



# Tri-County Humane Society

Adopt • Donate • Volunteer

Annual Report 2016



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## Mission Statement

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

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## 2016 Employees

**Executive Director**  
Vicki Davis

**HR/Operations Manager**  
Jon Rand

**Office Manager**  
Marissa Kazeck  
Lisa Pederson

**Customer Service Manager**  
Anna Stratton

**Customer Service Leads**  
Mae Marcattilio-McCracken  
Adam Lewis  
Claudine Perttunen

**Animal Care Manager**  
Andrea Jaekel

**Animal Care Technicians**  
Bonnie Alexander  
Laura Lund

**Foster Care Coordinator**  
Sara Morales

**Director of Philanthropy**  
Marit Ortega

**Volunteer Coordinator**  
Rose Hegerle  
Kate Kompas

**Marketing/Events Coordinator**  
Kayla Koscielniak

**Part-Time Staff**  
Karissa Bot, Kayla Carry,  
Brittany Davis, Adriana Dorman,  
Molly English, Tiffany Gnirk,  
Alexi Goehring, BreeAnna Hinkle,  
Kay Klein, Kimberly Lindland,  
Sam Mann, Chris McIlvain,  
Lizzi Ohmann, Abrah Olson,  
Nicole Pitts, Brice Schnapp,  
Kristen Tollefson, Crystal Vos,  
Marion White, Alan Zimmerman

## Message From the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

A former board member once told me she was jealous of the job I had because we get love letters from our clients and she's never received a single one from hers. She's got a point! Granted, our work encompasses aspects of the job that are less attractive than love letters, but there are lots of heartwarming and rewarding moments that happen on a regular basis at TCHS. I fully realize that one of the main reasons we are so successful is because of YOU, our donors, adopters, volunteers and supporters.

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

Every year our ability to provide additional services to the animals and people of our community increases. This is made possible by YOU and the power of compassion. By building programs around this compassion we strive to reduce births, increase adoptions, maintain existing homes, rehabilitate animals and increase community support. Our dreams today are considerably more extensive, but doable. I title them as "mission possible."

TCHS has continued to evolve—transforming from a place where animals go, to a place where animals leave. Or better yet, a place where animals never enter in the first place. Here are a few of the highlights from 2016 that we (we in the collective sense, which includes YOU) were able to accomplish:

- We finished the year with an overall placement rate of 96%! Considering we have no control over what kind of animals come in and the condition they are in, I find that truly remarkable.
- On average, animals spent less than 10 days in the shelter.
- We reduced euthanasia by 46% from 2015!
- We spayed/neutered 1,643 shelter pets prior to adopting them out, helping prevent future unwanted litters in our community.
- We had a total of 35 mobile spay/neuter clinics come to our area to offer affordable options to people of limited means or with feral cat colonies.

TCHS believes transparency is one of the most effective ways to build community trust and support, and secrecy is one of the fastest ways to lose it. We have nothing to hide and so much to share! In the following pages, you'll see more amazing statistics and outstanding programs showing how we've embraced new models of effectiveness and efficiency in 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! Other projects and programs are, at the same time, pending due to the lack of resources. Built in 1989, it's no surprise that our current building is out of date and in need of repairs. As we research our options for the animals, please keep us on your radar for future support.

Thank you, on behalf of the animals -

*Vicki Davis, CAWA*

Vicki Davis is the only Certified Animal Welfare Administrator (CAWA) in the State of Minnesota. She has dedicated 32 years advocating for animals at the Tri-County Humane Society.



Animal Stats	DOG	PUPPY	CAT	KITTEN	OTHER	TOTAL
2016 OWNER SURRENDER	408	63	764	774	237	2246
2015 OWNER SURRENDER	448	57	982	813	277	2577
2016 STRAY INTAKE	112	9	233	291	15	600
2015 STRAY INTAKE	134	10	249	222	8	624
2016 PLACED	553	143	1022	897	260	2875
2015 PLACED	546	65	1181	909	265	2966
2016 CLAIMED BY OWNER	58	1	12	1	0	72
2015 CLAIMED BY OWNER	78	0	21	6	0	105
2016 EUTHANIZED	28	0	64	29	5	126
2015 EUTHANIZED	39	0	112	79	6	236

## Veterinary Services

The wellness of the animals in our care 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 2016. Special thanks to the many local veterinarians who provide us with low-cost veterinary services:

Advanced Care Pet Hospital, Banfield Pet Hospital, Boysen Animal Hospital, Companions Animal Hospital, Minnesota School of Business, MN SNAP-Blue Sky Veterinary Services, Pine Cone Pet Hospital, and The University of MN.



