To end companion animal homelessness,
to provide the highest quality service and
compassion to the animals entrusted to our care,
and to be a leader in promoting humane values.

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DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS...

For more than 138 years, the Michigan Humane Society has served as a voice to the animals of Southeast Michigan and as an advocate for those everywhere. There are only two things that have remained constant in all that time: our principles and change. We are as committed as ever to providing a better life for the animals with whom we share our lives, yet the manner in which we do so is continuously evolving.

We are saving more lives and implementing new programs to better the lives and outcomes of the animals both in our shelters and in our community. We remain on the cutting edge of best practices, and we are always asking ourselves “what’s next?” We are constantly evolving, yet our singular guiding principle remains the same: to save lives. This report includes some of the things we’re proud to have accomplished in 2015.

2015 was an incredible year for MHS. However, the key to progress is to never accept success. Work remains to be done – a better model must be established in the City of Detroit; preventative programs need to be more accessible and widespread in our community; collaboration must replace animosity among animal welfare organizations; there are lives still out there to be impacted. We are committed to using the incredible successes of the past year only as a foundation for even greater things ahead. We need your help. Please adopt, foster, donate, volunteer, advocate – partner with us.

“I like the dreams of the future better than the history of the past.” - Thomas Jefferson

MHS has a lot to be proud of over the past 138 years. We have saved countless lives and impacted countless more. Still, the future has even more potential, and we are filled with anticipation and excitement for what it will bring – we are dreaming big this year.

Matthew Pepper, President and CEO
Brunhilda was found on the streets of Detroit, dragging herself along by her front legs.

A concerned citizen called our rescue team, who came to pick up the cat and found she had extreme injuries to her hind legs. One of her legs had an open compound fracture. The other leg had a fracture that had caused her toes to curl underneath her leg and wear through the skin to the bone.

She was immediately taken to MHS where she was placed under the care of our veterinarians, who had to perform four surgeries - including amputating one of her legs. Since the remaining hind leg had been worn to a “nub” and she no longer had paw pads, we sought out the assistance of Orthopets, a company that makes prosthetics for animals, and Pawsitive Steps Rehab, who helped Brunhilda learn to walk again.

Brunhilda got a new prosthetic limb, and with the help of her foster mom and the rehab staff at Pawsitive Steps, she learned to walk and get around with ease.

After six months of care, she was ready to find a family of her own. She was adopted by a wonderful couple and is doing very well in her new, forever home!

See Brunhilda’s story at michiganhumane.org/Brunhilda
That’s 11,172 animal lives saved and 11,172 families who chose adoption. That’s 11,172 animals who are now warm, safe and loved, and 11,172 families who are now fuller and happier.

Most importantly, it’s not the number of animals that matters most; rather that each of these adoptions and placements represents a life – a life that you helped to positively transform.

An adoption doesn’t happen just because a loving family picks out a wonderful animal companion and signs a piece of paper. Adoptions happen because people know when they can no longer care for an animal, we will.

They happen because our cruelty investigation and rescue teams are on the streets, rescuing the sick, the emaciated, the abused. They happen because we are able to provide animals with veterinary care the moment they come through our doors, and because we are able to provide them with a warm, safe bed and nutritious food. Adoptions happen because our foster caregivers provide those in need with a little extra time and TLC and because our animal behavior team creates individual training plans for those who need a little extra help. Adoptions happen because toys and blankets are donated to keep animals engaged and cozy.

They happen because, when an overlooked animal needs a bit more visibility, our supporters share their photo on social media. Adoptions happen because when people think of adopting, they think of MHS. And when someone chooses adoption, resources free up for the next animal in need. Adoptions happen because when others adopt, they tell their family and friends how great the MHS adoption experience was and how that pet has already become a part of the family. Adoptions happen because when people are able to donate, they choose to donate to MHS.

We worked especially hard encouraging people to adopt through a number of creative promotions. In July, our “Cat Independence Days” promotion was extremely successful, with 209 cats adopted in just three days. Later, when we partnered with our good friends at Detroit-based Strategic Staffing Solutions to celebrate their 25th anniversary with $25 adoption fees – the result: we nearly emptied our adoption centers!

