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ALL STAR TEAM

Jenny - Shelter Director
Becca - Lifesaving Programs Manager
Suzanne - Animal Care Supervisor
Rosa - Office & Animal Care Tech
Heather - Animal Caregiver
Lyra - Animal Care Attendant
Slater - Animal Care Attendant
Thomas - Animal Care Attendant
Alex - Maintenance

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John King - Treasurer
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Julie Dauer
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Myriah Surman
Kether Sprague
Pein Ris-Yarbrough
Ronnie Richter - Interim
Autumn Ehnou - Interim

MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS:

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

When: 3rd Wed of each month

Where: Redwood Valley Grange

Time: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

COVER STORY

Working Together for Greater Impact

Earlier this year, our HSIMC Leadership Team had the opportunity to participate in the Animal Balance M.A.S.H. Clinic hosted at Mendocino County Animal Care Services (MCACS) from March 6-8, where 206 dogs and cats were spayed/neutered.

Our team stepped in wherever help was needed — assisting with registration, surgery prep, post-operative care, discharge, and medication support — while also learning alongside experienced veterinary teams. It was an incredible, hands-on experience that highlighted both the intensity and the impact of high-volume spay/neuter work.

These clinics are about more than numbers. They represent collaboration, shared knowledge, and a community committed to creating real solutions for animals and the people who love them.

We are deeply grateful to the many partners who made this clinic possible, including Dogwood Animal Rescue Project, MCACS, Animal Balance, SPCA Lake County, and the many volunteers, veterinary professionals, and supporters who showed up ready to work. It was a true team effort.

We are looking forward to the next clinic, scheduled for May 1-3, where even more animals in our community will receive critical care.

This is what progress looks like and we are proud to be part of it.



Princess Dragon: A Story in Her Own Words

Hello. My name is Princess Dragon.

Yes, I know. It is a very big name for a little cat. But if you have ever met me, you would understand.

I have a lot of personality packed into this tiny body.

I did not always have a name. I did not always have a safe place to sleep either.

I came from a house with a lot of cats. Too many cats. It was not a place where anyone was really keeping track of who needed what. When I arrived at HSIMC, people noticed right away that I moved a little differently. My back legs did not work the way they were supposed to. They twisted and dragged behind me, and I did my best to get around anyway, even when it was hard.

And let me tell you, it was hard.

Sometimes I would trip on my own leg. Sometimes I would get sores from dragging myself around. But even then, I kept going. Because that is what I do.

The humans were not quite sure what my future would look like. Was I born this way? Was I injured? Would I be able to live comfortably?

There were a lot of questions.

But then something really important happened.

Someone said, "Let's see what she can do in a home."

And that is when everything started to change.

In my foster home, I got something I had never really had before. Time. Attention. The chance to just be a cat. My foster watched me closely. They saw how I moved, how I played, how I struggled, and how I kept trying.

It became clear that one of my back legs was not helping me. It was getting in the way. I had been trying to say that for a while, but sometimes humans need to see it for themselves.

So they made a big decision.

They decided to take my bad leg away.

I know that sounds like a big deal. But for me, it was the beginning of everything getting better.

My surgery went well, and I went back to my foster home to rest and heal. And then I started moving.

Really moving.

I was not tripping anymore. I was not dragging myself the same way. I could get where I wanted to go, and I could get there faster.

And once I figured that out, I was off.

These days, you can find me zipping around the house like I have somewhere very important to be. I play, I explore, I do all the things a cat is supposed to do, just in my own way.

Nothing holds me back.

Not where I came from.

Not how I move.

Not even a name as big as Princess Dragon.

And the best part?

My foster saw all of this. They saw me try. They saw me change. They saw who I was becoming.

And they decided I was already home.

My story might have started in a place where I did not have much of a chance. But because someone stopped, looked closer, and believed in me I get to live a life that feels safe, full, and happy.

And if you ask me, that sounds exactly like something a Princess Dragon would do.



Nothing holds me back. Not my past, not my body, not even my name.

From Lost to Loved: Mavis from Davis Finds Her Home

Some adoption stories begin the moment an animal walks through our doors but Mavis's story began long before that.

