

2022 Annual Report



At West Suburban Humane Society, our mission is to work towards the day when all dogs and cats are loved and cared for, and pet owners have access to essential resources so they may enjoy a fulfilling relationship with their pets. In doing so, we strive to:

Provide compassionate care for cats and dogs on their journey to compatible and loving homes.

Engage our community and serve as a resource for a variety of pet-related topics and challenges.

Team with volunteers of all abilities and strengths to build a robust network of support in our community.

Strengthen the human-animal bond through advocacy, humane education and promotion of animal welfare initiatives.

By working together, we can change the lives of the dogs and cats that have forever changed us.



West Suburban
Humane Society

Letter from the Executive Director



On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff, and volunteers, we would like to thank you for your support of West Suburban Humane Society in 2022. This year we celebrated 50 years of helping animals in our community. I am incredibly proud of all we have achieved and am very excited for the future.

This past year, we saw an increase in the number of animals needing help. We also saw a rise in the number of people who needed to relinquish their animals for financial reasons. We are thankful that we could continue to meet the increased needs of our community.

In 2022, we found homes for 512 dogs and cats. Many of these animals needed significant medical care before they were adoptable. Dogs like Diesel, Coco and Sweetie Belle needed leg surgery and months of rehab. Cats like Stick, Linda and Cub had liver shunts that needed to be repaired along with prescribed medications and special diets.

WSHS also donated 6,321 pounds of food to local pantries to help keep pets with their families who might otherwise have had to surrender their animals. These are just a few of the ways WSHS goes above and beyond for rescue animals and the pets in our community.

I am grateful for the leadership of the Board of Directors as they set the course for the next 50 years and beyond. I am so proud of our amazing staff that lives and breathes the mission of our great organization. I am in awe of our dedicated volunteers who give of their time and talents to make a difference in the lives of so many homeless animals. Finally, I am grateful for the continued support of our donors, without whom none of this would be possible.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Mossberger

Carolyn Mossberger

2022 Board of Directors

President

Scott McMillin

Vice President

Brian Wasielewski

Recording Secretary

Sarah Marshall

Controller/Treasurer

Kerry Kopera

Directors

Christian Ambler

Colleen Attwell

Dr. Lyn Edmonson

Bob Koch

Marci Levites

Mark Motuelle

David Welch

Success Story: Stick



Stick, a 3-month-old brown tabby, came to us in August after he was found on the side of the road. Once in our care, he had a seizure which we discovered was caused by a liver shunt. A liver shunt cuts off blood to vital organs and is eventually fatal if not corrected with surgery.

Even though his surgery alone cost more than \$5,000, we knew there was no other option to give Stick the best chance of living a long and healthy life. In addition to surgery, Stick also required ongoing costly medication. At West Suburban Humane Society, we never turn our back on an animal in need, but we cannot help them without the contributions of our generous supporters.

Stick has recovered from his surgery; his staples were removed in November. In January, the vet assessed his liver values, and we were able to start weaning him off his medication. We also put him on a special diet to maintain his liver values.



Stick is just one example of the “above and beyond” care we provide to our animals, thanks to donors like you. Please consider a donation to support our continued care of animals like Stick.

Stick is on the road to recovery and one step closer to finding his forever home. From Stick, the staff, and volunteers of West Suburban Humane Society, thank you for making a difference in the lives of needy cats and dogs.

2022 Impact Report

512

pets adopted including 103 dogs, 107 puppies, 119 cats, and 183 kittens.



193

kids in scouting or other groups took our humane education tour and learned about rescue!



\$304,209

spent on food, veterinary care, and medical supplies for our dogs and cats.



6,321

pounds of food donated to local food pantries to keep pets with their families.



\$50

Pays for one breakfast for all animals in our Adoption Center



\$100

Pays for one spay surgery to keep the kitten population down



\$250

Pays for a vet visit for one animal



\$500

Covers the cost of one animal during their stay at the Adoption Center

A BIG THANKS to Our Corporate & Foundation Partners



WSHS is fortunate to have many dedicated partners who share their time, talent, and treasure to ensure that we are able to provide the best treatment for the dogs and cats in our care. Whether delivering essential services at a fraction of their retail cost, donating products to our adoption center, sponsoring our events, or providing monetary support, this generosity allows WSHS to continue to care for our animals and place them into their forever homes at a reasonable fee for adopters, and within a manageable budget for the adoption center. WSHS attributes a large portion of our success to the generosity of our partners, who provide an array of essential services. We thank them for their dedication towards animal welfare and continued commitment to WSHS.

