

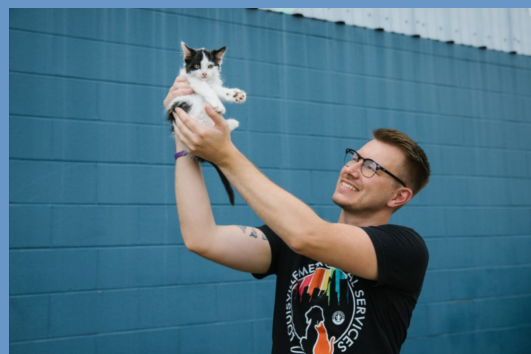


Friends of Metro Animal Services January 7, 2026 Newsletter



A Year of Helping Hands and Happy Tails: David W. Payne 2025 Reflection

How has 2026 already begun? It feels like just yesterday I was starting my first year at FOMAS, but here we are entering year two of a beautiful journey together. I sit here typing this piece, reflecting on the remarkable generosity and collaboration that defined this past year for Friends of Metro Animal Services (FOMAS). Together, we have made it a record-breaking year, not just in fundraising, but in impact. And that impact could not have come at a more



critical time. In 2025, nearly **10,000 animals** entered the doors of Metro Animal Services (MAS), a significant increase from the 8,700 seen the previous year. Thanks to your support, we have been able to provide for the ever-growing needs at MAS!

One of our most exciting achievements over the last twelve months was the WHAS11 telethon, which helped us raise **over \$30,000**. The project reimagined an old salt dome on the MAS property. This long-underutilized structure is now being transformed into an indoor play area where dogs can exercise, decompress, and socialize all year long, no matter what the weather.

We also continued our commitment to helping families stay together. The **Medical Voucher Program** proved to be one of the brightest spots of the year, providing critical veterinary assistance to pet owners who would have otherwise been forced to surrender their animals. By removing financial barriers to care, this program has kept beloved pets healthy, safe, and right where they belong.

In addition to medical support, we invested in the daily quality of life for animals on the MAS campus. With your financial support, we installed new sunshades to provide much-needed relief during the hot summer months and built another outdoor play yard, this one dedicated in loving memory of **Skip Kalkhof**, a valued team member who served MAS for more than 14 years. His legacy of kindness and dedication now lives on in a space where dogs can run, play, and simply be dogs.

Fundraising efforts across the board reached new heights. **Give for Good** was another record-setter, raising more than **\$26,000** thanks to the extraordinary generosity of our community. Every dollar raised by FOMAS goes right back into supporting the passionate MAS team. The ones who not only champion FOMAS programs like Return to Owner and Pay It Forward but also put in the hard work on the front lines every day to ensure animals find their forever homes.

As we look ahead at plans for 2026, FOMAS remains committed to strengthening our programs, expanding community resources, and continuing to stand beside MAS through every challenge and opportunity. Your support has made all this possible, and I am profoundly grateful to continue this journey with you for another year!

Home for the Pawlidays and Just in Time for the New Year!

The holiday season is one of the busiest times of the year. Many people are preparing for family gatherings, gift exchanges, and wrapping up deadlines. We are so busy, we often forget what this season truly represents. The holiday season is a time of cultural and religious traditions that emphasize joy, giving, family, and community. In this spirit, Metro Animal Services (MAS) hosted a Macy's Mall Adoption event on December 5th to help shelter animals find their new families and the Bissel Foundation covered all adoption fees for this heart-warming event.

The Jingle Bell Paws Adoption event was spectacular this year, and by the end of the day, 18 dogs were adopted. When we arrived to set up the FOMAS table, people were already lined up around the building. There were so many people who were ready to open their hearts and possibly adopt their new best friend. The dogs were having a great time soaking in the attention and listening to the hustle and bustle of the holiday shoppers. We



were so moved to see how many people were looking to bring one of these special dogs home. This holiday season had a record number of adoptions, and we are so happy for the animals that were given the opportunity to begin 2026 in a loving, warm home.

We Do It for the Animals: Cozy Films that Remind Us Why We Love Supporting #YourCityShelter

Winter is the perfect season for cozy movie nights with the family, including your four-legged family members. We curated a list of our favorite family-friendly pet movies for your viewing pleasure. When the weather outside is frightfully cold, nothing beats curling up under a blanket with your pet and pressing "play." Plus, pets make wonderful movie companions because they don't interrupt, don't ask questions, and make excellent cuddlers.

