pigs were adopted as part of the Pets for the Elderly program. But we're not done yet! DCHS has been approved to participate in the program in 2022, and the grant amount was increased to \$7,000 for the year because of its popularity. 🐾

*Written by Lisa Bernard,
Public Relations Coordinator*



Virgean Ostrand with Kona and his foster parent, Kenzie



Morphy and Rocky ride home together



Morphy and Rocky take a snooze after playtime

Keeping Pets With the Families Who Love Them

When Fernando and his family found themselves facing housing insecurity in the fall of 2020, they made the difficult decision to surrender Morphy, their two-year-old husky, to Dane County Humane Society (DCHS). They hoped it would be temporary, just until they could find a house that would allow dogs. But even when they found a residence that did, they still worried about financially supporting Morphy.

At the shelter, Morphy deteriorated quickly. He was stressed and worried without his family. But after some quick research, DCHS found a solution: Fernando lived in a neighborhood that qualified him for Pets for Life.

DCHS believes everyone should get to enjoy the love of a pet, regardless of income or other difficulties. DCHS's Pets for Life program provides animal resources and information to families at no cost to help them to keep caring for the animals they love. Through door-to-door outreach, the Pets for Life team connects with people to provide support and create long-lasting relationships, meeting community members where they are, rather than waiting for them to find Pets for Life.

Since Fernando lived in the neighborhood served by Pets for Life, he could receive supplies and services for Morphy free of charge, like a neuter surgery, free wellness care, vaccines, flea and tick treatment, and even food and other supplies. With this assistance, Fernando could bring his beloved family member home. A week later, Morphy was reunited with his family.

But the family's struggles weren't over yet. Morphy, with his boundless energy, frequently escaped his yard and chased small animals around the neighborhood. Fernando once again found himself considering surrendering Morphy to DCHS.

Morphy's surrender appointment at DCHS came, but Fernando couldn't bear to part with his furry family member. With the help of Pets for Life, Fernando was able to better secure Morphy's yard, and he continued to receive food and supplies for Morphy.

A year after Morphy was first surrendered to DCHS, he returned, but not to stay. Instead, he and Fernando attended Community Dog Day, an opportunity for

families in pet resource deserts to get much-needed services for their pets, like lifesaving vaccines, microchips, ID tags, flea and tick prevention, and other pet supplies – all at no cost.

A few weeks later, Fernando decided to act on an idea he'd had for managing Morphy's energy: getting Morphy a friend and playmate. Fernando couldn't have been more correct that a friend and playmate could help Morphy! He contacted Pets for Life for help adopting a puppy from DCHS, and not long after, he and his family welcomed little Sneezy, who's been renamed Rocky, into their home.

Morphy took on the role of big brother like a pro, and he and Rocky quickly became inseparable. Fernando says Morphy is a changed dog and is happier than ever.

Thanks to the incredible support of our generous community, Pets for Life can help animals like Morphy remain with the families that love them. Together with you, we can keep families whole. Thank you. 🐾

Written by Angie Darbyson, Pets for Life Program Coordinator



Fernando and Morphy arrive at Community Dog Day

Pets for Life

162 new clients with **278** pets have received assistance and resources, including

84 spay/neuter surgeries,

296 vaccinations, and

2,977 medications and services.



Keeping Pets in Their Homes

11,857 pounds of pet food and cat litter were donated to local food pantries.

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



Community Dog and Cat Days

3 Community Dog and Cat Day events served

88 pets, administered **116** vaccines

and **25** microchips, and performed

85 spay/neuter surgeries.



Berkeley is returned to family friend, Kirsten



Berkeley reunited with his family in Washington

DCHS Joins Team Berkeley

It had been six months. Six months of waiting. Six months of hoping that any day now, their beloved cat, Berkeley, would be returned to them.

On May 16, 2021, the O'Shea family moved out of their Madison home, intending to drive their RV across the country to their new home on the Pacific Coast. While the family was staying at Lake Farm County Park in Madison en route to their new home, Berkeley bolted out of the RV. They searched the area but were unable to find him.

