

“THE GREATNESS OF A NATION
AND ITS MORAL PROGRESS CAN BE JUDGED
BY THE WAY ITS ANIMALS ARE TREATED.”






– MAHATMA GHANDI



Who We Are

A community-funded, nonprofit 501(c)3 organization, Cochecho Valley Humane Society (“CVHS”) is dedicated to promoting the humane treatment of animals in Strafford County, NH and Southern Maine. Established in 1984 to serve the domestic animal welfare needs of the more than 125,000 residents in our region, we are a safe, temporary home for more than 2,000 surrendered, lost, abused, neglected, or unwanted animals each year. Our mission is to provide quality, compassionate care and shelter to our animals, in partnership with educating the community concerning humane animal treatment and welfare.

How We Fulfill Our Mission

-  Place animals into caring, forever homes
-  Promote spaying, neutering, and microchipping of animals
-  Assist with cruelty investigations and raise awareness about animal welfare
-  Encourage volunteer involvement, support, and education
-  Advocate for the safety, health, and well-being of all animals

“The construction of a new shelter is something CVHS Board Members (both past and present), staff, volunteers, and animals, along with the local community, have been wanting to see happen for years. To be in this leadership position at the moment in time when we have the opportunity and momentum to make this happen is very exciting! The new shelter will of course be a place for animals while they transition to their ‘forever homes,’ but it will also be a place where we can proudly host the community and engage them in humane education with our wonderful staff and volunteers.”

– Karen Zaramba & Kelly Glennon, Current and Past Board Chairs & Campaign Co-Chairs



**Cochecho Valley
Humane Society**

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Cochecho Valley Humane Society

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

“30 years ago there was a need for a regional approach for the humane treatment of our animal friends. Others joined with me and together we established the Cochecho Valley Humane Society. The need and demand for CVHS’s services is as pressing today as it was 30 years ago. However, new infrastructure is badly needed. Today we need to take the next step and enable Cochecho to continue their work in a suitable new home.”

– George Maglaras, Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners and Co-Founder of CVHS



“Through the partnership with UNH’s Thompson School of Applied Sciences students work at CVHS learning basic medical and shelter care. What better way to improve the lives of our animals than to train students in this type of setting where they learn first-hand? The new shelter will allow us to expand this relationship and allow more students to become involved.”

— Dr. Sarah Proctor, DVM, Veterinarian of Record at CVHS and Veterinary Technology Program Director at UNH

A Personal Message from the Board Chair & Executive Director

To touch, feel, and interact on a personal level with the mission of your organization on a daily basis is rare. At Cochecho Valley Humane Society (“CVHS”), we have this opportunity knowing that the work we do saves lives and brings joy to those in search of a companion. We also know our work fulfills our commitment to provide educational and humane services to the community. The animals we see and the stories we hear run the gamut from strays to surrenders: there’s Bella, a stray 4 year-old Labrador mix; or Conrad, an 11 year-old Cocker Spaniel whose owners couldn’t afford to care for him; and Denzi, a cat too old and fragile to acclimate to a foster or adoptive home who has been adopted by the CVHS staff. The list of animals we serve goes on and on, as do the challenges we face in executing our mission. For anyone who has visited CVHS, you know what we mean. Our outdated facility – comprised of a 100 year-old piggery and two construction trailers cobbled together – does not reflect the quality of our care, the dignity of the animals in our care, or the mission we live. That is why the Board of Directors, staff, and volunteers – after 30 years in this shelter– have come together to launch a fundraising campaign to build a new facility. We feel privileged to help orchestrate this vision and know a larger, updated facility will enable us to dramatically expand our reach in Strafford County and surrounding communities. It will take \$2.5 million to build the new center and \$1 million for endowment and operational support to make this a reality. We ask you to join us and lend your support.