We are grateful to Dr. Lois Harmon, our shelter veterinarian, and to the veterinarians who volunteered their services in 2016:

Dr. Ashley Barott, Dr. Adam Bennett\*, Dr. Traci Diggs, Dr. Karen Gjevre, Dr. Charles Johnson, Dr. Alison Johnson, Dr. Breanna Kelm\*, Dr. Gina Kobluck, Dr. Zachary Krych\*, Dr. Jennifer Melling, Dr. Amy O'Brien, Dr. Amanda Poepke, Dr. Brett Rabe, Dr. Tom Rohman, Dr. Ellen Smith, and Dr. Laura Wilant.

**\*Three new volunteer vets joined us in 2016!**

## Bongo



Bongo arrived as a stray kitten with a severely injured leg that required amputation. After healing in foster care, he was adopted on September 21, 2016.



## Surgeries

Surgery	2016	2015
Cat Spays	672	716
Dog Spays	144	110
Rabbit Spays	20	21
Cat Neuters	600	682
Dog Neuters	178	116
Rabbit Neuters	20	19
Cryptorchid Neuters	9	4
Dentals	51	47
Eye Removals	6	3
Entropion Eyelid Repair	2	2
Hernia Repairs	14	8
Leg Amputations	5	3
Preputioplasty	7	0
Cherry Eye Repair	0	1
FHO Repair	0	1
Fracture Repair	0	0
Suture Repair	1	1
Tail Amputation	4	6
Tumor Removal	7	6
Wound Repair	3	2
Skin Tag Removal	0	3
Soft Pallet Resection	0	1
<b>Total Surgeries</b>	<b>1743</b>	<b>1752</b>

# New Beginnings

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**Angelo:**  
Adopted 4-10-16



**Duncan:**  
Adopted 6-17-16



**Nova & Riley:**

The days of senior pets being overlooked in favor of kittens and puppies are no more! It was love at first sight for these girls and cats, and after only one week on the adoption floor this eight- and ten-year-old pair found a home together!

Angelo, Duncan & Big Boy were among the very first FIV positive or Feline Leukemia positive cats to be adopted out from TCHS.



**Big Boy:**  
Adopted 8-15-16



**Tohsaka:** Adopted 6-30-16



**Marcus & Maricella:**  
Adopted 6-1-2016

Marcus and Maricella are 11 and 13-year-old German Shepherd mixes that were transferred to TCHS on June 1st after spending the last 7 YEARS in a shelter in Texas! This is hard for us to even fathom, as the average length of stay for pets in our care is less than 2 weeks. It took them 16 days to get adopted from our shelter, but it was worth the wait! They found a home together with a one-acre, fenced-in yard and an amazing new owner who has adopted multiple senior dogs from us in the past. She made it clear when she left with them that they had found their final retirement home and she was looking forward to spoiling them.

# Who Rescued Who?



## Finley:

Adopted 1-16-16

Words cannot capture the joy Finley (was Nike) has brought to us. Fin was a transfer from a Texas shelter where he spent the first 9 months of his life. A year ago, we met Fin at the Tri-County Humane Society. He was so shy and scared, he would barely walk upright. Now, he is the most expressive, sweet boy! He loves hikes near our home in Duluth, the dog park and car rides. We are so excited for our first Christmas with him! He has a stocking full of goodies to find on Christmas. He truly is our fur-baby!  
-Ellie and Spencer



Mabel:  
Adopted 8-20-16  
Murphy:  
Adopted 1-21-15

*We adopted Murphy almost 2 years ago and Mabel a couple months ago. I couldn't be more pleased with the way they have bonded! Thank you*

*~Nanci*



# Foster Care



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## Animals Fostered:

- 1,071 Cats
- 154 Dogs
- 23 Rabbits
- 21 Guinea Pigs
- 2 Turtles
- 2 Hamsters
- 1 Ferret
- 1 Snake