Alone, starving, and trying to survive in the remote areas near the Judge Davis Rest Stop, seen wandering between Colusa and Mendocino counties with no one coming forward to claim her.

But someone did come for her.

When a photo of the thin, frightened puppy began circulating online, it was hard for many to see. For Greg Stanley, it wasn't just something to feel sad about, it was a call to action. With a trap secured to the back of his four-wheeler, Greg set out to find her, determined to give this little puppy a chance she might not otherwise have had.

Because of Greg's determination, and with support from Clearlake Animal Association, Mavis received the medical care she needed, including her spay surgery and vaccinations, before making her way to HSIMC to begin the next chapter of her journey.

When Mavis arrived, she was safe, but still unsure of the world around her. In foster care, she began to slowly rebuild her confidence. At first she would hide when visitors came over, unsure if she could trust the attention. But with patience, kindness, and consistency, she began to blossom. Soon she was greeting people, playing with other dogs, enjoying treats, and even proudly announcing visitors at the door like she had always belonged.

Day by day, Mavis gained healthy weight, confidence, and the carefree spirit every young dog deserves to have.

Today, Mavis is no longer the forgotten puppy from the roadside. She is a beloved family member with a forever home, a canine companion, and a future filled with the love and security every animal deserves.

Stories like Mavis's remind us that rescue is never just one person. It is a chain of compassion, from the person who stops to help, to the partners who provide medical care, to the fosters who help rebuild trust, and finally to the family who says yes.



Thank you to Greg Stanley, Clearlake Animal Association, her dedicated fosters, and her adoptive family for making Mavis's happy ending possible. Because of you, Mavis from Davis is now exactly where she belongs, home.



Lend A Paw - Volunteer with HSMC

Looking for a rewarding way to give back? Become part of our volunteer family and help provide the care, comfort, and enrichment that shelter animals need while they wait for loving homes.

 Volunteer Orientation takes place twice a month:

 17 First Friday at 1pm

 17 Last Sunday at 11am

Check in at the front office to sign up and join the orientation.

Must be 18+ to volunteer without a parent or guardian.

Life at the shelter can be stressful for animals, but daily enrichment like walks, playtime, training, and cuddles helps reduce stress, and builds confidence.

That's where our amazing volunteer team comes in! Your time helps ensure every dog and cat gets the love, enrichment, and care they deserve while they wait for a home.

Whether it's walking dogs, socializing shy cats, helping with laundry, or lending a hand at events, our volunteers are the heartbeat of HSMC. Just a few hours a month can brighten an animal's day and yours too!

Now's the time to jump in and be part of something special.

Together, we can make our shelter stronger, our animals happier, and our community more compassionate.

Volunteer Spotlight

Bobbi is all about those dogs!

Some volunteers are the kind who look for recognition. Others quietly show up, get to work, and make sure everything, and everyone, is taken care of.

Bobbi is one of those very special people.

For over a decade, Bobbi has been a steady and dedicated presence at HSMC, bringing her no-fuss, let's get it done attitude and an incredible eye for detail when it comes to the needs of our dogs. From making sure kennels are properly set up with comfortable bedding, to checking that toys are rotated and frozen Kongs are ready, Bobbi has a way of noticing the little things that make a big difference in the daily lives of our animals.

She's also someone who thinks about the people doing the work too. Whether it's bringing snacks to keep our team fueled through busy days or making sure our dogs have special treats of their own, Bobbi always seems to be thinking about how to make things just a little bit better for everyone.

Laundry, dishes, dog walking, playgroups — wherever there is a need, Bobbi steps in. Her consistency, compassion, and willingness to simply do whatever needs doing have made her an important part of HSMC for many years.



Bobbi, thank you for the time you've given to HSMC and for the countless ways you continue to make a difference.



Become A Foster Hero

Fostering is one of the most powerful ways to save lives at HSMC. By opening your home to a cat, dog, or litter in need, you give them the comfort, love, and stability they can't find in a shelter. Whether it's a few days, a few weeks, or a few months, every foster stay makes a lasting impact.

