# 2025 Fall/Winter Newsletter THE PAWGRESS REPORT

# Five Years, Final Phase, and Finish Lines

-ANTHONY ANDERBERG, HMAS PRESIDENT

It's hard to believe that it has been 5 years since we moved the shelter's cats to our new property. Remodeling the property's farmhouse for them in time to beat the county's end of 2020 deadline felt like an exhausting sprint, especially happening during the middle of COVID lock-down. With the loss in fundraising that year, and much of the next years that followed, went by in a blur too as we remodeled the property's old milking barns to host what would become our monthly rummage sale building. During that time we also started a longer marathon effort to create our new dog building: visiting other shelters to collect ideas, drawing up initial plans, talking to tradespeople about options - hundreds of hours were invested before dirt was moved. The saving grace for our dog building project has been, that without deadlines, we've had the luxury of time optimize quality while also keeping costs as low as possible.





In many ways our construction experiences mirror our larger mission: running a long marathon to reduce overpopulation and suffering through spaying, neutering, and education while also rushing to help animals in need right now: orphaned kittens, lost dogs, and injured animals of all kinds.

We are in the last phase of our dog building marathon now: as I write this we are finishing the inside kennels and outside runs before cold weather arrives. Our intention is to move the shelter's dogs to our new property in November, and it'll be wonderful to have all the shelter's volunteers and activities in one location again. The final phases of our outside play areas and walking paths can be finished in the spring, and then this race will be finished. Meanwhile the marathon effort to make sure every animal has a home is far from over - but with your help it is a race that can be won too.

# PRESIDENT

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### **HMAS BOARD**

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As an independent animal welfare organization, the Heart of Minnesota Animal Shelter does not receive funding from any national, state, county or municipal entity. In addition to amazing volunteers, we rely on generous heroes like you to support our ongoing mission.

Help us cover an anticipated budget deficit, for 2025, due to an increase in operating expenses.

### Our Mission:

The Heart of Minnesota Animal Shelter is passionately devoted to the care of animals in need, by providing rescue, shelter, adoption, and veterinary services in central Minnesota.

**HMAS Intakes** 

Here's a Snapshot of our efforts, as of mid-September. It looks to be a typical busy year again for our Team!

Planning for your next furry family member? Visit
The Heart of MN
Animal Shelter
Campus:
21918 180th St.

Hutchinson, MN 55350

Adoption Hours: T: 5-7pm, TH: 5-7pm, Sat: 1-5pm



26TH ANNUAL PAWS ON PARADE (HMAS PET WALK)

# A THANK YOU to our SPONSORS

PLATINUM (\$600 level): PetSmart & Dot Butler-ReMax Results

**GOLD (\$300+ level):** Hutch Iron & Metal, McGraw-Mahon Law Office, Back Forty Kennel, Crow River Glass, Wendy Abdel-Aziz-Keller Williams Realty Integrity Northwest, Hutchinson Pet Hospital

**SILVER (\$150+ level):** Excelsior Homes West, Lifelong Vet Clinic, Slumberland, CAR Shop Inc., Vivid Image, McKimm Transit, Carpets Plus Color Tile

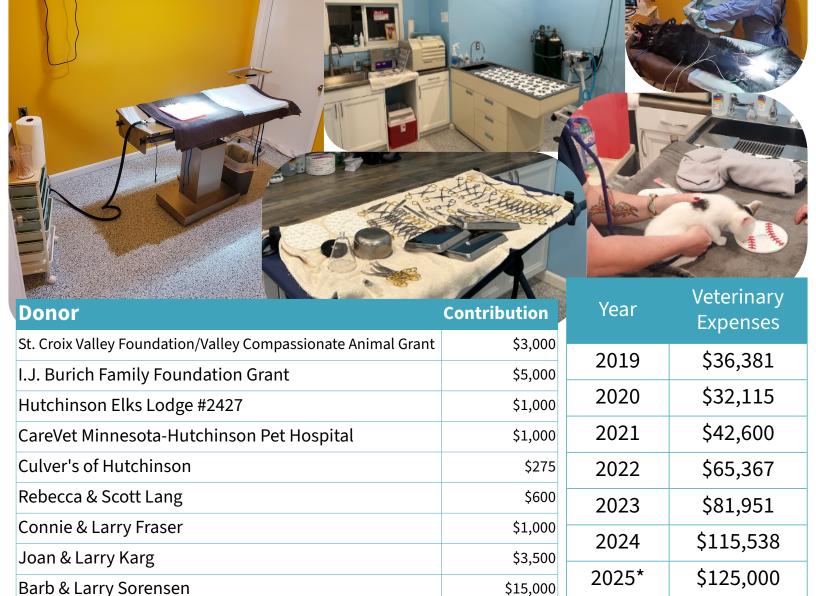
**Bronze:** Marcus Max-Ameriprise, Security State Insurance, Town & Country Tire, Jeff Nohner-Hometown Realty, Jeff Rannow Trucking, Squeaky's Bar & Grill, Ward Law Office, GR Daniels Trucking, Central Hydraulics, Southpoint Financial