Amy O'Shea remained hopeful that Berkeley, age 11, would be found. She left his carrier and some cat care items with close friend Kirsten Johnson. Amy also filed a missing cat report with Dane County Humane Society (DCHS). Every day, DCHS staff and volunteers cross check missing pet reports with found pet reports and strays brought into the shelter. With these efforts, one in six lost cats were reunited with their loving families in 2021, which is three times the national average.

But days became weeks, which turned into months, and still no Berkeley.

One day in the fall, Amy dreamt about Berkeley. He was in a home, but it wasn't the family's home. When she awoke, Amy says she felt relieved and thought maybe it was time to let him go.

But this mischievous kitty had other plans! Berkeley found his way into a storage compartment of another RV that had stayed at Lake Farm County Park. Imagine the surprise of finding this friendly guy in your RV during a pit stop in DeForest!

The family who found him called Animal Services, which sent an officer who scanned for a microchip. Fortunately, Berkeley was microchipped. Unfortunately, Berkeley's microchip was still linked to his first owner. But Berkeley's first owner remembered him fondly and gladly joined Team Berkeley. While his first owner searched for his current owner's info, Berkeley was brought to DCHS where he could receive comfort and veterinary care.

Berkeley's first owner found what he needed and reached out to Amy for permission to share her contact info with DCHS.

"It's been so wonderful to connect with his first owner," says Amy, adding he shared stories with her of Berkeley as a kitten.

To further confirm Berkeley's identity, Amy sent photos of him to DCHS. The photos showed an 18-pound Berkeley. The cat brought to the shelter weighed just over seven pounds. Berkeley had lost more than half of his body weight!

DCHS veterinarians recommended Berkeley be allowed to recuperate before making the trek to his family's new home in Washington, and a plan was concocted to get him there.

When Kirsten brought Berkeley's carrier to DCHS, he must have smelled the scent of his family on the bedding inside because he jumped in. Kirsten took Berkeley to his first owner, who had arranged for a friend to provide steady care. Two weeks later, Berkeley had gained over a pound and was cleared for takeoff.

On November 24, Kirsten flew with Berkeley from Milwaukee to Minneapolis to Seattle. They continued by car and ferry, arriving at Berkeley's family's home just in time for Thanksgiving.

Berkeley continues on page 6

2021 Annual Report

Reunions

549 lost pets reunited with their families, including **375** dogs and **158** cats, with **120** thanks to microchips.

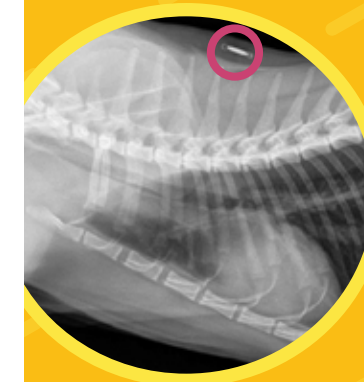


Return Rate

71% return rate for dogs and **15%** return rate for cats compared to the national average of **41%** return rate for dogs and **5%** return rate for cats.

On Microchipping...

A microchip is roughly the size of a grain of rice.



It gets implanted between the shoulder blades of the dog or cat, just beneath the skin.

It emits a Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) that transmits an identification number to a scanner when it passes over the chip.



The number is linked to contact information listed in a nationwide database accessible by veterinarians and animal shelters. It does NOT provide GPS tracking of your pet's location.

Best Practices

- Keep the contact information linked to your pet's microchip up-to-date, especially after any life changes like moving or getting new phone numbers. After making changes, check the account to ensure the information updated correctly. Outdated information can slow the process of identifying you and your pet, causing your pet to be separated from you longer than necessary.
- Have your veterinarian check your pet's chip annually to make sure it is still in place and working properly.

