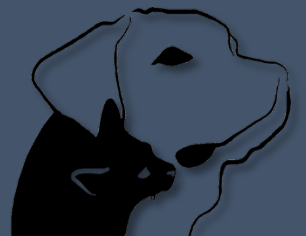


Cody

Adopted January 2020



**INGHAM COUNTY**  
**ANIMAL CONTROL AND SHELTER**



**2020 ANNUAL REPORT**



# INGHAM COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL & SHELTER

ADOPTION

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All of the adopted pets featured in this year's annual report were adopted by dedicated ICACS staff.

## MISSION STATEMENT

Serve the community, provide compassionate treatment and care, and strive for the best possible outcome for all.

## THANK YOU FROM DIRECTOR HEIDI WILLIAMS



Dear Ingham County Residents,

I am pleased to share the 2020 Ingham County Animal Control & Shelter Annual Report with residents and supporters of our organization.

Although 2020 brought many challenges to our shelter, we still found ways to continue providing our community with much needed outreach programs. We were able to put on safe, drive through vaccination clinics, operate numerous free pet food pantries and offer low cost spay & neuter surgeries.

We started several new programs including the SPACE Tails Reading Program, New Leash on Life Program and Operation Santa Paws.

In March of 2020, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we placed approximately 125 animals into foster homes in 48 hours. The shelter was going to be closing and we needed to reduce the number of staff in the shelter. We put out a call for help and the response was overwhelming. I am happy to say that many of those that answered our call for help decided to remain in our foster program and continue to foster for us.

Our residents and supporters really came through for us in 2020. Thousands of pounds of dog and cat food were donated along with various items like peanut butter, toys, beds, towels and medical supplies. Every time we put out a call for help, our wonderful community responded. We could not be more grateful for the support we received.

As we gear up for 2021, I encourage you to take a few moments to read about your Ingham County Animal Control & Shelter and some of the things we have done in 2020. I am happy to answer any questions or concerns you may have and I can always be reached at (517) 676-8362 or by email at [hwilliams2@ingham.org](mailto:hwilliams2@ingham.org).

I wish you all a happy and healthy 2021 and I thank you for your continued support.

Heidi Williams  
Director



**Piper**  
Adopted May 2020

## 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF ICACS

In December of 2020, Ingham County Animal Control and Shelter celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Since the inception of our agency, our society has changed the way we view and treat our animals. The following is a history of our agency and its journey over the last 50 years from a department that was almost solely focused on controlling an overwhelming stray animal population, to one that focuses on promoting animal welfare and striving to find a loving home for each animal we care for.

### HOW IT ALL STARTED



April 16, 1939 – The State Journal

Prior to the creation of Ingham County Animal Control, all animal welfare issues were handled by the Ingham County Humane Society, which began operation out of Potter Park in the mid 1930's. In 1939, the Ingham County Humane Society opened the area's only animal shelter at 1713 Sunset Avenue in Lansing. During this, time period, Mrs. Warren Hosmer served as the chief Dog Warden and as the president of the Humane Society. This single dog warden covered all of Ingham county and was tasked with catching and housing stray dogs in the Lansing area.

In the 1960's, the citizens of Ingham County began to ask for more enforcement and regulation of matters involving domestic animals such as monitoring rabies vaccination, as required by Michigan law, as well as providing service to residents outside the Lansing area.



The Humane Society was reluctant to take part in these efforts, so in 1968 the idea of Ingham County Animal Control was proposed by Dr. Dean Tribby, a public health veterinarian with the Ingham County Health Department. Dr. Tribby proposed a professional 10-person organization and a dedicated animal shelter that would focus on enforcing state laws governing the vaccination and licensing of animals. The proposal put forth by Dr. Tribby was studied by the Ingham County Board of Commissioners and debated amongst the municipalities. It was approved in 1970 and our agency first opened its doors to the public in December of 1970 under the leadership of its first Director, William Bravender.



## THE FIRST SHELTER



February 7, 1971 – The State Journal

The department operated out of a small mobile home located next to the Humane Society on Sunset Avenue until the shelter was completed in Mason in late 1971. The first shelter, located on Curtis Street contained 72 dog runs and was intended to house 144 dogs. At this point, the shelter was not intended to house cats. The focus on our department was to protect the public against dangerous animals and prevent the spread of

rabies in our community. To accomplish this, animal control officers were tasked with ensuring the dogs of Ingham County were properly vaccinated and licensed in accordance with Michigan law.

The department grew rapidly in its first decade. By 1977, the department had grown from 10 to 19 employees, including 13 animal control officers. Although the number of employees had nearly doubled at Animal Control, they still could not keep pace with the needs of the citizens and the volume of animals they encountered.

## ANIMAL POPULATION CONTROL

### Animals on the loose: 19,000 picked up in county last year

Throughout the 1970's, Animal Control was inundated with stray animals. In 1976, ICAC brought over 19,000 animals into the shelter. Sadly, nearly 12,000 of those animals were destroyed, many through the use of a decompression chamber which is a practice that was later banned in the United States in 1985. Dr. Charles Hubbard, who served as the director during this period lamented about routinely destroying 30 to 40 animals each day.



Director Dr. Charles Hubbard gets assist from kennelman Perry Meyers with a vaccination.

February 13, 1977 – The State Journal

At this point in history, animal shelters throughout the country were overcrowded and underfunded. Animal welfare and education was not given the same priority that it is in today's society. Because of these factors, very little effort was placed on rehoming animals and virtually no resources were placed into the behavioral health of animals. The overwhelming majority of animals that were brought into municipal shelters throughout the United States never found their way out.

Ingham County adopted a progressive approach to the animal population problem and attempted to control it through a program created in 1972 which provided financial assistance to subsidize surgery fees for pet owners who were willing to sterilize their animals. Unfortunately, this program was not utilized as people saw very little benefit to altering their animals.