## Foster Reasons:

- 366 Upper Respiratory Infection Treatment
- 336 Too small/young
- 255 Pregnant/Nursing
- 167 Medical
- 47 Socialization
- 12 Lack of Space
- 8 Adoption Ambassadors
- 8 Behavior Issues
- 2 Kennel Cough Treatment



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 adopted. Because foster care continues to be such a critical piece of our lifesaving efforts, in 2016 we added full-time foster care coordinator Sara Morales. With the extra attention towards this program, 1,275 animals went through foster homes in 2016! The primary reason for foster care was to treat upper respiratory infections in cats and kittens, a common problem for shelter cats that can easily overwhelm our small isolation room depending on the time of

year. A total of 366 felines were fostered for this reason. The second most common reason for foster care was to assist animals that were either too young or too small to adopt out, making up a total of 336 pets in 2016. Our foster program helps us save more lives!

## 2016 Top 5 Foster Homes:

(Formula for calculating foster care hours: 1 hour per animal per day.)

1. Gary and Kelly Nystrom fostered a total of 326 days with 43 animals and a total of 1,682 volunteer hours.
2. Traci Pollreis and Kelli Gauthier fostered a total of 342 days with 36 animals and a total of 1,246 volunteer hours.
3. Crystal Markfort and family fostered a total of 293 days with 36 animals for a total of 1,177 volunteer hours.
4. Nancy Sturtevant fostered a total of 293 days with 36 animals for a total of 1,069 volunteer hours.
5. Lori and Jeremy Carr fostered a total of 211 days with 36 animals for a total of 582 volunteer hours.

## Adoption Ambassadors Program

We started the Adoption Ambassadors program in 2016, where our foster families become ambassadors for the foster animals in their care, keeping them until they find them homes. We sent 8 animals into this program (5 dogs and 3 cats) and all 8 of them were adopted!

One of these was a stray cat that had a severe eye infection, causing her to lose sight in both eyes. Because the infection was so bad, both of her eyes needed to be removed, and she was placed in foster care to heal. Her foster family named her Coraline and proceeded to promote her adoption through social media, but after a few months Coraline had swayed their hearts and her foster family ended up adopting her on December 2nd!



Coraline

Adoption Ambassador  
Program  
MADE POSSIBLE BY  
A GRANT FROM THE  
**ASPCA**

# Volunteer Program



We say it often, and it's true: Tri-County Humane Society couldn't keep its animals well cared for, its customers satisfied or even its doors open without the help of its hundreds of committed volunteers. Our volunteer program kept up its tradition of excellence in 2016 with 942 people providing more than 17,502 hours of service. We continued to offer our civil service program, too, for those who needed court-ordered volunteer hours or service learning volunteer hours (such as school projects). More than 130 people in the civil service program contributed more than 830 hours to help the shelter last year. **Thank you, volunteers, for all you do. It means the world to our animals.**

## Volunteer Program Community Partners:

A special thank you to our partners, including Sartell High School, Sauk Rapids-Rice Middle School, Sauk Rapids-Rice High School, Minnesota School of Business, 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, College of St. Benedict/St. John's University, and the St. Cloud men's rugby team.

## Humane Education / Pet Therapy Visits:

Through the help of volunteers, we were able to increase our visits to senior care centers /assisted living facilities to 83 in 2016, up from 50 the previous year. We also had 50 community events, hosted 24 birthday parties at the shelter, gave 34 shelter tours and sent animals to 43 offsite adoption events.



### Adult Volunteer of the Year: Deb Roberts

Deb Roberts modestly describes herself as a jack-of-all-trades, and her volunteer experience reflects that. Deb has been a volunteer at TCHS for almost four years. She logged 356 hours of volunteer time at TCHS in 2016. She does everything from shelter animal care (her favorite duty is dog walking) to special events. In short, if it helps TCHS, Deb is quick to pitch in. What does she like about volunteering? "I like the positive attitude of the people around here," she said.



### Junior Volunteer of the Year: Leilani Anderson

Leilani Anderson is one of TCHS' most trusted and versatile volunteers, and she's only 14 years old. She's one of our youngest mentor volunteers, and she helps the shelter in a wide variety of ways, from shelter animal care to offsite adoptions to dog walking to special events. She logged 362 hours of volunteer service at TCHS in 2016, and she's volunteered for almost three years. Leilani recently became a birthday party host, and she does a great job making the day special for the young guests.



