



SOMEBODY HERE NEEDS YOU.



Report to the  
Community

**We've** had a very exciting year of new endeavors for the Michigan Humane Society. At the same time, we strengthened many of our core programs, which have served the animals and people of our community for over a century. As the leading animal welfare organization in the state, each year we



are called upon to provide a wide scope of quality services to over 100,000 animals—and the people who care for them—in our community.

Throughout the year, we laid the groundwork for initiatives that will make a major impact on the way animals are sheltered by humane organizations, cared for by animal guardians and represented by elected officials in every corner of our state.

We began the renovation and expansion of our Westland shelter and veterinary medical center into a modern and inviting facility that would open its doors to the public the following year. A bold vision, months of planning and research and a cadre of experts in animal sheltering facilities were behind the design of the center. However, it is what the MHS will do inside the building that will have the far-reaching impact—on state-of-the-art sheltering, adoptions, community outreach, companion animal training and supporting the growth of our vital programs and services relied upon by the community.

We held our first-ever Animal Welfare Conference to present

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the latest to animal welfare professionals, volunteers and supporters on issues affecting animals across the state. Expert speakers from around the country covered a wide range of topics from animal cruelty to humane education and animal law.

In addition to the educational and networking opportunities, the conference offered a look into the future of animal welfare and the need for greater collaboration among animal organizations. Appropriately, the conference theme was, “Working together for the good of the animals,” which theme served as the basis for the formation of the Michigan Partnership for Animal Welfare—or MPAW—a statewide network of animal welfare organizations, animal control agencies and others interested in advancing animal welfare in our state.

The MHS, along with eight additional animal welfare organizations, also hosted an Animal Welfare Rally on the steps of the State Capitol. The participation of many animal welfare groups from across the state made a strong statement to the legislature that animal issues are important to their constituents. The MHS also gave public recognition to all the state Representatives and Senators who, through their voting record, have demonstrated a commitment to the animals of our state.

Our mission is carried out daily by the staff at our three shelters and veterinary medical centers, by over one thousand volunteers and by tens of thousands of supporters who provide critical funding.



Cal Morgan  
*Executive Director*

## OPERATIONS

### *Animal Sheltering and Placement*

In 2004, a total of **47,367** animals arrived at the Michigan Humane Society's three shelters in Detroit, Rochester Hills and Westland. About 64% of the animals were surrendered by their guardians, while strays made up the majority of the rest. In addition to dogs, cats and rabbits, animals such as Guinea pigs, ferrets, hamsters, mice, rats, birds, reptiles, and wild and exotic animals are also cared for by the MHS each year. Providing a temporary home and medical care for such a diverse group of animals requires the expertise of our knowledgeable and dedicated shelter and veterinary staff.


Animal sheltering is much more than simply housing the animals. The MHS provides compassionate care, medical treatment and socialization while they are in our care, and most importantly, a second chance for animals to live a long, happy life in a permanent, loving home. Adoptable dogs are included in our in-shelter training program, which provides a stimulating activity and helps increase their adoptability while they wait for a new home. We placed **12,161** animals in new homes, including 85% of all adoptable animals, moving us closer to our goal of the "100% adoption of adoptable animals by 2010." Our shelter staff also reunited **1,384** lost animals with their guardians and rehabilitated and released **613** wild animals.

Along with the direct impact our sheltering services have on animal lives, we also enrich the lives of adopters by offering healthy, friendly companion animals for adoption and providing trained adoption counselors to help adopters select animals who best fit their homes, lifestyles and expectations. We provide a comprehensive adoption package to help animal guardians and their new family members get off to a great start while ensuring the adopted animals are sterilized and do not contribute to companion animal overpopulation. In addition, our shelters offer information on responsible animal guardianship.

In addition to our three shelter facilities, the MHS utilizes a Mobile Adoption Unit, our "shelter on wheels," to take adoptable animals into the community. We placed **396** animals in new homes by visiting businesses in metro Detroit and beyond, providing a helpful outreach service to adopters who otherwise might not be able to visit one of our locations.

### *Cruelty Investigation and Rescue*

The Michigan Humane Society Cruelty Investigation Department, which includes four investigators and one field agent, responded to 4,093 complaints of animal cruelty and neglect in our service area of Detroit, Hamtramck and Highland Park. Most of the cases were



reported by concerned members of the public. Since the most common complaints include, “No food, water and/or shelter,” abandonment and a lack of necessary medical care, one of the investigators’ main roles is to educate people so they can become responsible animal guardians. However, when a guardian does not make the necessary changes or the animal has been severely abused or neglected, the investigator’s role becomes to hold the person accountable and seek prosecution to the fullest extent possible.

The Michigan Humane Society Rescue fleet is the only rescue department in metropolitan Detroit that operates 365 days a year. In 2004, our Rescue Department responded to **2,843** calls, assisting a total of **3,085** injured stray and wild animals who otherwise would have been without help.

