



Humane Society
OF SUMMIT COUNTY™
Support the Pawsibilities

2017 | Annual Report



ABOUT US

Since 1968, the Humane Society of Summit County (HSSC) has proudly served as the leading resource for humane law enforcement, animal welfare education, and animal adoption services within Summit County. We advocate and care for those who cannot do so themselves.

Within our 33,000 sq. ft. facility in Twinsburg, Ohio, our staff and volunteers diligently work to medically treat and rehabilitate our community's animals in the most desperate need of help. Our efforts provide nearly 2,500 animals each year with the chance at leading happy, healthy, and safe lives. We are a no time limit animal rescue organization - all of our adoptable animals are cared for until they find their new home.

OUR MISSION

The Humane Society of Summit County (HSSC) cares and advocates for the abused, neglected, and abandoned animals of our community. Through education and support, we strengthen the bond between people and animals.

2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Patrick Weschler, Chair
Buckingham, Doolittle & Burroughs, LLP

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Diane Treier
Retired, Akron Public Schools

Bob Zajac
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A NOTE

As the Humane Society of Summit County heads into its 50th year of service to the animals most in need in our community, I am struck with a feeling of intense pride. Pride in the opportunity we have to provide second chances to the animals who deserve them most. Pride in offering adopters with a connection to their new best friend on one of the most exciting days of their lives. Pride in how far we have come as a community to be a safer, more humane place for companion animals.



And yet, every day, our staff and volunteers see and intervene in harrowing situations: animals who have been abandoned, hurt by people who were supposed to care for them, had their spirits broken through neglect and suffering. We rescued nearly 2,500 animals in 2017 from conditions just like these. It is the animals themselves in their own journeys of healing who remind us that resilience, hope, and gratitude are essential to recovery and also guide us in our mission to improve our community and make a difference for each animal.

2017 was a year of many great achievements. As the preeminent rescue organization serving Summit County, we have managed to continue providing a high level of service to rescue animals and the community while expanding our adoption and enrichment programs. These efforts include the introduction of a robust off-site adoption initiative made possible by our new Mobile Adoption Center. For our rescued dogs, we launched a revolutionary canine playgroup program to boost physical and mental stimulation and benefit their overall wellbeing. Enrichment opportunities were also introduced for our cats through community cat enclosures to help our felines adjust to the shelter environment and subsequently find great families more quickly.



Our pride in our work is affirmed by you, our supporters. We are honored to receive broad and generous support from community members like you and couldn't provide the quality or breadth of animal rescue services we do without your generous investment. We are deeply grateful for your support whether through adopting, volunteering, fostering, being an ambassador for our mission in the community, or through your financial support. Your partnership saves lives and is vital to our success. Thank you for being a hero for the animals.

Sincerely,

Diane Johnson

Diane Johnson, President/CEO

RESCUE

The Humane Society of Summit County is the only animal rescue organization in Summit County that enforces the legal mandate to rescue and protect abused, abandoned, and neglected companion animals. Our two Humane Officers are graduates of Ohio's Peace Officer Training for Humane Agents with decades of experience serving their community.

Our Humane Officers are dedicated to connecting with our community and providing effective education and resources for citizens to comply with humane laws. In situations of animal cruelty offenses, our Humane Officers have the full legal authority to perform arrests,

seize animals, collect evidence, and file charges against offenders. They work closely with prosecutors to seek justice for animal victims. We rely heavily upon our community to report suspected animal abuse offenses to our Humane Officers. The diligence and compassion of concerned citizens allow us to end animal suffering and save lives. As needed, our Humane Officers also respond to emergency medical calls and rescue stray animals suffering from severe illness and injury.

Our Humane Officers are proudly responsible for protecting the animals in our community who cannot protect themselves.



Animal cruelty and abandonment investigations

743

Follow up investigations

599

Emergency medical responses for sick and injured stray animals

109

Animals rescued from abuse, neglect, and abandonment

322

Sick and injured stray animals brought to our facility by compassionate citizens

797

Total animals rescued in 2017

2,434

"I am proud to be an HSSC Humane Officer. My role allows to me to serve both animals AND people in need - two causes I am most passionate about."