# SURGERY SUITE-NEW & OPERATIONAL ...

Like many animal shelters and pet owners HMAS has been affected by inflation and other trends affecting vet clinic consolidation and ownership. As a result of these changes the shelter's costs have gradually increased and by 2024 our annual vet expenses had tripled from about \$40K/year to almost \$120K/year. Although in-house surgeries were not a specific design goal while planning for the new dog building, we had made the vet tech and community rooms larger than they otherwise needed to be so they could be used for surgery and recovery areas someday.

In late 2024 as work on our dog building progressed we realized that containing veterinary costs needed to be our primary focus for 2025, even if it meant slowing the completion of the rest of the building. To do this we have hired a Veterinarian and additional Vet Tech, and raised \$30K for the equipment and facility changes needed. Our goal is to do surgeries one day every other week, ramping up to 15–20 spays/neuters per surgery day. Some other occasional surgeries and procedures can be added at a later date.

Performing I7 spay/neuters per surgery day, 26 times per year we expect to spay/neuter about 450 animals per year saving HMAS over \$50K/year. To date the team has had six surgery days and altered almost 70 animals in-house. This is a major step for a shelter our size — and its success will be a major victory for our shelter and its community of animal lovers.

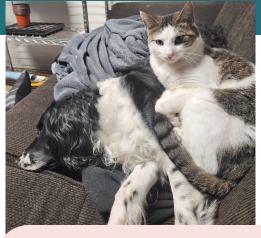


**Total Project Cost** 

\$30,375

\*estimate based on first half of 2025

# HAPPY TAILS



### Oh (dearest) Henry!

Henry came to us as a stray tomcat who was largely distrustful of people and skilled on the streets. Living a life with no comforts or companionship. However, his new family reports that he enjoys snuggling with his dog friend and gentle petting from his favorite person - but is still mostly indifferent to the affection of others.

All in all they say he's doing well and getting more social as time goes on, learning that life is best shared. His new family loves having him as part of their crew while watching him come out of his shell a bit more each day.

We adopted Theo in early August and it's been amazing. We really can't understand why anyone would get rid of him. He's been around kids, lives with our 2 other dogs and 2 cats, our daughter, granddaughter half the time, and my husband and I. We were told he's afraid of men, but it took just a week and he is now my husband's best friend; not leaving his side and jumping and smiling when his car pulls up the driveway from work. He does that with me too!

Although we were advised to wait a while until we let him sleep in our bed with us and our other dogs, he wanted to be near us and

his new brother's Harvey and Norman; so by the 3rd night he was part of our cuddle crew. The ONLY hiccup was he was a bit stressed and anxious his first week as he adjusted to us and his

new family routine. He adjusted quickly and fits right into our life perfectly.

He is a strange but cute dog... he will hold on to you and not let go. It's so cute.

We love him dearly and he fits right in with our dogs. Thanks for the opportunity to adopt him. We went there to look at another dog and it didn't work out but now we know why and that's because Theo belonged with us! His name is Mulder from the Xfiles, of course, & he caught onto his new name right away. ~The Daak Family









# DID YOU KNOW?

# CATS 70% OF THEIR LIVES SLEEPING CATS CAN JUMP UP TO 6 taste buds on a cat's tongue! A GROUP OF CATS IS CALLED CLOWDER CATS CAN JUMP UP TO 6 their length 24Petwatch.

