Paw Street Journal

Tornado Response
Ethan’s One Year Anniversary
Phoenix Survives House Fire
Volunteers of the Year

www.kyhumane.org
Dear Friends,

Our hearts go out to the communities, people and animals impacted by the devastating tornadoes in Kentucky and the region in December. The Mayfield-Graves County Animal Shelter is one of our Love 120 program’s shelter partners, and we have worked extensively with them over the past three years to save the lives of animals in their county. We are heartbroken to see this community we love and know so well, and the region, shattered by these storms.

I am incredibly proud of how quickly KHS was able to mobilize to support impacted shelters and their animals. Within days of the storm, we transformed our Sam Swope Pet Treatment & Lifesaving Center (Main Campus) into an emergency hub for shelter animals from across the ravaged region. Within two days, we had completely cleared the Mayfield-Graves County Animal Shelter of the animals that had been in its care before the storm so it could help pets displaced by the tornadoes.

Since the storms, we have been in contact with more than a dozen municipal and nonprofit animal shelters in impacted counties, arranging animal transport, connecting shelters to needed resources and sending in critical supplies. A number of animal welfare groups have assisted us in these efforts by providing supplies or resources, including the ASPCA, Bissell Pet Foundation, Greater Good Charities, PetSmart Charities, Pedigree Foundation and VCA Charities, just to name a few.

This has been a monumental effort, and we’re so grateful to our supporters and friends like you for making it possible. Thanks to you, we will be able to continue to assist Kentucky animal shelters in urgent need of help, allowing them to reunite displaced pets with their families and focus on their hurting communities.

Please help us save lives during this unprecedented crisis by making a donation today. With your gift, we will continue our lifesaving mission to help animals throughout Kentucky today and in the future.

Sincerely,

Lori Kane Redmon
President & CEO

P.S. Thank you for being a donor to KHS. Your support allows us to help animals and the people who love them in times of tragedy and urgent need.
Just four days after the December 11 tornadoes ravaged Western Kentucky, KHS staff and volunteers loaded more than 100 cats and kittens from impacted communities onto a flight to Massachusetts, where they were placed in shelters for adoption.

For two days prior to takeoff, KHS and the American Society for the Prevention of Animals (ASPCA) had evacuated the 100-plus cats from overwhelmed shelters in the counties that were hardest hit by the deadly tornado, including Graves, Hopkins, Muhlenberg and Marion. All of these homeless cats and kittens were in shelters before the storm. By removing them, KHS helped make room in Western Kentucky’s shelters so they could focus on caring for pets displaced by the storms and reuniting them with their families.

The cats were first transported to our KHS Sam Swope Pet Treatment & Lifesaving Center (Main Campus) in Louisville, which we had transformed after the storm into an emergency hub for shelter animals from impacted communities who were not on stray hold. Our KHS veterinary team examined each cat to make sure they were healthy and could be safely flown outside of the region and adopted.

Then, at the break of dawn on December 15, KHS and ASPCA staff transported the cats and kittens to the airport and loaded them onto the flight, which was organized by the ASPCA. As the plane took off into the early morning sky, KHS and ASPCA staff and volunteers – and even airport employees – broke into cheers and tears, knowing that these cats and kittens were on their way to finding new homes and that Kentucky animal shelters had room for needy pets.

KHS and ASPCA team members with airport staff after Kentucky cats flown to the Northeast.

100 KY Cats Flown Out

KHS mobilizes to help pets and people impacted by tornadoes

KHS veterinary assistants Carly and Brooke get cats ready for transport.
KHS Receives PetSmart Charities Grant to Help

PetSmart Charities awarded KHS a $125,000 grant to help pets and people impacted by the December 11 storms. The Natural Disaster Emergency Relief Grant is allowing KHS to provide financial assistance and supplies to local animal shelters through KHS’ Love 120 program, which has the goal of positively impacting companion animals in all 120 Kentucky counties.

“No one is fully prepared to cope with a disaster like this,” said Aimee Gilbreath, President at PetSmart Charities. “But we knew our trusted partners at KHS would spring into action to help displaced people and pets. We’re glad to support the work they do, because when people experience trauma, they need the comfort of their pets more than ever. By alleviating their immediate worries about shelter and food, survivors can concentrate on the hard work of healing and recovery.”

Helping Pets in Tornado-Ravaged Communities

So many communities in Western Kentucky and the region were devastated by the December 11 tornadoes, and we know they continue to hurt deeply. KHS has worked tirelessly to support these communities during this heartbreaking crisis by helping dogs, cats and horses and assisting overwhelmed animal shelters in urgent need of help.

