

# Kentucky Humane Society™

Lifelong Friends

## 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Helping Animals and Communities in Need





# LORI'S LETTER

The year also brought the devastating tornadoes to Western Kentucky. Thanks to our supporters, KHS was able to be there for the impacted shelters, arranging animal transports, connecting shelters to needed resources and sending in critical supplies.

We were thankful to put some of our more rigorous Covid restrictions behind us in 2021. In June, we stopped requiring adoption appointments and returned to our "walk-ins welcome" policy. Our volunteer program, closed since early 2020, reopened to existing volunteers in late summer. These 200-plus dedicated animal lovers returned to our shelter, clinics and events to put in more than 130,000 hours of work to help KHS and our animals.

We expanded our pet retention programs with the launch of our

Safety Net Foster Program, which provides temporary foster homes to pets whose owners are facing financial, medical or housing crises. And finally, we purchased a new mobile veterinary clinic vehicle, the CARE-a-van, to bring pet wellness and spay/neuter surgeries directly to communities that lack access to affordable veterinary care.

All of our accomplishments in 2021 were due to your gifts. Your support makes our lifesaving programs possible and helps us save even more of the animals we all love. All of us at KHS – including the animals – are thankful you supported our lifesaving work.

With gratitude,

Lori Kane Redmon  
President & CEO

The year 2021 will always be remembered as the year that Ethan arrived on the Kentucky Humane Society's doorstep and took us on a journey that we never could have expected. What began as a story of heartbreak quickly became one of hope and resiliency for people throughout the world. We are so grateful to the hundreds of thousands of people who cheered Ethan on as he grew from a starving, dying puppy to the healthy, gentle dog that he is today.

## Mission

The Kentucky Humane Society is a champion for companion animals. Through leadership, education and proactive solutions, we are creating more compassionate communities.

## Core Values

- Always Pawsitive
- Compassion Matters
- Inspire Others
- Ever Evolving

## Board of Directors

- |                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Jena Stone<br>Chair | Melissa Hicks     |
| Beth Andrews        | Rachel Horton     |
| Jennifer Branch     | Leigh Anne Hughes |
| Tara Bristow        | Chris Kramer      |
| Steve Codey         | Patrick Padgett   |
| Tony Deye           | Darren Stein      |
| Mark Grindstaff     | Ellen Stubbs      |
|                     | Karen Williams    |

## Leadership Team

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Lori Kane Redmon<br>President & CEO              | Sara Brown Meehan<br>PR & Marketing Director |
| Britney Chaney<br>Chief Operating Officer        | Jeff Callaway<br>Facilities Director         |
| Alisa Gray<br>Vice President of Outreach         | Bob McGaughey<br>Finance Director            |
| Karen Koenig<br>Vice President of Animal Welfare | Kat Rooks<br>Kentucky Initiatives Director   |

## Advisory Board

- Brian Haara   Rick Maynard   Patti Swope

[kyhumane.org](https://kyhumane.org)

502-366-3355



@kyhumane



# TORNADO DISASTER RESPONSE



In December 2021, tornadoes ravaged Western Kentucky, literally decimating entire communities. Mayfield, in Graves County, was one of the hardest hit. The Mayfield-Graves County Animal Shelter is one of our Love 120 shelter partners. We have worked extensively with them over the past three years to save the lives of animals in their county. We were heartbroken to see this community that we love and know, and the region, shattered by the storms.

KHS mobilized immediately after the storms to support impacted shelters and their animals. We transformed our Sam Swope Pet Treatment & Lifesaving Center (Main Campus) into an emergency hub to shelter animals from across the ravaged region. Within days, we had evacuated animals that were in shelters before the storms from Graves, Marion, Muhlenberg, Hopkins and other counties. This allowed the communities to focus on reuniting displaced pets with their families.

We simultaneously worked to evacuate 100-plus cats and kittens from multiple shelters in the region pre-storm. We brought them to Main Campus, where our veterinary team made sure they were healthy and able to be flown out of the region to be adopted. Then, at the break of dawn four days after the storms, KHS and the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) transported the cats to the airport and loaded them onto a flight to Massachusetts. As the plane took off, KHS and ASPCA staff and volunteers – and even airport employees – broke into cheers, knowing these cats were on their way to finding new homes, and that Kentucky animal shelters had room for incoming pets displaced by the tornadoes.