Sincerely, *Karen & Leslie* Karen Zaramba, CVHS Board Chair and Leslie Heindl, CVHS Executive Director



Our History

When we opened our doors in 1984 and took in our first stray, Bentley, we never thought 30 years later the shelter would remain in the 100 year-old piggery that was once part of the County work farm. Nor did we anticipate growing to the point we’re at today where we take in more than 2,000 animals per year. As one of the largest shelters in New Hampshire, CVHS serves all of Strafford County as well as towns in Southern Maine. In 2013, we contributed the following services to the community:

- 🐾 Assisted animals surrendered by owners who could no longer care for them: **156 DOGS** **451 CATS** **75 OTHERS**
- 🐾 Sheltered **503** stray animals from neighboring towns
- 🐾 Provided cruelty assistance services to **8** cities and towns

CVHS is unyielding in its commitment to quality care. Staff, volunteers, veterinary partners, and students provide loving and expert care to these animals in less than optimal conditions and a cramped space. Their daily sacrifice to provide for our animals with dignity, optimism, and devotion translates into always going the extra mile.

Bring Us Home

CVHS has executed a 99-year lease with the County for a 6 1/2 acre parcel of land on the County Complex in Dover, NH. On this land, we will build our new facility. Our rent: \$1 per year; the value: nearly \$1,000,000. CVHS has finalized plans and the associated capital budget for the new facility, including staffing and equipment, and is embarking on a \$3.5 million campaign to “Bring Us Home.” We have worked with Stewart Architects, who designed the facility for the New Hampshire Humane Society in Laconia, to create a new, modern facility that will allow us to:

- 🐾 Increase the number of adoptions by 47% from 2013
- 🐾 Improve comprehensive medical services for animals under our care
- 🐾 Expand support services to low-income community members
- 🐾 Expand veterinary technician training on surgery, behavioral training, and basic medical exams
- 🐾 House animals in a facility that minimizes the spread of disease through deliberate design and space allocation
- 🐾 Reduce animals’ stress so they are happier, healthier, and more adoptable
- 🐾 Create a warm, welcoming place for potential adopters to meet with animals
- 🐾 Educate children and adults on responsible pet ownership in our Community Education Room
- 🐾 Provide staff and volunteers a pleasant and functional work space
- 🐾 Establish an endowment to ensure the sustainability of operations for many years to come

Naming Opportunities

This is a wonderful way to support CVHS's "Bring Us Home" Capital Campaign while commemorating the life and memory of a beloved animal, family member, or friend.

1. Building Name	\$500,000 (1)
2. Community Education Center	\$350,000 (1)
3. Lobby/Reception	\$300,000 (1)
4. Surgical Suite	\$250,000 (1)
5. Patio Memorial Garden	\$125,000 (1)
6. Behavioral Training Room	\$100,000 (1)
7. Dog Adoption	\$75,000 (1)
8. Cat Adoption	\$75,000 (1)
9. Get Acquainted Room	\$75,000 (1)
10. Adoption Office	\$75,000 (1)
11. Treatment Room	\$75,000 (1)
12. Recovery Room	\$75,000 (1)
13. Cat Play Room	\$50,000 (1)
14. Grooming Room	\$50,000 (1)
15. Cat Maternity Room	\$40,000 (1)
16. Small Animal Room	\$30,000 (1)
17. Stray Kennel Areas	\$25,000 (3)
18. Executive Director's Office	\$25,000 (1)
19. Break Room	\$25,000 (1)
20. Quarantine & Isolation Rooms	\$20,000 (4)
21. Workrooms	\$20,000 (2)
22. Laundry Area	\$20,000 (1)
23. Food Prep Area	\$15,000 (4)
24. Food Storage/Pantry	\$15,000 (2)
25. Bench in Memorial Garden	\$3,000 (5)
26. Large Dog Kennel	\$2,000 (30)
27. Small Dog Kennel	\$1,500 (10)
28. Cat Cages	\$1,000 (30)
29. Brick in Memorial Garden (large)	\$1,000 (75)
30. Brick in Memorial Garden (small)	\$500 (75)



"Of all the charities that I have contributed to through the last three decades, CVHS has been my favorite. The employees and volunteers have always been most gracious, and incredibly helpful during the adoptions of the seven cats and kittens I've taken in during that time. The culture of the organization is one of serving the animals and the human customer, a daunting task compounded by limited resources and an outdated facility. But mostly I am grateful to the loyal feline friends that have kept me company and thoroughly amused."

— Dr. Michael O'Connell, Salmon Falls Family Healthcare