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CAGED FOR A CAUSE FUNDRAISER RETURNS ON APRIL 23

A one-of-a-kind fundraiser makes a meaningful impact for rescue dogs and cats.

Downers Grove, IL – The West Suburban Humane Society (WSHS) is proud to announce the return of its annual Caged for a Cause fundraiser in 2026, an innovative and impactful initiative dedicated to raising critical funds for animals in need.

Now in its third year, *Caged for a Cause* challenges volunteer fundraisers to step into the lives of shelter animals by spending time inside kennels at the WSHS Adoption Center. Each participant commits to raising \$2,500 (the average cost of caring for five animals) helping provide essential veterinary care, food, shelter, and enrichment for dogs and cats awaiting their forever homes.

On **April 23, 2026**, supporters are invited to tune in to live coverage of *Caged for a Cause* across WSHS social media platforms, including Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and TikTok. These livestreams will offer an inside look at the event, highlight participating fundraisers, and showcase the animals benefiting from the campaign. In addition, WSHS is excited to partner with Gerald Subaru of Naperville to bring the experience into the community in a new way. A kennel will be set up inside the dealership's showroom, where special guest participants will take part in the challenge while livestreaming on the Gerald Subaru of Naperville Facebook account throughout the day.

Why Caged for a Cause?

The participants, many of whom are long-time volunteers and passionate animal advocates, are committed to using their time in the kennels to raise awareness for the shelter animals and to better understand their experiences. Here's why some of the dedicated fundraisers are participating:

- WSHS Board Member, *Kimberly Sennerikuppam*, shares: "West Suburban Humane Society does incredible work by giving homeless pets the care, compassion, and second chances they deserve. Every donation helps provide food, medical care, shelter, and hope to animals in need. Supporting this cause is a way to make a real difference in the lives of these deserving animals."
- *Jenna Smoot*, a long-time volunteer and WSHS Associates Board President, says, "I've been volunteering at WSHS since 2017 and have fostered over 100 kittens along the way. I've seen how lifechanging this shelter is, and not just for the animals, but for the people who get to love them too. I'm fundraising for every kitten I've gotten to love, and every one still waiting to be chosen by their forever homes"
- *Joe Schafhauser*, General Manager of Gerald Subaru of Naperville, emphasizes the community partnership: "We're proud to participate in Caged For A Cause and to host part of the event at our dealership, helping bring greater awareness to the incredible work being done every day for animals in need. This initiative is not just about fundraising—it's about community, connection, and making a tangible difference."

How to Get Involved:

Community members can support *Caged for a Cause* by donating to a participant's fundraising efforts, tuning in to the livestreams, or sharing the campaign to help spread awareness. This event is more than a fundraiser—it's a powerful demonstration of compassion, empathy, and commitment to giving every animal a chance at a better life.

For more information about Caged for a Cause or to donate, text Caged2026 to 71777 or visit the fundraising site at <https://igfn.us/vf/Caged2026>

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West Suburban
Humane Society

About West Suburban Humane Society

The West Suburban Humane Society (WSHS) is a private, no-kill, volunteer-based, nonprofit, animal welfare organization that was founded in 1972 as a lost-and-found referral service and is 100% funded by individuals, our business partners and private grants. By working together, we can change the lives of the dogs and cats that have forever changed us.