

Humane Society of the Black Hills

Annual Report

2020



Serving Animals. Serving Community

2020 Summary of Animal Activity

Intake	Dog	Cat	Other
Owner/Guardian Surrender	347	548	228
Return	108	57	10
Seized/Custody	174	81	24
Stray	937	1,599	65
Transfer In	54		
Wildlife In			195
Other			
Total	1,620	2,285	522

Outcome

Adoptions	755	1,326	256
Transfer Out	23	17	23
Return to Owner	768	184	7
Died	5	42	24
Release Wildlife			126
Euthanasia	95	682	39
DOA/Other	7	46	16
Total	1,653	2,297	491

A history of caring for animals in need

The Humane Society of the Black Hills has a long history forged by those concerned about animals in our communities.

In 1956, the shelter was simply the dog pound - a small fenced area on the outskirts of the city.

Just years later, a local veterinarian was contracted to take care of the unwanted animal population.

By 1967, dissatisfaction with the animal care situation led a local group to develop a strategy to create a humane society. The new organization was named the Pennington Humane Society.

Decades of the challenging work of caring for animals passed and by 1999, the current shelter at 1820 E. St. Patrick Street - the Humane Society of the Black Hills - was dedicated in a public ceremony.

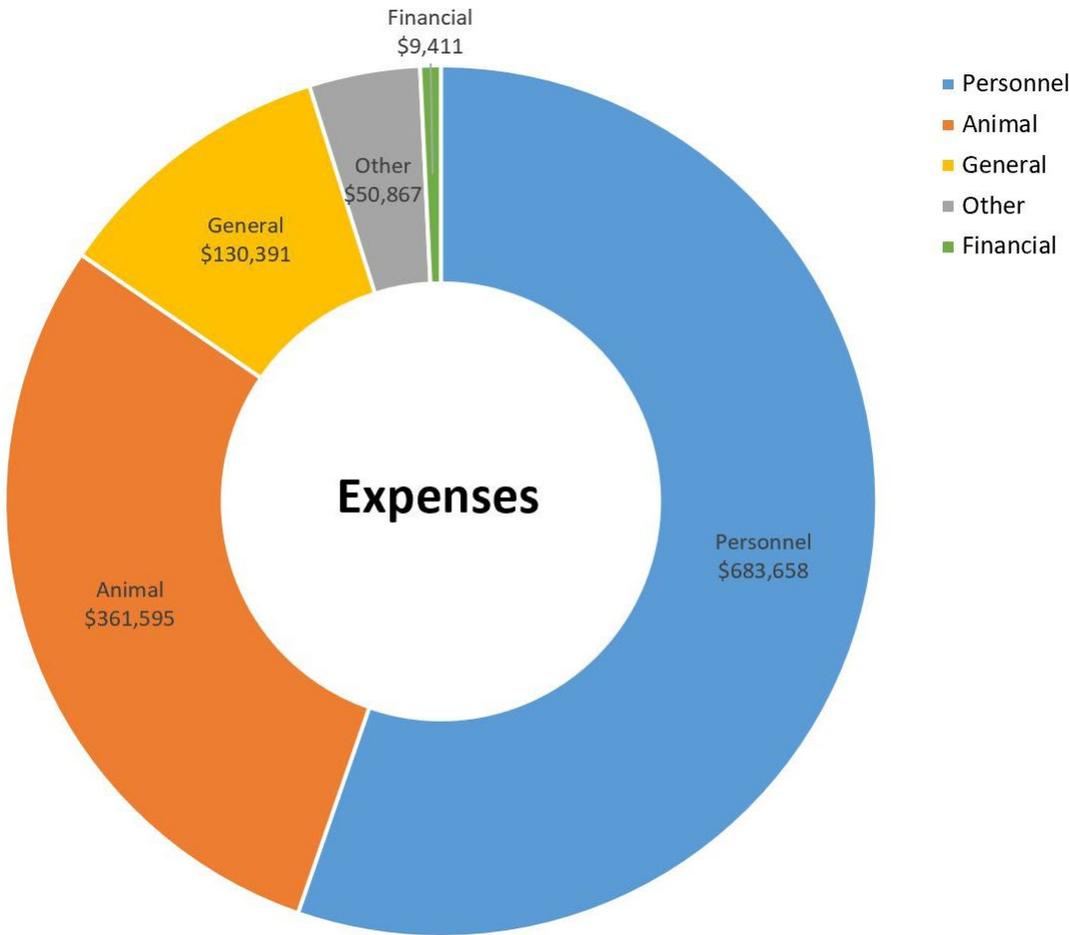
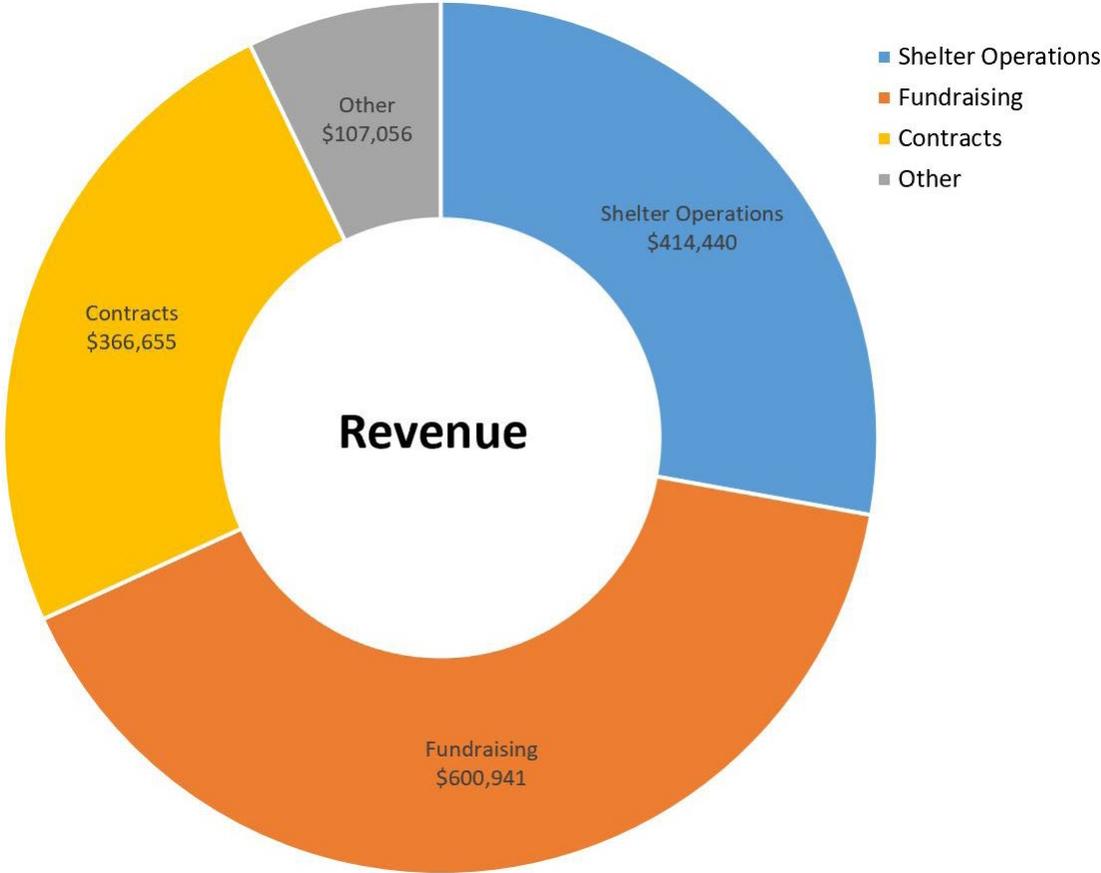
Today, the Humane Society of the Black Hills serves Rapid City and surrounding areas with the mission "Serving Animals. Serving Community".

The Humane Society takes in on average 5,000 animals in need each year and works overtime to manage the communities animal population and find homes and care for those animals most in need.



HSBH Adoption Advisor, Trainer, Kay, takes a minute with Chuckie. Chuckie's story didn't start at the Humane Society but, hopefully, it's happily ever after from here on out. **Chuckie's story is on page 6**

2020 Financial Activity



Learning from the past.

The Humane Society of the Black Hills stepped in to 2020 in what we felt was a secure position: adoptions were good, we had plans for projects and education programs, we had great public engagement and participation. It was a recipe for a vibrant and successful 2020. We were excited, to be honest, for the coming year.



Jerry Steinley
Executive Director

But then COVID-19 happened.

By March, supplies we had taken for granted were suddenly hard to find and, when found, expensive. By June, we closed to walk-in traffic offering only essential services and curbside adoptions. We reopened on July 1 with mask and distancing requirements in place and, like many others, uncertain if we were doing the right thing but knowing we had to move forward, had to do something.

