



Where broken hearts are healed by second chances

Mission Statement:

Caring for animals in need. The homeless, strays, abused, neglected, lost. Heal them, love them, help them find a home.



Joel, Head Shelter Cat



Penny, Second in Command



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Northwoods Humane Society
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WELCOME FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I began working at Northwoods Humane Society (NHS) on June 1st of 2000. I have been in the Executive Director role since then. I have seen NHS go through many periods of growth, with each and every one developing us into better caretakers for the homeless pets that we care for here.

I enjoy working at Northwoods, meeting many different people, and assisting them through difficult times in their lives and helping others find joy with their

new furry companions. I believe in our mission. I see the best in each and every animal that comes through our door.

This job is never dull, and always surprising, and I enjoy the challenge of learning something new every day. I look forward to each and every day here and feel blessed to have a job that I truly enjoy and I feel so honored to have met and worked with so many wonderful people.

- Brenda Farr Zelinka

The vision of Northwoods Humane Society is a community with no more homeless or neglected companion animals.

SHELTER STAFF

Assistant to the Executive Director

Charlotte Ihrke

Volunteer Coordinator

Debby Brunette

Office Assistant

Tracy Schlichenmaier

Veterinary Technician

DeeAnn Deiss

Animal Care Technicians

Heather Dalton

Leah Funkhouser

Brittany Furgala

Autumn Houle

Jennifer Laqua

Michelle Muellner

Lindsay Niemi

Michelle Perreault

Denise Tauer

Tiffany Thompson

Courtney Tupker

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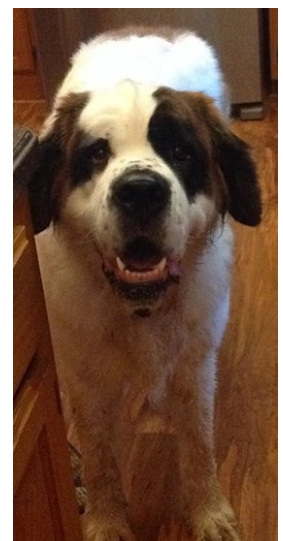
MESSAGE FROM A PARTNER

It has been a privilege and honor for South Shore Veterinary Hospital to partner with Northwoods Humane Society in providing for and being a voice for the many animals that are in need of assistance; whether that need is medical, surgical or end of life the staff is caring and compassionate. The demand placed on our humane societies is tremendous, the stress can be overwhelming, but Northwoods handles the responsibility admirably. Albeit many tears may be shed, the [NHS] staff is able to find the sunshine and always treats our staff graciously.

We applaud the valuable service you provide and look forward to our continuing relationship in supporting your efforts to help the helpless.

Sincerely,

Dave Enright, DVM
President
South Shore Veterinary Hospital



"Here is Dolly after all her surgery and her strong will to live, it's wonderful how happy she seems. She has gained weight and looks great. She is amazing, we are so bonded!"
-Lynn S.W. (December 2013)



NHS is located on 5 wooded acres in Wyoming, MN

HISTORY

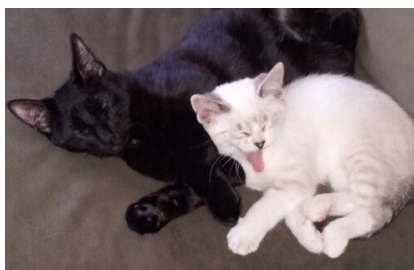
Incorporated in 1975 as a non-profit organization, the Chisago County Humane Society was formed by a group of area citizens concerned for the welfare of homeless animals. For the next three decades, volunteers cared for many stray and abandoned animals in their homes until permanent homes could be found. With the area population growing rapidly, the need for an animal care and adoption facility was evident. In 1998, five acres of land was donated as a site for a facility and the building project was initiated.

In 1999, the name was changed to Northwoods Humane Society (NHS), and by the beginning of 2000 the building in Wyoming, MN was complete and operational. Since that time Northwoods Humane Society has taken in thousands of kittens, cats, puppies, and dogs who are all in need of care, love, and comfort. As the community's only animal shelter, we are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and all donations will be provided a receipt for tax-deductible purposes.

