

Impact Report

From **1.1.22 - 3.20.22**, **427** animals have been adopted from HSWM!



A Happy Tail to Warm Your Heart

This Happy Tail gave us all warm and fuzzy feelings! Adorable Kovu lingered in our care for quite some time and we couldn't figure out why, since he was such a good boy! Finally, the right family found him and took him home, and now he's getting all of the love and spoiling he deserves.

Kovu's dad says, "Hope that you - and the whole Humane Society of West Michigan crew - are doing well!"

Just wanted to let you know Kovu continues to thrive. Our son (Josh) so enjoys having him in the house. Between Josh and I, Kovu is getting 5-6 walks around the neighborhood each day. When we got the first snow, it was fun to watch Kovu's reaction, it seems like he hasn't had much exposure to it before!

We took Kovu to the nearby Petsmart today to get his nails trimmed and ground smoothly. The crew in the store grooming area fell in love with him as well, as they picked up on his playful and affectionate style even in the short amount of time they had with him to do his nail clipping.

Thank you again for Kovu!
Mark"

There's no sweeter bond than that of a boy and his dog!



Save the Date!



Humane Society of West Michigan is turning 139 this year - Join us for our Birthday Party on Sunday, June 26th!

Visit hswestmi.org/birthday for more information and details

A Special Thanks to

Our Paws, Claws & Corks Leading Sponsors

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We need your help!
Donate today at
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3077 Wilson Drive NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49534

Please email us at
development@hswestmi.org





Thank You For Making Paws, Claws & Corks A Success!

On Wednesday, March 9th, over 600 guests joined Humane Society of West Michigan for the tenth annual Paws, Claws & Corks gala! We were thrilled to be back in person this year and able to offer our attendees a plethora of wine and beer, small plates of gourmet food, live donations, our wine pull, and all of the fun we've missed being virtual the past few years!

Guests sipped on fine wines and microbrews from Alliance Beverage and dined on tastings from nine of Grand Rapids' best restaurants, Two Scotts Barbecue, CitySen Lounge, Big O, Shaker & Swine, Furniture City Creamery, Sovengard, Noco Provisions, Cannonsburg Village, and Palio. In addition to the delicious food and drinks, there were over 300 exciting auction packages and experiences for guests to bid on, and this year the auction was hot!

We welcomed the band Funkle Jesse to our event who played live music for everyone to enjoy, but by far, the best part about being in-person again was our ability to personally meet all of you—our generous sponsors and donors! We were blown away by the generosity and support of our community who joined us both in person at the DeVos Place, and virtually to celebrate the life-saving work of HSWM over the past year.

We were also so proud to feature our Humane Heroes of the year, Tom and Holly Rowley. Tom and Holly have been volunteering at HSWM for over 11 years,

and they put their hearts and soul into everything they do for our organization. From dog-walking to doing laundry, fostering, and everything in between, we're so grateful for their ongoing support! At Paws, Claws & Corks we shared the stories of Monster the miracle cat, who made a full recovery from a severe bone infection, and Honey the Doberman, who surprised her foster mom with an adorable litter of puppies—all of which have been adopted!

▲ *All of our Paws, Claws & Corks attendees were in high spirits, happy to be able to attend the event in person again.*



As a 100% donor-funded nonprofit organization, the funds raised at Paws, Claws & Corks will directly benefit HSWM in our mission to promote the humane treatment and responsible care of animals in West Michigan through education, example, placement, and protection. Through the auction, sponsorships, and donations we were able to raise **\$190,574** for animals in need!

▲ *Our partner restaurants offered a wide variety of vegan and vegetarian dishes this year, all of which were incredibly tasty, and a big hit with our guests!*

Thank you again to all who attended our tenth annual Paws, Claws & Corks!



Corporate Spotlight

ABOVE ROOFING .COM

Humane Society of West Michigan thanks Above Roofing for their continued dedication to helping animals in need. Above Roofing is a local roofing company that has been in business for over 25 years. Above Roofing is passionate about supporting the community, and especially the animals that are a part of it! We want to extend a big thank you to Above Roofing for their generosity as a corporate partner!

Volunteer Spotlight



Nancy Sonke was a Humane Hero whose legacy continues to support animals in need. Nancy passed in 2013 after a lifetime of dedication to animals. She had many stories of her love for animals, but often spoke of her beloved dog Roscoe who was adopted from HSWM. Nancy devoted a major part of her life to our mission, even serving for a time on the Board of Directors. When Nancy passed, she left a planned gift to continue to care for the animals at HSWM. We are truly grateful for Nancy and her generous legacy!

On behalf of Humane Society of West Michigan, I want to thank you for your continued commitment to our organization. Your generous support is critical to the services we provide and we are grateful for your passion and dedication to the animals in our care.

We have very exciting news to share, we have officially appointed Tania Jaczkowski as the organization's Executive Director! For those of you that have engaged with Tania during her many years with HSWM, little needs to be said on why she was the right choice for this position. Her commitment to her colleagues, to the organization and, most importantly, to the animals in our care is unquestioned.

This commitment has never been more obvious than over the past several months, as she stepped up to serve as interim executive director, while also continuing to serve as director of animal logistics. She has been a tremendous asset to HSWM during her tenure and we are grateful that she has agreed to lead the organization moving forward. We hope that you will join us in congratulating Tania, and thank you again for your ongoing commitment to HSWM.

Joe DiBenedetto— Board President

Did You Know We Offer Youth Camps?

HSWM Camps are a fun, hands-on way for kids to learn all about animal behavior and welfare!

HSWM offers youth camps in the winter and spring, as well as a wide variety of themed summer camps from June to August. Campers take part in projects, crafts, games, learn from guest speakers, and get lots of animal interaction time!

These camps promote compassion and help kids develop empathy towards animals. We also cover responsible pet ownership, safe animal handling, and animal-based careers as part of our curriculum.

These varied programs are a great way to educate future pet-owners and teach the next generation of animal advocates how they can make a difference!

Learn more about our 11 specialized Summer Camp Programs at hswestmi.org/youth-camps.html today!