# **Let Them Sniff**

Why is it important to let your dog sniff on walk?

- Dogs "see" the world through their noses
- Slow scent/sniffy walks let your dog absorb and process all the scents
- · Gives you insights into their behaviours
- · Mentally and physically stimulating
- · Decreases their heart rate
- Decreases their stress levels
- Improves behaviour
- It's their walk not yours





# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Kim has been with the Heart of Minnesota Animal Shelter since August 8, 2025, and in just a short time she has already made an incredible impact. Her favorite memory so far has been seeing Obie—one of her favorites—find her forever home. Watching a dog she loved go to a new family truly filled her heart with joy.

Kim knows firsthand the deep bond that comes from loving an animal. She shared her life for over 17 years with a little white West Highland Terrier, her "soul dog." Together with her husband, they planned countless road trips—journeying everywhere from Canada to Florida. Her favorite pastime was walking miles with her pup in a stroller, creating memories that will never be forgotten. Losing her soul dog left a huge void, and giving her heart to the shelter dogs has been her way of honoring that bond. Each time she sees a dog leave with their new family, it helps to fill that space with love and purpose.

Beyond her compassion, Kim is always ready to jump in wherever needed. From helping with fundraisers to pitching in on the practical tasks like unboxing cat litter and organizing supplies—she does it all with a smile. She is endlessly positive, and her loving spirit shines through in the way she treats every dog she meets.

We are so grateful to have Kim as part of the HMAS family.

Linda has been a dedicated Heart of Minnesota Animal Shelter volunteer for almost three years, and her compassion shines in everything she does. She spends quality time with the cats and dogs, helps at rummage sales, and has even pitched in on the new dog

Some of Linda's favorite HMAS memories are seeing pets adopted into happy lives—and one of those stories is her own. She adopted her cat three years ago, when he was just over a year old. From the very first time they played together at the shelter, he had her wrapped around his paw.

walking trails as we prepare for the future shelter facility.

Between Linda and her kids, they share their home with three dogs and five cats—all rescues. Her love for animals is also shared by her family and neighbors, who have adopted cats from HMAS as well. When she isn't volunteering, Linda enjoys time with her grandkids and stays busy with sewing, knitting, woodworking projects, camping, and enjoying the outdoors.

Linda is always positive and upbeat, bringing joy not only to the animals in our care but also to fellow volunteers. We're so grateful for the positivity and dedication she shares with our shelter family!



# A ROUND OF APAWS...



Soggy Doggy Day
Supply Drive
Thank you
Glencoe Aquatic
Center!



# WATCH FOR UPCOMING FALL & WINTER EVENTS

# **MONTHLY** CHIP N'CLIP CLINICS

**CHECK OUR WEBSITE:** WWW.HEARTOFMINNESOTA.ORG CALL: 320-234-9699 OR. FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK FOR UPCOMING DATES

Microchipping Fee includes Pet Registration









2025 November 20th December 18th Pizza 2026 Watch our website

and Fb page For all · Online for 2026 · Call-in **PIZZA Dates** Carry-out · Delivery

**MUST USE** ORDER CODE



5pm

HUTCHINSON

8pm 10% of November 12th Sales will be donated to HMAS





**Volunteers** Needed Want to have some fun planning & organizing events & fundraisers to help save & care for area rescues & strays?





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Let's Connect!