Our foster families care for a variety of animals: kittens too young for adoption, dogs recovering from surgery, shy pets who need socialization, and animals who simply thrive in a quieter environment. HSMC provides everything you need, including food, supplies, medical care, and support. You provide the most important ingredient: a safe and loving home.

Fostering helps reduce stress, builds confidence, and gives animals the chance to learn what it means to be part of a family. For many, it's the bridge to a forever home and for you, it's an incredibly rewarding way to make a difference without a long-term commitment.

Whether you're a seasoned pet parent or new to animal care, fostering is flexible, meaningful, and life-changing for both you and the animals. Join our foster team today and help us give every pet the second chance they deserve.

Getting started is easy - fill out an application on our website or stop by during open hours: Wed-Fri, 1pm-5pm and Sat-Sun, 11am-3pm.

Thank you current, past, and future fosters for your dedication to saving lives !



Foster Spotlight: Gil & Trish

When Gil and Trish first walked through our doors, they had a plan. They were going to foster senior dogs, the ones who needed a little extra comfort and a soft place to land.

That plan did not last long.

As they learned more about the needs of the animals in our care, their focus quickly shifted. Puppies came first, then more dogs, and before long, they were saying yes wherever help was needed.

And when Becca reminded them that cats need love too, that opened a whole new chapter. Twelve cats later, their niece's room has officially become a cat den, currently housing a nursing mama and her five babies.

To date, Gil and Trish have fostered over 40 dogs and cats, each one receiving the care, patience, and support they need to take the next step toward a permanent home.

Beyond the numbers, they bring something just as important. Their positivity, flexibility, and willingness to jump in wherever needed make them an incredible part of the HSMC team.

Gil and Trish, thank you for opening your home, your hearts, and for the energy you bring to this work. We are so grateful for you.



Free Dog Trainers in Mendocino County

In 2026, HSIMC is strengthening our community support programs through a new partnership with Free Dog Trainers — an education-based training resource focused on helping dogs succeed in their homes and reducing preventable surrender.

This partnership is rooted in the belief that with the right support, many behavior challenges can be addressed before they reach a crisis point. Through Free Dog Trainers, HSIMC can connect pet guardians with practical tools, coaching, and early guidance in a way that is accessible, supportive, and judgment-free.

In addition to referral-based support, Free Dog Trainers is bringing services directly into our community through on-site behavior clinics for adopters, fosters, volunteers, and local pet guardians. Our first event was a great success, with HSIMC volunteers participating in a hands-on training session while community members met one-on-one with certified trainers to work through real-life challenges with their dogs.

We are excited to continue growing this program and expanding access to behavior support across Mendocino County. More information on consultation referrals, clinic dates, and upcoming events will be shared as they become available.

You can help support this program for Mendocino County by donating here: <https://mendohumanesociety.com/general-donation>



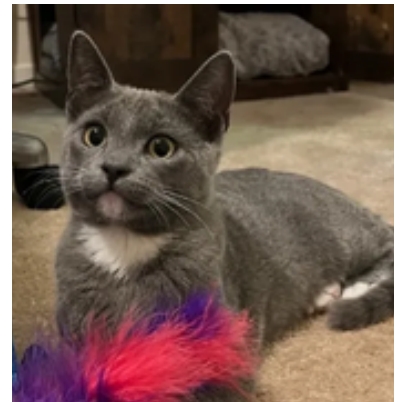
Adoptions by Pet Guardian: Free Rehoming Platform for Pets

HSIMC offers a free rehoming service to help pet guardians find safe, loving homes for animals they can no longer care for without them ever entering the shelter.

At HSIMC, we know that sometimes life changes, and finding a new home for a beloved pet can be overwhelming. That's why we offer a free rehoming service designed to keep pets out of shelters and help them transition directly into loving homes.

Through our Pet Guardian Listings, we connect current pet owners with potential adopters, giving pets a smoother, less stressful path to their next chapter. This program has been a huge success in reducing shelter intakes and ensuring pets remain where they belong, safe, cared for, and loved.