The limited resources of Animal Control combined with the overwhelming animal population continued to present a challenge throughout the 1980's and 1990's. During this time, Animal Control was placed in the position of being a reactive agency that was focused on protecting the public from dangerous animals and attempting to fight animal cruelty. Very few resources could be devoted animal treatment and placement which would keep animal euthanasia rates high throughout this time period.

The animal population problem eventually brought about a significant change in Michigan animal welfare, which was a law requiring animals adopted from shelters to be sterilized. This law was adopted in 1997 and was aimed at reducing the number of stray animals in our state. The effect was nearly immediate. In the early 2000's, ICAC saw intake number reduced to almost 5,000 per year. While this number still surpassed the ability to care for the animals by today's standards, it did allow ICAC to focus more on placement of animals rather than simply holding them for the time period required by law.

## NEW DIRECTOR, NEW MISSION

### Animal control director leaps into new post

Haslett woman brings in wave of initiatives

January 19, 2005  
Lansing State Journal

In 2005, with the hiring of a new director, ICAC began to change the focus of its mission. As the animal population was brought under control, the focus of the department shifted to rehoming animals and taking proactive steps to improve animal welfare within the community.

Director Jaime McAloon Lampman was hired in 2004 and immediately began implementing new programs aimed to modernize the department and combat the euthanasia rate in the shelter.

Several programs were implemented that were designed to keep animals in the home and out of the shelter. Among those were the Outreach Center designed to help individuals in need with pet food, supplies and vaccinations. The Outreach Center is still in operation today and continues to help the citizens in need. In addition to these changes,



a volunteer program was created to assist caring for the animals in the shelter and assisting with community outreach efforts.

Director Lampman also adopted temperament testing in an effort to lower behavioral based euthanasia's. This change helped lower euthanasia rates and also prevented dangerous animals from presenting a risk to the public.

## COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND A NEW SHELTER



Curtis Street Shelter

By 2015, It was clear that the Curtis Street shelter could no longer meet the needs of ICACS. The Shelter had been retrofitted several times to meet the changing needs of the agency and community. Lack of space, aging infrastructure and sanitation issues necessitated the construction of a new shelter. In order to accomplish this, Ingham County asked the residents to approve a millage to build a new shelter and offset operations costs.

The citizens of the county approved the millage in 2016 by a two to one margin, sending a clear message that animal welfare was a priority for our community. Planning began immediately and the decision was made that the new shelter would remain in Mason and be located on Buhl Street.

Construction began in June 2018 on facility that was over 50 percent larger than the existing shelter. The shelter would cost 7.1 million dollars and be capable of providing enhanced customer service, an improved adoption experience, expanded space for cats, comprehensive animal medical care and facilities for community programs.



Groundbreaking Ceremony – Supervised by ICACS alumni dog Reo, who was adopted in July 2014

Construction was completed in just one year later and on June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019, the grand opening was held for the new shelter.



New Shelter Concept Drawing

## THE NEXT 50 YEARS

We started our 50<sup>th</sup> year under new leadership with a renewed focus on enhancing the mental health and wellbeing of the animals in our shelter, and strengthening the relationships with our partners and supporters in the community. We intend to continue with these goals and continue to provide progressive and innovative solutions to meet the needs of the animals of our community.

Each day our officers will continue to serve and protect the citizens and animals of Ingham county and our staff will strive to provide compassionate care and support to every animal that needs us. It is our goal to become the best animal shelter in the state of Michigan, and I know that with our outstanding team and the support of this great community we can do it.

From all of us at Ingham County Animal Control and Shelter, I sincerely thank the community for its support for our first 50 years and I look forward to what we will accomplish in the future.

Dan Verhougstraete  
*Deputy Director*

**Violet**

Adopted December 2020



**Kestrel**

Adopted August 2020





## YOUR NEW SHELTER

In the summer of 2019, the new shelter located at 600 Buhl Street in Mason, was completed. This new shelter was made possible thanks to a millage approved by the citizens of our county. The new shelter is approximately 50 percent larger than the Curtis Street shelter and allows us more space to provide for the mental health and behavioral issues that animals exhibit when they are in the shelter environment.

The new shelter was designed to enhance the level of service we could provide to the community when adopting or retrieving an animal from your shelter. We now have a customer lobby for those who wish to adopt an animal and a separate lobby for those looking to retrieve their lost pet.



Adoption Lobby



Lost and Found Lobby



Cat Playroom

A separate space was built to accommodate all of the cats that ICACS cares for. This space is located away from our dog holding area to limit the sound disruption.

We have dedicated rooms where cats are allowed to roam free throughout the day. In the summer, we have a “catio” where cats can get fresh air and sunshine.

We provide all of our cats with daily enrichment activities along with utilizing music and Feliway diffusers in all of our rooms to decrease stress levels and keep our cats calm and happy.



Each dog that comes to ICACS is provided its own kennel, complete with a bed, blanket, chew toy and daily enrichment activity. Our Animal Care Specialists ensure that dogs get time outdoors each day and monitor their behavioral health.

Dogs are provided with Frisbee's coated with peanut butter, pupicles and other varied items to keep them mentally stimulated throughout the day.

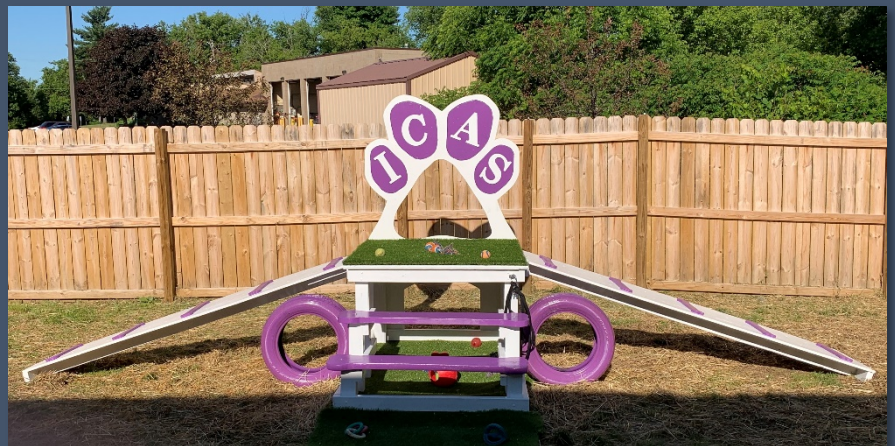
We have an outdoor play yard complete with a play set for our dogs to exercise on.