- Maribeth Flowers, Humane Officer



An Incredible Journey

Sweet Hector had quite the journey - literally. This handsome kitty was maliciously abandoned in a vehicle that had been sold in Toledo and transported by freight to the Akron area in the middle of a freezing winter. Miraculously, Hector survived his very frightening ordeal and was discovered by a Good Samaritan who rushed him to our facility for care before it was too late.

In our care, Hector took some time to warm up from his chilling experience, but once he began to trust his care-givers and gain a bit of weight, he was as sweet as could be! Today, Hector lives safe and sound with his new forever family where he is showered with love and affection, all the toys he could ever need, and can watch the snow falling from the comfort and safety of his warm bed.



Hope Against All Odds

Discovered first by Akron police while serving an unrelated search warrant, Josephine and three other dogs were found distressed, emaciated, and confined to cages in a basement with no food or water. Their condition was horrifying. Josephine, a German Shepherd, weighed just 45 pounds and would require intensive veterinary care to survive.

Once introduced to the kind and loving touch of humans, the resilience demonstrated by all four dogs astounded staff and volunteers. Josephine more than doubled her weight while slowly gaining strength and energy each day of her stay at HSSC. Four months after her rescue, Josephine finally found the loving family she always deserved. She now enjoys the comforts of a warm home, hikes in the park, and outings with friends. She will never again be subject to the cruelty and neglect that she once knew.



A Whirlwind Welcome

In September 2017, HSSC welcomed 14 cats from coastal regions of Florida which were devastated by Hurricane Irma. The adoptable felines were transported out of local shelters in the hurricane's path to make room for displaced and lost pets who would be left waiting, desperate to be reunited with their families following the catastrophic storm.

In a combined effort with Rescue Village in Geauga County, Portage APL, and Parma Animal Shelter, our partnership provided shelter, care, and eventually new homes for 60 cats in total. We are delighted to have been able to open our shelter to help our friends in Florida and support animal rescue efforts on a national level!



“I feel that there are no animals more deserving of a second chance than our shelter animals, and they need the care the most. Seeing animals find their forever homes is one of the most rewarding parts of my job.”

- Dr. Melisa Kauffman, DVM,
Shelter Veterinarian

Costello Rises from the Ashes

Emergency medical care saves the lives of our rescued animals every day. Last year, these services saved the life of Costello who survived one of the most horrific accidents we have ever encountered. Following a devastating house fire, first responders were shocked to find a cat among the rubble. Costello was miraculously alive, but suffering from severe burns to his eyes, nose, and paws. His fur and whiskers were singed, and he was obviously frightened. Our veterinary team carefully treated Costello's wounds, provided him with medication to ease his pain, and monitored his difficult recovery. Once he was healthy and happy, Costello was ready for his future with a new family and today, enjoys the comforts and love of an adoptive home!

REHABILITATE

We are dedicated to providing each of our rescued animals with skilled, compassionate veterinary attention. Focused on abused and neglected animals, the majority of our animals are in desperate need of our medical services. Each day, our experienced veterinary team assesses new intakes, drafts treatment plans, performs surgeries, conducts medical exams, and completes a daily round to check each of the hundreds of animals in our care. Our Medical, Surgical, and Isolation Suite,

built in 2011, is fully equipped to address the medical needs of our animal population. Since its creation, over 40,000 lifesaving veterinary exams and surgeries have been performed within our facility. Along with receiving lifesaving care to heal wounds, parasitic infections, and other illnesses, each of our animals is given appropriate vaccinations, microchipped, and spayed or neutered by our veterinary team in preparation for their adoption.

Veterinary surgeries performed

1,642

Medical exams conducted

10,214

Clinical laboratory tests

198





ENRICH

Along with healing the physical wounds and ailments of our rescued animals, we are committed to enriching their mental and physical wellbeing as well. Daily, staff and volunteers shower our animals with affection while they wait for a family of their own. Our animals receive individualized attention and enjoy playing, pets, treats, toys, and plenty of time outdoors and in training. With patience and understanding, we allow our animals to become comfortable with their new surroundings and learn how to develop trust and relationships with humans.