Corporate Partners



All Creatures Great and Small
Alter Brewing Company
Artistic Dog & Cat Grooming
Bark Avenue Daycamp
Beata and Sara Kolpek
Platinum Partners Realtors
Bill Jacobs Motorsport
Bissell Pet Foundation
BMO Harris Downers Grove
Busey Bank
Castle Chevrolet
Citgo
Daisy Dash

Dogtopia – Downers Grove
and LaGrange Locations
Enjoy Your Dog
GivingForce Foundation
Happy Dog Barkery
Itasca Bank & Trust
Kolnicki Peterson
Wirth, LLC
KPMG Gives c/o Bergen
County's United Way
Legacy Solutions USA
LaGrange Highlands
Leo Club
LeGrand AV
LPL Financial

McCormick Tribune
Foundation
Mechdyne Corporation
Merchants and
Manufacturers Bank
Midwest Waste
Consultants
Old Second
National Bank
Orix Foundation
Partners and Paws
Veterinary Services
Pawsitively Heaven
Pet Resort Inc.
Peace, Love &
Happy Pets

Pledgeling Foundation
Premium Custom
Products, LLC
Professional Wealth
Advisors
QSF
RMB Capital
Scar and Co
Shaw Media/
Suburban Life Media
Specialty Construction
Strong Selfie Inc.
Transunion
Suburban K9

Get Your Company Involved

- Form a team at our Barkapalooza 5K Run or Family Walk
- Host a “Give-Back” Day where a portion of the day’s proceeds are donated to WSHS
- Form a team at Trivia Night for an employee outing
- Collect donations for our Adoption Center from your customers or employees
- Ask customers to donate at the register or set out a donation bucket for cash/change
- Have a jeans day or “Flip-Flop-Friday”

If you are interested in learning more about our corporate partner program, contact our Director of Development at: development@wshs-dg.org

Thank You to the 2022 WSHS Volunteers



WSHS is very fortunate to have a dedicated group of volunteers. With their help, WSHS is able to operate smoothly 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. In 2022, more than **424** volunteers contributed more than **29,755** hours cleaning animal areas, assisting potential adopters, transporting animals, and of course, caring for the cats and dogs. Volunteers are also involved in special events and fundraisers, including adoption events, Petals for Pets plant sale, and Barkapalooza. Additionally, WSHS volunteers contribute their time and expertise to the shelter by serving on special advisory groups such as the Finance and Volunteer Advisory Council.



WSHS is also fortunate to have more than **50** volunteers who act as temporary care homes, providing constant and individualized care for cats, dogs, puppies and kittens in their homes. The staff of WSHS believes our volunteers are the best in the business and we're not alone. Volunteers are the heart of WSHS. The passion and commitment of our volunteers makes it possible for WSHS to achieve our mission of rescuing, providing care and placing so many animals in their forever homes. On behalf of the entire staff and the Board of Directors, thank you to all of our volunteers!

If you are interested in joining our WSHS Team as a volunteer, contact our Volunteer Coordinator at volunteer@wshs-dg.org.

WSHS is always looking for compassionate volunteers to provide temporary care in their home for animals who are not yet available for adoption. There are many reasons a dog or cat may need a foster home:

Underage: Puppies and kittens are not ready to be adopted until they are 12 weeks old. They need time to receive two sets of vaccines, for their immune systems to develop, and to learn early socialization skills. They also need to be big and healthy enough to be spayed/neutered.



Medical Recovery: Foster homes are a great place for a sick or injured animal to heal, whether they are recovering from something as routine as a spay/neuter surgery or something more complicated like an orthopedic surgery.

Behavior: Some animals come to us neglected, mistreated, or simply lacking the socialization they need to find the right home. Our foster homes provide the enrichment, training or behavior modification needed for these loving pets to attract the perfect family for them.