OBJECTIVES

We strive to improve the lives of homeless animals by providing compassionate care until permanent loving homes can be found. We promote responsible adoptions and offer post-adoption support for the human-animals relationship.

"Malkin (black kitten, formerly known as Ace) who we adopted from Northwoods in June. We loved him so much we went back to adopt Kane (white kitten, formerly known as Chuling) in September! He is the sweetest cat and stops people wherever he goes with his sweet personality and handsome looks! We couldn't have asked for better kittens!" Dana P.



GOALS

- Provide quality care and adoption services for companion animals in Chisago County and the surrounding area.
- Educate the community regarding the humane treatment of animals and promoting the welfare of animals.
- Demonstrate excellence in care and sheltering of animals.
- Promote responsible pet ownership with special emphasis on spaying and neutering.
- Advocate public policies that promote compassionate treatment of all animals.
- Aid in prevention of and provide referrals for prosecuting cruelty to animals.
- Foster positive human animal bonds.

SURGERIES

Cat spays and neuters: 471

Dog spays and neuters: 87

In 2013, 755 cats arrived at NHS with the purpose of being adopted, **only 23%** were already spayed or neutered upon arrival. 278 dogs arrived at NHS with the purpose of being adopted, roughly half (**45%**) still needed to be spayed or neutered upon arrival.

This left NHS to alter **558** pets prior to adoption as every cat, kitten, dog, and puppy is spayed or neutered prior to adoption. Pediatric spays and neuters allow us to adopt out young kittens and puppies while still altering them. Great thanks to our partners: MN School of Business, Kindest Cut, South Shore Veterinary Hospital, University of MN, Oak Grove Animal Hospital, and Animal Medical Center.

NHS does not declaw cats unless there is a medical reason such as an injury that the declaw procedure would benefit.



GREAT PARTNERSHIP WITH KINDEST CUT

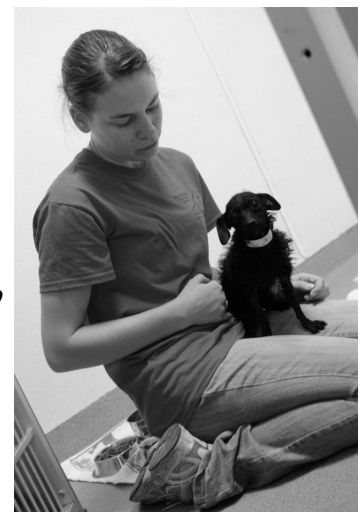
Kindest Cut provides low cost, high quality spay and neuter surgeries for cats, dogs and rabbits through a traveling mobile surgical unit. Services are geared to pet owners with limited incomes in the Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN area on an appointment basis and are performed by licensed veterinarians who are skilled at small animal care.

Kindest Cut's mobile spay/neuter clinic was at Northwoods **12 times in 2013** completing surgery on **361 pets**.



Amy's transformation courtesy of Forest Lake Pet Grooming

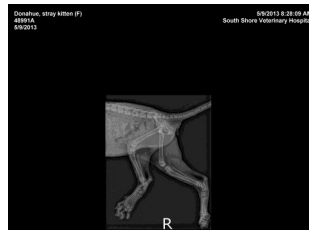
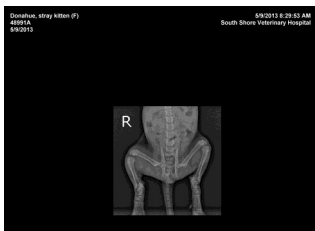
Animal Care Technician, Michelle Perreault, provides one-on-one comfort and attention to Ping, a 2 year young, Yorkshire Terrier Poodle mix who came from a hoarding situation with his twin brother, Pong.



