



# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Dearest friend of Five Acres,

2023 was a year of important, life-saving work. Thanks to your friendship and support, we were able to welcome more than 1,600 homeless cats and dogs into our safety net.

Each and every animal that comes through our doors receives the shelter, care, and love they deserve - before finding their forever homes.

2023 was also full of challenges, as shelters across our region and state face unprecedented animal overpopulation. At Five Acres, our top priority is to support our local communities by collaborating with shelter and rescue partner organizations to help alleviate these burdens. We know that collaboration is a vital tool in our life-saving work.

As we look ahead, we are excited about 2024 and the opportunities we are presented with. We will hire our first staff veterinarian this year! This will allow us to provide the highest level of care to pets in need of advanced medical support.

We're heading into 2024 growing in very exciting ways - thanks to your support.

Best,

Jeana Roth

Executive Director



#### **Our Vision:**

A world where every pet has a loving home.

#### **Our Mission:**

To enrich the lives of pets and people through adoption, education, and community programs.



## MR. MILES

When we were contacted by a rural animal control facility about a heartworm positive dog named Mr. Miles, we knew we wanted to help. The local shelter was over-crowded and did not have the resources to put Mr. Miles through the long treatment for his condition, so Five Acres transferred him, along with two other dogs, into our care to help.

Mr. Miles was in our care for over ten months while he went through this long and uncomfortable treatment. Thankfully he was able to spend most of his time in a foster home where he could rest comfortably. And, we are happy to share that Mr. Miles was adopted by that very same foster, where he will live happy and healthy the rest of his days.

Mr. Miles is just one of a dozen heartworm positive dogs that Five Acres was able to transfer in and treat for this serious condition. We hope that by welcoming in dogs from local shelters, we can help relieve the burden of over-crowding and help be a resource to other shelters and animals in need.

### MCKINLEY & JURG

McKinley and Jurg are two senior cats who were brought to the shelter after their owner suddenly passed away. The family was unable to care for them and was looking for a place to turn. Five Acres welcomed them in, and promised them we would provide the cats the best care possible until they found their forever home.



Being older cats, McKinley and Jurg faced a few different health challenges including tooth extractions, ear infections, and respiratory issues. Thankfully we were able to treat them all, and after getting a clean bill of health they were adopted by a wonderful family - together.

Five Acres continues to be a safety net for community members in need like McKinley and Jurg's family, and we hope to be able to help even more animals like this in 2024.



## SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

Five Acres Animal Shelter is committed to serving as a resource to our community. Whether this is by helping to keep pets in their home by supporting pet owners through the AniMeals Pet Food Pantry, or by transferring in animals from local over-crowded shelters, Five Acres is so much more than a shelter.



### **HELPING LOCAL ANIMALS**

Missouri is one of the worst states in the nation for animal overpopulation due to its insufficient laws on spay/neuter and illegal breeding. This is why Five Acres is committed to transferring in animals from other local shelters to help relieve the burden of overcrowding, and spay and neuter even more animals.



### KEEPING PETS IN LOVING HOMES

Five Acres Animal Shelter wants to serve as a safety net for pets and pet owners in our community. This means investing in programs that support keeping pets with their families, rather than them needing to be surrendered to a shelter. One key way we do this is through our AniMeals Pet Food Pantry which provides a month's worth of pet food and supplies to families in need.

Earlier this year we learned about Whiskers on Wheels, a program that delivers pet food to homebound citizens. The program was having trouble securing food to distribute, and Five Acres felt like we were in a position to help, as an extension to our AniMeals Pet Food Pantry.

We are proud to share that currently 21 local families receive food through Whiskers on Wheels, each of them sponsored by a different donor that provides the month's worth of food. Through this program with local non-profit Aging Ahead, senior citizens are able to keep their beloved pets in their homes, rather than needing to surrender them to a shelter because they are having trouble securing food.



## 2023 BY THE NUMBERS

1,604
ANIMALS WELCOMED

1,595
CATS & DOGS ADOPTED

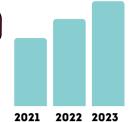
886 ANIMALS IN FOSTER HOMES (55% OF ALL ANIMALS!)

