

*Lime, adopted July 2025*



*Photo by Damini Photography*



# Annual Report 2025

Humane Society of Chittenden County · 142 Kindness Court, South Burlington, VT 05403 · (802) 862-0135

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As we celebrate another year of life-changing work at the Humane Society of Chittenden County, I want to acknowledge our wonderful community of supporters: **Thanks to your generosity**, we continue to deliver on our mission of ensuring pets find loving homes and families have the resources to help their pets thrive.

In 2025, nearly a thousand families met their new best friend at HSCC. But happy “tails” are only *part* of the story. Last year alone, our team cared for **210 animals rescued from cruelty, abuse, abandonment, hoarding, or neglect** – giving each a second chance at a comfortable life surrounded by love. One of these animals was Missy, an abandoned senior dog who was diagnosed with terminal cancer. After extensive surgery, testing, and care, Missy is now living out her life with a wonderful family in a loving hospice home.



But our work is never done. As HSCC enters its 125th year, we are **strengthening our commitment to surrender prevention** through our confidential resources for community members in need. We also look to the years ahead as we begin a new strategic planning process to ensure HSCC continues to meet the needs of animals and their people in our community.

**None of this life-saving work is possible without you**, our generous donors, volunteers, fosters, and adopters whose support enables us to aid the most vulnerable in our community. On behalf of the thousands of animals we help each year – thank you for your continued support!

- *Jess Wilson, Executive Director*

## HSCC'S COMMUNITY PET CLINIC

In 2025, our Community Pet Clinic continued an impressive upward trajectory in affordable veterinary services. We increased spay/neuter and other surgeries by nearly 30%, with **194 surgeries provided at no cost to pet owners** thanks to donor-funded grants. Visits at our Wellness Clinic in Burlington also grew by 40%, delivering **essential care that would otherwise be out of reach for many clients**. As we move into 2026, we are expanding Clinic operations and have welcomed a third veterinarian to our team as we reinforce our **commitment to providing high-quality care & surgery for our community and their pets**.

[Learn more about the Community Pet Clinic: hscvvt.org/Clinic](https://hscvvt.org/Clinic)



*CPC Vet Tech, Crystal*

## VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS

HSCC's dedicated volunteers show up to support our mission each day of every year – and in 2025, **our volunteers logged a record-breaking 8,129 hours of service** (equal to nearly 4 full-time staff)! These hours included **7,772 hours caring for our animals** and **supporting HSCC's staff**; 205 hours **connecting community members** with HSCC's resources; and 256 hours from local volunteer groups enhancing our humble facility. **This support is essential to the wellbeing of our animals, our organization, and our community**, and we are grateful for the volunteers who make it happen.



*Morning Animal Care volunteers*

***Interested in volunteering?***

[Learn more about our volunteer program and apply at hscvvt.org/Volunteer!](https://hscvvt.org/Volunteer)

**965 adoptions**

679 cats & kittens  
140 dogs & puppies  
146 small animals



**95.5%**  
live release  
rate



length of stay  
average =  
**35 days**

**119**  
community  
members served  
by our free  
**Pet  
Helpline**



### where did our animals come from?

**5%** born to animals in our care  
**9%** stray / abandoned  
**18%** cruelty, abuse, hoarding, or neglect case  
**20%** rescue partner transfer  
**48%** owner surrender

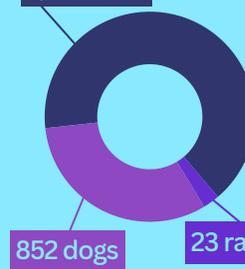
**6,567**  
vaccines

provided to shelter  
+ community pets



**2,347**  
Community  
Pet Clinic  
wellness exams  
administered

1,316 cats



**2,191**  
animals  
spayed /  
neutered

**\$53,394** in veterinary  
care grants  
awarded to local low-income  
pet owners



**84** pets & their families  
supported through our **Spay the Mom &  
Good Neighbor Programs**



**4,900+ lbs**

of food distributed through our  
Community Pet Food Shelf

**8,129**  
hours  
donated by  
volunteers



@hscvvt



/chittendenuhumane



hscvvt.org

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

Due to the tireless dedication of our staff and volunteers and the generosity of our donors, HSCC continued to fulfill its mission in 2025. Through our adoption services, 965 animals found new homes last year. Our Community Pet Clinic team performed more than 5,000 low-cost surgeries and wellness procedures last year. The Clinic provides **a critical resource for local pet owners**, enhancing affordability and access to medical care. Our summer camp, Camp Paw Paw, was packed yet again, underscoring the value and popularity of our humane education initiatives.



The environment was not without its headwinds. **Economic and housing challenges persist in our community**, making conditions more difficult for many pet owners. We have continued to see a higher frequency of health and behavioral issues in our dog population, which increases the cost of care. Our financial results were solid in 2025 **thanks to the compassion of our donors** and the focus of our staff. However, we will need to remain vigilant given the current backdrop.

