

Annual Report for 2025 requested by Putnam County due January 23, 2026

Agency: Putnam County Human Society, Inc.

Agency Address: 68 Old Route 6, PO Box 297, Carmel, NY 10512
Phone Number: 845-225-7777
Main Email address: shelter@puthumane.org

I. Description of Agency

The Putnam Humane Society (“PHS”) is a not-for-profit IRC Section 501(c)(3) organization formed to:

- a. Establish, operate, and maintain adequate shelter(s) in which lost, stray, homeless, or impounded domesticated dogs and cats can be cared for and adopted to responsible homes;
- b. Further public education in the humane treatment of animals;
- c. Provide contract services pursuant to Article 7 of the NYS Agriculture and Markets Law relating to the licensing and sheltering of dogs; and
- d. Accept gifts, bequests, donations, and other contributions.

II. Services Provided

PHS provides safe shelter and care for Putnam County's abandoned, lost and stray animals awaiting adoption or recovery. PHS's goal is to seek responsible, permanent adoptive homes for shelter animals. Another primary goal is to promote an aggressive spay/neuter program including early age and low cost spay/neuter for all community residents, and to implement such program in conjunction with community veterinarians in an effort to reduce the population of unwanted pets in Putnam County. PHS provides humane education and promotes humane awareness for all animals. PHS also actively seeks owners of lost pets. It is through these highlighted services and other services that PHS provides leadership in humane and animal welfare issues throughout Putnam County. Please see attached 2025 PHS Annual Trends & Highlights Report for additional programs and services.

III. Mission Statement

PHS is here for the animals.

- To be the voice for the animals who cannot speak for themselves.
- To provide protection, a safe haven and compassion through leadership for the homeless, abused and neglected animals of our community.

PHS is dedicated to nurturing and protecting the animals in our care while they await adoption. We are committed to providing these animals with the patience, confidence, discipline, nutrition, medical treatment, and socialization they may require until they can be adopted into responsible homes.

- To be the advocates for our unwanted/abandoned pets and promote humane awareness for all animals.
- To maintain a no-kill shelter.

PHS is a NO Kill Shelter – meaning, we do not euthanize for space limitations. We provide euthanasia for terminally ill and seriously injured animals to end their suffering when reasonable courses of treatment have been exhausted. We consider HUMANE euthanasia in the animal’s best interest if an animal is behaviorally or mentally tormented to the degree that they will not allow any human contact or interaction and only after every effort has been exhausted to modify the behavior issues of the animal.

IV. Population Served

PHS serves the entire population of Putnam County.

V. Significant Events & Accomplishments in 2025

Please see PHS Annual Report Trends & Highlights 2025 attached.

VI. Staffing

No changes of significance to current staffing assignments and/or new staff.

VII. Sources of Revenue

As a Section 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, PHS accepts gifts, bequests, donations, and other contributions including grants. PHS generates additional donations through fundraising activities and dog/cat adoptions. PHS also receives

funds from Putnam County and from specific towns within Putnam County to provide contract services to the community.

The cost to PHS of veterinary services, medications, dog/cat food, utilities, etc. have increased each year.

PHS does not have any new, unfunded mandates for 2026 as of this date.

VIII. Goals for 2026

o Upcoming projects/programs and initiatives for the next fiscal year.

PHS's goals for 2026 (and for every year) include, but are not limited to, our ongoing commitment to:

- provide safe shelter and care for Putnam County's abandoned, lost, and stray animals awaiting adoption or recovery;
- seek responsible, permanent adoptive homes for shelter animals;
- promote an aggressive spay/neuter program in conjunction with community veterinarians;
- provide humane education and promote humane awareness;
- actively seek owners of lost pets; and
- fundraising and adoption events and activities to actively promote community outreach and additional donations and adoptions.

Please see the attached 2025 PHS Annual Trends & Highlights Report for details of various events and activities that provide the foundation for PHS's anticipated 2026 events and activities goals.

o Matters of known interest to the County Executive's Office

As of this date, PHS is not aware of any matters that would be of particular interest to the County Chief Executive's Office.



