



# Animal Humane Society Kasota Avenue Animal Care Campus



## Legislative Funding Fact Sheet

More than 65% of Minnesota families share their lives with a beloved pet — and many of those families turn to Animal Humane Society for help. Each year AHS provides refuge, direct care, and essential services to help nearly 100,000 animals in need across the state.

As our relationships with companion animals have evolved over the years, Animal Humane Society has evolved with them. Over the past 145 years, AHS has grown into an all-encompassing resource for our community, providing a wide range of critical services to support people and pets in Minnesota.

To support this vital work, Animal Humane Society will build a new 100,000-square-foot animal care campus in the heart of the Twin Cities. This new facility will prepare us to meet the challenges animals across our state face today, tomorrow, and in the decades to come.

The \$45 million construction cost of this project will be funded primarily through private donations, with nearly \$20 million already secured from private donors. Given the extraordinary public benefit and ongoing economic impact of this project, Animal Humane Society is seeking \$15 million in one-time state funding during the 2023 legislative session to support construction of this new facility.

AHS has already purchased property for the facility at 2565 Kasota Avenue in St. Paul and contracted with HGA Architects and Gardner Builders to complete the project, with the first design phase already concluded and groundbreaking expected to proceed soon after fundraising is completed.

## Public Benefit

The new animal care campus will support critical public needs throughout the state, including:

- Shelter space to care for 193 dogs, 237 cats, and 20 critters, with enhanced housing that supports animals' physical and psychological health
- A state-of-the-art veterinary center that will provide lifesaving care for shelter animals and free and low-cost services for pets of income-qualified families
- Enhanced capacity and flexible space to support law enforcement agencies across the state responding to animal abuse and neglect and animals seized in large-scale humane investigation cases
- A teaching hospital where University of Minnesota veterinary students will complete rotations
- A pet food pantry and space devoted to helping families keep and care for their pets
- An animal rehabilitation center with home-like spaces for shelter behavior programs
- An education and training center that will double the size of our pet training and humane education programs, serving thousands of additional animals, children, and families each year
- A volunteer and foster care center to engage community members in our animal welfare work
- A play yard and green space that welcomes and supports community members and their pets
- Indoor and outdoor amphitheaters for educational and entertainment events



## Job Creation and Economic Impact

An investment in this project will provide direct returns to the Minnesota economy. Construction is expected to require more than 300,000 hours of labor, creating 250 jobs and \$27 million in payroll.

When completed, our new animal care campus will be home to more than 150 permanent jobs that provide a living wage and full benefits. The project is expected to create 30 new permanent professional roles, from veterinarians and veterinary technicians to trainers and educators, adding more than \$1.6 million to Animal Humane Society's \$16 million annual payroll.

In addition to job creation, this new project will enable AHS to further expand the free and low-cost services it provides to the community, creating an immeasurable economic impact and elevating the welfare of people and animals in Minnesota.