Learn more about microchipping through DCHS and how to update the contact info associated with your chip at giveshelter.org/microchip.

Berkeley continued

Three months later, Berkeley was doing great! “It definitely seems like he knows he is somewhere new,” Amy said in early February. “I can tell in the way that he sniffs the air.”

Berkeley’s family has been spoiling him since his return. By early February, he was up to 11.5 pounds!

Amy says she is thankful to everyone who helped Berkeley. “It was a team effort,” she adds. “He’s settled right back in, and it’s almost as if he was never gone.”

DCHS is so proud to have been a part of Team Berkeley. Go Team Berkeley! 🐾

Written by Lisa Bernard, Public Relations Coordinator



DCHS’s Thrift Store Needs YOU!

“I look forward to volunteering at the DCHS Thrift Store,” says Kay Smith. “The staff members are great to work for, the customers are patient and grateful for the wonderful deals they get, and I’m helping all of the animals and wildlife at the shelter by being there every week.”

Dane County Humane Society’s Thrift Store opened its doors in January 2019, and it has performed beyond our wildest expectations since. Because of the store’s initial success, we needed to move to a larger location. We closed temporarily for the move and then due to the pandemic, but our new location opened to shoppers in June 2020, and sales and donations skyrocketed. Thanks to our generous community, this past year was no different!

But with success comes a lot of work. DCHS’s Thrift Store is mostly run by volunteers like Kay, who help sort and price the unique items we receive, run the cash register, entertain four-legged customers, and so much more. We rely heavily on the help of volunteers to manage these tasks, asking them to commit to a weekly shift lasting 2-3 hours. We have many amazing people who show up for us, but we’re in need of a few more.

“I didn’t think I would like volunteering at the Thrift



Inside DCHS’s Thrift Store



DCHS Thrift Store volunteer Kay Smith with her pup, Jessie

Store,” explains Kay, who started her volunteer tenure at DCHS working with dogs at the Main Shelter. “I added that volunteer assignment because they needed help.” But what Kay thought would be a short-lived stint of just a few months has turned into over a year of putting priced items out in the store and working the checkout counter.

“For animal and wildlife lovers who find it hard emotionally to work directly with homeless animals or injured or abandoned wildlife, volunteering at the DCHS Thrift Store is a perfect way to help,” Kay says. “I plan to continue as long as I can because I enjoy it so much!”

Visit DCHS’s Thrift Store at 6904 Watts Road or learn more at giveshelter.org/thrift/

Want to join a fun team of staff and volunteers who help save the lives of animals by showing up every day? All profits from the store support DCHS’s mission, so you can feel good knowing that your work helps animals in need. Here are some of the tasks you could help us with:

Cashier

Enjoy social interactions with our wonderful customers as you check out their purchases.

Pricer

We aim to strike a balance: get the most we can for animals in need while providing a great deal to the humans in our community. It’s a gratifying feeling to see an item you just priced get snatched up as soon as it goes on the floor!

Sorter

Sorters get the first look at all of the unique treasures coming in the door.

If this sounds like a fit for you, visit giveshelter.org/volunteer to apply!



Volunteers

Throughout the shelter,

658 **61,760**
volunteers contributed hours of service.



You’re Warmly Invited to Experience the DCHS Mission Firsthand

Since 2018, our Directors’ Council members have made a tremendous impact on DCHS’s mission and enjoyed behind-the-scenes experiences at the main shelter and beyond. You can join this devoted and loyal group of supporters by giving \$1,000 a year (\$84/month) or more to support the lifesaving work of DCHS.

To show our gratitude for their dedication and to connect them to the mission they so generously support, we invite Directors’ Council members to engage in unique animal experiences. Special experiences in 2021 included witnessing the release of a barred owl and enjoying an



insider view of the process we follow when transfer dogs arrive at the shelter.

Directors’ Council experiences can be events like Kittens and Koffee, behind-the-scenes tours of our Wildlife Center and Animal Medical Services department, and volunteer experiences that include cuddling with cute animals at the shelter.

