



Tri-County Humane Society

Adopt • Donate • Volunteer

2017 Annual Report — A Snapshot of Happiness



Deborah 12/20/17



Sylvee 09/28/17



Masmine & Popcorn 12/11/17



Chubby Bear
05/28/17



Kobu 08/05/17

2,921

Pets Placed!





2017 Annual Report

MISSION STATEMENT

We believe in the human-animal bond and exist to support Central MN by practicing and promoting quality adoption services and humane education programs.

Incorporated Dec. 11, 1974

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Vicki Davis, Executive Director
Cheryl Ley, President
Jason Hallonquist, 1st V. President
Emily Bezdicek, 2nd V. President
Kourtney Piepenburg, Secretary
Matt Larson, Treasurer
Ron Brandenburg
Bill Nelson
Jennifer Noble
Kelly Sayre
Merrilee Stang
Kris Stewart
Joan Vincent
Sharon Welke
Chad Zimmerman

Tri-County Humane Society

735 8th St NE St. Cloud, MN 56304
P. 320.252.0896 F. 320.252.1325
pets@tricityhumanesociety.org
www.tricityhumanesociety.org

Shelter Hours:

Monday—Thursday 12-6 p.m.,
Friday 12-8 p.m., Saturday 11-5
p.m., Sunday 12-5 p.m.



Message From the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Tri-County Humane Society (TCHS) has come a long way since our humble beginnings in 1974. Our 93.44% placement rate in 2017 reflects years of hard work and dedication by staff and volunteers, as well as significant financial contributions from supporters through fundraising and donations. The remaining 6.56% for which euthanasia was deemed necessary were not decisions that were taken lightly. Euthanasia is a last resort, only considered when all quality of life is gone and it's the only humane option left or when a pet poses a legitimate danger to society. Tri-County Humane Society is truly a place you can be proud of.

We are the reflection of your care and concern for animals.

At TCHS we serve a much needed and important role in our community helping companion animals find caring people. We love helping make happiness happen – and we're really, really good at it! Nevertheless, the great work we are doing is becoming more and more difficult. Our old, outdated, patchwork of a facility has reached its limit and is badly in need of being replaced. With your help, we can do better for the animals.

The time has come to build.

We have done a lot of improvising over the years - patching, repurposing and tacking on as best we could, but the time has come to build a new shelter. And we will.

A brand new building on our current land, incorporating the newest ideas and best practices in animal sheltering, will allow our staff and volunteers to do an even better job. This will be a place of greater comfort and help for the animals. It will be a place where we can expand our humane education programs for children. And it will be a new source of pride for the entire community.

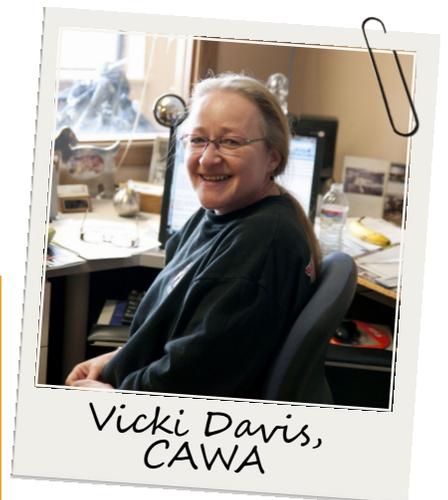
We've done our homework. This has been "in the works" for several years and now we are ready. Please help us make the animals' stay and visitors' experience more positive. **Help make a new shelter happen so that we can do even better for them.**

This annual report highlights all of the great work from 2017 that Tri-County Humane Society was able to accomplish. You'll see amazing statistics and outstanding programs showing how we've embraced new models of effectiveness and efficiency in the service of both people and pets.

It has truly been another stellar year for TCHS, all made possible by the generosity of people like you who care about animals!

Thank you, on behalf of the animals -

If you would like to be a major contributor for our new shelter capital campaign, please contact me to arrange a visit and discuss the many ways you can leave a legacy for the animals for years to come.
(320) 252-1325, tchs@cloudnet.com



2017 Annual Report: Highlights



Placed 2,921 pets (93.44%).



Received 2,094 cats.



Received 291 other pets.



Performed 1,820 surgeries (1,675 on-site, 145 off-site) on shelter pets — primarily spays & neuters.



