



CREATING HOPE
COMPLETING FAMILIES 

EMBARCKING ON A NEW GOAL

Dear Friends:

The Capital Area Humane Society (CAHS) is our region's most progressive animal protection organization. Through our shelter, veterinary care, and adoption programs, we advocate for companion animals and educate our community to ensure that pets are safe, secure, and loved.

The work of CAHS is vital—last year alone, we saved thousands of animals. Remarkably, this is done with a small staff, an army of dedicated volunteers, and a financial model that maximizes our limited funds.

In 2014, we successfully began an expansion and renovation of our shelter in Lansing. With the help of donors and friends, we have increased our visibility, expanded our outreach to the community, and highlighted our role as advocates for companion animals.

Now we are embarking on Phase Two of a capital campaign, where we will:

- Renovate our dog, puppy, and kitten adoption areas, to reduce the spread of illness and alleviate stress.
- Relaunch our cruelty department to care for animals who are the victims of violence, abuse, or neglect.
- Upgrade our laundry, wash, food, and medical pantry facilities, to provide the highest quality care for our pets.
- Provide much-needed diagnostic equipment for cruelty investigations.

When complete, these renovations will ensure a quality experience for our pets, adoptive families, and the many who volunteer to help with our mission.

We are proudly chairing a \$2.3 million capital campaign to fund these improvements to the shelter. As the leaders of this important effort, we invite you to learn more about this project, and to consider how you might help us to protect and care for the homeless and abused animals of our region. Your gift will ensure quality care for thousands of adoptable pets in our community.

Please join us in supporting this critical endeavor.

Sincerely,



Pam Harden

Pam Harden
Campaign Co-Chair

Ed Harden

Ed Harden
Campaign Co-Chair

Jeff Metts

Jeff Metts
Campaign Co-Chair

G. Christine Dowding Metts

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Campaign Co-Chair

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Steve Transeth
Susan Setas
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Trish Granger

CHALLENGES FACING CAHS

The Creating Hope, Completing Families campaign will overcome the following challenges:

- The demand for animal cruelty services requires a specialized department, with a housing area to properly care for and address cruelty cases.
- The existing dog, puppy, and kitten adoption area is a high-stress environment. It is too small and outdated to accommodate the animals.
- The flooring system is challenging to clean and sanitize, which can contribute to the spread of disease.
- There is limited space designated for animal enrichment, exercise, and play.



OUR MISSION OF **HOPE**

Founded in 1936, CAHS has been serving the Greater Lansing Area for over 83 years. We are an animal welfare organization with a mission to promote the humane treatment of companion animals through protection, placement, education, and example. We serve the tri-county region of Eaton, Clinton, and Ingham Counties, and beyond.

The services we provide include:

- Shelter and adoption services for more than 4,000 animals annually.
- A behavior program that includes extensive daily enrichment activities for all of our pets waiting for homes, obedience classes, and a free behavior helpline for both adopters and the public.
- A pet food bank.
- Spay and neuter surgeries for more than 8,500 pets annually.
- Humane education programs, which include CHAT (Children for Humane Animal Treatment) Club and eight weeks of camp.

CAHS partners with local rescues and animal controls. We currently transfer animals in for adoption from over 50 organizations. Most of these organizations are in our local region, but we also transfer pets from the southern states. In addition, we partner with local animal control agencies on cruelty investigations.

In 2017, we completed the first of our three-phase, 10-year strategic facilities plan. With the generous support of our community, CAHS was able to expand our intake department and adoptable cat area, renovate our lobby, increase the number of homeless pets we can take in, and provide a less stressful environment while they wait for their health and behavior evaluations.





WHAT MAKES CAHS **UNIQUE**

- CAHS is a local nonprofit organization. We are not affiliated with any other organizations, nor do we receive government funding or tax dollars.
- We rehabilitate animals with health and behavior issues. We do not euthanize based on space or time constraints.
- Our behavior team is highly-trained, and works with each animal in our care, providing daily enrichment to fit each animal's needs.
- We are responsible for the region's most comprehensive spay and neuter program, with an off-site location dedicated to these surgeries.
- CAHS provides a full range of humane education programs, including camps, as well as after-school and reading clubs.
- Our adoptable animals receive medical care and treatment from our veterinary team, which includes three veterinarians and licensed veterinary technicians.
- CAHS has an extensive volunteer program, with volunteers donating over 36,000 hours of their time each year.

OVERCOMING THE OBSTACLES

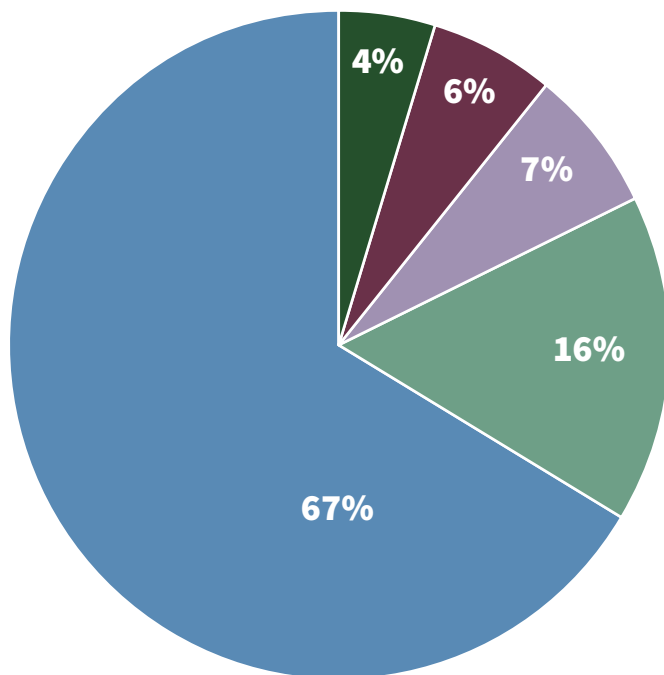
Animal welfare is at the forefront of CAHS. We fully understand the needs of shelter animals and acknowledge that our facility is not adequate to carry our services into the future. As leaders in our industry, we understand it is necessary to make improvements to enable us to grow, save more lives, and educate the community about proper animal care.