### Above and Beyond Volunteer: Cynthia Ryg

Cynthia Ryg has been volunteering for TCHS for three and a half years. She put in about 210 hours of volunteer service last year. Cynthia is one of the women we affectionately call our "cat ladies," and she gives special care to the cats in the isolation room during her weekly shift. Cynthia also is a frequent transporter of animals and is credited with saving many lives. Besides working at special events, Cynthia is a frequent foster parent. She's cared for 17 kittens so far, and she said her goal is 100.

*When I came onto Tri-County Humane Society's board, I knew I loved animals, but I truly didn't know what an amazing organization TCHS is. From both my board experience — and my own adoption of three wonderful kittens — I am so impressed at the organization's dedication to ensuring that each and every animal receives loving and humane care. Their rate of successful adoptions, their wonderful staff and nearly 400 active volunteers are second to none! Over the years, TCHS has become so successful that they've outgrown their space. Plans are underway to expand, and with generous donations from our community, we can make that dream come true. The animals — and the staff and volunteers — deserve it.*

*~ Joan Vincent, TCHS Board Member*

# Fundraisers

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## Wine Kibbles & Bids



### 15th Annual Wine, Kibbles & Bids – April 22, 2016



Wine, Kibbles & Bids raised a net profit of \$57,498 in 2016. Held at the beautiful College of St. Benedict Gorecki Center in St. Joseph on Earth Day, 276 attendees enjoyed wine and beer tasting compliments of Coborn's Liquor & Bernick's, live music from the talented Kelly Cordes, over 200 silent auction items to bid on, a delicious gourmet dinner and cuddle time with puppies and kittens! Special thanks to our event sponsors:

**"Top Dog" Sponsors:** Re/Max Results & Paul Morrison, LLC

**"Silver Tabby" Sponsors:** Advanced Care Pet Hospital, Coborn's Liquor, Mix 94.9 FM

**"Bronze Canary" Sponsors:** Audio Video Extremes, College of St. Benedict, St. Cloud Ear, Nose & Throat, ePromos Promotional Products, Sue Wahl-Storbeck

### Flower Delivery Fundraiser – April 27, 2016

The Administrative Professionals Day Flower Delivery Fundraiser raised \$2,960 for the animals, with 272 vases of roses prepared and delivered by volunteers to local businesses!



### 28th Annual Woofstock Companion Walk – September 10, 2016

Woofstock Companion Walk raised a net profit of \$51,459 in 2016. Held at Wilson Park along the Mississippi River, approximately 575 people (including close to 100 amazing volunteers) and 225 pets joined us for this 5k walk for animals! Activities included a costume contest for both pets and people, hotdog eating contest, arts & crafts for kids and pets, a demo by St. Cloud K9 "Ramo" and some freestyle "America's Dogs Got Talent" agility/disc dog play time. Special thanks to our event sponsors:

**PEACE Sponsor:** Pine Cone Pet Hospital

**LOVE Sponsors:** Mix 94.9 FM, Companions Animal Hospital, Advanced Care Pet Hospital

**ADOPT Sponsors:** Kloster Commercial Resources, STCLOUDDJ.COM, Country Gallery Photography, Faraway Farms Handcrafted Soap, NC'S Doghouse, Sam & Danni's Pet Resort & Spa



### Give to the Max Day – November 17, 2016

The 8th Annual Give to the Max Day, Minnesota's largest online giving day for nonprofits and schools, was a huge success, thanks in part to a \$10,000 matching grant provided by philanthropic friends Mark & Ann Thelen and Diana and Mike Podawiltz. Over 200 friends and supporters gave generously, helping us raise \$32,111 for the animals!

### 31st Annual Santa Paws – November 18—20, 2016



For the first time in Santa Paws history, a blizzard forced us to cancel/reschedule all of our Friday sessions in 2016. A huge thank you to Lisa Crayford and Brian Leither with Country Gallery Photography for expanding their volunteer hours on both Saturday and Sunday. We were able to accommodate the rescheduling of all but 6 sessions from Friday, for a total of 208 portrait sessions on Saturday and Sunday! Thanks to The Camera Shop for donating CDs for the portraits, and to Lisa, Brian and all of our wonderful volunteers, 100% of the proceeds totaling \$7,769 went towards helping animals in need.

