

Q3



PAW PRINTS

"Our Lives Are In Your Hands"



2025



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ALL STAR TEAM

Jenny - Shelter Director
Becca - Lifesaving Programs Manager
Suzanne - Animal Care Supervisor
Rosa - Office & Animal Care Tech
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

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

Together We Make A Difference

In every gentle paw we hold,
in every story waiting to be told,
our mission beats—a steady call
to nurture, teach, and care for all.

Staff hearts shine through every chore,
working tirelessly to do still more.
They soothe the shy, they heal the weak,
they give each animal the love they seek.

Our board dreams big and lights the way,
raising funds so hope can stay.
They rally friends, they spread the word,
ensuring every voice is heard.

Businesses, donors, neighbors, too—
this shelter thrives because of you.
Each dollar given, each hour shared,
proves a community's love declared.

Together we open doors once closed,
turn lonely nights to warm repose.
For every cat and dog in need,
you plant the seed for lives freed.

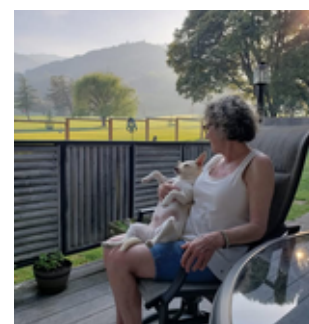
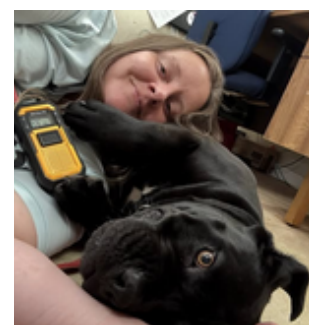
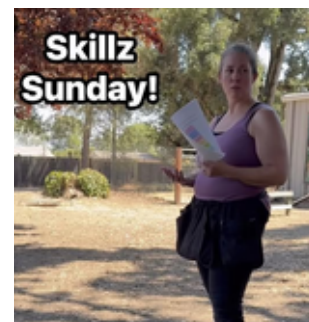
Fosters cradle the smallest souls,
teaching trust and gentle goals.

Volunteers give hands and heart,
proving love is the greatest art.

Each adoption tells a story new,
of second chances and dreams come true.
From wagging tails to grateful eyes,
your kindness writes the sweetest ties.

Here, compassion is more than a plan—
it's the work of hearts, the will of hands.

And with each act, both great and small,
we build a world of love for all.



A Tribute to Solo - An Extraordinary Dog

On June 6th, Solo passed away after several months of declining health. Despite our best efforts and quality care by her veterinary team, it became apparent her time was coming to an end, and she was put down by Dr. Kayla and Maritza at the Forestville VCA.

Solo was adopted from the Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County on January 14, 2021. I had gotten into the habit of scrolling Petfinder and I came across Solo's story—her owner had been found dead on Christmas, and she and another lab were taken in by Animal Control in Lake County. The deceased man's family came from New York and picked up the other dog but left Solo behind. Charmaine, of Animal Control, who had undoubtedly seen much heartbreak, said it was sad to witness, and kindly took it upon herself to drive Solo to the Humane Society in Redwood Valley. On the website, Solo's picture showed a chunky black lab, head up, mouth open and tongue hanging out (below, top left).

When I called to inquire about Solo, Becca, the Humane Society's dog team manager, said that Solo was the sweetest dog she had seen in all her many years of working there. "Sure," I thought, "this is probably what she says about every dog."

When we arrived to meet her, Solo was in a cage, wagging her tail. And we learned this was typical of Solo—her owner was dead, she'd been abandoned by his family, she'd lost her best dog friend, and she was in a chain-link cage—and yet, as she met strangers, Solo was nothing but happy and friendly.

Driving Solo home that first day, I took this photo of her (below, center), looking content and confident, like she knew what good times lay ahead. It took us a few days to realize that Becca had not been exaggerating-- we were, indeed, in the presence of greatness. Over the next four years, Solo exemplified a creature in its highest form, and we sometimes referred to her as Master Solo, as she lived as we aspired to live—joyful, kind to all creatures, and never the slightest bit grumpy to anyone or anything. She loved kids, adults, and other dogs—essentially everyone. Solo greeted each day with joy and exuberance, starting each morning with a game of fetch. When it was walk time, she would literally jump for joy, springing her stout body straight up in the air and spreading her toes ("jazz hands," we called it). This was often followed by the "hog scramble," where she'd run for the van at top speed, looking like a cartoon character.

