



HUMANE SOCIETY
FOR HAMILTON COUNTY

2025

IMPACT REPORT

*Love &
Let Live*



♡ **MAX**

WE WON'T STOP
UNTIL ALL HOOSIER
ANIMALS HAVE A
CHANCE TO LIVE,
LOVE,
AND BE LOVED.

PURPOSE

Our mission is saving lives, educating communities, and completing families. When it comes to saving lives, HSHC takes in nearly 4,000 animals each year including roughly 500 at risk for euthanasia in other Indiana shelters.

Our community outreach programs connect children, seniors, Hoosier veterans, and more with the healing power of pets every day. And our youth education programs are planting the seeds of kindness, responsibility, and philanthropy in hundreds of children each year.

HSHC's advocacy for animals reaches far beyond Hamilton County as we have taken a leadership role in fighting breed discrimination and for better laws to protect animals. In collaboration with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department, HSHC led the development of a best practice animal ordinance that defines adequate shelter and care and has been adopted by every city in Hamilton County.

The commitment to our mission doesn't stop with Hamilton County. We've always shared available resources to save as many out-of-county animals as possible.



PHILOSOPHY

The animal welfare world defines “no-kill” in a variety of ways depending on the organization and their respective philosophies on who is considered “adoptable” or not. Some define “no-kill” based on achieving a 90% “live placement rate.” That means, 90% of the animals who enter your facility leave alive. **But what about the other 10%?**

The philosophy on which the No Kill movement was founded defines truly no kill as saving 100% of the animals in your care who are treatable (medical) or rehabilitatable (behavior)—*irrespective of age, breed, special medical needs, or disabilities*. Because these particular animals are usually more expensive to save, and take more time to place—they often fall in that 10%.

The Humane Society for Hamilton County embraces the truly no-kill philosophy, so we never stop working until we reach that goal. We are incredibly proud to share that HSHC has consistently achieved a 97% or higher live placement rate since 2014.

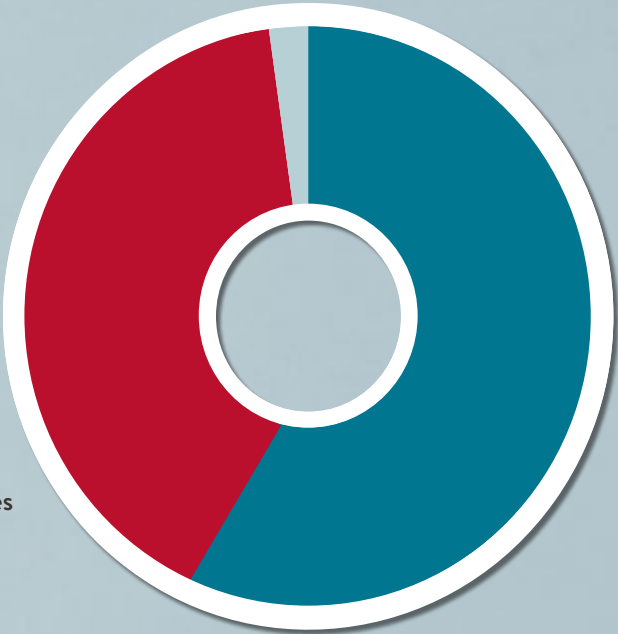


ANIMALS RECEIVED & ADOPTIONS

3,896
TOTAL RECEIVED*

*Received an additional 3 animals representing different species

2,422  1,474 



In addition to the animals already in the care of HSHC at the end of the prior year, HSHC received:

-  **2,523 STRAYS**
Dogs, cats, and small animals
-  **1,307 OWNER SURRENDERS**
Dogs, cats, and small animals
-  **66 TRANSFERS**
From other Indiana shelters and/or non-Hamilton County residents

3,457 ANIMALS PLACED
INTO LOVING HOMES
1,226 DOGS | 2,231 CATS

410 LOST PETS REUNITED
334 DOGS | 76 CATS



♥ LILY

OUR FOSTERS

The Humane Society for Hamilton County is one of the only open-admission, truly no-kill shelters in the country. Our foster families make it possible for us to continue saving lives and are also the reason we are able to transfer in animals at risk for euthanasia from surrounding shelters. There's no cost to foster – we just ask that you open your heart and your home.

