We think big. We are fearless. We stand up to end suffering for all animals. With your help, we are tackling the root causes of animal cruelty to achieve the vision behind our name: a humane society.

Our mission

The joint mission of the Humane Society of the United States and Humane Society International is to create a better world for all animals.

We work around the globe to protect companion animals and wildlife, improve farm animal welfare, promote animal-free testing methods and reform industries that harm animals. Through our rescue, response and sanctuary work, as well as our other direct services, we help thousands of animals in need. We work to end the cruelest practices toward animals, care for animals in crisis and build a stronger animal protection movement worldwide. We tackle the root causes of animal cruelty, and we can’t do it without you.
Kitty Block, HSUS President and CEO

Kitty Block was named president and CEO of the Humane Society of the United States in 2019, becoming the first woman to hold the position in the organization’s history. She is also CEO of Humane Society International. Block joined the HSUS in 1992 as a legal investigator. She became vice president of HSI in 2007 and president in 2017.

Jeffrey Flocken, HSI President

Jeffrey Flocken was named president of Humane Society International in 2019. Prior to joining HSI, Flocken did animal welfare and wildlife conservation work in North America for major animal conservation organizations and worked for the U.S. federal government, where he focused on international endangered species policies and global wildlife conservation initiatives.

THIS ANNUAL REPORT IS FOR YOU.

The following pages are filled with good news and happy stories that you helped make possible. Without you, we wouldn’t have achieved the remarkable wins for animals we did in 2023: for dogs suffering in the dog meat trade, for farm animals who are inhumanely confined, for animals used in painful product tests, and so many more.

And yet. We know that even as we celebrate this progress with you, learning about the many ways in which animals suffer around the world can be hard. We also struggle at times. But know this: Together, our passion for animal protection, our strength in numbers and our determination to do whatever it takes to eradicate the root causes of animal suffering means that we are winning the hardest, most intractable fights.

Look at what just happened in South Korea. The government passed a bill to end the dog meat trade—a stunning victory in a fight we never stopped believing we could win during 10 long years of campaigning. Or at the Supreme Court, where, after years of legal challenges, the justices upheld California’s Proposition 12, the strongest farm animal protection law in the world, setting a new standard for the humane treatment of farm animals. Look at Canada and Chile, both of which banned the use of animals in cosmetic testing and the sale of animal-tested cosmetics. And Europe, where Lithuania became the 20th country to ban fur farming and Romania is now considering it, too. In the U.S., Oregon became the seventh state to ban the retail sale of dogs in pet stores, cutting off yet another market for puppy mills, and New York outlawed wildlife killing contests, despite fierce opposition from pro-hunting groups.

The Humane Society family of organizations was instrumental in achieving every one of these historic victories for animals, and our supporters—you—are part of that family. Be proud of the remarkable changes you helped bring about for animals in 2023.

Gratefully,
How we work

Ending the cruelest practices

We are focused on ending the worst forms of institutionalized animal suffering—extreme confinement of farm animals, puppy mills, the fur industry, trophy hunting, animal testing of cosmetics and the dog meat trade. Our progress is the result of our effective work with governments, stakeholders, consumers, international entities and public engagement.

Caring for animals in crisis

We rescue and provide hands-on direct care to thousands of animals in need every year through our work in disaster and cruelty cases, our programs that help keep people and pets together, our access-to-care programs in remote and rural communities, and our sanctuaries for exploited, abused and abandoned animals.

Building the capacity of the global animal welfare movement

Through partnerships, trainings, support, collaboration and more, we are building a more humane world by empowering and expanding the capacity of animal welfare advocates and organizations in the United States and across the globe.

The generosity of our supporters enables us to win life-changing, permanent victories for animals. Thank you!
In 2023, with your support, animal cruelty ends around the world.

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**  
Supreme Court upholds strongest farm animal protection law

**CANADA**  
Trade in elephant ivory and rhino horn banned

**NEW YORK**  
Wildlife killing contests banned

**OREGON**  
Pet store puppy sales banned

**BELGIUM**  
Trophy hunting import ban advances

**CALIFORNIA**  
Statewide fur sales ban takes effect

**CHILE**  
Government bans cosmetic animal testing

**BRAZIL**  
22 million more plant-based meals agreed

**CREATING CHANGE ON A GLOBAL SCALE**
Advancing the welfare of animals in more than 50 countries, we make bold progress for animals by working on the biggest problems—no matter where they are or how tightly entrenched. Animal suffering is not constrained by borders on maps. We focus on the greatest needs, intent on making the biggest impact.
In 2023, with your support, we made strides in ending animal cruelty around the world.

**SOUTH KOREA**
Government bans dog meat trade

**ROMANIA**
First fashion brands go fur-free

**LITHUANIA**
Country bans fur farming

**UKRAINE**
More than 150,000 animals helped

**SOUTH AFRICA**
Lawsuit prevents elephant, rhino and leopard trophy hunts

**INDONESIA**
13 more jurisdictions ban cat and dog meat

**UKRAINE**
More than 150,000 animals helped
Ending the use of animal fur in fashion

**WORLDWIDE,** 100 million wild animals are killed for their fur each year. Most live on fur factory farms, confined to cramped wire cages for their entire lives before suffering death via gassing, clubbing, neck breaking or anal electrocution to avoid sullying their pelts. Fur production is universally cruel and—thanks to synthetic and bio-based fur alternatives—completely unnecessary, which is why we push the fashion community to go fur-free and campaign for government bans on fur farming and sales. With bans in 20 countries, 14 U.S. municipalities and counting, we’re ending the use of fur in fashion.

**NEW BANS ON FUR SALES PASS**
California became the first state to implement a ban on new fur sales, a huge change in a state that once accounted for a quarter of all fur sales in the U.S. We helped Etna, Pennsylvania, become the first municipality in that state to ban the sale of new fur products and Lexington, Massachusetts, to become that state’s sixth municipality—and 14th in the U.S.—to do so. We also worked with the Minneapolis City Council on a new zoning regulation that bans furriers and other major fur retailers from the city.

**LAST MAJOR FUR-SELLING DEPARTMENT STORE IN THE U.S. DROPS FUR ONLINE**
Our corporate campaign asking Dillard’s—the last major U.S. department store chain to still sell fur—to go fur-free generated nearly 80,000 emails and 4,500 phone calls, resulting in the store removing all fur items from its website.
Is Romania next?