MEDICAL MIRACLES

Angelica: 6 weeks young on her date of arrival at NHS (May 9th, 2013)

A Good Samaritan witnessed little Angelica and her brother get dumped out of a car in a parking lot and then saw Angelica get her leg run over by another car that didn't see her. The man who witnessed it all was wonderful! He scooped up Angelica and her brother, took them both to South Shore Veterinary Hospital in Forest Lake, MN and paid for an x-ray of Angelica's leg. The x-ray showed that she had a growth plate fracture and needed expensive surgery. NHS Volunteer Coordinator, Debby Brunette, took her home to let it heal a bit while they tried to find someone who would do the surgery. NHS asked Dr. Lara, who agreed to do a femoral head and neck osteotomy: which is the removal of the ball and socket hip joint. This creates a false joint and then the body creates scar tissue, which acts as a natural sling. Debby helped little Angelica with physical therapy throughout her time in foster care, until she was successfully adopted by a veterinarian friend of NHS. Last time Angelica's family e-mailed it was to say that she was happily living with another cat that they already had and was loving the 3 little girls in the house!
*Angelica's brother was adopted by the Good Samaritan who found them!



Kiki: 15 months young on his date of arrival at NHS (September 6th, 2013)

Kiki (now named Remus), a Labrador Retriever mix, came to NHS from Texas through a partnership with a long standing NHS supporter. When Kiki first arrived at NHS he was generally healthy, but was positive for heartworm disease. NHS immediately turned to another long standing supporter, South Shore Veterinary Hospital, to partner with us for Kiki's care.

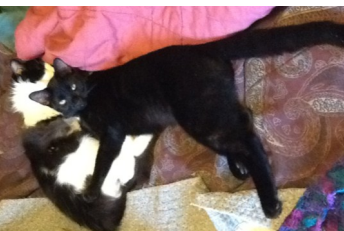
Kiki's treatment included 2 day heartworm treatment, antibiotics and steroids, and follow-up tests. Thanks to the generous donation of the veterinarian's time, NHS was able to keep costs as low as possible, totaling \$400.

Luckily Kiki was only with NHS for a short 9 days time as his new family couldn't resist his adorable face. He was able to finish his heartworm treatment in the care and comfort of his new home. Kiki's new family includes 4 children, 2 gerbils, 1 cat, and some fish. On March 8th, 2014, Kiki's final heartworm test confirmed that he is now heartworm negative!



Phoenix: 5 months young on date of arrival at NHS (September 22, 2013)

Phoenix was brought to NHS as a stray and appeared to be healthy upon the initial exam. NHS partnered with the ESAS program at the University of Minnesota (U of M) for his neuter surgery. During his exam at the U of M, a health issue was diagnosed requiring surgery to repair his patent ductus arteriosus (PDA): which is a congenital heart defect in which there is an irregular transmission of blood between two major arteries. Phoenix's surgery was submitted to the U of M's Angel Fund. Due to his wonderful personality and young age he was the perfect candidate for the PDA surgery which was performed by Dr. Stauthammer at the U of M Cardiology unit.

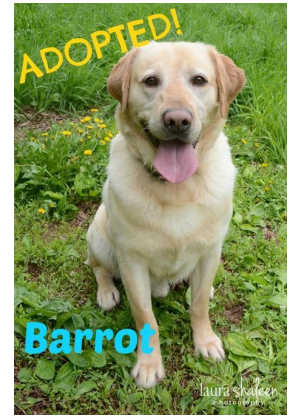
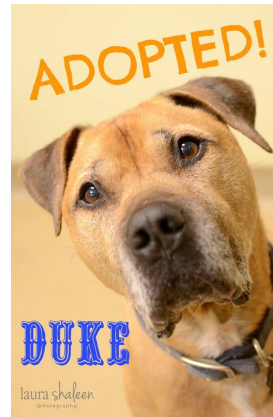


Following surgery, Phoenix went into foster care to recover and relax. On November 23, 2013 Phoenix's foster mom decided she couldn't part with him and officially made him a part of the family. Phoenix now spends his days snuggling with fellow NHS alumna, Mollie.

