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# SAVE-A-LIFE CAMPAIGN

## A CASE FOR SUPPORT

In July 2019, our Humane Agent (with the help of many staff and volunteers) confiscated 28 cats and 2 chihuahuas from a hoarding situation. The conditions were deplorable and Child Protective Services and Adult Protective Services were on site as well.

These poor cats were flea infested, full of parasites, and suffering from upper respiratory infections and severe dental disease. The case was referred to the prosecutor for consideration of charges. What started off as an exotic cat breeding situation, turned into a nightmare for these animals.

In truth, we wanted to give dental care to all the cats because they needed it, but we had to focus on the animals who were in a medical emergency. 10 of the 28 cats had extreme dental disease and needed emergency care. Dental disease is not only very painful, it's life-threatening. The dental care alone for those 10 cats cost \$3,500. The cost to feed, medicate, spay/neuter, vaccinate, and pay for extra staff support was \$10,000.

These large-scale confiscations just keep happening more and more and these animals almost always need emergency medical care. The responsibility to intervene and rescue falls to LCHS. It's a big reason why we are expanding and building a medical center.

**In 2018, LCHS Humane Agents rescued 387 animals from cruelty and neglect and we are on target to surpass that number in 2019.**

At LCHS, we save lives. If these little ones had entered another shelter, they may have been euthanized due to the expense of providing them with needed medical care. Out of the 6.5 million pets who enter shelters in the U.S. each year, 1.5 million will not walk out. The staff and volunteers at LCHS see the heartbreaking results of dog and cat neglect and overpopulation every day. Each year, we find homes for over 2,000 animals that would otherwise likely face a miserable life of neglect, cruelty, starvation, homelessness, or euthanasia.



The Licking County Humane Society needs your help to continue this important work!



1033% increase in adoptions over 11 years



11,000 animals spay/neutered since 2012



30,000 lbs of cat & dog food donated to pet-owning Meals On Wheels recipients since 2017



387 animals saved from abuse and neglect in 2018

## ORGANIZATIONAL STRENGTHS:

The Humane Society values sustainable growth. The operational budget is carefully balanced through grants, donations, earned income and adoption fees. Financial stewardship has helped the organization grow, while increasing programming to new levels. Every operating dollar is stretched to achieve the mission! Thoughtful planning combined with a passion for the mission has allowed the organization to grow its programming:

- Traditional Animal Sheltering Services
- 10 low-cost spay/neuter clinics for the community each month
- 2-3 low-cost vaccine clinics for the community each month
- Pet food pantry for low-income families
- Pet respite care for those experiencing a medical crisis
- Pet food pantry for pet-owning Meals on Wheels recipients
- 11 nursing home visits with rescue pets each month
- Low-cost Dog Obedience Classes to ensure that adopted animals can live without risk of being returned to a shelter for bad behavior.

Every aspect of the operation is mission driven. Employees and volunteers are passionately devoted to animals. A diverse and energized board brings a wide range of skills to bear on the organization. The Licking County Humane Society has an excellent reputation in the community as being responsive, ethical, and community focused.

In 2012, LCHS was selected as the Best Non-Profit by the Licking County Chamber of Commerce and in 2015, 2016, and 2017 LCHS was chosen by the public as their "Favorite Non-profit Organization."

Like most humane societies in Ohio, we do not have a veterinarian on staff. We have an important partnership with a local veterinary office to provide medical services to the pets in our care. Although they provide us with generous discounts, we are responsible for the cost of these procedures. Last year, LCHS spent over \$80,000 on spay/neuter services alone and over \$18,000 on dental care. In addition, we provide flea/tick medication, vaccines, heartworm treatment and important surgical procedures such as: eye-removal, amputation, repairing broken limbs, and many more. This medical care cost \$168,324 last year.

Our mission is to provide the necessary medical treatment to ensure quality of life for Licking County's homeless and abused cats and dogs. As a non-profit organization, our expenses are met primarily through fundraising and donations. We need your help. OUR GOAL: LCHS needs to raise \$110,000 each year to offset the cost of these medical expenses and continue our life-saving mission. Through careful stewardship of our donations, LCHS is in position to continue funding for programmatic expenses. We need your support for the medical care. This project will help us save more animals and serve more families. Now, more than ever, we need your support to reduce pet overpopulation, and improve the quality of life for all companion animals and their people in Licking County.

## OUR GOAL:

LCHS needs to raise \$110,000 each year to pay the medical expenses to continue our life-saving mission.

Please visit [www.lchspets.org/support/savealife](http://www.lchspets.org/support/savealife) to make a donation.



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