In 2023, we helped Romania move closer toward banning fur farming—a decision 20 other European countries have already made. At a roundtable event organized by the Romanian office of Humane Society International, Romanian politicians and representatives of 13 animal protection organizations that belong to the Fur Free Alliance urged the government to support a proposed law to ban fur farming.

The ban was introduced in 2022, following the release of a shocking undercover investigation by HSI/Europe that exposed the appalling conditions on fur farms across Romania. The first-ever footage taken inside the country’s chinchilla farms showed animals confined in small, filthy wire cages, their legs often slipping through the wire floor, only to be killed for fashion in improvised gas chambers at just a few months old.

The Romanian Senate voted in favor of the bill last year. The HSI-led event was held to urge the Chamber of Deputies to do the same.

Deputy Gheorghe Pecingină said, “It is time for Romania to shut down its fur farms, and for the Chamber of Deputies to follow the example of the Senate by voting in favor of this initiative.” He added, “Romania must join the majority of member states of the European Union that have banned this cruel, anachronistic activity.”

**FIRST U.S. FASHION WEEK GOES FUR FREE**

Fashion Week Columbus in Ohio became the first U.S. fashion week to announce a fur-free policy. We collaborated with the Columbus Fashion Council to make the announcement, and the council has indicated that it would also support a city-wide ban on new fur sales.

**FEDERAL BILL INTRODUCED TO END U.S. MINK FARMING**

U.S. Rep. Adriano Espaillat, D-N.Y., introduced the Mink: Vectors for Infection Risk in the United States Act (Mink VIRUS Act), which would end U.S. mink fur production and help support fur farmers as they transition away from the industry.

**20TH COUNTRY BANS FUR FARMING**

With our support, Lithuania became the 20th country to ban fur farming. We also saw continued progress on a bill to ban fur farming in Romania, as well as positive discussions toward ending fur production in Bulgaria, Sweden and Finland.

**EUROPEANS PETITION FOR A FUR-FREE FUTURE**

The Fur Free Europe campaign amassed more than 1.5 million signatures, sending a clear signal to the European Commission that European citizens want to see an urgent end to fur production and trade across the European Union. In the United Kingdom, our #FurFreeBritain campaign secured support from more than 250 members of Parliament and the House of Lords for a ban on fur imports and sales, as well as the backing of key opposition parties, ahead of the 2024 general election.

**ROMANIAN DESIGNERS GO FUR-FREE**

Four Romanian fashion brands pledged to go fur-free after working with HSI/Europe, becoming the first designers in that country to join the global Fur Free Retailer program.

**MORE GLOBAL FASHION BRANDS STOP USING FUR**

As part of the global coalition known as the Fur Free Alliance, we celebrated fur-free policies from Italian luxury fashion companies Herno and Aeffe Group, the parent company for brands Moschino, Alberta Ferretti, Philosophy and Pollini. And world-famous British department store Harvey Nichols declared it would stop selling fur after seeing the harrowing results of HSI/UK’s undercover investigation into Chinese fur farms.

**AN ERA ENDS AT CANADIAN FUR TRADING COMPANY**

We helped win a fur-free commitment from Hudson’s Bay Company, the parent company of Saks Fifth Avenue and a long-time Canadian fur trading business.
Ending the slaughter of dogs for food

ALTHOUGH MOST PEOPLE IN ASIA DON’T EAT DOG MEAT, approximately 30 million dogs are still killed for consumption in China, South Korea, Indonesia and Viet Nam each year. For over a decade, we’ve worked with partner activists across the continent to rescue thousands of dogs from the meat trade, collaborate with dog farmers to close their farms and transition to other professions, enforce existing dog meat bans, and campaign where bans don’t exist—including in South Korea, where the government recently passed a law to ban the dog meat industry by 2027. It’s a stunning victory we hope to repeat everywhere the dog meat industry exists.

HSI SOUTH KOREA MAKES HISTORY AS GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES SUPPORT FOR BAN ON DOG MEAT TRADE
After more than a decade of our work on this issue, the government of South Korea announced it would fully support the passage of legislation to finally ban the brutal dog meat industry by 2027. South Korea’s National Assembly then made it official by passing legislation in January 2024 to ban the dog meat industry. The government’s roadmap to end the industry includes a state-supported transition strategy similar to HSI’s successful Models for Change program. In the lead-up to the announcement, we closed our 18th dog meat farm and rescued nearly 200 dogs, bringing the total number of dogs we’ve rescued from the industry in South Korea to over 2,700.

VIET NAM TAKES FIRST STEPS TOWARD ENDING CAT AND DOG MEAT TRADE
In Viet Nam, our Models for Change program permanently closed two dog and cat slaughterhouses and our rescue teams saved more than 60 dogs and cats inside. We also forged official agreements with two provinces to tackle the dog and cat meat market.

CATS, TOO
Many of the cats sold in the meat trade are stolen pets.
Meet Doong

In a bustling, happy household, Doong the Wonder Dog found his place in the Ormsby family. From the moment he set paw in their Maryland abode, Doong’s timid nature melted away under the gentle care of Don, Jessica, and their children D.J. and David. Despite the initial hurdles of adjusting to life outside a South Korean dog meat farm, Doong’s confidence gradually grew with support from his new family. They navigated through his fears, celebrating milestones such as his first tentative steps out of his crate and triumphant zoomies in the backyard. Now from neighborhood walks to schoolyard gatherings, Doong has become a beloved figure in the community, his wagging tail and infectious grin spreading happiness wherever he goes. In the eyes of the Ormsby family, Doong isn’t just a pet; he is a cherished family member and a reminder of the power of second chances.
Protecting wild animals from harm

IT’S THEIR WORLD, TOO, and yet millions of wild animals each year are poached for their parts, shot for trophies, illegally traded, hunted for fun or simply killed for existing where humans don’t want them. We expose the reality of trophy hunting, wildlife killing contests and animal trafficking through our undercover work; give community leaders species-specific training and resources to humanely address human-wildlife conflicts, from squirrels to elephants; and push for positive and against negative laws that impact wild animals.