Want to learn more or see pets currently looking for new homes?
Visit: <https://mendohumanesociety.com/adoptions-by-pet-guardian>



Bruce

HSIMC's Pet Pantry: Keeping Pets in Homes



No one should have to choose between feeding themselves or their pet. That's why HSIMC created the Pet Pantry Program—to support local pet owners through tough times with free food and basic supplies for their furry family members.

Thanks to community support and a generous donation from Sparetime Supply, we now have a dedicated storage and distribution hub to expand our reach!

Pet food, litter, leashes & more (as available)

Pick-up at HSIMC during open hours:
Wednesday–Friday: 1PM–5PM
Saturday–Sunday: 11AM–3PM

We're proud to help keep pets in their homes—right where they belong.

Need help? Want to donate?
Visit: mendohumanesociety.com/pet-pantry



BE A HERO

Be A Hero. That's the message on our brand new billboard—generously provided by MV Outdoor, who has supported HSIMC with billboard space for the past three years. Each year, they help us reach more hearts, share more hope, and speak up for the animals who need us most. We are deeply grateful for their continued partnership!

But what does it really mean to Be A Hero?

At HSIMC, we believe heroism isn't about capes or superpowers—it's about compassion, action, and community. Every adoption, every volunteer hour, every dollar donated, and every share of a pet's story makes a difference.

Together, we nurture, educate, and engage our community in the care of cats and dogs in need—giving as many animals as possible a chance to thrive in loving homes.

Be a voice. Be a helper. Be A Hero.

Thank you MVOutdoor for your dedication to our lifesaving mission!



MVOutdoor.com

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(650) 343-4789

Hot Off the Press: Bringing Our Work to Life

Behind every event, every story, and every piece of outreach at HSIMC is a team helping us bring it all together, and Creative Workshop continues to be an incredible part of that process.



From printing our quarterly newsletters to producing the program for our annual Spring Gala each year, their work helps us show up in a polished and meaningful way for our community. Their attention to detail and consistency ensure that everything we share reflects the care we put into our mission.

What we appreciate most is the partnership itself. Creative Workshop understands that these materials are more than paper and ink, they are tools that help connect animals with families, share important resources, and bring our community together in support of the work we do.

To the entire team at Creative Workshop, thank you for your continued support and for helping us tell our story, one piece at a time.

Every page matters, and Creative Workshop makes every page count!

Pardini Appliance: A Local Business with a Big Heart

When it comes to helping shelter dogs find their happily-ever-after, Pardini Appliance continues to lead by example. Year after year, this generous local business transforms adoption days.

Every dog who goes home receives a special Pardini Pup certificate, adding a joyful keepsake to their big day. Behind the scenes, Pardini donates \$5 for every adoption, turning each new beginning into real, tangible support for the animals still waiting for their chance.

Their partnership is more than dollars—it's proof that local businesses can be powerful allies in animal welfare. Because of Pardini, more dogs are finding loving homes, and every adopter knows the community is cheering them on.



From all of us at HSIMC—two-legged and four—we extend a heartfelt thank-you to Pardini Appliance.

707-485-0123 / [HTTPS://HSIMC.ORG](https://hsimc.org)

Hoppy Tails – A Wonderful Community Success

Northspur Brewing Co. creates a special fundraiser beer to support HSIMC!

Our recent Hoppy Tails event was a wonderful reminder of how much good can happen when our community comes together for the animals. Thanks to everyone who attended, donated, and supported the event, we are thrilled to share that we raised \$1,205.32 to support the care of the dogs and cats at HSIMC.

We would especially like to thank Northspur Brewing Company for being such incredible partners. Their team was welcoming, supportive, and truly shared in the spirit of the event, helping create a fun and relaxed atmosphere where animal lovers could gather for a great cause. Partnerships like this help us connect with our community in meaningful ways while raising critical funds for the animals in our care.



Events like Hoppy Tails not only help support our daily operations, but also help us build the relationships that make this work possible.

Thank you to Northspur Brewing and to everyone who came out to support HSIMC. We can't wait to do it again!

Kitchen Upgrade for Staff

Thank you to Donna Smith of Redwood Valley for donating a gently used microwave for the HSIMC staff!

This thoughtful gift will be well-used in our break room because saving lives runs on teamwork... and the occasional hot lunch.