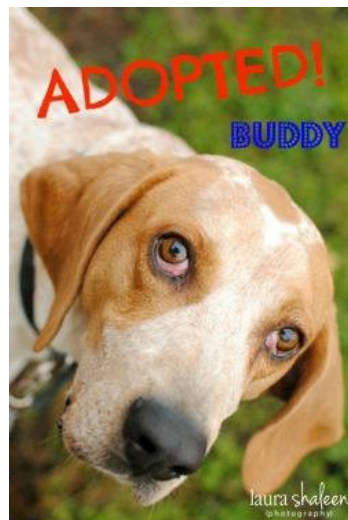
SUCCESS STORIES



"Here is Ozzy (formerly known as Donald) adopted yesterday (on August 21, 2013), he is fitting in beautifully! Thanks for the neater eater, he's a messy eater." -Cassandra D.



For more Success Stories, visit our website: <http://northwoodshs.org/success-stories/>



"Fuzzy Butt (formerly known as Hoss and Princess Fuzzy Ears (formerly known as Alli) were adopted a few weeks ago. Now best pals!"
-Shannon G.H.
sent September 3, 2013



Mr. Peanut was reunited with his owner after staying with NHS for 2 weeks! Turns out his real name is Mojo and we are so happy he got to go back to his home!



"Cooper (who will be a year old this month) enjoyed his first Halloween. He wasn't quite sure what to make of Sophia and Olivia as they carved pumpkins. Yes, he is quite large now. We did have a DNA test done to see what breeds he's made of since he has a super high level of energy. Found out he's German Wirehaired Pointer on his dad's side and Golden Retriever mix on his mom's side. He still sees himself as a lap puppy and the size of our cats. We've been doing obedience and agility classes, which he's enjoyed and has been good for him (and us)!" -Ann R.
Cooper was adopted from NHS in February 2013 at appx 12 weeks old.



"We can't even begin to thank all of our volunteers for their hard work and dedication to our animals and the shelter. In 2013, they donated a grand total of **16,386 hours** which is amazing!

We realize that without their help, we would not be able to stay open and consequently not be able to help our pets find the loving, forever home that they deserve. We know how difficult it is to find time in their busy schedules and to give up some of their valued free time to commit to the well-being of our pets. That's what makes them special, caring people!"

- **Debby Brunette,**
Volunteer Coordinator

Please contact the Volunteer Coordinator, at 651-982-0240 ext 304 or volunteer@northwoodshs.org with questions about volunteering.

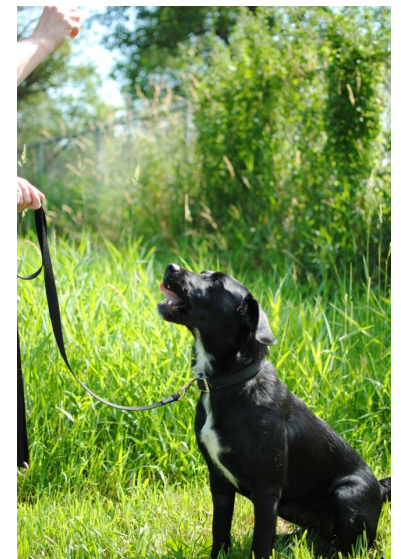
HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

With over 1,000 cats and dogs coming through our doors in 2013, it takes a village to ready a pet for adoption. As a nonprofit organization, NHS operates within a limited budget, thereby relying on the countless efforts of our volunteers. NHS would not be able to accomplish all the good that is done in our community without the nearly **200 dedicated volunteers** who selflessly donate their energy. By donating their many hours of service, their hard work and dedication saved Northwoods an estimated **\$86,000**; which is almost 1/3 of the annual budget.

NHS volunteers work in a variety of areas including: administrative support, animal care, special events, foster care, pet photography, in-shelter dog and cat training, adoption events and more. Time spent can be as rewarding for the volunteer as it is for the pets.

For information on how you can become a NHS volunteer, please visit our website at: <http://northwoodshs.org/positions/>

Dog Walking	2,942.5
Cat Socializing	914
Foster Care	8,432
Fundraising/Event Planning	1,496.25
Transportation/Other (including administrative assistance)	898.25
Adoption Counseling	1,703.25
TOTAL HOURS	16,386.25



VOLUNTEER POSITIONS:

Adoption Counselor: Assists potential adoptive clients in choosing the right dog or cat for their home; usually the first impression people have of Northwoods.

Board Member: Assists with strategic planning, fundraising, ambassadorship and evaluation.

