



FUR THE RECORD

2018 FALL NEWSLETTER



HAPPENINGS & HAPPY TAILS AT HSSC
SPECIAL SECTION: 2017 ANNUAL REPORT



HSSC
THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF SARASOTA COUNTY

A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



We're so grateful for your support, and we hope you'll be part of our future. You can always reach me at cbenson@hssc.org or 941.955.4131 x102.

Engaging the hearts, hands, and minds of the community to help animals. That's the mission of the Humane Society of Sarasota County, but what does it mean in practice? In this edition of *Fur the Record*, you'll see how we engage hearts through our partnerships with local animal welfare organizations. How we engage hands through our Pet Therapy Program. And how we engage minds through Humane Education. You'll see how—together—we are transforming lives, making a difference in our community, and generating momentum for future growth.

We're so proud of what we've accomplished, and we're even more excited for what the future holds. With our impending shelter renovation, we're building a shelter that will last a lifetime and laying the foundation for programs that will flourish for generations.

□ CHRISTEN BENSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

REMEMBERING KENNY FLYNN



On August 28, 2018, Kenneth "Kenny" Peter Flynn passed away unexpectedly at the young age of 25 after suffering a cardiac arrest. Kenny was an avid animal lover and devoted the last 4.5 years of his life to the Humane Society of Sarasota County, his home away from home.

Kenny believed every pet deserved a chance. He spent countless hours and days fostering animals in need of medical or behavioral rehabilitation. Kenny's compassion and care were contagious. He was loved by all at HSSC.

To honor Kenny, his framed photo greets potential adopters at the doors of Pod 1, the pod that houses our adoptable dogs, now known as "Kenny's Pod."

MISSION: ENGAGING HEARTS

CARE-A-VANS & HELPING HANDS

As the area's premier no-kill shelter, HSSC believes it is our duty to help local shelters. That means weekly trips in HSSC's Care-A-Van to facilities like Manatee County Animal Services (MCAS) and Sarasota County Sheriff's Office Animal Services (SCAS). Since the end of August, we have brought in 863 animals from shelters throughout Florida.

We also join forces with other organizations to provide their animals with access to critical medical care. Samson was a resident at SCAS when he started not eating, losing weight, and being lethargic. SCAS staff brought him to the Animal Clinic of HSSC, where we discovered a foreign body in his digestive tract—a life-threatening scenario. Our veterinarian removed the foreign body, and he made a full recovery and is ready for adoption. The cost to SCAS? None, thanks to the generosity of local donors. Year to date, we've provided important medical care for 44 other SCAS animals.

We envision a community where all pets are cared for and loved. We believe that working together is the key to making that vision a reality.



ARRIVING AT HSSC IN THE CARE-A-VAN



SAMPSON RECEIVING TREATMENT



DR. IVAN IVANOV, HSSC MEDICAL DIRECTOR

MEET OUR NEW MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Dr. Ivan is kind of a rock star—not just because he enjoys rock music and fast cars. Dr. Ivan (pronounced ee-vawn) is directly responsible for the medical care of every animal in our shelter (up to 150 animals on any given day). He has extensive training in orthopedic surgery and the latest medical technology, yet he brings a holistic touch to patient interactions. An HSSC staff veterinarian since 2016, Dr. Ivan began his tenure as Medical Director in July 2018. Rock on, Dr. Ivan.

The Animal Clinic of the Humane Society of Sarasota County is open to anyone seeking quality, affordable medical care for their pets. Make an appointment at 941.364.3605.

MISSION: ENGAGING HANDS

PET THERAPY VOLUNTEERS PUT LOVE TO WORK

PET THERAPY TEAM
JENNIFER AND NINJA

*Jennifer made two videos of our Pet Therapy Program in action.
Watch them on our YouTube channel: @HSSCSarasota*

The unconditional love of an animal is one of the best antidotes for life's struggles. Even a brief cuddle with a dog or cat can bring joy and happiness. HSSC's Pet Therapy Program continues to grow by leaps and bounds because it's fueled by the desire to share this love with the most vulnerable populations in our community.