For questions regarding DCHS’s Directors’ Council, please contact Paul Vornholt, Associate Director of Development at pvornholt@giveshelter.org or (608) 838-0413 ext. 117.





Jerome and Hank



Hank in his loving home

Reuniting Souls to Create New Loving Families

“Hank and his new dad seemed to be two reunited souls,” says Cece Marzano, a Shelter Resource Counselor at Dane County Humane Society (DCHS). “Hank truly came alive when he met Jerome.”

Hank, a white and tan Siberian husky mix, went home with his new dad last July, and they’ve thrived together ever since. But Hank had a long, and at times challenging, road before finding his new family.

As an open-admission shelter, DCHS accepts all animals that need assistance regardless of age, health status, or temperament. This means animals come to DCHS with varied needs – some need immediate medical attention, some simply need food and shelter, some need vaccinations, and some need extra help learning their manners. Hank fell into this last group.

Hank arrived at DCHS in May of 2021 from an overcrowded shelter in Mississippi. We noticed shortly after his arrival that he was uncomfortable, stressed, and

fearful. He didn’t want to be touched, became tense with any sort of body handling, and carefully guarded his food.

Veterinary staff started him on stress-reducing medication, and the Canine Behavior Team (CBT) stepped in to provide behavioral support that could relieve anxiety. As Hank began to settle in, there were moments when he was loose and wiggly, a relaxed and comfortable dog, but there were still many moments when he was clearly concerned by his surroundings.

Hank liked to show affection by jumping on his friends and mouthing their hands. Aptly named “jumpy/mouthy,” this kind of behavior is rarely related to dominance or aggression; it’s a normal canine response to excitement, energy, or stress – three things Hank had in abundance.

All of this made it clear that Hank would need a little extra help getting ready to go home.

CBT’s Behavior Modification program helps dogs that

need extra training to be successful in a new home. Through a Behavior Modification plan, each dog receives daily, dedicated training time from people who follow set protocols and keep detailed notes.

“The Behavior Modification program works on unwanted behaviors, and in turn, helps the dog be a better family member,” says Jessica Marchant, Canine Behavior Team Supervisor. “We work on specific behaviors that the dog is showing in the shelter and showed at home if we know the behavior background.”

Jessica and CBT assigned Hank a Behavior Modification protocol designed to work on body handling and over-excitement.

“While on Behavior Modification, he was bouncing back and forth from tense, jumping up, mouthing, and freezing to calm, playing fetch, doing better with body handling,” says Jessica. “We worked on conditioning him to a Gentle Leader (a type of collar), which helped him calm down and enabled the team to better handle him.”

During his weeks on a Behavior Modification plan, Hank gradually improved. Still, DCHS staff knew he would need a special family, ideally someone who had experience with huskies and who was prepared to handle Hank’s BIG personality.

Luckily for Hank, his perfect match was out there looking for him.

“I fell in love with Hank after seeing him on the Humane Society website,” says Jerome Holliday, Hank’s new dad. “I knew he was a perfect fit for me.”

Jerome came to meet Hank at the shelter, and it was immediately obvious they were meant to be.

“Jerome simply crouched down and said, ‘my baby!’” says Cece. “And Hank was a puddle in his lap. One of my best adoption looks to this day!”

Jerome had an understanding of huskies and couldn’t wait to take Hank on long walks and runs. He was also provided with specialized information on Hank’s behavior.

Jessica explains, “When adopters come in to meet a dog, the Adoption Center staff will go over the Behavior

Reuniting continues on page 10

Canine Behavior Team

88 dogs were enrolled in DCHS’s Behavior Modification program.

188 dogs were enrolled in training classes, including:

85 in Good Dog! Fundamentals and

35 in Virtual Loose-Leash Walking Workshops.



Animal Medical Services

8,701 medical exams performed

1,739 spay/neuter surgeries performed on

921 cats, **740** dogs, **66** rabbits, **11** rats, and **1** pig.