Annual Report
Trends & Highlights
January 2025 – December 2025

SUMMARY

[see following pages of this attachment for full detailed ANNUAL REPORT]

Facility Improvements

- New office computer.
- Two new storm doors.
- New hard-wired heat and smoke detectors.
- New wood fencing and screening throughout the shelter.
- New washer and dryer.
- Ongoing miscellaneous repairs and painting in dog kennels, cat area.
- Tree work – yearly trimming and take down when needed.

2025 PHS Fund Raising

Donations are also obtained through fundraising and outreach events. In 2025, there was a minimum of 41 fundraising events, not including multiple donation drives throughout the year by volunteers and various schools, organizations, and individuals for items on PHS's wish list.

Outreach Education & Adoption

Outreach events throughout our community provide opportunities to educate the public about the importance of spaying and neutering, microchipping, training, and the humane treatment of animals. Outreach events also provide opportunities to showcase various dogs and cats available for adoption. In 2025, there were approx. 24 outreach, education, and adoption events. Adoption events are in addition to actively promoting adoptions every day at PHS's facility on Old Route 6 in Carmel.

PHS Gives Back

PHS gives donated items that it cannot use to other needy not-for-profit organizations within Putnam County. PHS also assists those in need in our community with a pet food pantry.

Putnam Humane Society Ongoing Programs and Services for 2025

- Spaying & Neutering
- FREE Microchipping in partnership with Southeast Animal Hospital
- PHS Food Pantry
- Community Service Opportunities
- Humane Education
- The Trap, Neuter, Return Fund (TNR)
- The Animal Rights Alliance (TARA)– PHS collaborates with TARA in offering low-cost spay/neuter including rabies vaccinations for cats
- Rescue Intake (Incoming Transfers)
- Reuniting Lost Pets
- Re-Homing Database
- Times of Trouble / Sick and Injured Animals Fund
- PHS Advertising and Marketing
- PHS Facebook Page - Social Media Information Resource

ANNUAL REPORT – TRENDS & HIGHLIGHTS 2025

Facility Improvements

- New office computer.
- Two new storm doors.
- New washer and dryer.
- New hard-wired heat and smoke detectors.
- Tree work.
- Wood Fencing replaced throughout the shelter.
- New Screening along the backside of pens on the office side.
- Ongoing miscellaneous repairs and painting in dog kennels, cat area, and the grounds.
- Tree work-yearly trimming and take down when needed.

2025 PHS Fund Raising

The Putnam Humane Society (PHS) is a not for profit 501(c)3 organization where all monetary funds go directly for the care of the animals. Donations are received in a variety of ways. People send donations by mail, through PayPal, and bring them directly to our facility. In addition, donations are also obtained through fund raising events and outreach events.

- PHS does not have any paid fundraising staff. All events are staffed by individuals who donate their time. This includes PHS Facebook, PHS website, and PHS Instagram.

2025 Fund Raising Events

- Shiver For Strays-Brewster- Lake Tonetta
- The Big Game-Carmel Creamery- Carmel
- Donation Boxes- throughout the County.
- Valentine Hearts- Purchase a heart in memory of a beloved pet.
- St. Patrick's Day Shamrocks-Purchase a shamrock in memory of a beloved pet.
- Pictures with the Easter Bunny-PHS.
- Stop & Shop Mahopac- \$1 donated to PHS for each reusable bag sold.
- Hannaford Pawling-\$1 donated to PHS for each reusable bag sold.
- Tag Sale at PHS- 6/7-8/19
- Promenade on Route 6-Carmel-fundraising, adoption, and PR.
- Cash Calendar-October.
- Reed Memorial Library- 10/1-10/31-The great give back donation drive.

- Facebook Auctions- Every month- 26 were held in 2025. All items were donated.
- Murder Mystery Dinner-November- Anthony's Lake Club.
- Pet Photos with Santa-Mahopac Feed Barn-12/6.
- PHS Open houses throughout the year-Adoption and Fundraising.
- Donation drives are done throughout the year by volunteers, various schools, organizations, and individuals for items on our wish list.