Hosted 24 MNSNAP and 21 Kindest Cut low-cost mobile spay/neuter clinics.



Placed 1,207 pets in foster homes.
Main reasons: too young/small and pregnant/nursing.



850 Volunteers put in 16,695 hours.



Finished 2017 with 19,959 Facebook followers.

2017 Employees

Executive Director

Vicki Davis

HR/Operations Manager

Jon Rand

Office Manager

Lisa Pederson

Customer Service Manager

Anna Stratton

Customer Service Leads

Adam Lewis, Claudine Perttunen

Animal Care Manager

Andrea Jaekel, Laura Lund

Animal Care Technicians

Bonnie Alexander, Abrah Olson

Foster Care Coordinator

Sara Morales, Karissa Bot

Director of Philanthropy

Marit Ortega

Volunteer Coordinator

Kate Kompas

Marketing

Kayla Koscielniak

Part-Time Staff

Ashley Adamsky, Kaitlyn Bible-Erickson, Victoria Baumgarten, Kallie Braun, Kayla Carry, Ashley Dooley, Adriana Dorman, Alexi Goehring, Rayni Haugen, Rose Hegerle, BreeAnna Hinkle, Kiahna Hubert, Breanna Johnson, Kay Klein, Bryn Liffriq, Sam Mann, Chris McIlvain, Lizzi Ohmann, Emma Petersen, Ashley Rae Millard, Annessa Rosch, Brice Schnapp, Dustin Schramel, Lauren Schrader, Eleanore Stang, Meschaun Torres, Cassandra Watters, Marion White, Nicole Wulfekuhle, Alan Zimmerman

2017 Animal Statistics

Email received on 12/18/2017:

I dropped off 3 dogs from the Rez yesterday (April, Amber and Alexa) and I see that you already have these sweet girls up for adoption. YOU ARE ALL AMAZING! I cannot thank you enough for your partnership and great work! You help make Leech Lake Legacy's mission possible and rewarding. We couldn't do it without you!

Yesterday was the first time I dropped animals off at Tri-County on behalf of Leech Lake Legacy. I was deeply touched and amazed at how professionally I was treated, and how humble and sweet the staff were to the animals. Hearing how great you are, and seeing it firsthand, was just an incredible experience for me. Knowing that the sweet girls I cared for this past weekend at the Rez are in great hands (and will likely have homes by Christmas thanks to your exceptional and expedited work), just made my holiday season the best one yet!

Thank you again for everything you do to care for, and re-home, animals. You all have a special place in our hearts!

On behalf of Leech Lake Legacy, I wish you all a wonderful holiday season!

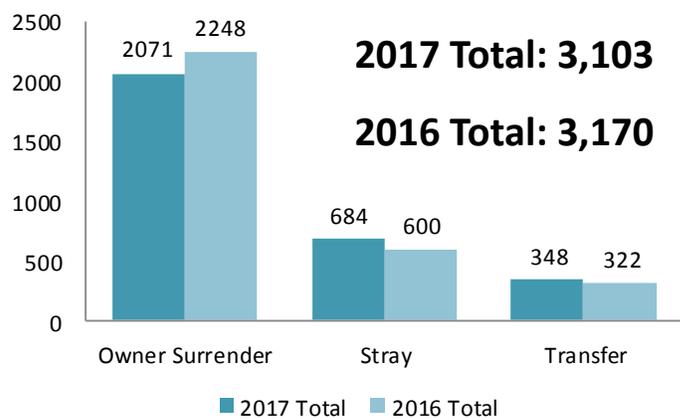
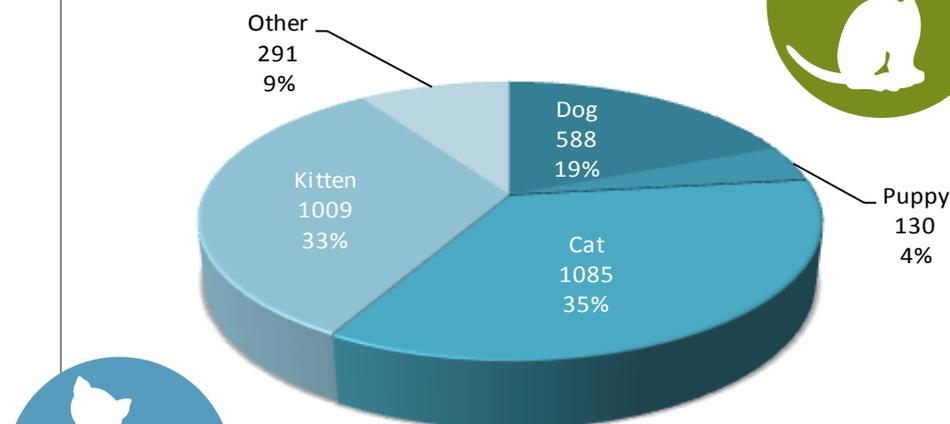
Best,

