



# HSSC

THE HUMANE SOCIETY  
OF SARASOTA COUNTY

2016 FALL NEWSLETTER

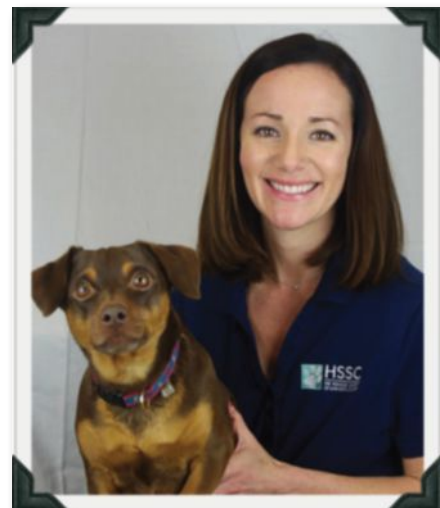


# FUR THE RECORD

SPECIAL EDITION:  
2015 ANNUAL REPORT

# A Note

from our  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



## OUR MISSION

The Humane Society of Sarasota County provides abandoned pets with compassionate care and shelter while promoting responsible pet ownership and securing permanent homes.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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*President*

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Selecting what to include in this newsletter is always challenging – we have so many wonderful stories and “happy tails” to share. However, for this special edition “2015 Annual Report,” we want you to see the total effect of your support in 2015 – and how those results set the tone for 2016.

You helped 1,441 homeless pets find homes last year. We are on track to complete 1,600 adoptions this year. You took advantage of our community outreach programs, and that spurred us to open a low-cost, full-service Animal Clinic that’s open to the public.

As the area’s largest no-kill shelter, we feel a responsibility to keep finding new ways to help more animals and more people in our community. We cannot move forward without reflecting on where we’ve been. 2015 was a tremendous year for HSSC, and 2016 is proving to be even better.

We know you have many choices of organizations to support, and we take your investment in HSSC very seriously. That’s why we are so proud of our 4-Star Rating from Charity Navigator. As you’ll read about in this issue, a 4-Star Rating is only achieved by organizations that can objectively prove their worth. This rating is the product of many years of hard work, and we are committed to maintaining it.

We are honored to have your trust and support.

Sincerely,

Christen Benson  
Executive Director

**CONTACT Us**

The Humane Society of Sarasota County  
2331 15th Street | Sarasota, FL 34237  
941.955.4131 | [hssc.org](http://hssc.org)



# 1,441 ADOPTIONS IN 2015

Every animal coming through the doors of the Humane Society of Sarasota County deserves a second chance. We pride ourselves on being the area's largest no-kill shelter, giving homeless pets a second (and sometimes a third or fourth) chance at a new life.

Pets up for adoption at HSSC have no time limit. Our staff and volunteers work tirelessly to find them homes. Animals are profiled on our website and featured in traditional and social media outlets to reach potential adopters. They are provided enrichment and loving care for as long as they stay with us.

#### Thanks to your support, 2015 was a remarkable year for saving animals:

- 1,441 animals were placed in loving homes.
- 1,517 animals entered HSSC – an average of 6 animals every day we were open.

#### We expanded our partnerships with other animal service organizations:

- 1,272 animals were transported to HSSC from other shelters.
- 787 of those animals came from high-kill shelters in Florida.

## Happy Tails ADOPTION SUCCESS STORIES

We are so grateful for all the wonderful folks in our community who chose to adopt and not shop! We want to hear from you! To submit your happy tail, send an e-mail with your favorite picture to [happytails@hssc.org](mailto:happytails@hssc.org)

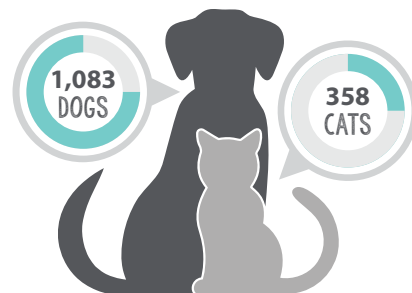
**“KarMa (formerly Myra) came from a high-kill shelter in Miami. She stayed at HSSC for many weeks. She was very quiet and depressed. She didn’t wag her tail much or show a lot of excitement, until we made her a part of our family. She’s very loyal and obedient. You could say she’s the perfect friend!” --Karen & Mark**