Grants

Fidelity Charitable donor advised fund.

Roy Leonard Charitable Fund.

Lake Mahopac Rotary-Grant To help with vetting dogs before adoption.

Outreach Education & Adoption

PHS volunteers also participate in community events throughout the area. These outreach events provide opportunities to help educate the public about the importance of spaying and neutering, microchipping, training, and humane treatment of animals. Outreach events also provide opportunities to showcase various dogs and cats available for adoption.

2025 Outreach, Education & Adoption Events

- Early Valentine adoption special for cats-reduced adoption fees. 1/21-1/26.
- St. Patrick's Day Parade-Mahopac-Marched with staff, volunteers, and dogs.
- "You can't buy love, but you can adopt it"-Adoption-reduced adoption fees-2/10-2/26
- Celebrate St. Patrick's Day- Adoption-3/16-3/18.
- Find your furry Valentine-adoption- February
- May the Dogs and Cats have the luck of the Irish-Adoption- March
- April showers please bring May adoptions-May.
- Mother's Day Weekend-Adoption-May
- Kitten Shower-Adoption-Donation Drive for kitten items-June
- Verizon Community Day- Carmel-Offsite adoption and outreach-July
- Celebrate July 4th-Reduced adoption fees.
- Clear the shelters-Adoption-August.
- Somers Community Day-Adoption-September.
- Blessing of the Pets-MCB Church-Blessing, outreach, adoption-September
- Trick or Trunk-Kent Fire Dept.-Adoption/Outreach-October.
- Back to School-Adoption-September
- Annual Maci's Day Parade at PHS- Live Stream on Facebook-November
- Kittens are ready! Kitten adoption-12/6 &12/7.
- Cultural Arts Coalition-Town of Southeast-Festival of Trees. Dec/Jan.
- Christmas Caroling at PHS-Annual event-Adoption-December
- Adoption fees for seniors- Paid by Hyde Park Auto. 12/27-1/1/26
- Ongoing outings with PHS dogs to socialize and promote adoption.
- Videos are both recorded and live streamed on Facebook throughout the year.
- Adopt-a-pet on the internet. PHS dogs and cats are uploaded to the site.
- PHS fields hundreds of calls per year from the community seeking advice on issues including animal welfare, training, low cost spay/neutering, and basic animal care
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PHS is an adoption facility, and "every day is an adoption day." Adopters are able to meet with staff, go over training assessments, interact with the dogs and cats, meet with trainers, and get all the information needed about the dog or cat they are interested in. We like to have special themed adoption events throughout the year, but again "every day is an adoption day." We do outside events when possible. Rescue groups that do not have a facility have no choice but to go to different venues to showcase their animals. That is the difference between a shelter/PHS, and rescues without a facility. It is also much safer for the animals to be on the premises with trained staff. There are many benefits to onsite adoptions.

PHS GIVES BACK

- Food Pantry- PHS continues to advertise that we have donated food to give to those having a hard time feeding their pets. Many families have been able to keep their pets with this help. The need has increased over the past few years. They come to the shelter to pick up food. PHS also donates on an ongoing basis to Advocats, Brewster Food Bank, Second Chance Rescue, MCB Church, Patterson Food Bank, Dutchess CAP, and Forgotten Felines.
- Prescription Dog and Cat Food- PHS receives prescription food from people whose pets have passed, or they no longer needed the food. If it is food we cannot use, we offer it to the public, but they must provide their veterinarian's approval.
- Crates- PHS receives donations of dog and cat crates throughout the year. When PHS has more than needed we donate to rescue groups and individuals who can use them.
- Dog Igloos- Igloos that are being replaced at PHS but still in decent shape, are donated to residents taking care of feral cat colonies, to local cat organizations, and to residents who may need them for their own pets.
- Middletown Humane Society-Cat food, cat beds, and linens.
- City of Poughkeepsie-Dog control -Donations were made with proceeds from a fundraiser a staff member held with donations she made at her expense for the fundraiser.
- Cat rescue of Barbados- A Carmel resident works with the rescue. We donate cat carriers and Vari kennels throughout the year.
- Rescue Transports- Leashes and collars.
- Hudson Valley Animal Rescue and Sanctuary(HVARs)- Donated flea meds that PHS doesn't use, dog dishes, collars, pellet bedding for small animals, and various other items throughout the year.
- Various dog and cat items not needed are put in a bin at the shelter marked "Free." There is always someone who can make good use of these items.
- When expired food is donated, we reach out to those feeding and caring for wildlife.

