



IMPACT REPORT



From 1/1/17-4/20/17, 935 animals have been adopted from HSWM!



DID YOU KNOW?

- A cat can have 1 – 8 kittens per litter and 2 to 3 litters per year
- During her productive life, one female cat can have more than 100 kittens
- A single pair of cats and their kittens can have as many as 420,00 kittens in just 7 years.

That is astounding, and sad too, because the reality is that spaying helps prevent uterine infections and breast tumors, which are malignant or cancerous in about 50 percent of dogs and 90 percent of cats. Spaying your pet before her first heat offers the best protection from these diseases. Neutering your male pet prevents testicular cancer and some prostate problems.

All of our animals at HSWM are spayed or neutered before adoption because we know it's the best way to help end pet over population, and helps to protect the health of kittens, cats, puppies, dogs and small animals.

Thank you for supporting the work we do!

FUND THE MISSION



Each year at HSWM's annual Paws, Claws & Corks event we share a touching story of animals whose lives have been forever changed through their time at HSWM. This year we shared the story of the "Thanksgiving Box Puppies," a litter of day old puppies found abandoned in a park early on Thanksgiving morning in 2012.

HSWM staff and volunteers fostered the vulnerable puppies, bottle feeding each one every 2-3 hours around the clock. Young puppies without their mothers have a suppressed immune system and face many health challenges.

Spinelli, Lulu, Chunk, Bo, Oliver, and Harley, were adopted into loving homes once they were old enough and healthy enough. One of the dogs, Spinelli, was adopted by HSWM staff member, Ashley Dahl, and Spinelli has become HSWM's education dog that travels to schools and community presentations to teach children and adults about responsible pet ownership and safety. He has served in this role for 4 years and has visited hundreds of schools! Without the support of donors, like you, HSWM would not be able to go above and beyond for vulnerable pets. If you'd like to help fund the mission of HSWM please use the enclosed envelope to share your gift or donate online at www.hswestmi.org.

Photos continue on following page.

Humane Society of West Michigan provides adoptable animals with...

Spay or neuter surgery

\$40

Microchip

\$7

Rabies and distemper vaccination

\$3



Total Cost
=\$265 per cat

\$11

Test for Feline Leukemia and
Immunodeficiency Virus

\$12

Average cost of care per day

27

The average number of days a cat spends
at HSWM prior to being adopted

Fund the Mission Photos



Left: The puppies in the box where they were found abandoned. Center: Alyssa with her new best friend Lulu! Right: The dogs celebrating their 1st birthdays together in 2013!

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Martha Bowman

If you know Volunteer Adoption Counselor, Martha Bowman, you know that she's a feisty firecracker for our furry friends in need of a forever home. Martha, a volunteer for over 6 years, **"started as a foster Mom to kittens and was hooked immediately."**

Fostering ignited a passion to do more, so Martha received training to be an Adoption Counselor (AC) and now trains new Adoption Counselors. **"I am really proud to say that we have 31 active AC's now who are as dedicated to the animals as I am. There is nothing better than to be able to find the right dog, cat, or bunny for a deserving, loving family. I cannot describe the fantastic feeling you get when you see that animal going out HSWM's front door with their new family and having everyone so excited and smiling."**

CORPORATE SPOTLIGHT



VARNUM
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Varnum has been a notable supporter of HSWM's mission for the past 8 years. In addition to their financial contributions, they have a staff of dedicated animal lovers! Jamie Downes, an attorney at Varnum, serves on HSWM's Board of Directors and has served as Event Co-Chair for HSWM's Annual Paws, Claws & Corks for the past two years. Jamie shares, **"The people at Varnum are part of an organization that values the many roles people play in life. We're not only lawyers, we're also parents, spouses, siblings and members of the communities in which we live. As such, we are actively involved in a wide variety of community organizations, such as, Humane Society of West Michigan. We are so proud to support the mission of ensuring the humane treatment and responsible care of animals, whose nature adds a welcome richness and texture to our lives."**

Thank you Varnum for caring for vulnerable animals in our community and helping our furry friends find their forever homes!



If you too have a calling to help our animals by way of volunteering, please contact Ashley Dahl at adahl@hswestmi.org

Lifetime of unconditional love and friendship: PRICELESS

Heartworm test and
monthly prevention

\$10

\$50

Behavior Specialist Evaluation

Spay or neuter surgery

\$49

\$38

Average cost of care per day

Microchip

\$7

14

The average number of days a dog spends
at HSWM prior to being adopted



Total Cost
=\$635 per dog



\$200,000



Paws, Claws & Corks

Raised for Animals at 5th Annual Paws, Claws & Corks



Left: 850 guests enjoy the 5th Annual Paws, Claws & Corks event on Monday, March 20th. Center: Ashley and Spinelli help share the story of the "Thanksgiving Box Puppies" and encourage attendees to Fund the Mission of HSWM. Right: Attendees bid big for animals in need!

HSWM recently celebrated record breaking attendance at our 5th Annual Paws, Claws & Corks fundraiser on Monday, March 20th! This event featured fine wines and microbrews, tastes of Grand Rapids' best restaurants and both live and silent auctions. More than 850 animal lovers attended the event at DeVos Place in Downtown Grand Rapids, helping HSWM raise \$200,000 in donations.

"We cannot thank our sponsors and the local community enough for the success of our 2017 Paws, Claws & Corks event," said Trudy Jeffers, Executive Director of HSWM. **"Each year, this event gets stronger - bringing in more animal lovers from across West Michigan, which allows us to raise additional funds to support animals in need. We look forward to another year of successful adoptions, outreach, programs and humane education."** In addition to support from major sponsors such as Meijer, Varnum and Joyce Wisner, more than 250 local companies participated by either purchasing tables, donating auction items or buying tickets to the event. A special thank you to LaChaun Steverson and Jamie Downes for co-chairing the event!



Guests enjoying Paws, Claws & Corks!

Mark your calendars for Monday, March 12, 2018 because you won't want to miss our Paws, Claws & Corks event next year!





IMPACT REPORT

SPRING 2017



CONTACT INFO

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Special Thanks to...

**The Paws, Claws & Corks
Volunteer Committee!**
**Your dedication made it
possible to raise
\$200,000 for animals
in need!**



OUR MISSION

To promote the humane treatment and responsible care of animals in West Michigan through education, example, placement and protection.