

December 2023 Special Edition

2023 Highlights



2023 was a very good year for HSforBC thanks to you!

Thanks for the memories! 2023 was a remarkable year for HSforBC made possible by our wonderful volunteers and you as our dedicated supporter.



Cameron regularly collects monetary and material donations for HSforBC. He is among a number of children who have raised funds and collected much needed supplies for animal care this year.

In January, HSforBC began a partnership with "Pets for Patriots," a national program which pairs former enlisted men and women with eligible shelter animals available for adoption at a reduced fee.

Also in January, HSforBC received a \$1,000 unrestricted grant for animal welfare needs from the National Maddie's Fund Foundation.

"Dine and Donate," a new monthly HSforBC fundraiser with a variety of Boone County restaurants, enabled people to enjoy fine dining while helping support animal welfare needs all year long.

February is Fur Ball time. The 10th annual Mardi Gras theme party on February 25 set a record by raising more than \$72,000 in gross income through donations for animal welfare needs and the purchase of donated auction items.

Also in February, HSforBC welcomed Jackie Nowinski, who has extensive animal welfare experience, as the new Volunteer Program manager.

At the beginning of March, after eight long months of extensive building renovations, Cat Program volunteers returned to the shelter to care for kitties in new and expanded facilities. Relocating the main cat kennels and isolation room from a space next to the busy lobby to the rear of the building created a quieter environment for them. Construction of the new catio enlarged one free roam room into two rooms with more windows for the cats to enjoy watching the wildlife outside.

"Kitten Season" began in March and Cat Program fosters were busy through the remainder of the year with bottle feeding and in-home care for litters of tiny kittens.

HSforBC's volunteers were honored for outstanding community service on March 24 as the "Non-Profit of the Year" organization by the Zionsville Chamber of Commerce.

The Lebanon Reporter also recognized HSforBC on March 25 as the "Best Non-Profit Organization" in the annual Boone County "People's Choice Awards."

Cover photo

Dog Program volunteer Jan Whitesell snuggles with wiggly puppies at the shelter.

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Olaf smiles on his new Kurunda bed made possible by a grant as he dreams of finding his person or people soon.

Boone County REMC's "Operation Round Up" grant for \$2,500 made it possible for HSforBC to purchase heavy duty industrial shelving for the Community Pet Pantry food storage room at the shelter.

In April, HSforBC was honored as the recipient of the "Impact Award" from the Boone County Chamber of Commerce.

A community open house on April 22 gave HSforBC the opportunity to show off the new isolation kennel expansion for dogs, expanded cat facilities, updated clinic, and other much needed renovations for animals receiving care at the shelter.

On May 15, HSforBC's Golf Scramble raised more than \$25,000 after expenses to help continue the lifesaving work of rescuing homeless and surrendered dogs, puppies, cats and kittens.

Thanks to a partnership with the Indiana Native Plant Society, HSforBC volunteers and society members worked together on May 20 to create a beautiful landscaped area in the front and north side yards of the shelter. They planted trees,

shrubs, perennials and grasses that are native Indiana species.

Two college students joined HSforBC as summer interns in May, and HSforBC hired a part-time kennel technician to assist Dog Program volunteers with morning dog care.

For the second consecutive year, HSforBC received a \$10,000 grant investment in June from national nonprofit Petco Love for shelter improvements. Last year, HSforBC used the first grant to help fund the catio renovations. This year, the second grant was designated for construction of the dog isolation area.

Thanks to a \$6,000 grant from the Community Foundation of Boone County in July, HSforBC is able to help more county residents in need of pet food assistance so they can keep their canine and feline companions.

Dog Program volunteers benefited from an all-day "Animal Behavior Management" training session by shelter behavior specialist Kelley Bollen to enhance the socialization of shelter dogs and better prepare them for adoption. The in-person training program was funded by a grant from The Sandra S. Powell Trust.

