

NEW HOME. NEW HOPE.

Capital Campaign



WASHINGTON AREA
HUMANE SOCIETY





NEW HOME, NEW HOPE

The need for a humane society in Washington County to serve and protect the animals in our county and offer programming and services to the public is evident. Our goal is to create a clean, calm, modern space where members of the community can volunteer, receive education, get low-cost vet services, attend events, adopt animals, enjoy programming, and spend time with animals to achieve happiness and calm. WAHS's vision for the future centers on a new facility that is open and welcoming, where animals have the space to thrive and play, and where resources are available to meet the needs of our community. This space will serve the voiceless, neglected and abused animals in Washington County.



Ollie

Two days before Christmas Oliver was left on the doorstep of the shelter in a big box with a bow. Oliver was so sweet and friendly that the staff couldn't imagine why anyone would dump him. He adopted out in less than a week to a forever home.

Over a century ago, individuals joined forces and focused on making this world a kinder, more compassionate place for companion animals when founding the Washington Area Humane Society. Thousands of adoptions later and humane cases investigated, WAHS is realizing that goal. With your help in this campaign, the Washington Area Humane Society will be able to create a stronger and healthier community through the animal and human connection and provide both a new home and new hope for the animals in Washington County.





CURRENT CHALLENGES

Deteriorating Conditions

The Washington Area Humane Society has been operating in a 7,500 square feet space, constructed nearly 70 years ago. While there is space for 50 dogs and 50 cats to be housed and cared for, the structure is outdated, the building inaccessible, the floor plan is problematic with many aspects of the building irreparable and cramped. As a result, the quality of care is limited. Our current building constrains our ability to work, educate, and support the animals in need within Washington County. Our future, should we remain in our current building is less than promising.



Lucky

Lucky was rescued along with her brothers and sisters and mother by our Humane Society Police Officer. The puppies and their mother were surrendered from a home where they were neglected and possibly abused. Lucky was adopted as a puppy and is doing great as are her brothers and sisters and mother who all found forever homes.

“Our Humane Society Police Officer investigates and responds to over 500 incidents a year.”

– **DAVE KASSEKERT**
Board President

Overpopulation

Washington County is overburdened by the increasing population of cats and dogs, while the need for affordable spay/neuter surgeries grows each year. With vet costs increasing, Washington County's low-income families struggle to retain pets. The current clinic at WAHS is limited in space and quality. WAHS has been trying to keep up with the needs of our community, but we can only go so far in our current facility. At our four annual vaccination clinics, we see lines of pet owners that wrap around the building. In addition to the vaccination clinics, we offer walk-in clinics twice a week that offer low cost veterinary services. This new building is necessary for us to continue serving Washington County and realize our full impact on the community.

Humane Crisis

In 2016, the WAHS saw a twenty percent increase in animal abuse cases as a result of the drug crisis in our county. Many of the animals seized by our Humane Society Police Officer need extended foster care and/or extensive medical care due to the egregious lack of care provided by their former owners. Additionally, the state has adopted new animal abuse laws, e.g. the Libre Law, that have increased call volume and the number of animals being seized by our humane officer due to unsafe conditions. Our current facility doesn't offer the proper holding and medical areas for these types of cases and animals with these special needs.

Educational Space

Washington Area Humane Society is dedicated to educational programming to promote the humane treatment of animals. Our current structure has absolutely no space to train volunteers, hold large community or other large scale educational events. This drastically limits our programming and offerings to the public on all levels. Further, volunteer activity is constrained by a lack of space to work on socializing our dogs and cats.



Sugar

Sugar has been waiting for her new forever home for a full year. When her owner was diagnosed with terminal cancer, she surrendered her to the WAHS. Despite her senior status of 10 years, Sugar still loves to play and is very affectionate.



“A better quality of care leads to shorter length of stay which increases adoption rates and saves more animals.”

– **KELLY PROUDFIT**
Executive Director

SOLUTIONS

Critical to WAHS achieving our goals, and fulfilling our mission, is the construction of a new shelter. Increased space will reduce animal stress, and provide more space for our animals to live and play, which will yield better outcomes. Ultimately, reducing the length of stay without compromising live outcomes requires a combination of appropriate housing and active management of each animal’s journey through the shelter. Contemporary research studies demonstrate that length of stay is the single greatest risk of illness in a shelter.