"Later in life I rescued the new love-of-my-life, Ninja. I knew immediately that he was special, intuitive, and wanted nothing more than to please any human he met, so pet therapy was a no-brainer. HSSC pet therapy teams visit nursing homes, memory-care facilities, schools, hospitals, and are on-call for crisis situations. HSSC has its own certification program for its teams, which made it easy for us to become certified, and we started volunteering right away. There is no down side to pet therapy. Everyone benefits—from the person receiving the therapy to the dog and the handler to everyone witnessing the interactions. It's a win-win all the way around. What else in life is all pros and no cons? Ninja and I love being a part of HSSC's Pet Therapy Program." —Jennifer Tucker-Mogensen

MISSION: ENGAGING MINDS

EDUCATION 'FUR' LIFE

Ginny Armington, HSSC's Community Outreach Coordinator, believes in the power of humane education: "I really think the lessons we're teaching children are going to ensure a better future for all animals, so we don't have what we have right now: an influx of abandoned and neglected and abused dogs.□"

HSSC's Reading Fur Fun is a simple-yet-novel concept: students struggling to read sit with a Pet Therapy team and read to the dog. As Deana Cheaves, Reading Recovery Teacher at Emma E. Booker Elementary School, explains:

"The kids do not feel judged, and they really enjoy time reading with the dogs. We are so fortunate and blessed to have eight teams come every Thursday, and the kids get so excited to pick out their books. Kids who I know struggle with behavior in the classroom have changed their behavior because they know the dogs are coming." Booker Elementary was one of HSSC's first Reading Fur Fun Partners. We now have programs at schools across the county.

Humane education doesn't end with childhood. HSSC keeps it going with our Teen Club Program. Every school year, 40 teens spend one Saturday a month boning up on animal behavior and care with the goal of becoming full-fledged HSSC volunteers at the end of the program. They learn more than just practical skills, though.

"We don't tell them what to think," says K-9 Behavior Specialist and Teen Club Coordinator, John Pfohler. "We let them make up their own mind about controversial subjects, like animal welfare versus animal rights. We're just trying to teach them to think critically, to do their research. We keep reiterating to them that they are going to be voters, and this is what you do to be a responsible citizen."



2017 AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT

THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT, HSSC ACCOMPLISHED INCREDIBLE THINGS IN 2017

REVENUE & SUPPORT FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31,	2017	2016
Program Services	\$1,082,495	\$750,804
Contributions	\$883,935	\$872,199
Bequests	\$716,963	\$639,149
Investment Income	\$280,315	\$241,273
Retail	\$238,054	\$132,397
Special Events	\$195,477	\$124,074
Grants	\$61,460	\$31,175
Other	\$659	\$266
Total Revenue & Support	\$3,459,358	\$2,791,377

EXPENSES FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31,	2017	2016
Program Services	\$2,385,724	\$2,042,365
Support Services		
Fundraising	\$121,430	\$97,029
Administration	\$83,013	\$71,484
Total Operating Expenses	\$2,590,167	\$2,210,878

LIABILITIES	2017	2016
Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	\$167,509	\$181,527
Unearned Income	\$57,498	\$25,000
Total Liabilities	\$225,007	\$206,527

NET ASSETS	2017	2016
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$12,977,838	\$11,445,760
Temp Restricted Net Assets	\$1,484,222	\$1,398,205
Total Net Assets	\$14,462,060	\$12,843,965

Program Services are
92% of Expenses.

