

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



CONTACT:

Jennifer Smieja, 262-542-8851, x107
jennifer@hawspets.org
Kathleen Fisher, 262-522-1400
kfisher@hebronhouse.org



HEBRON and HAWS COME TOGETHER TO HELP FAMILIES WITH PETS

Waukesha County Family Pet Care Program created to assist people and their pets with housing stability.

WAUKESHA – August 1, 2025. Hebron Housing Services, in collaboration with HAWS, the Humane Animal Welfare Society of Waukesha County, has launched the Waukesha County Family Pet Care Program for families with pets who are at risk of or experiencing homelessness in Waukesha County. This partnership enhances the homeless services field's ability to end family homelessness by recognizing the crucial role companion animals play in maintaining housing stability.

An anonymous donor has provided funding for the partnership through the **United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County's Safe & Stable Homes** initiative. Funds will provide coordinated access to veterinary and wellness care, boarding resources, and assistance with pet fees. Help with these expenses will free up financial resources to pay for rent and other living expenses. Most importantly, it will keep families and their pets together in their homes.

“We know lots of families with pets are facing eviction because they are trying to balance their budget. We are grateful for United Way funding that helps families with their living expenses,” notes Kathleen Fisher, CEO of Hebron Housing Services.

Hebron Housing Services will identify families in need through their countywide Barriers to Housing Assessment. This assessment will identify families who are Category 1, 2, or 4 homeless and have pet expenses that are negatively impacting their housing stability. Hebron will educate community partners on the new assessment and encourage the use of Impact Connect for the referral process.

HAWS will provide reduced or no-cost veterinary care, wellness programs, and emergency boarding. Veterinary and wellness care includes surgery, regular wellness visits, emergency or sick visits, blood work, medications, vaccinations, and dental care. Emergency boarding will be provided for families that need a temporary place for their pets while they work on securing housing. To help families keep their pets in their homes and maintain housing stability, the grant will also cover up to a year of additional pet fees that are included in their lease agreement.

Executive Director, Maggie Tate-Teichtmann, notes, “We believe that keeping pets in their homes and with their families is important to everyone’s success and well-being - this partnership allows us to help those families when they need us the most.”

Established in 1965 as a non-profit organization, the Humane Animal Welfare Society assists over 12,000 animals and welcomes more than 35,000 human visitors annually. HAWS is an open-admission, no-kill shelter dedicated to strengthening the relationship between animals and humans through adoptions and education, making a more compassionate community possible. HAWS is located at 701 Northview Road in Waukesha, Wisconsin. For more information, call (262) 542-8851 or log onto hawspets.org. Follow HAWS on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and YouTube. HAWS: Growing Our Humane Community.

Hebron Housing Services has restored hope to individuals and families in need for more than 40 years. The agency provides emergency, short-term shelter and long-term housing solutions to homeless individuals and families in Waukesha, Ozaukee, Washington, and Jefferson Counties. For more information, visit hebronhouse.org or call 262-549-8720.

#