MONROE COUNTY HUMANE ASSOCIATION CLINIC • EDUCATION • OUTREACH







ANNUAL REPORT keeping families together 2023



Since 1956, the Monroe County Humane Association (MCHA) has been dedicated to enhancing the lives of animals and their human companions as a nonprofit charitable organization.

Our focus is to **keep families together** by providing essential services and support for pets and the people who love them. We work to ensure better care for animals through our accessible veterinary clinic, pet food pantry, crisis housing, spay/neuter assistance, and educational outreach.

At MCHA, we strive to create a community where every animal is healthy, safe, and thrives alongside their family.

Our Mission: MCHA is dedicated to promoting the welfare of companion animals, strengthening the human-animal bond, and providing access to veterinary care and humane education across our community.

Dear MCHA Family,

As we reflect on 2023, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your support and commitment to Monroe County Humane Association (MCHA). Your generosity and dedication have been instrumental in helping us achieve our mission of compassionate animal care and support for animals and their human companions.

In 2023, your support enabled us to make a significant impact in our community. We are proud to share that the Crisis Housing Program doubled the number of animals it helped compared to the previous year. Our spay and neuter assistance program saw its financial commitment double, allowing us to help even more families in need. Our monthly mobile vaccine clinics reached hundreds of animals throughout the county, ensuring they received essential care.

Our Pet Food & Supply Pantry distributed an impressive 25,000 pounds of pet food to financially strained households in 2023, a testament to our commitment to keeping families together. Education and promoting responsible pet ownership remain at the core of our services.

Additionally, our Accessible Community Veterinary Clinic saw more than 2,700 pets over 8,500 office visits, with 84% of these pets belonging to households at or below the federal poverty level. Many of these animals have no other option and MCHA often represents their last hope for receiving the care they need.

The street outreach program, in collaboration with Bloomington Police Department, provided free veterinary care to 360 animals belonging to people experiencing homelessness or in transitional housing. We project that this number will reach around 525 in 2024.

We are proud of the 2023 Annual Report, which highlights these achievements and more. We hope you enjoy looking through it and feel the same sense of pride in what we have accomplished together.

As we move forward, we are excited about the opportunities to expand our impact even further. With your continued support, we will strive to meet the evolving needs of our community and ensure that every pet has the chance to live a healthy and happy life with their family.

Please feel free to reach out to us anytime. We value your input and are always eager to hear from our community. Thank you once again for your incredible support and for being a vital part of the Monroe County Humane Association family.

For the animals.

Executive Director

2024 Board Chair akrebbs@monroehumane.org board@monroehumane.org

2023 Board Chair



YUMMY

Pug

2023 IMPACT AT A GLANCE



25,000

POUNDS (12.5 TONS) OF PET FOOD DISTRIBUTED TO HUNGRY CATS AND DOGS

DAYS OF CRISIS HOUSING 750 PROVIDED TO PETS IN **URGENT NEED**



\$115,414 IN SUBSIDIZED VET CARE PROVIDED TO PETS IN NEED

8,575 VET CLINIC VISITS



387 CATS AND DOGS VACCINATED AT MOBILE CLINICS

CATS AND DOGS SEEN BY STREET OUTREACH TEAM

SPAY & NEUTER VOUCHERS 184 DISTRIBUTED (\$5,520 VALUE)



YEAR MONROE COUNTY 1956 HUMANE ASSOCIATION **BEGAN SERVING OUR COMMUNITY**

WITH GRATITUDE TO MCHA'S VOLUNTEERS— YOUR DEDICATION MAKES A REAL DIFFERENCE FOR OUR COMMUNITY'S ANIMALS



PET FOOD PANTRY

Monroe County Humane Association's Pet Food Pantry Program is dedicated to keeping hungry pets fed and supported during times of financial hardship. By providing essential pet food and supplies to families experiencing economic difficulties, the program alleviates the financial burden on pet owners, ensuring that pets receive the nutrition they need to stay healthy and thrive. This vital service prevents the heartbreaking decision to surrender beloved pets due to an inability to afford their care—keeping families together.

WHY THIS PROGRAM MATTERS:

•SUPPORTING PET HEALTH: Access to proper nutrition is critical for pet health and well-being. The pantry ensures pets receive the food they need to stay healthy and active.

•PREVENTING PET SURRENDER: By providing essential resources, the program helps families keep their pets during times of economic hardship, reducing the risk of pets being surrendered to shelters.