In the months following, we worked with more than a dozen municipal and nonprofit animal shelters in impacted counties, arranging animal transports, connecting shelters to needed resources and sending in critical supplies. We partnered with a number of animal welfare groups to assist us in our efforts to provide supplies or resources, including the ASPCA, Bissell Pet Foundation, VCA Animal Hospitals, Greater Good Charities, PetSmart Charities, PEDIGREE Foundation and Banfield Foundation.

It was a monumental effort that allowed us to meet our mission and assist Kentucky animal shelters in urgent need of help, allowing them to reunite displaced pets with their families and focus on their hurting communities.







## ETHAN'S JOURNEY

On January 29, 2021, a starving dog was dumped at KHS' Main Campus. The poor dog was a rack of bones, weighing just 38 pounds when he should have weighed over 100. His temperature was so low it didn't register on the thermometer. He was the thinnest dog our shelter veterinarian, Dr. Emily Bewley, had ever seen that was still alive.

The KHS veterinary team began working to save his life, warming him with heated blankets, administering IV fluids and feeding him every two hours. When he displayed rapid breathing and neurological symptoms, we rushed him to an emergency hospital.

For days it was touch and go. Hoping to give this special dog a bit of luck, we named him Ethan, meaning "enduring" and "long-lived" in Hebrew. After five days, he was strong enough to return to KHS, where he received round-the-clock care and feeding. As his rehabilitation continued, Ethan made small but steady progress each day.





Hundreds of thousands of compassionate people across the globe followed Ethan's story on KHS' social media and in the local and national news. Members of "Team Ethan" cheered every new milestone: the first time he walked on his own, his first bark, his first sleepover outside of the shelter.

After seven weeks in our care, Ethan the miracle dog was well enough to be adopted. It was no surprise when our Facilities Director, Jeff Callaway, and his family decided to bring Ethan home. When Ethan first arrived at KHS, he and Jeff had an instant connection, with Jeff coming to the shelter twice each night to feed him.

Team Ethan continued to cheer throughout 2021. They cheered when Ethan was awarded the title of "Chief Tasting Officer" for Busch Beer's nonalcoholic dog brew. They cheered – and stripped the shelves clean – when Feeders Pet Supply created a line of Ethan dog biscuits to benefit KHS.

Ethan, now a happy, healthy 130-pound dog, spends his days going to work at KHS with Jeff, playing with his dog and human siblings and taking photos with his fans when he's out on the town.

It's incredible that the dog who almost died became a symbol of hope and resilience for so many. Among his many accomplishments, perhaps the most important is the attention he brought to the thousands of other shelter animals who are just as deserving of love and second chances.



On January 29, 2021, the Henderson-Hughes family was dropping off wish list donations at Main Campus when they discovered Ethan, then a starving dying dog, lying 20 feet from the adoption lobby. They alerted KHS staff, who rushed out to carry Ethan to the veterinary ward, where his life would be saved. Here, they pose months later with a healthy Ethan and Jeff.



## KVMA Hall of Fame

The Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association (KVMA) awarded KHS Veterinarian, Dr. Emily Bewley, Veterinarian of the Year for her outstanding efforts saving Ethan's Life. Ethan's "Poppa," Jeff, and the KHS veterinary support team were also recognized, as was Ethan, who was inducted into the KVMA Hall of Fame.





# KEEPING PETS WITH THEIR FAMILIES

Each year, over 6 million dogs and cats are surrendered to shelters in the United States. KHS' pet retention programs work to reduce the number of pets surrendered to Louisville's shelters by supporting families, so they can keep their pets healthy, happy and at home.

## Pet Help Line

In 2021, more than 13,000 community members reached out to the KHS Pet Help Line for assistance with their pets. Our Pet Help Line specialists provide free counseling and support to struggling pet owners seven days a week. This includes behavior advice, financial aid for veterinary care, temporary pet housing, free pet food and supplies and other resources to help pet owners overcome issues to keep pets in their homes.



