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STAFF SUPPORT from the COMMUNITY & VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

STAFF CARE BASKET COMES TO HSMC!



ALL STAR TEAM

- Jenny - Shelter Director
- Becca - Lifesaving Programs Mgr.
- Suzanne - Animal Care Sup.
- Raeann - Animal Care Technician
- Emily - Animal Care Technician
- Sara - Animal Care Technician
- Lyra - Animal Care Attendant
- Slater - Animal Care Attendant
- Thomas - Animal Care Attendant
- Alex - Maintenance

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Teresa King, President
- Jaime Wilkes, Vice President
- Erin Moynahan, Secretary
- John King, Treasurer
- Tracey McNamara
- Julie Dauer
- Wynona Idica
- Myriah Surman
- Kether Sprague
- Pein Ris-Yarbrough (Interim)

MONTHLY MEETING

3rd Wednesday of each month
6pm at Redwood Valley Grange

Thanks to **Bobbi Kelly-Ryan** we officially have a support basket available to our staff and volunteers in our break room. Thank you to **Elaine Richard** for adding some fun stress toys, yummy treats, and for tidying up our break room and making it homier. And Thank You **Karin Hudson** for the coffee, treats, and delicious tea box!

The shelter environment is emotionally challenging, we are constantly exposed to the traumas of animals and people. It's so important to have a safe space for our team to take a moment away from the chaos and manage our feelings, so we can continue bringing our best selves to this work! Because the animals deserve it!

What is a Support Basket?

A support basket is a collection of items designed to provide comfort and promote emotional well-being. These baskets can include fidget toys, stress balls, journals, calming teas, and even soothing scents like essential oils.

The goal is to create a safe space where individuals can process their emotions and find moments of peace amidst the chaos.

If you would like to keep our support basket stocked with supplies to comfort our staff and volunteers, bring items by anytime during open hours or mail to 9700 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley, CA, 95470.

MENDOCINO ANIMAL HOSPITAL SENDS ENRICHMENT PUZZLE FOR STAFF!



Our staff was as excited as our dogs get when we bust out their favorite snuffle mat filled with the BEST snacks!

This thoughtful gift from the crew at [Mendocino Animal Hospital](#) had our staff scratching, sniffing and tasting their way to discover all the delicious and interesting flavors! We swear there was a “blue cheese” macaron in here.

Thank you, MAH, for thinking of us, we had a lot of fun with this board of creative goodies. Let’s just say there was something for everyone!

The holidays are a time when we REALLY appreciate our hard-working team. Our staff and volunteers kick it into overdrive every winter keeping our animals as cozy as possible. And we love seeing the smiles on their faces when there are snacks!

Thank you for the appreciation, MAH!

HIGHLIGHTS

DUGAN’S JOURNEY: A STORY OF PATIENCE, LOVE and HOPE



Today, we celebrate a story **four years** in the making—Dugan, our beloved long-stay resident, has finally found his forever home after an incredible **1,430 days of waiting!**

Dugan's journey began with heartbreak and uncertainty. After losing his owner during a fire evacuation, he endured weeks of loneliness before finding refuge with us at HSIMC.

Over the years, he faced challenges with separation anxiety and the overwhelming shelter environment. But through it all, he kept smiling, loving, and hoping for his second chance.

We witnessed his incredible spirit—playing fetch, couch surfing, giving the best hugs, and stealing hearts along the way. Through the dedication of his foster family, staff, and volunteers, Dugan finally found his match.

To Dugan’s forever family: thank you for seeing the beautiful, misunderstood boy we’ve loved so much. To everyone who supported him—whether you shared his story, cheered him on, or walked alongside him on this journey, this victory is yours, too.

Dugan’s story reminds us that every life matters and every soul deserves a home.

Enjoy every moment, Duggie boy. You’re home at last.

FELV COTTAGE HAS NEW RESIDENTS



“Dorian Gray”



“Lisa”



“Maple”



“Juniper”

Meet Dorian Gray! This guy came all the way from Humboldt County Animal Control so we can help him find his forever home.