In August, HSforBC partnered with Petco Whitestown for a "Clear the Shelters" national adoption event which resulted in several adoptions.

On September 9 and 10, HSforBC volunteers shared our mission by participating in the Zionsville Lion's Club Fall Festival with adoptable dogs and puppies.

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Jack relaxes on a football print blanket in his kennel at the shelter and hopes to watch bowl games in his forever home soon.



A Cat Program volunteer cuddles with cutie pie Pip during a visit to the shelter clinic for vaccinations.

The week of September 11 was HSforBC's annual "Mums for Mutts" fundraiser with pickup of beautiful potted fall flowers at the shelter.

October was HSforBC's busiest month of the year for "Day of Service" volunteers when nearly 30 volunteers from five businesses donated 141 hours of their time to help at the shelter.

Another 26 volunteers from two organizations joined HSforBC volunteers to staff the "5K-9 Run for Rescues" fundraiser on October 28 in Whitestown.

"Howl at the Moontown," a fundraising and adoption event on October 27 in Whitestown, was a fun way to celebrate Halloween.

In November, the Best Friends Network recognized HSforBC with a national award as a "No Kill Shelter" for exceeding a 90 percent save rate for cats and dogs during 2022 thanks to exceptional volunteer service. HSforBC's actual save rate was 94.7 percent.

HSforBC volunteers served hot cocoa to people, carried a Humane Society banner and marched with dogs available for adoption during the annual "Christmas in the Village" parade on November 25 in Zionsville.

The generosity of #GivingTuesday supporters on November 28 raised more than \$12,000 to help HSforBC provide veterinary care for rescued dogs, puppies, cats and kittens.

More than 450 people enjoyed the ninth annual "Whiskerfest Holiday Craft Show and Pet Photos with Santa" on December 2 in Whitestown. "Whiskerfest" benefits HSforBC and The Arc of Greater Boone County.

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Jen Griffith, a Dog Program volunteer, gets a kiss from shelter dog Reba.



It doesn't get any cuter than bath time for wiggly puppies at the shelter.



Frankie gets to know a Cat Program volunteer at the shelter.

A few days before Christmas, a litter of puppies rescued by HSforBC became critically ill with the dreaded Parvo virus so Dr. Amy Rader, a veterinarian and Board president, worked with clinic volunteers and Dog Program volunteers to provide lifesaving skilled care around the clock. As of this writing, all seven puppies are on their way to recovery!

All our successes in 2023 are due to YOU! Your support, donations, the sharing of our fundraisers and social media posts help spread the word about our work! You give us the strength to keep moving forward and to help the dogs, cats, puppies and kittens one tail at a time.

HSforBC staff members, board of directors and our wonderful volunteers wish you a very Happy New Year and we thank you in advance for your continued support during 2024. Year-end donations can still be sent via mail or using the donate button on our website and will be much appreciated! Here's to a great 2024 as our partners for the Love of Animals!



HSforBC is grateful for Dog program volunteers who foster dogs and puppies.



Roxy naps in the safety of her loving foster home.



Paisley, a bottle baby rescued on July 8, nurses from a tiny kitten bottle held by Cat Program director Dawn Walker.



Eddie checks out his spacious kennel in the relocated and renovated main cat room at the shelter. He is a 2-year-old Tabby who loves people.

Please donate to Humane Society for Boone County

We are a private, nonprofit, 501(c)(3), almost entirely volunteer organization dedicated to preventing cruelty to animals. We serve animals and residents of Boone County by providing shelter and compassionate care for abandoned, abused, surrendered and lost animals of Boone County.

Humane Society for Boone County

P.O. Box 708

Lebanon, Indiana 46052

(877) 473-6722 or (877) HSforBC

Visit our website: www.hsforbc.org

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Secure online donations may be made via Paypal at www.hsforbc.org

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One time / or for recurring monthly donations contact us at HSforBC@gmail.com

(Gifts to the Humane Society for Boone County are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.)