A dog enjoys his peanut butter Frisbee



A dog kennel is set up and ready to use



Our agility playset built by volunteer Dave Brooks



A beagle curls up for a nap in the Deputy Director's office.

Some dogs find their way out of their kennel and spend the day playing with the adoption staff or curl up and sleep in the administration offices.



Your new shelter was built with an expanded medical treatment area, which includes a surgical suite capable of performing multiple surgeries simultaneously, an X-ray machine, an exam room, pharmacy and separate post-op recovery wards for both dogs and cats.



Surgical Suite



X-ray Machine

Each animal brought into our shelter receives an exam to ensure they are not injured or ill. Every animal receives treatment or preventative for common issues that affect stray animals such as fleas, distemper, parasites and viruses such as parvo.

Every animal adopted from our facility is spayed or neutered. These surgeries are performed by our staff veterinarian and veterinarian assistant. They also manage the daily health and wellbeing of the shelter population and institute protocols to stop diseases from spreading.



Our Veterinarian Assistant and lead Animal Care Specialist perform an examination on a cat.

## SHELTER ORGANIZATION

Ingham County Animal Control and Shelter consists of a trained and dedicated team of professionals that work every day to protect the citizens and animals of Ingham County.

### SHELTER ADMINISTRATION

The shelter administration team is comprised of Director Heidi Williams, Dr. Karen Worthington, DVM, Deputy Director Dan Verhougstraete and Customer Service and Community Outreach Manager Kate Turner.

### ANIMAL CARE

We have five full-time and two temporary Animal Care Specialists that provide care and support to every animal that is brought to our shelter. The Animal Care Specialists work 365 days a year providing food, exercise and enrichment to all of our animals.

In addition to our Animal Care Specialists, we have a full-time Veterinarian and Veterinarian Assistant that provide medical care to every animal in need.

All of our enrichment programs and temperament testing are supervised by our staff behaviorist.

### ANIMAL WELFARE AND ENFORCEMENT

We have six full-time Animal Control Officer that are sworn to enforce the animal welfare laws of the State of Michigan and Ingham County.

Our officers respond to emergency calls for assistance involving domestic animals in Ingham County. Officers respond to calls involving animals threatening public safety, injured animals and investigate animal welfare and neglect complaints, vicious dog calls, bite reports.

Our officers also serve as educators in the community on topics of responsible pet ownership through various department programs in an effort to promote humane and responsible care of domestic animals.



## OUTREACH AND SUPPORT

Our Outreach and Support team consists of five full-time clerks and an Office Coordinator that provide service to all of our customers at the shelter. They work every day to reunite lost pets with their owners and adopt out all of our animals into loving homes. We also have the rescue transfer coordinator that works with shelters and rescues throughout the country to ensure as many positive outcomes as possible for not only our shelter animals, but animals in our surrounding communities.

Our Volunteer and Foster Coordinator supports our network of dedicated volunteers that help us every day at the shelter and maintains our network of fosters that welcome lost and unwanted animals into their homes.

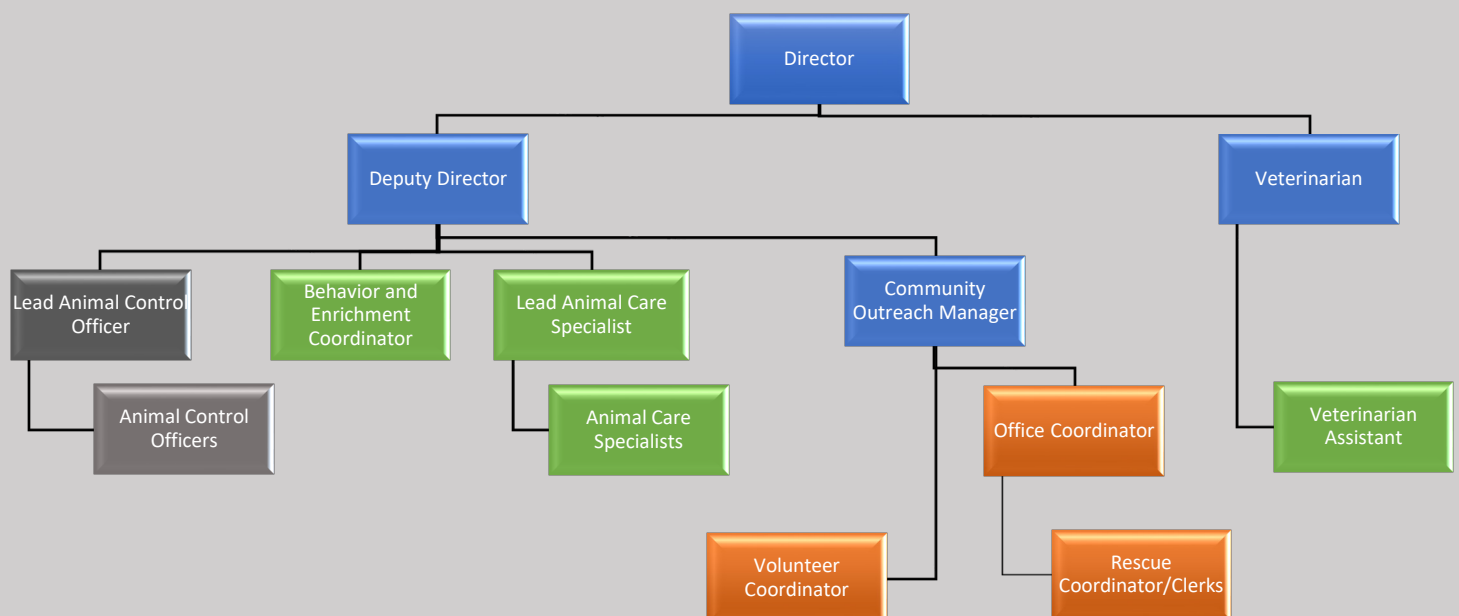
## NEW POSITIONS

In March, ICACS added a Deputy Director position to the organization. This position was put in place to oversee the daily operations of the shelter and serve as the Director in their absence.