Dorian has been diagnosed with FeLV (Feline Leukemia Virus) and the word has spread that our shelter has a program for cats just like him so here he is!

Dorian Gray also has three new friends joining him in the FeLV Cottage and our FeLV Cottage is officially full!
Meet Lisa (tabby), Maple (orange/white), Juniper (calico).

Don't forget FeLV adoption fees are waived and if you are looking for indoor only cats, these kids are perfect for you!

MEET “HUBBLE” the TRIPOD



This brave little guy came to us after surviving a dog attack that left him with a compound fracture in his front leg. While his journey hasn't been easy, Hubble's resilience shines! After his right front leg was amputated at East Hill, he moved into a loving foster home where he's thriving.

Hubble is now learning to walk on three legs, and he's doing amazingly well! He's even made an unlikely best friend—a sweet, medium-sized dog in his foster home and when it comes to people? Hubble is all about love and snuggles. He'll greet you with a happy purr and plop down for cuddles every chance he gets.

Hubble's story is a testament to the power of second chances.

Thank you to East Hill Veterinary Clinic for providing emergency care before Hubble arrived at our shelter.

***Hubble Update: Hubble was adopted by a lovely family soon after his injuries healed.**

IT WAS A DAY! A “CAREAVAN” DAY!!! 🚐 ✂️ 🐾

Thanks to the incredible efforts of Dr. Burns and the team at Mendocino County Animal Care Services (MCACS), the NEW Mendocino County CAREAVAN made its debut journey to HSIMC! During this action-packed day, 23 cats and 11 dogs received spay/neuter surgeries, helping pave the way for 14 much-needed adoptions and preparing 20 more animals for their forever homes.

At HSIMC, every pet is spayed or neutered before adoption—a cornerstone of our mission to reduce pet overpopulation. This special surgery day gave us a much-needed boost as we work to finish the year strong.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the CAREAVAN team—Dr. Burns, Sarah, Bliss, Maggie, Julie, and Sharron—along with our dedicated HSIMC staff, fosters, and volunteers. Your collaboration made this busy day seamless and successful.



It takes many moving parts to coordinate an event like this, and we couldn't do it without such a fantastic team. Thank you for helping us make a difference in the lives of so many animals!

WE BELIEVE IN THE POWER OF OUR COMMUNITY!



In November, these 11 underage puppies were sitting on top of rotting bags of trash, trying to stay warm. They were cold, starving and thrown away like garbage.

In comes our community!

- The kind man who stopped to get them help
- **Bones Pet Rescue** who took them in the first few days, kept them warm and their bellies full.
- **MCACS + SNAP** who are helping get the 3 moms.
- **Our staff** who stepped up to the challenge of sorting their next steps.



Then in comes our AMAZING foster team who stepped up once again to show these babies the good life!

IN MEMORY of ALFONSO: A COMMUNITY'S FIGHT to SAVE A LIFE



This past quarter, HSIMC faced a heartbreaking challenge that highlights both the immense love in our community and the difficult realities of animal rescue. Alfonso, a stray puppy who came into our care, tested positive for parvovirus—a devastating illness that can quickly claim the lives of young, under-vaccinated dogs.

When Alfonso's diagnosis was confirmed, our team acted swiftly to protect the other animals in our care and provide him with the best chance of survival. The options were stark: turn him away, euthanize him, or take immediate and costly action to save his life. True to our mission, we chose the third option, putting Alfonso at the forefront of our lifesaving efforts.

With the support of our wonderful community, we raised over \$6,000 in just a few days to begin his advanced treatment. He received monoclonal antibodies and fresh frozen plasma at Wasson Memorial Clinic, along with round-the-clock care from our team. For a moment, hope flickered. But despite every effort and intervention, Alfonso's condition worsened. His little body could not fight off the disease, and he passed away, surrounded by love and care.

Alfonso's story is a testament to the lengths we will go to for every animal who comes through our doors, no matter the odds. It also underscores the importance of community involvement and preventative care, like vaccinations, to protect vulnerable animals from diseases like parvo.