Danielle Mattessich,

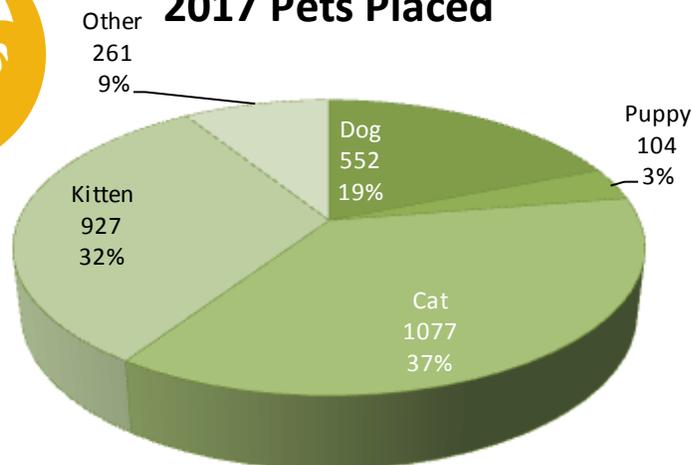
LLL Board Member



2017 Pets Received



2017 Pets Placed



Year	Placement Rate
2017	93.44%
2016	94.03%
2015	91.75%
2014	83.89%
2013	79.48%

2017 Total Placed: 2,921 Pets

2016 Total Placed: 2,944 Pets

2017 Veterinary Services

The wellness of the animals is always at the forefront of our minds. We have a dedicated team of animal health care specialists and are so grateful for the services they provided in 2017.

Special thanks to the many local veterinarians who provide us with free and/or low-cost veterinary services: Advanced Care Pet Hospital, Banfield Pet Hospital, Boysen Animal Hospital, Companions Animal Hospital, Kindest Cut, Mille Lacs Veterinary Clinic, MN SNAP-Blue Sky Veterinary Services, Pine Cone Pet Hospital, St. Joseph Veterinary Hospital, and University of Minnesota.

Colby's Story

In September 2017, TCHS received 10 dogs from Redland Rockpit Abandoned Dogs Project out of Florida. Colby was one of these ten. He had been found in Florida lying in the middle of the road, dehydrated and unable to walk on his own, his face covered in scars and the edges of his ears rough and beat up. It looked as if he had been fending for himself on the streets for a while. After seven months in a foster home in Florida, his health was on the mend, but finding a permanent home began to look less and less promising.

Plans to transfer Colby and nine other dogs from Florida to TCHS were made, but then Hurricane Harvey took hold and the animal rescue workers were forced to shift their attention to prepare for the worst. Luckily, the hurricane bypassed them, and the dogs began their long trek across country to TCHS.

Colby won over the hearts of staff and volunteers at TCHS upon his arrival. He was nervous, but sweet, and soon his happy go-lucky smile began to show itself on a daily basis. Upon examining Colby, it was discovered that he had pretty severe hip dysplasia, and Dr. Cal Kobluk stepped up to the plate and generously offered to perform surgery free of charge.

After a couple of months of healing and rehabilitation, Colby was placed for adoption—and he won the Jackpot! Colby (renamed Gunner) goes everywhere with his new person, and insists on sleeping on top of him. They stopped by for a visit and it is clear that the human-animal bond is strong with these two!