Perhaps one of Solo's best traits—besides her sweetness and adorable puppy-like proportions—was that she was endlessly affectionate. She would never tire of cuddling, letting you know she preferred pets and snuggles together, not just one or the other. When a yoga mat was put down on the floor, she saw it as an opportunity to get close and would try to fall asleep on your chest or in your lap.

Solo was an English Labrador Retriever (albeit a short one), and true to her breed, she never liked to be caught without her stuffed animal. When someone arrived, she'd quickly search the room for one of her many stuffies to show off. When it was time for the beach or a walk, she'd grab her stuffy and run for the van. "All packed and ready to go!" she seemed to be saying. When we adopted Solo, we thought she was twelve years old, and we decided a dog like her should not be in a shelter—we'd give her a good ending to her life. A few weeks later, after we grew suspicious of that age, we learned there had been a paperwork error and she was only eight. We were so grateful for those extra four years, and yet they were not nearly enough. Adopting Solo was like winning the lottery. Many dogs are wonderful, but Solo was truly beyond what one could expect from a mortal creature. When Solo left us, she left a huge hole in our lives, and yet I feel so grateful to have had four years in the presence of such an exceptional being.



Collaboration in Action: Spay & Neuter Saves Lives



This year, Animal Balance partnered with Pet Fix – Lake County for a bold and inspiring mission: to spay and neuter 1,000 owned dogs and cats over five weekends. Each weekend roughly 200 pets will be sterilized, an extraordinary achievement that directly reduces pet overpopulation.

Our own Lifesaving Programs Manager, Becca, proudly joined two of these weekends, so far, to lend her support and help our Lake County friends carry out this lifesaving work.

This effort is powered by multiple agencies: Pet Fix–Lake County is a volunteer-driven partnership with the SPCA of Lake County, Dogwood Animal Rescue Project, and the Clearlake Animal Association, all working hand in hand with the skilled veterinary team of Animal Balance and dozens of dedicated volunteers. Committing to five high-volume clinics before the first one even began was a leap of faith, but the results speak for themselves: 1,000 animals safely spayed or neutered and a stronger foundation for animal welfare in Lake County.



Access to low-cost, high-volume spay and neuter services is one of the most powerful tools we have to break the cycle of unwanted litters and shelter overcrowding. Every surgery performed means fewer animals entering shelters, fewer families faced with unplanned litters, and healthier pets living in their homes. This successful series of clinics highlights a critical truth—our communities need affordable, accessible spay/neuter options, and when those services are provided, people show up.

We are deeply grateful to our Lake County partners for bringing Animal Balance to the community and proving what is possible when organizations work together with determination and compassion. Their commitment is a shining example of how collaboration saves lives—not just today, but for years to come.

Wouldn't it be amazing to bring a program like this to Mendocino County?



A Foster Love Story: Lydia Finds Her Forever Home

Some adoptions feel meant to be from the start, even if it takes a little time for everyone to realize it. Derek and Janel have fostered many dogs for HSIMC, giving each one love, stability, and a safe place to grow. But when Lydia arrived from a difficult situation in Lake County, something was different.

With patience, doggie friends, and a caring family, Lydia blossomed in their home. Weeks turned into months, and still no adopter came forward. Then, during a work trip, Derek kissed Lydia on the forehead and whispered, “I hope you’re here when I get back.” In that quiet moment, Janel knew the truth—Lydia was already home.

Lydia’s adoption fee was generously sponsored by John Leonard, and in the spirit of giving, Derek and Janel paid it forward by sponsoring adoptions for Cherry, Xena, and Devan! They also donated to our behavior team to help other dogs find their perfect matches.

Stories like Lydia’s remind us that miracles happen every day at HSIMC. Whether you volunteer, foster, donate, or adopt, you’re part of the magic that gives animals their happily-ever-afters.



Kittens & Their Odds & Ends



Every kitten that comes through HSMC has a story, and some of them arrive with bigger challenges than most. This quarter, we want to share three tiny but mighty fighters who overcame tough beginnings and are now thriving.

Aphid came to us as a fragile little one, only 4–6 weeks old, with a severe corneal ulcer. He was placed in foster care to grow strong enough for eye surgery, but something miraculous happened along the way, his eye healed on its own! By the time he was big enough for surgery, it wasn't needed. Today, Aphid has been adopted and is living as a well-loved family member.