**“Jupiter was waiting for me to find her...and I did! I knew instantly that she was a perfect fit for my family. Jupiter has found her forever home.” --Marlene**

**“I love Duke, and he will be with me until the end. Thank you for giving him a chance!”  
--Randy**



NUMBER OF  
FUR-EVER HOMES  
FOUND IN 2015



ANIMALS TRANSPORTED  
FROM HIGH-KILL FLORIDA  
SHELTERS WHO WOULD  
HAVE OTHERWISE  
BEEN EUTHANIZED

KARMA



# 991 VETERINARY SERVICES

50

HEALED SHELTER PETS  
THROUGH LIFE-SAVING  
MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR  
HEARTWORM DISEASE

Many of the animals coming to the Humane Society of Sarasota County have health concerns, some we can see and some we cannot. The stress of staying in a shelter – the unfamiliar environment, the noises, the smells – can compromise an animal's health. Our skilled veterinary staff gives every animal a thorough examination that includes heartworm testing for dogs, dental evaluations, vaccinations, spay/neuter, and microchip before adoption.

## Thanks to your support, animals leaving HSSC were given the best start possible in 2015:

- Performed a total of 991 surgeries, including 869 spay/neuter surgeries and more than 100 dentals.
- HSSC is one of the only shelters in the area to treat heartworm-positive dogs – the treatment process is expensive and takes several weeks, but we believe these dogs deserve a second chance.
- 95% live release rate. Animals are only euthanized when there are severe medical or behavioral issues. No animal is ever euthanized to make room for another.

In February 2016, we opened the Animal Clinic of the Humane Society of Sarasota County to bring quality, affordable veterinary services to owned animals in our community.

MASON



Mason was adopted as a puppy from HSSC but was returned seven years later by his owner. He was thin, had ringworm, and was heartworm positive. We were able to give Mason the love and medical care he desperately needed. After a lengthy recovery, he was adopted into a wonderful family with four children.

# 14,000 VOLUNTEER HOURS

Volunteers are indispensable to the operations of the Humane Society of Sarasota County. With their help, we are able to care for many more animals than we could with staff alone.

Volunteers provide essential support in animal care and training/enrichment; they help keep the shelter clean; they act as matchmakers for adoptable animals and potential adopters; they handle animals at adoption events; they foster the most vulnerable animals; and so much more. We simply could not survive without them.

## Thanks to our volunteers, in 2015:

- Volunteers put in more than 14,000 hours of service – that's equivalent to 6.5 full-time employees!

THANK YOU



# Community Outreach

## HUMANE EDUCATION

The Humane Society of Sarasota County's Education Program places emphasis on promoting humane education throughout the community. Humane education is the teaching of compassion and respect as related to animal welfare. Humane education helps build empathy. The HSSC Humane Education Program uses the principles of the human/animal bond to provide enriching, fun lessons for children and adults.

### Thanks to your support, in 2015:

- 94 children participated in HSSC's Teen Club and "Fur Fun" Summer Camps.
- Children enjoyed reading "fur fun" – practicing their reading skills on our canine listeners.

## EVENTS & PROGRAMS

Nearly every weekend, the Humane Society of Sarasota County is out in the community with adoptable pets and our Mobile Adoption Center ("Big MAC"). In 2015, HSSC participated in 45 events.

### These are just a few of the events you attended:

- Paws on the Catwalk Luncheon
- Hot Dogs & Cool Cats - Laugh Your Paws Off Gala
- "Adopt While You Shop" at Westfield Sarasota
- Tommy Bahama Dog Days of Summer
- Ron Gordon's Humane Society Golf Tournament

### HSSC also served the community by offering:

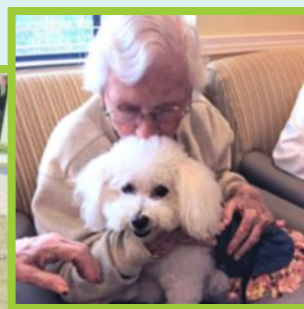
- A weekly pet food pantry
- Affordable K-9 behavior training classes



NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO TOOK PART IN OUR SUMMER CAMP & TEEN CLUB



## PET THERAPY



The Humane Society of Sarasota County's Pet Therapy Program began in 1992. After a short hiatus, the Pet Therapy Program was reinstated in 2015. We connect certified pet therapy volunteer teams with area nursing homes, assisted living facilities, social service agencies, schools, and libraries.