Surgeries:

Surgery	2016	2017
Cat Spays	672	716
Dog Spays	144	134
Rabbit Spays	20	16
Cat Neuters	600	658
Dog Neuters	178	139
Rabbit Neuters	20	21
Swine Neuter	0	2
Cryptorchid Neuters	9	13
Dentals	51	69
Eye Removals	6	11
Entropion Eyelid Repair	2	3
Hernia Repairs	14	18
Leg Amputations	5	0
Preputioplasty	7	0
Cherry Eye Repair	0	0
FHO Repair	0	1
Fracture Repair	0	0
Suture Repair	1	2
Tail Amputation	4	1
Tumor Removal	7	7
Wound Repair	3	7
Skin Tag Removal	0	1
Bladder Stone Removal	0	1
Total Surgeries	1,743	1,820

On-site Surgeries: 1,675

Off-site Surgeries: 145

TCHS Staff Veterinarian:

Dr. Lois Harmon

Volunteer Veterinarians:

Dr. Ashley Barott	Dr. Gina Kobluk
Dr. Adam Bennett	Dr. Anne Lottie
Dr. Traci Diggs	Dr. Jennifer
Dr. Karen Gjevre	Melling
Dr. Alison Johnson	Dr. Amanda
Dr. Charlie	Poepke
Johnson	Dr. Thomas
Dr. Breanna Kelm	Rohman
Dr. Cal Kobluk	Dr. Ellen Smith

2017 Foster Care Program

When an animal is too young, sick, injured, pregnant or just needs someone to teach them basic manners, foster parents help fill the gap between the time the animal is brought to the shelter and the time they are able to be adopted. In 2017, 1,207 animals (39%) went through our foster care program.

Animals Fostered:

Cats	969
Dogs	178
Rabbits	39
Guinea Pigs	18
Rat	1
Hedgehog	1
Pig	1
Total	1,207

Foster Reasons:

Too small/young	378
Pregnant/nursing	334
Upper respiratory infection	227
Medical	182
Socialization	55
Adoption Ambassador Program	14
Behavior	7
Lack of space	6
Kennel cough	3
Rehabilitation	1

2017 Top 5 Foster Homes:

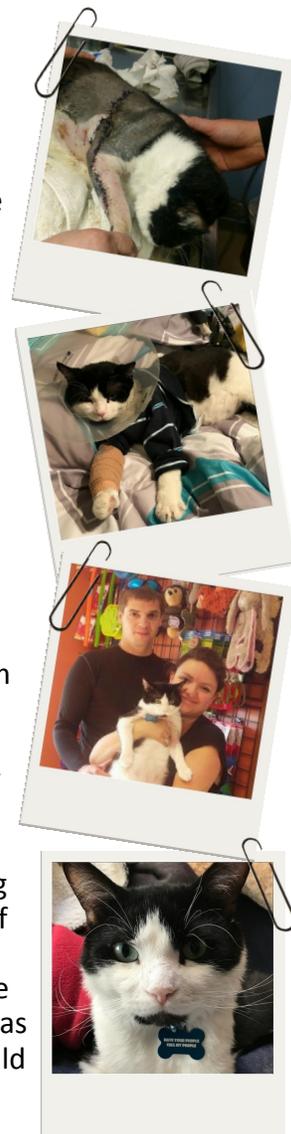
1. Sonia Dickrell and family had foster animals in their home 354 days out of the year in 2017, fostering 37 animals.
2. Kay Wilson and family had foster animals in their home 192 days out of the year in 2017, fostering 27 animals.
3. Nancy Sturtevant had foster animals in her home every day of the year in 2017! She fostered 26 animals.
4. Paula and Brent Jacobs had foster animals in their home 324 days out of the year in 2017, fostering 23 animals.
5. Bethany Benning and family fostered animals 191 days out of the year in 2017, fostering 22 animals.

Klondike's Journey

Klondike arrived at TCHS as a stray on January 2nd, 2017, with severe injuries to all four legs and his abdomen. Upon his arrival, he was sedated to have his wounds examined, cleaned, and treated by TCHS veterinarian Dr. Lois Harmon. Antibiotics and pain management immediately followed. Klondike's journey to recovery wouldn't stop here, however.

After a month of bandage changes and wound cleanings Klondike had his first surgery. This surgery involved cleaning and closing Klondike's wounds (with proper drainage) and neutering him. With a long road of recovery ahead of him, he was placed in foster care on February 9th.