A veterinarian assistant was added to the organization this fall to replace the veterinarian technician.

In November, our shelter was fortunate to add a part-time animal behaviorist to our staff, which allows us to evaluate and prevent behavioral issues in the animals we care for. This position was made possible through donations provided to the Ingham County Animal Shelter Fund.

## ORGANIZATION CHART



# ANIMAL CARE STATISTICS AND PROGRAMS

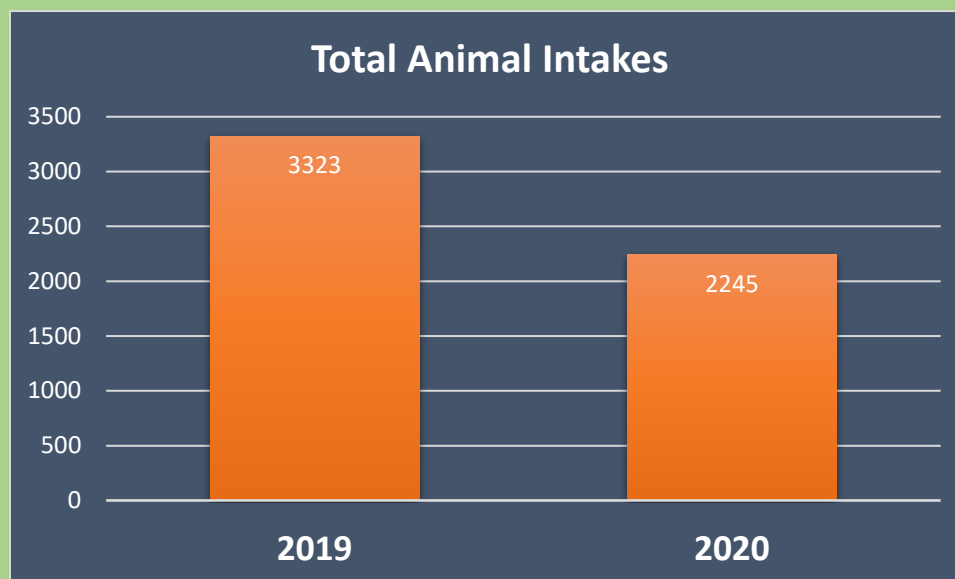
This year we have made numerous changes and improvements to our animal care process. These changes have focused on reducing the fear, anxiety and stress that the shelter environment creates for many of the animals we care for. These changes have dramatically increased the percentage of animals we have been able to save and drastically decreased the number of days animals remain in our care.

## ANIMAL CARE STATISTICS

### ANIMAL INTAKES

ICACS takes in thousands of animals each year for a variety of reasons. As a government operated shelter, we are required to take in stray dogs in accordance with state law. Due to the generosity of the citizens of Ingham county, we are proud to say that we are one of the few municipal shelters that allows for the managed intake of cats.

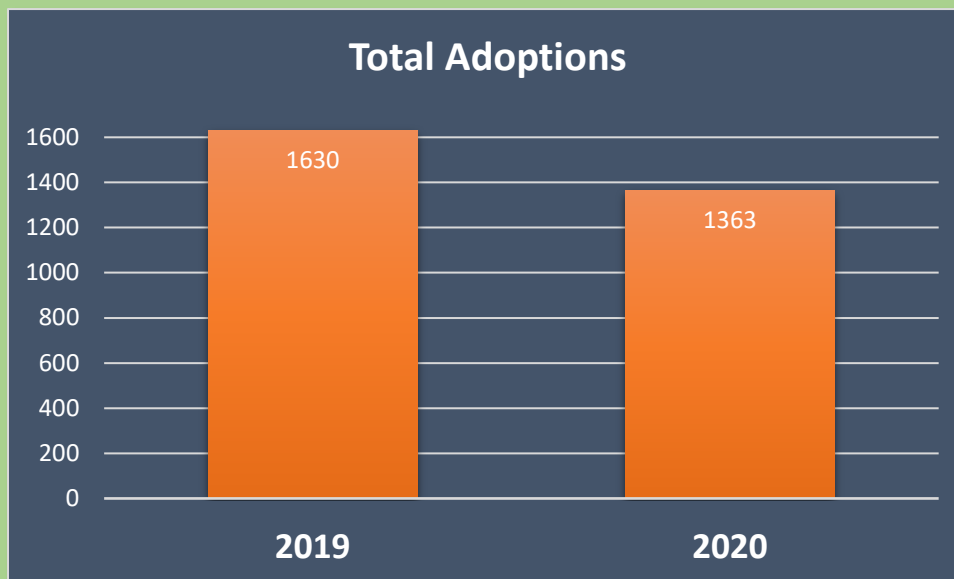
As many people stayed home throughout 2020, it drastically reduced the number of animals that we normally bring into our shelter. This allowed us to provide more care and enrichment for the animals in our shelter.