We had anticipated an influx of animals when coronavirus struck and prepared in-house for worst case scenarios. Fortunately, worst case didn't happen. At one point during these long months, the humane society had less than a half dozen dogs under

the roof; staff walked through quiet kennels - something we'd never seen before that time and haven't seen in the months since.

Cat numbers weren't overly impacted by the pandemic. Cats still came in true to historical patterns and cat adoptions continued unabated. Cats, it seems, are great company during a pandemic; but aren't they always?

Animal care didn't suffer in 2020. While staff worried about themselves and their families, they came to work each day and took care of the animals that relied on them for clean kennels, food and exercise.

Caring for animals doesn't change in the face of adversity.

Through all this, we learned our mission - caring for animals and community - doesn't change in the face of adversity; We learned a team of caring professionals can work through some pretty serious challenges; and, we learned that caring for animals can provide a real sense of relief during the most difficult times.

We're hopeful 2021 brings only good fortune to the humane society, to the animals and people, in the communities we serve.



Long after and Crystal needed the Humane Society before they adopted home. The care of M



20
2,3



Our March for Cats fundraiser to update cat habitats was at the most unfortunate time but the project still came together. The cat rooms were renovated thanks to Terry Fuller and staff ready and willing to put in some elbow grease for cat care.



One of getting was our home.

Building for the future



After everyone had left for the day, Erin, Melissa, and Ryan (above) stayed behind to provide much-needed grooming for an older dog who had come to the Humane Society in dire need of care. Fortunately, at the year's end, Ryan (at left) met Mattie and took the fine old dog and got him into a great home. Thanks go out to the staff for taking such good care of Mattie and Ryan for giving him a home.

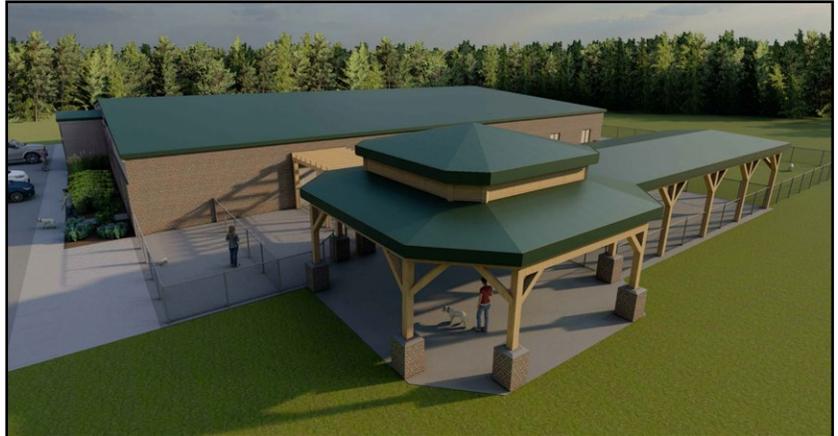
2020: 34 adoptions!



One of the Humane Society's most important jobs is finding great homes for animals. Hildegard the cat was our longest cat resident until the day she went

We hope to see you (in person!) in 2021

Pavilion scheduled for summer groundbreaking



Expanding services, increasing opportunities and public engagement were key components in the Board of Director's decision to move forward on a long-discussed pavilion project in 2021.



The challenges of 2020 were very real and delayed the project for a year, but it was clear that the benefits to the Humane Society of the Black Hills and the community outweighed the challenges and further delays.

General Use

The pavilion is intended as a space to host groups, classrooms, and events. It may also be available as a public space for events such as a dog-friendly wedding or gatherings. Finally, the project is a way for the Humane Society to better accommodate and engage with the public, which is crucial to the care of the animals under our care.

Specifications

The gazebo alone will be 30 feet x 30 feet; the covered area will be 50 feet x 18 feet. All told, the project will cover 1,800 sq. feet of ground on the east side of the existing building.

Donor Opportunities

Our fundraising goal is \$100,000 for this project. A generous donor has committed \$30,000 as matching funds meaning your donation doubles up to \$30,000!

For more information, call (605) 394-4170 or visit www.hsbh.org

From the cover

Chuckie's Good Luck



Chuckie was only at the Humane Society of the Black Hills for one month but, like so many other animals, he tugged at a lot of heart strings while he was here.

Chuckie was a great dog who appreciated everything and everyone which is why he was well-liked during his short stay. What made his great disposition even more impressive was that he was suffering with chronic eye irritation known as entropion.

Entropion is a condition where the lower eyelid is turned inward making the eyelashes rub against the eyeball causing, as you'd imagine, irritation. Chuckie had this in both eyes.