In addition to daily walks and socialization time, our dogs also enjoy special playgroup sessions a new program introduced in 2017. Inspired by the success of Dogs Playing for Life!, our playgroups provide our rescued dogs with intense physical exercise and mental stimulation, helping to decrease boredom and limit the effects of common shelter-

related stressors. Following a generous grant award from the Pedigree Foundation in late 2017, HSSC will be renovating our outdoor enrichment yard to better accommodate our playgroup sessions, further increasing the effectiveness and impact of the new program.

With the guidance of our Certified Professional Dog Trainers, our dogs also complete behavioral training to set them up for success in adoptive homes. With the help of experienced volunteers, a variety of training programs are offered and tailored to teach confidence, basic manners, tricks, and important skills. Training classes are also available to families post-adoption and to the public.

Volunteer hours of canine socialization

7,664

Volunteer hours of canine training class

1,027

Volunteer hours of feline socialization

2,347

“One of the greatest joys of fostering, for me, is when they are chosen to be adopted into their new forever home.”

- Kathy Kraft, HSSC Volunteer



"We adopted Bailey on June 27th, 2017. At the time, Bailey's entire undercoat and fur on her tail were pretty much gone due to fleas she had when she was rescued, and she was looking a bit scraggly.

She was very aloof and hesitant the week I brought her home. She was not very affectionate at first and preferred to stay downstairs while we were upstairs. There were times I wondered if she would ever bond with us.

Within a few weeks, everything changed. Bailey now follows me everywhere. She loves cheek rubs, butt scratches, and lying next to us on the couch. She loves to please and is so eager to learn and do what we ask. She is protective, but not aggressive.

She is a different dog than she was when we adopted her, but none of this would have been possible without the Humane Society to save her.

Thank you, everyone, from the bottom of our hearts."

ADOPT

Our final goal for each of our rescued animals is adoption into a loving, safe home. We are dedicated to achieving the best possible outcome for our animals. There is no better feeling than witnessing an animal who was once a victim become a cherished member of a family. We are a no time limit animal rescue organization; all of our adoptable animals are cared for until they find their new home.

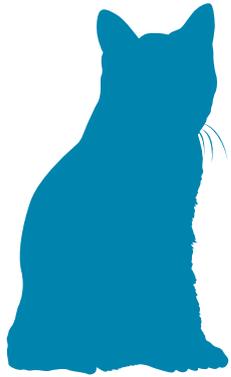
Prior to their adoption, each of our animals is vaccinated, spayed or neutered, treated for common parasites, and microchipped. All of our dogs over six months of age receive a temperament assessment by our Certified Professional Dog Trainer to assess for suitable adoption placement. We strive to match prospective adopters with the appropriate pet for their family, lifestyle, and expectations. Prospective adopters receive individualized attention by our Adoption Counselors throughout the adoption process to provide important information such as an insight into an animal's personality, advice on how to introduce an animal to a new environment, and a review of an animal's medical history. These efforts increase the chances for successful and permanent placement of animals with loving families prepared for the responsibility of pet ownership.

In an attempt to assist community members who could benefit most from animal companionship, we continuously offer discounted adoption fees to senior citizens, veterans, and active military members to encourage adoption.

Our relationship with adopters and their animals continues after adoption. Our Director of Behavior and Outreach is available throughout the life of the pet for behavioral counseling and assistance. Dog training courses are also offered to our adopters at a discounted cost to teach obedience and manners. If for any reason an adoption placement does not work, we always accept our animals back into our care to find a more appropriate home.