2025 was an outstanding year for HSCC, and we are extremely grateful to everyone who helped make that possible. We are equally excited about what lies ahead for this great organization in 2026.

- **Josh Kruk, Chair**

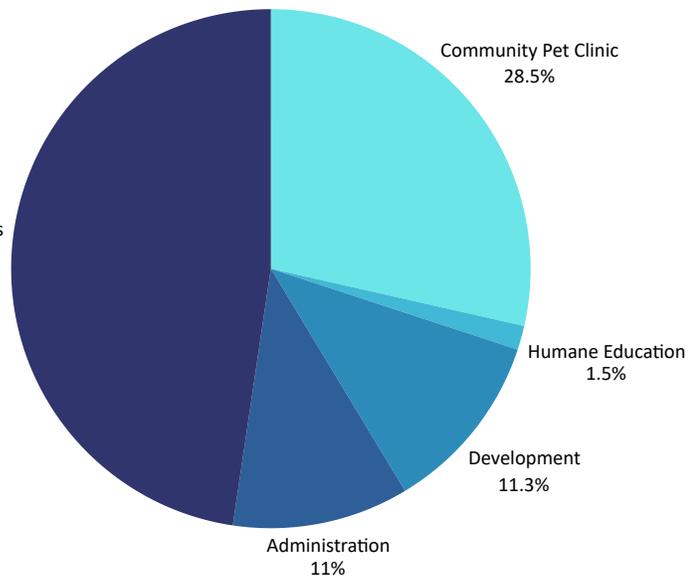
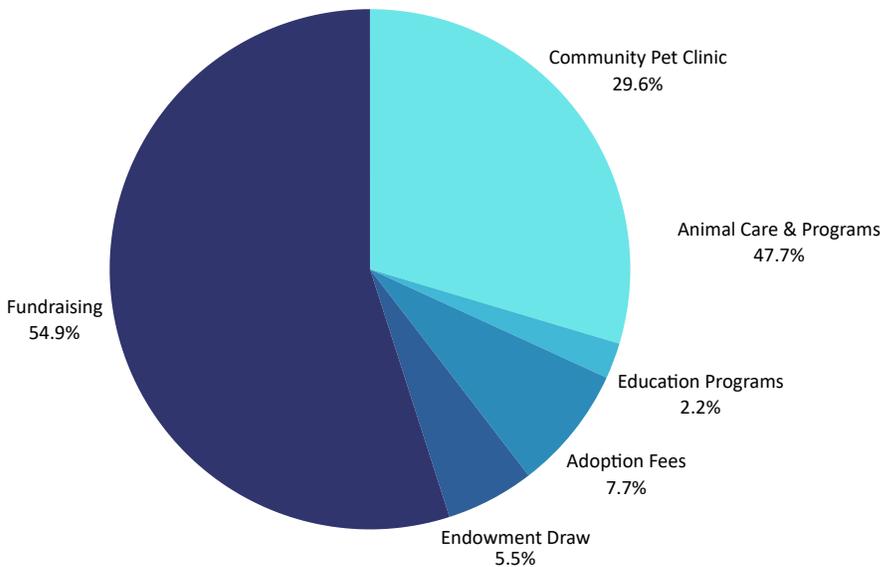
## 2025 HSCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Josh Kruk, <i>Chair</i>	Caroline Canning	Natalie Mazzuca	Kaomi Taylor
Tim Ashe, <i>Vice-Chair</i>	Sarah Grunwell	Wil Nelms	Dr. Christine Wojewoda
Jennifer Meyer, <i>Treasurer</i>	Sarah Lenes	Kristina Madarang Stahl	Gina Puls
Annemarie Daniels, <i>Secretary</i>	Yvonne Lockerby	Dr. Catherine Stanger	Parker Riehle

## 2025 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

**2025 Revenue Total: \$2,308,814\***

**2025 Expenses Total: \$2,306,057\***



Adoption and clinic fees cover only a small portion of the care we provide each year. Your generosity bridges the gap. A gift to HSCC fuels **life-saving programs and vital services that pets and people throughout our community depend on**. Support our mission by making your gift today on our website at [hsccv.org/donate](https://hsccv.org/donate).

\*These numbers are undergoing audit and are subject to change.

## HAPPY TAILS FROM HSCC ALUMS

### When a Foster Goes Gaga for Gigi

Special senior Gigi was relinquished to HSCC after struggling to cope with the canine energy in her previous home. Our medical team determined that Gigi needed a prescription diet and regular medication to treat her skin, which was constantly itchy with red patches and bald spots in her fur. She was also diagnosed with hyperthyroidism, requiring a lifetime of treatment.

While in an HSCC foster home, Gigi's health improved and she became "kind of like a dog in a cat's body", friendly and eager for pets. Finally, after six months in our care, Gigi's foster (and former HSCC employee) decided to make it official! By all accounts, Gigi is now thriving and has even befriended the resident rabbits.