We want to thank everyone who donated, shared his story, and cheered Alfonso on. While we couldn't save him, his fight reminded us why we do what we do: every animal's life matters. And even in loss, your support helps us continue our mission to make a difference for the animals who need us most.



OFFSITE ADVENTURES! 🐾 🚗 🌍



HSIMC's leadership team headed out to attend an important meeting in Lake County this morning! Every year we receive hundreds of calls for help from our neighboring county and their success is very important to us. When they struggle, we struggle, and right now, like most of us, they are facing an overwhelming homeless pet problem, with very limited spay/neuter resources. But the community cares and this is a problem they want to solve!

It was exciting to be in a room full of animal lovers with many familiar faces and 40 people in attendance, all hoping to "fix" these problems! Way to go Lake County!

Today's meeting was all about Pet Fix - Lake County, a new collaboration between the [Clearlake Animal Association](#), [SPCA of Lake County](#) and [Dogwood Animal Rescue Project](#), based in Santa Rosa.

This core team from the three nonprofits have been working on logistics with Animal Balance for a few months, and are very excited to be able to offer low-cost spay/neuter programs to the community of Lake County!

Animal Balance is a global organization that provides logistics and veterinary services in support of local low-cost spay/neuter clinics. Here is more info about their work: <https://www.animalbalance.org/>

The first clinic is scheduled for February 2025 and will serve 200 cats and dogs.

Stay tuned to the SPCA of Lake County website for more info: <https://www.spcakoflakecounty.com/>

OUR TEAM ROCKS!

When it's raining cats and dogs our team steps up and tackles challenges with a smile! We appreciate their positive energy, even when things don't go as planned.

Shout out to our **Animal Care Technician Team!**

Emily and **Rae** have been cross training the last few weeks and we are building a stronger team because of it. We can stick these ladies in any department, and they have the skills to get the job done.

Way to go Animal Care Technician Team!



VOLUNTEER / FOSTER

VOLUNTEER WITH US

Orientation is held the first Thursday and last Sunday of each month at 11am, so mark your calendars, we are hoping for many new volunteers to join our team! Right now, our shelter is struggling with too many animals in care and tons more that are requesting to come in, and too few hands to care for them all.

Volunteers can help change that!

Our volunteers help us keep the dogs and cats onsite happy, healthy and adoptable. We are able to provide much better care and get more work done when our volunteer team is out in full force! Just a few hours a month can make a big difference in not only our animals' lives but also help relieve some of the stress that our team is currently under.

NOW IS THE TIME TO JOIN US!

When attending orientation, be sure to wear closed toe shoes and bring some treats if you are able to! Orientation is around 1 hour long and we have made some changes to help make it easy for everyone to get in the groove!

For more information, please visit our website:

<https://mendohumanesociety.com/volunteer%2Ffoster>

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT!

We want to give a shout out to **Chuck Dillard!**

Many years ago, Chuck designed and built our agility equipment for play-yard #1, this equipment helps our dogs and volunteers enjoy their time together and makes for excellent picture taking!

In December 2024, Chuck surprised us with a brand new “built by Chuck” platform for our team to enjoy in play-yard #4! Our team of supporters know how to lift our winter blues!

Holidays are hard for shelter animals and the people who love and care for them, Chuck made sure to add some sparkles to our routine and we so appreciate him!



JOSH STEPS UP FOR HSIMC



At HSIMC, we're always excited to see young members of our community get involved and make a difference. Josh, a student at River Oak Charter School, recently did just that while working toward fulfilling his community service hours for school.

As part of our efforts to expand opportunities for students to contribute to our mission, we've introduced a variety of ways they can help. When Josh came to HSIMC, he decided to support us by selling our 2025 calendars. Armed with enthusiasm and a goal to make an impact, he shared the calendars with friends and family, spreading awareness about HSIMC's work in the process.

Josh's dedication paid off—he sold 10 calendars and collected additional donations, raising an incredible \$210 to support the animals in our care. His efforts are a perfect example of how even small acts of kindness can add up to make a big difference. We're excited to continue building meaningful opportunities for students to get involved in supporting HSIMC and their community.