•FOSTERING COMMUNITY STABILITY: By supporting pet owners, the program contributes to a stable and compassionate community where families and pets thrive together.

IMPACT IN 2023

In 2023, the Pet Food Pantry Program had a significant impact, marked by several key achievements:

Pantry Program distributed 25,000 pounds (12.5 tons) of pet food, nourishing thousands of pets throughout the year. Our commitment to zero waste ensures that no food goes unused. Any expired or surplus food is donated to Wildcare for use in their animal rehabilitation services. This not only supports our goal of feeding as many pets as possible but also contributes to the care and recovery of wildlife, reflecting our broader commitment to animal welfare and community collaboration.

SUPPORTING FAMILIES: The pantry provided assistance to approximately **350-400 families every month** across Monroe County, ensuring hungry pets were fed

25,000 LBS OF PET FOOD DISTRIBUTED TO HUNGRY CATS & DOGS



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: In-kind donations and financial contributions from individuals, businesses, and organizations have been crucial in ensuring we can feed all the hungry pets in need. These generous contributions form the backbone of our program, allowing us to provide essential food and supplies to families experiencing financial difficulties. We are deeply grateful for the community's support, which makes it possible for us to reach more families and keep pets healthy and fed.

SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES: To enhance accessibility and convenience for families receiving monthly food allotments, the program provides reusable plastic containers for food storage. This decision reflects our commitment to reducing environmental impact by minimizing the use of single-use plastics. By opting for durable, reusable containers, we not only ensure that pet food remains fresh and secure but also contribute to a more sustainable future. This approach reflects our commitment to sustainability and community care.

NONPROFIT VETERINARY CLINIC

The Nonprofit Community Veterinary Clinic offers a wide range of services, including routine wellness exams, vaccinations, radiology, laboratory/diagnostics, and treatment for common illnesses and injuries. Our team of dedicated veterinarians and support staff work tirelessly to provide compassionate and comprehensive care to every pet that comes through our doors.

Providing veterinary care is crucial because the rising costs of medical services and the national shortage of

veterinarians make access to affordable and timely care increasingly challenging for pet owners, especially families with limited means.

WHY THIS PROGRAM MATTERS:

The clinic is essential to our mission of keeping families together by supporting pet owners who may face financial barriers to accessing veterinary care. Key aspects of the clinic's importance include:

- •AFFORDABLE CARE: By offering services at reduced rates, the clinic makes veterinary care accessible to low-income families, ensuring pets receive necessary treatments to stay healthy.
- •PREVENTIVE HEALTH: Routine check-ups and vaccinations help prevent diseases and identify health issues early, improving the quality of life for pets and reducing long-term medical costs for owners.
- •COMMUNITY HEALTH: The clinic contributes to public health by providing vaccinations and preventive care, reducing the spread of zoonotic diseases.

IMPACT IN 2023

In 2023, the Nonprofit Community Veterinary Clinic made a significant impact, as highlighted by the following achievements:

PATIENT VISITS: The clinic saw over 2,700 pets through more than 8,500 office visits, demonstrating the high demand for affordable veterinary services in the community.

\$115,414 IN FREE VET CARE TO CATS & DOGS IN NEED





SUPPORT FOR LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS: 84% of treated pets belonged to households at or below the federal poverty level,

reflecting the clinic's crucial role in supporting financially disadvantaged families. In addition to lower prices, MCHA provided support to families with limited resources through grant funding.

COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES: In addition to providing basic medical care, the clinic also offered educational resources to pet owners, fostering responsible pet ownership and helping them better understand their pets' health needs. For services not available at MCHA, the staff actively assist pet owners by connecting them with other trusted providers and resources.

SUBSIDIZED CARE: MCHA provided \$115,414 in subsidized care to pets in need, keeping families together by ensuring that many pets, who had no other options for medical treatment, received care.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CRISIS HOUSING PROGRAM AT monroehumane.org/annualreport



CRISIS HOUSING

The Crisis Housing Program offers temporary shelter and care for cats and dogs whose owners are unable to care for them due to crises. Our facility, the E. Susan Bartlett Crisis Housing Center, is equipped to handle a variety of pets, providing them with the necessary medical care, nutrition, and comfort during their stay. The program works closely with local social service agencies to ensure a coordinated response to families in crisis, allowing pet owners to focus on resolving their personal situations without the additional worry of their pets' welfare.