ADOPTIONS



FELINES
1232
Cats 533
Kittens 699



CANINES
632
Dogs 509
Puppies 123



Rabbits
59



Guinea Pigs
27



Ferrets
21



Rats
20



Mice
10



Other
7



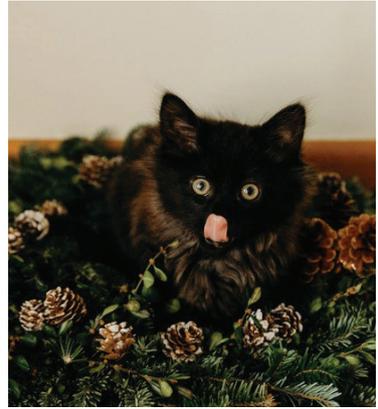
VETERAN PET PROGRAM

In support of the armed forces, the Humane Society of Summit County introduced a new adoption initiative for our veterans and active military personnel. Those who qualify for the Veteran Pet Program receive a discount on adoption fees in an effort to pair American heroes with homeless pets. Retired Marine Sergeant Dave Rosen adopted his new best friend Hef, a 10 year old Pomeranian who was rescued as an injured stray, through the program. Says Rosen, "Hef was the best money I ever spent....we need each other." Hef has since completed Emotional Support Animal training and the pair spends time volunteering at local nursing homes to provide support to elderly residents.

Animal companionship has been clinically shown to have significant psychological, physiological, and social benefits for adopters. It is our hope that by encouraging pet adoption at HSSC, we can not only honor and support our military community, but also find our deserving animals loving homes.

HAPPY ENDINGS IN THEIR NEW HOMES







WILLOW'S LONG AWAITED HAPPY ENDING

Willow was one of our longest-residing dogs until her adoption in April 2017. Rescued by our Humane Officers in 2014, Willow waited 891 days until her new family visited our facility, met this sweet but shy terrier mix, and fell in love.

“When Willow first came home, she was scared of everything - the TV, the ceiling fan, even the phone ringing. She would not even go down the two stairs to the backyard. She didn’t bark or make any noises. It took a lot of love and understanding before she trusted us and started showing affection. Now, a year later, Willow makes noises when she needs to go out or is hungry. She rarely barks, but she talks to us every day. She has become the love of our lives and is friendly to visitors. She likes her daily routine and snuggles and kisses us every day. I am so glad we found each other, and I can only hope we have many years together. Thank you all for helping us find each other. She brings us as much joy as we bring her!”

ON THE ROAD TO FOREVER HOMES

MOBILE ADOPTION CENTER

The Humane Society of Summit County is proud to unveil our brand new, state-of-the-art Mobile Adoption Center made possible through the generous support of the Remen Family Foundation. Our fully equipped 27' vehicle is custom designed to house up to 28 animals safely and comfortably for travel throughout the county. Adoption Counselors and volunteers travel with animals to community events, civic groups, corporate offices, local businesses, and more to provide on-site adoptions and animal welfare education. This revolutionary vehicle expands the reach of HSSC throughout Summit County, opens new doors to potential forever homes for animals in need, and reduces the length of stay for animals in our care enabling us to serve more animals in need.

Between April and October 2017, the Mobile Adoption Center attended more than 70 events throughout Summit County! Through our program, we reached 20,000 visitors and provided close to 100 adoptions while taking in more than \$2,500 worth of monetary donations, supplies, and in-kind gifts.



VOLUNTEER

Humane Society of Summit County volunteers are critical to our daily operations and help our animals prepare for their future. Volunteer opportunities include animal enrichment, socialization, dog walking, event planning, fostering, laundry services, administrative assistance, facility maintenance, and more. The efforts of volunteers are instrumental to the success of every facet of our operation. We are very proud to sustain a volunteer program that is continuously expanding and welcoming new, eager participants. Our volunteers give so much of themselves to make our mission a reality. We are immensely grateful for their time, talent, compassion, and dedication to improving the lives of animals in need!

VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR!

Active volunteers in 2017

550

Hours of donated time

31,895

Community volunteer
group experiences

28

Steve Waypa



Steve is a skilled dog handler and has been a member of our volunteer team since 2010. Steve can be found walking dogs, attending behavioral training classes, and assisting with off-site adoption events.

Rick Smith



A volunteer since 2013, Rick is a familiar face at HSSC. In addition to walking dogs, Rick also helps to keep our facility in great shape by tackling various maintenance projects!



OUTREACH

Our mission continues to be successful because of the dedicated support we receive from our community. We strive to connect and engage with animal advocates and the community at large through educational programs, Mobile Adoption events, and special fundraising events.