**857** SPAY/NEUTER SURGERIES

38,000

POUNDS OF FOOD
DISTRIBUTED BY

ANIMEALS



18,348
VOLUNTEER HOURS SERVED



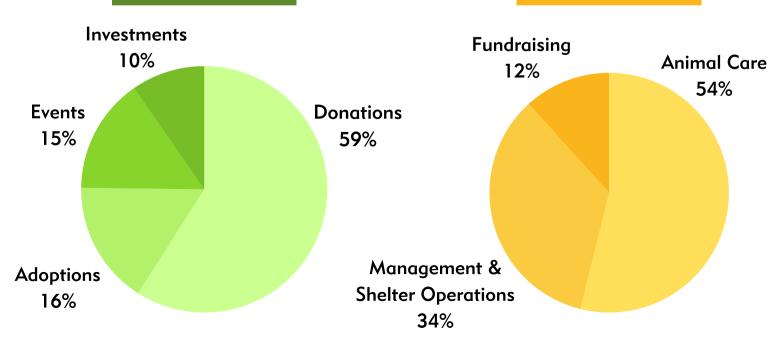






#### REVENUE

#### **EXPENSES**



## LOOKING AHEAD

In 2023 we celebrated our 50-year anniversary! While we wanted to use this special time to celebrate and honor our history and all those who made it possible, we also used the occasion to dream big about our future.

Five Acres went through a six-month strategic planning process that included surveys from the community, interviews with key stakeholders, and several meetings with our board, leadership, team members, and volunteers. The findings of our strategic plan confirmed our desire to position Five Acres Animal Shelter as more than a shelter, and to be a resource to its community.

In 2024, here are the first steps we're taking toward making our dream a reality:



#### **INVESTING IN TRAINING & ENRICHMENT**

One of the top reasons pet owners feel they may need to re-home their pet or surrender them to a shelter is due to behavior. We hope that by improving behavioral care while animals are in the shelter and providing training and obedience classes to the public, we can prevent these types of surrenders. Thanks to a generous grant, we have hired our first ever Behavior & Training Manager who will be leading this effort.



#### IMPROVING ACCESS TO VETERINARY CARE

The cost of owning a pet is rapidly rising, with veterinary care being one of the top expenses. In order to support a community of healthy pets, Five Acres hopes to obtain a license to provide free or low-cost vaccine clinics, microchip clinics, and in the future, spay/neuter and wellness clinics. Our first step was hiring our first-ever staff veterinarian! Dr. Kathryn Kettenbach joined our team in February 2024 as a key leader for our shelter.



#### PAVING THE WAY FOR FUTURE EXPANSION

In order to achieve our goals of becoming a broader resource for a community, we need space to do it! Based on our strategic plan, we have confirmed that additional space is needed to house new community programs and improve care for our current animals, particularly canines. We are proud to be working with Animal Arts, a firm dedicated to designing and planning spaces for the care of shelter animals, to help us envision and plan these new spaces. We are excited about the future - and we hope you will be too.

## **GET INVOLVED**

#### **ADOPT**

Choosing to adopt an animal is one of the most impactful ways to support an animal in need and be a part of the mission at Five Acres. Each animal is fully vaccinated, spayed or neutered, and microchipped, and is ready to be placed into a loving home!

### VOLUNTEER

Becoming a volunteer at Five Acres Animal Shelter is one of the most rewarding and hands-on ways you can make a difference. Opportunities include direct animal care like dog-walking or cleaning up after cats, or more administrative roles like helping in our gift shop or the AniMeals Food Pantry.

#### DONATE

When you make a gift to Five Acres you are providing so much more than just shelter to an animal in need - you are providing medical care, enrichment, supplies, lifesaving vaccines, and most of all, hope. Your gift to Five Acres is tax-deductible and will truly change the life of an animal.

#### **FOSTER**

Our shelter is always looking to add new fosters to our foster family. Providing a temporary home for an animal not only allows the animals to have a safe and comfortable place to stay, but it allows the shelter to take in even more animals.



### **BOARD & LEADERSHIP**

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Becky Pogorzelski, President

Retired Executive, Community Volunteer

Heather Dawson, Vice President

Chief Administration Officer, United Way of Greater St. Louis

Brian Hires, Treasurer

Advisor, Moneta

April Mullen, Secretary

Senior Director, Braze

Lisa Bauman

HR Manager, N-STORE Services

**LEADERSHIP** 

**Jeana Roth, CAWA** - Executive Director

Dr. Kathryn Kettenbach -Veterinarian

Emma Entner - Canine Manager

**Madeline Klene, MSW** - Development Director

Matt Mason - Behavior & Training Manager

Liz Mausshardt - Feline Manager

Kate Wall - Volunteer Manager

**Stephen George** 

Retired Senior Engineering Operations Manager

Ian Miller

Owner, Treats Unleashed

**Summer Renne** 

Director, Families United and A Place to Call Home

**Kama Tate-Gregory** 

Owner, Tate Consultants

John Unnerstall

Business Development, Rapid Response

#### **OUR SHELTER TEAM**

Iulia Gibson Stephanie Adams Emma Anthony Nikki Johnston

Darrell Barkey Abi Kelly Jessica Bess **Drew Long** Deven Bradley

Joe Nobles Devon Felker Andy Norton Madison Fisher Alyssa Paul

**Emily Wellons** Halee Fox

### **CONNECT WITH US!**

www.fiveacresanimalshelter.org

**Five Acres Animal Shelter** 



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