

Our Mission

To improve the quality of life and welfare of domestic animals and to provide a safe haven while finding forever homes for the animals in our care. We embrace the No Kill Philosophy seeking to end the euthanasia of healthy or treatable animals.

Our Vision

To have a community where there are no homeless, neglected or abused animals, and where everyone understands and practices the level of commitment and responsibility pet guardianship requires.

Imagine the PAWSibilities: Animal Community Center



UPAWS is the leading no-kill adoption and open-admission pet housing facility serving Marquette County and the surrounding area. Every year an average of 1,500 animals come through our doors for shelter, medical care, food, and love as we find their forever home. We proudly recognize a 98 percent save rate for the animals in our care.



Why Our Building Doesn't Work

🆌 Space—

Only 2,800 square feet Poorly laid out dog kennels No free roaming space for dogs Smell, size, and feel can deter adopters Small critters are kept in the lobby No room for large or farm animal rescues

Sound-

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Cats can hear dogs barking Not many places for frightened semi-social cats High levels of stress for all animals Walking down a busy road

Health-

Sick animals stay near healthy animals
 Poor ventilation spreads disease
 Moisture and humidity influences illness

Environment-

Surrounded by swamp or rock bluff
 Poor water pressure
 Uneven heat distribution
 Power shortages

Imagine the PAWSibilities: 40 Years of Compassion







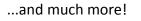


1975 - Marquette County Humane Society established
1978 - Opens as MCHS Animal Shelter
1988 - Expands, but facility remains bare-bones
2010—Adopts No Kill Philosophy and rebrands to Upper Peninsula Animal Welfare Shelter
2014—Reaches and sustains an award-winning 98% save rate annually
2016 - Launches Animal Community Center Campaign



For our animals:

- Create a homelike environment for our pets which will reduce stress levels so they are healthier, happier and more adoptable.
- Prevent the spread of disease for the pets in our care.
- Space for large animals in need of immediate rescue
- Space for small critters
- All season 'catios' instinctual need to climb and feel outdoors
- Play yards and trails
- Designated medical treatment space
- Socialization programs



Imagine the PAWSibilities: A future of Community & Collaboration



For our community:



NO other building in history has changed as much as an animal shelter.

...and much more!

It's a hospital-where the patients walk around barefoot.



Awards and Recognition

- Featured in Nathan Winograd's documentary on the No-Kill revolution of America, "Redemption"
- Assisted several shelters around the country achieve No-Kill status
- Presented at regional, state, and national conferences
- 2010 & 2011 Outstanding Shelter Award from Michigan Pet Fund Alliance (for medium sized, openadmission shelters)
- Featured in YesBisquit blog frequently for our work

Imagine the PAWSibilities: Animal Community Center



At a glance:

- UPAWS serves all of Marquette County by providing:
- Shelter, care and love to stray and surrendered pets
- Adoption and re-homing of furry family members
- Low cost spay-neuter services
- Shelter networking and transfer programs
- Cruelty Investigation assistance to law enforcement
- 🝟 Microchips for pets
- Pet end-of-life services
- Community education, outreach and volunteer opportunities

Our work receives no financial support from the county; we depend entirely on the generosity of our donors.