Since the storms, KHS has supported more than a dozen shelters in these counties, arranging animal transports, connecting shelters to desperately needed resources and sending in critical supplies.

Many companion animals were lost or injured or may have been surrendered as families dealt with the storms’ aftermath. KHS helped arrange transports out of the region of hundreds of dogs and cats who were in shelters before the storms so that the shelters would have room for these incoming stray and owner-surrendered pets.

Many of these shelters now face the additional burdens of housing, feeding and caring for displaced animals and providing critical supplies to pet owners who may have lost everything. Thanks to you and your support, KHS will be able to continue to help these shelters and their animals as these resilient Kentucky communities undertake the difficult task of rebuilding their homes and lives.

PetSmarter Charities awarded KHS a $125,000 grant to help pets and people impacted by the December 11 storms. The Natural Disaster Emergency Relief Grant is allowing KHS to provide financial assistance and supplies to local animal shelters through KHS’ Love 120 program, which has the goal of positively impacting companion animals in all 120 Kentucky counties.
Ethan’s Year of Hope & Joy 🐾

It’s been almost a year since Ethan Almighty stole the hearts of caring people from all over Kentucky and the world. Hundreds of thousands of supporters have followed his journey over the past year, as he has grown from a starving, dying puppy to a healthy, happy, silly dog who delights everyone he meets. We are grateful to all the members of Team Ethan who have cheered him every step of the way and to Ethan Almighty, who has filled the year with hope and joy for so many. 🐾

Ethan was dumped in the KHS parking lot on January 29, 2021, weighing just 39 pounds. Against all odds, Ethan not only survived, but thrived and won the hearts of animal lovers everywhere. This joyful pup is now over 120 pounds.

In September 2020, Ethan and his caretakers attended the annual awards luncheon for the Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association (KVMA). Ethan was inducted into the KVMA Animal Hall of Fame and Dr. Emily Bewley was named Veterinarian of the Year. Ethan’s “poppa” Jeff and the veterinary support team of Angela, Jaci, Rebecca and Dakota were also recognized for their outstanding efforts in saving Ethan’s life.

After receiving overwhelming public support, in May Busch named Ethan as “Chief Tasting Officer” for the beer brand’s new nonalcoholic Dog Brew.

Follow Ethan on Facebook and Instagram @EthanAlmighty

Become a 2022 Member

Your 2022 membership to the Kentucky Humane Society means so much to us, but it means even more to the cats, dogs and horses who are served by your generosity. When you renew your membership, you help heal their wounds and warm their hearts. To renew your membership, visit kyhumane.org/donate or mail your gift using the enclosed envelope. 🐾
Mighty Paws MacGregor

MacGregor arrived at KHS suffering from broken metacarpal bones in his right and left paws. While we may never know what caused this unusual injury, we do know that it was the result of blunt force trauma. We consulted a veterinary specialist who determined that MacGregor would need extensive – and expensive – surgery. Thanks to supporters like you, we were able to schedule surgery to save MacGregor’s paws. Then something incredible happened. Prior to the procedure, X-rays revealed that MacGregor’s paws were starting to heal on their own and, if they continued to do so, surgery would not be necessary after all! MacGregor stayed in a foster home with a veterinarian, where he continued to heal with the help of splints and frequent checkups instead of surgery. After months in care at KHS, MacGregor was finally ready for adoption, and he found his forever home in late December. Generous donations from supporters like you ensured this affectionate, handsome puppy was able to heal so that he can live an active and happy life!

Phoenix Frankie Mae

Phoenix was brought to KHS after she narrowly escaped a fire that destroyed her owner’s home. This poor calico kitty had burns on all four paws, nose and ears, singed fur and a large wound on her right front leg. She also arrived at KHS extremely underweight – neighbors reported they did not find Phoenix until more than a week after the fire, so she had very little to eat in addition to suffering from untreated burns. The KHS veterinary team went right to work on Phoenix, stitching her wounds, bandaging her paws and giving her antibiotics, pain medication and nutritious food. Miraculously, her owner, Audrey, saw a post about Phoenix on our Facebook page and contacted KHS. She had been searching for weeks for her lost Frankie Mae. We are thrilled that Audrey and Frankie Mae/Phoenix (photo on left) have been reunited! And we want to thank everyone who donated in Phoenix’s honor. Your generosity means the world to our injured and ill animals.

