

## 2 Years, 2 Months and 20 Days Waiting. Now, a Forever Home

After 812 days in our care, we are thrilled to share the heartwarming news: Inga has been adopted!

Inga arrived at the shelter on December 20, 2022. For more than two years, she faced challenges learning to trust new people—but for those lucky enough to earn her trust, she became an unforgettable friend, capturing their hearts with her unwavering loyalty. With her soulful eyes, quiet strength, and unwavering spirit, she became a fixture at the shelter—one of those animals who touched countless lives.

On March 11, 2025, that long chapter came to a beautiful close—and a brand new one began. Her new dad spent nearly a week patiently getting to know her, building trust day by day until she felt safe. Their bond grew quickly and deeply.



On her adoption day, she celebrated in style: a scenic hike to stretch her legs and soak in the fresh air, a well-deserved ice cream treat to mark the moment, and a peaceful night's sleep on her very own twinsized mattress. For the first time in a long time, Inga slept not as a shelter dog, but as a cherished family member.



We are overwhelmed with gratitude for every single person who supported Inga during her long journey—those who walked her, trained her, advocated for her, and never gave up hope. Your compassion carried her through, and your belief made this moment possible.

It's a bittersweet farewell for us. We will miss Inga dearly, but our hearts are full knowing she finally has a place to call her own—a home where she is safe, loved, and celebrated every single day.

## Chocolate Walk Ticket Go On Sale August 15th

This year's annual Chocolate Walk will take place on Saturday, November 9th from 10am to 5pm in Nashville. Ticket holders will stroll through Nashville enjoying treats from nearly 40 participating shops and restaurants. There is also music, shopping and more!



This year tickets will be available for sale on our website beginning **Friday, August 15th**. Last year's event sold out in less than a week, so be sure to mark your calendars!

Learn more and purchase tickets beginning August 15 by visiting [www.bchumane.org/chocolate-walk/](http://www.bchumane.org/chocolate-walk/)

# Rehoming Pets: A Compassionate Choice Over Shelters

When life changes make it difficult to keep a beloved pet, many owners face a painful decision. While we at BCHS are always here to help, rehoming your pet directly can often be a more compassionate and effective option.

## **Better for Pets**

Shelters can be stressful environments. Rehoming directly helps your pet transition smoothly into a new home that meets their unique needs, reducing anxiety and emotional distress.

## **Eases Shelter Overcrowding**

Nationwide, shelters are overwhelmed and under-resourced. By rehoming your pet, you free up space and care for animals in crisis—those who are abandoned, stray, or neglected—giving them a better chance at rescue and recovery.

## **You Know Your Pet Best**

As their current owner, you understand your pet's personality and preferences. Rehoming allows you to interview potential adopters and ensure a strong match, setting your pet up for long-term success in their new home.

## **Maintains Routine**

Animals thrive on routine. When you rehome directly, you can guide the new owner in maintaining familiar habits—feeding, walks, playtime—helping your pet feel safe and secure, especially if they are older or have special needs.

## **Support From Your Community**

Tapping into your personal network or sharing on social media can help you find a responsible and loving new owner. It also offers peace of mind, knowing your pet is with someone you trust.

Rehoming is never easy, but when done thoughtfully, it offers a smoother, safer, and more compassionate path forward—for your pet and their future family. Don't forget, our staff is always here to help guide you through this process and provide whatever insight we can to help find the right home for your beloved pet.



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## Community Grants Help Both Shelter Pets and Our Community

We're excited to share that generous grants from the Smithville Foundation and Brown County Community Foundation (BCCF) are helping us care for both shelter pets and pets in the community.

Thanks to the Smithville Foundation, we've installed a brand-new shade sail in our dog play yard! This much-needed upgrade keeps our pups (and volunteers) cooler while they enjoy the outdoors. It also creates a more comfortable space for adopters to meet dogs in a relaxed, shaded environment—just in time for summer.

The BCCF awarded funds to help us purchase pet food for a new initiative through our Serving Pets Outreach Team (SPOT) to distribute pet food at existing food pantries. SPOT distributed over 21,000 pounds of food last year to Brown County families, and with growing demand, this support ensures more pets can stay in their homes during tough times.

We're deeply grateful to both foundations for supporting our mission and helping us keep animals safe, healthy, and loved—whether they're in the shelter or already home.



# Annual Vaccination Clinic Serves Record Number of Pets

On Sunday, April 27, our SPOT program held its largest Rabies Vaccination Clinic yet, serving over 500 pets and their families! Thanks to perfect weather and a great turnout, 535 dogs and cats received vaccines, and 69 pets got microchipped—a simple step that can help reunite lost pets with their families.

We send a huge thanks to the Brown County Music Center for hosting, and to BC Emergency Management for setting up a safe space for our feline friends. We could not have pulled off such a successful day without the hard work and heart of over 40 volunteers.

To our amazing veterinarians — Drs. Baker, Finney, Funk, and Sheckell — we are deeply thankful for your help to keep our community's pets healthy.

And thank you to every pet owner who came out and waited patiently. What a day!



## Shelter Wishlist: Items to Help Care for Growing Population

2025 has brought one of our highest dog populations in years, and we're down to our last few bags of food.



If you can donate a bag, we'd be so grateful—every bit helps keep our pups happy and fed! To keep diets consistent, we only feed our pups Purina Dog Chow Adult Chicken Flavor in the green bag (shown in the photo).

Other needs include soft dog treats (things like Bil-Jacs, Puperonis, Milk Bone Soft & Chewy, etc.), Purina Kitten Chow in the yellow bag and any brand of wet kitten food.