Life in a shelter can be overwhelming for animals. The longer they stay, the more the stress affects their emotional well-being, often leading to behaviors that make adoption more difficult. By welcoming an animal into their home, a foster provides something the shelter can't: peace, stability, and individual attention. That temporary refuge gives animals the opportunity to heal, thrive, and put their best paw forward when it's time to meet their forever family.

We're seeing more animals than ever who need the stability of a home environment—not because they're unadoptable, but because they're recovering from an injury, struggling with stress, or simply aren't thriving in the shelter. As the animals entering our care have more complex needs, their stays are becoming longer, making it even harder for them to find permanent homes.

For many of these animals, a foster home isn't just beneficial—it's lifesaving. By opening their home, our fosters give animals the chance to heal, regain confidence, and take the next step toward finding a loving forever family.

1,772
FOSTER ANIMALS

(29% increase over 2024)

521 
30% increase over 2024

1,251 
28% increase over 2024



382
TOTAL FOSTER
FAMILIES

♥ MICIAH &
WAVERLY



♥ HOOTIE

[HAMILTONHUMANE.COM/FOSTER](https://hamiltonhumane.com/foster)

VOLUNTEERS & RESCUE RELIEF

Our volunteer base is composed of almost 1,000 dedicated and passionate individuals who donate their time and talents to HSHC – and they are integral to our mission.



363
TOTAL SENIOR
VOLUNTEERS

985
TOTAL
VOLUNTEERS

1,679
SERVICE HOURS
DONATED BY
CORPORATE
GROUPS

57
TOTAL # OF
VOLUNTEER
ROLES

75,042
VOLUNTEER
HOURS



HAMILTONHUMANE.COM/VOLUNTEER

♡ NALA'S FIRST
FAMILY PHOTO



OUR PROGRAMS

It costs approximately \$645 per month, per animal to provide basic care and shelter to nearly 4,000 animals each year. The best way the public can support the growing cost of daily care is by becoming a Love & Let Live donor.

\$147,658
RAISED IN 2025

SHCLOVELETLIVE.COM

One of the most meaningful ways to make a lasting difference for the animals cared for by HSHC is by becoming a Love & Let Live monthly donor.

Some of the animals who come through our doors need more time than others. Senior pets over the age of 10, bonded pairs who can't bear to be separated, and animals with special medical needs or disabilities often wait months before finding the right family. We believe every one of them deserves the chance to live, love, and be loved.

That's where Love & Let Live donors make all the difference. A monthly gift provides a dependable source of funding that helps ensure these animals receive the care, compassion, and time they need—without the pressure of limited resources.

Reliable monthly support allows HSHC to care for thousands of animals each year while planning for the future with confidence. It gives us the stability to meet daily needs, respond to unexpected medical expenses, and continue saying "yes" to the animals who need us most. Our Love & Let Live monthly donors are not just making a recurring gift—they're giving vulnerable animals something priceless: time, hope, and a second chance.

Love & Let Live

SHCLOVELETLIVE.COM

What is the impact of a monthly gift?

\$20
per month

Provides one can of formula to an orphaned kitten.

\$50
per month

Feeds one dog for a month.

\$100
per month

Provides supplies for one foster animal for a month.

\$271
per month

Covers the cost to prepare a pet for adoption.