HSUS BEARS, COUGARS AND WOLVES PROTECTED FROM PROPOSED HUNTS
We successfully defeated multiple attempts to open a trophy hunting season on bears in Connecticut and Florida and wolves in Minnesota. We also blocked an effort to remove hunting protections for cougars in Oregon.

WASHINGTON WOLVES RETAIN ENDANGERED STATUS
In Washington state, we helped to defeat a bill that would have taken wolves off the state’s endangered species list. We opposed the bill through direct lobbying and written comments, and generated grassroots opposition through emails, text alerts and social media.

OREGON AND NEW YORK BAN KILLING CONTESTS
In Oregon and New York—two states where we exposed the cruelty of wildlife killing contests with undercover investigations—lawmakers passed, and the governors signed, bills banning the brutal practice. We have now helped enact bans in 10 states, including Arizona, California, Colorado, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Mexico, Vermont and Washington.

HIPPOS AND LEOPARDS MOVE CLOSER TO ENDANGERED SPECIES PROTECTIONS
We won a favorable initial finding on our petition to list hippos under the U.S. Endangered Species Act, the first step toward legal protections for a species threatened by illegal trade. We also settled our lawsuit against the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service over its failure to respond to our petition about increasing ESA protections for African leopards.

HSI CANADA PASSES LANDMARK LAW TO PROTECT ELEPHANTS AND RHINOS
In Canada, we worked with the government to win a ban on the trade of elephant ivory and rhino horn, including the import of hunting trophies containing these parts. This is believed to be the strongest law of its kind around the world.

Humane herds

HUMAN POPULATION GROWTH in Africa has led many countries to restrict their wild elephant herds to fenced reserves. But when the number of elephants in a reserve grows beyond the land’s capacity to support them—one female can have as many as 10 calves in her lifetime—they will search for food outside the fence line and usually find it in a farmer’s field. This creates human-wildlife conflict and can lead to calls for culling the herd—a cruel approach that has long been used to control elephant populations in Africa. HSI’s search for a humane alternative in 1997 led to the development of an immunocontraceptive vaccine that could be administered via helicopter darting. In the years since, we have darted 70% of breeding-age female elephants in South Africa (not including those in Greater Kruger National Park, where they can breed naturally). Our approach has been such a success that the South African government—which culled 14,000 elephants between 1967 and 1997—now recognizes immunocontraception as a primary population management option. Our goal is to reach 100% in South Africa and expand the program to reserves in at least three more countries.
ITALIAN AIRLINE BANS HUNTING TROPHY TRANSPORTS
Italy’s leading airline, ITA Airways, announced its support of Humane Society International’s #NotInMyWorld anti-trophy hunting campaign and adopted a new corporate policy prohibiting the transportation of hunting trophies on all its flights, whether as cargo or baggage. Italy is one of the top importers of hunting trophies in Europe.

OUR LEGAL CHALLENGE KEEPS ELEPHANTS, BLACK RHINOS AND LEOPARDS SAFE
In South Africa, no leopards, elephants or black rhinos were trophy hunted as our legal challenge to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment continued. HSI/Africa sued the department in 2022 over its decision to allow the hunting and export of 10 leopards, 150 elephants and 10 black rhinos. In response, a court suspended the issuing of permits to hunt and export those three species. That order remained in effect throughout 2023 and is expected to stand until the case resumes in 2024.

BELGIUM ADVANCES ITS BILL TO BAN TROPHY IMPORTS OF KEY SPECIES
In Belgium, the HSI-backed bill to ban the import of hunting trophies from certain species—including hippopotamus, rhinoceros, African elephant and lion—was advanced by the Belgium Federal Ministry of Climate, Environment and Sustainable Development through the Council of Ministers. We expect the bill to become law in 2024.
No mother dog should ever have to live and give birth to her puppies over and over in these conditions, which is why we work to stop the cruelty of puppy mills before it can start, encouraging people to adopt from rescues and shelters, as well as responsible breeders.
Ending the cruelty of puppy mills

IN THE U.S. ALONE, there are more than 500,000 breeding dogs who spend their lives in wire cages without basic care, churning out approximately 2.6 million puppies sold online and in pet stores. Yet these breeding facilities, known as puppy mills, often aren’t illegal. We push for laws that obstruct puppy mill sales and improve standards of care at all breeding facilities, and we expose pet store and puppy mill operations through our undercover work and annual Horrible Hundred report, which details 100 known puppy mills. Since 2006, we’ve rescued 11,000 dogs from puppy mills where documented cruelty exists.

HUNDREDS OF DOGS RESCUED FROM PUPPY MILLS
Our annual Horrible Hundred reports, which expose mass breeding operations where dogs are suffering, led to the rescue of nearly 500 dogs in 2023 alone. Nearly 250 Horrible Hundred-listed puppy mills have closed since we started publishing our reports 10 years ago.

SEVENTH STATE BANS RETAIL PUPPY SALES
We achieved one of our top priorities of 2023 when Oregon became the seventh U.S. state to prohibit the sale of puppies in pet stores, joining Washington, California, Illinois, New York, Maryland and Maine in breaking the puppy-mill-to-pet-store pipeline. We also helped pass 37 local humane pet store ordinances in 2023, bringing our total to over 480. Nationwide, six Petland stores closed and two more canceled plans to open, thanks in part to new humane pet store ordinances.

BILLS THAT WOULD PROTECT PUPPY MILLS DEFEATED
In Kansas, Wyoming and Missouri, we helped defeat bills aimed at blocking local bans on the retail sale of puppy mill puppies.

PREDATORY LENDING BY PET STORES BANNED
Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker signed into law a ban on pet store financing that the HSUS helped draft. The bill tightens loopholes on predatory lending that burdens consumers with sky-high interest rates, sometimes in the triple digits. In a related win, Washington state passed a law that prohibits financing for the purchase of dogs and cats.

PETLAND CRUELTY UNCOVERED...AGAIN
Our 10th undercover investigation of a Petland store—this one in Novi, Michigan—found sick puppies sourced from puppy mills for sale and received wide coverage by local media outlets. In Texas, our Animal Protection Law department continued to pursue litigation against Petland stores accused of deceiving consumers into buying puppies in poor health.