183 dental surgeries performed on

146 cats and **37** dogs.

93 other surgeries performed, including amputations, mass removals, and eye removals.

63 UW veterinary students attended ambulatory rotations at DCHS to learn about shelter medicine and management.

Why Join DCHS Humane Education Programs?

Dane County Humane Society's Humane Education programs are back! Whether you are looking for scout workshops, birthday parties, tours and presentations, or Camp Pawprint, we have the *purrfect* event for you!

Why join DCHS Humane Education programs?

Learn and Grow With New Friends!

You'll get a chance to learn life skills like responsibility and empathy through caring for a variety of animals with fellow campers.

Meet Animals!

Whether your event includes reading to cats, helping with dog training, or learning about our classroom critters, every attendee will get a chance to meet some of our DCHS animals.

Help Others!

Caring for the animals at DCHS is a team sport. You'll get a chance to help stuff Kongs with dog treats, make cat toys or blankets, or craft adoption posters to help our animals find their new families.



Jerome and Hank on Hank's adoption day

Reuniting continued

Modification spreadsheet, where all the people who worked with the dog write up what they worked on, how the dog did with the protocols, and if the dog learned a different way than what was on the protocol. Each dog has handouts for their particular behavior and explanations for how to continue to work with them."

Jerome continued the work Hank started in his Behavior Modification plan. "He has learned how to fetch his toys and bring them back, especially when he is at the park," says Jerome. "Hank is friendly and gets along great with any pet, including cats! He is also great around people."

In addition to learning manners, Hank is learning how to be a good friend to Jerome. "The other night, Hank woke me up out of a devastating nightmare," Jerome explains. "I felt his cold nose and his head under my arm to wake me up. This behavior is alert and outstanding for my health. He has become a precious joy in my life."

It's thanks to your generous support that DCHS can give dedicated time and attention to animals like Hank who need a little extra training to be successful in their new homes. Together with you, our incredible community, we can reunite lost souls and create new loving families, just like Hank and Jerome. Thank you! 🐾

*Written by Natasha Saidikowski,
Donor Engagement Coordinator*



Seeing Her Impact Firsthand

Before Holly Hill-Putnam became a Constant Companion, she saw firsthand how Dane County Humane Society (DCHS) was helping companion animals and wildlife in need.

Holly started volunteering at DCHS in Animal Medical Services and Wildlife Center in February 2012. She then added more volunteer opportunities to her list, including education, orientation for new volunteers, assisting at special events, and caring for the animals that help us teach children how to care for pets. In total, Holly has put in over 16,000 volunteer hours, and she's still going strong.

"It's been 10 years, and DCHS has changed dramatically in that time," says Holly. "So much of that is due to funding. There were times I wondered if we'd even be able to continue supporting local wildlife due to budget constraints."

DCHS is a private, community-supported non-profit that



Holly with a classroom rat



Holly with Ranger Jake the Corn Snake at Bark & Wine 2021

is not affiliated with any government agency or national animal welfare group. That means most of our funding comes from donations. DCHS's Wildlife Center also is not affiliated with any government agency, although it must follow regulations established by those entities. The Wildlife Center is supported entirely by the community.

Holly had been volunteering for just over a year when the financial struggles became evident, and she decided to do her part to sustain DCHS. This led Holly to become a Constant Companion, a DCHS recurring monthly donor, in July 2013.

"Becoming a Constant Companion provides a steady income stream that allows our wonderful staff to put programs in place," says Holly, "and know that we will be able to continue them!" These are programs such as Pets for Life, which helps low-income pet owners get the supplies and veterinary care their pets need, and expanding DCHS's Wildlife Center's rehabilitation efforts to include more species.

The support of Constant Companions allows DCHS to adapt quickly to the changing needs of our community, and the dependable funding makes DCHS's continued growth and evolution possible.

