Our mission is to provide temporary refuge, basic veterinary care and a path-way home for homeless companion animals in Douglas County, in order to create a more humane community for us all.

OUR TEAM

Board of Directors

Rubea Barnett, Board President
Jamie Ambrosini, Treasurer
Joni Knostman, VP/Secretary
Sherri Brown
LuAnn Chillemi
Judi Danielson
Cheryl Ramberg-Ford

# of Staff Members
25

Shelter Leadership

Executive Director: (Incoming) Jennifer Barta, CAWA
Medical Director: Kathy Tyson, DVM
Operations Director: Courtney Davenport
Shelter Health Manager/Feline Care Team Manager: Brooke Smith, CVT
Canine Care Team Manager: Brittyne Elston
Foster Program Manager: Nicole Andreasen
Community Engagement Coordinator: Jonetta Ruppert
Development & Communications Assistant: Cyn Demers

2023 OVERVIEW

This past year, Saving Grace was busier than ever, providing care for a record number of animals, as well as providing essential services for the community. In 2023, Saving Grace:

- Welcomed a new, full-time Medical Director with 30 years of veterinary experience, including 20 years in Shelter Medicine.
- Increased staffing to account for the increase in the number of animals we care for as well as more cats requiring medical care.
- Initiated twice-monthly offsite adoptions for dogs at Petco.
- Conducted microchip clinics to reunite more stray pets with their owners.
- Re-initiated our Education Program to teach animal welfare to children.
- Held more outreach events than ever before to spread the word of our services.
- Completed several important capital improvements to the facility, including a perimeter fence, remodel of cat isolation and return-to-field rooms and HVAC units for our Isolation and Foster Exam rooms.

In 2024, we're looking forward to welcoming a new Executive Director and offering more critical public services, such as weekly Low-Cost Spay/Neuter clinics and Trap Neuter Release clinics for community cats.
Affordable veterinary care is essential for in-shelter pets as well as community pets. It keeps people and pets together AND reduces pet overpopulation.

We are the county’s only full service animal shelter providing the following:

**Animal Sheltering & Adoptions**
- Quality veterinary care for in-shelter pets
- Affordable diagnostics for in-shelter pets
- Emergency care of found/stray animals
- Pet enrichment
- Volunteer programs
- Off-site adoptions
- Staff education
- Foster programs

**Basic Veterinary Care**
Affordable veterinary care is essential for in-shelter pets as well as community pets. It keeps people and pets together AND reduces pet overpopulation.

**Community Programs**
- Pet food bank
- Outreach clinics
- Microchip clinics
- Animal welfare education
- Evacuation services

Families are struggling to find affordable pet-friendly housing, veterinary care and support for community cats. We are here to help.

**Saving Grace Pet Adoption Center**

Saving Grace Pet Adoption Center envisions Douglas County as a humane community where every dog, cat, and small animal has access to basic veterinary care and a place to call home.

TOGETHER, we will build a more humane community in Douglas County.

Your support matters.... and is needed NOW more than ever!
SHELTER SERVICES

Animals Received

- Dogs: 1568
- Cats: 2116
- Other: 89
- Total: 3773

Adoptions

- Dogs: 708
- Cats: 1319
- Other: 77
- Total: 2104

Saving Grace has a 93% Live Release Rate, making us a nationally recognized "No Kill" shelter.

Received from Agencies

- Number of Animals Received from Agencies: 924
- Number of Agencies: 8

Snaps and More

- Number of Stray Pets Received: 2167
- More stray dogs received in 2023 over 2022: 200

Returned to Owner

- Dogs: 671
- Cats: 105
- Other: 11
- Lost Dogs Reunited with Families: 65%

We reduced the time stray dogs stay in our shelter before being returned home to 1.8 days. We offer microchip clinics and free rides home to reunite more pets with their families.

Transfers

- Number of Pets Transferred to Other Shelters: 306
- Number of Shelters Transferred To: 11

When Saving Grace is at full-capacity, we work hard to transfer pets to partnering shelters so that we can free up space to help more animals from our community.