Jessie's story started in Clearlake, where he was found and brought to a feed store before being transferred to our care. He was missing one eye, battling a serious upper respiratory infection, and needed specialized help. Once healthy enough, Dr. BG performed surgery to remove the remnants of his damaged eye and close the socket. Now fully healed and adopted, Jessie is enjoying life as a happy, spoiled house cat.



Abby was one of nine kittens surrendered to us, but she stood out right away—at half a pound, she was barely half the size she should have been! During her intake exam, we discovered a large burst abscess on her paw. With antibiotics, wound care, and follow-up at East Hill Vet Clinic, Abby bounced back quickly. Today, she's a playful, thriving kitten who's found her family.

From eye surgeries to abscesses to miraculous healing, these kittens remind us of the resilience of animals and the lifesaving difference foster families, veterinary partners, and adopters make every single day.

El Hefe - Stronger Than Ever & Full of Love

When El Hefe arrived at HSMC, we quickly realized this little guy had more than his fair share of challenges. On intake, staff noticed he was walking on his hock with a severely injured rear leg. We didn't know the origin of the injury, but it was clear he was in pain. While waiting to see the vet, we started him on pain management and began the search for a foster home where he could recover.

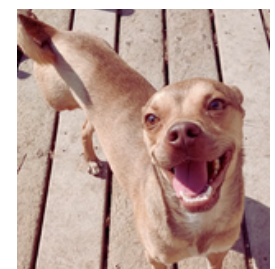
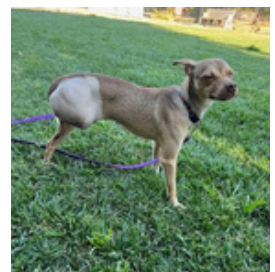
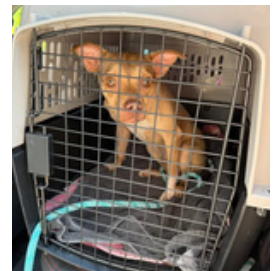
At Wasson Veterinary Clinic, Dr. Cannon determined that El Hefe's tendons were badly damaged and beyond repair. For his comfort and long-term well-being, the best option was to amputate his right rear leg. Though it wasn't the outcome we hoped for, we moved quickly so El Hefe wouldn't have to suffer any longer.

Thanks to your support, El Hefe underwent surgery and is now recovering in a loving foster home. And what a transformation! His foster shares:

"He has totally changed in the last 12 hours. He's following me outside to go potty, asking for pets, and he is the sweetest little boy. How can you not fall in love with him?"

El Hefe may have come from a difficult past, but his future is bright. He's adjusting to life on three legs, full of tail wags, sweet cuddles, and a new chance at happiness. What he needs now is a forever home where he can heal, thrive, and know the love he deserves and his adoption fee is fully sponsored by: Alex & Patty McMillen of ReMax!

Your donations made El Hefe's surgery possible, and your ongoing support ensures we can continue to say "yes" to animals with special medical needs!



Every Old Dog Deserves a Love Like This: Remembering John Wayne

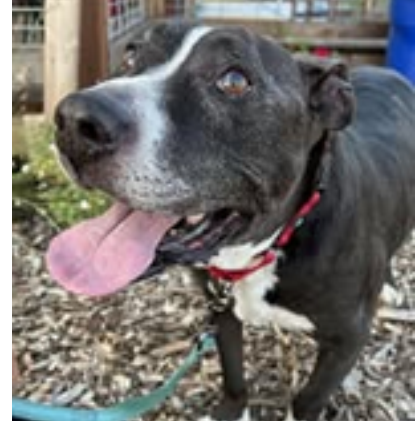


John Wayne earned his wings the afternoon of September 11, 2025.

Goodbyes are never easy, but it's an honor to celebrate a life so well loved.

John Wayne was a charming gentleman who wiggled his way into Carol's heart and home.

John Wayne spend his final years with Carol as a foster and then his final months on earth as an adopted dog, a dignified gentleman, who finally had the chance to know the kind of unconditional love that every dog deserves.



Thank you to East Hill Vet who helped Carol say goodbye to the one and only John Wayne. This decision was made thoughtfully, after old age had caught up to him and his quality of life was declining.

Big hugs to Carol and everyone who loved JW!

Thirteen Survivors: A Community Rallies for Rescue

A quiet morning at HSMC turned into an emergency. Staff arrived to find thirteen cats and kittens abandoned at the top of our driveway, crammed into a single rabbit cage. Left in the dark without food, water, or protection, these terrified cats and kittens faced cars, predators, and cold morning temperatures.