On March 7th, TCHS volunteer veterinarian Dr. Tom Rohman sutured Klondike's wound on his front right leg. The same procedure occurred on March 28th to help promote healing and drainage. Similar procedures occurred again on May 15th and June 2nd, this time with skin grafts. More than a dozen follow-up appointments later, Klondike was looking and feeling like a brand-new cat! After 6 months of caring for him, his foster family signed adoption paperwork and made him an official member of the family on August 4th, 2017. Some might say this was a foster failure, but we're pretty sure Klondike would disagree!



2017 Volunteer Program

Tri-County Humane Society has been powered by volunteers since we started in 1974. TCHS wouldn't be able to serve the people we serve – or save the animals we save – without their help. The time and talents of 850 individuals in our volunteer program helped make 2017 another great year, with those volunteers logging 16,695 hours of service. TCHS staff, board members, friends and pets are so thankful for all of their hard work.

TCHS also got a lot of help through our civil service program (court-ordered time or school assignments), with 114 people contributing 979 hours last year.

Thank you, volunteers, for all you do. It means the world to our animals.

Volunteer Program Community Partners

We've had many community partners throughout 2017; here are some of them: Sartell High School, Sauk Rapids-Rice schools' Bridges Program, United Way of Central Minnesota, Stearns County Corrections, Sherburne County Corrections, Benton County Corrections, Opportunity Matters, WACOSA, St. Cloud Public Library, Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, St. Cloud State University's women's soccer team, Petco, PetSmart, numerous area nursing homes, and numerous local Boy and Girl Scout troops.

Above and Beyond Volunteer of the Year: Tracey Worzala

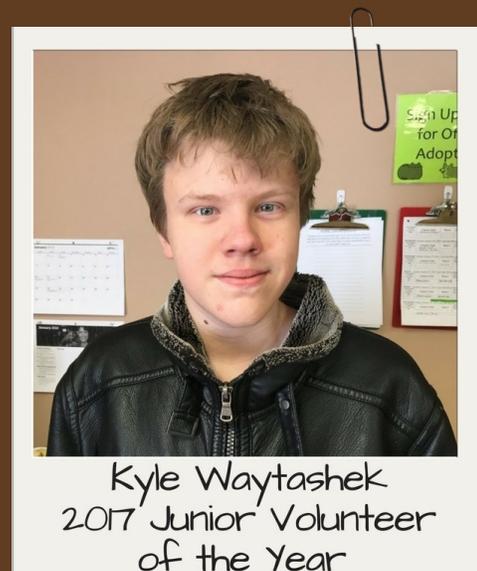
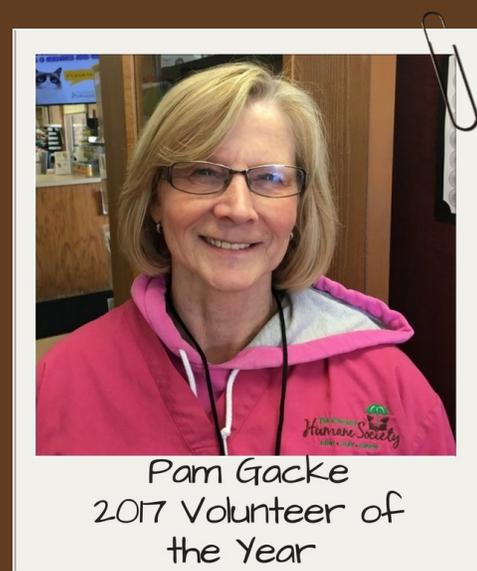
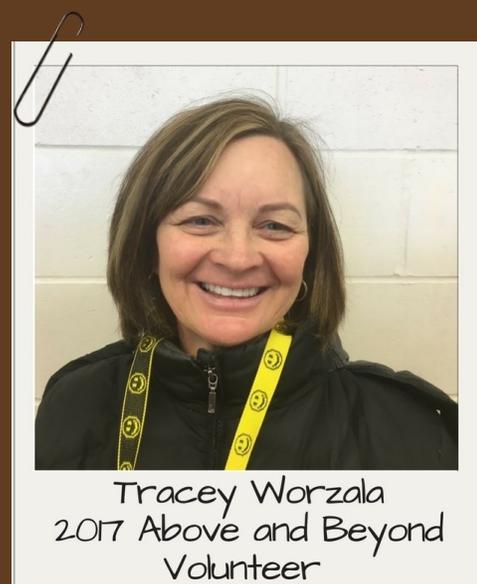
Tracey Worzala is one of the volunteers who helps make sure the shelter is running smoothly on Sundays. A seasoned dog walker, Tracey makes sure the pups get plenty of exercise. She especially loves focusing on the "naughty" dogs, or ones that need the extra lovin'. Tracey is often one of the first volunteers to step up when TCHS needs anything, whether it be posters delivered or donations picked up. She is known to come in even on her days "off" to make sure all the dogs are walked. She started volunteering in June 2016, and she put in 203 hours of service in 2017. Like Pam, Tracey became a mentor volunteer – one who trains new volunteers – this year because of her excellent example.