Building Maintenance: Assists with general repairs and improvements from broken faucets to painting walls.

Cat Socialization: Provides their assigned cat social interaction by spending time with them brushing and cuddling.

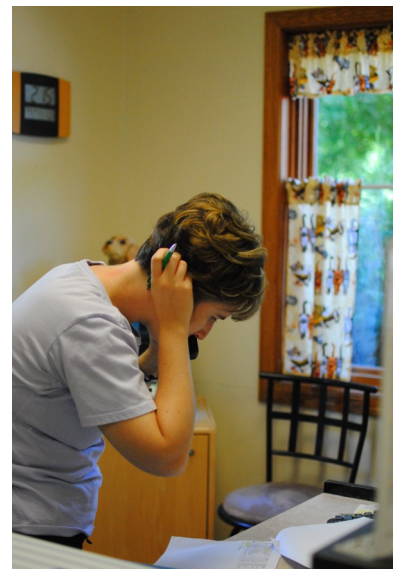
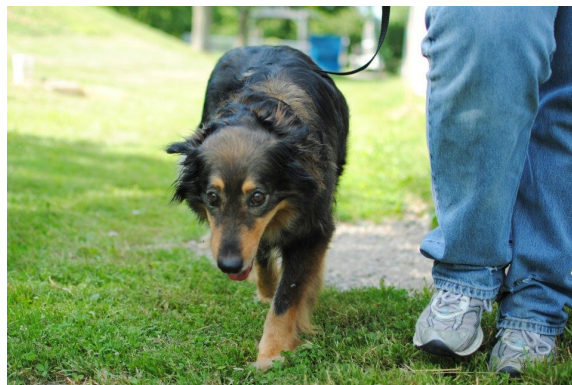
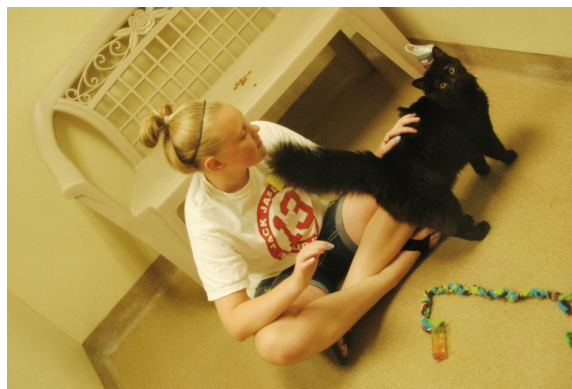
Dog Walking and Kennel Cleaning: Provides exercise and socialization to dogs which is essential to their physical and mental well-being.

Foster Care: Provides temporary care for abandoned, orphaned, sick and pregnant animals.

Fundraising/Events: Includes all aspects of fundraising and event planning, from contacting sponsors, mailings, event set-up and cleanup, etc.

Grant Researcher: Assists in researching and writing grant funding possibilities.

Veterinary Technician Helper: Assists Vet Tech with animal examinations, blood draws, vaccinations, worming, and general medical duties.



FUNDRAISING

As a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, NHS relies heavily upon the involvement of our community members. Participating in fundraising events is a great way to support the pets at NHS and learn more about your community's local animal shelter.

2013 EVENTS INCLUDED:

A Toast to Tails - January 13th

This evening full of wine and beer tasting and a silent auction was held at Sal's Angus Grill in Withrow, MN. Together we raised **\$6,751**

Meatballs for Mutts (M4M) - March 16th

Our M4M fundraiser held at the Forest Lake VFW, had guests dining on spaghetti and bidding on silent auction items. Together we raised **\$3,400**



Walk with the Animals - May 5th

Our 15th Annual Walk with the Animals was a day of pet-friendly activities including: coordinated walk, agility course, and paw

print paintings. This annual event was held at Lent Town Hall and raised a staggering **\$18,000**



Ride to Rescue -

June 8th

Collaborating with some of NHS supporters, this new event kicked off at NHS and traveled 150 miles throughout WI and MN, ending at Shafer Saloon and Grill. Together we raised **\$1,455**