"Seeing all the programs that have been created all around the shelter makes me proud to be a part of DCHS," says Holly. "Share the pride in knowing you are a part of making Madison a truly animal loving community!"

To join generous Constant Companions like Holly and be a hero to animals in need, visit giveshelter.org/cc.



Bill meets Dandelion for the first time in a look room at DCHS



DCHS's Adoption Center

Adopters Welcome

What It Means and Why We Practice It

Picture this – a happy, energetic dog has just arrived at an animal shelter and is looking for a new home. Some lovely folks come to meet him, they give him yummy treats and belly rubs, and, for a moment, they begin to plan their perfect life together. But it turns out those nice folks don't have a fenced-in backyard, so their application to adopt the pup is denied.

The next day, another perfectly wonderful person sees the dog in his kennel and falls in love. But their annual income is just below the required limit, and so they, too, are turned away.

The shelter staff have nothing but the best intentions and are dedicated to finding that dog the perfect home, but the longer he stays in the shelter the more we have to wonder, *is this really what's best for the dog?*

Some shelters and rescues look only for the *perfect* home and turn away people who could provide great homes. This sometimes sows mistrust in the community of people who have been told they aren't good enough to adopt, and it can lead to shelters becoming overcrowded

with animals staying longer than they otherwise might. And for shelters that aren't adoption guarantee like DCHS, this can even mean euthanasia.

If you're interested in adopting from Dane County Humane Society (DCHS), you won't find an application online – we don't have one! We don't want to see your paystubs, and we're not interested in what your landlord has to say about you. Because at DCHS, we practice an adoption approach known as **Adopters Welcome**.

Our approach focuses on removing barriers and judgment from our adoption process, having open conversations with our adopters, and helping them find the pet that is going to be the best fit for their lifestyle. We've moved away from time-consuming requirements like lengthy applications, home visits, background checks...the list goes on. We have instead accepted that these things are simply not the best metrics for what makes a good pet owner.

Rather than picking and choosing who gets to take a pet home, we celebrate our community's willingness to

adopt! We find ways to say "Yes" to adopters, we provide the tools needed to set them up for success regardless of their circumstances, and we build a trusting relationship so they continue to see us as a resource throughout the life of their pet. With this approach, we've significantly reduced the amount of time each animal stays in our care, allowing us to place more pets into new homes each year.

If you want to add a furry family member to your home, all you have to do is stop by the shelter (any day except Wednesday) and chat with us in the Adoption Center. We're looking forward to getting to know you and matching you with a great new addition to your family! 🐾

Written by Tim Clark, Shelter Resource Supervisor

2021 Annual Report

Intake

3,906 companion animals admitted

1,071 animals transferred in from other groups



Adoptions

2,682 animals adopted

1,299 cats

1,050 dogs

333 other species



Save Rate

93% save rate for all companion animals

94% save rate for cats

93% save rate for dogs

Barn

47 barn animals were cared for by Dane County Humane Society

28 chickens

2 turkeys

11 ducks

1 pheasant

2 horses

1 goose

2 pigs



Foster

104 foster families provided homes for

491 animals needing to grow, rest, and recover

296 cats

73 dogs

122 critters



F.I.T. Center

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

76 of those cats were from **12** different outside organizations.

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

(This is **2,000%** more cats than 2020!)

23 volunteers spent **1,444** hours caring for cats in the F.I.T. Center.



Jackie Sandberg examines a Virginia opossum with assistance from an apprentice and two volunteers.

2,579

wild animals were admitted in 2021 after being found ill, injured, or orphaned

152 Unique Species

113 avian, **26** mammal, **13** reptile/amphibian

The Wildlife Center is turning 20!