With fuller bellies and warm meals on busy days, our team is feeling extra supported.

We truly appreciate your kindness and generosity, Donna!



Vin de Paws: Delicious for Spring

The launch party may be over, but the Vin de Paws celebration is just beginning — and now it's your turn to raise a glass for the animals!

Crafted with care by Cesar Toxqui and Clay Nesbitt, this beautifully blended white wine is available in an ultra-limited release of only 142 cases — and every bottle sold directly supports local animal shelters in Mendocino and Sonoma Counties, including HSIMC.

With spring gatherings, birthdays, and patio season right around the corner, Vin de Paws is the perfect bottle to bring to a get-together, gift a fellow animal lover, or stock for your next celebration. Every pour helps fuel lifesaving work for animals who need a second chance.

You can pick up a bottle at Cesar Toxqui Cellars in Redwood Valley, or order online through the Toxqui website for delivery right to your door. Supplies are limited — so don't wait! Sip, savor, and make a difference with every glass of Vin de Paws.



Special Benefactors (AKA Angels of HSIMC)

At HSIMC, everything we do is for the animals and we're incredibly grateful to have a special group of supporters who stand beside us every step of the way. Our Angels are extraordinary benefactors who help elevate our mission, ensuring that HSIMC can grow, improve, and continue to meet the needs of our community's homeless pets. Because of their generosity, we've been able to upgrade our facilities, invest in essential equipment, provide critical veterinary care, and launch programs that sets HSIMC apart. Their compassion and commitment are helping build a brighter future for the animals who need us most.

Thank you HSIMC Angels

Myrna Hurst, Clay Nesbitt, Eddie Alexander, Cesar Toxqui Cellars, Doug Gomez, Victor Hoosac, Julia Knudsen, McCarty's Auto Body, Zoey Fernandez, R Valente-Payne, Jason Wright, Ken Fowler Subaru, Jayme Goodale, Redwood Coast Humane Society, Michel Frey, Megan & Jorge Allende, Sparetime Supply, Erin Murphy, Evil Creatures Brewing LLC, Orr Hot Springs, Charlotte Oeding, Mari Golden

Donations Made in Honor of People and Pets

Ellen Marie Douglas Williams, Richard Janov

Donations Made in Memory of People and Pets

Scooby, Carrot the Cat, Mila, Anya, Gracie, Bookitty & TomTom

Thank you, Angels, for believing in our mission and helping us reach new heights.

Turn Your Old Vehicle into a Lifesaver

Got an old car, truck, or RV you're no longer using? You can turn it into care, comfort, and second chances for local animals in need.

HSIMC is proud to partner with Donate for Charity, an organization that helps nonprofits across the country by transforming unwanted vehicles into valuable support.

It's a simple, tax-deductible way to give back and they make the process hassle-free. Once you submit your donation request, they take care of the rest. Proceeds go directly to HSIMC to support our lifesaving work.

Ready to make a meaningful impact?

Donate your vehicle today at: mendohumanesociety.com/vehicle-donation



Estate Planning: Leave a Legacy



Estate planning gives you the opportunity to control the distribution of your assets. Charitable giving allows you to make a significant difference, help your survivors know your wishes, and can help you achieve specific financial goals, such as reducing or eliminating tax liability.

Why You Should Consider HSIMC: The decision to include the Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County in your estate plans creates a legacy, while showing a sincere commitment to the animals in our care. Your gift will contribute to the well-being of the animals while they are here and will help them find loving, permanent homes.

Please consider including HSIMC in your trust or will and create a legacy.

For more information, please email: jking@hsmc.org

Happy Spring!



Our future's so bright, we need to wear shades!

We kicked off the year with a very successful first quarter, filled with fun and creative “fun”draisers that helped strengthen our foundation. We're incredibly fortunate to have such dedicated individual supporters and business partners who believe in our mission and go above and beyond to help us continue our work.

