



SOMEBODY HERE NEEDS YOU.

Opening the Door
to a Better Future



2003 ANNUAL REPORT

**Renewed
Commitment**

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

“Standing still means losing ground.”

Carly Fiorina
Hewlett-Packard Chairman and CEO

2003 was a year of new beginning and an opportunity to re-energize. New initiatives and strategic action brought changes and, by the same token, progress. We cannot stand still and expect great things. The Michigan Humane Society is an organization that is evolving, expanding and looking forward. We are forming new partnerships, bringing our message to new audiences, collaborating with community leaders, expanding our hours and updating our facilities and inviting groups from across the state to come together to address issues faced by our animals and local communities.



We are making great progress toward meeting our strategic goals but it is not enough to break ground on new facilities. We must follow that with groundbreaking initiatives and landmark programs. We have solidified our commitment to the animals and communities of the western Wayne suburbs by dedicating considerable resources to the Westland shelter and veterinary hospital. While the new building is important, what is of most significance is what will be happening inside it.

Tripled capacity in adoption and sheltering means more lives saved. By separating cats and dogs, animals will experience less stress and will have an opportunity to become better socialized. A Pet Education Center training room affords an opportunity to strengthen the bond between guardians and their animals which is proven to help keep companion animals in their homes. Additional veterinary hospital exam rooms and

surgery suites translate into improved service for our clients and thousand of additional spay and neuter surgeries each year.

Our service to the community extends far beyond the boundaries of the actual shelters and veterinary hospitals. Each year, thousands of school children participate in Michigan Humane Society humane education presentations at their schools or through their involvement in a youth-oriented group or club. In 2003, we made **597** humane education presentations and taught **16,427** young people the importance of a humane ethic. We offer companion animal health and behavior tips on a weekly basis on various radio and television stations while also introducing adoptable animals. Our Mobile Adoption Unit is on the road regularly at off-site adoption events hosted by a variety of area businesses including retailers, car dealers, veterinary hospitals and community centers.

Our legislative advocacy has resulted in stiff penalties for violators of Michigan anti-cruelty statutes, the introduction of legislation to ban the practice of municipal animal shelters selling homeless animals to research facilities and the passage of vicious dog laws that are sufficient to eradicate any need for legislation that target a specific breed rather than the actions of the animal and/or their guardian.

We are proud to be the benchmark by which others are measured and we seek yet higher standards.



Cal Morgan
Executive Director

-- OPERATIONS --

Animal Sheltering and Placement

The need for animal shelter services has remained constant since our beginnings. In 2003, **48,584** companion and native wild animals passed through our shelters. Animals we help include those abandoned to fend for themselves, those who suffer cruelty at the hands of humans, those who are no longer wanted or whose family is experiencing a situation that prevents them from keeping their companion animal. We also take in injured wild animals and work with wildlife rehabilitators to treat and release the animal when it is appropriate. Over **840** wild animals were treated and released after arriving at our shelters.

How animals are sheltered undergoes change as new and better materials are developed and as our understanding of the social and environmental needs of animals improves. We are currently renovating and enhancing our shelter facilities to reduce stress on the animals and create a friendlier, more inviting environment for the public.

We have steadily increased our animal placements since the year 2000 and in 2003; we placed over **13,000** companion animals in new homes. The process of placement is multi-faceted and begins from the moment an animal enters our shelter. Animals are evaluated to ensure sound temperament and good health by our shelter and veterinary staff before being made available for adoption. Trained adoption counselors help match adopters and animals based on their knowledge of individual animals as well as

information provided by adopters. Our adoption package is comprehensive and includes sterilization surgery, age-appropriate vaccinations and a discount on dog training classes for adopters at our Pet Education Center.

We make every effort to place adoptable animals from our shelters into loving homes and also work with several other animal welfare groups, as well as U.S. Customs and other law enforcement agencies, in their search for canine enforcement animals. In fact, since 2000, we've doubled the number of animals we've placed with other groups, in law enforcement agencies or in sanctuaries. Our collaborative efforts coupled with strategic planning and an increase in our foster animal homes have resulted in fewer animals euthanized in the last two years.

Cruelty Investigation and Rescue

The Michigan Humane Society Cruelty Investigation Department-four investigators and one field agent-responded to **4,432** complaints in 2003. The most common complaints were: no shelter, food or water; poor living conditions; abandonment; lack of veterinary care and dog fighting. While many complaints are intentional acts of cruelty, such as shooting, burning or dog fighting, some are simply a matter of educating an animal guardian about adequate care and responsibilities. Our investigative teams often build alliances within the communities and work tirelessly to educate each person with whom they have contact. They work closely with law enforcement agencies as well as social service agencies in an effort to alleviate abuses toward humans as well as animals.

The Michigan Humane Society Rescue fleet is the only animal rescue department in metropolitan Detroit that operates 365 days a year, handling thousands of emergency calls annually. Calls from concerned citizens, media and animal control agencies are common when an animal is in need or injured.