Putnam Humane Society 2025 Annual Statistics

<u>Dogs</u>		<u>Cats</u>	
Beginning Population 1-01-25	30	Beginning Population 1-01-25	26
Owner Releases	15	Owner Releases	15
Dog Control Seizures	72		
Incoming Transfers	8	Stray Cat Intake	110
Emergency Holds (Reunited) (5)	+/-5	Emergency Hold	0
Reunited with Owners	-48	Reunited with Owners	-5
Adopted	-49	Adopted	-115
Deceased	-1	Deceased	-5
Dogs in Foster to Adopt Care	+3	Cats in Foster to Adopt Care	+8
Ending Population 12/31/25	30	Ending Population 12/31/25	34

Summary:

- **During 2025, PHS took care of 292 dogs and cats.**
 - 133 Dogs
 - 159 Cats
- **53 dogs and cats were reunited with their owners.**
- **175 animals were adopted or placed in Foster to Adopt Care**
- **33 Feral Cats were part of the PHS TNR Fund (not included in the Stray Cat Intake total)**

Dog Licenses:

PHS licenses dogs adopted and returns the revenue generated by these licenses to the towns where the dog resides and PHS contracts with. In 2025, an additional 41 dogs owned by residents were licensed for towns in Putnam County for those dogs brought in by dog control and reunited.

<u>Terms:</u>	<u>Definition of Terms:</u>
Beginning Population	Current number of cats or dogs residing at PHS.
Owner Releases	Cats and dogs whose owners have relinquished ownership of their pets to PHS.
Dog Control Seizures	Dogs brought in by DCO (Dog Control Officers).
Foster to Adopt Care	Dogs and Cats still under medical treatment.
Stray Dog/Cat Intake	Cats and dogs that were found by Good Samaritans in the community are also included in the Dog Control Seizures count. This group also includes abandoned cats and dogs left tied to PHS front gates or left in boxes on PHS property.
Incoming Transfers	Dogs brought in from "Kill" shelters who are adopted.
Emergency Holds	Animals brought in by Police Officers or Dog Control Officers as a result of emergencies such as car accidents, hospitalizations etc.).
Adopted	Cats and dogs adopted.
Deceased	Cats and dogs that have been euthanized.
Ending Population	Current number of cats or dogs residing at PHS.

PHS Information

Mission Statement

The Putnam Humane Society is dedicated to nurturing and protecting the animals in our care while they await adoption. We are committed to providing these animals with the patience, confidence, discipline, nutrition, medical treatment, training, enrichment, and socialization they may require until they can be adopted into responsible homes.

Maintaining a No Kill Shelter

As per our mission statement we do not euthanize for space limitations. We provide euthanasia for terminally ill and seriously injured animals to end their suffering when reasonable courses of treatment have been exhausted. We consider humane euthanasia in the animal's best interest if an animal is behaviorally or mentally tormented to the degree that they will not allow any human contact or interaction, and only after every effort has been exhausted to modify the behavior issues of the animal.