Every day, we recognize those who keep our country safe with our Pets for Patriots reduced-fee adoptions. On Veteran’s Day, we gave them an extra-special thank-you by waiving adoption fees. In late December, we celebrated our supporters who were on Santa’s “nice” list by waiving fees for cat adoptions. These and other efforts contributed to saving more lives!
The MHS cruelty investigators responded to 5,557 cruelty calls last year in Detroit, Hamtramck and Highland Park. A major part of our cruelty investigation team’s role in the community is educating pet owners about responsible pet ownership in all its forms, including proper shelter, food and veterinary care. And, of course, strongly encouraging people to keep their pets indoors.

Every day, the MHS rescue team rushes to the aid of stray and wild animals in Detroit, Hamtramck and Highland Park who are injured, sick or trapped. The team responded to 3,322 calls in 2015.

One of the greatest needs for families struggling with financial issues – and sometimes the deciding factor in whether they can keep their animals – is pet food. In 2015, we served 6,305 low-income families by providing them with pet food free of charge. We rely on food donations to keep our free pet food bank up and running, as the need is clearly substantial.

A microchip is a permanent form of pet identification that cannot be lost or altered. We microchipped 8,498 animals in 2015, which means these dogs and cats will be much more likely to get home if they are ever lost! And 2,000 of the microchips were distributed at no cost to cat owners as part of a free microchip promotion.
Our shelter veterinarian had never seen anything like it.

The young dog was emaciated, half of her ideal weight. You could see every bone in her body, and you could see an obvious hard object sticking out from her stomach — she had swallowed something she shouldn’t have.

She needed emergency surgery.

When the veterinarian surgically opened her stomach to remove the foreign object, what she discovered shocked her. The dog, who weighed only about 11 pounds and measured 20 inches long, had swallowed an 8-inch piece of a plastic coat hanger, which was now embedded in her stomach.

We can only assume Indy was extremely hungry and ate whatever she could find in a desperate attempt to fill her belly. But now her life was at risk.

It was a difficult surgery, but thanks to our experienced veterinary staff, she came through and started on the road to recovery. Indy then spent time in a foster home where she doubled her weight.

Once she was at a healthy weight and ready to go up for adoption, she soon found her forever home.

See Indy’s story at michiganhumane.org/Indy
The new MHS Dresner Foundation Animal Care Campus opened its doors to the public on March 14, 2016. This state-of-the-art, 35,000 square foot facility will increase our impact on the animals of Detroit and beyond, and improve our ability to care for the animals that pass through our doors. This new campus facility -

- Houses animals with both short- and long-term care needs and allows MHS to modernize and meet industry-best practices such as open and inviting living spaces that better meet the social, physical and mental needs of animals.

- Is constructed of disease-resistant materials for improved sanitation and animal health.

- Includes state-of-the-art rehabilitation rooms increasing MHS' capacity to provide long-term care and to achieve our goal of 100% adoption of treatable animals.

- Provides dedicated spaces for training and education, increasing our impact on the community and ideally, sparking a strong humane social movement in Detroit.

- Enables expanded partnerships, including teaching and training opportunities, providing the next generation of veterinarians with valuable experience in the underserved field of Shelter Medicine.

- Utilizes a modern and welcoming design to encourage increased use of MHS services and animal adoptions, as well as to change general perceptions of what an animal shelter looks like and what it can do.

- Serves as a community resource for building collaborative programs, outreach and grass roots initiatives.
Some of the very first adoptions at the New Dresner Foundation Animal Care Campus. From left to right: Cowboy, Lenny, Theodore and Faygo.

The Detroit Mounted Police and Detroit Police Canines lead a parade of MHS staff, volunteers and supporters from the Old Detroit Center for Animal Care to the New Dresner Foundation Animal Care Campus.

An adoptable puppy looks out her kennel to prospective adopters at the New Dresner Foundation Animal Care Campus.

A kitten relaxes in a cat condo at the New Dresner Foundation Animal Care Campus with the adoption center lobby in the background.

A cat looks out the windows at the New Dresner Foundation Animal Care Campus.

