

Upper Peninsula Animal Welfare Shelter

Mission & Vision

Dear fellow animal lover and friend.

Thank you for supporting Upper Peninsula Animal Welfare Shelter in 2024. We could not do what we do without your support in volunteer hours, donations, sharing our mission and services, and choosing to adopt when you're searching for a new family member.

Together, we are saving the lives of our homeless animals in Marquette County and giving them their much deserved second chance at a forever home... or third, or fourth, and so on.

We hope you feel the heart behind these pages as we share our year of successfully fullfilling our mission.

Mission

Our mission is to improve the quality of life and welfare for domestic animals and to provide a safe haven while finding lifelong homes for the animals in our care. We embrace the No Kill* philosophy, seeking to end the euthanasia of healthy and treatable animals.

Vision

A community where there are no homeless, neglected or abused animals, and where everyone understands and practices the level of commitment and responsibility that pet guardianship entails.



UPAWS staff
with Chase:
a tragic car
accident
survivor
blossomed
into an
enchanting,
healthy dog.
A story of
resilience,
love, and
lots of TLC.

Success at a Glance



Animals Spayed or Neutered **678**



Save rate

99%



Lost pets reunited with their family

196



Paws Park Members 88



Animals that stayed out of the shelter with Home2Home
33



Safe Haven Animals 10









Animal intake numbers by species

Save Rate = (intake - passed) / (intake - euthanized)

Happy Tails from Adopters



"...wanted to check in and share how wonderfully everything is going! Even coming from a neglect case, she is the happiest,

sweetest pup around, she's beyond grateful and so eager to please. She's brilliant and listens so well, she is spunky, sweet, and keeps her older brother, Max, on his toes! This summer she discovered her love of water and is always down for an adventure! We are so beyond grateful to have been brought together, she has made our lives better in every way and we can't remember what life was like without her."



"George is doing fantastic. He's been eating his veggies all on his own for the most part, has already

shed a bunch of that old thick skin that wouldn't come off, he enjoys his daily baths and even more so his extended snuggle time ... I'd say he finally lives the happy life he deserves." - George's Adopters

2 Mowglie

"...Mowglie has come so far! He loves people and other animals. Is getting to be social even. We can sit, lay down, roll over and we are working on paw! His recall training is coming along nicely too. He loves his siblings, belly rubs and snuggles. He is truly a character! He has come so far from the scared little bear we met the first day."



4 Tripoly

"We recently adopted a sweet, three-legged kitty named Tripoly from UPAWS, whom we have renamed Princess! She is the most loving cat we have ever met, and we are so happy to be her parents now.... Princess has gained some healthy weight now that she's

settling in... Thank you so much for bringing us together."



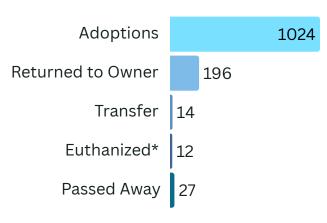
2024 Impact

Animal Intakes

Owner Surrender Stray 333 Transfer 166 Born in Care 53 Seized/Custody 28 Special Hold 15

Total intake: 1238

Animal Outcomes



*No animals were euthanized due to space or time at the shelter. Euthanasia is a last option after considering quality of life and public safety.



Sally's Fund Highlight

2024 was a busy year for volunteers at Sally's Fund, the only equine equipped shelter in the Upper Peninsula. There's never a shortage or lack of knowledge and horse husbandry in our community which usually results in neglect, whether it's intended or not. Sally's Fund took in and cared for 14 horses in the 2024 calendar year.

The year started out with a previous neglect case from 2023 that we cared for and subsequently adopted out. In early 2024 the family decided the horse was not a good fit for them and asked for help in re-homing her once again. She is now living a great life with another buddy.

In early April we received a call from a concerned neighbor regarding "multiple horses", believed to be 13 that were not being properly cared for. The owner reluctantly allowed us to come to her home with the concerned neighbor to observe the situation and hopefully provide some assistance, even though she was terribly ashamed and embarrassed by her situation. Upon arrival on a cold, windy and rainy day, we observed 15 horses as well as numerous cows, chickens and dogs that all needed our help. We helped the elderly woman physically and financially over the course of three months with numerous two hour trips to her farm, until she asked to surrender them to us. It took us three trips with multiple trailers and volunteers to get them to Shiloh's Stable for care, vet work and ultimately get them on route to a better life. Sadly, one horse did not make it by the time we went back to get her out. I am, however, happy to report that the rest of those horses are in great forever homes and leading productive lives!



October brought us to a local veterinarian who was called to a remote property to observe two horses from a concerned family member. She found two horses living in a very small paddock with no shelter and only 5 bales of hay. They were left with an owner living in a tent with no means to provide necessities to thrive. This veterinarian explained to us that these horses will not make it much longer without help. This young, deaf girl desperately wanted to keep her horses and did not want to give them up, she simply was asking for financial help until she could move back to Texas with the horses.

