

The Companion

June 2026



MOHAWK HUDSON
HUMANE
SOCIETY

A Message from the President

Dear Friends,

The year 2025 marked my fifth year as President & CEO of the Mohawk Hudson Humane Society. We navigated a pandemic, shifted to virtual adoptions and events; managed disease outbreaks; addressed evolving shelter standards; and grew resources to meet an increasing volume of animal cruelty cases. We focused on stabilizing, strengthening systems, and expanding our impact in the community.

Today, we are leading.

Our staff has grown from 49 to 80. Humane Law Enforcement has grown from 3 peace officers to 12, supported by a 27-member Animal Response Team. We've built stronger policies and developed programs that meet animals and families at every stage of need.

What followed those early challenges was not just recovery, but transformation. In 2025, that transformation was fully visible. We served more animals, supported more families, expanded our veterinary capacity, deepened our foster

network, and broke fundraising records to sustain this work. MHHS is no longer simply responding to need — we are leading through it.

This newsletter offers a snapshot of that progress. I invite you to explore the full 2025 Annual Report on our website to learn more about the success we've achieved thanks to your support.

We are in our Growth Era. And because of you, more animals are loved for life.

With gratitude,

Ashley Jeffrey Bouck
President & CEO



Adoptions: The Right Fit Takes Time

Last year, 2,080 animals began hopeful new chapters. Some journeys were quick. Others required months of patience, enrichment, behavior support, and trust-building.

Tringle was one of them. Rescued from a colony that had grown out of control, she was extremely shy and unsure of people. In the shelter, she found quiet comfort in the company of other cats, slowly beginning to feel safe in our Spirit Cat room.

For over 400 days, Tringle waited — growing braver

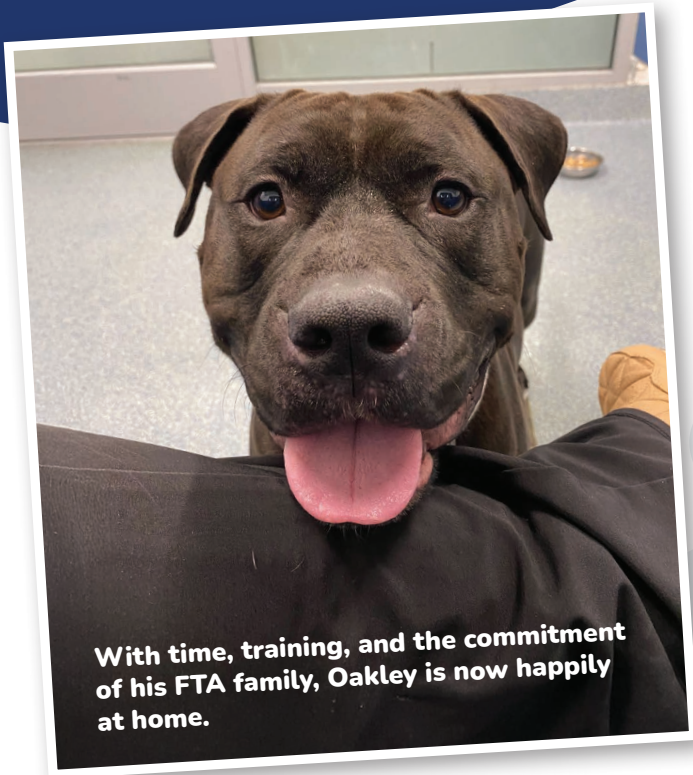
in small, meaningful ways. When the right family came along, Tringle finally went home. Today, she lives with feline companions and a family that gives her the space to trust, at her own pace.

At MHHS, success isn't measured by speed. It's measured by lasting, loving matches. Because of you, animals like Tringle are given the time they need to truly belong.



Tringle (right) snuggles with one of her shelter buddies.

From Trust to Transformation: Foster-to-Adopt



Some animals need extra time, patience, and support to thrive in a home. Our Foster-to-Adopt (FTA) program gives pets with behavioral or medical needs the opportunity to transition gradually into family life with expert guidance, medication when needed, and ongoing support from our team.

In 2025, 37 dogs found their way home through Foster-to-Adopt placements. Oakley arrived at the shelter overwhelmed and difficult to handle. Through dedicated behavior support to address his reactivity, along with structured opportunities to interact with other dogs, he began to build confidence and stability.