Chuckie's good luck was when he was brought in as a stray in October. Already a year old, Chuckie had been dealing with entropion for quite some



time but, once in the system at the Humane Society, his future became brighter than his past.

Chuckie had successful bilateral entropion surgery in early November and after recovering at the Humane Society, he was adopted exactly one month after being brought in.

We're glad to have crossed paths with Chuckie and hundreds other great animals like him that just need a little help getting fixed up and in to great homes.

Every year there are thousands of animals that come through the front door at the Humane Society of the Black Hills; if you would like to adopt a new family member, visit our website at www.hsbh.org and find your new best friend.

Programs & Services

Adoption

Our mission is to place the right pet with the right family. In 2020, the humane society facilitated the adoptions of more than 2,400 animals.

Volunteer Program

At the humane society, animal lovers make up the volunteer force and they all have compassion for animals and a commitment to community.

Education and Outreach

The humane society is involved in the community and schools offering programs and classes. Call the humane society to learn more about our community education options.

Licensing

Through the licensing process, your information and your pet's information will be on file for easy identification.

Lost and Found

Hundreds of stray and lost dogs, cats and other animals are brought to the humane society each year.

Microchipping

A microchip allows contact information to be available so a pet can be tracked back to its owner.

Animal Surrender

The Humane Society of the Black Hills will care for, and work to get adopted,

all surrendered animals. Last year, more than 1,100 animals were surrendered to the humane society.

Food Assistance

Food assistance is available for people who need help feeding an animal during difficult times in their lives.

Hardship Hold

People in a transitional phase in life can receive temporary dog housing at the humane society.

Foster Program

Foster parents provide temporary housing and care until a suitable home can be found for many animals.



"Serving Animals. Serving Community."
Board of Directors



Karen Delicate
President
HSBH Board 2019
Facilities Project
Coordinator, Black Hills
Corporation



**Carolyn
Ellington**
Vice President
HSBH Board 2019
Technical Writer/
Editor, Navy
Contractors (retired)



John Johnson
Treasurer
HSBH Board 2018
Internal Audit Manager,
Black Hills
Corporation

Humane Society of the Black Hills

The Humane Society of the Black Hills (HSBH) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that has worked with the community to provide shelter and care for lost and abused animals for 50 years.

Incorporated on November 29, 1968, the HSBH currently operates the only major animal shelter west of the Missouri River in South Dakota.

Each year, the humane society rescues more than 5,000 animals. Because of the shortage of shelters, animals are picked up and brought to this shelter from as many as 20 different counties.

We are also an open admissions shelter – We will not turn away any animal, and we do not put a time limit on an animal's stay at this facility.

We are not affiliated with any other humane societies and rely on public funding and donations to keep our doors open. Donations to national groups do not reach the pets that stay with us.

The HSBH provides animal welfare services and humane law enforcement to Rapid City and Pennington County as an independent contractor. Our Animal Services and Enforcement officers uphold codes, ordinances, and the State of South Dakota laws pertaining to domestic animals.



**Jade
Capezzuto**
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HSBH Board 2020
LSW, Avantara
Mountain View
Social Services
Director



Nick Stroot
HSBH Board 2019
Human Resource
Director,
City of Rapid City



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HSBH Board 2020
Attorney, Pennington
County Public
Defender's Office



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HSBH Board 2020
Rapid City City Council
liaison member;
Director, Avantara
Mountain View



Jillian Anawaty
HSBH Board 2020
Vibrant Life
Yoga & Pilates, owner



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HSBH Board 2016
Project Manager
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Humane Society of the Black Hills
1820 East Saint Patrick Street
Rapid City, South Dakota
57703

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Ways to Give

The Humane Society of the Black Hills is your local humane society and all donations help the local animals and families who need it most. We are not affiliated with national organizations and rely on local donations to provide services to more than 5,000 animals each year.

- Website** Visit www.hsbh.org and click on "Donate!" and follow the simple steps to help out!
- Mail** 1820 E. St. Patrick Street, Rapid City, SD 57703
- Call** If you'd like to learn about other giving opportunities, give us a call! (605) 394-4170

Get in Touch

Shelter Operating Hours

Monday – Friday: 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Saturday – Sunday: 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Lost and Found Receiving Hours

Monday – Friday: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Saturday – Sunday: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Contact

hsbhinformation@gmail.com

Main Line: (605) 394-4170

Fax Line: (605) 355-3430

www.hsbh.org

Animal Services and Enforcement: (605) 394-4132
or email to animalcontrol@hsbh.org