Dogs are escorted down the red carpet to the New Dresner Foundation Animal Care Campus.
Many animals who come into our care require a little extra time and TLC before they’re ready to be adopted into loving homes. Sometimes they’re not old enough to be adopted, sometimes they need extra socialization or time out of the shelter, sometimes they’re recovering from injury, and often times they have an illness, such as an upper respiratory infection. That’s where our foster caregivers come in. These amazing volunteers provide short-term care for shelter animals until they’re ready to be adopted.

In 2015, 1,105 kittens, 512 cats, 196 puppies, 251 dogs, and 59 reptiles, birds and small animals benefited from a short-term stay in one of the more than 300 MHS foster homes across metro Detroit. That’s 2,123 more lives saved, thanks to the compassionate caregivers who were willing to open their homes and hearts to animals in need.

MHS partners with hundreds of rescue groups and animal shelters both to transfer animals into our facilities when other organizations need assistance and to transfer animals out of our facilities when they can receive more specialized care at another animal welfare organization. In 2015, we took in 2,498 animals from other organizations in order to save more lives.

Helping pet owners to spay or neuter their animals at no or low cost helps keep animals out of shelters by reducing the number of unwanted litters. In 2015, we sterilized 11,909 animals. This includes the distribution of 331 free sterilization certificates for pit bull-type dogs and the sterilization of 699 feral cats through our Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) program. We also sterilize each animal that is adopted from MHS and offer sterilization services at our three veterinary centers.
Collectively, our volunteers donated more than 42,000 hours of service last year alone. Our volunteers go above and beyond every day for the animals in MHS’ care. That is 42,000 hours ensuring dogs are walked, cats are cuddled, animals are photographed for the website, and our adoption and fundraising events are running smoothly.

But that number doesn’t tell the full story, of that one high energy dog our volunteers stay late with every time they’re at the shelter so she can run an extra 10 minutes outside. Or the shy cat they got to know so they could tell adopters all about the great qualities hidden under his introverted exterior. It doesn’t factor in the effort of lovingly crafting cozy blankets so our animals have comfort, nor the time spent raising thousands of dollars for our Mutt March and Mega March for Animals events, the garage sales, parties, or the Christmas light shows put on to support to the animals. The simple fact is MHS could not exist without our volunteers!

Our highly-skilled team of veterinarians operates three full-service animal hospitals and provides a range of general and surgical services including spay/neuter, vaccinations, microchips, dental work, heartworm and flea prevention for dogs, cats, and other pets.

We provide quality and affordable veterinary care that helps pets stay in their homes for a lifetime.

Additionally, proceeds from the three veterinary centers support the homeless animals in our adoption centers.
A stray living on the streets goes without many basic needs. A regular supply of food and water, a comfortable place to sleep, and the assurance they won’t be hit by a car or attacked by another dog.

Ronaldo didn’t have any of these things, and he also didn’t have protection from a deadly disease: heartworm. Without monthly heartworm preventative medication, it is easy for a dog to become infected. When Ronaldo arrived in our care, not only was he emaciated, anemic and suffering from an upper respiratory infection, he was suffering from heartworm disease as well.

Ronaldo needed to gain weight and recover from a stomach ulcer in addition to the upper respiratory infection before he was able to be neutered and begin the heartworm treatment. The treatment was lengthy and hard on Ronaldo - he spent two months in a foster home where he was kept calm while the treatment killed the worms.

After undergoing treatment, he was finally able to be placed up for adoption, and soon found a loving, forever home!

See Ronaldo’s story at michiganhumane.org/Ronaldo
Every animal that comes to MHS goes through a health and temperament evaluation to determine the very best course of action for that individual animal. MHS follows the Asilomar Accords, a set of standards used across the country to evaluate animals entering shelters and rescue systems.

The original goal of the 2004 Asilomar Accords was to provide a tool to help those involved in animal welfare and sheltering to work toward ending the euthanasia of Healthy and Treatable animals. The Asilomar Accords were originally established by Maddie’s Fund, as well as several humane organizations across the country.