WHY THIS PROGRAM MATTERS:

The Crisis Housing Program is essential for several reasons:

•SAFETY & STABILITY: It provides a safe and stable environment for pets during times of uncertainty, including hospitalization, substance use treatment, domestic violence, eviction, incarceration, house fires, natural disasters, or other crises. This service is vital in helping families stay together, as many individuals facing these situations have no other options for their pets.

• FAMILY PRESERVATION: By offering temporary care for pets, the program helps keep families together, allowing pets to return to their homes once their owners are back on their feet.

 REDUCE SHELTER SURRENDERS: Bv providing a temporary solution, the program helps keep pets out of shelters, reducing the burden on the shelter system and keeping families together rather than pets being surrendered.

IMPACT IN 2023

In 2023, the Crisis Housing Program achieved significant milestones:

INCREASED CAPACITY: The program doubled its impact, providing 750 days of housing for animals in urgent need, which reflects a substantial increase in our ability to respond to crises, such as hospitalization, domestic violence, and natural disasters.

our capacity to support both pets and families in need.

QUALITY OF CARE: While animals are with us, we provide comprehensive medical care, including vaccinations, parasite prevention, and essential treatments. Each animal is also assessed for spay or neuter

procedures, which are provided at no cost when deemed medically advisable.

FLEXIBLE SOLUTIONS: Every crisis is different, so we've designed the program to be as flexible as possible, offering creative solutions like daycare for pets of unhoused individuals who need safe, temporary care while interviewing for jobs or securing housing. **COLLABORATION WITH AGENCIES:** As the only program of its kind in Monroe County and the

broader South Central Indiana region, the Crisis Housing Program collaborates closely with local agencies, ensuring pets are not surrendered or abandoned during temporary crises. This partnership network reinforces

750 DAYS OF HOUSING PROVIDED FOR PETS IN URGENT CHARLIE Hound Mix NEED

BERNIE

Rottweiler Mix

SPAY AND NEUTER ASSISTANCE

The Spay and Neuter Assistance Program plays a critical role in controlling the pet population and promoting long-term pet health by providing affordable surgery options for pet owners facing financial hardship. This program reduces the number of unwanted litters and helps pets live healthier lives, which also supports the well-being of our community.

184

VOUCHERS

ISSUED

RAVEN Pit Bull Mix

WHY THIS PROGRAM MATTERS:

The Spay and Neuter Assistance Program is essential for several reasons:

•POPULATION CONTROL: By helping to reduce the number of unplanned litters, the program alleviates pressure on local shelters and keeps pets in loving homes. Spaying and neutering one pet can prevent hundreds of offspring over time.

•PROMOTING HEALTH: Spaying and neutering offer significant health and behavioral benefits, including reduced risk of cancers and decreased aggressive behaviors in pets. According to the American Veterinary Medical Association, neutered male dogs can show up to a 90% reduction in aggression, while spayed females are less likely to exhibit aggression towards humans.

• ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT: Controlling the pet population reduces stray and feral animal populations, which can impact local wildlife. By decreasing the number of homeless animals, the program helps maintain a healthier ecological balance.

• COMMUNITY STABILITY: The program makes spay and neuter services affordable, ensuring that low-income families have access to responsible pet care options.

IMPACT IN 2023

In 2023, the Spay and Neuter Assistance Program achieved significant milestones:

INCREASED FINANCIAL SUPPORT: Midyear, we increased the amount of each voucher to cover a greater portion of surgery costs, making it more accessible for people to get their pets spayed or neutered

and encouraging responsible pet ownership.

VOUCHER PROGRAM: MCHA issued over 180 vouchers, representing a value of more than \$5,500 in direct assistance to pet owners, ensuring that pets were able to receive timely spay or neuter surgeries. MCHA's vouchers cover half of the surgery cost at a trusted local clinic, PetsAlive, with owners providing a reduced co-pay to encourage responsible participation.

PREVENTING UNWANTED PETS: Through 184 spay and neuter vouchers, we helped stop the cycle of pet overpopulation, potentially preventing an estimated 10,000 to 20,000 puppies and kittens from being born over future generations. This proactive approach helps to reduce pressure on local shelters, lowers euthanasia rates, and keeps families together.

By minimizing shelter populations and environmental strain, we foster a stable and compassionate community for pets and people alike to support both pets and families in need.