Adult Volunteer of the Year: Pam Gacke

Pam Gacke is a relatively new volunteer, having started at TCHS in late 2016. However, she quickly established herself as an outstanding part of the TCHS team. She logged almost 387 hours for TCHS in 2017. She volunteers in the shelter at least twice a week for four-hour shifts, and that doesn't count her other TCHS activities, including mailings, brat sales, animal transportation, and every single major shelter fundraiser. She's not afraid of the dirty jobs, but she also excels at customer service. And although she has a big heart for all animals, Pam always has an eye on our dogs, making sure they get vigorous walks and plenty of TLC.

Junior Volunteer of the Year: Kyle Waytashek

Kyle Waytashek volunteers with his mother, Vickie, and the pair can often be seen at offsite adoption events together. Kyle is known as one heck of a salesman – he can work in the cat room like a seasoned pro despite being only 15 years old. Kyle logged nearly 138 hours of volunteer service in 2017, by far the biggest total for junior volunteers. He's also been known to pitch in on special TCHS projects such as digital archiving.



Adding Book Buddies to Tri-County Humane Society has been one of our success stories of 2017. It's genius when you think about it – kids need to practice their reading, and the animals love to hear the voices. Hearing the reading really relaxes the animals – I always tell the kids when an animal falls asleep when they're reading to them, it's the biggest compliment. It means they're finally relaxed enough that they can rest! Despite our best efforts, the shelter can be a stressful place for the animals. I talk about that with the kids – I tell them every day for an animal here is like a first day of school because there's so many strangers, and new faces. That really resonates with the kids. When the Book Buddies are here, the kennels fall silent for a while – sometimes you could hear a pin drop in there! It's a wonderful feeling knowing those kids are helping the animals so much, and are being taught from a young age that kindness to everyone matters.



Kate Kompas, Volunteer &
Humane Education Coordinator

2017 Humane Education Programs

Book Buddies

TCHS started Book Buddies in June 2017. Over 50 children became Book Buddies throughout the year, volunteering their time to read to shelter animals. Not only does the program help kids improve their reading skills and confidence with reading out loud, it does wonders to soothe the shelter pets. A win-win!

Our top Book Buddy of the year was Olivia Holloway, who was the first to reach 20 hours of reading time.

Birthday Parties

TCHS hosted 48 birthday parties in 2017, as compared with 24 in 2016.

School Visits

TCHS participated in numerous school visits, teaching kids dog bite prevention, general animal care, and encouraging kids to be kind to animals at the following schools: Sauk Rapids-Rice's DECA class, South Junior High School's AVID classes (seventh- and eighth-graders), Westwood Family Night, Talahi College and Career Night, Westwood Kidstop, and Rice Elementary School. Volunteer humane educator Gina Fox also continued an ongoing relationship with Talahi Elementary School.

Pet Therapy Visits

Volunteers went on 84 visits with pets to senior care centers/assisted living facilities.

Tours

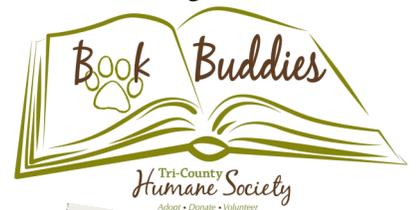
36 shelter tours were given to school and youth groups.

Offsite Adoption Events

Animals were sent to 33 offsite adoption events.

UTVS TV Spotlight

Humane education volunteer Gina Fox brought pets to UTVS weekly throughout the school year to help promote their adoption.



