



SOMEBODY HERE NEEDS YOU.

A close-up, black and white photograph of a white cat with a black collar and a bell. The cat is looking directly at the camera with a calm expression. The background is slightly blurred, showing some grass or foliage.

Report to the
Community



“All this is work that no civilized city can afford to be without.”

– Abner Larned, Detroit Free Press, 1935 as quoted in an article depicting the work of the Michigan Humane Society

As I read these words again from Abner Larned, I reflected on the work of the Michigan Humane Society throughout the past year. If we only look at the number of animals for whom we

provided care, over 100,000, we could readily conclude that we are, in fact, doing work that is essential – truly saving thousands of lives. But, is it enough? Are we making significant strides toward achieving our vision of tomorrow?

We ask ourselves these questions on a regular basis. In many ways, 2005 was a pivotal year for the Michigan Humane Society. Moving forward from strategic plans laid in 2004, we took many growth steps. We completely transformed a major facility, performed an in-depth assessment of our programs, and developed initiatives to better meet today’s needs and to anticipate future challenges – steps that will help create a more humane future.

One major growth step in 2005 was the dedication of our new facility, the *Berman Center for Animal Care*. This facility, serving western Wayne County, is more than just a building – it is our mission in both bricks and mortar and in action, with the capacity to touch the lives of more animals and people than ever before.

Another significant growth step was reflected in the expanded education of our staff, our dedicated volunteers, other animal welfare professionals, animal guardians and the general public. We’ve enhanced our Humane Education offerings that now include an anti-violence program in our highly regarded school curriculum and “Summer Tails,” a week long day camp for kids that emphasizes humane education and animal-human interaction. Our second annual Animal Welfare Conference, attended by

animal welfare professionals from around the state, provided invaluable “best practices” workshops so that today’s animal welfare challenges are met with viable solutions. Working together, we will make profound progress in addressing animal homelessness, instilling humane values and preventing animal cruelty.

The year 2005 also brought great tragedy in the form of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The severity and magnitude of the hurricanes that hit the Gulf Coast were far beyond what anyone could have imagined. Out of the monumental catastrophe that ensued for days, weeks, and even months after those storms came heroes big and small – everyday people, from near and far – who became the difference between despair and hope. For the first time in the history of MHS, two teams of emergency responders were deployed outside our area to provide relief to the affected areas of New Orleans, Louisiana and Beaumont, Texas in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. These teams helped rescue, shelter and care for thousands of animals and in several cases reunited displaced animals with their loving families. This effort in every way embodies both the vision and daily practice of the Michigan Humane Society and was made possible by your support. It was our privilege to respond on your behalf. This effort also motivated us to further develop our own disaster preparedness plans.

As you can see, we indeed made great strides in 2005 and in doing so laid solid plans for the future of the Michigan Humane Society. Providing shelter for homeless, neglected and abandoned animals must be coupled with strategies, programs and vision to help reduce the numbers of animals facing those situations in the future.

I know for all of you who believe in the mission and the work of the Michigan Humane Society this is, indeed, work that no civilized society can afford to be without.



Cal Morgan
Executive Director

OPERATIONS

Animal Care and Placement

Adoption and placement services are at the center of the Michigan Humane Society's mission to end animal homelessness. Therefore, we continually seek to utilize "best practices" within each adoption center in order to improve the experiences for both animal and adopter. For example, adoptable dogs are included in our in-shelter training program, providing stimulating activity and much needed socialization which in turn help increase their adoptability. Cats at the Berman Center for Animal Care have the opportunity to interact with fellow felines and potential adopters in the Feline Play Rooms, located at the facility's front entrance. These glass enclosed rooms provide various forms of play, relaxation and socialization for multiple cats and wonderful places to bond with future family members.

In addition to ensuring our animals are healthy, friendly and well socialized, the Michigan Humane Society enhances the adoption process through several key programs including the use of trained adoption counselors who assist potential adopters in selecting animals who best fit their homes, lifestyles and expectations. The MHS provides a comprehensive adoption package, including medical and temperament screening, sterilization, age-appropriate vaccinations, and much more to help companion animal guardians and their new best friends get off to a great start. To help facilitate the transition of adding a canine family member, all dog adoptions include a free "Manners for Life" training video featuring our companion animal behavior and training experts at the Pet Education Center. A similar cat oriented video will be released in 2006.

Five years into our goal of achieving 100% adoption of adoptable animals by 2010, we placed **88%**, or **9,127** adoptable animals, in new, loving homes during 2005. In addition, our animal care staff reunited **1,306** lost animals with their guardians. The Michigan Humane Society also has a dedicated Wildlife Department that takes in injured wild animals and works with wildlife rehabilitators to treat and release the animals when appropriate. Last year, **655** wild animals were treated and released after arriving and receiving care at our wildlife care center. In our effort to continually increase placement of animals into caring and appropriate environments, the Michigan Humane Society works collaboratively with a number of other animal welfare groups and utilizes its network of volunteer foster homes.

In total for 2005, the Michigan Humane Society directly cared for **42,006** animals at our three animal adoption centers located in Detroit, Rochester Hills and Westland, with approximately 3,774 fewer intakes of stray and owner surrendered animals compared to the previous year. The decline in intakes mirrors a national trend. Approximately 65% of the animals were surrendered by their guardians, with strays making up the majority of the rest.

Cruelty Investigation and Rescue

In 2005, the Michigan Humane Society Cruelty Investigation Department, which includes four cruelty investigators and one field agent, responded to **4,756** complaints of animal cruelty and neglect, a dramatic increase of over 660 cases versus the previous year. The airing of new episodes of the highly-acclaimed Animal Planet series, "Animal Cops: Detroit," featuring the MHS investigators, largely contributed to this increase, as a result of heightened awareness of animal cruelty locally, nationally and even internationally.