STRONGER ANIMAL PROTECTION BILLS GAIN SUPPORT IN CONGRESS
With strong support from the HSUS and Humane Society Legislative Fund, the re-introduced Puppy Protection Act was able to secure more than 220 bipartisan co-sponsors in Congress. In addition, our efforts led to the introduction of another bill, the Better Collaboration, Accountability, and Regulatory Enforcement (CARE) for Animals Act, with nearly 200 bipartisan co-sponsors. The Better CARE for Animals Act aims to provide stronger protection for all animals covered under the Animal Welfare Act, including animals at research facilities, commercial pet breeding operations such as puppy mills and at zoos and aquariums.

EXPOSED
Our Petland investigations continue to uncover animal suffering.

We went to Capitol Hill to support the Better CARE for Animals Act, which would encourage stronger cooperation between the U.S. Justice Dept. and the USDA to prevent animal cruelty at places such as zoos, puppy mills and research facilities.
GIVEN THE SEVERITY OF THE CRUELTY and the 92.2 billion animals affected each year, industrial animal agriculture is one of the largest sources of animal suffering in the world. We’re working to end the most abusive practices, such as intensive confinement, where animals live their entire lives in cages and crates so small they can barely move. By persuading and partnering with corporations, financial institutions, food companies and governments to implement improvements to animal welfare policies and practices, we can improve the lives of farmed animals and shift society to a more plant-forward food system.

Many mother pigs in the global pork industry are locked in narrow metal crates barely larger than their own bodies, unable to take more than a step forward or backward or even turn around.

SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS WORLD’S STRONGEST FARM ANIMAL PROTECTIONS

The U.S. Supreme Court upheld California’s Proposition 12, which requires that mother pigs, egg-laying hens and calves raised for veal in the state are not cruelly confined in cage and crates. The law also bans the in-state sale of pork, eggs and veal produced via animals who live in extreme confinement. We led the campaign to pass the measure in 2017 and have steadfastly led the efforts to defend it all the way to this victory at the Supreme Court.

Improving the lives of farmed animals
Plant-based progress in 2023

The decisions we make about food have major implications for animal welfare, human health and the environment. When we look at the big picture, we see more clearly the transformational power of the largest food service companies. This industry sets the menus at tens of thousands of schools, corporate headquarters, stadiums and public venues around the world. That’s why we’re working hard to encourage decision-makers to offer more plant-based meals.

Through our work in the Americas, Europe, South Africa, India and Southeast Asia, HSI secured new agreements to transform an estimated 24 million meals to plant-based every year, sparing an estimated 1.1 million farmed animals. In the U.S., we worked with 12 of the top 50 food service companies to set public plant-based menu and meat reduction goals, strengthening our efforts to make the world a kinder place for animals—one meal at a time.

VICTORY FOR MOTHER PIGS AND BABY COWS IN NEW JERSEY
After a decade-long HSUS campaign, New Jersey lawmakers overwhelmingly passed, and the governor signed, a law prohibiting the cruel confinement of mother pigs in gestation crates and calves in veal crates.

ARIZONA HENS WILL REMAIN CAGE-FREE
We successfully defended the cage-free egg regulation we helped Arizona pass in 2022, which bans cages for egg-laying hens and mandates that all eggs produced and sold be cage-free by 2025.

USDA SETS FIRST FEDERAL STANDARDS FOR FARM ANIMAL CONFINEMENT
In a historic development, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Organic Program issued the final Organic Livestock and Poultry Standards—the first federal standards regulating the confinement of farm animals. Producers of organically labeled food products must now adhere to specific welfare standards in their treatment of animals. The HSUS played a crucial role in this victory, engaging in prolonged litigation after the withdrawal of similar standards during the previous administration.

BROAD COALITION UNITES TO DEFEAT U.S. EATS ACT
We launched a major campaign to defeat the Ending Agricultural Trade Suppression (EATS) Act, a bill in the U.S. Congress that seeks to undermine Proposition 12 and other animal welfare laws like it. We have mobilized significant bipartisan opposition within Congress and rallied a diverse set of more than 3,000 entities—including organizations spanning a broad range of concerns, legislators, veterinarians, legal scholars and more than 2,000 farmers across the country—to publicly join the fight. We have also led advertising, op-ed and other messaging campaigns with key pork producers, elected officials and influencers in critical states.

MAJOR PRODUCER GOES 100% CAGE-FREE
With our help, Mondeléz International—maker of Oreo, Triscuits and more—will use only cage-free eggs by 2025. Mondeléz is in 80 countries, including Viet Nam, where HSI worked to ensure a supply chain of humanely produced eggs.

ENTITIES ADD NEW COMMITMENTS TO HIGHER ANIMAL WELFARE IN SUPPLY CHAINS
We won new corporate and institutional commitments in Canada, South Africa, Mexico, Brazil, Thailand, India and across Southeast Asia continue to drive change in egg and pork producing companies, retailers and distributors, resulting in better conditions for hundreds of thousands of farmed chickens and pigs.

INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE CONFERENCE CONSIDERS FOOD SYSTEMS FOR THE FIRST TIME
At the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 28), we worked closely with country negotiators to advocate for and help draft several interventions that included the impacts of animal agriculture as a critical focus in addressing climate change. This was the first time COP leadership included food system transformation on their climate conference agenda.
Although non-animal testing methods already exist and many ingredients already have a history of safe use, animals in laboratories still suffer and die for our cosmetics and chemicals. Currently, animal testing is legally required for many of the products we use every day—from fragrances to painkillers to fabric dyes, every new chemical product has at one time been force-fed to animals. We expose the reality of animal testing through our undercover work and public campaigns, showing how dogs, primates, pigs, mice, rats and rabbits experience unnecessary and extreme pain and fear. We’re also working to secure the release and care of dogs and primates used in testing, and driving science and policy change for cosmetics and chemicals testing worldwide. Our goal is to end animal testing for these products.

HSUS 11TH STATE BANS SALE OF COSMETICS TESTED ON ANIMALS
With our support, Oregon became the 11th state to ban the sale of cosmetics tested on animals, joining California, Hawaii, Illinois, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Nevada, New Jersey, New York and Virginia.