High Tea and Garden Tour at Panola Valley Gardens - August 10th
 Panola Valley Gardens in Lindstrom, MN graciously hosted a decadent high tea to benefit the pets in NHS's care. This event included a tour of the beautiful gardens, high tea and lunch, and a wonderful silent auction. Together we raised **\$1,200**



Garage Sale - August 14th-17th *AND*
Garage Sale, the Sequel - September 11th-13th
 Utilizing space inside the historic Chisago City Co-Op Creamery building, NHS's community members made some great finds thanks to the support of Frankie's Live

Bait and Marine. Much thanks to NHS volunteer Tammy M for her hard work and for hosting The Sequel at her home. Together we raised: **\$5,500**



Pet Fest - October 5th
 Our Halloween themed party invited our community's pets and their humans for a day full of games, paw print art, lunch, and pet costume contests. This was all held at the Chisago City Community Center. Together we raised: **\$1,379**

Santa Paws - November 2nd and 9th
 Our annual photo event, Santa Paws, was held at Forest Lake Senior Center and hosted photo sessions for the whole family (with or without Santa). This event raised: **\$2,869**



Give to the Max Day - November 14th



NHS won a spot to highlight our organization at Mall of America during this yearly event. Casey, a 16 week old kitten, helped raise awareness and funds for NHS. During this 24 hour online day of giving, our generous donors helped us raise an incredible **\$11,750!**



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

John Harrington

Vice President

Dr. Tracy Skwiot

Treasurer

David Gorman

Secretary

Michelle Pommier

Board Members

Dr. Ann Edmonds

Jack Felix

Muffy Hejny Guptill

Vicci Mattsfield

Ann McLellan

Ruth Nordquist

Laura Shaleen

"Northwoods Humane Society brings joy to the lives of people and pets at no charge to taxpayers. Our reward comes from the caring support the community provides to us and our adoptees,"

-2013 President

John Harrington.

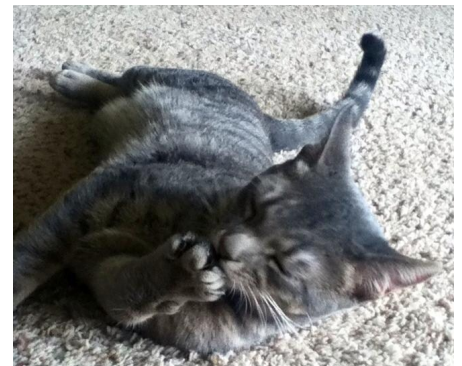
PET STATISTICS

Northwoods Humane Society regularly partners with other animal welfare groups to best serve the needs of pets around the country. At times NHS reaches out to specific breed rescues to give difficult adoption candidates another chance at adoption. NHS also collaborates with other shelters, rescues, and Animal Control agencies to take in pets when there are too many and not enough adoption traffic at other locations. NHS is committed to working with responsible partners to benefit the pets we serve.

Pets Stats	CANINES	FELINES	TOTAL
2013 INTAKE	281	765	1046
2012 INTAKE	336	915	1251
2013 ADOPTIONS	190	642	832
2012 ADOPTIONS	247	628	875
2013 RECLAIMED	69	9	78
2012 RECLAIMED	48	6	54
2013 EUTHANASIA	35	110	145
2012 EUTHANASIA	47	142	189

Is Northwoods a "no-kill" organization? *Northwoods Humane Society is a limited-admissions facility. We do NOT euthanize to make room for more animals or put a time limit on their stay. However, we do euthanize for severe temperament or health issues. Because our ability to take in animals is directly related to our adoptions, sometimes we are unable to accept new animals into our shelter or we have a waiting list for appointments to surrender your pet.*