Caring for this many unexpected arrivals requires a lot of time and resources with many of the cats needing immediate medical attention for severe diarrhea and URI.

Leading the charge is Suzanne, our unshakable Animal Care Supervisor, who turned a chaotic week into a special needs mission. With a smile, bite gloves, PPE (and plenty of bending, stooping, and scrubbing), Suzanne and our dedicated cat team are working around the clock to medicate, clean, and comfort thirteen frightened newcomers who aren't quite ready to be touched. Kudos to our team for their time and patience to make medication and cleaning time as stress free as possible for this special group.

This year alone, we've already welcomed over 300 cats through our doors, and more arrive every week. We can only meet these challenges because our community of donors, volunteers, and animal advocates step up. Your gifts provide the food, medical care, and safe shelter that make rescues like this possible.

Please remember: if you ever face a situation where you can no longer care for an animal, reach out to us directly. Abandonment is never the answer. Together, we can give every cat and kitten a chance to thrive in a loving home.

Thank you to everyone who donated towards their care, we are starting to see some personalities come out and some are even asking for pets so we are hopeful they will all be feeling better soon!





Lend A Paw - Volunteer with HSIMC

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:

 First Thursday & Last Sunday of each month

 11:00 AM at the shelter

You will 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 volunteers come in! Your time helps ensure every dog and cat gets the love, enrichment, and care they deserve while they wait to find their home.

Whether it's walking dogs, socializing shy cats, helping with laundry, or lending a hand at events, our volunteers are the heartbeat of HSIMC. 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

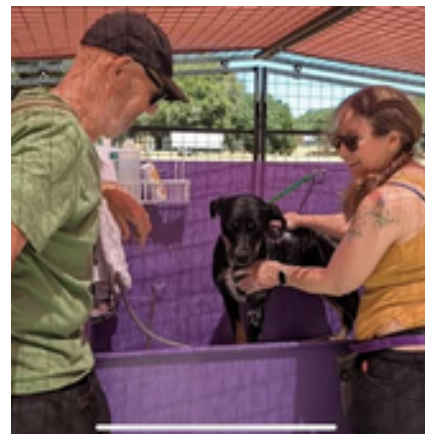
Kyla Iversen Brings Her Grooming Skills to Skillz Sunday

This quarter we're highlighting one of HSIMC's multitalented volunteers, Kyla Iversen, professional dog groomer, foster, and all-around animal advocate. Kyla recently wrapped up an engaging three-part Skillz Sunday Grooming Series, sharing her professional know-how with staff, volunteers, and community members.

The series kicked off with Part 1, where Kyla introduced the basics: everything from choosing the right brush and taming endless shedding to trimming tricky dew claws and understanding essential grooming tools like dremels, clippers, combs, and brushes. Part 2 took things deeper with tips on haircuts, allergy care, sanitary grooming, anal gland maintenance, and managing those pesky foxtails. Finally, Part 3 focused on Bathing, starting with a live demo and then inviting attendees to roll up their sleeves and help bathe as many onsite dogs as possible, with Kyla and fellow volunteer Joe Aplet guiding the way.

Each session blended expert instruction with hands-on learning, giving participants practical skills to keep pets healthy, comfortable, and looking their best. We're so grateful to Kyla for donating her time and talent to help our community learn and for making Skillz Sunday a fun, educational highlight of the season.

A shining example of how one volunteer's talent can ripple out to benefit countless animals.





Become A Foster Hero

Fostering is one of the most powerful ways to save lives at HSIMC. 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. HSIMC 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

Some foster families give love. Some give time.
Joe Aplet and Judy Johnson give it all.

Together, this remarkable mother-son team has opened their hearts and home to more than 40 dogs and puppies, offering comfort, training, and second chances to animals who need them most. Their current foster, a sweet senior named Creamer, is enjoying the kind of gentle care every older dog deserves while waiting for a forever family.

But fostering is just the beginning of the their impact. Joe is a true behind-the-scenes hero, pitching in wherever help is needed: repairing shelter carts, supporting our restaurant card program, attending board meetings to share ideas, and even hosting HSIMC at Jack & Noel's Pumpkin Patch each year for an adoption event that has become a community favorite. This holiday season, he's taking it one step further by running a wrapping paper fundraiser to help raise critical dollars for the animals in our care.

Joe and Judy embody everything HSIMC stands for: compassion, dedication, and community spirit. Their willingness to foster, fix, fundraise, and dream alongside us ensures that more cats and dogs find the loving homes they deserve. Thank you, Joe and Judy, for proving that when a family comes together for animals, incredible things happen.