SUPPORT GROWS FOR HUMANE COSMETICS ACT
TV personality Lala Kent and actress Tricia Helfer joined with our executives to lobby in support of the Humane Cosmetics Act. They also joined Congressional members and staff; HSUS, HSI and HSLF board members; representatives from Lush Cosmetics and other VIPs at a Capitol Hill event to urge Congress to pass the bill (H.R. 5399). The bill, which we have long supported with key stakeholders in the industry, would end new cosmetics testing on animals in the U.S. and prohibit the import and sale of new cosmetics tested on animals. We have momentum heading into 2024, ending the year with more than 200 bipartisan co-sponsors, the support of 400 individual cosmetics companies, and the backing of the Personal Care Products Council, which represents 600 global cosmetics and personal care products companies.

MARYLAND DEBUTS FIRST FUND FOR HUMANE RESEARCH
Maryland became the first state to require that laboratories that test on animals contribute to a research fund to provide grants for scientists using or developing non-animal research alternatives. The HSUS played a lead role in introducing and supporting the passage of this new law.

CATS AND DOGS EXEMPTED FROM TOXICITY TESTS
Illinois passed a law we fought for that bans the use of dogs and cats in toxicity testing—tests that attempt to determine how a substance, ingredient or drug may affect human health—unless such testing is explicitly deemed necessary by a federal agency.

MICHIGAN DOES RIGHT BY LABORATORY DOGS AND CATS
Michigan became the 16th state to require laboratories to allow dogs and cats to be adopted after they are “retired” from being used in testing. Teddy’s Law was introduced and named in honor of a beagle who was adopted following our 2019 undercover investigation at a Michigan toxicity testing lab.

NEW CALIFORNIA LAW STRENGTHENS ALTERNATIVES
A new law we supported in California will further reduce the number of animals who suffer in experiments by expanding the list of non-animal alternatives laboratories in the state are required to use. The new law builds on one passed in 2000 that requires laboratories that test products such as pesticides, household products and industrial chemicals to replace animal tests with non-animal alternatives.

HSI THREE MORE COUNTRIES BAN COSMETICS TESTING ON ANIMALS
In 2023, Brazil became the 43rd country to ban cosmetic testing on animals and moved closer to banning the sale of animal-tested cosmetics. With our help, Brazil has also moved away from testing school supplies like paint and glue on animals and is advancing chemical legislation that includes strong animal-protective language. After more than a decade of campaigning by HSI/Canada, Canada became the 44th country to ban cosmetic animal testing.
and the sale of animal-tested cosmetics. Canada has also modernized its environmental protection law to require that non-animal methods be used to test chemicals where available and has begun work on a national strategy to phase-out toxicity testing on animals more broadly. Finally, closing out 2023, Chile became the 45th country to enact a cosmetic animal testing and sales ban.

**SOUTH KOREA SWITCHES FROM BLOOD TO SYNTHETICS**
South Korea announced its decision to phase out the use of horseshoe crab blood—commonly used in tests for drugs and vaccines—and rely on a synthetic substitute instead. The Ministry of Food and Drug Safety also announced its openness to receiving data from a range of modern non-animal approaches from companies applying for the approval of new pharmaceutical products. Additionally, the Promotion of Alternatives to Animal Methods (PAAM) Act, which we helped to develop, was endorsed by the lead committee in Korea’s National Assembly with backing from hundreds of scientists and industry experts.

**JAPAN ENDS UNNECESSARY ANIMAL TEST**
Our global outreach to the vaccine industry and regulators helped influence Japan to fully remove an obsolete animal test from its safety requirements.

**EUROPE ADVANCES PHASE-OUT OF ANIMAL TESTING**
In response to the successful European Citizens Initiative that we and our international colleagues and allies led, the European Commission kick-started a plan to phase out animal testing for chemicals, pesticides, biocides and human and veterinary medicines, and explore effective non-animal approaches with help from scientists.

**NON-ANIMAL TESTS GAIN ACCEPTANCE**
Through our scientific contributions at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, we helped to establish 16 new or improved non-animal methods as internationally recognized test guidelines by the OECD’s 38 member countries.
Our Animal Rescue Team assisted authorities in Crystal Springs, Missouri, with the rescue of some 150 cats in a case of suspected neglect. Once they were safe, we provided medical care and shelter for the rescued felines.
Deploying to rescue animals in crisis

IN 2023, our global Animal Rescue Team responded to nearly 4,100 complaints of illegal animal cruelty, assisted law enforcement with cases involving more than 65 different species and deployed to emergencies in 12 states and two countries.

IN NORTH CAROLINA, our Animal Rescue Team rescued 114 dogs from suspected neglect at a breeding operation in Hertford County. We brought all the dogs to our care and rehabilitation center to be prepared for adoption, including 26 puppies born after the rescue.

IN MISSISSIPPI, we supported local law enforcement agencies with an alleged neglect case in Crystal Springs involving nearly 200 cats. We rescued all the cats and gave them much-needed care before placing them with our shelter partners.

IN FLORIDA, we transported dozens of shelter animals out of the path of Hurricane Ian and distributed free pet food and farm animal feed in the aftermath, reaching 872 families and 9,083 animals.

IN NORTH CAROLINA, we helped the Gaston County Police Department respond to a suspected animal fighting operation, rescuing 14 terrified dogs.

IN OKLAHOMA, we assisted the Lincoln County Sheriff’s Office and Blazes Tribute Equine Rescue with a case involving the rescue of 72 animals, including horses, cows and goats.

IN MAUI, after the devastating wildfires, we sent urgent and critical supplies such as pet food and crates to the Maui Humane Society and helped staff process the influx of reports about lost and found pets.

IN PUERTO RICO, we took part in the rescue of hundreds of wild animals who were languishing in a now-shuttered zoo and derelict facility. In what is believed to be the largest wildlife transport in modern U.S. history, more than 700 wild animals went to new homes, including our sanctuary in Texas (see page 25).

IN TÜRKİYE, our responders and rescuers traveled to Antakya in the wake of massive earthquakes to work with a team of local veterinarians and assist local groups for several weeks to help injured animals. We helped set up a field veterinary hospital and distributed food, water and veterinary supplies. We also funded a local rescue group, enabling it to dispatch veterinarians and response vehicles.

IN CHILE, we provided critical supplies to help animals affected by wildfires, including oxygen concentrators, food and veterinary supplies for animal rehabilitation centers and vet hospitals.