NUMBER OF COMMUNITY AND SPECIAL EVENTS HELD IN 2015



NUMBER OF YEARS DEDICATED TO SERVICING THE ANIMAL WELFARE NEEDS OF SARASOTA COUNTY



POUNDS OF PET FOOD GIVEN TO 350 FAMILIES IN NEED THROUGH OUR PET PANTRY PROGRAM



# Financials

## 2015 FISCAL YEAR

### REVENUE

Donations	\$635,130	37%
Bequests	\$483,094	28%
Program Services	\$199,082	12%
Other*	\$177,545	10%
Special Events	\$171,452	10%
Retail	\$26,984	2%
Grants	\$25,000	1%

<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$1,718,287</b>	<b>100%</b>
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\*Includes Interest, Gains/Losses, and Miscellaneous Income

### EXPENSES

Program Services	\$1,274,904	86%
<i>Kennel</i>	<i>\$651,226</i>	<i>51%</i>
<i>Community Outreach</i>	<i>\$284,002</i>	<i>22%</i>
<i>Adoption</i>	<i>\$268,211</i>	<i>21%</i>
<i>Clinic</i>	<i>\$71,465</i>	<i>6%</i>
Development	\$122,566	8%
General & Administrative	\$92,029	6%

<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,489,499</b>	<b>100%</b>
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### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of 12/31/15

Cash Assets	\$659,190
Investments	\$8,796,039
Fixes Assets & Other Assets	\$2,631,756

<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$12,086,985</b>
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Total Liabilities	\$112,323
Total Net Assets	\$11,974,662

<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>	<b>\$12,086,985</b>
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Visit [www.hssc.org](http://www.hssc.org) for the complete Audited Financial Statements



PEANUT



PERCY

In 2015,  
HSSC's average  
operating cost  
was \$4,080  
per day.



# Memorials & HONORARIUMS

## IN MEMORY OF PERSON

### **Ada Warren**

Judith & Harris Stravitz

### **Alice Spears**

Kevin McDonnell

### **Ben Reinhardt**

Toni Werner

### **Bruce Wallace**

OHP 5, LLC

### **Bud Goldstein**

Stanford H. & Rona Ross

### **Charles O'Grady**

Rosemarie Bender

### **Corinne Cooper**

Amy Glasgow

Barbara McKown

Charles W. Bauknight

Christine E. Batchelor

Estelle & Charles Holmes

Henry P. Trawick

Jacqueline S. Boucher

Karen & Patrick Diffley

Kathryn & Richard Stern

Michael Hils

Newby Management

Tina Rood-Crawford

### **Cory Kurvin**

Leslie A. Hamel

### **Daniel A. Gobic**

Barbara & Gregg Kaplan

Darlene & Elizabeth LaForge

Jessica Chmiel

Mary & Earnest Runco

Mr. & Mrs. David Runco

Mr. & Mrs. John Semczuk

Pat Boyer

Paul Marquis

Richard Cecco

Victoria & Ernesto Runco

### **Dino Charters**

Anne Kircher

Diane & Mark Horn

Linda & Larry Ingham

### **Donna Marie Miller**

Karen & Jim Stark

### **Elizabeth (Peg) Flannigan**

Elizabeth Zelias

### **Elizabeth Ann Siedsoma**

Frances Pellizzari

### **Fitz May**

Deborah Simmons

### **Fred Hintz**

Linda Seitz

### **Gerlinde Smith's Mother**

Cathy Layton

### **Gordon Neale**

Marsha Shuford

### **Harold R. Williams**

Virginia C. Braune

### **John J. Williams, IV**

Carol L. Lyons

Dawn A. Allen

Suncoast Communities Blood Bank, Inc.