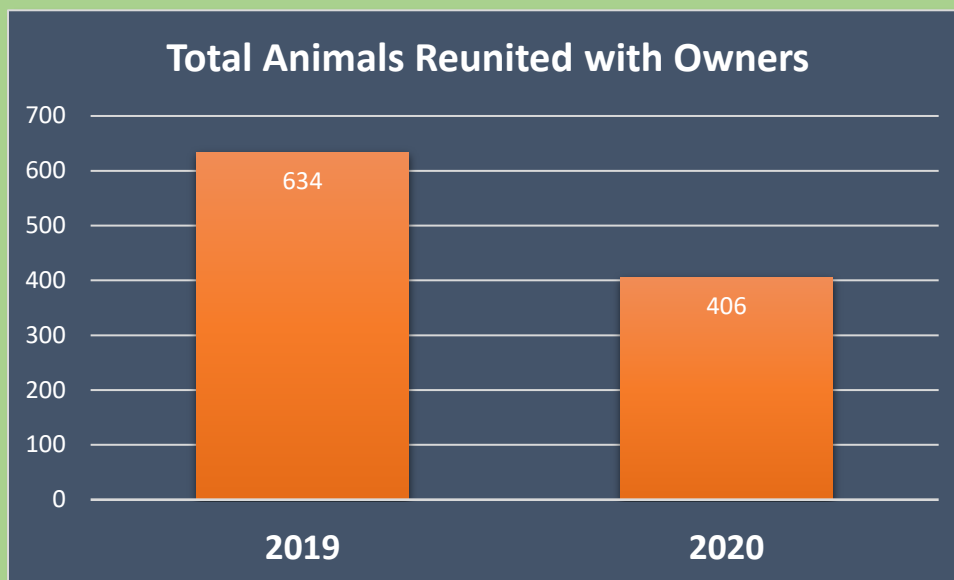
## ADOPTIONS

Despite taking in fewer animals in 2020 and being closed to the public throughout the month of April, thanks to the outstanding efforts of our staff and volunteers we drastically increased the percentage of animals that we were able to place into their forever homes.



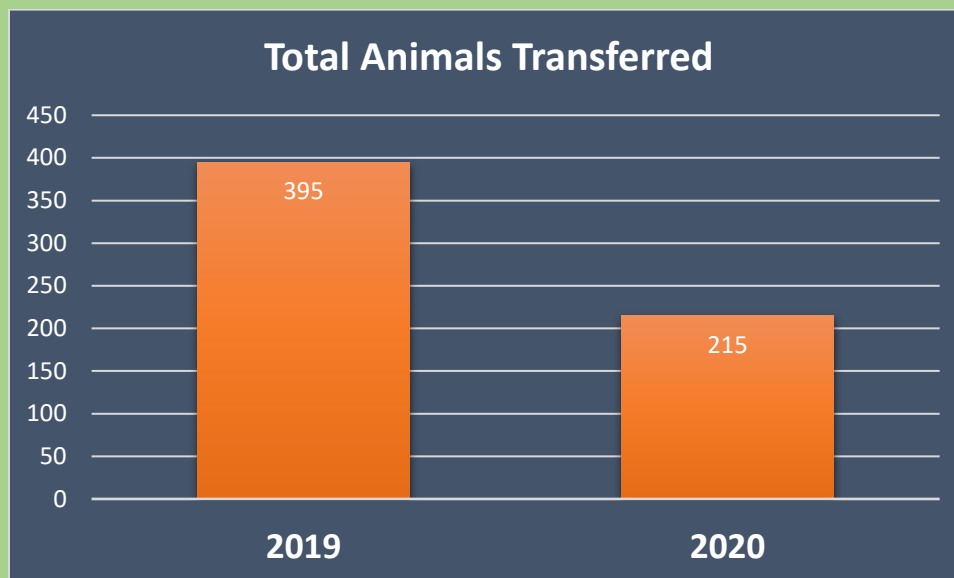
## STRAY ANIMALS REUNITED WITH THEIR OWNERS

When we find a stray animal our number one goal is to reunite the animal with its family. Thankfully, many owners microchip their pets which drastically increases the chance of a successful reunion. We also routinely search and post on social media to help increase the odds of finding pet owners. Our goal is always to increase this number by educating and encouraging people to microchip their pets and to ensure they have collars with identification tags.



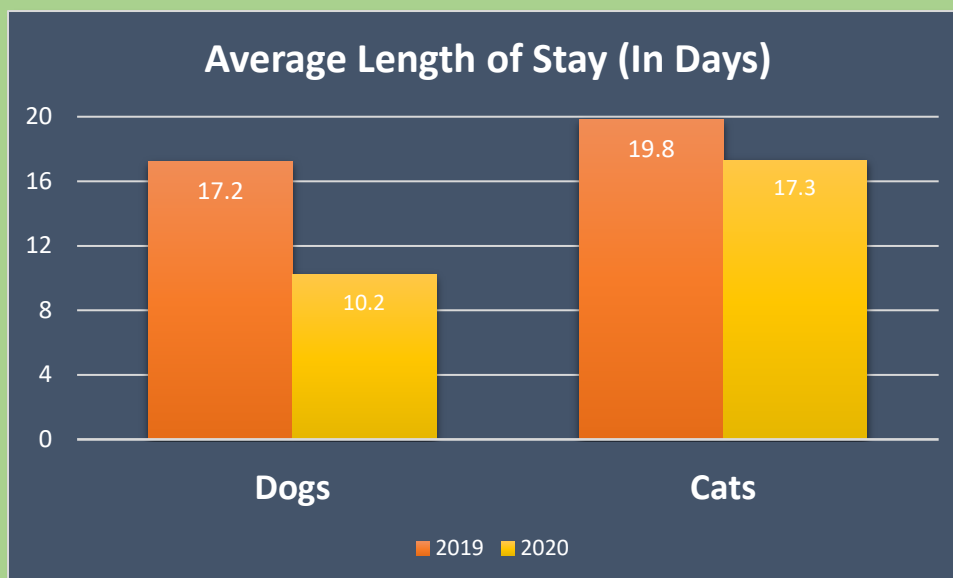
## TRANSFERS

Some animals that we care for are not ideal candidates for adoption or would fare better in a specialized environment. When we encounter an animal that needs a specialized home, we work with shelters and rescues throughout the state to transfer animals to an environment where they will receive the care they need.



## LENGTH OF STAY

ICACS is required to hold stray animals for seven days if they have signs of ownership, which allows owners to retrieve their animals. Once this required holding period is met, we strive to adopt or transfer animals as soon as possible to minimize the negative effects that shelters can have on the animal. We are very proud to say that in 2020 lowered our average length of stay by 47 percent for dogs and 12 percent for cats. We strive to lower this number further in 2021.