### *Humane Education*

Spreading our mission far beyond our walls and into the community is one of our most important roles. One of the key Michigan Humane Society outreach opportunities is our Humane Education program, which provided **339** in-classroom and MHS shelter visits for **15,565** youth and adults during age-appropriate presentations. This program strives to instill humane values, teaches responsible animal care and educates children on safety around animals. In addition to making our community more humane and respectful toward all living creatures, the program helps protect our youth from the dangers of dog bites or accidents caused by treating animals cruelly. Our free presentations, offered to school, scouting and other groups, are a natural extension of the lessons on respecting others that have become an important focus in school curriculums in recent years.

### *Legislation*

Through our legislative advocacy efforts, the Michigan Humane Society extends its influence and expertise statewide through the introduction and promotion of important animal welfare and protection legislation. The MHS became a charter member of the Committee to Restore the Dove Shooting Ban, the campaign to restore Michigan’s 99-year tradition of protection for our mourning doves. By mobilizing our dedicated volunteers to assist in the volunteer-driven campaign, the MHS played an instrumental role in the effort to gather the more than 158,000 required signatures from registered voters to qualify for a voter referendum in November 2006. The signature-gathering activity continued into the following year. The MHS also introduced a three-bill package to promote companion animal sterilization and adoption efforts and to better enforce anti-cruelty laws in our state.

## *Pet Education Center*

Companion animal behaviors such as barking, digging, litter box avoidance and play-biting are not uncommon. Most animal guardians would like their dogs or other animals to have better “manners.” In response to the need for high quality animal behavior services, the Michigan Humane Society Pet Education Center provides dog training classes at various levels, seminars on specific behavior issues and free “behavior tips” handouts on commonly requested topics. Our professional trainers assisted **1,200** clients and their animals.

The Pet Education Center also responded to **1,475** calls to its Behavior Help Line, a free resource for animal guardians and the only resource of its kind in our community. Trained help line volunteers return calls within 48 hours, providing detailed information on how guardians can deal with their animals’ undesirable behaviors. When appropriate, they also refer people to products and services that may be helpful. The goal of the help line is to prevent the frustration and loss of hope that many times results in animals being surrendered to shelters.

## VETERINARY MEDICAL CENTERS

The Michigan Humane Society’s three veterinary medical centers provide a full range of services for companion animals already in homes as well as those in the care of our shelters. In 2004, our medical centers served **59,821** clients, sterilized **13,784** animals so they would not add to companion animal overpopulation, and implanted **2,309** microchips to help reunite lost animals and their guardians. Our veterinary staff also gave over **36,000** vaccinations to protect companion animals from deadly diseases such as Rabies, Distemper and Parvovirus. At our annual Protect a Pet vaccination clinics, held at four locations in Detroit and Hazel Park, the MHS provided **6,865** free dog and cat vaccinations to animals whose guardians were on low or fixed incomes.

## VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Virtually every program of the Michigan Humane Society receives support from our dedicated volunteers. More than **1,000** volunteers offered their time and opened their hearts to help the animals in our care, donating a total of **69,275** hours, the equivalent of 33 full-time staff.

As a growing number of adopters turn to the Internet when looking for a new companion animal, the MHS meets them in cyberspace through our online companion animals program. Teams of volunteers work in each of our shelters twice weekly to add appealing adoptable animal photos and detailed descriptions to our web site. About **1,500** people fell in love “virtually” then proceeded to the appropriate MHS shelter to complete the adoption.

Whether assisting potential adopters who visit our shelters or adoption events, selling MHS gift items at fundraising events, representing the organization at community event information tables or fostering animals who are sick, injured or simply too young to be placed up for adoption, volunteers play an essential role in helping the MHS save animal lives.

## OPERATIONAL FUNDING \*

### *Support*

Contributions	\$3,225,467
Special Events	\$822,611
Bequests	\$3,003,989

<b><i>Total Public Support</i></b>	<b>\$7,052,067</b>
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### *Revenues*

Shelters & Medical Centers	\$5,363,082
Retail	\$199,246

<b><i>Total Revenue</i></b>	<b>\$5,562,328</b>
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<b><i>Total Support</i></b>	<b>\$12,614,395</b>
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### *Expenses*

Program Services	\$8,264,728
Management	\$1,244,224
Fund Raising	\$1,378,549
Retail	\$124,169
Donor Benefit Costs	\$76,583

<b><i>Total Expenses</i></b>	<b>\$11,088,253</b>
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\*Complete financial statements are available upon request.

## **Administration**

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

## **Detroit**

7401 Chrysler Drive / Detroit, MI 48211  
Shelter: (313) 872-3400  
Veterinary Medical Center: (313) 872-0004

## **Emergency Rescue**

(313) 872-0026

## **Cruelty Hotline**

(313) 872-3401

## **Rochester Hills**

3600 W. Auburn Road / Rochester Hills, MI 48309  
Shelter: (248) 852-7420  
Veterinary Medical Center: (248) 852-7424

## **Westland**

Berman Center for Animal Care  
900 N. Newburgh Road / Westland, MI 48185  
Shelter: (734) 721-7300  
Veterinary Medical Center: (734) 721-4195

## **Pet Education Center**

(248) 650-1059

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*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 and responding to our newsletters 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.*

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[www.michiganhumane.org](http://www.michiganhumane.org)

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