IN MEXICO, we spent three weeks on the ground after Hurricane Otis devastated Acapulco, helping more than 1,300 animals. Thanks to our advance planning work, eight emergency shelters allowed people to bring their pets with them to safety.

Helping in Ukraine

HSI began helping Ukrainian refugees and their pets as soon as the war with Russia broke out in March, 2022, providing vital supplies such as pet food, carriers and free veterinary care. Since then, with the generous support of Mars and other donors, we and our partners have helped tens of thousands of pet owners and animals in need, both in Ukraine and in border countries.

A staff member from HSI partner Save The Dogs feeds stray dogs in Ukraine. In addition to feeding dogs and cats on the street, the charity rescues and cares for ill and injured animals and helps shelters struggling to cope because of the war.
LACK OF ACCESS TO PET CARE RESOURCES is a matter of equity and urgency: There are 20 million pets living with families experiencing poverty in the U.S., many of whom are at risk of entering shelters due to housing restrictions, lack of behavioral and health resources, or lack of pet care supplies. We believe everyone deserves the love of a pet, regardless of financial, structural or geographic barriers. To that end, we advocate for municipal and state policies that help overcome these barriers; deliver pet care resources to underserved communities through our Pets for Life and Rural Area Veterinary Services programs; and train veterinary professionals on establishing and maintaining access-to-care efforts through the Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association.

THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE AND PETS IN NEED RECEIVE VITAL SERVICES

We have worked for almost 20 years to deliver pet services to people experiencing poverty and living in underserved areas through our Pets for Life program. Our Rural Area Veterinary Services program helps to fill gaps in veterinary care in Indigenous communities. The Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association provides professional support to encourage veterinarians, veterinary technicians and veterinary students to help expand communities’ access to care for pets. And our policy experts tackle issues that help prevent crisis situations for animals, such as advocating for pet-inclusive affordable housing policies and the expansion of veterinary telemedicine.

Increasing access to care in the U.S.

44,600 animals received support through our access-to-care programs.

In 2023, with the support of our More Than a Pet campaign, PFL and RAVS helped 44,600 dogs and cats across the U.S, in cities large and small and communities in rural and remote areas. In our 14 core communities, we helped over 14,000 animals and provided 66,000 health services worth almost $2.3 million at no cost to pet owners.
In our more than 50 mentorship/supported communities, we provided over 100,000 pet care services to 30,600 animals and gave out $2 million in grants. We also distributed 8.9 million pounds of food and 2,233 pallets of pet supplies, with a combined value of over $30 million.

**OVER 700 PROFESSIONALS JOIN THE MOVEMENT**

We trained over 700 professionals, including veterinarians, veterinary technicians and staff at animal shelters, animal services and animal care and control agencies, on how to bridge the gap between essential pet care and the people and pets who need it. Our volunteers logged 25,400 hours providing essential services and medical care.

**NEW LAWS WILL KEEP PEOPLE AND PETS TOGETHER**

In 2023, we also advanced access to care by winning several policy victories, helping pass eight statewide measures and achieving repeals of breed-specific legislation in 16 municipalities in 10 states. These wins included:

- In Washington state, we worked with the veterinary medical board to update regulations that will allow nonprofit organizations to offer medical services to the public.

- In Baton Rouge, Louisiana, we worked closely with our Pets for Life partner, Companion Animal Alliance, to secure a unanimous vote from the East Baton Rouge Metropolitan Council that allows CAA’s non-profit clinic to provide veterinary services to the full community they represent and serve.

- Recognizing the importance that veterinary telemedicine can play in improving access to care, we successfully lobbied in California to remove barriers that will clear the way for limited types of veterinary telemedicine and allow registered veterinary technicians, under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian, to administer preventative vaccines.

Among other things, these new laws will improve access to care by investing in emergency sheltering services for people and pets experiencing homelessness and/or domestic violence; increase access to subsidized housing that welcomes pets without restrictions on breed or weight and without exorbitant nonrefundable pet fees; provide eviction protections for people with pets; prohibit breed discrimination in homeowners’ and renters’ insurance policies; and allow licensed veterinarians to work in multiple states for nonprofit clinics and spay/neuter efforts.

Since 2003, our RAVS program has treated 135,000 animals and provided $26 million worth of free veterinary care.

HSUS president and CEO Kitty Block talks to residents of East Los Angeles waiting to receive pet supplies at a PFL event to launch our **More Than A Pet** campaign.
Helping dogs and cats across the world

IN SOUTH AFRICA, we launched our Healthy Pets, Healthier Community project in Cape Agulhas, the southernmost tip of Africa, which focuses on ensuring dogs and cats in underserved communities have access to veterinary care. Since the program began, we’ve spayed and neutered more than 1,300 dogs and cats.

IN ROMANIA, we provided more than 2,000 spay/neuter surgeries, and provided medical care to an additional 2,000 more animals, focusing on helping cats and dogs in underserved communities and at struggling shelters. Combined with our feeding programs and other services, we helped an estimated 5,000 animals.

IN CHILE, we reached a milestone: more than 45,000 animals treated in remote and underserved communities, in sometimes challenging environmental conditions. We also began supporting a unique program to provide much-needed vet services to cats inside Chile’s largest and oldest prison in the capital city of Santiago. The cats provide companionship to the prisoners, but until we stepped in, had never received care for injuries or ailments, or been sterilized to manage the population.

WORLDWIDE, millions of street dogs and cats suffer from inadequate shelter, starvation, dehydration, injury, abuse and disease, including rabies. These roaming populations pose not only an animal welfare crisis, but a public health and safety issue. Regions sometimes resort to culling to curb pet overpopulation, but the World Health Organization reports that culling has no significant impact on overpopulation or the spread of rabies. Instead, we work with governments and communities to implement spay/neuter, vaccination, community outreach, veterinary training and adoption programs. In 2023, Bhutan proved what’s possible when communities work together: It became the first country in the world to declare its entire street dog population fully sterilized and vaccinated.

IN INDIA, through the dog management programs we run in partnership with local governments, we sterilized and vaccinated 30,189 street dogs across the state of Uttarakhand and 23,361 in Lucknow, capital of the state of Uttar Pradesh, representing 72% of the total street dog population in that city. HSI/India’s Mobile Animal Clinic treated 750 street dogs and cats and conducted 66 surgeries for issues ranging from removal of tumors to amputations.

