

## Big News for Pet Owners!

It's no secret that times are tough. **Fifty million pets in the U.S. experience a lack of access to even basic veterinary care.** Rising costs and other barriers mean these pets struggle to access services such as spay/neuter, vaccinations, and critical medical and preventative care.

PetSmart Charities has committed \$100 million over the next five years toward improving access to veterinary care.

**We're thrilled to announce that Humane Fort Wayne was chosen as the recipient of a \$150,000 Accelerator Grant.** These funds will go directly toward making veterinary care more accessible to those in our community who need it most by supporting the expansion of our Pet Promises Program to a free-standing community animal wellness center.



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## WISHLIST

### OUR MOST NEEDED ITEMS

- Dry dog and cat food
- Wet dog and cat food
- Wet kitten food
- Unscented cat litter
- Medium nitrile gloves
- Dog treats & pill pockets

**Donations can be dropped off during business hours.**

<b>Shelter</b>	<b>Clinic</b>
Tuesday-Friday: 11AM-6PM Saturday-Sunday: 11AM-4PM	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 8AM-5PM Wednesday: 8AM-6PM



Follow us:  
 @HumaneFortWayne

## ENCLOSED IS MY GIFT OF:

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

Your lifesaving gift to Humane Fort Wayne will help to promote the happiness, safety and wellbeing of pets in our community through:

- Pet Adoption**
- Low-cost Spay/Neuter Wellness Clinic**
- Foster Care**
- Pet Retention Community Cats Working Cats**
- Pet Food Pantry**



Scan the QR code or give online at [HumaneFW.org](https://www.humanefortwayne.org)



\$15     \$25     \$50     \$\_\_\_\_ (other amount)

\$\_\_\_\_ Please bill my credit card

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card # (If Applicable) \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Winter 2024 Newsletter

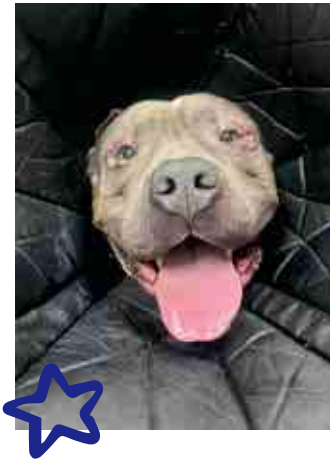
# Humane PawPrints

Fort Wayne

Winter 2024

1,997 ADOPTIONS IN 2023

13,593 SURGERIES & 13,798 PETS HELPED IN WELLNESS IN 2023



## A Legend in the Making

It was a lovely September day when a colleague of ours from New Haven Pet Hospital was enjoying a local baseball game. Lovely until, for reasons we'll never understand, **she saw 2-year-old Legend being dumped out of a car and abandoned.**

Our friends at New Haven took him in, but when no one claimed him, they reached out to us for help. At Humane Fort Wayne, we believe every pet deserves a second chance – even if it takes a village to give it to them.

**And so, our team started the long process of caring for this big, sweet boy.**

Poor Legend was in rough shape. His skin was severely irritated. His eyes were swollen and he couldn't see well. He had entropion – an abnormality where his eyelids rolled inward, causing discomfort and irritation. **But his spirit is what stole our hearts.** In spite of all his challenges, Legend wanted to love and be loved in return.

We spent weeks treating Legend with eye ointments, allergy medications, prescription food, and soothing baths. He had corrective eye surgery at Monon Veterinary Clinic performed by both their vet, Dr. Sam, and our vet, Dr. Gamble!

Soon, Legend was feeling so much better! **He'd gone from pain and uncertainty to having a new excitement for life and tons of energy.** This goofy lover needed some work on his manners, so our behavioral team made a plan and got to work getting him ready for his forever home.

**In late November, Legend found his forever family.** His new mom and dad were immediately smitten, and he loves his new canine sister, MooMoo, who was also adopted from us.

Legend's journey is not just the story of a dog's resilience, but of a village coming together to transform the life of a pet in need. And thanks to **YOU**, Legend now has a new leash on life.

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## SAVE THE DATE

**Pawject Runway**  
 Saturday, October 19, 2024  
 Allen County War Memorial Coliseum  
 4000 Parnell Ave, Fort Wayne

## DID YOU KNOW?

**1 in 3 Pets Go Missing**  
 Make sure they can get home! Our Wellness Clinic offers \$10 microchips every Tuesday and Thursday!

Stay up to date with the latest info at [HumaneFW.org](https://www.humanefortwayne.org)

## OUR MISSION

From adoption and pet retention programs, to spay/neuter and wellness services, to community outreach and education, we work tirelessly to prevent the incidence of euthanasia and to promote the happiness, safety, and well-being of pets and the people who love them.

# SHELTER MATTERS

from the executive director



I've never been much of a risk taker. I've never been zip-lining, parachuting, or deep-sea diving.

But when it's come to Humane Fort Wayne over the years, being fearless hasn't been scary.

And that's been because of you, our supporters. **Whenever we've dreamed-up something big, you've stood behind us all the way.**

After more than five years of navigating a capital campaign, sending out RFPs for builders and architects, raising money, and then raising more money – **in June we finally broke ground at 901 Leesburg Road!**

**In 2024, our biggest dream yet is set to come true.** This summer, you'll be invited to an Open House to tour the brand new Sharon Bodenhafer Critter Center at Humane Fort Wayne.

You might be wondering about the plans for our beloved flagship building on Hanna and Pettit. Well we have big dreams for that space too! In late 2024, **we'll be expanding and adding new services to our Pet Promises Program.**

Thanks to a generous grant from PetSmart Charities, we'll be working with stakeholders to determine how best to serve pet owners who might not otherwise get appropriate care for their animals – and then, we're going to start providing some of those things!

We also look forward to finding new and meaningful ways to repurpose the kennels at Hanna by expanding compassion fostering and emergency response to natural disasters.

**Here's to even more dreams coming true in 2024!** And it's all thanks to you, the friends of Humane Fort Wayne, who never stop believing that we can do and be more for pets and the people who love them!

Happy New Year to all of us!

Sincerely,

Jessica Henry-Johnson  
Executive Director



## COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Thank you for your support!



# 2023 SNAPSHOT

We are incredibly grateful for all that you helped us accomplish last year!  
Stay tuned – our full Annual Report is coming soon!



1,997  
Adoptions



13,798 Pets seen  
in Wellness Clinic &  
13,593 Spay/Neuter  
Surgeries



246,476  
lbs of pet food  
distributed



16,894  
Volunteer hours  
completed by 523  
volunteers



## CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

### A Tail of Purr-Serverance

In 2016, a kind woman reached out to us when **a colony of cats took over her shed.** She had been feeding them daily, but didn't want the colony to reproduce out of control. We sent a staff member to trap-neuter-return the cats.

**The rest was history – until recently when she reached out after suffering a stroke.**

Our friend could no longer make it down the concrete steps to feed her beloved companions. But we knew that finding a new home for a dozen ferals would be difficult (if not impossible), and extremely stressful for the cats.

So instead, we got to work. **For over two months, our staff and volunteers cared for the felines every day until she recovered.** We cleaned out the shed, set up winter shelters, and filled them with fresh straw.

And as we got to know all their purr-sonalities, **it was evident why she loved this colony so much.** One of our wonderful volunteers even built a custom feeding station so our friend could easily feed the cats without going down any steps!

**Today, our friend and her feral felines are thriving. And it's all thanks to you.**

Because of you, Humane Fort Wayne will always go above and beyond to help pets and people who love them.