## SURGICAL PROCEDURES

ICACS is equipped with a full surgical suite and diagnostic equipment, including an X-ray machine. This allows us to provide more comprehensive care than many other municipal shelters in the state.

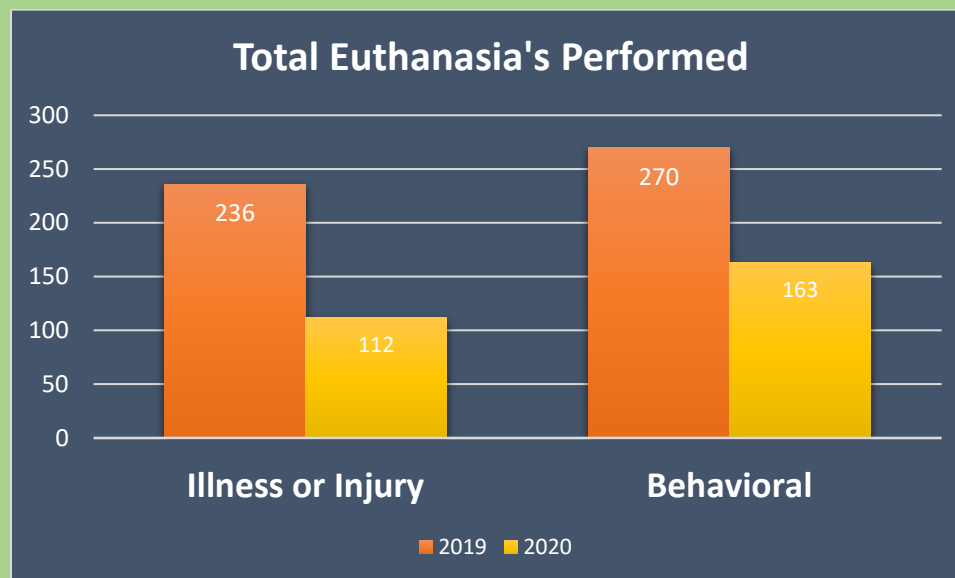


In 2020, our veterinarian and veterinarian assistant performed a total of 1,038 spay and neuter surgery and 135 other surgical procedures for the animals in our care.

Thanks to the Ingham County Animal Shelter Fund, we were able to purchase a therapeutic laser to treat animal injuries and assist with faster post-op recovery. This unit was purchased in this summer and has already helped over 200 animals.

## EUTHANASIA

At ICACS we perform humane euthanasia for animals that suffer from illness or injury that negatively impact their quality of life, behavioral issues that place the safety of the public at risk, or at the request of the animal owner. We do not euthanize animals based on shelter capacity or animal breed.



## ANIMAL CARE IMPROVEMENTS

### FEAR FREE SHELTER PROGRAM



The shelter environment is stressful on nearly all the animals that we care for. This can cause abrupt changes in the behavior in animals and can negatively affect their physical and emotional health as well as their adoptability.

In 2020, ICACS adopted the practices of the Fear Free program, which educates shelter professionals and volunteers on identifying the negative emotional states experienced by shelter animals and taking steps to reduce the fear, stress, anxiety and frustration that these animals face.

All ICACS staff have completed the Fear Free shelter training program. Since adopting the Fear Free practices, ICACS has seen a positive impact on animals that we care for in reduced length of stay and fewer behavioral euthanasia's.

## ANIMAL ENRICHMENT

ICACS has endeavored to increase enrichment opportunities for the animals in our care. Our shelter behaviorist has implemented the following programs in 2020:

- All dogs in the shelter are walked at least once each day.
- Many dogs become extremely stressed and anxious when they see people outside of their kennels. To alleviate this stress, we have placed blinds on the windows looking into our dog wards and restricted public access to these areas. Dog behavior issues have significantly decreased since making these changes.
  - Adaptil and Feliway diffusers are being used throughout the shelter to alleviate animal stress.
  - A daily enrichment program has been developed for dogs and cats where they receive a new "treat" each day designed to stimulate them and alleviate boredom and frustration.





# COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMS

## OUTREACH CENTER

For the last 10 years, ICACS has operated a community outreach center located at 826 W. Saginaw in Lansing. The Outreach Center provides pet food to Ingham County residents who demonstrate need. In addition, the Center sells discounted pet supplies such as leashes, collars and crates.

The Center has been closed to the public since March, but our dedicated volunteer Bobbie Lemon continues to make pet food available at this location nearly every day to continue assisting animals in need.

Volunteers have also taken advantage of the closure to make much-needed repairs to the building. Because of a very generous donor, we were able to replace the furnace, hot water heater, install a French drain to improve drainage and make needed structural repairs to the foundation. Volunteers are also painting & re-organizing the inside of the center so that when we are able to re-open, it will have a whole new fresh look.



## COMMUNITY PET FOOD BANK

Pet Food Bank Services		
Dog & Puppy Food Cat & Kitten Food Cat Litter		Donations gladly accepted <a href="http://www.icasfund.org">www.icasfund.org</a>
DAILY FOOD BANKS	WEEKLY FOOD BANK	COMMUNITY PARTNERS
<b>Lansing</b> ICACS OUTREACH CENTER 826 W SAGINAW	<b>Wednesdays</b> 10am-12pm MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP CENTRAL PARK DIVISION	Ingham County Animal Shelter Fund Pet Supplies Plus Okemos Community Church Preuss Pets; PetSmart Meijer; Potter Park Zoo The Cat Ambassador, Inc. Joey's Pet Outfitters Southside Comm Ctr

In April, ICACS partnered with several community organizations including the Okemos Community Food Pantry and The Cat Ambassador to help families negatively impacted by COVID-19 to feed their pets.

With the help of one of the key organizers of the Pet Food Bank, ICACS volunteer Connie Page, we have provided support throughout 2020 and will continue to do so into 2021. This program has helped to feed hundreds of animals throughout the County.