2017 Networking & Advancement

National Level

The Society of Animal Welfare Administrators (SAWA) is a nonprofit individual membership organization of professionals in animal welfare, care & control dedicated to the growth and prestige of our industry. SAWA strives to advocate humane ideals through professional advancement of members. Animal welfare leaders network with peers, establish mentor relationships, share best practices, form successful collaborations, and advance the field. Tri-County Humane Society Executive Director Vicki Davis serves on the Best Practices SAWA committee and offers representation of the smaller shelters across the nation, most of which do not have the resources to be “state of the art,” but want to offer “state of the art” care and services for animals. Tri-County Humane Society strives to stay on top of the latest research in animal welfare - and in some cases, we’re the ones breaking new ground! We owe this growth and leadership to our collaboration with national organizations.



National

State Level

Tri-County Humane Society is a founding member of the Minnesota Partnership in Animal Welfare (MnPAW) and is very active in the progressive work being done in Minnesota. This coalition has taken huge strides in the spirit of working together for the common goal of helping animals. MnPAW believes that by joining forces to use its ideas, expertise and resources in a coordinated way, it can make a greater impact on reducing euthanasia of adoptable animals. MnPAW is focused on reducing the numbers of animals coming into shelters, animal control, and rescues. In addition, it hopes to increase the share of animals that are being adopted from animal control, shelters and rescues as compared to other sources. To achieve this, initiatives focus on spay/neuter, adoption partnerships, education and advocacy. This collaboration continues to expand, be successful, and save the lives of many animals - the one goal all members of MnPAW share foremost.



State

Local

The 16th Annual Minnesota Animal Welfare Conference brought approximately 175 animal welfare professionals, veterinarians and veterinary technicians to St. Cloud. A veterinary track and general animal welfare track were offered, with nationally known speakers Cheryl Kolus, DVM, KPA-CTP, Dr. Chumkee Aziz, DVM, Dr. Brian DiGangi, DVM, Dr. Stephanie Janeszko, DVM, Karen Medicus, ASPCA Sr. Director, B.J. Rogers, CAWA, ProLearning, ASPCA, Emily Garman, founder of TheSocialAnimal.com. Tri-County Humane Society volunteers to organize this conference because we believe that providing affordable opportunities for continued education and networking among animal welfare professionals is key to making Minnesota a more humane community.



Local



Tri-County Humane Society should be commended for its stellar work in the field. They understand the importance of relationships with local, state, and national partners and the vital role that Tri-County Humane Society has to play in all three arenas. Their leadership in Minnesota is built on a solid foundation of the trust that Executive Director Vicki Davis engenders and the kindness the entire organization inspires in the community. Tri-County Humane Society exemplifies collaboration, reliability, transparency, persistence, vision, and above all, compassion. They are a gift to our state.



I joined the Tri-County Humane Society Board to celebrate my Maddy's (pup) life. Maddy and I were best buds for 14 years. She taught me a lot about life and even more about myself. When Maddy passed, I decided I wanted to do something to honor her. I had been to TCHS a number of times and even added a pup to our family many years back from the shelter. I knew that TCHS was a well-run organization, but quickly realized just how AWESOME it is! The staff at TCHS pour their heart and soul into their work. They make a difference in not only furry friends' lives daily, but in people's lives daily! Dollars are stretched, time is donated, compassion is evident, and lives are changed. TCHS helps animals, but even more, they help people like you and me experience grace and love.

Thank you, TCHS!



*Kourtney Piepenburg
TCHS Board Member*

2017 Fundraisers

January: Chili/Bloody Mary Fundraiser
2017: \$1,570 (net)

April: Administrative Professionals Day Flower Fundraiser
2017: \$2,771 (net)
2016: \$2,960 (net)

May: 16th Annual Wine, Kibbles & Bids
2017: \$76,280** (net)
2016: \$57,498 (net)

September: 29th Annual Woofstock Companion Walk
2017: \$50,228 (net)
2016: \$51,364 (net)

November: Santa Paws
2017: \$7,817 (net with 193 portrait sessions)
2016: \$7,769 (net with 208 portrait sessions)

November: 9th Annual Give to the Max Day
2017: \$40,841 (net)
2016: \$32,111 (net)

December: Gift Wrap Booth at Crossroads Center
2017: \$7,430 (net)
2016: \$6,409 (net)

Year Round: Off-site Coin Banks
2017: \$11,334 (net)
2016: \$6,201 (net)

**Wine, Kibbles & Bids income included \$35,250, which was raised by Board Member Bill Nelson for the TCHS Spay/Neuter fund. This amount was significantly higher than what Bill raised in 2016, in part because it included funds raised at the Spay-ghetti & No (Meat) Balls Dinner that Bill organized and ran in April 2017.