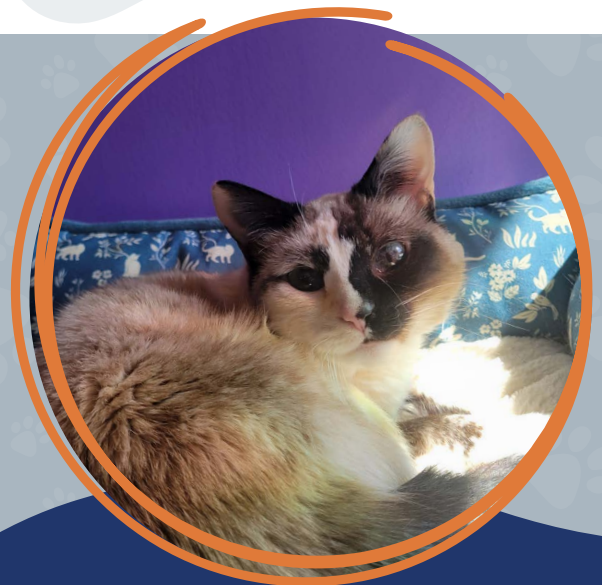
Foster-to-Adopt gives animals and their future families the foundation they need to succeed. Because of you, animals like Oakley are not defined by their challenges; they're given the chance to overcome them.

CrossRoads: Love at Every Stage of Life

Compassion doesn't end with a difficult diagnosis — it becomes even more important. Through our CrossRoads program, 15 animals with uncertain futures, including 10-year-old Mrs. Potts, found loving homes.

She arrived with high blood pressure, severe dental issues, and kidney disease. When she wasn't feeling well, she showed aggression. With treatment for her hypertension, dental care, and the steady support of a foster home, her condition stabilized, and her true personality began to emerge.

Thanks to CrossRoads, her foster family, her adopters, and our dedicated donors, Mrs. Potts' story is one of comfort, dignity, and love, affirming our belief that every stage of life deserves a chance.



As a shy senior kitty, she's blossomed into a beloved companion. She waits politely for meals, then trots upstairs to 'her' office. She enjoys quiet time nearby or curled in our laps, and some evenings bursts into playful zoomies. She's been a delightful addition, and we're grateful for every day with her.

Mrs. Potts' Family

Medicine That Changes Futures

MHHS continues to provide the most comprehensive shelter veterinary care in the region, and in 2025, that impact grew dramatically. Last year, we provided 3,288 shelter pet exams, an increase of more than 26% over the prior year. We performed 1,518 surgeries, and not all were spays and neuters.

From fractured legs to urinary obstructions to orthopedic procedures, our team treats complex and often life-threatening conditions every day. The resources that make this lifesaving care possible, and give each animal the chance they deserve, are made possible by compassionate donors like you.



Chestnut arrived with one of the most severe cases of emaciation our team had ever seen. She was extremely fragile, but needed emergency spay surgery to survive. Our veterinary team proceeded with care and hope. With ongoing medical care, proper nutrition, and the devotion of a foster family, Chestnut slowly regained her strength. She amazed us with her resilience and found a wonderful home.



Binkie arrived in rough condition. He was severely matted, dirty, and limping. During his neuter surgery, our veterinarian discovered his hip was dislocated. With skill and care, she was able to place it back into position, giving Binkie not just relief but a real chance at mobility and comfort. He then stepped into a new life with a loving family.



Rescued from the Westerlo abuse case, Bebop and 21 more dogs are now safe and loved.

Humane Law Enforcement Justice for the Voiceless

As the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) for Albany and Rensselaer Counties, MHHS leads the region in animal cruelty investigation and enforcement. In 2025, our Humane Law Enforcement team handled many complex cases, including the rescue of more than 70 animals from a single hoarding situation in Westerlo.

Thanks to supporters who care deeply about our mission, animals who have suffered abuse are given a second chance, finding safety, healing, and loving homes where they will never again endure fear or neglect.

Keeping Families Together Loved for Life Services

Our commitment to pets extends beyond our shelter walls and into the homes and hearts of the families who love them. By providing essential support, we help ensure family pets remain healthy, cared for, and at home.

Through our Loved for Life program, we delivered 2,087 public wellness services and performed 463 reduced-cost spay/neuter surgeries. Access to affordable, preventive care not only keeps pets well, but it also helps prevent the heartbreak of surrender.

That same compassion fuels our Pet Food Pantry. In 2025, we distributed more than 87,000 pet meals, an increase of nearly 15% over the previous year, helping families navigate difficult times without compromising their pets' well-being.



Director of Veterinary Services Dr. Holly Baker examines a pup before surgery.

When our family lost our dog of 16 years, we were already navigating job losses and financial uncertainty. We didn't expect to get another dog anytime soon, but we needed joy and healing, so we took a leap of faith and adopted two puppies.

Soon after, we were overwhelmed by the cost of spay and neuter surgeries — especially needing both at the same time. As we searched for options, we discovered MHHS' programs and were relieved to learn they support families facing financial hardship.

Thanks to that support, we were able to care for our puppies and continue rebuilding as a family.

Spay/Neuter Clinic Client

For a deeper look at our work, visit mohawkhumane.org to explore our full Annual Report. It offers comprehensive information on all of our programs, including Behavior & Enrichment, Humane Education, and our volunteer and foster programs — along with detailed intake and financial data.



mission

Transforming the lives of animals and people through partnerships, protection, and hope

contact us

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To learn more about MHHS and ways to help, please visit

mohawkhumane.org