IN BOLIVIA, our veterinary training program trained more than 50 veterinarians from across Latin America to improve regional access to spay/neuter services and provided 3,810 dogs and cats with affordable spay/neuter services.

In 2023, Bhutan became the first country in the world to declare its entire street dog population fully sterilized and vaccinated—a milestone reached after 14 years of collaboration with HSI. More than 150,000 dogs in Bhutan have been vaccinated and sterilized, and more than 32,000 pets have been registered and microchipped. “It’s a remarkable achievement that we hope shows the way forward for governments across Asia that also face street dog challenges,” says Keren Nazareth, HSI/India’s senior director of companion animals and engagement, who worked closely with the Bhutan program. “There is much to be learned from Bhutan, including its determination and compassion to create a more peaceful coexistence for people and dogs.”
A staff member at an HSI clinic in Bolivia carries a cat marked for veterinary care.
Providing sanctuary to animals in need

BLACK BEAUTY RANCH, our world-renowned, 1,400-acre animal sanctuary in Murchison, Texas, takes in domestic and exotic animals who have nowhere else to go. From bison and burros to antelopes and apes, more than 600 animals enjoy safe, permanent homes at the sanctuary after being rescued from near-death situations, cruelty cases, roadside zoos, the exotic pet trade and more. Our Second Chance Chimpanzee Refuge, spread across six mangrove islands in Liberia, Africa, houses 61 chimpanzees retired from invasive research. After funding from a U.S.-operated, Liberia-based laboratory was withdrawn, in 2015 we assumed responsibility for the chimps’ lifelong care—likely to span 50 years—including twice-daily deliveries of fresh fruit and vegetables to the islands and veterinary care. At both sanctuaries, caregivers encourage natural behaviors with carefully designed diets, activities and habitats.

BIGGEST WILDLIFE RELOCATION IN MODERN U.S. HISTORY; OVER 700 WILD ANIMALS RESCUED
In a massive collaboration between the HSUS and partner organizations, we helped rescue and transport 700 wild animals from a Puerto Rican zoo and government-run detention center used to house animals seized from the illegal wildlife trade. Of these, Black Beauty Ranch was able to take in 23 animals, including emus, rhesus macaques, coatimundis, llamas and lemurs. Arriving malnourished and stressed, these rescued animals now receive exceptional care and are living their best lives in spacious, natural habitats.

ENHANCED CARE FOR CHIMPS
A new construction project underway at Second Chance Chimpanzee Refuge will improve caregivers’ ability to safely provide medical care by creating infrastructure to separate individual chimps and directly treat them. The new structures include treatment enclosures, a veterinary clinic and six chimp bedrooms that will allow the team to more closely treat chimps for the many issues that can result from living in a natural environment. All the structures have been specially designed for chimps through a collaboration between a U.S. architecture firm that has experience at other chimp sanctuaries and a Liberian architect.
Ending animal cruelty in the exotic pet trade and shows

Many of the animals who live at Black Beauty Ranch were rescued from the exotic pet and entertainment industries. Tens of thousands of wild animals continue to languish in captivity in the U.S., used as commodities and photo props in roadside zoos, circuses and public contact experiences. In 2023, we continued to put pressure on industries where captive wild animals still suffer. We led the successful effort to ban public contact with nonhuman primates and bears in Illinois, took the lead on bills to end the use of wild animals in traveling acts in New York and Massachusetts, defeated efforts in Oklahoma to exempt elephant trainers who use bullhooks and other cruel training devices from the state’s cruelty statute, and opposed efforts in Virginia and Wisconsin to remove protections for wild animals held in roadside zoos.
Building a kinder world for animals

WE ARE STRONGER AND BETTER when we work together for animals. Locally, nationally and globally, we empower community leaders to implement and enforce policies and practices that protect animals. In the U.S., our programs, events and resources include our Law Enforcement Training Center, which provides free trainings to thousands of law enforcement officers and prosecutors each year; our Wild Neighbors program, which advocates for and teaches humane wildlife conflict resolution approaches; our annual Animal Care Expo, the largest animal welfare conference in the world; and our comprehensive online resource for animal welfare professionals, HumanePro.org. Globally, our conservation, community engagement and human-wildlife coexistence projects span 50 countries and countless communities.

HSUS IN THE U.S., we conducted trainings on humane wildlife conflict resolution techniques and approaches for 1,327 animal care and control and wildlife professionals from more than 620 agencies and organizations. In addition, 100 agencies and organizations signed our Wild Neighbors pledge, committing to respond to the public’s wildlife interactions and conflicts with more effective and humane approaches. We trained 82 agencies, individuals and organizations on non-lethal prairie dog management in the American west.

HSI IN COSTA RICA AND EL SALVADOR, our teams hosted trainings and outreach events on how to combat wildlife trafficking and promote human-wildlife coexistence. We trained nearly 600 law enforcement officers on veterinarian forensics techniques to better investigate and prosecute crimes against animals, like those seen in the illegal wildlife trade.

IN GUATEMALA, EL SALVADOR AND COSTA RICA, our team trained more than 1,300 law enforcement officers and government officials on animal welfare issues, humane handling and veterinary forensics.

IN MEXICO, our teams conducted training on animal welfare issues for a diverse group of 75 participants, including 911 emergency services, public prosecutors, municipal and state police, civil protection and firefighters and members of the Nayarit State Commission for the Protection of Fauna, a new public ministry that specializes in crimes against animals.

IN VIET NAM, we held a workshop on our four-year project working with provincial authorities and experts to monitor wild elephants and conflict incidents in Dong Nai province, where we announced the project’s success in nearly doubling the estimated population in the project area over the previous estimate.

IN INDIA, through our community engagement work, 316 workshops on dog behavior, conflict resolution and first-aid workshops were held, attracting more than 5,500 people. We also held nearly 900 neighborhood meetings, attended by more than 5,000 people, to discuss various issues and implement peaceful solutions for people and dogs.
Join our work to protect all animals

Thousands of animal lovers volunteer with the Humane Society of the United States. Whether you’re able to give a little or a lot of your time, make a one-time or ongoing commitment, there are so many ways you can help us fight for all animals.

