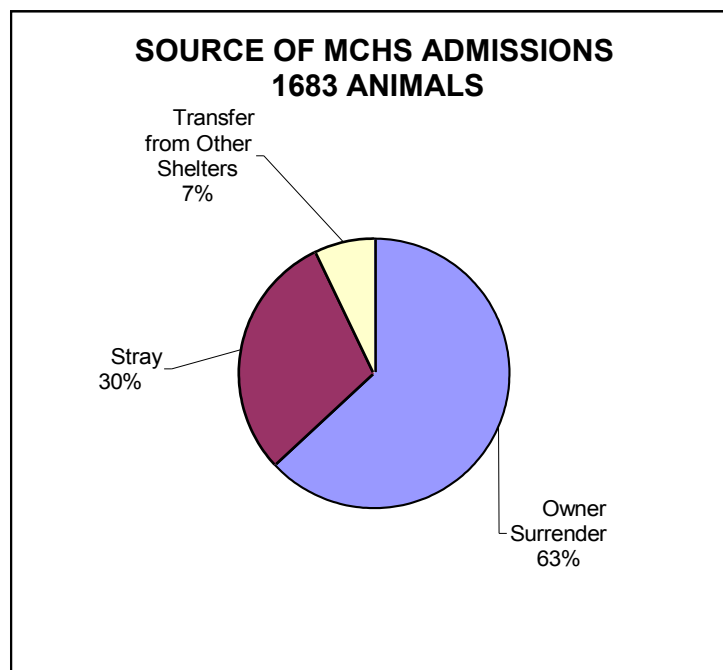


Marquette County Humane Society
ANNUAL REPORT TO THE MEMBERS¹
July 2008
For Fiscal Year 2007-08

OUR MISSION:

The Marquette County Humane Society, Inc. is an independent, non-profit, community-supported, open admission animal welfare organization. Our mission is to: Aid in the sheltering and adoption of animals; Promote responsible pet ownership; Actively educate and promote the importance of spaying and neutering to help alleviate pet overpopulation; Assist in strengthening the human-animal relationship. The Society is dedicated to educating and working with county-wide agencies concerning the welfare of animals.

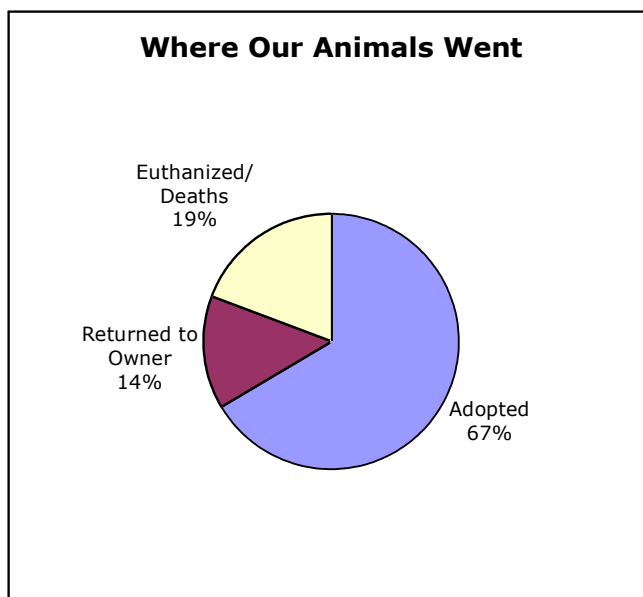
The MCHS is a non-profit organization that was founded in 1975 by concerned local citizens to help unwanted and stray animals in Marquette County. We provide care and shelter to homeless pets, educational presentations, neglect/cruelty referral, pet adoption (includes spay/neuter), shelter tours, pet care information, and pet lost and found services. These services are not funded by any governmental agency or from any other humane organization. We are a completely independent non-profit and we rely on the generosity of our donors and the hard work of our volunteers and staff for all our funding.



It is our belief that for every adoptable animal, there is a home....we just have to find it.

¹ Our fiscal year runs from June 1st to May 31st of each year.

The major focus of our MCHS this past year has been in the implementation of several new programs aimed at adopting more animals into new homes and thus reducing the number of animals that are euthanized. The questions we have asked ourselves over the past year are – “What do we have to do in order to find this animal a home?” and “What is an acceptable alternative to euthanasia?” I am delighted to report that our answers to these questions has given us the opportunity to find alternatives to euthanizing safe and healthy animals. As a result, we have had an enormous amount of success in placing our animals – at year end, 79% of all the animals that walked through the doors of our shelter walked out on their own 4 feet!