*"It's been over a year since we welcomed Gigi as a foster cat and just about a year since we officially adopted her, and she could not be a better match. She didn't get along well with other cats and dogs in the shelter, but our two bunnies seem to be the quiet, playful companions she was looking for! Her favorite activities now include watching the birds at our window feeder, sleeping under the bed, and she absolutely loves to be brushed. I have a lot to thank HSCC for, but helping me find Gigi is certainly something for which I am the most grateful!"*

*-Gigi's Adopter*

### Will the Real Ferret Friends Please Stand Up?



Marshall & Shady (AKA Trixie) came to HSCC as part of a trio of ferrets when their owner could no longer care for them, and they were eager to start their next adventure together. Sadly, their sister Slim passed away from complex health issues shortly after arriving at HSCC, but Marshall & Shady were resilient and remained as friendly and cuddly as ever.

Shady arrived at HSCC overweight and struggling with fur loss – symptoms of adrenal disease, which requires a special implant to resolve. After nearly four months of ups and downs, these lovable goofballs had their future family sprinting 8 Mile(s) to meet them at HSCC and give them the best life!

*"Marshall and Trixie are living up the spoiled ferret life! Trixie has responded perfectly to her Deslorelin implant and regrown a full coat of hair. She has also gained muscle and better coordination which means she can finally climb onto the bed with us (Marshall's favorite sleeping spot)! They play a lot more, adore their soupies, and have really let their personalities shine. For Christmas, they got a new exercise wheel which both use at varying levels of speed. They bring such energetic joy to our household and we're so lucky to have found them."*

*-Marshall & Trixie's Adopter*



## HAPPY TAILS FROM HSCC ALUMS

### Bonded Buddies Brighten Up Adopter's Life

Last summer, two scruffy dogs were found running loose at the Champlain Valley Fairgrounds and brought to HSCC. Though funny and sweet, they were sensitive boys, overwhelmed by a big world that made even leash walks feel scary.

After nearly two months in our care, the right person met them in October and saw their potential. With patience and love, they've blossomed into confident, affectionate adventure buddies – sweet as ever and loving life with their new family. Wondering just how far they've come? They even joined their human on a holiday trip to New York City!



*“Barnum and Walter (FKA Samwise & Shadowlord) are incredibly sweet, smart, and sensitive little pups. They’ve come so far from the scared dogs I met at HSCC – especially Walt, who wouldn’t let me pet him when we first met and had to be put in my car by caring HSCC staff on their Gotcha Day.*

*However, within 15 minutes of being home, they both jumped up on the couch and started giving me kisses. Since then, they’ve basically claimed that spot as their own (complete with their “imprints” on the back of the couch!), and it’s still their favorite place to be.”*

*-Barnum & Walt’s Adopter*

### Life is Sweet with Sugar Gliders



In May 2025, sweet sugar glider Cinnamon Toast Crunch, now known as Powder, came to HSCC with 23 glider friends as part of a hoarding case. These tiny marsupial acrobats have a loyal community of fans, so many were quickly adopted, but Powder needed more time: she was pregnant! HSCC’s Small Animal Coordinator, Makayla, already had a small colony of gliders at home, and knew they could provide some neighborly company while Powder waited for the baby to arrive. After baby Truffle was born, Makayla knew the mother-daughter duo rounded out her sweet glider family perfectly, so she adopted them both last August.

*“Truffle ended up being born the night before my birthday, and it was such a rewarding experience to provide a safe haven for these fragile beings during such a sensitive time.*

*Powder is a sweet mama, always looking out for her baby. Truffle is a spunky little gal who loves hiding in funny places. Every morning, I find that she has had a party with her toys overnight! They have become good friends with my other gliders (HSCC alum as well!) and seem to enjoy being spoiled alongside their new friends.”*

*-Powder & Truffle’s Adopter*



# SAVE THE DATES!

## APRIL



April 6<sup>th</sup> - April 27<sup>th</sup>

HSCC's **Fabulous Feline Foto Contest** pounces off this April for the 8<sup>th</sup> year in a row!

Share your kitty's pretty pout with the world and win some *pawsome* prizes, all while raising vital funds for HSCC.

*Stay tuned for updates!*

## MAY



Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>

The *paw*-ty of the year is back this May!

Join us at our 4<sup>th</sup> annual **Best Friends Benefit** at **The Farmhouse at Essex Resort** for an unforgettable evening supporting pets in need.

Fetch your tickets:  
[hsccv.org/BestFriends26](https://hsccv.org/BestFriends26)

## AUGUST



August 20<sup>th</sup> - September 10<sup>th</sup>

Get unleashed at **Bark & Brew 2026!**

Join us at HSCC on **Thursday evenings** starting this August for local libations and canine camaraderie in our dog yard.

*Stay tuned for our full brewery line-up!*

Learn more about upcoming events at [hsccv.org/News-and-Events](https://hsccv.org/News-and-Events)



Where Best Friends Meet

Humane  
Society  
of Chittenden County

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