Pet Education Center

Behavior problems are cited as one of the top reasons dogs are turned in to shelters. Many of these behaviors can be easily modified and the learning process for both the animal and guardian is enjoyable and often results in a stronger human/animal bond. To help keep animals in homes and to strengthen the relationship between companion animals and their guardians, the Michigan Humane Society established the Pet Education Center in 1997. Based on humane training techniques, our Pet Education Center staff utilizes methods of reward and praise for desired behaviors rather than punishment for undesirable behavior. In 2003, our professional trainers assisted over **1,100** clients through group obedience classes, seminars and individual consultations. Our In-Shelter Dog Training Program utilizes volunteers trained by our Pet Education Center staff to teach basic commands such as “sit,” “stay,” “come,” and “down” to adoptable dogs waiting for new homes. We also operate a Behavior Help Line that allows callers to leave a message detailing the animal behavior problem they are experiencing. A team of five trained volunteers and one staff coordinator respond to calls within 48 hours to offer behavior tips and training methods that may help alleviate the undesirable behavior. In

2003, the Help Line received **945** calls, 76.5% of calls were dog related behavior issues and 23.5% were cat related.

-- VETERINARY HOSPITALS --

Our veterinary care program includes three veterinary hospitals that provide full service veterinary care to both the animals in our shelters as well as owned animals brought in for preventive or medical treatment. In 2003, our full service hospitals sterilized over **14,400** animals, served **61,499** clients and gave over **38,000** life-saving vaccinations. Our hospitals provide community outreach by offering training opportunities for veterinary students and our hospital staff members participate in career day events at public and private schools.

-- MOBILE ADOPTION UNIT --

We launched a new, state-of-the-art mobile adoption vehicle in 2003 that made visits to many area businesses and schools for education and adoption events. Sponsored by General Motors and Pet Supplies “Plus” in conjunction with ProPlan®, the vehicle is truly a “shelter on wheels” and has expanded our community outreach and adoption programs.

-- VOLUNTEERS --

Michigan Humane Society volunteers are essential to the success of our programs and services. Hundreds of volunteers assist with tasks such as feeding animals and cleaning

kennels, helping at special events, providing clerical assistance, transporting animals to various events and media locations, helping design and develop printed materials as well as posting photos and descriptions of many adoptable animals on the Michigan Humane Society web site. Volunteers also save literally thousands of animal lives each year by opening their homes to provide temporary “foster” care for animals too young to be adopted or those who may be ill or injured and need some recovery time prior to adoption. In 2003, Michigan Humane Society volunteers donated **53,940** hours to helping animals.

-- FUNDING --

-- *Support* --

Contributions	\$2,978,665
Special Events	\$1,000,671
Bequests	\$1,408,891
<i>Total Public Support</i>	\$5,388,227

-- *Revenues* --

Shelter & Hospital Revenue	\$5,298,012
Retail	\$148,732
<i>Total Revenue</i>	\$5,446,744

Total Support **\$10,834,971**

-- *Expenses* --

Program Services	\$7,309,577
Management	\$1,385,057
Fund Raising	\$1,612,303
Retail	\$136,592
Donor Benefit Costs	\$101,788
<i>Total Expenses</i>	\$10,545,317

ADMINISTRATION

26711 Northwestern Hwy
Suite 175
Southfield, MI 48034
(248) 799-7400
1-866-MHUMANE

DETROIT SHELTER & HOSPITAL

7401 Chrysler Drive
Detroit, MI 48211
Shelter: (313) 872-3400
Hospital: (313) 872-0004

EMERGENCY RESCUE

(313) 872-0026

CRUELTY HOTLINE

(313) 872-3401

ROCHESTER HILLS SHELTER & HOSPITAL

3600 W. Auburn Road
Rochester Hills, MI 48309
Shelter: (248) 852-7420
Hospital: (248) 852-7424

WESTLAND SHELTER & HOSPITAL

37255 Marquette
Westland, MI 48185
Shelter: (734) 721-7300
Hospital: (734) 721-4195

PET EDUCATION CENTER

(248) 650-1059

The Michigan Humane Society is funded solely by private donations. Individuals, corporations, foundations, even school groups contribute to the Michigan Humane Society to keep our programs viable. Individual giving opportunities include participating in our special events, making online donations, responding to our society newsletter and community mailings. Corporations and other organizations offer additional funding through event sponsorships, matching gift programs, grant making and annual giving. Planned giving opportunities include establishing a trust, naming the Michigan Humane Society as a beneficiary, establishing an endowment or Michigan Humane Society bequest and setting up a charitable gift annuity. Please call (248) 799-7400 for more information on how you can help.

The Mission of the Michigan Humane Society is to provide the highest quality service and compassion to the animals entrusted to our care, to measurably reduce companion animal overpopulation and to take a leadership role in promoting humane values for the benefit of all animals.

www.michiganhumane.org

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