2017 ANNUAL GIVING

JANUARY 1, 2017 - DECEMBER 31, 2017

VISIONARY | \$25,000+

Community Foundation of Sarasota County □ Helen C. Schwieder Fund
E. Liberty Foundation, Inc.
John & Margaret Curran
The Frank J. & Lenora Dupuis Foundation
The Montei Foundation

HERO | \$10,000-\$24,999

ASPCA
Bayside Pet Resort & Spa, Inc.
Community Foundation of Sarasota County □ Swart Family Foundation
Community Foundation of Sarasota County □ Thelma Merker Fund
Gulf Coast Community Foundation □ Andrew & Audrey Belomyzy Charitable Trust Fund
Larry Byrd
Marianne Heinz
Robert A. Buzzelli Charitable Foundation
Samowitz Foundation
Samuel & Elizabeth Logan
Stephen Kaufmann

GUARDIAN | \$5,000-\$9,999

Al & Char Hatfield Family Foundation
Alexandra Miller
Carolyn Hammond Brye-Charitable Foundation, Inc.
Coalition For Conservative Leadership
Eldridge Body Shop, Inc.
Ernest & Kristine Brown
Jeannine McGee
Jeffrey & Joanna Roberti
Jones Family Foundation
Julia Montei
L. Derek & Heather Byrd
Lieselotte Hessler
Nancy DeLong
State Street Eating House + Cocktails
Synovus Trust
Sypret, Meshad, Resnick, Lieb, Dumbaugh, Jones, Krotec & Westheimer, P.A.
The James D. White Sr. Family Foundation



HAPPY TAIL: SASSY

THE DOG WHO CHANGED ONE FAMILY'S LIFE FOREVER

"We are a family of five: me, my wife, and three children who are seven, six, and three years old. A couple of months ago, our youngest was diagnosed with mild-to-moderate autism. We were relieved to finally find out why she had the severe fits that she is prone to. But we were also concerned that, while we knew why, we still did not know what to do. One of the professionals that was working with us on her case suggested that we get a dog as an Emotional Support Animal (ESA).

So we began looking and came by the Humane Society of Sarasota County. Jennifer, one of the workers there, began working with us very closely to find the right match for our family. She was very friendly and eager to find the dog that would become the next member of the Miller Family. Before long, we came across a six-year-old Rhodesian Ridgeback by the name of Sassy. There was an immediate connection between our family and Sassy, but most noticeable was the way our youngest became more verbal as soon as Sassy walked into the room. We knew that Sassy was the one. So within a short time we brought Sassy home and began to research how to train a dog to become an ESA dog.

We learned that a dog with a gentle demeanor can provide much-needed distraction and comfort to children with autism. So we have begun to work with her, bringing her into the room when our youngest has one of her fits. Just the other day, there was a complete meltdown involving potty training, so my wife brought Sassy into the bathroom. Sassy just sat there with her tail wagging, licking whomever she could get her face close enough to. And our youngest, amidst her meltdown, began hugging and kissing Sassy. What normally would have been a fit lasting an hour or more was over in about five minutes.

Sassy is a tender-hearted, loveable addition to our family. We have only had her for a short time, but already we could not imagine life without her. Not only has she worked her way into our hearts, but she has also helped us begin to deal with the challenges that lie ahead of us as we raise an autistic child."

□ *The Miller Family*



SASSY: ADOPTED 7-17-2018



L-R: JONAH, SASSY, KALLEIGH, & TESSA MILLER

SAVING MORE LIVES THAN EVER... TOGETHER

PAYING IT FORWARD

“From my earliest childhood memories, I have always loved dogs, and I have always recognized how much more dogs enrich the lives of the people around them than we could ever enrich their lives. To my family and me, they have always been, and continue to be, a wonderful gift. That is why I chose to serve HSSC—hands down the premier organization dedicated to the welfare of animals in our community—and to support financially as a Constant Companion. It was time to give something back.”

—*Thomas Trinchetto, MD – Chief Medical Officer, Doctors Hospital of Sarasota (pictured top right)*



*Thomas Trinchetto, MD
HSSC Board Member*

WON'T YOU BE OUR PARTNER?

HSSC receives no federal funding, nor are we funded by any national humane organization. Every donation serves a purpose and is used to help HSSC fulfill our mission to engage the hearts, hands, and minds of the community to help animals.

When you join our Partner Program, you'll be a part of HSSC. Partnerships come with a range of opportunities and benefits—for individuals and businesses. Your support will forever change the lives of animals in our community, and your commitment will help us save more lives each year. Your investment stays in your community and deeply impacts the area's premier no-kill shelter.