OUR PROGRAMS

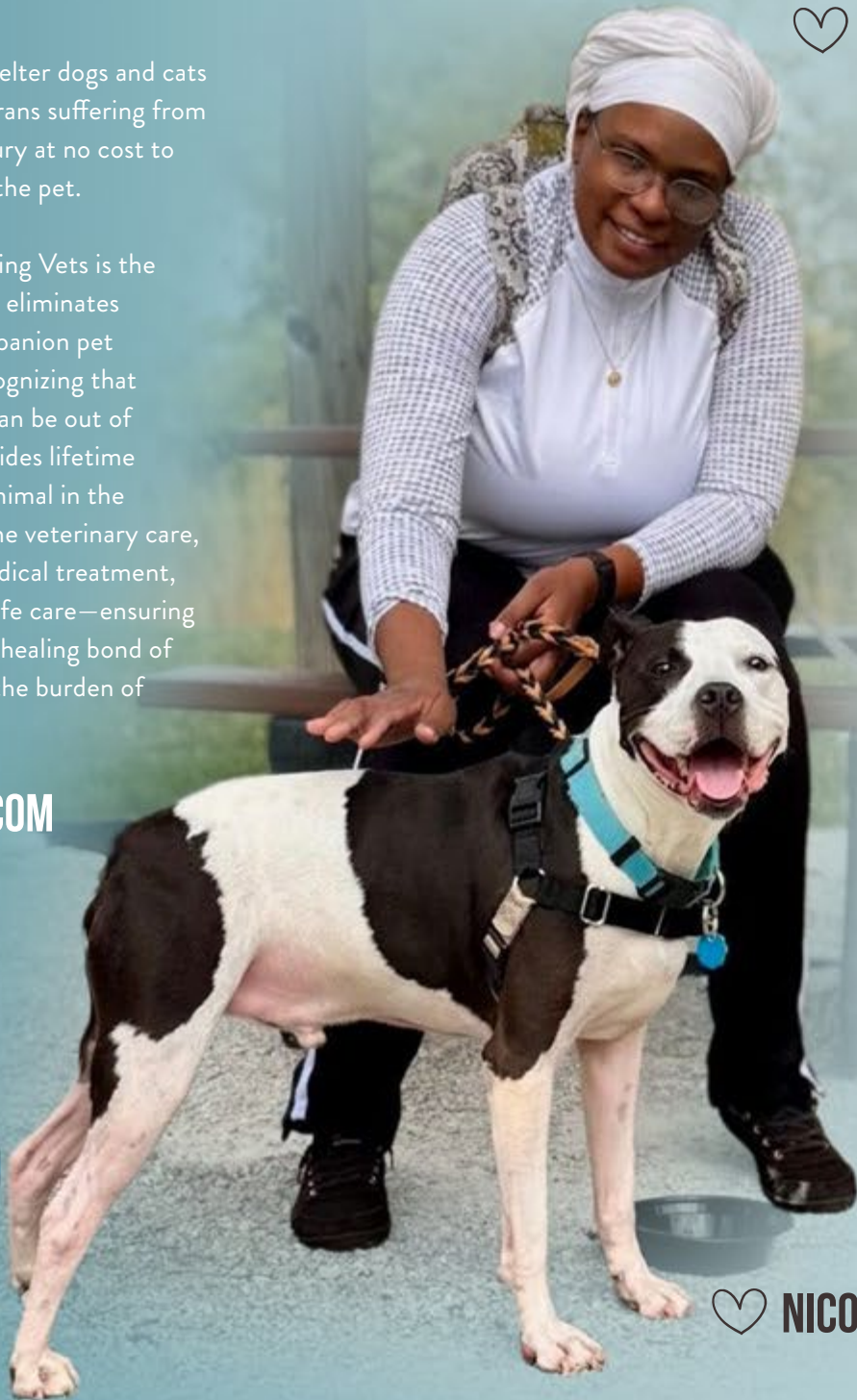
\$67,062 RAISED IN 2025.
41 ANIMALS PAIRED
WITH 40 VETERANS.

The Pets Healing Vets program is fully funded and facilitated by HSHC.

This unique program pairs shelter dogs and cats with qualifying Hoosier veterans suffering from PTSD or traumatic brain injury at no cost to the veteran – for the life of the pet.

To our knowledge, Pets Healing Vets is the only program of its kind that eliminates the financial barriers to companion pet ownership for veterans. Recognizing that the cost of caring for a pet can be out of reach for many, HSHC provides lifetime financial support for every animal in the program. This includes routine veterinary care, vaccinations, emergency medical treatment, and compassionate end-of-life care—ensuring veterans can experience the healing bond of pet companionship without the burden of unexpected expenses.