STREET OUTREACH

In 2023, the Monroe County Humane Association's Street Outreach Program, in partnership with the Bloomington Police Department, made a significant impact by delivering compassionate care to pets whose owners are experiencing homelessness or living in transitional housing. This essential program reflects our mission of keeping families together by ensuring that pets of all backgrounds receive the care they need, regardless of their owner's housing situation. This program is funded in part by the City of Bloomington and Petco Love.

360

VISITS

BELLA Chihuahua Mix **BUDDY**

Chihuahua Mix

WHY THIS PROGRAM MATTERS:

The Street Outreach Program is essential for several reasons:

•SUPPORTING VULNERABLE PETS: Pets belonging to individuals experiencing homelessness or in transitional housing are often their closest companions, providing comfort, stability, and emotional support. This program ensures these animals receive basic veterinary care, preserving the critical bond they share with their owners—pets who would otherwise likely go without any vet care.

 PROMOTING PUBLIC HEALTH: Through the provision of vaccinations, wellness exams, and preventive care, the Street Outreach Program plays a significant role in protecting public health. Vaccinations help prevent the spread of zoonotic diseases, which can transfer between animals and humans, reducing health risks for both pets and the broader community. By ensuring pets are healthy, vaccinated, and protected against parasites, the program also reduces the likelihood of outbreaks of diseases like rabies and parvovirus. These proactive measures support a healthier, safer environment for everyone, especially in densely populated areas where individuals experiencing homelessness may interact closely with the public and their pets.

 MEETING A CRITICAL NEED: Reported by the National Institutes of Health and leading animal welfare organizations, an estimated 10-15% of Bloomington's unhoused population owns pets, a figure that follows the national trend and is steadily increasing. The Street Outreach Program addresses this growing need, ensuring these pets stay healthy and remain with their families.

IMPACT IN 2023

In 2023, the Street Outreach Program achieved significant milestones:

ANIMALS SERVED: In 2023, the team witnessed a remarkable surge in the number of pet visits. Initially, the plan was to accommodate approximately 100 pets over the year, an uptick from the previous year's figures. However, the program saw 360 pet visits, with projections of up to 525 pet visits in 2024.

PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACT: This work is vital in safeguarding both pet and human populations, especially in areas where pets belonging to individuals experiencing homelessness are in close contact with the public. Our expanded partnership with Bloomington Animal Care & Control has further streamlined efforts, allowing us to respond more efficiently to community health needs and increase our reach to those most in need.

MOBILE VACCINE CLINICS

The monthly Mobile Vaccine Clinics bring essential veterinary care directly to the community, offering services such as vaccinations, wellness checks, and basic preventive care for pets in various locations across the county. These mobile clinics bridge a critical gap for pet owners who may face barriers to accessing traditional veterinary services due to transportation, finances, or limited local options.

WHY THIS PROGRAM MATTERS:

The Mobile Vaccine Clinics are a cornerstone of MCHA's mission to keep families together, ensuring pets remain healthy and families avoid the heartbreak of surrendering pets due to preventable illnesses. Key aspects of the clinics' importance include:

ACCESSIBILITY: By coming directly to underserved neighborhoods, the mobile clinics eliminate transportation challenges and reduce financial barriers, making preventive care available to families in need.

PREVENTIVE HEALTH: The clinics focus on vaccinations and routine wellness checks that help prevent the spread of common diseases, protecting pets and enhancing their quality of life.

COMMUNITY HEALTH: Regular vaccinations help maintain public health by preventing the spread of zoonotic diseases within the community, contributing to a safer environment for all residents.

IMPACT IN 2023

The Monthly Mobile Vaccine Clinics have made a tremendous difference in the community, evidenced by the following achievements:

INCREASED ACCESS: In 2023, MCHA's Monthly Mobile Vaccine Clinics saw 387 pets, reflecting a 59.5% increase over 2022. This growth underscores the strong community need for accessible veterinary care. Looking ahead, the clinics are expected to reach around 650 pets in 2024, further expanding their impact.

EXPANDED AVAILABILITY: MCHA increased the number of vaccine clinics to every month, including during winter, ensuring continuous support for pet owners regardless of the season. This commitment to year-round services provides consistent preventive care access for all families.

387 PETS
SERVED
59.5% INCREASE OVER
PREVIOUS YEAR



SUPPORT FOR VULNERABLE POPULATIONS: MCHA strategically hosts mobile vaccine pop-ups in locations throughout the county, making it easier for pet owners to access care by bringing services directly to their communities. These clinics are designed to meet people and animals where they are, reducing logistical challenges and enhancing accessibility. MCHA keeps costs as low as possible, ensuring affordability while also actively issuing spay/neuter vouchers to promote preventive health.