### Wrapping for a Good Paws – December 10—24, 2016

After careful consideration, we decreased the number of days our gift wrap booth at Crossroads Center was open in 2016 by about half, and we were still able to raise \$6,410 for the animals! Special thanks to the 192 volunteers who cheerfully put in 843 volunteer hours wrapping gifts.





**SCTimes**  
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HOME NEWS SPORTS OUTDOORS LIFE OPINION ENTERTAINMENT BUSINESS WATCHDOG PHOTO-VIDEO ARCHIVES

## Dog recovering as shooting investigation continues

Sam Louwagie, slouwagie@stcloudtimes.com Published 3:25 p.m. CT Feb. 24, 2016 | Updated 8:51 a.m. CT Feb. 25, 2016

Marit Ortega called it one of the worst cases of animal abuse she has seen in her 17 years at the Tri-County Humane Society.

A yellow Lab found Monday morning in Avon Township was shot six times at close range with a pellet gun. Bruce Bechtold, chief deputy at the Stearns County Sheriff's Office, said he believes the dog was being held and restrained before it was shot.

"If not, the dog would've flinched or run," he said. "An animal's not just going to sit there and be shot four times in the face. So that's our hypothesis."

The Sheriff's Office is investigating the abuse, and Bechtold said a private party came forward Wednesday and offered a \$500 reward for information leading to a conviction. On Thursday morning, the Sheriff's Office announced the reward for information leading to the identity has increased to \$1000. Bechtold said if an arrest is made, a suspect would likely face misdemeanor cruelty to animal charges. He said a person has come forward and identified themselves as the owner of the dog, and the department is working to verify the claim.

Meanwhile, the dog is recovering at the Tri-County Humane Society.

**February 24, 2016**

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Published by Sam Louwagie, St. Cloud Times.



Photo Credit:: Stearns County Sheriff's Office

Sadly, after weeks of improvement, stray dog "Remy" died unexpectedly from his injuries while in foster care on April 11th. Special thanks to his foster parents, Shari and Gary Snyder, for giving him so much love during his final days, and to all of the wonderful people who made donations towards his care.

**SCTimes** HOME NEWS SPORTS OUTDOORS LIFE OPINION ENTERTAINMENT BUSINESS ARCHIVES USA TODAY MORE

## Local woman puts paw-sitive spin on stray cat epidemic

Alyssa Zaczek, azaczek@stcloudtimes.com Published 7:02 a.m. CT Aug. 29, 2016 | Updated 8:48 p.m. CT Aug. 29, 2016

Rebecca Cartwright has always loved animals.

"I've loved animals my whole life. I did 4-H as a kid, we have horses, and I raise rabbits and ducks with my daughter," Cartwright said.

So when the local real estate agent stumbled across a tragic case of animal neglect on a property, she was shocked into action.

The revelation came in May, when Cartwright was doing a routine check-in on a property in Clear Lake, which was inhabited by an elderly woman afflicted with Alzheimer's and her adult children, who acted as her caretakers. The tenant had provided food, water and shelter for dozens of stray cats who could not remain when the property sold.

"When you pulled up to the property, it just had that musty smell of animals. They had cats, dogs, horses ... There were probably 25 to 30 cats living there. I gave (the tenants) a timeline to have everything, including the cats, cleared out, and I just thought they'd take care of it."

But when Cartwright returned to the property, she found dead kittens on the front porch.

"They had just gone and left these cats behind. They had been feeding them so well, and now they couldn't fend for themselves," Cartwright said. "When you see a mama cat dead, with her babies underneath her still trying to nurse from her ... It was heartbreaking."

With that horrifying visual emblazoned in her mind, Cartwright sprang into action.

"I went out there and trapped 20 cats that first weekend," she said. Cartwright captured most of the cats by putting food into cart carriers and waiting for the starving animals to rush in — a method that worked well, until Cartwright checked her makeshift live traps one morning to find a skunk. "In the end, we humanely removed about 45 live cats from that property."

Most of those cats were surrendered to the Tri-County Humane Society in St. Cloud, where director of philanthropy Marit Ortega said there is a surplus of cats and kittens. The humane society takes in more 3,000 animals a year, at least two-thirds of which are cats.

Ortega said that in the final few weeks of July into August, they had more than 200 cats placed in foster homes, with another 100 cats in the shelter.

"You know, there are a lot of well-meaning little old ladies who feed and shelter strays, and farmers who just let stray cats hang out," Ortega said. "It's awesome that (Rebecca) stepped up and took care of it (in this case), but it wasn't (her) problem! There are other resources."