Thank you, Josh, for being an inspiring example of what it means to give back.

EMILY'S LASTING LEGACY for HSIMC

This year, Emily, a student at Willits High School, has gone above and beyond to support HSIMC. Combining her creativity and entrepreneurial spirit, Emily set up a table of goods at the Redwood Valley Grange Flea Markets, dedicating her time and effort to raising funds for our organization.

Her project has been a tremendous success, bringing in over \$1,700 to help the animals in our care. But Emily's vision didn't stop there—she wants her work to have a lasting impact and plans to pass the project along when she graduates, ensuring it continues to give back to HSIMC for years to come.

Emily's commitment and forward-thinking approach have not only made a significant difference for HSIMC today but will also inspire future students to follow in her footsteps.

Thank you, Emily, for your incredible support and for building a legacy that will keep on giving



A NEW INITIATIVE to keep dogs in homes - GOODPUP!!



Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County is excited to announce our partnership with the GoodPup dog training app! GoodPup offers customized, affordable, positive dog training that you can access from the comfort of your home, at a time that works for YOU.

We are really excited about the possibility of better-behaved dogs! (And fewer dogs that need new homes due to behavioral issues.) GoodPup offers one week of free training; there is no obligation, and users can cancel at any time. Here's what else to know:

- If you've ever adopted a dog from HSIMC, you can sign up for the GoodPup app, and get a lifetime discount off their services. (This is good for HSIMC fosters, volunteers, and staff members, too.)

Here is the code to get started: <https://links.goodpup.com/shelter/MendocinoHS>

- If you haven't adopted from HSIMC but are still interested in the training, please visit: <https://links.goodpup.com/shelter/MendocinoHSTraining>

For everyone who keeps up with GoodPup beyond the first week of training, HSIMC will receive \$40 from the company – whether the dog is from us or not! These funds will help us with our behavior program so we can continue to support the needs of our dogs who are onsite or in homes (Remember, that first week is free.)

We live in a rural community with limited resources to sound training techniques. We love that this virtual training experience can help people and their pups from the comfort of their own home.

*We hope this helps some puppies learn how to be good dogs, and also helps some old dogs learn new tricks!
Thank you, GoodPup!*

DONATIONS NEEDED

Thinking about donating to HSIMC? Well, here is a list of items we always need:

Standard Facility Items

Bleach (regular), Laundry Detergent (unscented), Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Dawn Dish Soap,
55 gal Black Trash Bags, 32 Gallon Clear Trash Bags, 13 gallon trash bags

For the Cats

KMR Kitten Formula, Miracle Nipples, Dry Cat/Kitten Food, Canned Cat/Kitten Food, Probiotics,
Catnip, Toys, Hammocks, Cardboard Scratchers

For the Dogs

Puppy Pads, Good Quality Dog/Puppy Food, Canned Dog/Puppy Food, X-pens, Wire Crates, Martingale Collars,
Probiotic Capsules, Kongs, Leashes, Wire Crates

SPECIAL BENEFACTORS (AKA Angels of HSIMC)

It is all about the animals and we have some Angels that are always there for us and are helping push HSIMC to the next level so we can be there for the homeless animals in our community with upgraded facilities, equipment, funding for veterinary care and other special programs that make HSIMC unique.

Thank you for standing by us and thank you for believing in our mission and what HSIMC stands for.

Gerry Figg-Hoblyn, Myrna Hurst, Susanne and Bill Losch, Elodie Weeks, Beckstoffer Vineyards, Bobbi, Doug Gomez, Nelson Family Vineyards, Mary Ziady, Robert & Margrete Arnold, Jenny, B.A.S. Roofing Inc., Ukiah Sons of Italy, Patti Boatright, Main Street Veterinary Clinic, Karen Swan, Jayme Goodale, Paul Shimmin, Sheryl Parker, The Gray Family Trust, Cindy Novella, Erin Murphey, Dan Stearns, Pardini Appliance, Mendocino Metals, Katherine Houston, Fred & Autumn Ehnou, Valla Family Foundation

Donations Made in Honor of People & Pets

Susan Boer, Jane Boer, Bob Arnold, Joanne Peaslee

Donations Made in Memory of People & Pets

Midget the Cat

DONATE FOR CHARITY

Thinking of donating a vehicle?