Adopted	1091
Returned to Owner/Rehab.	236
Euthanized/Deaths	314

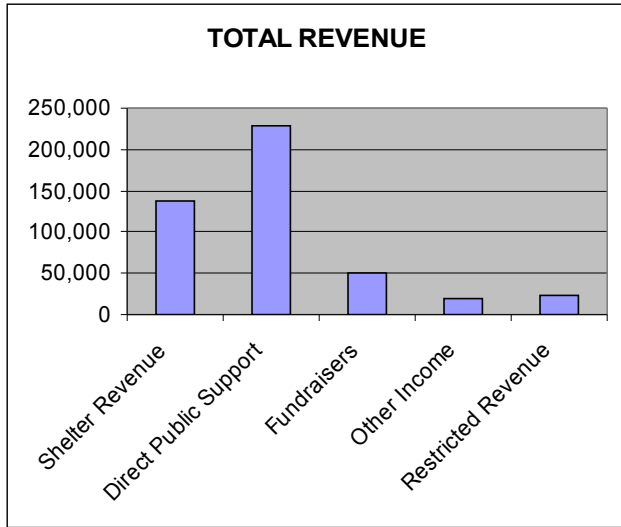
Since we are an “open admission” shelter and turn no animal away from our doors, sometimes we receive animals that cannot be placed for adoption and the sad truth is that there are times when animals are euthanized. This year, 311 animals were euthanized. This is 19% of all the animals we admitted. In 2006-07, that same number was 50%; in 2005-06, it was 60%.

If you look at the table below, for 119 of those animals, the decision on whether or not to euthanize was not our decision – it was based on the owner’s request, dangerous behavior, horrible illness or a final act of compassion for a suffering animal.

Total Number of animals euthanized		311
LESS:		
Owner Requested Euthanasia	42	
Dangerous/Aggressive/Bite Hold	46	
Positive for FIP or FIV	14	
Feral	2	
Mortally injured (e.g., hit by car)	15	119 (38%)

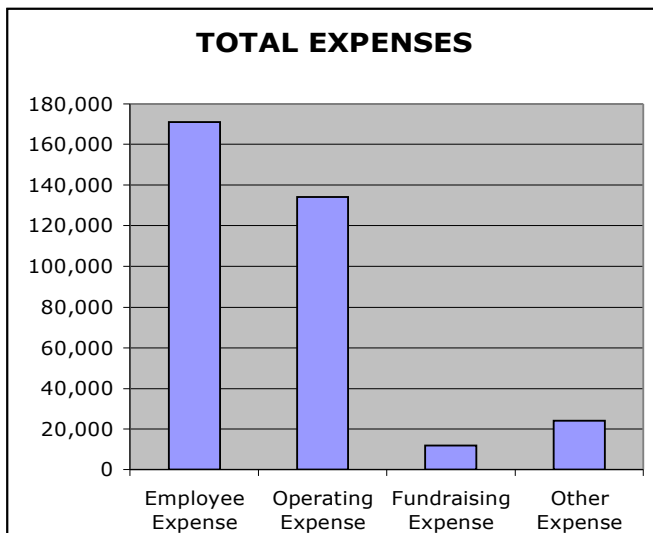
As members of the MCHS, you should also be informed about our revenue and our expenses. Without your support (and the support of our community), none of our endeavors on behalf of our animals and our Mission could have been accomplished. We will always be grateful to those people who have decided to join us in this journey!

WHERE OUR MONEY COMES FROM:



Shelter Revenue	\$ 137,813	30%
Direct Public Support	\$ 229,554	50%
Fundraisers	\$ 49,997	11%
Other Income	\$ 18,622	4%
Restricted Revenue	\$ <u>23,282</u>	5%
TOTAL	\$ 459,268	

WHERE OUR MONEY GOES:



Employee Expense	\$ 171,156	50%
Operating Expense	\$ 134,093	39%
Fundraising Expense	\$ 11,670	3%
Other Expense	\$ <u>24,012</u>	7%
TOTAL	\$ 340,932	

HIGHLIGHTS OVER THE PAST YEAR:

Cat Condos: We now have four of these multi-level cat enclosures and are expecting delivery of a fifth. Each unit can house 4-5 cats comfortably, providing them with perches as well as “playmates”.