Socialization: The level of activity at our adoption center can be overwhelming for some animals or an animal just might need a break to get some one-on-one love and attention. Whatever the reason, foster families can provide much needed personal home time for a cat or dog.

Fostering can be a great way for you to enjoy an animal in your home without assuming full responsibility for their long-term care. The foster time commitment varies and is dependent upon the animal's needs. Sometimes, we rescue dogs when we don't have kennel space, and you may be asked to provide a home for a week or two until a run becomes available. An animal recovering from minor surgery may only need a week of home care until his wound heals or may need to stay for 4-6 weeks to recover from major surgery. Puppies and kittens are usually in foster care for 4-6 weeks. A pregnant mom will need at least a couple of months to give birth and wean her babies.

WSHS will provide the supplies you need to take care of your foster animal. We also provide all veterinary care through our network of veterinary hospitals. We are committed to providing the support you need for the duration of the foster period. Our goal is for you to have a positive and rewarding experience while helping an animal in need.

If you are interested in learning more about our foster program or becoming a foster, contact our Foster Coordinator at animalcare@wshs-dg.org.

2022 Fundraising Events



2022 saw a return to in-person events, allowing us more opportunities to showcase our animals and bring the community closer to our mission. In addition to our traditional events, such as Trivia Night and our Plant Sale, we added a 5K to Barkapalooza, held our first Golf Outing, and created an on-site experience at our Adoption Center to our annual Pawction.



Runners take off at our first Annual 5K, as part of Barkapalooza!



Deacon Greg gives the Blessing of the Pets at the start of our 2022 Barkapalooza.



Our "Pooch Smooch" booth is always a fan favorite at Barkapalooza!

SAVE THE DATES for our 2023 signature events:

Trivia Night – April 22, 2023

**Petals for Pets Plant Sale
May 12-13, 2023**

Golf Outing – July 24, 2023

**Barkapalooza 5K and Rescue Fest
September 24, 2023**

Pawction – December 2, 2023

2022 Fundraising Events



Volunteers and guests mingle at our first ever PURRide event.



Board member Mark Motuelle and guests participate at our first Golf outing last July.

We also were fortunate to benefit from some amazing events hosted by others on our behalf, such as Dogs Days at Alter Brewing, Pictures with Santa at Two Bostons in Burr Ridge, and many others!



A pup sits patiently while his parents enjoy refreshments at Alter Brewing during Dog Days!



Santa gets some love from one of his visitors at Two Bostons' Pictures with Santa event

To get involved with our fundraising events, or host an event at your place of business, contact our events coordinator at Events@WSHS-DG.org.

Humane Education Program



Our Humane Education program seeks to promote respect, empathy, and compassion for animals and educate people of all ages about animal homelessness, shelters, adoptions, and the proper care of domestic dogs and cats.

Humane Education program offerings include:

School/Youth Group Presentations

Customized presentations for schools, churches, clubs, libraries and other organizations serving youth.

Shelter Tours

Facility tours for scouts and other groups. Tours include an opportunity to learn about what we do, an overview of how we operate, and a visit with some of our animals.

Programs for Youth/Summer Camp

After school, break, holiday, and summer programs.

Programs for Adults

Customized presentations and educational programs for adults.

WSHS University

Videos made by our volunteers and staff on humane education topics.

Party Pals and Fundraisers

Support the shelter with themed birthday parties and other fundraisers for children or adults.

Kid's Corner

Information, contests and fun things for kids to do.

For more information, contact the Humane Education Manager at humaneeducation@wshs-dg.org.



Paw Pal

Being a monthly Paw Pal donor is a great way to help animals in need! WSHS is funded entirely by animal lovers like you. It really helps us accept more animals into our care by being able to anticipate monthly revenue. Our awesome Paw Pal members are supporters who set up a donation automatically charged to a credit card each month.

\$10

monthly donation
pays for an animals'
microchip

\$25

monthly donation
buys our dogs or
cats a breakfast

\$50

monthly donation
buys all our shelter
pets a dinner

\$100

monthly donation pays
for one of our pets'
spay or neuter surgery

Every dollar helps our dogs and cats! For more information on becoming a Paw Pal donor contact our Director of Development at development@wshs-dg.org.