Dane County Humane Society (DCHS)'s Wildlife Center was founded in 2002 and has grown to be **the third-largest wildlife rehabilitation center in Wisconsin**. Our mission is to promote the health and welfare of wildlife through rehabilitation, professional training, and public education. The Wildlife Center is coordinated by six full-time licensed staff, one part-time veterinary technician, one annual apprentice, and approximately 20 interns. With help from over 150 volunteers, our team works together to help the thousands of sick, injured, or orphaned wild animals admitted to the Wildlife Center each year. **We're entering our 20th year in operation and are excited to celebrate this milestone with our supporters!**



DCHS's Wildlife Center

Two Little Winter Birds

Two Wisconsin winter birds, a common redpoll and an American tree sparrow, both uncommon patients, were admitted and treated at Dane County Humane Society's Wildlife Center in early 2022. The tree sparrow hit a patio door just before dark and was kept overnight in a quiet, warm space until it could be admitted the next morning. The redpoll audibly and forcefully hit a window at a person's home and was immediately rushed to the Wildlife Center for medical evaluation.

Two little winter birds, sitting in a tree:
both flew off and came to be,
Sitting on the ground with an injury.
Reflective glass, a shining light.
Mirrored trees and windows bright,
Each of which can risk their life.
For urban structures interfere,
with all the birds who migrate here,
Causing pain, and death, and strife.

Yet caring folks look outside;
and people help, with not much time,
To pick up birds and bring them home.
To give them warmth and time alone.
They offer rest, a place to stay.
Kindness given, unbeknown.

But many times, it's not enough,
as these small birds have had it rough.
More is needed, but most don't see.

It takes a specialist, not you or me,
For rehabilitation and recovery.
With skillful hands and open hearts,
they do the job gladly, but there's costs.
Putting together broken parts,
For which your gifts can help a lot.

X-rays, bloodwork, meds, or swabs.
They truly have a difficult job.
But in this way, they make things right
For injured birds flown through the night.
A fractured shoulder, swollen ears,
bruised eyelids, or bloody nares,
These wild creatures need best odds to fight.

A second chance to fly away,
a reverse from what it was that day
When they'd struck a pane with fierce deliverance,
And in the snow, they sat with innocence.
Human caused, they'd put them there.
Yet others chose to give them care,
Restored their health and made them well.
It gave them all a story to tell,
And releasing them makes all the difference.

Both little winter birds have since been released to their home territories: the redpoll on February 7, 2022, and the tree sparrow on February 21, 2022. 🐦

Written by Jackie Sandberg, Wildlife Program Manager



The American tree sparrow



The common redpoll

Upcoming Events

Camp Pawprint-Summer Break

June 27-August 26

Camp Pawprint-Summer Break is a series of themed, week-long day camps held Monday through Friday. Campers ages 7-12 years old will enjoy animal interactions and pet-related lessons, learn from local animal experts, complete service projects for the shelter, and play games with fellow campers! Together, we'll learn how to care for, support, and appreciate all living things. Can't make it this summer? We've got day camp options throughout the school year, too! Visit giveshelter.org/camp to learn more.

Bark & Wine: Gone Wild

Saturday, October 15

This year's Bark & Wine is going wild to celebrate our Wildlife Center's 20th Anniversary! In addition to snuggling puppies, playing with kittens, and enjoying tasty beverages and hors d'oeuvres, you'll also get a peek behind the curtain to see how our wildlife rehabilitators save thousands of lives each year. With on-screen Wildlife Center tours, a livestream of current patients roosting in flight pens, and lots of displays to bring wildlife rehabilitation to you, it's everything you love about Bark & Wine, plus an extra celebration of our native critters! Reserve your walk on the wild side before we sell out at giveshelter.org/bw.

Host an Independent Fundraiser

All year!

Hosting an independent fundraiser is a wonderful (and fun!) way to raise funds and make a difference for animals in need. With an independent fundraiser, you have the freedom and creativity to help local animals in a variety of unique and flexible ways. Past events have included percentage of sales, lemonade stands, concerts, chili cook-offs, tailgate parties, raffles, and more! From local businesses to national chains, scout groups to knitting clubs, together these fundraisers generate over one hundred thousand dollars for DCHS annually. Whatever type of event you choose, DCHS can help make it a success! For more information, visit giveshelter.org/how-to-help or contact us at events@giveshelter.org.