Our youth-focused educational programs address proper animal care, basic animal behavior, the importance of spay/neuter, and how children can help support animal rescue efforts with the underlying goal of preventing animal abuse and neglect. On-site programs

conclude with a guided tour of our facility, allowing participants to meet our animals and put their new skills and knowledge in practice.

Annual fundraising events bring members of our community together to not only show their support of HSSC, but to celebrate the important role of animals in our lives. With events such as Bow Wow Bingo, Bark in the Park, and The Pawsibility Ball, our supporters engage, mingle, and help to make a difference in the lives of animals.



Community members engaged through outreach

32,000

Community outreach programs annually

189

OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS

Over 6,500 people in 2017 supported the Humane Society of Summit County to provide ongoing, essential services to the animals most in need in our community. There are many ways to be a hero to animals - from supporting our annual fund drive, to contributing food and supplies, to attending our fundraisers and community events. However you give, we are honored and grateful our donors and contributors choose to invest in our work to rescue animals and complete families through adoption.

Total annual fund support

\$1,160,404

Total number of donations

11,776

Value of in-kind donations of pet food and supplies

\$52,617+



2017 GRANT PARTNERS

Akron Community Foundation

James G. Robertson Fund

Rosalie and Cecil Smith Fund

The Allstate Foundation

American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

Annabelle Foundation

Lucy and Emily Beasley Charitable Trust

Glenn R. and Alice V. Boggess Memorial Foundation

Kenneth L. Calhoun Charitable Trust, KeyBank, Trustee

The Mary S. and David C. Corbin Foundation

Patricia and Harvey Graves Family Foundation

The Grey Muzzle Organization

Sandra L. and Dennis B. Haslinger Family Foundation

The Lehner Family Foundation

The Matthews Family Foundation

The Maynard Family Foundation

W. Paul Mills and Thora J. Mills Memorial Foundation

Laura R. and Lucian Q. Moffitt Foundation

The R.C. and Katharine M. Musson Charitable Foundation

Northern Ohio Golf Charities Foundation

Marissa Alexandra Norwood Legacy of Kindness Charitable Giving Fund

Ohio Pet Fund

Pedigree Foundation

Petfinder Foundation

The Pets for the Elderly Foundation

Charles E. and Mabel M. Ritchie Memorial Foundation

The Sisler McFawn Foundation

The Slanta-Murray Family Fund

Lloyd L. and Louise K. Smith Foundation

Helen and Louis Stolier Family Foundation

The Weitzel Family Foundation

The Welty Family Foundation

CORPORATE SUPPORT

In 2017, over 200 local businesses supported the Humane Society of Summit County through event sponsorship, matching gifts for employee donations, supply collections, in-kind support, and corporate group volunteering. We are grateful for their partnership that makes our work possible!



2017 Leading Corporate Partners (\$1,000+)

Acme Fresh Market
Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority
Boston Heights Veterinary Hospital
Buckingham, Doolittle & Burroughs
Cardinal Environmental Services, Inc.
Cascade Subaru
Chipotle Mexican Grill
Cohen & Company
Craft Beer Bar
Crum & Forster Insurance
Dr. Mark Daye, DVM
Delta Systems
Excelsior Marking
Falls Tool Rental

Fred Martin Superstore
Freight Solutions, Inc.
Gavin Scott Salon and Spa
General Atomics
Huntington National Bank
Industrial Tube and Steel Corp
Integrity Services Inc.
IntelliCorp Records, Inc.
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Jade Sterling Steel Company
The J. M. Smucker Company
JohnDow Industries
Kent State University
Kovatch Castings
L.D. Carlson Co.
Malt Products Corporation
Medco Health Solutions Charitable Match Fund
Meggitt Aircraft Braking Systems
Montrose Auto Group
National Interstate Insurance
Ohio State Home Services, Inc
Ohio Veterinary Surgery and Neurology
Parker Hannifin Corporation
Pet Supplies Plus
Premier Cremations Inc.
Progressive Casualty Insurance Company
RDA Hotel Management Company
Southwest Airlines
Stark & Knoll Co
Two Men and a Truck
Wells Trecaso Financial Group
Western Reserve Hospital
Western Reserve Racing LLC
Wild Republic
Wind River Associates
W. L. Tucker Supply

WAYS TO GIVE

Planned Giving

Leave a legacy of love by including the Humane Society of Summit County in your estate plans. We are honored to accept wills and bequests, gifts of real estate, insurance policies, retirement policies, and trusts.

