



Annual Report

2019 - 2020

Usually, when we issue our annual report, we use this space to share a story of an animal who came through the doors of HSWM and how their life was changed. This year, we felt the need to highlight another area of this work that became such a huge part of HSWM and the animals in our care, that is the overwhelming community of fosters that helped HSWM throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

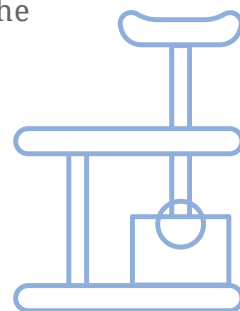
When COVID-19 started, so much was unknown except that the safety of the community had to be the priority. In an effort to reduce staff and enhance safety, HSWM sought to place animals in foster homes as soon as possible. We began our outreach, but never could have anticipated the overwhelming support that this community provided. Within days, our shelter was empty, the animals were in foster homes and were loved, cared for, and safe. We were speechless.

Throughout the pandemic, this continued, as individuals were working from home, more and more stepped up to volunteer as fosters. We learned so much about the animals in our care, and that a foster cat or dog can be a pretty good office assistant when working remotely.

As we have looked at the numbers for animal placement throughout the pandemic, we consistently have at least half of our animal population in foster homes. We are constantly learning about what the animals like and dislike, what they would enjoy in their future home, and sometimes they are lucky enough to convince their foster that they might need to be a permanent family member and they never have to look for the next home.

This year has been one no one could have anticipated, but this community has continued to amaze us with the kindness, dedication, and support for the animals in our care. We could not be more grateful to serve this community and partner with you to help animals this year, and into the future. We are truly grateful- we could not do this work without you. On behalf of the staff of HSWM, and the animals we serve, thank you.

Together,
we make a difference.





Adopted July 2020

Message of Gratitude

2020 has been a year of unprecedented challenges. Because of the generosity of the West Michigan community, HSWM continues to serve the animals in our care. We are so thankful to this community for supporting us during this difficult time. We are truly grateful.

 **Holly Guild**
Executive Director

Our Vision and Mission

To build a more compassionate community where all animals are given the care they deserve and to promote the humane treatment and responsible care of animals in West Michigan through education, example, placement, and protection.



Foster Parent Jamie

Animal Impact Stats

2,930 Animals Adopted



973



1,682



275
(other)

ANIMALS ADMITTED: **2,927 Total**



1,048



1,578



301
(other)

SPAYS AND NEUTERS: **1,782 Total**



601



1,071



110
(other)

HUMANE EDUCATION: 1,721

Children & adults learn compassion, responsible pet care, and animal safety through outreach and on-site programming including presentations, school visits, camps, clubs, and tours.

School Visits: **500** | Camps: **221** | Other*: **1,000**
*Tours, birthdays, junior volunteer club

BEHAVIOR ASSISTANCE: 172

Includes obedience classes, one-on-one counseling, and seminars to provide support for adopters and others in the community.

Classes: **151** | Consults: **3** | Seminars: **18**

Pet Care Assistance Program

To help keep beloved pets in their homes, we offer reduced cost vaccines and a pet food bank to low income pet owners in the community.

VACCINE CLINICS: **312 animals**

KIBBLE KONNECTION:
84 active clients with 93 animals
8,300 lbs of food per year

HSWM Volunteers

The care and love we provide to our animals could not be achieved without the help from our volunteers.

11,000 Volunteer Hours

It would take an additional **5 full-time staff members** to perform all the work done by our awesome volunteers!

275 Shelter Volunteers | Staff to Volunteer ratio of **1:5**

Euthanasia

HSWM does not euthanize animals for time or space, but only euthanizes for severe medical reasons or animals who are behaviorally unsafe to adopt. HSWM offers affordable euthanasia services to pet owners in the community to assist them through the difficult process of saying goodbye to a beloved pet.

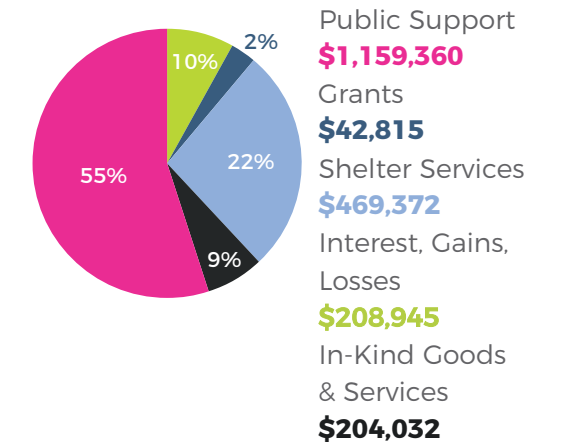
OWNER REQUESTED: **247**
MEDICAL REASONS: **53**
BEHAVIORAL REASONS: **51**

Financial Stats

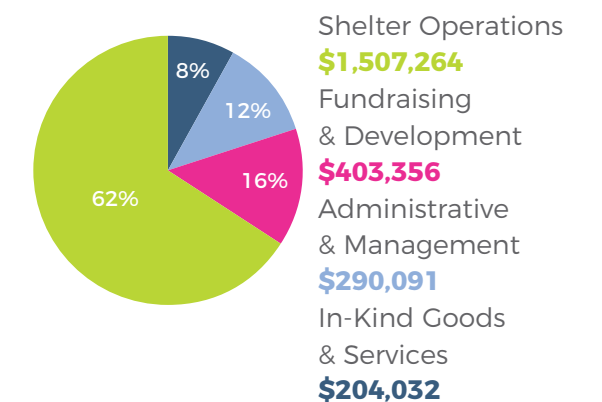
HSWM is 100% donor funded — we don't receive funding from the government or any national animal welfare organizations

To donate please call 616.791.8057 or visit hswestmi.org/give.

REVENUE: **\$2,084,524**



EXPENSES: **\$2,404,743**



Total Assets: **\$6,712,164**

Board of Directors: Joe DiBenedetto (Board President), Valery Young (Vice President), Patrick Cebelak (Board Treasurer), Anne Ficeli, LaChaun Steverson (Board Past President), Peter Kulas-Dominguez, Stephen Ledbetter, Kara Rozin, Karen Brush, Shannon Cunningham (Honorary Board Member), Stacy Bowman (Honorary Board Member), Gay Gira-Lathrop (Honorary Board Member).