## **Sustaining Donors: Recurring Monthly Financial Care**

### **GOLD**

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Katie Robb

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### **BRONZE**

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Want to learn how you can be a SUSTAINING DONOR Super Star? (Monthly contribution options available)





Sustaining Donor Option 1 : \$5.00 USD - monthly Option 1 : \$5.00 USD - monthly Option 2 : \$10.00 USD - monthly Option 3: \$15.00 USD - monthly Option 4: \$20.00 USD - monthly Option 5: \$25.00 USD - monthly Option 6: \$30.00 USD - monthly Option 7: \$40.00 USD - monthly

### Social Media Birthday Fundraisers

\$100+

Britny Beneke Kristen Andersen Peg Lueck Devanne Schiro

\$50+ Steve Martin Sami Chelin

Rowan Lachlan Haley Tallman Kristine Nustvold Iason Paulson



### In Memory of:

**Mary Catherine Costello** 

McGraw Axtell

Paden Axtell Grace & Conor White

Melissa & Mark Hortman

Corrine McQuillan

Linda Schwichtenberg

Mari Peloquin Karla Dixon

Marlene Bresnahan

**Margaret Seekon** 

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Bitty Helen & Al Barnes

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John Nichols

Kristi Delage

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Rebecca Benoit

Margaret

Barbara Peterson

Mr. Kitty

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Richard Waage

Nancie Waage

Jolaine Bowman

Cindy Angland

Julie Biggerstaff

Morgan

Dan & Kathy Scheer

Kush

Oliver & Kira

Gail Thode

Virgene Shellenbarger

**Tim Kaczmarek** 

Connie & David Popp

Tom Bradford

Lucinda Woller

Ari Vos

Hutchinson Softball Team

Steven Kuphal

Family & Friends

Dick Millerbernd

Marlene Bresnahan

Sharon Rolander

Donna Wendorff

Glenn & Jody Wendorff

Terry & Trudy Wendorff

Susan Lawniczak

Lyle Hoff

Mary & DeLue Grams

Anthony & Linda Anderberg

David McGraw

Keith & Heidi Froemming

Larry Sorensen

Jesse Berg Amy Siqveland **Everett Hantge** 

Luanne Kroeger

Tom Nemitz

Carol Nemitz & Family

**Bruce Schultz** 

Jane Orvis

Donna Mae Gehrke

Jane Orvis

Winsted

Anthony & Linda Anderberg

Mary & DeLue Grams

**Emil Starke** 

Virgene Shellenbarger

# In Honor of:

**Amy Solinger** 

Doug Thu Nguyen

Hutchinson Area Women of Today

Lukas Getzke

Fallon Theis Jamie Ortloff Dad & Jody

**Diesel** 

Dan & Kathy Scheer **Jeanne Cummings** 

Marilyn Pemberton

Morgan Stambaugh Anthony Anderberg

# Community Drives/Business Support Appreciation

Cretex Medical of Dassel Culver's of Hutchinson UNHINGED Pizza of Glencoe Cashwise of Hutchinson

Nautical Bowls of Hutchinson Rebel Rose Tattoo of Hutchinson City of Glencoe Aquatic Center Creekside Soils of Hutchinson Hutchinson Pet Hospital

Bobbing Bobber Brewing Company Pizza Hut of Hutchinson

Todd & Faye Ahlbrecht

Stockmen's Greenhouse of Hutchinson Gerten's Greenhouse Natalie & Claire's Lemonade

# Emergency Storm Damage Clean-up:

Julie Callahan Sibley East Football Captains: Colton & Gianny Larry Karg Josh Peterson Gary

Van DeSteeg

Jim Callahan

Coborn's of Glencoe

Jordan Loar Brian Urban Paul Russell Jana Russell Rick Lennes Jim Thomas MichaelAnderberg Mike Chapman





Heart of Minnesota Animal Shelter 21918 180th Street PO Box 175 Hutchinson, MN 55350 320-234-9699 www.heartofminnesota.org NONPROFIT ORG U.S. POSTAGE PAID HUTCHINSON MN PERMIT NO. 18

# Adoption Hours

Tuesdays: 5-7pm Thursdays: 5-7pm Saturdays: 1-5pm



/heartofminnesota



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# We Need Your Support, Return Donation card to: HMAS PO Box 175 Hutchinson, MN 55350

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please accept our sincere appreciation in lieu of a personal Thank You note.

Color Pages Donated By:



Our rescue & rehoming efforts rely on financial donations and gifts of needed supplies. To make a difference and assist our organization help as many companion animals as possible, please consider a financial gift, donation of supplies, or the gift of your time volunteering. Thank you for being a part of our supportive network of friends.

#114.5/25