Sally's Fund purchased bags of grain and delivered hay to get her by for the next couple of weeks until she could raise the money necessary to make the move across country.

When the plan didn't work out two weeks later, we received a call to surrender the horses to UPAWS. One being an off the track Thoroughbred that was approximately 400 pounds underweight. Upon arrival to the shelter, we immediately called our local equine vet and found the horses to have numerous health issues that would require extensive care. It would take a special home to understand their needs and be able to financially care for them over the long haul. Sally's Fund was lucky enough to find a true friend with "Michelle from Minnesota" who also runs a 501C3 Equine Horse Rescue. They were very familiar with the breed and were willing to address his needs, no matter the cost. He along with his pasture mate, are living the GREAT life in Minnesota.

Lastly, two days after Christmas 2024, Sally's Fund was contacted by a Detective in a neighboring regarding horses that have been neglected for years in a location we have assisted before. The owner was willing to surrender one of thirteen horses: an aged Arabian mare who was going to give birth at any time.



With the help of law enforcement and a signed surrender form, Sally's Fund personnel went to get Ivy the next day. The urgency of this situation was apparent as the horse was malnourished and even unaware of how to drink water



Sally & her horse Shiloh.

from a bucket or trough. Upon arrival at the shelter, we found a sweet mare who craved human interaction and was believed to be giving birth in the next day or so, as she was actively lactating. She loved her hay and grain, but even still after two weeks would not drink water but would instead go back to what she knew: eating snow. After numerous vet visits, blood work, ultrasounds and cameras installed in the barn to watch for the baby, Dr. Lara finally discovered she was not ready to give birth, but had in fact already done so to a still born foul out in the elements.

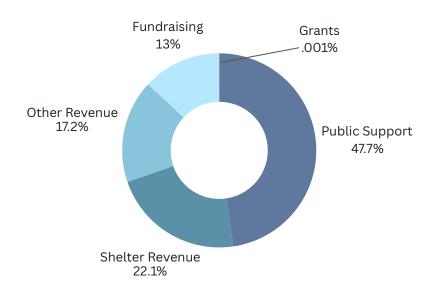
After tragedy comes a happy ending. Ivy is now in a wonderful and loving home and will never have to worry about being a mom again.

I'm happy to report, on behalf of Sally's Fund, that all the 2024 Sally's Fund residents have been placed and adopted into wonderful loving homes. We are blessed to have such a beautiful facility to care for these horses, wonderful volunteers and community support.

Andi Goriesky- Board Member Sally's Fund Co-chair and volunteer

Financials

Prepared using unaudited financial statements.



Revenue

 Shelter Operations
 \$162,601

 Public Support
 \$350,901

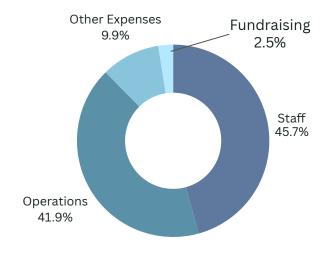
 Fundraising
 \$95,850

 Grants
 \$653

 *Other
 \$126,311

Total: \$736,316

*Other Revenue includes resale items and fund earnings.



Expenses

Staff	\$449,850
Operating	\$412,118
Fundraising	\$24,489
Grants	\$0
*Other	\$97,531

Total: \$983,987

*Other Expenses includes professional fees, resale items and promotional expense.

Get Involved

Programs & Services

- Paws Park Dog Park
- Memorial Garden
- Pink Lady Vet Fund
- Pet Sponsorships
- Read to Your Shelter Pet Program
- Home 2 Home Program
- Community Food Bank
- Buddy Program
- Seniors for Seniors
- Barn Buddies
- Lonely Hearts
- Woofs & Meows for Military
- Sally's Fund
- Community Room Rental
- Self-Serve Grooming Room



Fundraisers

- Strut Your Mutt
- Pet Photo Calendar Contest
- Raise the Woof Comedy Night
- Tee Up for Tails Golf Outing
- Cause for Paws Gala
- UPAWS holiday and in-shelter retail shop







Conclusion

As we conclude our 2024 report,

We extend our deepest gratitude to each and every one of you who make up our incredible community. Your unwavering support and compassion have been nothing short of inspiring, allowing us to continue our mission as a no-kill animal shelter. The passion and empathy you show for our furry friends make all the difference in transforming lives and creating a brighter future for the animals we care for. Together, we've achieved so much, and it's truly amazing to have such a devoted community by our side.

Thank you for being a part of the heart of our shelter's success, we look forward to another year of saving lives together.





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