PETShealingVETS.COM



♡ NICOLA & JACKSON



♡ SCOTT & RUBY

FROSTED FACES

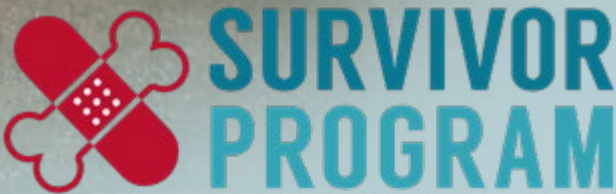
Dr. Roth's Frosted Faces Program was created to give senior cats and dogs at HSHC a second chance at life, love, and comfort. Backed by a generous donation from Dr. Mark Roth, this special initiative helps ease the transition from shelter life into loving homes by providing support for the unique needs of senior cats and dogs and removing financial barriers to adoption. Through this program, we're helping our older residents stand out and find homes where they can thrive.



♡ BALTO



♡ NALA MAE



\$255,962 RAISED IN 2025.
2,483 ANIMAL LIVES SAVED.

495 FROM OTHER SHELTERS/OUT OF COUNTY

Each year, HSHC's Survivor Program funds the life-saving medical care as well as the costs associated with rescuing hundreds of animals at risk for euthanasia from outside Hamilton County.

HAMILTONHUMANE.COM/SURVIVOR

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

YOUTH EDUCATION AND OUTREACH



Scouts

HSHC offers a variety of hands-on ways to engage scouts of all ages while planting the seeds of kindness, responsibility, and philanthropy in children through their love of animals. Programs range in length from 30-60 minutes and include a humane education lesson, live animal interaction, behind-the-scenes tour, and age-appropriate activity. In 2025 HSHC benefited from the assistance of 37 scout troops.

Schools

We are committed to inspiring the next generation of animal lovers to become advocates for the pets in our community. We proudly offer a variety of educational programs for every age to cultivate compassion among every learner. Educational presentations were given to 8 schools in 2025. We also collaborate with other non-profits to help at-risk youth in the Hamilton County school system through the Hamilton County Youth Canine Program.

Our youth education programs are designed to:

- Explain the role our Humane Society plays in the community.
- Teach children about pet safety and responsible pet ownership.
- Provide age-appropriate curriculum (K-12) on animal welfare topics including benefits of pet adoption vs. other pet procurement options, spay/neuter benefits, animal ordinances/laws, animal cruelty prevention, breed discrimination, and what “no-kill” really means.
- Assist with the coordination of donation drives, fundraisers, and special projects.

At-Risk Teens

HSHC, Paws and Think, and Hamilton County Youth Assistance partner on a local “Youth-Canine” program. It pairs vulnerable at-risk youth (ages 13 and up) with shelter dogs for training sessions, teaching valuable life skills to the teens while improving the dogs’ adoptability.

Youth learn responsibility, job readiness, anger management, and positive life skills by teaching shelter dogs basic commands and manners. The shelter dogs gain valuable training and socialization, making them much more likely to be successfully adopted.

Food Pantry

HSHC collaborates with the Good Samaritan Network of Hamilton County (GSN) and various local churches to provide free pet food and supplies for owners facing financial hardships.



♥ DEBBIE & PIPER BEA

BEHAVIOR SUPPORT

HSHC offers free phone support, behavior advice, and pet surrender guidance. This 1:1 owner support helps keep animals out of the shelter and in homes.

OUR 2025 SUCCESSES

2025 was a landmark year filled with record-breaking attendance and fundraising for each of our major events – Wine, Wags & Whiskers, Woofstock Survivor 5k & Dog Walk, and Tinsel & Tails



Raised at Wine, Wags & Whiskers



Raised at Tinsel & Tails



Raised at Woofstock



MARKETING, OUTREACH AND FUNDRAISING



♥ FLOWER

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$6,281,495

SPENT IN 2025



-  **\$4,980,910**
Program Services
-  **\$619,634**
Fundraising
-  **\$680,951**
Management & General