We have partnered with an organization known as Donate for Charity, a program that supports nonprofit organizations across the United States.

Donate for Charity works with you, to donate your vehicle, turn your car, truck, or recreational vehicle into a tax deduction.

Donate for Charity makes the process easy and they handle all the details after you submit your request, proceeds come directly to HSIMC.

You too can donate a vehicle by visiting our website:

www.hsimc.org



ESTATE PLANNING

Consider Leaving 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@hsimc.org

SHOUT OUTS

A HUGE THANK YOU to Northern Aggregates, Nicholas Lujan, and AACTION Rents!



This winter has brought a record amount of rain, and while we welcome the much-needed precipitation, it's created a few challenges here at HSMC. One of the most pressing issues was the excessive water pooling around our barn, where several of our dogs live onsite. To keep them safe and comfortable, we needed a solution—and fast!

Thanks to the generosity of Northern Aggregates, we were able to secure the rock needed for a much-needed drainage project.

Their donation made it possible for us to start installing a French drain system to direct water away from the barn and ensure it stays dry .

NICHOLAS LUJAN

We also want to give a huge shoutout to Nicholas Lujan, a local hero and Mendocino College student who is spending his winter break making a difference. Nicholas took the lead on this project, gathering the necessary materials, trenching the site, and installing the French drain system.



AACTION Rents also provided the trencher at a deep discount so we could efficiently dig the trench and get this project completed,

Thank you AACTION Rents for your generosity and support!

This project is a fantastic example of how our community comes together to support the animals at HSMC. Thank you all for making this project possible!

CELEBRATING A LONG-TIME SUPPORTER: PARDINI APPLIANCE



Thank you Pardini Appliance for supporting HSMC through another year of adoptions and we look forward to working together again in 2025!

As a long-standing Business Partner, Pardini Appliance consistently demonstrates their commitment to the work we do for the dogs in our care. Their support over the years has made a meaningful impact on our ability to provide shelter, medical care, and forever homes to animals in need.

What makes Pardini Appliance's generosity even more special is their *Pardini Pup Certificates*, which they offer to all of our dog adopters to use at their store. In addition, for every dog adopted, they donate **\$5 to HSMC**, directly contributing to the well-being of our furry friends.

We are so grateful to Pardini Appliance for their unwavering support, and we look forward to continuing this incredible partnership for years to come.

A Big THANK YOU to MVOOutdoor for Providing HSIMC with a Billboard!



MVOutdoor.com

Marin Ventures Outdoor Advertising

Premier Billboard Advertising
for Mendocino County

(650) 343-4789

Having a billboard in Mendocino County for our shelter is an invaluable gift that allows us to reach a wider audience, connect with potential adopters, donors, and volunteers, and ultimately, help save more lives

MVOutdoor's kindness and generosity provide us with an incredible advertising platform that makes a real difference in our ability to serve the animals in our care. We are so grateful for their continued support!

Be sure to visit MVOutdoor.com for your outdoor advertising needs, and if you're driving North on the highway, don't miss our brand-new billboard on display at the Orr Springs overpass on the West side of the road!

THANK YOU, MVOOutdoor, for helping our shelter to be seen!