Honorary and Memorial Gifts

A meaningful tribute to lost loved ones and pets or to honor a birthday, pet, friend, or special occasion.

IRA Required Minimum Distribution Donation

If you are 70 ½ or older, you may take advantage of a simple way to make a gift to HSSC and receive benefits in return by donating your required minimum distribution directly, reducing your annual taxable income. You benefit even if you don't itemize!

Vehicle Donation

Through our partner Charitable Adult Rides, donate your vehicle and make a meaningful financial contribution to HSSC.

In-Kind Giving

Donate basic shelter supplies like canned cat and dog food, hot dogs and peanut butter (for medications and training), bleach, laundry detergent, and more! To view a complete Shelter Supply Wish List, visit summithumane.org/Wish_List.

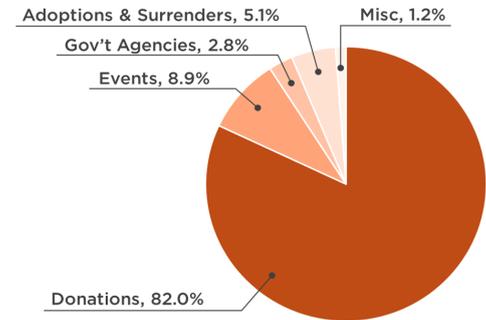
Visit us online to learn more about giving and to make an Annual Fund donation summithumane.org/Donate. Or, call 234-212-9749 to learn more about these and other charitable opportunities.

Your gift saves lives!

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

HSSC is proud to report a strong financial position at the end of 2017. With over 90% of our operating revenue raised through public support like private individual contributions, corporate giving, and foundation grantmaking, our shelter relies on the generosity of our local community of supporters to fulfill our mission to the animals of Summit County. While we continue to grow to meet the needs of homeless animals in our community, we remain committed to being responsible stewards of our financial resources that allow us to open our doors every day and provide lifesaving services to nearly 2,500 animals annually. Thank you for your support of the Humane Society of Summit County.

Income	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
Public Support			
Donations	\$1,028,279	\$184,742	\$1,213,021
Events (Net)	\$231,692		\$231,692
Bequests	\$424,201	\$500,000	\$924,201
Revenues			
Government Agencies	\$72,000		\$72,000
Adoptions, Surrenders, Animal Services, and Fines	\$133,622		\$133,622
Miscellaneous Income	\$32,354		\$32,354
Total Income	<u>\$1,922,148</u>	<u>\$684,742</u>	<u>\$2,606,890</u>



Expenses	
Program Services	\$1,536,483
Supporting Services	
Fundraising	\$324,566
Administrative	\$131,563
Total Expenses	<u>\$1,992,612</u>

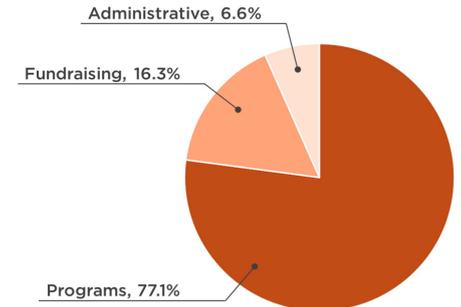




Photo Credits

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Vicki Lantz Photography

Tori Tedesco Design & Photography



Humane Society OF SUMMIT COUNTY™

Support the Pawsibilities

7996 Darrow Rd.
Twinsburg, OH 44087

www.summithumane.org

The Humane Society of Summit
County is a 501c3 tax-exempt
nonprofit organization.
Federal EIN: 23-7060744

Hours of Operation

Adoption

Monday: CLOSED
Tuesday to Friday: 1pm - 7pm
Saturday: 10am - 6pm
Sunday: 12pm - 5pm

Administrative Office

Monday to Friday: 9am - 5pm

Contact and Connect

(330) 487-0333

info@summithumane.org

