

Paving the way to saving more lives

In 2020, we passed our first strategic plan which outlined our top five goals for the shelter over the next three years. One of the goals of the strategic plan was for us to purchase our very first building in order to secure the future and ensure sustainability of the shelter for many years to come. It was important that our new home be located close to our current shelter and allow us to ensure that we can continue our life saving work in our community.

Our New Address

586 Palwaukee Dr. Wheeling IL 60090



With this new chapter in Heartland's story of life-saving, comes a renewed opportunity to reconnect with our community and our values. In addition to the new space, we are prioritizing our Medical and Wellness capacity through renovations to enhance enrichment and provide life-saving care. We are also prioritizing our Development and Community Outreach capabilities so that we can better serve those who support us and our animals and to be a cornerstone of animal welfare.



Our new "catio"



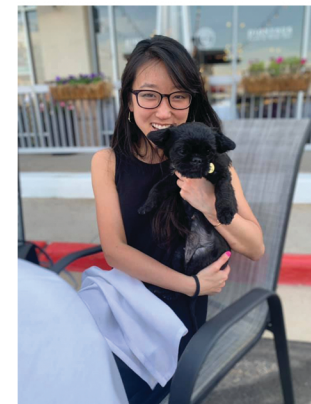
We could not be more excited to be sharing more details about our new home, our hope for what it will mean for us and for the community, and for the greater impact that it will enable us to have. Please stay tuned as we launch our Capital Campaign in the upcoming months.



HEARTLAND HAPPY TAILS



Olivia is one of our favorite "miracle dog" stories. Left in an alley, she was found severely matted and in rough shape. In order to properly treat her, she had to be shaved but it was even too matted for our stellar med team. Luckily our generous partners at Deerfield Animal Care Center offered assistance and Olivia's sweet little self began to emerge from her traumatic past. We were over the moon excited when a wonderful adopter came forward and wanted to take Olivia home to finish her healing, both physically and emotionally.



She is now a beloved member of her new family!

When Leo's foster family fell in love with him, they knew he was the one. What they may not have known is that Leo didn't start out with the best life. Though we don't know exactly what he had been through, there were signs it wasn't good- including the need to remove a bullet from when he was shot at. He had GI problems and understandable anxiety so he found a comfortable space in our med room until finally, all his love could finally be returned in the form of a warm, new home.

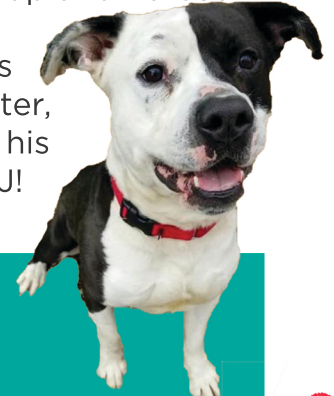


Having been featured this year in People magazine, we knew long-time resident and "sassy senior" Xola was on his way to being adopted. He came to us from a hoarding case with 80 other cats and he ended up being one of the last ones to be adopted. He was a volunteer and staff favorite, making sweet little chirps from the cuddle room which was his "bachelor pad." He also loved playing with any of the new kittens every chance he got.

In early November, our wish came true and Xola was adopted by a wonderfully generous woman who just could not resist those beautiful eyes. Xola is now a happy, healthy cat, living the good life in the Florida Keys!



AJ had become a regular staple at our kennels, going in and out of foster, including being taken in by one of our Animal Care Attendants for a time. A bright and cheerful dog, AJ entertained us for hours with his antics- especially his absolute love of his red ball. We knew his special forever family was out there but when kept getting passed over and spent more and more days at the shelter, our hearts really went out to him. One day he really wasn't feeling well and so our med team took a look and he was suffering from pneumonia. Once again one of our team stepped up and nursed him back to health. And the icing on cake was that just one week later, he was adopted into his forever home! Yay AJ!



OTHER WAYS TO HELP SAVE LIVES...

We simply could not do the life saving work we do without help from friends like you. Whether you honor us with a legacy gift or a stock donation or you purchase an item or two off our wishlist, your generosity is what keeps our door open for dogs and cats in the most need.

Use your donation to Sponsor an adoptable animal! By generously sponsoring the adoption fees of one or more of our animals, you help to eliminate financial barriers to adoption and increase the likelihood of finding their forever home.