Thank You to the WSHS Legacy Society Members

The Legacy Society is a recognized group of Committed WSHS supporters who have chosen to make planned gifts to WSHS. A gift from an estate helps assure continuity of quality services and the future of WSHS. A planned gift signifies the donor's lifetime commitment to WSHS. It allows him/her to make contributions to WSHS which are not "out-of-pocket" during the donor's lifetime and can be tailored to meet the donor's priorities. Planned giving can help with effective estate tax planning.

Anonymous	Kathleen Gilbert	Helen Nowicki
Pauline Annicks	Jim Grabowski	Reed and Ute O'Malley
Lorie Bonham	Irene Halicka	Neal Oppenheimer
Gloria Bornsen	Paul Hedburn	Ernestine Ostrowski
Carol Bousek	Charles and Diane Hlavaty	Judy Reeder
Lyndell F. Bowman	Brian J. Hofmann	Dorothy Ryan
Herbert Brown	Charles Kastner	Larry Sacks
Patty Christophersen	Jill Kurth	John A Sacher
Roberta Clark	Shannon Lenz	Scott Schneider
Tom and Ruth Cloonan	Denise Lores	Patricia Schwartz
Virginia Croan	Bernard and Janice Mack	Christine Sinn
Sylvester Czopek	Ray McDonald	Dorothy Smith
Stanley Drohomirecki	Jane and Charles McLagan	Eleanor Swiglo
Chuck and Mary Edwards	Janice Millington	Eric Van Clevon
Barbara F.	Kurt Mohr	Otto W. Vollenwieder
Clyde A. Fazanbaker	David and Christina Morrison	Mildred Vondra
Dione Gacke	Carolyn Mossberger	

2021 WSHS Financial Statement



Revenue

Contributions	\$576,545
Bequests	\$21,690
Events	\$125,387
Adoption Fees	\$78,123
In-Kind Contributions	\$84,226
Grant Income	\$110,205
Investment Income	\$55,535
Total Revenue	\$1,051,711

Program & Supporting Service Expenses

Program Services

– Animal Care and Education	\$291,448
– Vet Care and Medical Supplies	\$223,968
– Food and Supplies	\$114,563
– Spay/Neuter	\$34,411
– Other Program Related Costs	\$217,292
Total Program Service Expenses	\$881,682

Supporting Services

– General and Administrative	\$61,496
– Fundraising	\$179,000
Total Expenses	\$1,122,178

Change in Net Assets	\$70,467
Net Assets at 12/31/2020	\$5,229,505
Net Assets at 12/31/2021	\$5,159,038

Success Story: Diesel



Diesel arrived at West Suburban Humane Society from Hancock County Animal Control in March 2017 as an adorable ten-week-old puppy. Diesel was adopted quickly, staying in the kennel for only a week. Unfortunately, after four years, his adopter returned him to us due to a lifestyle change. At West Suburban Humane Society, we make a lifelong commitment to our animals the moment they walk through our door. We always take our adopted animals back, whatever the reason, whenever they need us.

Diesel was understandably nervous being back in the kennel, but he adapted quickly. He has such a sweet personality that he soon became a volunteer favorite. After a few days, we noticed that Diesel was not putting weight on his right back leg. We took him to the vet, where X-rays confirmed that he had a torn ACL. The vet recommended that we see an orthopedic specialist to determine a treatment plan. Upon further examination, the specialist determined that Diesel needed surgery to correct the tear. Because Diesel is a larger dog, he must have a specialized surgery called a TPLO. It is an extensive surgery with an eight- to ten-week recovery.

Thanks to our generous donors, Diesel was able to receive the surgery he needed and recover in the comfort of a foster home.

Diesel is now pain-free and living his best life with his foster home who decided to make him a permanent member of their family.



West Suburban Humane Society (WSHS) is a volunteer based, animal welfare organization that was founded in 1972 as a lost and found referral service. We provide housing for up to 25 dogs and 60 cats at a time. We operate at full capacity at all time with animal care and adoptions being provided by four full-time and ten part-time employees and over 400 volunteers. Our adoption center is open to the public six days a week. Since 1972, we have adopted 31,000 plus dogs and cats.



West Suburban
Humane Society

Contact Us:

West Suburban Humane Society

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