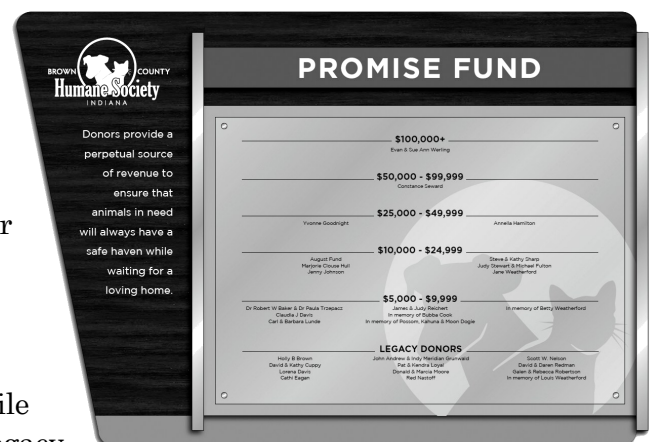
We have links to all of our online wishlists on our website: [www.bchumane.org/donate/wishlist/](http://www.bchumane.org/donate/wishlist/). Donations can be left on our porch during daytime hours or can be shipped to BCHS, 128 State Road 135 South, Nashville, IN 47448.

## Your Support of Homeless Pets Can Reach Far into the Future

Would you like to ensure that homeless pets have a safe place to go beyond your lifetime? Do you have assets that you would like to designate toward saving pets far into the future? The BCHS has an endowment fund, the Promise Fund, that is designed to support the shelter in perpetuity. As this fund grows over the years, a portion can be used annually to care for homeless pets while the remaining assets are retained in the fund to provide for growth over time.

Promise Fund donors provide a perpetual source of revenue to ensure that animals in need will always have a safe haven while waiting for a loving home. If you would like to leave a loving legacy for homeless pets, join the 30 families who have already chosen to be a part of the Promise Fund.

As you think about estate planning, please consider a donation to the Promise Fund. More information is available at <https://www.bchumane.org/donate/promise-fund/>. You can also reach out via email to [fundbchs@gmail.com](mailto:fundbchs@gmail.com) if you would like to talk to someone in person about your planned giving.



**Don't Forget!** Memorial and honorarium gifts are now published on our website. To view the current listing of memorial and honorarium giving, visit [www.bchumane.org/memorial-giving/](http://www.bchumane.org/memorial-giving/).

# What's Happening at the Shelter

## New Team Members

In March, we welcomed Kate Campbell to our animal care team! With 8 years of experience and a special love for shy dogs, she's already making a difference. We're also excited to have Niall Burns back—he worked with us in 2021–2022 and recently returned to Brown County. He's jumped right back in, caring for both dogs and cats.

## New Board Members

We're excited to welcome Wally Bruner and Ron Troyan to our board. Wally joined after working with us on a staff development project last year, and Ron brings strong financial expertise—and a love for animals.

## Pet Food Pantry Launch

In partnership with three local food pantries, our amazing SPOT volunteers are now distributing pet food to families in need. This program, supported by a \$1,000 grant from the Brown County Community Foundation, has already provided over 2,300 pounds of food!

## Heartworm on the Rise

We usually see fewer than five heartworm cases a year—but we've already hit that number in just four months. Treatment is long and stressful for the dogs, but preventable with regular medication. Please keep your pets protected—and help spread the word!

## Volunteers Make a Difference

Since January, we've welcomed 60+ new volunteers—with pet socialization being the most popular opportunity. Interested in volunteering? Whether it's hands-on, fostering, or behind-the-scenes, we'd love to have you! Learn more by visiting [www.bchumane.org/volunteer](http://www.bchumane.org/volunteer).

Until next time,

Visit us **online** at: [www.bchumane.org](http://www.bchumane.org) | on **Facebook**: [facebook.com/bchumane](https://facebook.com/bchumane) | on **Instagram**: [bchumane](https://www.instagram.com/bchumane)

## BCHS Staff

Shelter Manager: Caity Friedersdorf  
Veterinary Assistant: Amber Wimmenauer  
Animal Care Staff: Brian Blessing, Niall Burns,  
Jacqui Button, Kate Campbell, Becca Drake,  
Judy Getts, and Kylie Lopez  
Community Relations Manager: Megan Gushwa  
Behavior Coordinator: Steph Lenny

## Barn Sale

Away A Day  
Campground  
5515 State Road 46  
Nashville

## Donation Drop off dates

August 1st, 2nd and 3rd  
9am to 4pm

## Sale Dates

August 7th, 8th and 9th: 8am to 4pm daily

Learn more about Barn Sale by visiting  
[www.bchumane.org](http://www.bchumane.org) or following us on  
Facebook at [www.facebook.com/bchumane](https://www.facebook.com/bchumane).

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**



## Long Stay Shelter Residents



**Roo and Spruce**

1 year old  
Time in care: 5 months



**Waylon**

4.5 years old  
Time in care: 1 year

## Board of Directors

President: Sue Ann Werling  
Secretary: Greg Bennett  
Treasurer: Jane Weatherford  
Directors: Wally Bruner, Pam Clark, Cheri Flanagan,  
Rebecca Meyer, Ron Troyan and Laura Wert

**BCHS MISSION:** *The BCHS is a community resource dedicated to promoting animal welfare. We provide temporary shelter to pets in need and promote adoption into permanent, loving homes. We support and promote spaying and neutering to eliminate pet overpopulation. We advocate compassionate care and respect for animals through public education.*