Train Your Dog From Home With GoodPup!

We're excited to announce our partnership with the GoodPup dog training app—offering personalized, positive training you can access from home, on your schedule.

- 🐾 1 Week FREE — No obligation. Cancel anytime.
- 🐾 Lifetime Discount for HSMC adopters, fosters, staff & volunteers!



Use this code to get started:

👉 links.goodpup.com/shelter/MendocinoHS

Not an HSMC alum? You can still sign up here:

👉 links.goodpup.com/shelter/MendocinoHSTraining



GoodPup

We know how tough it can be to find local training help. GoodPup brings trusted trainers right to your screen—helping puppies become well-mannered companions, and even teaching old dogs new tricks!

Thank you, GoodPup, for supporting our community!

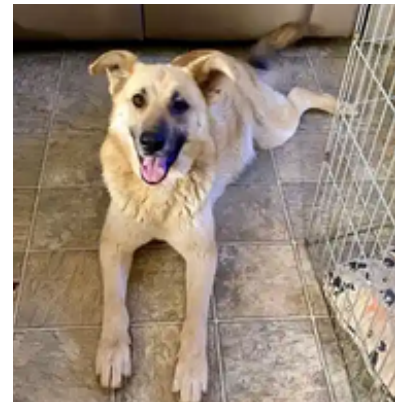
Adoptions by Pet Guardian: Free Rehoming Platform for Pets

HSMC 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 HSMC, 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>



Honey Love

HSMC's Pet Pantry: Keeping Pets in Homes



No one should have to choose between feeding themselves or their pet. That's why HSMC 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 HSMC 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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Hot Off the Press: Big Thanks to Creative Workshop



A great print job does more than put ink on paper—it brings stories to life. From producing our latest quarterly newsletter to creating polished Gala pamphlets, their team delivered work that was not only professional and eye-catching but also filled with care for the animals we serve.

What makes Creative Workshop so special isn't just their skill with design and printing—it's their heart. They treat every project as more than a job, understanding that each flyer, newsletter, and brochure helps an animal find a home or inspires someone to get involved.

To the entire team at Creative Workshop: thank you for your creativity, generosity, and unwavering support. Your commitment helps us reach more people, share more stories, and make a greater impact for the cats and dogs who need us most.

A great print job makes all the difference and Creative Workshop delivers every time.

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.

Community Partner Spotlight: The Mendocino Barkery



At HSIMC, we are fortunate to have incredible community partners who go the extra mile for animals in need and The Mendocino Barkery is one of those shining stars. This wonderful local business has taken on a special project to help our adoptable animals be seen by more people.

Their first feature was our own Hanky Panky, With his story shared on social media to connect him with potential adopters.

The Mendocino Barkery also opens their doors to HSIMC a couple of times a year to host adoption events at their store. These gatherings bring the community together, help showcase our adoptable pets in a welcoming setting, and always bring plenty of smiles. The next adoption event is scheduled for Saturday, November 8, 2025!

From promoting our animals online to welcoming us in person, The Mendocino Barkery is an amazing group, a great store, and a valued partner in our mission.

Thank you for standing with HSIMC and helping our animals get the spotlight they deserve!

Elia's Dedication Shines Bright at HSIMC

Talk about a super helper, Elia has been volunteering with HSIMC for nearly seven years, and we are so grateful for the time, energy, and dedication he pours into our shelter. From emergencies to everyday tasks, Elia shows up with a smile and a "can-do" attitude that lifts everyone around him.

Elia plays many critical roles at HSIMC. When the power goes down, he's the one setting up our generators to keep the vaccine fridge running, ensuring precious medications don't spoil. He's also our go-to for special projects, from installing security cameras to making sure the barn gets its protective plastic wrap in time to keep our dogs warm through those chilly nights.

Beyond maintenance, Elia makes life better for the animals living onsite. He has "rescued" countless dogs from overnight kennel stays by bringing them home in the evening, settling them into indoor crates, and returning them bright and early the next morning, giving them a warm, comfortable, and safe place to spend their night. You can see the anticipation from the dogs when he does his evening rounds to collect everyone, they know the drill and are so happy to go "home" for the night.

When it comes to events, he's right there too, most recently at Kritter Karnival, where he coordinated parking alongside one of our junior volunteers and the CCC crew, ensuring everything ran smoothly. He also mows and weed-whacks to keep our property looking nice and to keep those darn foxtails at bay.