Wilma McCarthy & Teresa Rafalfo

### **Jack Schultz**

Linda Booth

Stephanie & Jim Letchinger

### **Jennifer Yontz Little**

Rosemary Maglio

### **Joan Resker**

Cheryl & Jim Winterhalter

Deborah Poff

Donald Kettl

Joan Van Vlaenderen

Kathleen Balchin

Robin White

### **Joe Casole, Jr.**

Heather Maxwell

### **Joe Williams**

Shirley R. Miller

### **Joseph Casole**

Margaret & Ronald Barger

Sharon & Mark Serravalle

### **Kent Pershing**

Kristin Decker

### **Kent Reedy Falter**

Lawrence V. Leapley

### **Laura Harris**

Doris & James Goese

### **Leslie Shelley**

Gail & Gordon MacPhail

Mary V. Fox

### **Linda "Britt" Alton**

Donna & Michael Pachota

### **Lois Sanders**

Nancy A. Romine

### **Loraine Holak**

Lisa Holak

### **Margaret Havlena**

John Holak

### **Marsha Abel**

Stanford H. & Rona Ross

### **Mary Jane Bohley**

Marily Hubbard

### **Mary Serkland**

Kathy Buhta

Marilyn C. Meyer

### **MaryEllen Sterling**

Kathleen Lehner

### **Neal Gray**

Oakwood Manor HOA of Sarasota

### **Ralf Rischer**

Patricia Garrett

### **Sally LaDage Scarce**

Pamela & Jerry Logue

### **Sandy Martin**

Ardys I. Thompson

### **Susan Niki Willott**

Lisa & James Willott

### **Sylvia Gray**

Charlotte & Tim Nault

### **Thomas Creel**

Stanford H. & Rona Ross

### **Thomas Salamone**

Margretta E. Murphy

### **Virginia A. Hogan**

Diane Shupp

### **Wanda & Joe Muhlbe**

Jeanne & David Omelia

### **William Gismondi**

Sylvia & Roger Rainville

## IN MEMORY OF PET

### **Abby**

Diane Schmidt

Jane Hottinger

### **B.B. Campbell**

Josephine K. Learned

### **Bosco Reinbold**

Terry Grant

### **Bosley**

Josephine K. Learned

### **Brady Jalwan**

Andrew Jalwan

### **Dickens**

Wendy Palto

### **Falstaff**

Stanford H. & Rona Ross

### **Flagler**

Joshua Green

### **Frankie**

Virginia & Paul Primamore

### **Freddie**

Jeannie Bulifant

### **Kahlua**

Chris Miller

### **Lilly**

Diane Lambrix

### **Max**

Jason Hinson

### **Mimi**

Molly Schechter

### **Monty**

Lynn & Vincent Billi

### **Mr. Brown**

Lucy Orihuel

### **Penny**

Barbara Borkan

### **Ralphie the Wonder Dog**

Linda Brucksieker

### **Rocky**

Linda Hoffberger

### **Sal**

Jonathan Ebner

### **Scooby Doo Schauwecker**

Sue & Tom Kaiser

### **Shadow**

Linda L. McCorkle

### **Stella Fisk**

Lorayne & Brian Walsh

### **Tigger**

Michelle Boss

### **Toby & Molly**

Laura Harto

### **Tucker**

Larry Kabinoff

### **Tucker Ballantine**

Robert Collins

### **Willy Dubin**

Barbara & Larry Haber

## IN HONOR OF PERSON

### **Andrew Shannon's Birthday**

Josephine K. Learned

### **Bailey Jane Saslow**

Barbara & Jeffrey Duncan

### **Charles Baumann**

Dottie Rutledge

### **Cheryl Engle's Birthday**

Josephine K. Learned

### **Don Bailey**

Dottie Rutledge

### **Dr. Stephen Romero & Staff**

Beth Leslie

### **Emme's 9th Birthday**

Enid & Jerry Wildman

### **Graham Edwards**

Carrol Jacobs

### **Harry Shannon's Birthday**

Josephine K. Learned

### **Jehuda Fisher's 80th Birthday**

Susan Dauphinee

### **Jock's Birthday**

Mark Earnhardt

### **Jon Shannon's Birthday**

Josephine K. Learned

### **Judy Hall's 40th Birthday**

Suzie & Arnie Moschin

### **Kelley Nathan's Birthday**

Patricia Hughes

### **Larry Opdahl**

Rick Belisle

### **Lee Shannon's Birthday**

Josephine K. Learned

### **Lora's 11th Birthday**

Alison & Joseph Rini

### **Marcia Kagan's 70th Birthday**

Beverly Nadler

Marianne Piro

Sue & Tom Kaiser

### **Melliss Morris, Chubb Insurance**

Dottie Rutledge

### **Michael Corley**

Dottie Rutledge