Ortega believes the key to managing the stray cat population is diminishing the rate of reproduction, which means spaying and neutering not just household pets, but outdoor cats, barn cats and strays as well. The Tri-County Humane Society has been spaying and neutering all of its animals before they are available for adoption since 2012.

**August 29, 2016**

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(Photo: Dave Schwarz, dschwarz@stcloudtimes.com)

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Rebecca Cartwright holds a cat available for adoption Tuesday, Aug. 23, at the Tri-County Humane Society. Cartwright is a realtor who helped rescue several cats from a property recently. (Photo: Dave Schwarz, dschwarz@stcloudtimes.com)

Published by Alyssa Zaczek, St. Cloud Times.



# National

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 two SAWA committees 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.



## 2016 Board of Directors

**President**  
Cheryl Ley

**First Vice President**  
Mary Geller

**Second Vice President**  
Emily Bezdicek

**Secretary**  
Kourtey Piepenburg

**Treasurer**  
Matthew Larson

Ron Brandenburg  
Kurt Durrwachter  
Pegg Gustafson  
Bill Nelson  
Kelly Sayre  
Merrilee Stang  
Kris Stewart  
Joan Vincent  
Sharon Welke

# State

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.

Organized by Vicki Davis and her MnPAW committee, and hosted by Animal Humane of Golden Valley, the 5th Annual MnPAW Conference on October 2, 2016 brought valuable and affordable information to Minnesota’s animal welfare community. Session topics by speakers Tory Whitten and Hilary Anne Hager included *Canine Brucellosis*, *Compassion Burnout* and *Working with Volunteers*.



# Local

Organized by the Tri-County Humane Society, the 15th Annual Minnesota Animal Welfare Conference brought approximately 140 animal welfare professionals, veterinarians and veterinary technicians from across the state. New this year, two learning tracks were offered. The Veterinary Track, sponsored by the ASPCA, offered C.E. credits to veterinary professionals. Session topics by speakers Dr. Sandra Newbury, DVM and Dr. Jennifer Broadhurst, DVM included *Managing Underage Kittens and Kitten Nurseries*, *Managing Canine Influenza Virus*, *Fast Tracking and Capacity for Care*, and *Best Practices for Animal Transport Programs*. The General Animal Welfare Track with session topics by speakers Mike Keiley (MSPCA), B.J. Rogers, CAWA (ASPCA), and Cathy M. Rosenthal (Writing for a Cause) included *A Matter of Trust: A Human Approach to Animal Welfare*, *Customer Service Strategies for Animal Welfare Professionals*, *The Difficult to Place Continuum*, and *Adoption Ambassadors*.

The 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.



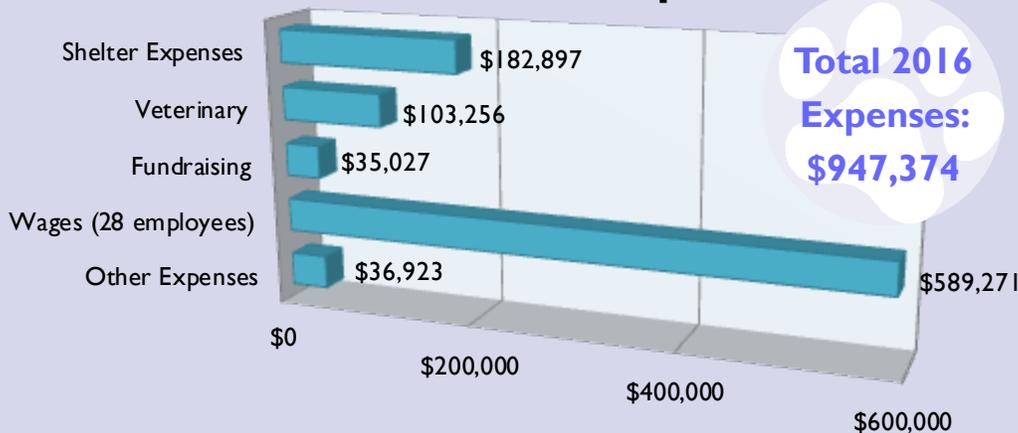
I've had the honor of being involved with the Tri-County Humane Society for many years now. I got involved originally as a new member to the St. Cloud area to combine my love for animals with my desire to meet members of my new home community. I have stayed involved because every year I'm reminded about the importance of the bond we have with animals in terms of our quality of life, but also because this organization brings together some of the greatest people I've had the pleasure to meet. I'm proud of the good work that our staff and volunteers do every day to make a difference in our community and in the lives of the people and animals we serve.  
~Kris Stewart, TCHS Board Member