Elia truly does it all from fostering, fixing, pitching in at events, and stepping up whenever and wherever he's needed most. His generosity of spirit and steady presence remind us what community looks like in action. Thank you, Elia, for seven years of service and unwavering support!



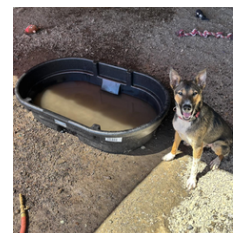
Keeping Pups Cool this Summer

Bungee and Bruh say THANK YOU to Christine C. for providing us with two more Rubbermaid troughs for our pups who are enthusiastic about enjoying pool time!



Sturdier than a regular kiddie pool, these tubs make the perfect place for our dogs to cool off on the hot days. Tractor Supply in Ukiah has them and we would love a few more for our young adult dogs to enjoy!

Got one you're not using? Donations can be dropped off anytime during open hours. Thanks for helping keep our pups cool and happy this summer!



Paws, Play, and Perfect Nails in Cloverdale

Our recent adoption event at DogGonit in Cloverdale was a tail-wagging success! Hosted by the wonderful Glory and her team, the day was filled with happy pups, friendly faces, and plenty of opportunities for our adoptable dogs to shine. Two of our stars, Ella and Edie, even found their forever families on the spot, while Janko and Cherry charmed the crowd and gained valuable exposure for future adoptions.

Adding to the fun, professional groomers Kyla Iversen and Destiny Salinas offered drop-in nail trims with all proceeds benefiting HSMC. Their low-stress, fear-free approach kept tails wagging while helping pets look and feel their best. The trims were a big hit, with a steady stream of dogs stopping by for a quick pampering session.

A huge thank-you to Kyla for leading the event, and to Teresa, Destiny, Kathie, Machiko, and Jessica for lending their time and energy. We're also grateful to everyone who came out to show their support including HSMC alum Lydia, who reminded us how wonderful adoption success stories can be. Days like these show how much our community can accomplish when we come together for the animals we love.



Yoga in the Park Raises Funds for HSMC



This August, Flourish & Flow Mendo hosted a month of Yoga in the Park classes in Willits, turning Sunday mornings into a celebration of movement and compassion. Each donation-based session brought the community together to stretch, breathe, and support HSMC, raising over \$500 for the animals in our care!

Flourish & Flow also collected pet food, toys, and supplies through an August Donation Drive, adding even more love to the effort. Thank you to everyone who showed up, gave generously, and helped make a difference—one downward dog at a time!



Sip, Savor, and Support: Vin de Paws Is Here!



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.

Every bottle sold directly benefits local animal shelters in Mendocino and Sonoma Counties, including HSMC. Whether you're stocking up for the holidays or looking for the perfect gift, each pour supports lifesaving work.

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, Eddie Alexander, Mary Anne Trevey, Gabriela Frank, Nicole McDonald, Luisa Solomon, Gold Coast Equine, Marybeth Kelly, Shirlie March, Adolph & Gayle Wagner, B.A.S. Roofing Inc., Nadine Johns, Mendo Mill, Lauri Karaglanis, Julie Knudsen, Jeannie Morawski, Weaselbear Holdings, LLC, The Hebrard Family Rev. Trust, Bobbi Kelley-Ryan, Jonelle and Dana Mize, Robert & Patricia Morgan, Michelle Fetzer, Aaron Manning, Denise Van Wyhe, Sandra Bartolomei, Julie Golden, Angie McCartney

Donations Made in Honor of People and Pets

Miika, Tylen Johnson

Donations Made in Memory of People and Pets

Barbara Noyes, Venice the Cat, Bailey, Tashi, Donna Van Wyhe, Donald Roy Pickman,

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

LETTER FROM HSIMC'S BOARD PRESIDENT

As the “dog days of summer” settle in, life for many slows down. Families take long-awaited vacations, school is out, and routines shift. Unfortunately, during this time, donations to our shelter often dry up - just when our needs are at their peak. Here at the Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County (HSIMC), the work never slows down. Our dedicated team of staff and volunteers is on duty 24/7, caring for animals who depend on us for food, shelter, medical treatment, and, most importantly, the chance at a loving home.

Summer heat brings extra challenges. The hot days take a toll not only on the dogs and cats in our care, but also on the hardworking staff and volunteers who keep them safe, cool, and comfortable. Kennels need extra cleaning, fans and cooling systems must run constantly, and more water, supplies, and medical attention are needed.