### **Mike & Kristin's Anniversary**

Helen L. Dilley

### **Nicholas & RoseMarie**

### **Generalovich**

Rosie & Brian Generalovich

### **Richard & Maureen Senecal's**

### **50th Wedding Anniversary**

Michael Nemser

### **Rob Lane**

Dottie Rutledge

### **Ruth & Diane Henderson**

Kathleen Decko

Matthew Stacy

### **Susie Bowie**

Dottie Rutledge

### **Val Lucas's 60th Birthday**

Donna Chronic

### **Vickie Grosvenor**

Marie & Ronald Gaffney

### **Wedding of Sara Lentz &**

### **Shairah Levine**

Suzie & Arnie Moschin

## IN HONOR OF PET

### **Emmie**

Gail Fegan

### **Frankie O'Grady**

Jennifer & John McDermott

### **Maggie**

Perry Dunmore

### **Marjorie Morgan's Cat**

Melliss K. Swenson

### **Sunny**

Dianne L. Ochiltree

To make a memorial donation, please call 941.955.4131 x101 or visit [www.hssc.org](http://www.hssc.org)

# 4 Stars for HSSC



## CHARITY NAVIGATOR RATING

Sound fiscal management and a commitment to accountability and transparency have earned the Humane Society of Sarasota County a 4-Star Rating from Charity Navigator, America's largest independent charity evaluator. This is the first time that the Humane Society of Sarasota County has earned this top distinction. **Of the more than 1,500 Sarasota-based non-profit organizations, only 7 have achieved Charity Navigator's 4-Star Rating.** The Humane Society of Sarasota County is the only local animal welfare organization to be rated.

The Humane Society of Sarasota County's coveted 4-Star Rating puts it in a very select group of high-performing charities. Out of the thousands of nonprofits Charity Navigator evaluates, only 1 in 4 earns 4 stars – a rating that demands rigor, responsibility, and commitment to openness.

"It's important our donors trust that **we're using our funding wisely** to accomplish our mission of promoting responsible pet ownership and securing permanent homes for all adoptable animals," says Christen Benson, Executive Director of HSSC. "Our 4-Star Charity Navigator Rating demonstrates to our supporters that we take our fiduciary and governance responsibilities very seriously." Learn more at [www.charitynavigator.org](http://www.charitynavigator.org)

## The Animal Clinic LOW-COST & FULL-SERVICE

The Animal Clinic of the Humane Society of Sarasota County provides excellent veterinary care at an affordable price. The Animal Clinic is a full-service facility for cats and dogs. It is open to the public, and there are no income requirements. All proceeds from the Animal Clinic benefit the shelter pets at the Humane Society of Sarasota County.



Preventive Care



Wellness Exams



Dental Care



Digital X-Rays



In-House Diagnostics



Pet Food & Supplies

1090 N. Tuttle Avenue • Sarasota, FL 34237  
941.364.3605 • [www.hsscclinic.org](http://www.hsscclinic.org)

## SAVE THE DATE

### 19th Annual Howl-O-Ween Pet Costume Contest

October 26, 2016

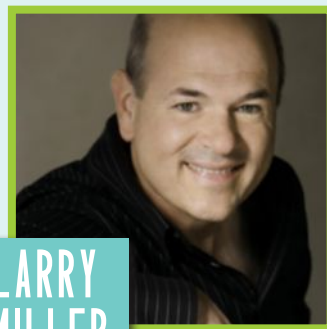
Phillippi Farmhouse Market

### 24th Annual Hot Dogs & Cool Cats – Laugh Your Paws Off Gala

Featuring Larry Miller

November 12, 2016

The Ritz-Carlton, Sarasota



LARRY  
MILLER

### 11th Annual Paws on the Catwalk Luncheon

April 20, 2017

The Ritz-Carlton, Sarasota

Visit [www.hssc.org](http://www.hssc.org) for a  
complete list of events.

## COMMUNITY PARTNERS

From donation drives to doggie banks, sponsorships to offsite events, HSSC's Community Partners provide invaluable support each year. Thank you for helping HSSC save lives in our community!

For more information about being a community partner, please contact Autumn Steiner at 941.955.4131 x121.