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH: The mobile clinics not only deliver essential care but also educate pet owners on preventive health and wellness, promoting responsible pet ownership and fostering a more informed community.

EDUCATION & ADVOCACY

The various educational programs traditionally offered by MCHA over the past many years went through a transition in 2023. However, educating pet parents on responsible ownership has always been and continues to be at the forefront of MCHA's mission. This emphasis is woven into all of our programs—whether through social media, informational fliers, or face-to-face guidance—ensuring that pet owners have the resources and knowledge needed to care for their animals.

Additionally, MCHA actively uses its platform to advocate for animal welfare at both the community and state levels, supporting a more informed and compassionate approach to animal care across Indiana.

MCHA's Therapy Animal Program is currently in transition. Without a dedicated staff member, the program has been placed on hold as we address other pressing needs. However, our existing therapy animal teams continue their volunteer work within the community, offering valuable support and companionship where it's needed most.



NEW OUTREACH VEHICLE



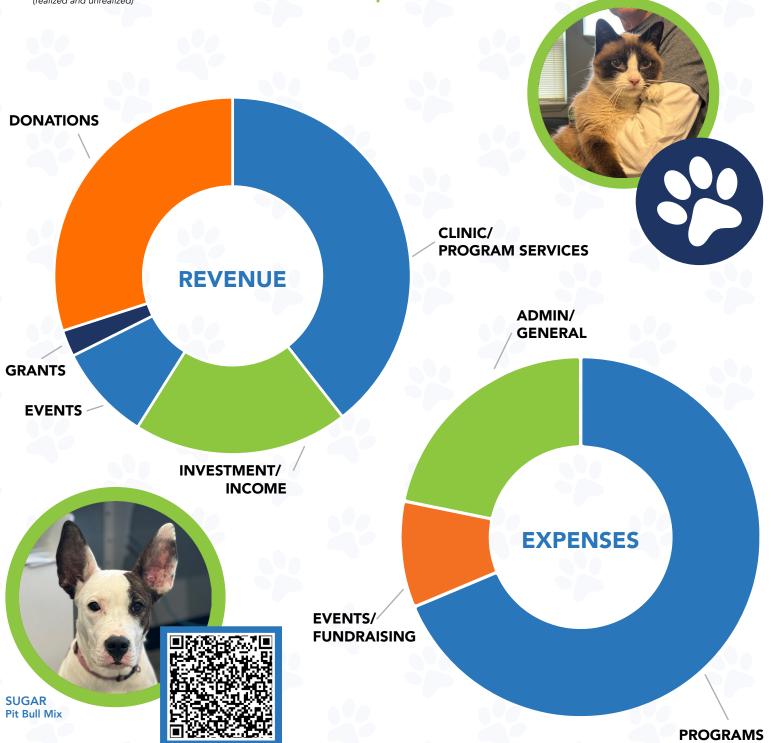
Thank you to all of our generous donors for making 2023 a year of incredible impact! Thanks to your support, we were able to purchase a new Outreach Van, a vital addition to our programs that will help us reach more families in need, bringing essential pet care and support directly to our community. We are also deeply grateful to 100 Women Who Care for their contribution that allowed us to purchase a portable ultrasound machine. This invaluable tool will enhance our ability to provide timely and precise care to pets in our community. Your commitment to supporting our mission makes all the difference thank you for helping us keep pets healthy, safe, and with the families who love them.

2023 FINANCES

REVENUE TOTAL \$825,681 CLINIC/PROGRAM SERVICES \$425,171 DONATIONS \$182,354 EVENTS \$90,516 GRANTS \$25,189 INVESTMENT/OTHER INCOME \$102,451

EXPENSES

| TOTAL | \$830,471 |
|--------------------|-----------|
| PROGRAMS | \$582,710 |
| EVENTS/FUNDRAISING | \$50,838 |
| ADMIN/GENERAL | \$196,923 |



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WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

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Coordinator



Monroe County Humane Association (MCHA) is dedicated to delivering essential services and programs where they are needed most, reaching and supporting communities across Monroe County and surrounding areas. We provide compassionate assistance to all, without regard to race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, national origin, genetics, disability, age, housing status, or veteran status. Our commitment to accessibility, inclusivity, and respect ensures that our programs make a meaningful difference for pets and their human companions alike. MCHA is also proud to be an equal opportunity employer, fostering a diverse and inclusive environment.



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