Rocky Mountain Flint

Like many horses who come to KHS’ Willow Hope Farm, Flint was rescued from the Kentucky mountains, where there is simply not enough food for the many free-roaming horses who struggle to survive there. Alone and without friends or a herd, Flint was being bullied by a local herd stallion as they competed for the mountain’s scarce resources. The stallion regularly chased him across dangerous and steep rocky terrain, which is likely how Flint severely injured his left front leg. Luckily, the KHS equine team was able to catch him and bring him to safety in time to save his leg and his life. Today, Flint is in good spirits as he recuperates at Willow Hope Farm with the food and care he needs while his leg fully heals. He is doing so well that he has begun the training he needs to help prepare him for adoption and give him a second chance for a safe and healthy life.

View all KHS adoptable horses and learn more about our equine program at kyhumane.org/horses or follow us at facebook.com/khsequine.
In December we announced our 2021 Volunteers of the Year. Congratulations to all the honorees! We are grateful they choose to volunteer their time and talents to help the animals and people at the Kentucky Humane Society.

**Five Hanshaw: Foster Volunteer of the Year**

Five Hanshaw has been a foster for KHS for over two years. She was nominated by Kelly from the foster team, who had some wonderful things to say about Five: “Five is always incredibly supportive of the foster program. She goes out of her way to make room for fosters when we are in need, takes great care of animals in need of medical care, and she even went to the Pet Retreat to help out with all of the hurricane animals we took in.”

**Dennis Lawrence: East Campus Volunteer of the Year**

“Dennis is always helpful,” says Adoption Counselor Malorie. “When staff are too busy with animal care and adoptions to even take a breath, it’s so nice that he’s helping with laundry and the dishes so we don’t get more behind. He is such a great member of our team.” Dennis says that every time he leaves East Campus, he is in a good mood since he’s able to have a part in helping the animals.

**Jennifer Schoenegge: Photography Volunteer of the Year**

For the last four years, Jennifer has volunteered her photography talent to KHS. Her signature style helps shelter animals get adopted faster, and she has taken photos of the Waggin’ Trail top fundraiser’s pet to be used in promotional materials as well as the photos of a cat and dog who will be featured on KHS’ new Veterinary Mobile Unit. Jennifer’s advice for new volunteers is to, “just say ‘yes’ to any and all volunteer opportunities offered.”

**Becky Edwards: S.N.I.P. Clinic Volunteer of the Year**

Becky started volunteering at S.N.I.P. Clinic in 2021 and made such an impact that she was nominated by three clinic staff members for this honor. Veterinary Assistant Adam had this to say about Becky: “As soon as she walks through the door, Becky is ready to help. Her kind heart and upbeat attitude is infectious to all the staff and the animals. Whether she’s caring for an animal waking up from surgery or doing daily tasks, Becky is wonderful.”

**Tracy Smith: Main Campus Volunteer of the Year**

Tracy has been a volunteer with KHS since 2005. KHS Media Manager Megan had this to say about Tracy: “She volunteers weekly and makes sure all of our adult dogs have a good walk, their runs are clean, and they have treats and enrichment. She’s a quiet volunteer so she often goes under the radar, but she absolutely deserves to be highlighted. Tracy is kind to the animals, kind to staff and always willing to help.”

**Dawn Poenie: Outreach Volunteer of the Year**

Dawn has volunteered at KHS for over 23 years. She is always willing to pitch in to help the Outreach Team, whether folding letters, stuffing envelopes, passing out Wag Bags for Waggin’ Trail, unloading trucks or helping out at the golf course for Pars for Pets. Dawn’s favorite thing about being a KHS volunteer is, “Helping the animals! I love the variety of special events KHS holds to generate money and awareness to help homeless animals.”
Shy guy Gus instantly bonded with his new family, which includes two kids and two cats.

Captain left for his new home as a companion horse! After training, X-rays and shoes, he still wasn’t very comfortable for riding, but he’s very happy being a friend to others in the pasture. Captain has a new career as a friend to a lonely horse. He’s such a sweet boy! We will miss his face around the farm but are happy for him to get a family of his own.

Steve was adopted at Purrfect Day Cafe

Puppy Franz Schubert with his new family

Ky Humane Society

Walk & Festival for the Animals

Join us Sunday, May 22, 2-5pm at Louisville’s Slugger Field for our annual pet-friendly walk and festival!

Register online and invite friends & family to support your charity walk.

kyhumane.org/wtrail