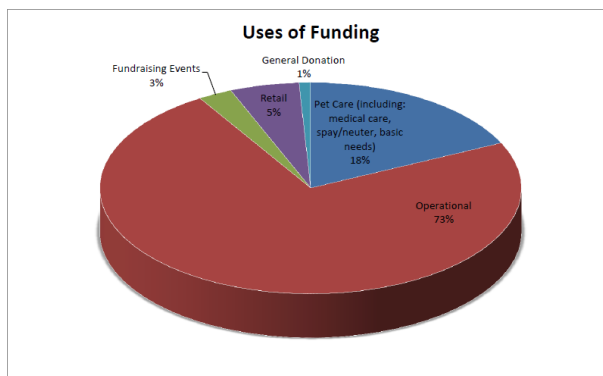
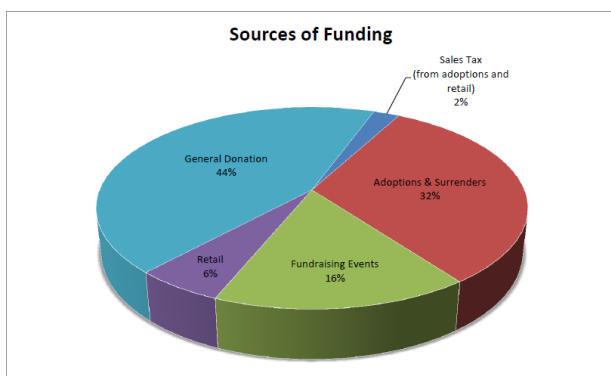
"Leo (formerly known as Rio) has been an absolutely wonderful addition. Leo is pretty much the smallest cat I've ever seen, but also the sweetest and the most handsome! He enjoys most his time on my lap purring and I even get cat baths from him. We adopted Leo almost a year ago and we are very blessed to have him as a part of our family. He truly is one very happy lap cat. Thank you Northwoods for letting Leo become a part of our family." - Nicole H.



FINANCIAL STATISTICS

Northwoods Humane Society is an independent, nonprofit 501(c)3 organization. NHS is not affiliated with any other Humane Society, the Humane Society of the United States, or any other national humane group such as the American Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), and receives no support from them. NHS does not receive funding from the state of Minnesota, or the counties or cities served. Every dollar raised comes through donations, earned revenue (adoption fees, retail sales, etc), and fundraising events. Northwoods exists because animal lovers support us.

NHS is a highly efficient organization which goes to great lengths to reduce our administrative costs so that the majority of funds can be focused on the pets in our care. Compared to other organizations with similar budgets, NHS does a lot more with much less. We reliably receive high rankings according to national charity ranking organizations such as GuideStar and Charity Navigator. NHS depends on the support of our local community to provide the highest quality services to the pets entrusted to us.



General Donation	\$139,992
Adoptions & Surrenders	\$102,533
Fundraising Events	\$52,357
Retail	\$18,165
Sales Tax	\$7,386
TOTAL	\$321,433

General Donation	\$2,490
Pet Care	\$50,323
Fundraising Events	\$7,320
Retail	\$14,854
Operational	\$204,783
TOTAL	\$279,770



"Wanted to give an update on Walt (formerly known as Grady), he is doing great! We have been going to training classes for the last 4 weeks and he has come a long way! Walt is still pretty reactive to other dogs (because he just wants to PLAY) but is no longer protective of his food or toys! We are working with hand signals as well as verbal commands and Walt has responded very well to clicker training . His fur-sibling Harvey is getting more and more comfortable with him, and Maggie loves to go up to him and bat at his tail. We are so blessed we got all 3 of our wonderful fur-babies from Northwoods!" - Mary J.

As a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, it has been the support of our community that has allowed us to successfully maintain our shelter, facilitate countless adoptions, and respond to the steady call for the rescue of pets in need. Whether you can donate money, time, or items, we welcome whatever you can do! If you are able to make a monetary donation, or would like to make a donation in honor or remembrance of someone special, there are many ways to do so.

Please visit our website at www.northwoodshs.org



"On my way home from my birthday trip (May 2013), I stopped at NHS. After lingering a bit, we met Cosmo (formerly known as Prince) he was just being put up for adoption that day! He was so scared and timid, but we were looking for a new member to add to the family. As soon as we arrived home, he knew he was home. Since day one, he's stolen the entire family's hearts. He is spoiled rotten and knows it too. He is super lazy, but does love a good game of fetch. Cosmo has really been such a joyful addition." -Makayla X



Where Broken Hearts Are
Healed By
Second Chances

Northwoods Humane Society

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MN Kennel License #141010

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