Quality Animal Care

All the animals in our care are vaccinated against disease, spayed, or neutered, treated for any injury or illness. All animals are tested for common serious viral and tick-borne illnesses, and Heartworm disease. They also all receive monthly flea and tick treatment, and heartworm preventative. Dogs and cats are microchipped to help increase their chances of being returned to their owner should they get lost. PHS is listed as a secondary contact in case the owner cannot be reached, or their contact information was changed and not updated. All the dogs and cats receive the necessary attention, training and nurturing they require to prepare them for adoption. There is also daily enrichment with various games, agility, and play time, outings to local stores, and businesses. Our managers and trainers will take dogs to their home to socialize, and train. This helps us to see how they act in a home environment and is great information for adopters.

Training and Assessment

All dogs are assessed prior to intake by a qualified trainer at PHS to determine the best possible placement for each individual dog. Training is provided for all dogs to help prepare them for adoption. Training is also provided to adopters that need further assistance with newly adopted dogs from PHS for as long as it is needed. We also offer help to residents who may otherwise not be able to keep their dog because of training issues they needed help with.

Staff Development

Staff is provided with training to help care for the animals appropriately and safely. Training is conducted throughout the year during staff meetings and on an individual basis when necessary.

Town Contracts

In 2025, PHS contracted with the towns of Carmel/Mahopac, Southeast, Philipstown (including Nelsonville and Cold Spring) and Patterson (secondary) to hold stray dogs that are picked up in these areas. Upon a dog's arrival, PHS makes every attempt to locate the owner and reunite them with their pet before they are put up for adoption. If any dogs remain unclaimed, after an appropriate waiting period, PHS then prepares them for adoption.

Dog and Cat Relinquishment

In addition to stray dogs brought in by the local Dog Control Officers, PHS also takes in dogs and cats from owners who can no longer keep them. Stray dogs and cats are also brought in by good Samaritans who find them wandering in their neighborhoods and/or communities.

Putnam Humane Society Ongoing Programs and Services for 2025

Spaying & Neutering

PHS spays and neuters every animal prior to adoption to help control the pet population problem. PHS refers those who are seeking low cost spay/and neutering services to The Animal Welfare League, The Animal Rights Alliance (T.A.R.A.), Friends of the Animals, HVARs, Compassionate Care of DC, and Putnam Animal Wellness for low cost spay and neutering options.

FREE Microchipping

We have been partnering with Southeast Animal Hospital since January of 2022 to provide FREE microchipping. PHS provides the microchips and Dr. Nowowiejski inserts the microchips at no cost. PHS then registers each microchip. As of December 31, 2025, four hundred and eighty-nine microchips (489) were inserted. Seventy-two (72) of those were done in 2025. Prior to the partnership, PHS held FREE microchip clinics at the shelter. Having an ongoing partnership with a vet works better than having clinics at the shelter. It avoids the disruption created when other animals enter the shelter and provides more flexibility for owners to make appointments at their convenience instead of a set date.

PHS Food Pantry

PHS has a food pantry with donated cat and dog food for residents in need, for individuals working on reducing the feral cat colonies in our area, and for local food banks and churches with pet sections. During 2025, PHS gave out 159 bags of cat food, 340 bags of dog food, 65 cases of canned cat food, 60 cases of dog and cat prescription food, and 21 boxes of dog and cat treats. All food distributed was donated to PHS and is food PHS did not need or would not use for the resident dogs and cats. We always make sure everyone who donates the food is aware that the food will be donated to others if PHS cannot use it. Those donating are always happy that the food will be used for those in need.

Community Service Opportunities

PHS provides a variety of volunteer opportunities including opportunities for students needing to complete community service hours for school graduation or religious requirements, school groups looking to help non-profit groups, Boy/Cub and Girl Scouts, Brownies, Daisies (PHS collaborates with Scout groups on various projects required to earn badges), civic organizations, persons who receive court-ordered community service, as well as individuals with free time that are interested in helping our cause and mission. Volunteers assist with basic animal care, walking, playing and socializing with the animals, participate in fund raising events, as well as outreach programs in the community. Many volunteers use their time to help maintain our facility with ongoing clean-up.

Humane Education

PHS offers opportunities for various civic organizations, schools, scouts, and religious organizations to expand their awareness of responsible pet ownership. PHS provides tours and discussions with small groups of students to educate them on what a responsible pet owner is and why it is so important to spay/neuter, vaccinate, microchip, and train pets.

