

# Brown County Humane Society

## Annual Report 2014

*Little Shelter. Big Results.*



*“We just couldn’t get him off our minds.”*

*Your Support - Helps people, Helps pets*

It’s every animal lovers dreaded scenario – what to do when you see an animal out on the road. Is his home just down the street? Has he been dumped? Should I pick him up? That feeling of worry is multiplied ten-fold when you are in a strange place. If you do pick him up and take him to the local animal shelter, will he be safe? If he is sick, will they treat him? What is their euthanasia policy? How long will he have to find a home?

Those were the thoughts running through the Rotelli’s minds when they came across a handicapped cat while vacationing in Brown County last fall. The skinny, white and gray kitty was super friendly and his deformed front leg didn’t really seem to bother him, but what was the best thing to do for him?

After conferring with locals, they were assured that the cat would be safe at the Brown County Humane Society and so the little cat went to the shelter and the Rotelli’s headed back home to Virginia.

Vinnie settled into shelter life quickly. He learned that he could get attention by reaching for people through his cage door with his little crooked leg. When out and about in the cat room, he enjoyed batting balls around, jumping on the cabinets and climbing into laps.

The Rotelli’s just couldn’t get that charming cat off their minds. Tom called the shelter a few days after getting home to check on the cat. Another week passed and Tom called again. This time he confided that his wife could not stop worrying about Vinnie. Tom asked if he could adopt Vinnie and ship him to Virginia as a surprise for his wife. A scramble to get Vinnie to Virginia began.



**Vinnie's crooked leg**



**Vinnie’s new family**

Some things are just meant to be – The next day Tom called with good news. His son, who lives in Indianapolis, was flying to Washington, DC in three days and was willing to fly Vinnie with him. The Rotelli’s could pick Vinnie up there. Could we possibly make that happen? Emails began to fly - who could get Vinnie to a veterinarian, who could drive him to the airport, who had an approved crate to fly Vinnie in, what were the health requirements for Virginia?

Within 24 hours, the whole process was worked out and Vinnie was decked out in his new harness and leash, and situated in his airline approved carrier. Vinnie was ready to go!

Tom and his wife, Ann, drove to the DC airport for a quick visit with their son. Ann had no idea Vinnie was on his way to her. When their son met them in the airport and presented Ann with Vinnie, she was elated and tears of surprise and happiness flowed.

With your support, Brown County Humane Society is able to provide a safe haven for homeless pets and find creative ways to get pets to happy, forever homes. Vinny, now aptly named Indy, exemplifies the impact you have on people and pets.

[Read more inside!](#)

To The Wonderful Supporters of the BCHS:

As I look back over 2014, I am reminded of the commitment to our mission and the hard work performed by our staff and volunteers. We work closely, to ensure the homeless, lost, abused and abandoned cats and dogs in Brown County receive proper care. Come rain or shine, the goal of our dedicated staff and volunteers is simply to make a difference in the lives of our pets, every day of the year.

As an open-admission shelter, we were able to achieve an outstanding Save Rate of 98+% in 2014, compared to a national average of 50%. Reducing pet overpopulation in our community continues to be a very important goal of our organization. Through our SPOT spay/neuter program, we have been able to reduce our shelter's intake of homeless pets by 57% in five years.

For 2014, we attribute our success to life-saving programs—such as low-cost spay/neuter assistance, off-site adoptions, transporting dogs to the east coast, foster families, rescue partners, barn cat program, behavior training and our outreach assistance program. Combined, all of these programs allow us to put our best foot forward, to ensure that the pets of Brown County are happy and healthy.

Relying primarily on donations from the public, we strive to keep operating costs low and our efficiency high. We depend so much on the generosity of others. Whether it is your donation dollars, your time, or gifts of supplies that are needed to make our cats and dogs comfortable while they await their forever home—every donation is important.

Thank you for your continued support and passion for our organization. We are a LITTLE Shelter with BIG Results—thanks to your wonderful support.