The Creating Hope, Completing Families campaign will focus on state-of-the-art dog, puppy, and kitten housing, with a strong focus on stress-reduction and disease control. This campaign also includes the renovation of our old intake area into an animal anti-cruelty department, which will allow CAHS to develop a full-scale cruelty prevention program. The total amount needed to complete this campaign is \$2.3 million.





CAMPAIGN **BUDGET**



The campaign goal is to raise **\$2.3 million**. Included below, is a breakdown of how the investment will be spent.

Campaign Costs:

\$110,000

Renovation of Anti-Cruelty Department:

\$140,000

Generator:

\$160,000

Construction Management, Design Contingency, and Permits:

\$363,678

Renovation of Dog, Puppy and Kitten Adoption Area:

\$1,519,200





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COMPLETING FAMILIES 

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

The Capital Area Humane Society is seeking \$2.3 million in community support to fulfill the needs and meet the goals of this project. You can help us achieve these goals by supporting this campaign through:

- A one-time cash gift.
- A multi-year pledge commitment (may be payable over a three-year period).
- A gift of appreciated assets, such as stock.
- The donation of an asset that can be converted to cash, such as property, an automobile, or collectibles.

CAHS is a qualified 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization. Accordingly, your charitable gift is tax-deductible to the full extent of state and federal law. Please check with your tax advisor to determine how your gift may affect your personal tax situation.

AN AVERAGE OF MORE THAN
10 ANIMALS PER DAY WENT
HOME IN 2018. THAT IS ONE
ANIMAL GOING HOME EVERY
34 MINUTES WE ARE OPEN.







Margo was rescued from life on a chain. We are happy to report that she was adopted to a loving family in February 2019, where she will never live in these horrible conditions again.

HELPING TO HEAL

Preventing animal cruelty is in all of our best interests. Research finds a clear and compelling link between animal abuse and other violent acts. This campaign will create the space that is required for CAHS to relaunch a formal cruelty investigation and housing program.

Animal abuse does not only hurt animals—it affects our entire community in the following ways:

- Animal cruelty has a strong connection to domestic violence. Victim's pets are used as pawns to control them.
- Animal hoarding occurs when an individual houses more animals than they can care for, which often leads to neglect. Hoarding is a complex issue that encompasses mental health, animal welfare, and public safety concerns.
- Dog fighting is one of the most heinous forms of animal cruelty. Dog fighting is a felony in all 50 states, and occurs in every part of the country and every type of community.

The demand for anti-cruelty services in our community is high. Currently, we partner with local animal control agencies on cruelty cases, often housing animals for them for extended periods. Having our own anti-cruelty department with dedicated staff and space, will allow us to manage each cruelty case from the initial investigation to the final placement of animals into a home. This will ultimately take some of the burden off of local animal controls to solely investigate these cases.

Animal cruelty is about power and control over a helpless victim. By taking action against animal cruelty, we will protect animals and may uncover and perhaps prevent additional crimes.



A NEW LEASH ON LIFE

Sushi was available for adoption at the Capital Area Humane Society for six months, and was repeatedly overlooked. She was highly anxious, labeled particular with other dogs, and her history with cats and children was unknown. I saw her online and fell in love immediately.

When I first met her at CAHS, she seemed to lack social and interaction skills. I visited her three times before I adopted her. On the last visit, I brought my 5-year-old twin boys with me. I was nervous, as I didn't want to get their hopes up. Staff brought her into the room and she immediately approached my boys with no jumping or growling. She came home with us that night. She struggled with the carpet, stairs, potty training, and spent a lot of time shaking in a corner. I stayed up with her for many nights.

I immediately began training her and attending to her medical needs, which included epilepsy. I focused on socializing her. She naturally loves children, and became the supervisor of everyone in the house, including her canine brother. She used to be nervous in the car, and now bounces at the sight of car keys and runs to the car. She LOVES going to the vet, and the vet staff greet her by name and fight over who gets to bring her into the exam room.

She uses a touch with her paw when she senses distress in humans. As a psychotherapist, I wondered if this was something I could use to help those I treat with PTSD. I brought her into work for a trial and

magic happened. She was a quiet support—only approaching when cued and intrinsically knowing when others were experiencing distress. During sessions with sexual assault and combat veterans, she was “on”. She would place her paw beside them and when they tapped, she would lean in and sit with them. They became more open, less distressed, and began feeling more safe. Sushi's ability to break down walls with these survivors helps them heal.



We invite you to join us in our exciting endeavor, as we embark on this life-changing initiative. Your gift will ensure quality care for thousands of homeless and abandoned pets in our community. Please make a donation to our Creating Hope, Creating Families campaign today!



Photos provided by Trumpie Photography, Scott Richardson Photography LLC, and Cheryl Rice.



**CAPITAL AREA
HUMANE
SOCIETY**
 *New Home. New Hope.*

If you have any questions about current programs, future goals, or how you can help CAHS reach its current goal of raising \$2.3 million, please contact the following staff members:

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For more information visit: www.CAHSCampaign.org