But none of this is possible without you. Your generosity is the lifeline that makes it possible for us to continue this work day in and day out. Every gift, large or small, helps us provide relief and hope for the animals who have nowhere else to turn. As we push through these dog days of summer, I ask you to please consider making a donation today. Your support will ensure that the Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County can keep its doors open, its kennels cool, and its animals cared for with love.

Q3 - A Fun Quarter of Events

We kicked off the quarter by launching our 2026 Calendar Contest. 13 lucky pets found their way into the calendar next year and we raised over \$12,000 in submissions and votes! Such great participation and wrangling last minute votes to keep your favorite in the top 13!

A huge thank you to our amazing community sponsors: Schat's Bakeries & Cafe for providing \$25 gift cards for each of our 13 calendar winners! And Beachcomber Motel, Six Sigma Winery, and The Skunk Train for generously gifting bonus prizes to our Top 3 winners! Calendars are now headed into production and will be available for purchase at HSIMC soon—stay tuned for updates!

Flourish & Flow Mendo Wellness Studio donated all of the proceeds from their Sunday Yoga in the Park in Willits for the month of August for a total amount of \$550 and a bucket full of supplies! Thank you to studio owner, Erin Corley, for supporting HSIMC!

September 20th found us at DogGonit Pets supply store in Cloverdale! What a really fun event with lots of attention, especially toward the adorable “E” litter puppies who decided to join us! Thank you, Glory, for hosting us and helping to get our message out in Sonoma County.

And just before we went to publication for the newsletter, we held our Kritter Karnival and Volunteer Appreciation Event on September 28th at HSIMC! We decided to combine these two events this year and show appreciation for our entire community. Thank you to B.A.S. Roofing for their sponsorship! Games, 4H petting zoo, jumpy house, dunk tank, and an amazing taco bar welcomed our guests to a fun in the sun day! Everyone who attended had a great time and we can't wait to see pictures!

Q4 - HSIMC Will be All Over the County

10/4 - Willits Harvest Fest

10/11 - Texas Hold-Em Poker Tournament at SpareTime Supply in Willits

10/18 - Ukiah Pumpkin Fest

10/25 - Jack & Noel's Pumpkin Patch & Pumpkin Decorating Contest!

(bring your decorated pumpkin to the event for judging!)

TBA NorthSpur Brewery in Willits for a “Hoppy Tails IPA” beer launch, and of course, our always successful Holiday Wreath Fundraiser. Keep your eyes on our website <https://mendohumanesociety.com> and our Facebook page

facebook.com/humanesociety.inlandmendocino/ for ways you can volunteer and support our fundraising goals!

Together, we can turn these long, hot days into brighter tomorrows for the dogs and cats who need us most.

With gratitude,

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



YTD Shelter Stats: January - September 2025

HELP US KEEP THE MOMENTUM GOING:

These numbers show the real impact of your support—but the work isn't over. With shelters at capacity and community needs growing, we rely on people like you to keep the progress going.
Adopt, donate, volunteer—every action adds up to a lifesaving difference.

2025 Intakes Breakdown		
<u>Intake Totals:</u> Dogs: 228 Cats: 407	<u>Owner Surrender:</u> Dogs: 85 Cats: 243 <u>Adoption Return:</u> Dogs: 9 Cats: 7	<u>Rescue Transfer In:</u> Dogs: 101 Cats: 22 <u>Born In Care:</u> Dogs: 0 Cats: 11
<u>Stray:</u> Dogs: 33 Cats: 75	<u>Feral:</u> Dogs: 0 Cats: 49	<u>Service In:</u> Dogs: 0 Cats: 0
2025 Outcomes Breakdown		
<u>Outcome Totals:</u> Dogs: 210 Cats: 383	<u>Return to Owner</u> Dogs: 6 Cats: 2	<u>Rescue Transfer Out</u> Dogs: 0 Cats: 23
<u>Adoption:</u> Dogs: 198 Cats: 346	<u>Field / Wildlife Release:</u> Dogs: 0 Cats: 1	<u>Death:</u> Dogs: Cats: -Died in care: 0 : 9 -Euthanized: 6 : 2 -Lost: 0 : 0

Wishlist's: Support Through Supplies

Did you know HSMC has Wishlist's 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





Raise the Stakes, Help the Paws!

Get ready for an evening of cards, camaraderie, and compassion at our Texas Hold 'Em Tournament, proudly presented by HSIMC and Sparetime Supply. Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 11, 2025 at 300 E. Commercial Street in Willits—where every hand played helps save lives.