None of this would be possible without your support! Thank you!
SHELTER PROGRAMS

**Foster Program**

- Foster Homes: 171
- Animals Fostered: 1283
  - (1056 Cats; 227 Dogs)
- Foster Volunteer Hours: 211,140

Fostering saves lives. Foster parents provide a temporary, clean, safe, and loving home while an animal prepares for adoption. We always need foster parents, but especially now, as our shelter is so full. Sign-up to help dogs & puppies, or cats & kittens, like Taffy, the mama cat who took in two orphaned kittens that needed time to grow in a foster home until they were ready for adoption.

**Clinic Spay/Neuter Surgeries**

- # of vaccines given to publically-owned animals: 955
  - Shelter Dogs & Cats: 1557
  - Owned Cats & Dogs: 277
  - Return to Field Cats: 187

Our busy clinic staff, comprised of our full-time Shelter Veterinarian and two Veterinary Assistants, not only take care of the animals in our shelter, but also help the community with affordable spay/neuter services, vaccine and microchip clinics, and emergency care of found animals, such as Bucky Barnes, the kitten found after being trapped in a car and losing a leg. (Pictured below.)

**Community Programs**

- 2. Microchip Clinics
- 24. Mobile Pet Food Bank Events
  - (15,000 lbs distributed; 890 visitors helped)
- 3. Low-cost Spay/Neuter Clinics
- 1. Low-cost Vaccine/Microchip Clinics

Community programs are essential for making Douglas County a more humane community for all. Saving Grace provides these services, as funds allow.
SHELTER PROGRAMS

**Volunteer Program**

- Number of dedicated monthly volunteers: 128
- Number of youth volunteers (under 18 years old): 65
- Number of Volunteers who graciously gave their time in 2023: 531
- Number of volunteer hours: 14,576

Saving Grace’s volunteers are critical for providing daily animal care, feeding, cleaning, socialization & exercising, in addition to fundraising, taking pet photos, helping the community, and more. We could not make the impact we do without our volunteers! See our website to sign up to be one of these essential volunteers!

**Outreach Program**

- Outreach Events: 30
- Offsite Adoption Events: 20
- Donation Drives: 8

Our active Outreach Program plays an important role in teaching the public about Saving Grace, in addition to finding new homes for animals and gathering important donations!

**Education Programs**

- Number of students reached*: 655
- Number of classrooms reached*: 13
- Number of regular volunteering school groups: 3

*at the shelter and in schools

Did you know that most of the laundry, maintenance and landscaping work at Saving Grace is completed by volunteers and volunteer groups (e.g., UCC Day of Service and Make a Difference Day)? These dedicated volunteers regularly donate their time on a weekly basis, and there is always more to do! Sign your business up for a great volunteering activity!

Through education and awareness, we lay the foundation for more compassionate future generations. Teaching children essential animal welfare skills not only fosters a sense of empathy and value, but also responsibility, respect, and safe interactions with animals.
52% of Saving Grace's operating income comes from our supporters! Your donations actually keep our doors open!

Saving Grace is a stand-alone non-profit and is not affiliated with nor do we receive funds from other state or national humane organizations.

.86 cents of every dollar donated goes towards caring for and finding new loving homes for our shelter pets.

*Excludes $650,000 in Bequests in 2023

**FINANCIALS**

Operating Income*

2023 Income: $1,298,671*

- Donations: 37%
- Bequests: 9%
- Events: 18%
- Grants: 15%
- Other Income: 6%
- County Contract: 13%
- Program Fees: 2%

Operating Expenses

2023 Expenses: $1,275,261

- Animal Care Programs: 86%
- Fundraising: 7%
- Administrative Costs: 7%
Paws For A Cause
An evening you won’t soon forget at Melrose Vineyards
Save the Date 9/20/24

Barks & Recreation
A fun day in the park with your dog
Save the Date 5/18/24

Contract development@savinggrace.info to be a sponsor!