# Finance

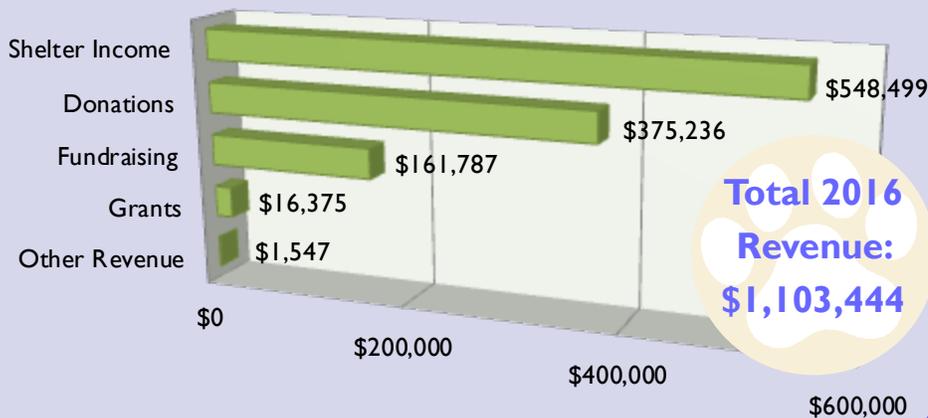
Tri-County Humane Society is a highly efficient organization that goes to great lengths to reduce our administrative costs so that the majority of funds can be focused on our lifesaving programs. Compared to other organizations with similar budgets, TCHS does a lot more for much less. We reliably receive high rankings according to national charity ranking organizations such as GuideStar and Charity Navigator. TCHS depends on the support of our local community to provide the highest-quality services to the animals entrusted to us.



## 2016 Expenses



## 2016 Revenue



In the 17 years that I have been involved in Tri-County Humane Society, I have seen an exceptional organization make great strides. As current Volunteer Treasurer, one of my favorite aspects of TCHS has been that, although focused on ideals, the plan has consistently been very realistic. The cost of improvement has always been at a financially sustainable rate to ensure long-term success! Most importantly, they have done so much for our animals and ultimately the people that adopt them. My almost 14-year-old TCHS alum was adopted as a puppy and she definitely makes my life and our family more complete. The same story has been true for other animals and their families, countless times, as a result of the efforts of TCHS.  
 ~ Matthew Larson,  
 TCHS Board Member

## Grants

- \$7,800 Oxbow Rescue Grant (for small animal cages)
- \$2,000 ASPCA Adoption Ambassadors Grant (see page 6)
- \$2,500 ASPCA Share the Love Subaru Adoption Event Grant
- \$1,575 ASPCA Supervisor Development Certificate Grant
- \$2,000 Best Friends Animal Sanctuary Animal Transport Grant
- \$500 Walmart Foundation Community Grant

## Grant Highlight:

In 2014, we received a \$10,000 grant from the ASPCA to reduce our cat intake numbers through increased spay/neuter efforts in our community. Longtime supporter and volunteer Kristi Brosowsky dedicated many hours of her time and talent creating GIS mapping and analysis of areas that we were receiving high numbers of felines. In 2015, we targeted those areas with mass mailings which highlighted the importance of spaying and neutering your pet and provided mobile spay/neuter clinic dates in the St. Cloud area.

We are pleased to announce that in 2016, we saw a 9% decrease in felines from 2015, and each of the 35 mobile spay/neuter clinics that came to the St. Cloud area were filled to capacity, resulting in the sterilization of close to 1,200 animals. As we continue these efforts, we hope to see further reduction in the number of unplanned, unwanted and homeless litters in our community.





# Tri-County Humane Society

*Adopt • Donate • Volunteer*

## 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 for 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.



From humble beginnings in a renovated gas station on Lincoln Avenue, the Tri-County Humane Society has made great strides establishing itself as a progressive animal welfare organization in Minnesota and is a leader in the humane field nationwide.

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