## KHS Launches Safety Net Foster Program to Provide Temporary Safe Housing for Pet Owners in Need

In 2021, KHS launched its Safety Net Foster Program to help families keep their beloved pets in times of crisis and financial hardship instead of surrendering them to shelters. Through the program, KHS provides temporary foster homes for pets whose owners are facing situations such as eviction, rehabilitation, hospitalization, military deployment or loss of housing. During the first year of the program, our Safety Net Foster Program provided temporary foster homes to 36 pets, giving the owners the time they needed to address their hardship.





## Pet Food Bank

Nearly 1,800 pets relied on KHS in 2021 for nutritious food and full bellies. Our Pet Food Bank distributes food and other basic supplies, including cat litter and enrichment toys, to pet owners who need a little extra help to provide for their pets so they don't have to surrender them to shelters.

## Financial Aid

Through donations, grant funding and partnerships with local veterinarians, KHS helps financially struggling families afford care for their animals. In 2021, we provided financial vouchers to support 298 pets, at an average of \$109 per animal. Services included basic and emergency veterinary care, spay/neuter surgeries, dental care and pet housing deposits among others.

## S.N.I.P. Clinic

Spay/neuter surgeries remain a key strategy in reducing the number of animals surrendered to our city's shelters. Since 2007, the S.N.I.P. Clinic has provided high-quality, low-cost surgeries to pet owners who may otherwise not be able to afford to spay or neuter their pets. In 2021, S.N.I.P. Clinic performed 8,541 surgeries, 35% of which were free or at reduced fees, including free surgeries for pit bulls.

## Dog & Cat Training

Whether teaching basic obedience or resolving problem behaviors, KHS' certified training experts use positive reinforcement to help shelter animals become more adoptable and keep owned pets in their homes. In 2021, we trained 128 shelter animals who needed a little help to get ready for their forever homes, and 658 owned pets who needed a little help with their manners. We also launched Mod Squad, a new program that provides counseled adoptions for harder-to-place dogs. Our Mod Squad behavior experts work closely with adopters to continue training regimens post adoption. Forty-two dogs found homes during the program's first year.

Ashley and her 18-year-old Siamese cat, Monkey, became homeless when a fire destroyed their apartment. Ashley had to move back in with her family while she saved for a new apartment. Unfortunately, Ashley's family was extremely allergic to cats, so she could not bring her beloved Monkey with her. Ashley called KHS' Pet Help Line, where staff answer calls from families and pet owners in need. Through KHS' Safety Net Program, KHS was able to provide Monkey with a secure, loving foster home while Ashley saved for a new apartment. After several months, Ashley and Monkey were able to move into their new home.





# FINDING LOVING HOMES FOR ANIMALS

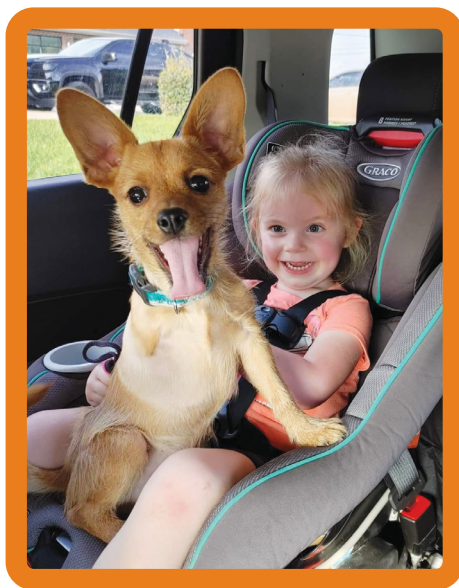
## ADOPTIONS

As Kentucky's largest animal adoption agency, we rescue, rehabilitate and find homes for thousands of needy animals each year. In 2021, we found loving homes for 5,317 cats, dogs and horses through four adoption sites: our Main Campus, East Campus and Willow Hope Farm, as well as adoption partner Purrfect Day Cafe. For the third year in a row, cat adoptions led the pack, with 63% of all adoptions being cats – thanks largely to an innovative and lifesaving partnership with Purrfect Day Cafe, which continues to be the most successful cat cafe the country.