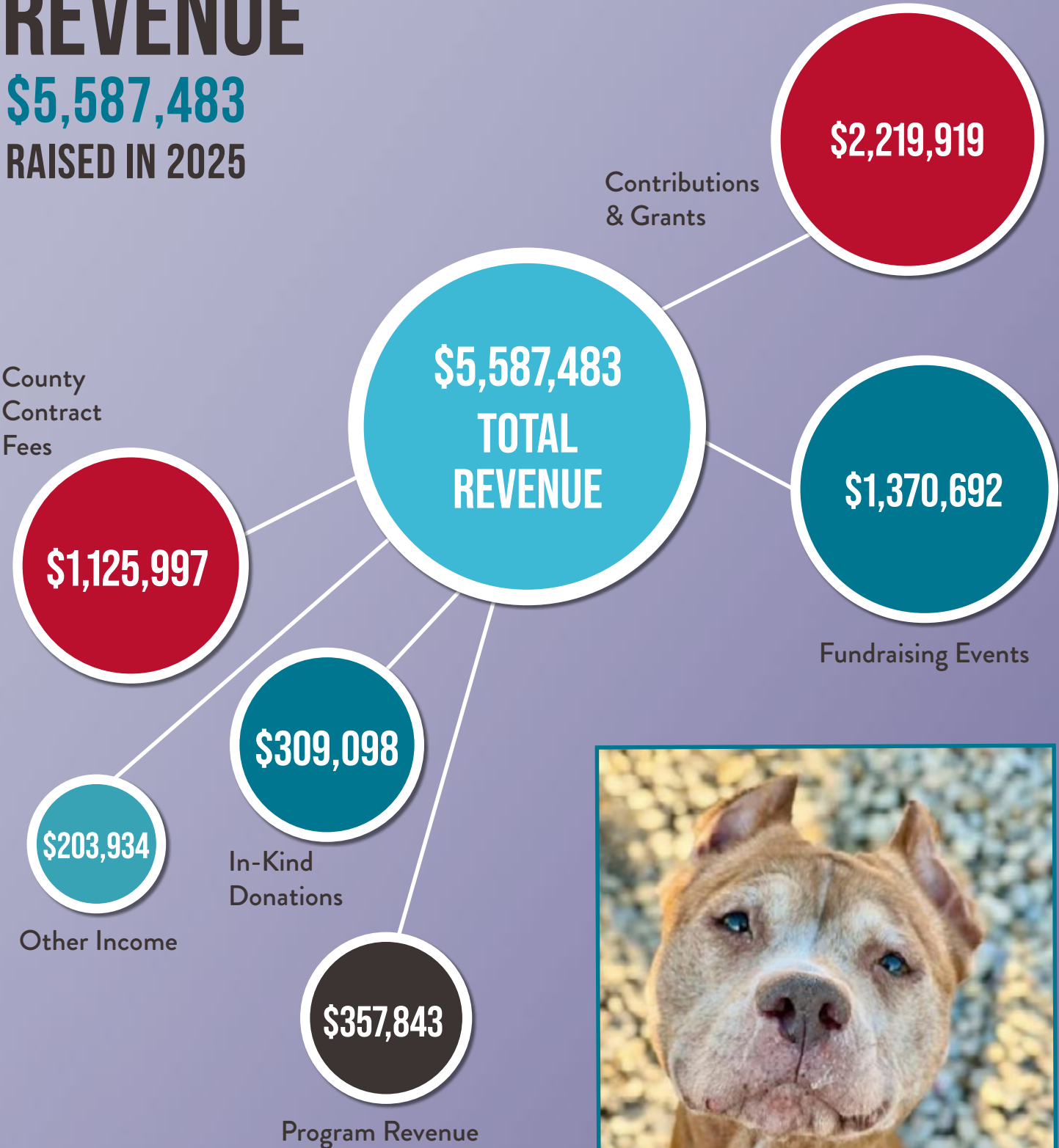
♡ SHEILA

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE FINANCIALS PRESENTED FOR 2025 HAVE NOT YET BEEN AUDITED.

TOTAL REVENUE

\$5,587,483

RAISED IN 2025



♡ ARIZONA





HUMANE SOCIETY FOR HAMILTON COUNTY

10501 Hague Road
Fishers, IN 46038

hamiltonhumane.com



Portraits
courtesy of

Furtography
STUDIO

STEVEN J. CAGE FOUNDATION ANIMAL WELLNESS CENTER

We are deeply grateful to the Steven J. Cage Foundation for their generous contribution to the Humane Society for Hamilton County. The foundation's support is making a lasting difference in the lives of countless animals and the remarkable group of people who provide their care.