As of 2010, MHS has adopted out every healthy animal that has come through our doors. We are working every day and improving each year toward our goal to reach 100% placement of treatable animals.

In 2014, we were proud to reach the milestone of adopting out 100% of treatable dogs; and last year, we reached a placement rate of 95.2% for all treatable animals.

Finding homes for thousands of animals, many of whom come with significant behavioral and/or medical issues, presents a daunting challenge for any shelter or animal welfare organization.

We are proud to care for and adopt out more animals than any other organization in the state. This volume of animals presents challenges, but also enables us to make a huge impact. With the support of the community, we are able to continue toward our goal of adopting out 100% of healthy and treatable animals at MHS.

VISIT WWW.MICHIGANHUMANE.ORG/ABOUT/ANNUAL-REPORTS TO SEE MONTHLY ANIMAL STATISTICS FOR 2016.
FINANCIALS  💖  WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES

BALANCE SHEET

Assets
- Cash and investments: $9,674,910
- Land, buildings and equipment — net: 18,365,370
- Estate, bequest and other receivables: 4,982,044
- Other: 600,972
- Total assets: $33,623,296

Liabilities and Net Assets
- Accounts payable and accrued expenses: $3,383,038
- Bank Loan: 2,551,203
- Net assets: 27,689,055
- Total liability: 5,934,241
- Total assets: $33,623,296

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES

Revenues
- Contributions, special events and bequests — net: $13,130,407
- Adoption center and charitable veterinary hospital — net: 6,305,237
- Investment losses: (669,528)
- Other: 9,462
- Total revenue: $18,775,578

Expenses
- Program services: $14,810,458
- Management and general: 541,113
- Fundraising: 2,522,812
- Total expenses: $17,874,383

Increase in net assets: $901,195

Audited financial statements are available online at michiganhumane.org/about/annual-reports or upon request.

WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES

- **Programs and Services Expenses** (82.9%)
  - Shelter, Rescue, Cruelty Investigations, Charitable Animal Hospitals, Educational Programs

- **Fundraising Expenses** (14.1%)
  - Campaigns, Publicity, Mailings, Grants

- **Administrative Expenses** (3%)
  - Management and General

Note: All additional Capital Campaign donations received have been spent on the new facility.
LOCATIONS  ❤  CONTACT INFORMATION

❤ MHS DRESNER FOUNDATION ANIMAL CARE CAMPUS
7887 Chrysler Drive, Detroit, MI 48211
Adoption Center: (313) 872-3400  |  Veterinary Center: (313) 872-0004
Emergency Rescue and Cruelty Investigation Hotline: (313) 872-3401
Stray intake, lost and found, pet food program and free straw is available at our old Detroit Center for Animal Care at 7401 Chrysler Dr., Detroit, MI 48211.

❤ MHS ROCHESTER HILLS CENTER FOR ANIMAL CARE
3600 W. Auburn Road, Rochester Hills, MI 48309
Adoption Center: (248) 852-7420  |  Veterinary Center: (248) 852-7424
Wildlife: (248) 852-7420, ext. 224

❤ MHS BERMAN CENTER FOR ANIMAL CARE
900 N. Newburgh Road, Westland, MI 48185
Adoption Center: (734) 721-7300  |  Veterinary Center: (734) 721-4195

❤ OFFSITE ADOPTION LOCATIONS

Dearborn PetSmart
5650 Mercury Dr., Dearborn, MI 48126  |  (866) 648-6263

Roseville PetSmart
20530 E. 13 Mile Rd., Roseville, MI 48066  |  (866) 648-6263

Sterling Heights Petco
13701 Lakeside Cir., Sterling Heights, MI 48313  |  (586) 533-9110

Rochester Hills Premier Pet Supply
63 W. Auburn Rd., Rochester Hills, MI 48307  |  (866) 648-6263

Novi Premier Pet Supply
47810 Grand River Ave., Novi, MI 48374  |  (866) 648-6263

❤ ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
30300 Telegraph Road, Suite 220, Bingham Farms, MI 48025
Phone: (248) 283-1000  |  Fax: (248) 283-5700  |  www.michiganhumane.org