## FOSTER FAMILIES

By temporarily opening their hearts and homes to our shelter animals, KHS foster families are some of our most valuable resources in helping save lives. In 2021, the number of foster volunteers increased by 46%. They provided foster care to 2,400 – nearly half – of our animals, including those too young to be spay/neutered or adopted, those recovering from medical issues and animals who simply needed a break from the shelter.



## WAYSTATION

Our Fern Creek and Eastpoint Pet Resorts offer boarding, grooming and doggie daycare services to owned pets, with the proceeds benefiting our shelter animals. Our Fern Creek Pet Resort also serves as a waystation for the ASPCA, providing overnight care for animals being transported to the Midwest from overcrowded shelters in the Southern U.S. In 2021, 3,155 animals, including 3,112 dogs and 43 cats, spent the night at our Fern Creek Pet Resort on their way to finding new homes.





# HELPING ANIMALS ACROSS KENTUCKY



## LOVE 120

KHS' Love 120 initiative aims to improve the lives of companion animals in all 120 counties in Kentucky.

We work to reduce the number of animals surrendered to rural shelters by providing access to affordable spay/neuter surgeries and wellness services to owned pets; to improve shelter conditions and animal health by reducing overcrowding through transports to KHS; and ultimately to help shelters increase their lifesaving capacity. Since Love 120 began in 2019, KHS has positively impacted 61 Kentucky counties by finding homes for over 8,700 shelter animals and providing 1,778 spay/neuter surgeries and 2,450 wellness services to owned pets in rural communities. In 2021, we transported almost 4,000 animals from 40 Kentucky shelters to KHS, including 1,480 dogs and puppies and nearly 2,500 cats and kittens.

## RURAL CATS

In 2021, 3,348 cats and kittens were adopted from KHS. Many of these animals came to KHS from overcrowded rural Kentucky shelters that lack enough adopters and resources to manage all the cats coming through their doors. Bringing them to KHS for adoption has saved lives and even helped many rural shelters end the practice of euthanizing healthy cats due to space.

## EQUINE C.A.R.E.

In 2021, KHS' Equine C.A.R.E. (connect, assist, rescue, educate) program placed 85 Kentucky horses in safe homes or rescue. These included horses rescued from starvation in the Eastern Kentucky Mountains, neglect situations throughout the state, and horses surrendered to us by owners who could no longer care for them. The program continues to focus on horses in transition, moving them from crisis into safe homes or rescue, providing re-homing services to horse owners who can no longer keep them, matching available horses with adopters, and making educational tools and resources available to our equine community.



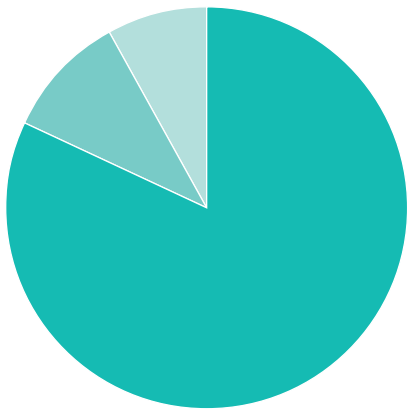
## THE LOVE 120 CARE-A-VAN

The year 2021 was a game-changer for our Love 120 initiative to positively impact all 120 counties in Kentucky. We received a grant from the Joanne W. Gauntt Foundation to purchase a mobile veterinary clinic vehicle to allow us to bring low-cost pet wellness and spay/neuter surgeries directly to communities throughout the state that lack access to affordable veterinary care.

KHS deploys the CARE-a-van to Kentucky communities – both urban and rural – to serve as a temporary veterinary clinic to provide care to local pet owners. CARE-a-van services include vaccines, heartworm tests, microchips, flea/tick and heartworm preventatives, nail trims and spay/neuter surgeries.