2017 Financials

Expenses Amount %

Animal Care, Adoptions & Sales Tax	\$485,947	54.62%
Management and Development	\$238,531	26.81%
Marketing and Communications	\$37,878	4.26%
Fundraising	\$32,484	3.65%
Utilities & Shelter Repairs	\$34,926	3.93%
Shelter Supplies, Insurance, & Tech.	\$59,861	6.73%
	\$889,627	100%

Income Amount %

General Contributions	\$376,771	35.56%
Spay/Neuter Fund	\$39,200	3.70%
Bequests	\$43,463	4.10%
Grants	\$17,400	1.64%
Fundraising	\$170,920	16.13%
MN Conference/Education	\$16,831	1.59%
Adoption/Animal Intake Fees	\$360,611	34.04%
Retail (net)	\$34,218	3.23%
	\$1,059,414	100%

Grants

\$14,000 ASPCA Grant for Exam Room Upgrades

\$2,000 Best Friends Animal Society, Spay/Neuter Grant

\$1,400 SAWA Conference Scholarship



**Best Friends
Animal Society**
SAVE THEM ALL!



Tri-County Humane Society is a highly efficient organization that goes to great lengths to reduce administrative costs so that the majority of funds can be focused on life-saving programs.

Compared with other animal welfare organizations with similar budgets, TCHS does a lot more for much less and reliably receives high rankings according to national charity ranking organizations such as GuideStar and Charity Navigator.

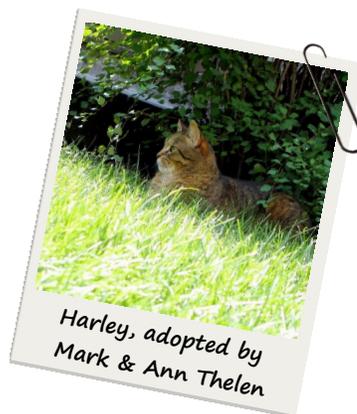


Annual audits and 990's may be found at www.tricountyhumanesociety.org.

Tri-County Humane Society has a 100% giving board of directors!

Quite a while ago we strolled into TCHS looking for a cat to adopt. Among many, there was Harley. Noble Harley. So confident, so self-contained, so regal. Would love at first glance hold up or was it a momentary illusion? Turns out, Harley was the real deal — and more. We loved Harley and Harley loved us.

Regal? Noble? Look for yourself:



Vision for the Future

We Envision:

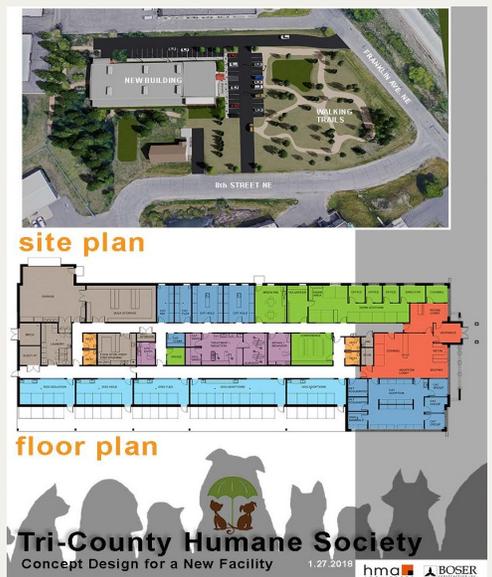
- A time when TCHS has abundant resources and finances to carry out its mission and vision.
- A time when TCHS will use technology efficiently to meet the needs of all staff, adopters and animals.
- A time when the community will be well educated about the TCHS mission, vision, purpose, and practices.
- A passion to continually explore new options, embrace new opportunities and improve animal care and enrichment techniques.
- A time when TCHS is recognized as the leader in responsible companion animal care.
- The continual development of a sound foundation to support the shelter as it evolves to meet ever-changing community and animal welfare needs.
- A state-of-the-art facility.



Exterior and Interior Renderings



Examples of spaces that TCHS hopes to provide in a new facility.



Site Plan & Floor Plan