- Poker starts at 5:00 PM
- Dinner served at 7:00 PM
- \$60 Buy-In (includes dinner & one drink ticket)
- \$40 Add-On | \$50 Re-Buys
- Additional dinner and drink tickets available for purchase

Whether you're a seasoned player or just in it for the fun, your participation directly supports the dogs and cats of HSIMC. Bring your poker face, your appetite, and your heart for animals—because when we play together, everyone wins.



Pumpkins, Paws & Perfect Matches!

We're thrilled to be part of the fall fun at Jack & Noel's Pumpkin Patch located at 9526 Laughlin Way, Redwood Valley!

On Saturday, October 25th, HSIMC will have a booth onsite with some of our adoptable dogs looking for their forever families.

Come enjoy all the autumn festivities—choose your own pumpkins, get lost in the corn maze, ride the hay wagon, try gem mining, play seasonal games, and sip on handmade lemonade. While you're there, stop by our booth to meet adoptable pets, learn about fostering and volunteering, and maybe even find your new best friend.

Pumpkin Contest Fun: Bring a carved or painted pumpkin to enter our friendly competition! Winners will be announced Sunday afternoon, and prizes will be awarded for the most creative entries—so show off your spooky (or silly!) skills.

Fall fun + furry friends + festive pumpkins = the perfect way to celebrate the season. Join us at the Pumpkin Patch and help us give every pet a chance to go home for the holidays!



Beyond the Kennels: Meeting the Needs of People & Pets

We know you've heard it before. Shelters across the country are full, resources are stretched thin, and communities are feeling the strain. These challenges have not gone away, but at HSMC we are not letting them define us. Instead, we are working to bridge the gap between community needs and available support by building programs that keep pets where they belong: in homes, with the people who love them.

This quarter, we are highlighting the community-focused services that are making a real difference for animals outside the shelter walls. Since January 2024, our Pet Food Pantry has provided food and supplies to over 600 animals, helping families through hard times without having to say goodbye to their pets. Nobody should have to choose between feeding themselves and feeding their pet. With demand continuing to grow, we have launched a Pet Food Pantry Campaign to ensure our shelves stay stocked. Thanks to Sparetime Supply, we now have a designated shipping container for storage, but we need your help to complete the setup with proper shelving and ventilation. We are currently looking for someone who can install ventilation fans in the container before we begin using the space. Please reach out if you can help!

Another key support system is our Adoptions by Pet Guardian (ABPG) program, which allows pet owners to plan ahead and ensure their animals have a safe future. Whether it is due to age, health, or life changes, ABPG offers peace of mind by helping community members rehome their pets safely, without surrendering them to the shelter as the only option. It is a program rooted in compassion and preparation, and it has already proven its value in keeping pets out of the shelter system and in loving homes. Since its inception, we have had just over 300 dogs and cats posted through ABPG. Many have been rehomed directly, some families chose to keep their pets, and others found placement through local rescue organizations, including HSMC. Any pet going from home to home instead of entering a shelter is a win.

In addition, we've expanded our Post-Adoption Support offerings. Through partnerships with GoodPup, Free Dog Trainers, and other resources, we are making dog training more accessible, which is especially important in our rural region where hands-on help can be hard to find. Whether it is helping a newly adopted puppy get a good start or supporting a long-time family dog with behavior changes, we are committed to giving pet guardians the tools they need to succeed. You can explore these training tools and more at mendohumanesociety.com/post-adoption-support.

We have also been inspired by the work of Pet Fix – Lake County, who recently partnered with Animal Balance and a coalition of local rescues to spay and neuter 1,000 owned pets over the course of five weekends. Each weekend, approximately 200 dogs and cats were sterilized, preventing thousands of future litters. This kind of large-scale, low-cost, high-volume access is exactly what communities like ours need to address pet overpopulation. Thanks to the dedication of Pet Fix and their partners, Lake County families had affordable options, and their success proves that when services are available, people show up. Wouldn't it be amazing to bring a program like this to Mendocino County? We hope to rally supporters, start conversations, and explore how we can help make it happen here at home.

At HSMC, we are committed to doing more than sheltering. We are working to build a community safety net. And as we continue to grow, we want to hear from you. What else would help our community and its pets? We are a small but resilient team, always open to new ideas and collaborations. Email me directly at director@hsmc.org to share your thoughts. Together, we are not just responding to crisis. We are creating solutions.

Thank you for reading our stories and joining us on this Lifesaving mission.
You make this work possible, thank you for being a HERO for the animals!

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.