Most cruelty complaints are reported by concerned members of the public in our service area which consists of Detroit, Hamtramck and Highland Park. The most common complaints include animals with "no food, water and/or shelter," abandonment and animals lacking necessary medical care to maintain the animal in a state of good health. The role of our investigators includes educating animal guardians on how to care for their animals properly. However, when a guardian does not make the necessary changes or the animal has been severely abused or neglected, our investigators' role becomes to hold the individual or organization accountable and seek prosecution to the fullest extent of the law.

The Michigan Humane Society is the only organization in metropolitan Detroit that operates an emergency rescue service for animals 365 days a year. In 2005, our Rescue Department responded to **2,731** calls, assisting a total of **3,156** animals that were injured or in immediate danger.

Humane Education

One of the Michigan Humane Society's key outreach opportunities is our Humane Education program, which provided hundreds of in-classroom and MHS adoption and veterinary center visits reaching a total of **14,551** youth and adults during age-appropriate presentations in 2005. This program instills 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. These presentations are free and available to schools, churches, youth organizations and other groups and are a natural extension of the lessons pertaining to respecting others that have become an integral part of school curriculums within recent years.

In 2005, the MHS launched a new, multi-session anti-violence program geared to teenagers – a terrific complement to our popular and highly acclaimed classroom program.

Legislation

The Michigan Humane Society extends its influence and expertise statewide through the introduction and promotion of animal welfare and protection legislation. In 2005, MHS introduced important legislation to establish a state income tax donation check-off, which would allow Michigan taxpayers to donate money to a new Animal Welfare Fund. Proceeds from the Animal Welfare Fund would be utilized by eligible groups statewide to improve upon and enhance important animal welfare programs such as sterilization and enforcement of Michigan's anti-cruelty laws.

Furthermore, MHS introduced our statewide Legislative Action Network which provides hundreds of participants with timely e-alerts on legislative activities requiring constituent action; thereby increasing the success of our legislative efforts.

Pet Education Center

Humane organizations across the nation report that problem behaviors, such as barking, digging and litter box avoidance, are among the top reasons that companion animals are surrendered. The Michigan Humane Society Pet Education Center was established in 1997 as a proactive program to keep animals in their homes for a lifetime by improving the relationships between people and their four-legged family members, through education, behavior assistance and training.

The Pet Education Center provides dog training classes at various levels, seminars on specific behavior issues and free "behavior tips" handouts on commonly requested topics. In 2005, our professional trainers assisted **1,200** clients and their animals through group classes, private lessons and behavior workshops and launched the "Bring out the Good in Your Dog" campaign which was designed to spread the word about the PEC and its companion animal behavior assistance and training program.

In 2005, the Pet Education Center responded to **1,470** calls to its Behavior Help Line, a unique and highly valued community asset, and hundreds of behavior related emails. Trained employees and volunteers provide detailed information on how guardians can remedy undesirable behaviors.

VETERINARY CENTERS

The three Michigan Humane Society veterinary centers, located adjacent to our three adoption centers, provide comprehensive veterinary medicine to both the animals in our care and a large constituent of public clients and their animals. Our veterinary centers offer a complete range of veterinary services including emergency medicine, routine check ups and state-of-the-art surgery. Procedures deemed cosmetic or unnecessary for health or well-being, such as ear-cropping, tail docking or cat declawing, are not performed.

In 2005, our medical centers served **60,592** clients. Additionally, the medical centers helped control companion animal overpopulation by sterilizing **11,830** animals and, in an effort to help reunite lost animals and their guardians, implanted **1,926** microchips. Our veterinary staff also gave

over **37,000** vaccinations to protect companion animals from deadly diseases such as Rabies, Distemper and Parvovirus. At our annual free “Protect a Pet” vaccination clinics, offered at four locations in Detroit and Hazel Park, the Michigan Humane Society provided over **7,000** free dog and cat vaccinations to animals whose guardians were constrained by low or fixed incomes.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Volunteers play an essential role in helping MHS save lives. Direct animal care, fostering, adoption counseling, in-shelter dog training and special event support are just a few of the areas in which MHS volunteers play a critical role in the success of every MHS program, service and event. In 2005, approximately **1,000** volunteers offered their time and opened their hearts to help the animals in our care, donating a total of **43,865** hours – the equivalent of 21 full-time staff members. Clearly, the mission of the Michigan Humane Society would not be possible without the work of our dedicated volunteers.

OPERATIONAL FUNDING *

Support

Contributions	\$3,069,300
Special Events	\$821,127
Bequests	\$1,210,125
Transfer from Reserves	\$1,911,504

Total Public Support \$7,012,056

Revenues

Adoption & Medical Centers	\$5,555,819
Retail	\$161,454

Total Revenue \$5,717,273

Total Support \$12,729,329

Expenses

Program Services	\$9,909,388
Management	\$1,204,523
Fund Raising	\$1,518,124
Retail	\$97,294

Total Expenses \$12,729,329

*Complete financial statements are available upon request.

Administration

26711 Northwestern Hwy., Suite 175 / Southfield, MI 48033
(248) 799-7400 • 1-866-MHUMANE

Detroit Center for Animal Care

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

Emergency Rescue

(313) 872-0026

Cruelty Hotline

(313) 872-3401

Rochester Hills Center for Animal Care

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

Berman Center for Animal Care

900 N. Newburgh Road / Westland, MI 48185
Adoption Center: (734) 721-7300
Veterinary Center: (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 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 end companion animal homelessness, to provide the highest quality service and compassion to the animals entrusted to our care, and to be a leader in promoting humane values.



www.michiganhumane.org