A Special THANKS to CREATIVE WORKSHOP



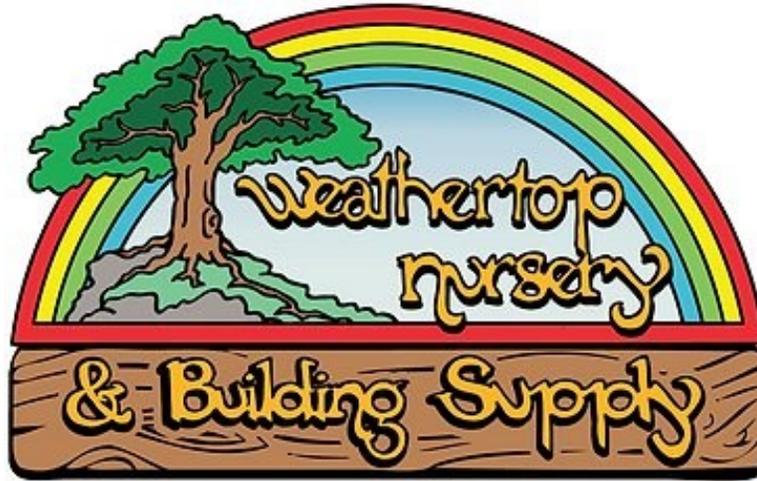
Did you notice a little extra polish in last quarter's newsletter? That's because it was printed by the talented team at Creative Workshop! We couldn't be more thrilled to have their incredible support.

Thanks to their generosity, our quarterly newsletters are professionally printed, helping us stay connected with our community and share updates about the lifesaving work we're doing for animals in need.

But it's not just the quality of their work that has impressed us—it's the people behind it. The team at Creative Workshop is made up of some of the kindest and most thoughtful individuals we've had the pleasure of working with. Their dedication to supporting local organizations like ours is truly inspiring and makes a real difference.

From all of us at HSIMC, thank you, Creative Workshop, for being such a valued part of our mission and team!

SHOUT OUTS



We are so grateful for the kindness of **Lurane Cassidy and Weathertop Nursery and Building Supply** in Laytonville! This fall, they generously provided us with a huge discount on three rolls of plastic sheeting, which we use to keep our barn cozier for our dogs during the cold months.

When temperatures drop, it's always hard on our hearts to see animals braving the chill. Thanks to this thoughtful contribution, we can wrap our outdoor kennel spaces in our barn, creating a greenhouse effect that helps the barn retain heat through those long, cold nights. Every bit of warmth makes a world of difference for our pups, bringing them a little more comfort as they wait for their forever homes.

Thank you, Lurane and team at Weathertop Nursery and Lumber Supply, for helping us care for our furry friends and Thank You to Marilu Paulson for making the trip to pickup the plastic so we could get it installed ASAP.

Wishlist

FURRY FRIENDS and/or FACILITY!



Have you seen our Amazon Wishlists?

We receive many wonderful donations through this program and are so thankful for everyone who sends gifts to the dogs and cats and for our facility.

We have two Wishlists going, one to support our furry friends and one to keep our facility operating.

Click the following links and check-out our Wishlists:



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

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

Chewy: https://www.chewy.com/g/humane-society-for-inland-mendocino-county_b102271750

If you are shopping locally, you can bring donations by the shelter during any of our open hours or shop at Rainbow Ag /or Tractor Supply in Ukiah and leave your donation in our donation bin at the front of their store.

Thank you for your support and keeping our facility running smoothly!

Letter from our Board President

Reflecting on a Tough Year, Grateful for the Blessings

Whew! I don't know about you, but I am ready to see 2024 say "goodbye"! It's been a tough year financially, and emotionally for both the shelter and our incredible team. But every day, the staff and volunteers at HSIMC return to the shelter, doing everything they can to brighten the lives of the resident cats and dogs. Sometimes it feels like it is two steps forward and one step back, but we keep going. We couldn't do it without the unwavering support of our community. So, this quarter, I'm reflecting on the many blessings we have here at HSIMC and what I'm most thankful for.

First and foremost, I am deeply grateful for the amazing staff we have. They are hardworking, compassionate, and always bring positivity, no matter the weather or challenges they face. Whether they're sloshing through rain, mud, or puppy poo, they always manage to smile and connect with the animals and adopters who come through our doors. **Raeann, Slater,** and **Sarah** spend most of their days with the dogs, while **Emily, Lyra,** and **Thomas** are the familiar faces for our cats. **Jenny**, our fearless director, is the glue that holds it all together, while **Becca**, our newly promoted **Lifesaving Program Manager**, is already making a tremendous impact. **Suzanne** keeps Dean's Cat House running smoothly, and **Alex**, our maintenance supervisor, ensures everything is in tip-top shape.