January brought a unique and exciting opportunity: Jakob at NorthSpur Brewery created a special IPA beer in honor of Hanky Panky, our longest resident dog (over 1,150 days by the time this is published!). We followed that up with Pint Nights at Papa's Pizza in Cloverdale, Cultivo in Ukiah, and NorthSpur Brewery in Willits - and the beer sold out every single night, with proceeds destined for HSIMC! Thank you to these wonderful businesses and to our amazing community for making this such a standout success.

In February, we were once again invited to Mendo Mill in Willits for a Valentine's adoption event. While we didn't have any adoptions that day, the dogs enjoyed a well-deserved outing in the sunshine, soaking up attention and fresh air. Mendo Mill also put together incredible raffle baskets, and Willits Weekly generously featured us in their paper.

March kept the momentum going with a beautiful day at Lake Mendocino for the Basket Beaters Disc Golf Tournament. A big thank you to Jason Kabral and the team for inviting us back as their nonprofit partner! Then on March 13, Mo Mulheren and Anna Beuselinck welcomed us to share our story at the 2nd Friday Line Dance Classes at Campovida. From beginners to seasoned dancers, everyone had a fantastic time. We left with sore feet and smiling faces! As Anna said, get out and find joy in your community!

We wrapped up the quarter with the 3rd Annual St. Patrick's Day Breakfast, co-hosted with Redwood Valley Grange #382. With the help of 30+ volunteers, 400+ donated eggs, 25 pounds of pancake mix, 36 pounds of bacon, 360 sausages, and over 150 hungry guests, no one left hungry! It was a joyful morning, and we're already looking forward to next year.

Looking ahead to Q2, we have some fantastic events lined up:

- ☒ April 4: Annual Easter Egg Hunt
- ☒ April 11 (11 AM – 2 PM): “Yappy Hour” Adoption Event at Barra of Mendocino, hosted with Eddie's Dawgs for Dogs , featuring great raffle prizes including Barra wines and olive oils, and a special surprise raffle item from HSIMC!
- ☒ May 2 is our 4 th annual gala event - Mendo Masquerade Gala at Gather Events
- ☒ May 31: 2nd Annual Family Fun Day at Mia Bea Wines & Party Pros
- ☒ June 20: the Fargo Brothers will bring their fun vibe and music to Mia Bea Wines, following a great weekend at Taste of Redwood Valley.

You don't have to leave Mendocino County to find joy in your community. Come out, join us, and maybe even meet your new best friend at HSIMC.

With gratitude,

Teresa King
President, Board of Directors
Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County



YTD Shelter Stats: January - March 2026

These numbers show the real impact of your support—but the work isn't over. With shelters at capacity and community needs growing - Adopt, donate, volunteer - every action adds up to a lifesaving difference.

2025 Intakes Breakdown		
<u>Intake Totals:</u> Dogs: 65 Cats: 92	<u>Owner Surrender:</u> Dogs: 28 Cats: 44 <u>Adoption Return:</u> Dogs: 4 Cats: 2	<u>Rescue Transfer In:</u> Dogs: 20 Cats: 7 <u>Born In Care:</u> Dogs: 5 Cats: 4
<u>Stray:</u> Dogs: 6 Cats: 22	<u>Feral/Wildlife:</u> Dogs: 0 Cats: 11	<u>Service In:</u> Dogs: 2 Cats: 2
2025 Outcomes Breakdown		
<u>Outcome Totals:</u> Dogs: 83 Cats: 72	<u>Return to Owner</u> Dogs: 2 Cats: 1	<u>Rescue Transfer Out</u> Dogs: 0 Cats: 0
<u>Adoption:</u> Dogs: 92 Cats: 79	<u>Field/Wildlife Release:</u> Dogs: 0 Cats: 0 <u>Service In:</u> Dogs: 2 Cats: 2	<u>Death:</u> Dogs: Cats: -Died in care: 2 : 3 -Euthanized: 1 : 2 -Lost: 1 : 0

Wishlist's: Support Through Supplies

Did you know HSMC has Wishlists of items we regularly need for the animals in our care and to keep our facility running smoothly? Every donated item makes a difference and we are incredibly grateful for the generosity of our community.

Thank you for supporting the animals in our care by providing needed items from our Wishlist's.

