

# Looking Back on 2023

## Ground Breaking Ceremony

In June, we broke ground on our new facility, the Sharon Bodenhafer Critter Center, located at 901 Leesburg Road!



## Beam Topping Ceremony

Our staff, volunteers, and even pets made their mark as the final beam was placed in October!



## PetSmart Charities Accelerator Grant

Thanks to a \$150,000 investment from PetSmart Charities, we're working to evaluate and implement strategies that will make quality, affordable veterinary care more accessible for ALL our community's pets.



## Pawject Runway

Last October, we raised over \$235,000 to save lives during our signature red carpet event!



## The State of Animal Welfare

Last year presented an unprecedented crisis for animal welfare organizations everywhere. Pets are being surrendered in record numbers. Adoptions have slowed to a crawl. And more pet owners than ever are in need of help to keep their pets at home. That's why we spent the majority of 2023 working hard to adapt and grow to meet the needs of the thousands of pets and people we serve.

# Looking Forward

## The Big Move!

Humane Fort Wayne will be transitioning to our new home at 901 Leesburg Road! Stay tuned for open house dates coming soon!

## Exciting News for Hanna Street

Once the move is complete, we'll be turning our Hanna Street location into our state's first and only social services hub for pets!

## Pawject Runway - October 19, 2024

Save the date for our 10th Annual Pawject Runway! We'll be celebrating a Decade of Devotion!

# Board of Directors

- |                         |                              |                             |                                  |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Kathleen Smith<br>Chair | Melissa McKown<br>Vice Chair | Lona Pritchard<br>Secretary | Reneta Thurairatnam<br>Treasurer |
| Terah Brogan            | Jason Grover                 | Erika Halliwill             | Michelle Hipskind                |
| Mike McCartin           | Kathryn Roudebush            |                             |                                  |

We're for people. We're for pets. We're for *Love*, unleashed.



**Humane**  
FORT WAYNE

[HumaneFW.org](http://HumaneFW.org)



We turn "likes" into love!

## SHELTER

4914 S. Hanna Street  
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46806  
260 744-0454

## CLINIC

1333 Maycrest Drive  
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46805  
260 420-7729

Ready to adopt or gift love? Call us or visit our website.

# 2023 Annual Report

# Love

## UNLEASHED



**Humane**  
FORT WAYNE



2023 was the year of great expectations, as we broke ground on our beautiful state-of-the-art facility and worked to raise the funds necessary to complete the project.

Some of the most memorable moments in our history have been watching the building take shape and then standing with our staff and volunteers as the last steel beam was placed atop our new home.

We are beyond excited for our future - and the future of animal welfare - when we finally move to 901 Leesburg Rd.

And if that weren't exciting enough, 2023 also saw a significant investment from PetSmart Charities that will allow us to grow our clinic operations to ensure even greater access to veterinary services, especially for those who might otherwise struggle to provide quality care for their pets.

This includes significant funding for our social service program, Pet Promises, which is at the very heart of our mission.

2024 is the 75th Anniversary of the former Allen County SPCA - now Humane Fort Wayne. I am overjoyed to be marking that milestone by opening the doors to a brighter future for pets and the people who love them, both at Leesburg Road and at Hanna Street.

All this change has not come without challenge. But challenges are inherent to growth. And if we're known for anything, it's adapting to do the most good with the resources we have.

**YOU make it all possible.** Thank you for not only sustaining our present, but investing in our future. **We can't wait to begin the next chapter in lifesaving with YOU!**

Sincerely,

Jessica Henry-Johnson  
Executive Director

## 2023 By The Numbers



1,997 Adoptions



13,595 Spay/  
Neuter Surgeries



13,802 Pets  
Served in Wellness



43 Compassion  
Fosters



1,414 Pets Received  
Financial Assistance



246,476 lbs of pet  
food distributed

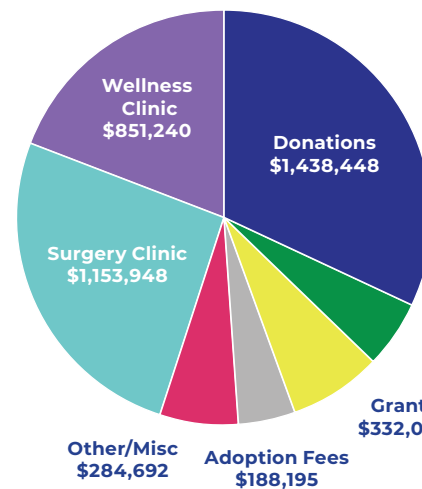


1,777 pets served on  
average per week through  
our Pet Food Pantry

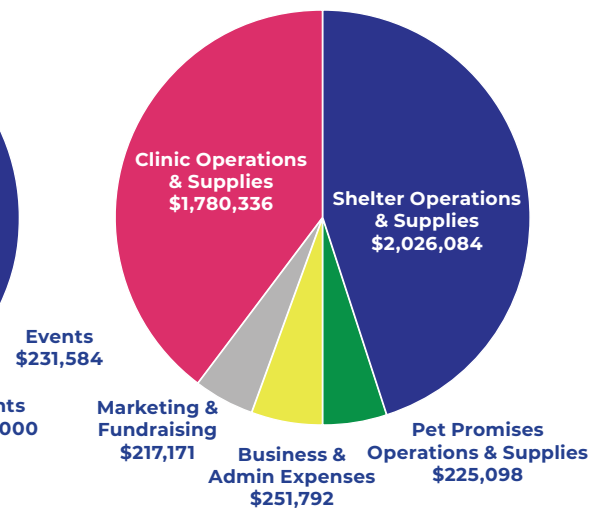


16,894 hours served  
by 523 volunteers

### 2023 Operating Revenue



### 2023 Operating Expense



I remember vividly my very first connection with Humane Fort Wayne. As a 10 year-old girl I rode my bike to see a few dogs in chain link kennels behind an old house next to Scott's on Decatur Road. My heart was both bursting with love for them and breaking for their visible confusion and anguish. I felt powerless.

But I dreamed that one day I'd be able to help ensure that no dog or cat ever had to have the same experience as those poor souls.

That memory seems like both yesterday and a lifetime ago. Looking back, I can't help but stand in awe at how far we've come.

As I began my tenure as Board Chair two years ago, I made a commitment to advance the mission and work that we do in our community to improve the lives of pets and the people who love them.

Even during the most challenging times in recent animal welfare history, I'm proud to say we've followed through. We've expanded clinic services, streamlined our shelter operations to save more pets, and broadened the range of support available for pet owners in need. At the same time, we busted our tails - pun intended - to raise funds for the construction of our desperately needed new home.

Thank you to the Board of Directors for their passion and dedication. And on their behalf, I want to thank all of Humane Fort Wayne's leadership, staff, and volunteers for their outstanding work in building a better community for pets and their people.

**The truth is, none of this lifesaving work could happen without your unwavering support. THANK YOU.**

I can't wait to see what 2024 brings, because I know that together, we'll continue to build a brighter future for our community.

**Dreams do come true!**

Sincerely,

Kathleen Smith  
Board of Directors Chair

