



Case Statement Prepared for:

Date:

Mission: *Connecting animals in need with people who care*

Vision: *A Community in which all pets have loving homes and are treated with compassion and respect.*

WHAT IS CASCADES HUMANE SOCIETY?

In addition to being an animal shelter and adoption center, we offer several programs to the Jackson community. We have a low-cost spay and neuter program, a pet food pantry to feed the pets of families going through financial hardships, a free-roaming cat sterilization program called Forgotten Felines, and low-cost vaccine clinics.

Established to prevent cruelty to animals, CHS is the area's advocate, shelter and source for companion animals since our founding as a charitable 501c3 organization in 1952. Our space is limited, but we do not limit the amount of time an adoptable animal stays with us. CHS is funded solely by donations from individuals, corporations, foundations, and our events. We do not receive any government funding, including the recent Jackson millage. We are also not affiliated with any national or state humane organizations. Since 2008 our board and leadership have developed and followed a strategic plan for improvement, not only as related to the animals, but also for the people we serve.

WHY CASCADES HUMANE SOCIETY?

Cascades Humane Society is more than just a humane shelter and adoption center – it is a passion of ours to provide a complete process that assures the best possible family connection and forever home for the animals in our care. We legitimately care about our animals and their placement.

Dedicated to animal welfare

CHS has experienced, proud and passionate staff dedicated to animal welfare. They prepare the animals to the best of their ability and are dedicated to pet wellness and behavioral support before, during, and after the adoption process. Each animal is given what we believe is "routine" care, but goes above and beyond what many shelters and rescues do for their animals. We ensure every cat or dog is spayed or neutered, brought up to date on vaccines, tested for Heartworm or Felv/FIV, given parasite prevention and supplements and, of course, all the food and love they could ever need. Dogs are walked 2-3 times a day by volunteers and staff, and are placed in outdoor kennels when weather permits to facilitate mental and physical health. In addition, both dogs and cats are given feeding toys and enrichment to keep their body and minds happy and active.

More than just adoptions

With a strong following of community supporters that truly believe in the CHS mission, *connecting animals in need with people who care*, we are also able to provide a reduced cost spay and neuter program, a feral or free-roaming cat sterilization program, and a pet food pantry that feeds the pets of families going through financial hardships. We are more than adoptions – we truly care about our community and the pets that reside in it.

Saving lives

We pride ourselves on being a “no-kill” facility, meaning we never euthanize for space. In addition, we reach out to rescue animals from other shelters and government agencies (with Jackson County and surrounding areas being our priority) that are at risk of euthanasia whenever possible.

Going the extra mile

Every life is meaningful to us, even those with special needs. In addition to the routine (for us) care we give every animal here (spay or neutering, vaccinating, disease testing, etc), we provide the necessary medical evaluations and treatments to those animals that need it. We do not shy away from special needs cases, whether it is medical or behavioral. We feel it is important to give every animal a fighting chance. We are grateful for the support of our community, which allows us to afford to take on these special cases.

SERVICES PROVIDED

CHS offers low-cost spay and neuter surgeries to the public through our SNAP program. Done in-house by our own vet, Dr. Sarah Patrias, the procedures are minimally invasive and your pet goes home the same day. We have recently added new services, such as vaccines, disease tests, dentals, and bloodwork. Spaying and neutering your pet not only decreases the amount of unwanted litters of puppies and kittens, but also keeps your pet healthy and less likely to wander off.

CHS also spays and neuters feral and free-roaming cats for a low-cost of just \$25 per cat. This program is unique in the Jackson community and helps keep populations of unwanted litters of kittens out of shelters and off the streets.

In addition, Cascades Humane Society is happy to be able to offer low-cost pet vaccine clinics to the public! For affordable pricing, get your pets updated on necessary vaccines as well as microchipped or tested for diseases. We will also be offering nail trims.

Lastly, Cascades Humane Society understands the financial difficulties that families may face and the cost cutting that needs to occur. Frequently, family pets are on that list. With a little assistance, a pet owner can often find a way to keep their pets in their home. CHS's Pet Food Pantry program assists Jackson County residents who are having difficulty meeting the nutritional needs of their cat or dog due to a financial burden.

2023 IMPACT

Adoptions: 1,200

Pets saved from high-kill or at-capacity shelters: 384

Pounds of pet food given to hungry pets in need: 14,938

Owned cats or dogs spayed and neutered: 900

2024-2026 BIGGEST NEED

The number of animals looking for homes increases each year. To help us care for them at the level they deserve (each is spayed or neutered, vaccinated, microchipped, and disease tested), we are always in need of support and generosity from the community in the form of both monetary and in-kind donations. To provide long-term financial stability, we hope the community remembers CHS and our animals in their planned giving arrangements

GOALS FOR 2024-2026

- Raise our visibility within the community
- Increase our donor and volunteer base
- Educate the public about the programs we offer
- Increase awareness of our planned-giving program for long-term financial stability

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Donors and supports like you are integral to keeping Cascades Humane Society operating at the level expected and treating the animals as they deserve to be treated. You help us save lives and assist the Jackson community with affording their pets care and keeping them in their homes where they belong.

Can we count on you to remember Cascades Humane Society while thinking about your planned giving? There are many ways to include CHS and our animals in your plans and we suggest you speak with your lawyer or estate planner about the options. Bequests from generous friends like you will make a real difference in the lives of the homeless cats and dogs for many generations to come.

Bequests to Cascades Humane Society offer flexibility and are fully deductible for estate tax purposes. Depending on your situation, these savings can be significant. Bequests can be of any size, and all are greatly appreciated!

You may bequeath a percentage of your estate to CHS, a dollar amount, a specific asset, or the remainder of your estate after bequests to other named beneficiaries. You may also name Cascades Humane Society as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy. While many types of assets are appropriate for funding a bequest, individual retirement accounts are particularly appealing for these contributions. By designating CHS as the beneficiary of an IRA, you will avoid both income tax and estate tax on these assets.

We encourage unrestricted bequests because it is difficult to predict where the program needs for the animals will be greatest in the future. However, if you wish to support a particular aspect of the mission of CHS we would be happy to work with you and your attorney on language to restrict your bequest to a particular program or purpose. You may also make a bequest to CHS that specifies either general operating expenses or the endowment fund. A gift to the Cascades Humane Society endowment fund ensures that your bequest will provide a lasting legacy.

Regardless of what form your gift takes, your attorney or insurance agent should refer to us as "Cascades Humane Society" in Jackson, Michigan when drafting your will, trust, or policy. Our tax id number is 38-1781494.

Thank you for your consideration!

QUESTIONS?

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