Writing this annual Director’s Statement is always a great opportunity to reflect on the past year’s successes as well as an opportunity to look forward to opportunities to improve in the coming year. Our Second Chance Adoption Center and the Humane Society of Manatee County Veterinary Clinic continue to evolve and expand programs and services to meet the changing needs of our community. The Humane Society of Manatee County staff, volunteers, and Board of Directors are committed to growing our mission-based services and are eternally grateful for the generosity of supporters, donors, and the community.

More than five hundred (500) cats and dogs received their deserved “second chance” and are now family members thanks to our amazing shelter staff and volunteers. We are excited moving forward to announce major improvements in our shelter which will include an adoption lobby renovation, the replacement of all original chain link kennels with new updated kennels, and the addition of three (3) outdoor prefab kennel structures that will have electric and air conditioning. New shelter software is in place to enhance and better document the medical needs of our shelter animals and new animal behavioral programming is being developed and introduced to staff and volunteers. We remain committed to providing a safe and nurturing experience for the shelter animals.

The Humane Society of Manatee County Veterinary Clinic continues to provide high quality, low-to-moderate cost veterinary care for our community’s animals as well as low cost / no cost veterinary care for financially challenged clients. Congratulations to our HSMC Wellness Director, Dr. Lindsay Rollend, who received Board Certification in Veterinary Preventative Medicine this year. Our TNR program for feral / community cats continues to grow and helps ensure that population control continues as well as the administering of vaccinations to help maintain healthy cat populations. In the past year, we were able to successfully transfer more than one hundred (100) cats from the TNR program into our adoption program, placing them in their new homes.

Our Board of Directors continues planning for the future and will soon be working on developing our next three (3) year Strategic Plan. This year’s board officers are Tom Grier, President; Lisa Hess, Vice President; Lorraine Sarnowski, Secretary and Michael Dinsmore, Treasurer.

Our community’s animals quality of life has and will continue to be our primary focus as we plan for the future. Our focus will remain on improving all of our mission-based services and programming. In closing, I want again to say thank you to all who support our work on behalf of the animals and a huge thank you to our amazing staff and team of volunteers.

Stay tuned, follow us on Facebook or sign up for our eblasts... more great things are in the works in our current fiscal year because of your support

Rick Yocum, CNE
Executive Director
CLINIC SERVICES IN 2022-23

Spay & Neuter Surgery
5,616
Cats/Kittens - 3,483
Dogs/Puppies - 2,183

X-Rays
92

TNR Surgeries
1,263

Heartworm Tests
3,613

Wellness Patients
4,412

Microchips
1,625

Dentals
446
Dogs - 379
Cats - 67

Vaccines Given
14,995
2022-23 Adoptions
Cats/Kittens - 342
Dogs/Puppies - 170

Pet Food Provided
12,000 lbs.

INTAKE
Dogs - 168
Cats - 321

Average Length
of Stay
38.5 Days

Volunteer Hours
6,678

Lisa Zalewski
Shelter Manager

Merlin has an awesome new dad after 578 days in the shelter

Alexa found her new mom after waiting 333 days

Jezzi has been waiting for a new family for almost one year
MEET THE BOARD

Tom Grier, President
Lisa Hess, Vice President
Lorraine Sarnowski, Secretary
Michael Dinsmore, Treasurer

At Large Members:
Andy Churchill  Michael Maddaloni
Ken Clark  Jane Pfeilsticker
Henry Kiel

LEGACY DONORS

Our legacy donors are made up of special friends who wish to leave a legacy of their love for animals by including HSMC in their estate plans.

Joan Aghazarian  Emily Hook  Cindy Pierro
Susan Anderson  Mary Howard  C.E. Poole
Joyce Baak  Patricia Johannesen  William Rigoulot
Marjorie Baker  Melvin Jones  Carlotta Rohrbach
Linda Bakonyi  Michael Kelley  Elsie Seese
David Berry  Carole Kirouac  Donald Silvey
Mary Blanton  Angus Kosik  Allan Stahle
Mary Carey  Rose Marie Lanzisera  Lynn Stevens
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Jo Downing  Barbara Miller
Richard Eppinga  Sharon Mills
Rolf Ernst
Marc Morrow
Kris and David Ezell
Miriam Folmer
Arthur Gorman
Donald Griffin
William High
James Hook

If you have included us in your estate plans or would like more information, we’d love to hear from you. Please contact Valerie Bliss at 941-747-8808 x 310 or email her at: valerie@humanemanatee.org
SAVING LIVES
FOUR PAWS AT A TIME!

**Bubba** - On a hot day in August, staff came to work and was met by a bulldog stuffed into a crate sitting in its feces. His feet were red and swollen and he couldn’t walk as he was removed from the crate. His eyes were full of discharge, he had two cherry eyes and it was obvious he was malnourished. There were wounds on his back and his skin was raw. The dog we named Bubba had serious issues but still managed to wiggle his little nub and make everyone laugh. After months of medical care, Bubba is now ready for a family familiar with the joys and challenges of owning a bulldog.

**Ezekiel** - This precious little kitten was brought to the HSMC medical clinic by a Good Samaritan who found him while trapping cats for the trap/neuter/return program. He weighed in at one lb. and could barely breathe. Every time he struggled and took a breath his stomach filled with air, and he had to be burped like a baby. Little Ezekiel was being fostered by one of our vet techs, who cared for him day and night. His nasal swelling would not subside and he had a respiratory infection but even with antibiotics he still couldn’t breathe or eat normally. Although hesitant to sedate Ezekiel because of his size, our veterinarian had no choice but to try and relieve his discomfort. Much to her surprise, there was a botfly stuck in his nose! Once it was removed, the tiny kitten thrived and soon was ready for adoption. Ezekiel now has a loving home, where no insect will hurt him again.

**Glinda** - is just one example of the successful adoptions that occurred last year through the Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) program through our partnership with Gulf Shore Animal League. When a cat or kittens are trapped and brought to the HSMC Veterinary Clinic to be spayed or neutered, an assessment is done to determine whether they are truly feral or were someone’s pet who was abandoned or lost. More than one hundred (100) cats were adopted to new loving homes rather than being released back into the wild. This is a win/win situation for all involved and we are proud to be part of giving these cats a second chance to be loved.
PAWS IN MOTION IS BACK!

Save the date!
Saturday, March 16th 2024
452 3rd Ave. West | Bradenton Riverwalk @ Rossi Park

• EXCITING LURE COURSE
• FUN PRIZES
• GREAT MUSIC
• VENDOR VILLAGE
• GOODY BAGS & MORE!

Register to walk or start your FUNDRAISING team today!

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