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

VISIONARY	\$25,000+
HERO	\$10,000–\$24,999
GUARDIAN	\$5,000–\$9,999
PATRON	\$1,000–\$4,999



To learn more about HSSC's Partner Program and other ways to make a gift, visit www.hssc.org/give/donate/.

2018 MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

IN MEMORY OF PERSON

Abby Schiff

Ursula Schiff

Arlene M. Brewer

Kimberly Busse

Pamela Revels &

David Yarletts

Arnold W. Fisse

Glen & Susan Haynes

Bela Forte

Cynthia Craig

Bob Belral

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Carola Williams

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Cherie Blanton

Bill & Nancy Johnson

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Donna Sutton

Lake Village Mobile

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Sunshine

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Denise Barker

Joan Campagna

John & Merrill Oberg

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John & Melinda Eich

Linda Swarz

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Ron & Carol Wallace

The Silver Oak

Neighborhood

Association

Edwin Turner

Barry & Judith Haber

Eileen Ohlendorf

Joellen Schumacher

Elaine Harter

Herb Strachman &

Marge Sandler

Eric Bjornlund

Robin Bradley

SUSI Team

Frances Boyd

Catherine Vasquez

Glen Gibney

Pamela Gibney

Graciela Crawshay

Walter Hamer

Jacob "Jake" Michael

Brown

David & Donna Bewley

Jane Fine

Joe & Theresa Santilli

Mike & Tonya Gowan

Robert Henry

Jean Matisse

Carolyn Hereford

Jeanne Armstrong

Ann Spratt

Jena Alyce Des Ermia

Linda Shaiman

Joseph Tuccillo

Stan & Rona Ross

Kenneth Norton

Bob Mellor

Kittie Chapman

E. & M. Burley

John & Meredith

Reeder, M.D.

William Chapman

Letitia Anderson

Cynthia Freedman

Lucas Clarke

David & Paula Carnes

Lucille A. Bubil

USF Federal Credit Union

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Marsha Ruddy Lund

Marge Millette

Horst & Mia Kneifel

Marian H. Jensen

Rae Burmaster

Mark Allen West

Rynne Belk

Marlowe Kline

Peter & Bonnie McLellan

Martha Starner

Charles & Emma Blalock, Jr.

Jason Gorczyca

Mike Giles

Steven & Elaine Dal Sasso

Mike Ritter

Suzanne Barksdale

Mildred Dunkerley

Kevin Flynn &

Bobbi Cohen

Morgan Brown

William Luff

Morgan Lee Rhodes

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& Family

Charlotte Harbor

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& Mappers Society

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Pam Hunnicutt

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Pat Lonsdale

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Roslyn Ross

Sophie Skiba

Pat Hamilton

Spencer Whittinghill

Daniel, George, &

Nancy Reid

2018 MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

Teresea Thompson

Carol Fournier

Viola Theroux

Kae Ellen Englander &
Ralph Rinaldo

Wanda K. Lantz

Haley Brackett

William Zane

Sharon Galardi

IN MEMORY OF PET

Abby Dazio

Marianne Moses-Hill

Baby Asarch

Ray Donnelly

Baci Davison

Mike & Joan Stoppa

Beau Landis

Tim & Kathy Sturm

Bentley Quillen

Gene & Karen Pitts

Berkeley Schulman

Jane Woods

Capone Huisking

Molly Schechter

Casy Gates

Merissa Bernstein

Cry Baby Danowit

Gene & Karen Pitts

Delilah

Janice Hamilton

Doug Donnelly

Samuel Williard

Jasper

David Fairchild

Katie Welicki

Bernice Stern

Keba Oatman

Tracy, Joey & Summit
St. John

Mookie

Arnie & Suzie Moschin

Neffi Hilferty

Adam, Michelle, &
Betty Wieser

Oliver Kilfoyle

Katie Erenati

Perry & Abe

Gene & Karen Pitts

Rabun

Carolyn Donovan

Rado

David Fairchild

Rudy Wilson

David & Kyla Weiner

Rusty Peters

Dick & Betty Fredlund

Sam

Alan & Deborah Abbey

Sam Nixon

Joan Nixon

Sammy Joels

Brenda Parker

Sara Bushorr

Dale & Laura Lattanzio

Gary & Patricia Bushorr

Snickers

Susan Altieri-Marks

Timber

Northern Whitetail
Scents, Inc.