We keep two Amazon Wishlist's to make giving easy:

 Furry Friends Wishlist – <https://a.co/4HHPNLN>

 Facility Wishlist – <https://a.co/hd1bhVv>

Furry Friends



Facility



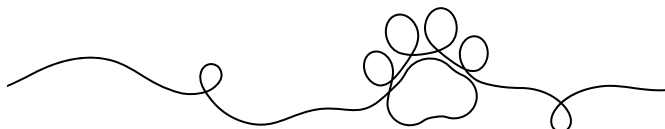
Prefer to shop elsewhere? You can also give through our Chewy & Kuranda Wishlist's or drop donations off in person. Items can be brought to the shelter during open hours, or shop at Rainbow Ag or Tractor Supply in Ukiah and place your gift in our donation bin right inside their front door.

Every item you send—big or small—helps provide comfort, care, and lifesaving support to the animals who need us most. Thank you for shopping with love and helping HSMC thrive!

Chewy Wishlist



Kuranda Wishlist



A Season of Growth at HSIMC

We've had a wonderful start to 2026 and are looking forward to the beautiful spring weather ahead. With spring, of course, comes kitten season, and the littlest arrivals of the year are already beginning to make their way into our care.

We currently have several litters growing up in foster homes where they are receiving the care they need. Once they reach eight weeks of age, kittens will begin rotating onsite during the weekends. If you are thinking about adding a kitten to your family, be sure to keep an eye on our adoptable cats page on our website and our Facebook page for announcements. Kitten season also means we will be looking for additional foster families, especially those interested in helping with neonate kittens, young kittens, or nursing moms. If you've ever thought about fostering, this is a wonderful time to get involved. New or existing fosters, please reach out to our team!

This year has also brought opportunities for HSIMC to collaborate with partner organizations, and we are incredibly proud of how our team continues to show up for animals both within and beyond our walls. Earlier this year, members of our leadership team participated in the Animal Balance clinic hosted at Mendocino County Animal Care Services, where 206 dogs and cats were spayed/neutered, microchipped, and vaccinated over three days. It was an incredible opportunity to work alongside and learn from the Animal Balance team and their dedicated volunteers. Programs like this make a lasting impact by helping prevent unwanted litters and supporting accessible veterinary care in our community.

We also hosted our first on-site behavior clinic in partnership with Free Dog Trainers this March. As part of our 2026 partnership, Free Dog Trainers is providing behavior support services to Mendocino County pet guardians, a resource we strongly believe in as we work to keep pets in homes and prevent unnecessary surrenders.

Community members met one-on-one with certified trainers Devan and Wade and left with practical tools to help their dogs succeed at home. Seeing pet guardians leave with new tools, new understanding, and renewed hope for their relationships with their dogs was incredibly rewarding and reinforces why preventative services like this are so important.

Finally, I want to share both exciting and bittersweet news about a very special member of our HSIMC family.

After 13 years of dedicated service, our Animal Care Supervisor, Suzanne, will be graduating from Santa Rosa Junior College's Veterinary Technician program this May. Balancing school, clinical hours, her work at HSIMC and family life has required tremendous dedication and perseverance, and we could not be more proud of her accomplishment.

Following graduation, Suzanne will be taking the next step in her career as a Registered Veterinary Technician at East Hill Veterinary Clinic. While it is difficult to imagine HSIMC without Suzanne's daily presence, we are incredibly proud to see her hard work open new doors. Her compassion, medical knowledge, and commitment to animal welfare have left a lasting mark on HSIMC, and we know she will continue to do amazing things in this next chapter.

While we will certainly miss her, we celebrate this milestone with gratitude for the many years she has given to HSIMC and excitement for all that lies ahead for her.

It continues to be an honor to serve this organization and work alongside such dedicated staff, volunteers, and supporters. I am incredibly proud of what we are building together and grateful for the trust you place in HSIMC. Thank you for being part of this journey with us and for helping us give as many animals as possible the chance to thrive in loving homes.

Jenny Hanzlik
Shelter Director



The purpose of this nonprofit is to nurture, educate, and engage our community in the care of cats and dogs in need, giving as many animals as possible a chance to thrive in loving homes.
