

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

## **WEST SUBURBAN HUMANE SOCIETY JOINS 34 NONPROFITS WORLDWIDE SELECTED BY PROJECT FOR AWESOME COMMUNITY**

*Local Nonprofit Recognized Internationally and Awarded \$44,000 Grant*

*Downers Grove, IL* – The West Suburban Humane Society (WSHS) has been selected as one of the community-chosen recipients of Project for Awesome 2026, an international fundraising campaign dedicated to supporting nonprofits that make a meaningful impact in the world.

After a highly competitive selection process, WSHS was voted by the Project for Awesome community as one of just 34 nonprofit organizations chosen from hundreds of entrants worldwide. As a result of the community vote, WSHS will receive a \$44,000 grant to support its mission of providing above and beyond rescue care and critical resources for dogs, cats, and the people who love them.

Founded in 2007 by John and Hank Green and their online community, Project for Awesome was created to spotlight organizations working to “decrease world suck.” Over the years, the annual event has grown into a worldwide effort that uses online storytelling and grassroots support to amplify causes making a difference in their communities. This year’s campaign raised a record-breaking \$4.2 million through more than 20,000 donations, with each winning organization receiving a \$44,000 grant from the [Foundation To Decrease World Suck](#).

Through its [video submission](#) and the enthusiastic support of community members, volunteers, adopters, and animal lovers everywhere, WSHS earned international recognition alongside much larger nonprofits operating on national and global levels. This honor shines a spotlight on the organization’s commitment to animal welfare and lifesaving rescue work throughout the community.

“We are incredibly grateful to be recognized by Project for Awesome,” said Carolyn Mossberger, Executive Director of WSHS. “West Suburban Humane Society has always believed that animal welfare starts with community. Project for Awesome gave us the opportunity to share that message with people around the world, and we are honored by the response. This grant will directly support the rescue animals who rely on us every day.”

“We are endlessly thankful for everyone who helped share our story,” said Zoe McGrath, Director of Development at WSHS. “Project for Awesome is built on the idea that communities can come together to create meaningful change, and this experience was an unforgettable reminder of that. The encouragement and enthusiasm we received from supporters both locally and online made this possible.”

You can view the full list of Project For Awesome 2026 Grant Recipients at [projectforawesome.com](https://projectforawesome.com).

For more information on the West Suburban Humane Society and our programs, visit [wshs-dg.org](https://wshs-dg.org).

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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.