Yeti Isaacson

Katie Erenati

IN HONOR OF PERSON

Alex Marinez

Daniel & Joan Ross

Bridget Judge

Marianne Heinz

Camden

Deborah Voloch

Candice Hunter

James Hunter

Carla Cimo

Chuck & Peggy Collins

Caryn Silver's Birthday

Ward & Roseann Larsen

Cathy & Paul Thomass

Ulf Sandstom

Chris Bertelson's

75th Birthday

Shelley Enlow

Clara Villanueva

Child Protection Center, Inc.

Colleen Darby's

90th Birthday

Ursula Schiff

Donna Koffman &

Tammy Karp

Penny Hill

Emme Wildman's

Birthday

Jerry & Enid Wildman

Francie Pages

Elizabeth Kaufmann

Robert & Kelly Dean

Ginny Hitchcock

Robert & Patricia Turffs

Gretchen Rimmer

Janet Holtz

Hailey Gattorna's

Birthday

Tracey Morgan

Heather Dhar

Koushik Dhar

Helen Fischer's 80th

Birthday

Irene Herman

Iris Nehemow

Nancy, Barry, &

Jaxon Shapiro

Jack Judge

Marianne Heinz

Jackie Fountaine

Donald & Louise Hannum

Jan Oriente

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Jim & Molly Wellen

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Rae Cote

Serge & Kim

Gharakhanian

Kim Teller

L. A. Teehan

Lindy Smith

John & Shelby Lindley IV

Lynn Dreher

Kathy Radick

Marriage of Nalani &

Matthew Mancini

Mitch & Lisa Olan

Marriage of Rachel &

Craig Campise

Mitch & Lisa Olan

Naomi Voit

J. R. Cannaday

Oliver Moore

Mathew & Julie Tarman

Patricia Silver

Sophia Wadsworth

Rod Dimon's 70th

Birthday

Ruth Parr-Firtha

Roger Jauch

Susan Gutek

Solana Perry

Vicki Dunn

Tim Warren

Tamara Lloyd

IN HONOR OF PET

Brownie

Michael Tweed

Chummy

Janet Berntsen

Freeway

Marvin Blair

Sylvester

Mike Powers

*Memorials & Honorariums
received 1/1/2018-12/31/2018.*

To donate, please visit www.hssc.org/how-to-contribute/.

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SAVE THE DATE

The 2018 Paws on the Catwalk raised \$145,000 in net proceeds to support our lifesaving programs. With a new day of the week (Fri-yay!) and a new location, the 2019 Paws on the Catwalk promises to be even more fun and fabulous. We hope you'll join us on Friday, March 1, 2019, at Art Ovation Hotel. www.hssc.org/pawsonthecatwalk/

WHY I SERVE...

"Three years ago, I was introduced to the Humane Society of Sarasota County by fellow board member Jaime Still at a fundraising event. I was so impressed with the volunteers, shelter employees, and board members that I met. I felt like they shared the same passion for animal welfare and companionship that I did. One of the reasons I serve on the HSSC Board is to honor the ones I've personally rescued. Since I was a young girl, I've taken in stray and unwanted animals. The most memorable as an adult is my dog Skippy, who I found as a stray in 2014 and who is still with me today. Molly, Oliver, Diego, and my latest rescue, Benji, have followed. They have given me joy and many wonderful memories in return for saving them. My hope for other people is that they can experience the same happiness I have received from rescuing animals. It is with pleasure that I serve on the board of an organization that provides this community with that opportunity."

□ **Sonia Gibson**, □ **Registered Nurse, Kindred at Home**



BENJI & SONIA GIBSON

CONTACT US

2331 15th Street | Sarasota, FL 34237 | 941.955.4131 | www.hssc.org

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