We're also thrilled to announce that we have found two amazing volunteers to co-chair our fundraising committee: **Kelsey Radmilovic** and **Julie Allen**. They've jumped in with both feet, learning all they can to help support our fundraising efforts. From organizing the Kritter Karnival to working on our wreath-making project and joining us in the Ukiah Parade of Lights, Kelsey and Julie have been essential to our activities. Welcome aboard!

A huge thank you goes out to our board of directors, who have been instrumental in guiding our work. While we've said goodbye to four board members this year, we're excited to welcome **Pien Ris-Yarbrough**, our newest interim member. Pien's dedication to the community is inspiring, with her involvement in the Redwood Valley Grange, the Redwood Valley M.A.C., Ukiah Autumn Leaves, and Meals on Wheels. We're looking forward to her contributions and fresh ideas. Our board meets every third Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Redwood Valley Grange, and we'd love for you to join us at our next meeting on January 15, 2025.

One of our most successful fundraising efforts this year was the wreath-making project, led by **Cindy Huhn** and supported by our dedicated **elf volunteers**. In total, we created 144 wreaths, 35 swags, and dedicated over 300 volunteer hours, raising over \$9,000 for the shelter. This project is a perfect example of how donations of greenery, bows, and labor can translate into much-needed funds to support our mission.

Like many shelters, we continue to struggle with limited resources—whether it's donations, space, or adoptions. While we've had to limit intake and the number of animals coming through our gates, we're still focused on our blessings: our sweet, loving animals, many of whom have found their forever homes. Thank you to everyone who made space in their homes for a new family member!

Teresa King
President, HSIMC board
teresa@hsimc.org



SHELTER STATS

YTD SHELTER STATS: January 1, 2024 thru December 31, 2024

Shelter Stats: What Are We Doing?

The Numbers Behind the Impact:

| 2024 Intakes Breakdown | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p><u>Total Intake:</u></p> <p>Dogs: 311 Cats: 454</p> | <p><u>Owner Surrender:</u></p> <p>Dogs: 144 Cats: 148</p> <p><u>Adoption Return:</u></p> <p>Dogs: 13 Cats: 14</p> | <p><u>Rescue Transfer In:</u></p> <p>Dogs: 98 Cats: 8</p> <p><u>Born In Care:</u></p> <p>Dogs: 0 Cats: 20</p> |
| <p><u>Strays:</u></p> <p>Dogs: 56 Cats: 173</p> | <p><u>Feral:</u></p> <p>Dogs: 0 Cat: 91</p> | <p><u>Service In:</u></p> <p>Dogs: 0 Cats: 0</p> |

| 2024 Outcomes Breakdown | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p><u>Total Outcomes:</u></p> <p>Dogs: 325 Cats: 461</p> | <p><u>Return to Owner:</u></p> <p>Dogs: 7 Cats: 2</p> | <p><u>Rescue Transfer Out:</u></p> <p>Dogs: 12 Cats: 21</p> |
| <p><u>Adoptions:</u></p> <p>Dogs: 302 Cats: 402</p> | <p><u>Field/Wildlife Release:</u></p> <p>Dogs: 0 Cats: 6</p> | <p><u>Deaths:</u></p> <p>Dogs: 4 - Died in care: 2 - Euthanized: 2 - Lost: 0</p> <p>Cats: 30 - Died in care: 21 - Euthanized: 9 - Lost: 0</p> |



2025 UPCOMING EVENTS

March 16th: Pancake Breakfast, Redwood Valley Grange

April 5th: Nelson Family Vineyard 5K Run/Walk

April: Caesar Toxqui Wine Launch

May 3rd: Spring Gala, A Night in Venice

This is just a sneak peak at our upcoming events, more information coming soon!

mendohumanesociety.com/events



WHAT WE'RE DOING/MISSION

What We're Doing/Mission

Thank you all for being part of our nonprofit rescue community and for continuing to follow our journey. As we close out another year, we reflect on the challenges we faced, the progress we made, and the lives we changed together.