Expanded Dog Play Yard: Our play yard has been further expanded to allow for a larger play area. Adopters have a more natural setting to interact with the dog they are considering adopting. The major focus of the play yard, however, is an area where dogs who are compatible can interact and burn off the stress of being housed at our facility. It also provides the staff an area to train dogs as needed. In the hot “dog days” of summer, they even have a swimming pool!

FIV Testing of all cats: As part of our normal intake procedure, all cats are tested for this deadly disease prior to being placed up for adoption. The funds for this testing come from some of our canisters in businesses in our community and also from the Guardian Angel Program.

Foster Homes: The Safe Haven Foster Home Program is an expansion of our former Foster Program and was implemented to temporarily place some of our animals out of the shelter until they are ready to be adopted. For example, the shelter is no place for new moms and their babies, or moms that are a few weeks from giving birth. In addition, some animals need special attention in order to be more “adoptable”, like extremely timid dogs. We have special Foster Home volunteer families who take care of these animals in a more natural environment – their own homes.

Senior Program: Many times older animals are often overlooked when someone is looking for a new family member. Since senior animals are often already spayed or neutered, we offer them at lower rates, especially if it’s a “senior” adopter! This year, we have been able to adopt out dogs as old as 14 years and cats as old as 18 years.

Buddy Program: Sometimes, animals come to us who have been raised together their entire lives. We make every attempt to adopt them out together (especially if they are older) to make the transition easier. This is the purpose of the “Buddy Program”. The fees are lower if they are adopted together.

Pet Sponsorship Program: This new program allows sponsors help defray the cost of veterinary care for an animal such as spay/neuters and vaccinations. Sponsors can choose what type of animal they wish to sponsor and the staff chooses the specific pet. The sponsor’s name is posted on the animal’s kennel as well as on the pet’s website adoption page. By sponsoring a shelter pet’s veterinary care, we are then able to offer a lower adoption rate for that animal. This lower price improves the chances of pets (especially adults) finding a new loving home.

Guardian Angel Program: The Guardian Angels Program provides funds for the “extras” for our shelter pets (e.g., feline leukemia testing, special toys, special treats, special medical care, etc.) in order to make their stay with us as stress-free as possible. We have three large wooden Angels displayed in our shelter lobby on which the sponsorship name is posted.

Remote Adopt-a-thon: We held our first off-site adopt-a-thon in June in the parking lot of Family Video in Marquette. Two cats and three dogs were adopted at the adopt-a-thon that day. More pets were adopted the next day at the shelter because of the exposure they received the previous day. Another off-site adoption program was held in July in Ishpeming, with two more

animals adopted. At present, we are in the planning stages to hold an adopt-a-thon for all the little kitties that are currently in foster care and will be available for adoption very soon.

Spay/Neuter Assistance Program Grant: This grant is a wonderful way for us to give back to our community, instead of continually holding out our hands asking for money. It is specifically designed to fund low-cost/no cost surgeries to members of our community who can't afford the surgery on their own. We are able to offer it only with the cooperation of our local vets. The need for this type of program is great in our community, as many people simply cannot afford to spay/neuter their animals with their own money. We were awarded the grant in November of 2007 and very quickly ran out of the initial grant money in 3 months. We have applied for a renewal of this grant at 4 times the initial amount. We are expecting to hear from the foundation in September.

New Roof: Our badly leaking roof was replaced this year with funds released from the Jeanne Evon Trust. This will help us offset the increases in heating costs in the upcoming winter.

Sprucing Up: We have continued to paint rooms at the shelter to make it more inviting for our visitors and our animals.

Expanded Open Hours: We are now open to the public 7 days a week, from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. This change has made it easier for people to come and visit our shelter.....and adopt!

Board Retreat: We had a Winter Retreat for our board members and shelter manager in March and another one is scheduled for August. It is our intent to hold two retreats each year, one at the beginning of the fiscal year and another one in the middle. It is a great time for sharing our thoughts and ideas on improving our shelter and continuing to "think outside the box."

2008-09 MCHS Board of Directors

- Lynn Andronis, *President 07-09* (Term expires 2010)
- Ann Brownell (Term expires 2011)
- Shelly Johnson, *Corresponding Secretary* (Term expires 2011)
- Joan Mulder, *Treasurer* (Term expires 2009)
- Jacqueline Pauls (Term expires 2009)
- Sandy Place (Term expires 2011)
- Linda Roncaglione (Term expires 2009)
- Karen Suksi, *Recording Secretary* (Term expires 2010)
- Gloria Urban, *Vice President* (Term expires 2010)