We hope you find these movies fun and entertaining. Animals are a part of everyday life, so it makes sense to see them featured in movies. When the season makes it difficult to get to the park or go on long walks, you can spend quality time with your pet by grabbing some treats and watching a pet-friendly movie. Enjoy the show, and please keep supporting FOMAS and MAS (#YourCityShelter), because every animal deserves a family movie night.



HOWLIN' GOOD TIMES DOG MOVIES

- 1 Hotel for Dogs (PG)
- 2 Snow Dogs (PG)
- 3 Beethoven (PG)
- 4 Because of Winn-Dixie (PG)
- 5 Beverley Hills Chihuahua (PG)

PURRFECT FEATURES CAT MOVIES

- 1 The Cat Returns (G)
- 2 The Aristocats
- 3 Kiki's Delivery Service (G)
- 4 Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore (G)
- 5 Garfield: A Tail of Two Kitties (PG)

PAWFECT FRIENDS PET MOVIES

- 1 The Secret Life of Pets (PG)
- 2 Homeward Bound (G)
- 3 Bolt (G)
- 4 G-Force (PG)
- 5 League of Superpets (PG)

YOU'LL BE IN TEARS BY THE END OF IT

- 1 The Fox and the Hound (G)
- 2 Shiloh (PG)
- 3 A Dog's Journey (PG)
- 4 Hachi: A Dog's Tale (G)
- 5 Marley & Me (PG)

The Monthly Metro Animal Spotlight

Barkchelor #1: Robocop

Beep Boop. Who is it? It's Robo Cop (A780496). Robo Cop, a beautiful brown and white gal, is around 2.5 years old and 76 lbs of pure love and happiness. We asked her wingwoman at MAS on why she's the dog for you:

"Robo Cop is her name at the shelter, but her foster family knows her as 'Mama'. She would definitely win a 'Prettiest Eyes' contest - look at those baby browns! Mama is the SWEETEST chunkiest girl in the world.

Mama knows her way around potty time - she knows when and where to go. She's crate trained, but her safe space is on the coziest lap. She loves toys and is an A+ cuddler. Mama loves taking walks with you. She's gained some extra pounds of love with her foster family, but she's still great on the leash. She's a purebred good girl! She knows how to sit, lay down, and is on her way to shaking paws.

Once Mama warms up to you, she'll stick by your side and be your best friend forever."

Her perfect match would be someone who is ready for a smart dog to take on adventures. Check her out [HERE!](#) She's with a foster family currently! Please contact masfoster@louisvilleky.gov to learn more about her! His adoption fees are covered by the Champions VIP Program, which also includes a special care package.



Barkchelor #2 : Kings Island

Welcoming new pets into your home can be an emotional rollercoaster if you aren't prepared. Luckily, Kings Island (A776149) is a Champion and comes with his own starter pack. This sweet 8-year-old boy is ready to find a warm home in which to settle down. We asked his wingman why he would be a great addition to your home:

"Kings Island doesn't want for much... a couple bowls of kibble, a 'good boy' every now and then, and belly rubs that lead to full-on nap comas. He is friendly and affectionate and adores head scratches from everyone. Being an adorable goofball is a permanent aspect of his personality, he will always make you smile. He's a velcro dog and seems really happy to be in a foster home, but he'd love somewhere to settle forever. "

If you want to take Kings Island on his next big ride, a furever home, read more about him [HERE](#) to get more information!



Upcoming Events

January 21 @ 11:00 AM - 10:00 PM |
Dinner Pawty at BoomBozz Pizza - Highlands
1448 Bardstown Rd, Louisville, KY 40204
★ FOMAS Tabling from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM



Mark Your Calendar

January 14 | National Dress Your Pet Up Day

Want to give back to your community?

FOMAS is always in need of dedicated volunteers and donations to help with the cause. Check out the links below to connect with us. Your support will go a long way in finding furever homes for animals just like Robo Cop and Kings Island!

[Volunteer SignUp!](#)

[Donate Today!](#)

Contact Us:
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Administrative Assistant
admin@fomaslou.org

Learn More:
www.fomaslou.org

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