2021 Annual Report

Independent Fundraisers

\$128,023 donated to DCHS

through **145** independent events,

69 hosted by local businesses and

30 hosted by kids.



Media Highlights

3,000+ new newsletter subscribers

1,500+ new Instagram followers

3,700+ new Facebook followers across three Facebook pages

Over 5.1 million

website views in 2021.

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



Connect With Us!

giveshelter.org/enews

DCHS (@GiveShelter)

DCHS's Wildlife Center (@DCHSWC)
DCHS Thrift Store (@DCHSThriftStore)

@DCHSGiveShelter

Major Events

48 organizations provided cash and in-kind sponsorships

384 supporters joined Toto's Gala online which raised over

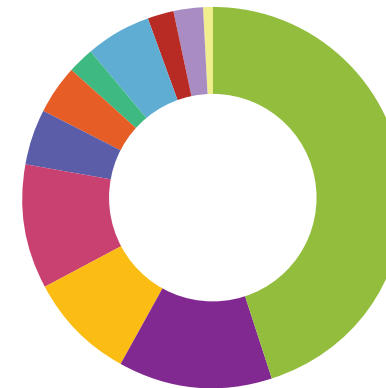
\$137,622.

147 in-person and **186** virtual guests attended Bark & Wine which raised

\$137,288.



Revenue



Individual Donations	\$2,847,105	45.22%
Bequests	\$ 823,285	13.07%
Payroll Protection Program Loan	\$ 571,838	9.08%
Program Services & Fees	\$ 669,060	10.63%
Major Events	\$ 297,411	4.72%
Municipal Contracts	\$ 265,591	4.22%
Grants	\$ 124,000	1.97%
Thrift Store	\$ 364,982	5.8%
Independent Events	\$ 128,023	2.03%
Investments & Misc. Income	\$ 158,810	2.52%
Merchandise Sales	\$ 46,551	0.74%
Total	\$6,296,656	100%

Expenses



Direct Program Expenses	\$3,546,499	67.86%
Fundraising, Marketing, & Thrift Store	\$1,185,104	22.68%
Management & General	\$ 494,317	9.46%
Total	\$5,225,920	100%

2021 Board of Directors

Joseph S. Goode President	Joy Cardin Sara Colopy
Laura Murray Vice President	Joel Davidson Julie Fagan
Cathy Holmes Secretary/Treasurer	Amy Johnson Maggie Premo



Create a Legacy That Helps Animals for Generations

Be part of Dane County Humane Society's next 100 years of helping animals in need by joining our Legacy Society. When you include DCHS in your will or other estate plans, you ensure DCHS will be a place of refuge, healing, and new beginnings for companion

animals and wildlife in need for generations to come. It costs nothing to give today. Join our Legacy Society by letting us know that you've included us in your estate plans, and be a part of creating a more humane future.

To learn more, contact Amy Good at (608) 838-0413 ext. 129 or agood@giveshelter.org, or visit giveshelter.org/legacy.

Please consult your personal legal and financial advisors in matters of tax and estate planning.



Dane County Humane Society

is a community-supported, independent non-profit. We are not affiliated with any government agency or national animal welfare organization. We receive the majority of our funding from the generosity of our community -- individual donations, bequests, corporate support, grants, and fundraising efforts.

Here are three meaningful ways to support DCHS's lifesaving mission:

Memorial Giving

Make a gift to celebrate a person, animal, or special occasion to honor those who have touched your life and support animals at DCHS: giveshelter.org/honor

Be Their Constant Companion

Join devoted supporters giving monthly to sustain the lifesaving work of DCHS, and be a hero to animals in need: giveshelter.org/cc

Create a Legacy

Include DCHS in your legacy plans and ensure a humane future for generations to come. It's simple and costs you nothing today: giveshelter.org/legacy