Sincerely,



Sue Ann Werling,  
President

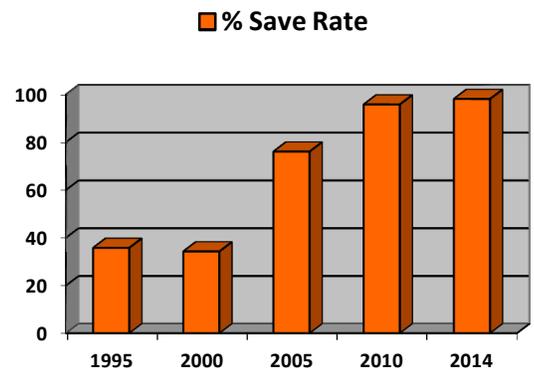


# 2014

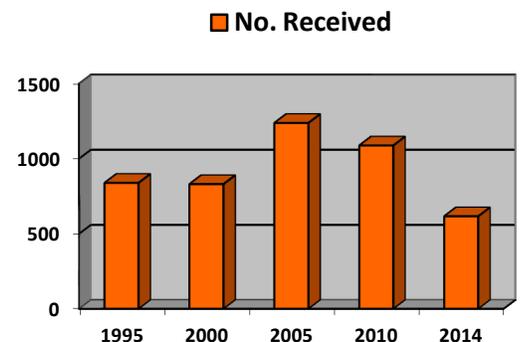
## 98% Save Rate

## 7% Fewer Intakes

Since 2000, the BCHS has worked tirelessly to reduce the number of pets euthanized at the shelter. Many successful programs have been implemented. We have maintained a Save Rate of 95+% for five years.



Starting in 2010, the SPOT program of the BCHS has administered a robust public assistance spay/neuter program, resulting in a 57% decrease in the number of unwanted pets entering the shelter.



# It Takes a Village

The success experienced in 2014 was due to many wonderful relationships developed over the years. Numerous individuals and organizations contributed to these achievements. Our partners include:

**You** – Individual supporters contribute to over 40% of our operating revenue. We simply could not function without your ongoing support.

**Volunteers** – Volunteers are the heart of our organization. Last year, 120 people volunteered over 14,000 hours both at the shelter and away from the shelter doing a variety of tasks, from cleaning kennels to website design to planning events.



**Volunteers at the shelter**

**CanINE Express** – Thanks to this great program, 34 dogs were transported to northern Ohio and New England where they all quickly found happy homes.



**Cathi loads dogs for CanINE Express**

**Other Rescue Groups** – Too many to name, but in 2014 we worked with several other rescue groups to move a variety of pets to organizations that could more quickly find placement for them.

**Howard Hughes Trust** - We received a generous donation from this trust in order to continue providing assistance to our community's pets through the SPOT program.



**SPOT sponsored rabies clinic**

**PetCo & PetSmart** - Not only do both of these businesses provide a place to showcase our adoptable pets, but both have foundations that generously support our work.

**Tony Stewart Foundation** – We are honored to be a Grant Accelerator Partner of the Tony Stewart Foundation. We had the great pleasure of meeting Tony and his family at a media day event held last spring.

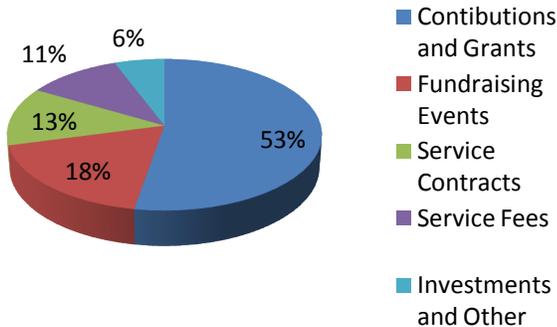


**Tony Stewart media day**

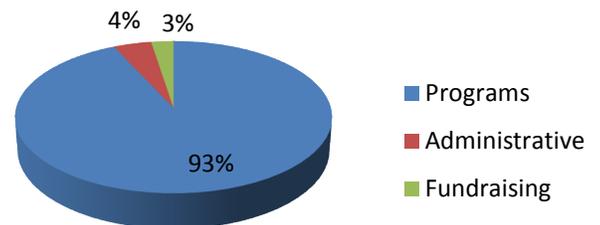
# Your Dollars At Work

Brown County Humane Society depends on generous donations from individuals, businesses and foundations to operate its shelter and adoption facilities and provide community outreach services to Brown County residents. Not included in the expense amounts below are the countless hours of operating, administrative, and fundraising services provided by numerous volunteers, each day, throughout the year.

## Revenue



## Expense



## 2014 Program Accomplishments

### Helping Homeless Pets

**337 animals adopted from the shelter**

**151 pets adopted at off-site events**

**121 pets reunited with owners**

**154 pets fostered**

### Helping Our Community

**13,328 lbs of pet food distributed**

**485 community pets fixed**

**235 pets vaccinated at rabies clinic**

**9 feral cat colonies assisted**

***YOU MADE IT POSSIBLE!***

***To help continue the good work, donate at [www.bchumane.org](http://www.bchumane.org)***