Humane Policy Volunteer Leader program

One of the biggest ways to get involved is to volunteer with our Humane Policy Volunteer Leader program—the largest and most effective animal protection policy volunteer program in the U.S. Humane policy volunteer leaders are essential partners in our lifesaving work for all animals and an integral part of a community of compassionate individuals who are deeply committed to advancing humane public policies for animals. These volunteers meet with elected officials and work in their communities to pass ordinances and resolutions on HSUS-supported initiatives.

→ FIND OUT how you can volunteer to join the fight for all animals at humanesociety.org/volunteer.

Stay connected

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- twitter.com/humanesociety
  twitter.com/hsiglobal
- instagram.com/humanesociety
  instagram.com/hsiglobal
- youtube.com/HSUS
  hsi.org/youtube

Be informed

A yearlong subscription to our award-winning All Animals magazine is available with a donation of $25 or more. Go to humanesociety.org/magazine.

Get the latest news

Subscribe to Kitty’s blog to get regular updates on our work. Visit blog.humanesociety.org.

Listen and learn

Humane Voices is our podcast featuring the latest animal protection news. Learn more and listen to episodes at humanesociety.org/humane-voices.

Volunteer

Explore the many ways you can help us protect animals at humanesociety.org/volunteer.

Take action

Sign up at humanesociety.org/email to receive alerts about quick, simple ways you can help animals.

Contact us

Have questions? Reach us through our websites or by email, phone or mail. Find details at humanesociety.org/contact-us and hsi.org/contact-us.

Get involved in your state

HSUS state directors engage citizens and policymakers in animal protection issues. Learn more at humanesociety.org/statecontacts.
HSUS Leadership

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HSI Leadership

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OFFICERS

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Erin Frackleton, Chief Operating Officer
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Alison Corcoran, Chief Development and Marketing Officer
Nicole Paquette, Chief U.S. Programs and Policy Officer
Sara Amundson, Chief U.S. Government Relations Officer
Carlo Carani, General Counsel and Secretary

Sara Amundson, Chief Government Relations Officer
Jeffrey Flocken, Chief International Officer
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Brad Jakeman
Cathy Kangas
Charles A. Laue
C. Thomas McMillen
David S. Niekerk
Suzy Welch
Humane Society and Affiliates
Consolidated Financial operations report

For the year ending Dec. 31, 2023

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position ($ Millions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>Liabilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$22.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivables</td>
<td>15.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses, deferred charges, and deposits</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments, at market value</td>
<td>415.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fixed assets, net of depreciation</td>
<td>22.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation property</td>
<td>9.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$487.9</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Consolidated Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets ($ Millions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support and Revenue</th>
<th>Without Donor Restrictions</th>
<th>With Donor Restrictions</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions and grants</td>
<td>$128.3</td>
<td>$20.6</td>
<td>$148.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bequests</td>
<td>45.9</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>47.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income, net</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets released from restrictions</td>
<td>29.1</td>
<td>(29.1)</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Support and Revenue Before Gains on Investments and Other Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$210.4</strong></td>
<td><strong>($5.3)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$205.1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Realized and unrealized losses on investments and other assets</td>
<td>$40.4</td>
<td>$5.5</td>
<td>$45.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Support and Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$250.8</strong></td>
<td><strong>$0.2</strong></td>
<td><strong>$251.0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Operating and Supporting Expenses

Animal Protection Programs
- Ending the cruelest practices | $40.5 | — | $40.5 |
- Caring for animals in crisis | 66.0 | — | 66.0 |
- Building a stronger animal protection movement | 53.5 | — | 53.5 |
| **Total Program Expense** | **160.0** | — | **160.0** |

Supporting Services
- Management and general | 14.7 | — | 14.7 |
- Fundraising | 40.1 | — | 40.1 |
| **Total Operating and Supporting Expenses** | **$214.8** | — | **$214.8** |

Change in Net Assets
- $312.6 | $97.8 | $410.4 |

Net Assets at End of Year
- $348.6 | $98.0 | **$446.6**

These numbers are preliminary and are subject to change upon audit. The final audited numbers will be available later in 2024 at humanesociety.org/annualreport and hsi.org/financial-information.

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The HSUS and HSI are approved by the Better Business Bureau for all 20 standards for charity accountability.
### Humane Society International

**Financial operations report**

*For the year ending December 31, 2023*

#### Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions and bequests</td>
<td>$26.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants and trust contributions</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$34.6</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Expenditures

**Program Services**

- End the cruelest practices: $13.4
- Care of animals in crisis: 7.7
- Build a stronger animal protection movement: 5.5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Program Services</th>
<th><strong>$26.6</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Management and General</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenditures</strong></td>
<td><strong>$37.7</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Change in Net Assets from Operations

($3.1)

#### End of Year Net Assets

$9.5

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**This photo: Paul Souders/Getty Images**
HUMANE LEGACY DONOR JORJA WILLIAMS has always had dogs in her life. As an adult, she’s become dedicated to animal welfare, and she says that her volunteer efforts have changed her life. In addition to creating enrichment items for dogs and cats to reduce their stress and help them acclimate to the shelter environment, Jorja began fostering several years ago. She has a special place in her heart for “fospice” dogs—her term for pups with disabilities or terminal medical conditions—and has adopted six of them. Some came from cruelty and neglect cases, and Jorja says she finds it extremely rewarding to see her dogs adjust to being around humans, gradually learning to trust and accept love.

“It’s all about doing what I can to help dogs and cats have the chance to find a forever home where they are loved and protected,” she says.

Many aspects of the Humane Society of the United States’ mission resonate with Jorja, but above all, she wants to see an end to animal cruelty in every form.

Jorja began supporting the HSUS almost 30 years ago, giving what she could to financially support “those animal welfare organizations that were boots on the ground, making things happen,” she says. “Emotions and good intentions are not enough. Financial support is critical to achieve the initiatives and make genuine strides. And my last chance to help is to provide a percentage of my estate to the HSUS to continue their important work.”

→ CREATING YOUR OWN HUMANE LEGACY is easy and doesn’t require you to make a gift now. Learn more by emailing our Planned Giving team at humanelegacy@humanesociety.org, visiting legacy.humanesociety.org/request, calling 1-800-808-7858 or scanning the QR code with your device’s camera.