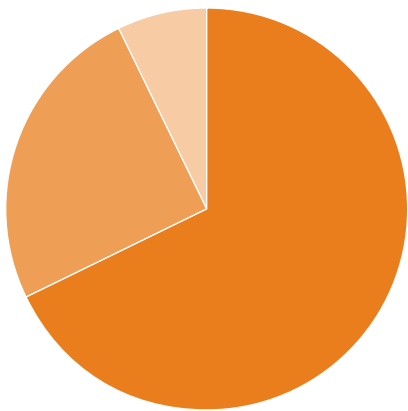


# FINANCIALS



## FUNDING ALLOCATIONS

- **Programs** 82% (\$5,816,811)
- **Fundraising** 10% (\$702,412)
- **Admin** 8% (\$574,664)



## FUNDING SOURCES

- **Donations & Special Events** 68% (\$8,123,718)
- **Pet Programs & Services** 25% (\$3,040,460)
- **Investment Income** 7% (\$852,908)

Total ending net asset value as of September 30, 2021, was \$23,826,227.

The numbers reflected in this section represent the unaudited results of the operations for the Kentucky Humane Society during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021. KHS recognized \$1.8 million in revenue from forgiveness of a Paycheck Protection Program loan and Employee Retention Tax Credits. These amounts are included in the Donations & Special Events section of the Funding Sources.







# INCREASED SUPPORT

Support for KHS from our own community grew in 2021. Our signature events achieved their most successful fundraising year ever, and we added a new golf fundraiser to reach a new audience.

## WAGGIN' TRAIL

More people participated in our 27th annual Waggin' Trail walk and fundraiser than ever before and raised \$102,000 for KHS. Called the Waggin' Trail Walk for Ethan and Friends in 2021, the event was virtual, allowing people from all over the country to help us raise money for the animals.

## TUXES & TAILS

Our intimate gala for 320 guests and donors, the 2021 Tuxes & Tails raised a record amount of money for our lifesaving work – \$349,000. This was especially needed because in 2021, KHS provided more specialty surgeries and treatments than ever for before. On a lighter note, the Woofstock theme inspired an evening of fun costumes, a hulu hoop contest and much-appreciated surprise donation matches.

## PARS FOR PETS

In 2021, we hosted our inaugural Pars for Pets Golf Shamble at the Big Springs Country Club, bringing in \$60,000 and new supporters.





# KHS BY THE NUMBERS 2021

**5,744** cats, dogs and horses found loving homes, including **5,317** animals who were adopted, **73** who were returned to their owners and **354** who were transferred out to other rescues for adoption

**8,541** spay/neuter surgeries were performed at the S.N.I.P. Clinic, including **2,969** that were free or discounted

**1,784** local pets had full bellies because of our Pet Food Bank

**298** financially struggling families received vouchers to help keep their pets healthy and in their loving homes

**2,428** animals spent time in loving foster homes

**85** horses were rescued and given second chances



## **SAM SWOPE PET TLC (MAIN CAMPUS)**

502-366-3355  
241 Steedly Drive  
Louisville, KY 40214

## **EAST CAMPUS**

502-272-1070  
1000 Lyndon Lane, Suite B  
Louisville, KY 40222

## **PURRFECT DAY CAFE**

502-916-5051  
1741 Bardstown Road  
Louisville, KY 40205

## **EASTPOINT PET RESORT**

502-253-2221  
13310 Magisterial Drive  
Louisville, KY 40223

## **FERN CREEK PET RESORT**

502-499-1910  
5225 Bardstown Road  
Louisville, KY 40291

## **S.N.I.P. CLINIC**

502-636-FIX1 (3491)  
4918 Preston Highway  
Louisville, KY 40213

## **PET GUARDIANSHIP PROGRAM**

One of the most loving things we can do for our pets is to make arrangements for their wellbeing when we are no longer able to provide care.

The Pet Guardianship Program is a benefit for membership of KHS' Lifelong Friends Society, which is open to anyone who includes KHS in their estate plans. KHS will be there for your pets when you no longer can.

Contact Kristin Binkowski for more information at 502-515-3147 or [kbinkowski@kyhumane.org](mailto:kbinkowski@kyhumane.org).