The pet food banks have been generously sponsored by members of our community as well as corporate sponsors, Preuss Pets, Joey's Pet Outfitters, Meijer, PetCo, PetSmart and Pet Supplies Plus.

## BISELL EMPTY THE SHELTERS



ICACS partnered with the Bissell Pet Foundation four times in 2020 to participate in their “Empty the Shelter” campaign.

This nationwide event helps shelters across the country with promoted adoption days. This year with COVID-19 precautions in place, we were able to stretch these events from day long into week long events. In 2020, ICACS adopted out 122 through the *#EmptyTheShelter* initiative.



## PET OF THE WEEK

Since 2017, ICACS has been collaborating with Midwest Communications Group bringing adoptable pets to the public in the form of radio segments and podcasts.

In 2020, this format moved from the I92.9 station to the local Rock Station Q106 with the help of DJ Span and “Scary” Terry Stevens. Each week our outreach team brings an adoptable dog or cat to the radio station to show them off on live social media.

Since this exposure also has a video feature, costumes are sometimes used to bring a little bit more entertainment to the videos.





## S.P.A.C.E. TAILS READING PROGRAM



In 2019, ICACS launched our Shelter Pets Assisting Children's Education (S.P.A.C.E.) reading program in partnership with the Capital Area District Library. This program brought children from our community together with the pets in our shelter to promote reading and education.

CADL provided librarians to help facilitate the program and handed out books to the children at the end of each reading session.

In 2020, we had 55 participants in January and February. The program was placed on hold in March due to COVID-19. We are looking forward to continuing this successful program in the future.



## COMMUNITY VACCINATION CLINICS



Every year ICACS hosts monthly low cost or free vaccination clinics where Ingham County residents can receive discounted-vaccines and purchase dog licenses. This year presented unique challenges to attempt to serve the community while observing social distancing practices.

ICACS staff developed a drive-thru vaccination clinic where both of these functions could be accomplished in a safe manner. Our efforts were extremely successful. In 2020, we conducted 7 clinics and vaccinated 1,111 animals. In 2019, ICACS conducted 12 clinics and vaccinated 1,264 animals. These clinics will continue in 2021 as the weather permits.

## OPERATION SANTA PAWS



In December, our Animal Control Officers visited local pet stores around Ingham County and accepted donations of food, beds, toys and other pet supplies for needy families.



A few days after the donations were gathered,

officers delivered the presents to area families who were nominated by the public, officers or other shelter staff. Due to the generosity of the residents and businesses of Ingham County, we were able to provide food, bedding and toys to dozens of animals in our community.

## NEW LEASH ON LIFE



With the assistance of the Ingham County Sheriff's Office, ICACS began a program to enhance the wellbeing of our animals and the inmates of the Ingham County Jail.

This program allowed us to bring dogs into the jail and partner them with inmates. This helped our dogs increase their social skills and receive some basic obedience training and exercise in a safe environment. The was also a great way for the inmates to be rewarded for good behavior. The program was put on hold in March of 2020 due to COVID-19, but we will be bringing it back as soon as it is safe to do so.

## "JUSTICE HEALS" PROGRAM

The "Justice Heals" program is a collaboration with Michigan State University Veterinary Medical Center and Dr. Marie Hopfensperger who is an Animal Behaviorist and longtime ICAC supporter. Dr. Hopfensperger is administering a grant called "Justice Heals" where shelter dogs will be paired with sexual assault survivors. ICACS is excited to be a part of this ground-breaking program.

# VOLUNTEER AND FOSTER PROGRAM

## VOLUNTEER HOURS

2020 has been a unique year which has presented challenges to us all. Thanks to our dedicated group of volunteers and pet fosters, we have been able to provide nearly uninterrupted service to the residents and animals of Ingham County.

In 2020, our volunteers donated over 5,000 hours of their time to help us provide these services. Without their continued support and dedication, we would not be able to provide many of our services to our community.

## COVID-19 SHUTDOWN

For a brief period in late-March, the Shelter was in a state of uncertainty and briefly suspended animal intakes. Preparing for a worst-case scenario, we asked our fosters and the community to help provide homes for the animals that were in the shelter.



The community response to this request was outstanding. With their help, we were able to place 125 animals into foster care over a two-day period. Many of these foster placements turned into forever homes with the fosters deciding to adopt. Several of the families that initially offered to foster animals during this time of crisis have become regular fosters for the Shelter.

## POP CAN DRIVE

With many traditional fundraising events on hold, ICACS went a little out of the box for spring fundraising opportunities. At the suggestion of a shelter volunteer, ICACs held a can drive collecting returnable bottles and cans. This was a huge success for fundraising, as thousands and thousands of cans and bottles were dropped off at the shelter. Every day shelter staff and volunteers were moving cans and bottles into the back of the shelter. What started as a great idea to put some cans aside in outdoor runs, quickly escalated to "Can Mountain" in the back parking lot.



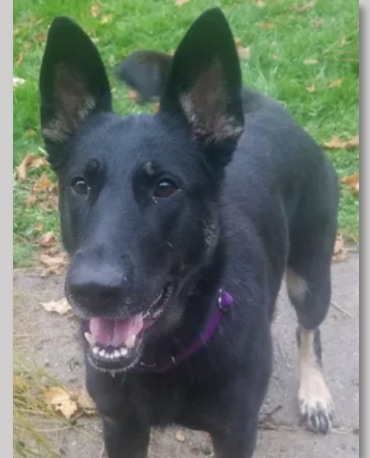
With the help of dedicated staff and volunteers (and an early entry pass at the Mason Meijer Bottle Return Room) over \$6,000 in bottles and cans were returned. These funds are being used to help the enrichment program and Outreach Center with funding, along with other shelter incidentals.



## MASON POLICE K9 OFFICER TAMARACK

In September, St. Clair County Animal Control seized 80 German Shepherd Dogs from a hoarding/neglect situation. ICACS responded to a request for assistance and eight of the Shepherds were transferred to our shelter.