The new state-of-the-art facility will reduce utility costs by utilizing energy-efficient central air conditioning and heating, upgraded lighting and better insulation. Repair and maintenance costs will also decrease drastically. The new HVAC system will be designed to provide better quality air flow, and reduce odors. The new facility will ultimately allow WAHS to be better stewards of our donors’ gifts, with more funding going directly to the care of the animals.

Incorporated in the design of the new facility will be a special holding area for Humane Case animals brought to the shelter after hours, as well as a dedicated isolation unit for holding sick dogs and cats. The back kennel space will be a holding area for strays and case animals who are not yet available for adoption. We currently house these dogs in a separate building which leads to operational and safety related concerns.

The new building will feature a modern clinic, in addition to the isolation unit, which will address the need to keep healthy animals healthy, while giving vets increased ability to help nurse animals with more serious conditions back to health. It will also allow the shelter more opportunities to provide low-cost vaccination clinics and surgeries to meet the community’s need for low-cost vet services. At the WAHS, our goal is to increase vaccination clinics and spay/neuter clinics by thirty percent in our new building.

A large community room will be available for WAHS to host education events on the humane treatment of animals, as well as offer many more community focused opportunities. Volunteers will have a dedicated space and the outdoor play yards will allow more enrichment opportunities for our dogs.



Butterscotch

After spending 2 years at the WAHS with no adoption prospects, Butterscotch entered our Foster Program. She currently resides at a staff members’ home, where she can sit at the window and enjoy the last stage of her life.



WAYS TO GIVE

Every gift to the Washington Area Humane Society makes a difference in the lives of the abandoned, abused and neglected animals we serve. All gifts to this campaign for Washington Area Humane Society, unless otherwise restricted, will help provide a new home for animals in Washington County.

Pledges – Gifts to the New Home, New Hope campaign can be made as pledges payable over three years. This allows you to make a more substantial gift and adjust the timing and amount of each payment to suit your needs and financial situation.

Matching Gifts – Many companies will match their employees' (and sometimes retired employees') charitable contributions. You can increase, even double, your campaign gift through a matching gift program.

Naming Opportunities – Many WAHS donors choose to make gifts in honor or memory of family members, friends or beloved pets. The New Home, New Hope campaign provides a number of ways to create a

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Millie

Gentle Millie came in scared and neglected as a stray. WAHS takes in over 200 strays a year from animal control and the dog warden. Millie was adopted out and is thriving in her new forever home.



WAYS TO GIVE (continued)

permanent legacy for yourself or your loved ones by naming a space within the new facility. With a naming opportunity, your generous gift to this campaign can also be a fitting tribute to a loved one.

Gifts of Stock – When you choose to make your gift to the campaign by contributing appreciated securities, you can gain valuable tax advantages. If you own appreciated securities for at least a year and a day, your contribution can offer many benefits. As with all important financial decisions, your gift of stock should be discussed first with your personal financial advisor.

Retirement Funds – Donors can give wisely by using their retirement funds to make a gift to the New Home, New Hope campaign. WAHS can be named as a beneficiary of your retirement account (IRA) or you can use a withdrawal (over age 59 ½) to fund your contribution. Donors over age 70 ½ have the wonderful opportunity to make a direct transfer gift from their IRA. These tax beneficial ways of giving should be explored first with your personal financial advisor before any decisions are made.

Bequests – Making a gift through your will or other planned giving vehicle is a wonderful way to support WAHS and the New Home, New Hope campaign. A gift through your will may enable you to make a more significant gift without impacting your current financial situation and most importantly, help improve the capacity for care at the Washington Area Humane Society. Please consult your personal legal and financial advisors concerning the specific consequences of making gifts through your will or estate plan to WAHS.

Learn more about any of these options in supporting the New Home, New Hope campaign for Washington Area Humane Society on our website - washingtonpashelter.org or by contacting Kelly Proudfit, Executive Director, at 724.222.PETS ext. 110 or Kelly@washingtonpashelter.org.

“The Washington Area Humane Society believes education is key to stopping the cycle of abuse and neglect of animals in our county.”

– **AUDRA ANDY**
Board Member



WASHINGTON AREA
HUMANE SOCIETY



724.222.PETS



washingtonpashelter.org



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