This past year, we faced significant hurdles, particularly in securing enough spay/neuter appointments for our shelter animals. Additionally, we experienced a notable bottleneck with animals not moving out of the shelter and into homes. Large dogs, in particular, are becoming increasingly difficult to place, resulting in longer lengths of stay. This is not an isolated issue—many rescues and shelters across the country are grappling with similar challenges. The topic was a key focus at the 2024 Animal Welfare Conference, which part of our leadership team had the opportunity to attend. It was a valuable experience to connect with peers, share strategies, and seek solutions to this growing concern.

We also continue to face the overwhelming demand for assistance—both for animals and people—while navigating limited resources. Our team works tirelessly to meet this need, but the strain of balancing an increasing number of incoming animals with fewer leaving the shelter has been deeply felt. This imbalance underscores the critical need for more robust resources and community-driven programs to address these systemic issues.

These challenges ripple out to everyone in our community who seeks help from an overburdened system. We understand the frustration and heartbreak that can arise when resources fall short. That's why we ask everyone to remember that we are all in this together. Supporting one another with kindness and understanding can make a tremendous difference. While the challenges are significant, the strength of our community lies in its compassion and willingness to collaborate. Let's commit to lifting each other up as we navigate these difficult times together.

Together, we can build a stronger, more resilient community for both people and animals. Thank you for your continued compassion and support.

Key Accomplishments of 2024

Employee Growth and Development: One of the highlights of this past year has been the establishment of a fully funded training program for our staff. This fund has allowed our team to expand their knowledge of animal welfare through specialized courses and workshops. Additionally, we've implemented quarterly training sessions for all staff members, ensuring everyone stays updated on best practices in rescue operations. These trainings have already shown great promise in enhancing the quality of care we provide.

Team Restructuring for Greater Impact: As a small team, we each carry significant responsibilities. Recognizing the need to optimize our efforts, we restructured some of our roles. Becca, formerly our Dog Kennel Manager, has been promoted to Lifesaving Programs Manager. This new role allows her to oversee and coordinate critical lifesaving initiatives across the shelter. Her leadership has already brought increased consistency and innovation, helping both our staff and animals thrive. We also started a pilot program in 2024 to begin cross-training our dog and cat office teams to provide team collaboration and support.

Community Engagement: Thanks to your support, we've continued to raise awareness about the importance of adoption, fostering, and responsible pet ownership. Our seasonal campaigns, volunteer programs, and outreach efforts have inspired many to join us in our mission to save lives. Our leadership team is also finding ways to support outreach programs offering low cost or free services to the community. Our leadership team volunteered at a free microchip and vaccine clinic in Lake County and have plans to attend at least one of the Pet Fix clinics happening throughout 2025 in Lake County.

Looking Ahead to 2025

As we look ahead to 2025, we are filled with hope and determination. Key initiatives include:

Advancing Staff Training: Our leadership team is excited to attend Animal Expo 2025, where we will continue to build our knowledge base, this helps keep HSMC operating as a progressive shelter by staying up to date on all things animal welfare. These opportunities allow us to stay at the forefront of best practices and bring innovative ideas back to our organization. We are also dedicated to providing ongoing education for our team and we aim to continue these efforts, expanding on cross-training to build a more collaborative and resilient team. This approach will enable us to work more efficiently and effectively, ensuring that every member of our team is equipped to handle the diverse challenges of animal welfare.

Upgrading Animal Housing: Another exciting initiative for the coming year is our commitment to upgrading our animal housing areas. These improvements will help us meet ASV (Association of Shelter Veterinarians) guidelines, ensuring that the animals in our care have safe, comfortable, and enriching environments. These upgrades are a vital step in our mission to provide the highest standard of care possible.

Thank you for standing with us this past year and for your commitment to our cause. Together, we can make 2025 even brighter for the animals who need us most. We wish you a joyful and peaceful winter and look forward to continuing this lifesaving work with you in the new year.

*Together, we can continue to make a difference in the lives of countless animals.
Thank you for standing by our side and supporting us in this vital work.
We are grateful for your unwavering commitment and compassion
to our cause and mission.*

Jenny Hanzlik



MISSION

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