Volunteer Dave Brooks dedicated dozens of hours training and socializing these dogs, many times spending five days a week at the shelter. He strived to find the perfect home for these dogs and stayed in contact with the adopters to make sure that they were settling into their new homes.



Among these rescued German Shepherds was Tamarack. After she was evaluated by a retired police K9 handler, it was discovered she had the temperament and drive to become a police K9. ICACS partnered with the Mason Police Department, who was looking to start up their own K9 Unit.

Tamarack's medical care including her spay, vaccinations and gastropexy surgery was performed and donated by Dr. Marie Hopfensperger, DVM, DACVB. The Mason Rotary Club collected over \$20,000 from the community to fund the new program, and Tamarack's adoption fee was sponsored by an ICACS staff member.

She will enroll in her police training during the spring of 2021 and should be in-service protecting the citizens of Mason later that year.



## ANIMAL WELFARE AND ENFORCEMENT



Throughout all of 2020, ICACS Animal Control Officers responded to calls for service. While the Shelter remained closed to visitors for most of the spring, our officers continued to report to work every day with the mission of protecting our citizens and animals. These photos represent just a few calls that our officers responded to throughout the year.



Our officers routinely enter homes that have been deemed uninhabitable due to sanitation and safety issues. Often, they spend hours searching through these homes attempting to retrieve animals and bring them to safety. When these animals are found, they are often severely neglected and in need of urgent medical treatment.

Officers help these animals in our community every day and work hand-in-hand with the Ingham County Prosecutor's Office to pursue criminal charges against those who would willingly abuse or neglect them. We take a zero-tolerance approach to animal cruelty in our county.

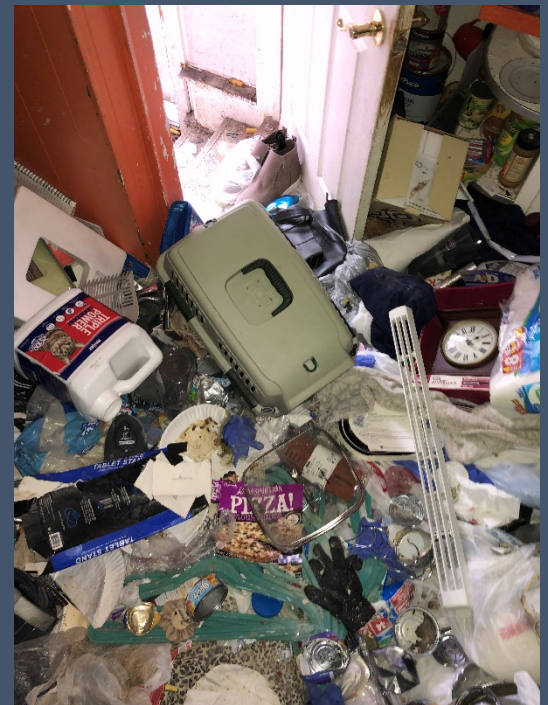






In 2020, ICACS added an on-call officer to assist police departments throughout the county with emergency response. If an animal presents a public safety threat, or if an animal needs emergency assistance we are now available 24 hours a day to assist our law enforcement partners.

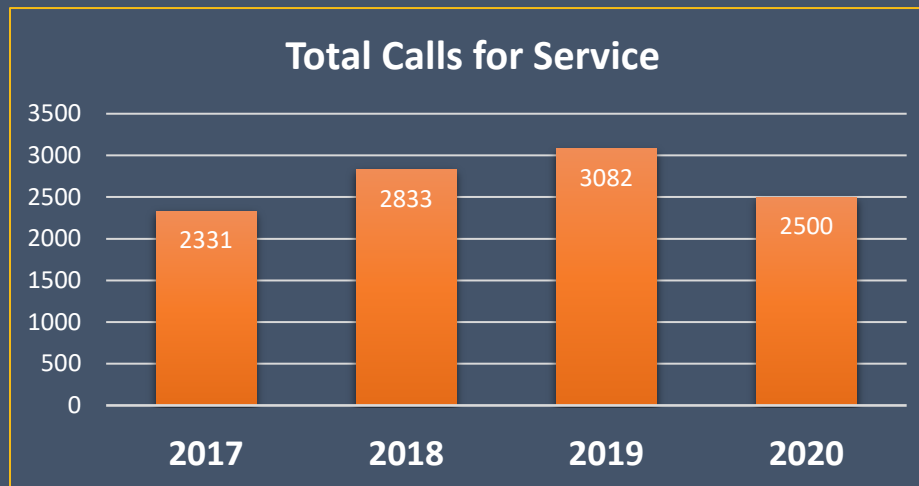
ICACS officers also work with members of the community who are struggling to properly care for their animals. Often, we encounter animals that do not have proper shelter or adequate medical care. We strive to find assistance and provide education for those who are in need, and will often provide assistance directly by providing donated food or dog houses to ensure that an animal is properly cared for.



Thanks to the support of this community, we are not only able to rescue these animals from deplorable conditions, we also have the resources and support to provide them medical treatment and place them in the loving homes that they deserve.



## ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS



### CALLS FOR SERVICE BY COMPLAINT TYPE

COMPLAINT TYPE	CALLS FOR SERVICE
Welfare (fighting/cruelty/neglect/abandonment)	585
Bite Cases	588
MDOP/Property Damage	71
Vicious Dogs/Attempted Attacks	38
Dog At Large	432
Sick/Injured Animals	55
Patrols	305
Livestock Related Complaints	43
Deceased Animal Pickups	121
Confined Dogs/Other Animals	98
Confined Cats (Veterinary offices only)	28
Follow-up Complaints (welfare/licensing/misc.)	53
Agency Assists	39
Kennel Inspections	9
Other/Misc./Non-classified	35

### ACTIVE WARRANTS

DISTRICT COURT	ACTIVE WARRANTS
54A District Court	431
55 <sup>th</sup> District Court	107
54B District Court	1