The Trap, Neuter, Return Fund (TNR)

The TNR fund was established to help control the feral cat population of our community. PHS loans out humane traps to individuals who need to capture feral or stray cats so they can be spayed/ neutered and vaccinated against disease. PHS provides those who need to trap feral cats the equipment and information on how to do so. The TNR fund pays to have trapped cats spayed or neutered, rabies vaccinated, flea treatment given, and the ear clipped by Dr. Kanouse at Brook Farm Veterinary Hospital. Brook Farm offers a discounted rate for the services. The individuals who go through the PHS TNR fund must sign an agreement that they will continue to care for the cats providing shelter and food and not just release them to fend for themselves. We also help Advocats with their spaying/neutering costs when we have the funds available.

T.A.R.A.

PHS collaborates with The Animal Rights Alliance (T.A.R.A.) and offers low-cost sprays and neuters including rabies vaccinations for cats. Putnam County residents are invited to bring their own cats, strays or ferals to be spayed or neutered for a significantly reduced cost.

Rescue Intake (Incoming Transfers)

Since November 2016, PHS began working with **A Shelter Friend**, a rescue group in N.C. who helps to save dogs from their county kill shelter. We also rescued 4 dogs from Louisiana after the flood and hurricane. PHS only takes in rescues when there is space and there are no Putnam residents who need to surrender their dog. Putnam County residents always come first. A Shelter Friend has sponsors who pay the cost to vet the dogs before they come to PHS. PHS pays the transport fee, microchipping, and 4 DX testing. The adoption fee covers those costs.

Reuniting Lost Pets

PHS maintains a log of lost pets in the community and actively seeks to reunite them with their owners via lost and found flyers, along with information and assistance to help them locate their pets. The PHS Facebook page, and lost pets of the Hudson Valley Facebook page have also evolved and become social media hubs to help share information about lost pets throughout the Hudson Valley region. If all pets were microchipped, and the chip registered, all lost pets would be reunited with their families. We will continue to educate about microchipping, promote and provide FREE microchip opportunities partnering with local veterinarians.

Re-Homing Database

PHS maintains a database for pet owners who need to re-home their dog or cat, and for those who are looking for a specific type of cat or dog. PHS acts as the liaison in the communication process so those individuals needing to re-home their pet can be put in touch with those who are looking for pets. This allows the pets to be adopted directly from one family to another before they need to be surrendered to the shelter.

Times of Trouble/Sick and Injured Animals

This fund is designated to help those cats and dogs abandoned with significant health problems that have been caused by long term neglect and/or health issues that were ignored and that require extensive medical attention. These cats and dogs may include those relinquished by their owner, dogs brought in by dog control officers, and dogs and cats brought in by good Samaritans that have been injured or abandoned by owners. This fund has also helped residents in need who have reached out to PHS because without help they would not be able to keep their cat or dog. If there is money in the fund, we can help. PHS has helped in so many ways with this fund. The fund was originally created in memory of Trouble, a very special former resident of PHS. Because of the impact he made on staff and volunteers, many dogs and cats have been helped, and many more will be.

Putnam Humane Society Advertising and Marketing

PHS advertises events and animals for adoption through the PHS website, Facebook, Instagram, Pet Finder, Adopt-a-Pet, and YouTube. Social media has become one of the primary ways PHS communicates information about adoptions, fund raising events, donations needed and lost and found animals. Flyers are distributed to promote events as well. Newspapers also offer free ads for promoting adoption.

PHS Facebook Page - Social Media Information Resource

PHS has expanded its use of Facebook to provide information to the public. We post pictures of the cats and dogs for adoption, adoption photos as the dog or cat leaves to go to their new home, event information, recognize donors and more. Facebook has become a wonderful network and a wealth of information. We also provide and share information about lost pets all over Hudson Valley. Our Facebook page also serves as a means to answer hundreds of questions related to adoption, events, and pet care related questions 24 hours a day.