



HSO FACT SHEET

Get to Know HSO!!!

Phone: 479-394-5682

Web: www.hsomena.org, **Email:** info@hsomena.org

Location: 368 Polk Road 50, Mena, AR 71953

Mail: PO Box 845, Mena, AR 71953

Shelter Hours: 10 am to 2 pm, Tuesdays thru Saturdays

Public Meetings: 3rd Thurs., 6:30 pm, Limetree, Mena, AR

GENERAL INFO:

- 🐾 HSO is an **INDEPENDENT**, volunteer organization; **NOT** affiliated with any other organization!
- 🐾 HSO's non-profit charter was created in **1977** (HSO has helped Polk County's homeless pets since then!)
- 🐾 HSO is a **NO-Kill** Shelter! Animals who come to the Shelter are given a **safe & loving** home until adoption!
- 🐾 Average # of dogs & cats living at the Shelter at any one time: 2007=82; 2008=66; 2009=72; 2010=64; 2011=63!
- 🐾 Average time Pets reside in the Shelter: 2007=8.2 mo; 2008=3.1 mo; 2009=2.8 mo; 2010=2.7 mo; 2011=2.0 mo!

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- 🐾 Total Dog and Cat **ADOPTIONS** : 2007 = 295; 2008 = 290; 2009 = 302; 2010 = 372; 2011 = 389!
- 🐾 Each adoption means another homeless pet gets to come to the Shelter, to find a **LOVING 'FOREVER'** home!
- 🐾 HSO hosts **DISCOUNT** Spay & Neuter Clinics provided by **Arkansans for Animals** & our **Local Vets!**
 - In 2009 **PetSmart Charities** awarded \$10,000 to assist low-income pet-owners with spay/neuter!
 - This program was so **successful then** & so **needful now**, HSO seeks local funding to continue the effort!
 - Number of pets Spayed & Neutered:** 2008=515; 2009=805 (Petsmart grant); 2010=418, 2011=469!
- 🐾 **100%** of our adoptable Shelter Pets are **sterilized & current on immunizations!**
- 🐾 **Ongoing Work:** finding permanent homes through shelter & outreach adoption programs, pet owner education, programs for local schools, free & low-cost s/n services, shelter operations and fundraising.

INCOME & EXPENSES:

- 🐾 Operating money received from Federal, State or Local Governments = **0, zero, zip, nada !**
- 🐾 HSO's operating money comes from **CARING & GENEROUS** people & businesses, **like YOU !**
- 🐾 HSO's operations are conducted by **VOLUNTEERS** (except for 40 hours per week of caretaker wages)
- 🐾 In 2011, a total of **394 animals** were housed at the shelter at a cost of **\$130 per animal.** (*Do the Math!*)

WHERE THE MONEY GOES:

- 🐾 Food, litter, vaccinations, worming, flea & tick treatment, spay/neuter, vet services, & shelter maintenance.
- 🐾 Average **DAILY** pet food consumption in 2011 = **70 pounds** (and we all know how costs keep rising!)
- 🐾 Utilities, phone, cleaning, repairs and any other **basic operating expenses** to keep the shelter running.
- 🐾 Wages for 2 shelter staff members for a total of 40 hours per week, who care for our pets **7 days per week.**

THE WORK AT HSO NEVER STOPS!

- 🐾 Since 1977, **Donors & Volunteers** feed & care for our Shelter Pets **EVERY DAY, YEAR ROUND!**
- 🐾 **Caring for & finding homes for** our Shelter Pets & **raising the money to operate** the shelter is a **BIG JOB!**
- 🐾 The Board Members & Regular Volunteers (who often donate 10-20 hours per week!) **NEED your help!**

WAYS TO HELP = FINANCIAL SUPPORT:

- 🐾 **MAIL** your donation to Humane Society of the Ouachitas, PO Box 845, Mena, AR, 71953
- 🐾 **SPONSOR** a 'Critter Haven' at the Shelter: only \$150 per year, or be a **BRONZE**, **SILVER**, or **GOLD!**
- 🐾 **BECOME A MEMBER:** only \$10 per year (\$15 for a family, \$25 for a business) & **INVITE** your friends!
- 🐾 **DEPOSIT** your change in our **POGO** (yellow) plastic dog banks you see in local businesses! It adds up!
- 🐾 **REGULARLY SUPPORT** HSO fundraising **EVENTS!** Invite your family & friends & **HAVE FUN!**

WAYS TO HELP = VOLUNTEERISM:

- 🐾 **TELL EVERYONE** you know about HSO, and **ASK THEM** to **HELP!** Helping is **HAVING FUN!**
- 🐾 **VOLUNTEER** some time every week or every month at the Shelter, or at one of HSO's many events!
-ANY AMOUNT of time you can give to our Shelter Pets is SO APPRECIATED!

WHAT DO YOU DO BEST??? How can you share your **SKILLS** to **BENEFIT** our Shelter Pets?

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: Do you LOVE animals? Can you HELP?

- 🐾 **AT THE SHELTER** (located at 368 Polk Road 50, Mena, AR, 71953)
 - Mowing and weeding
 - Dog walking (and loving and playing with them!)
 - Rehabilitation of shy dogs
 - Cat & dog socializing (just loving and playing with them!)
 - Dog bathing (we have a new bathing tub area!)
 - Laundry, general clean up, and organization of supplies
 - Repairs & improvements of the shelter facility as needed
 - Office volunteer: answer phones, fill out papers, etc.
 - Kennel assistant (cleaning, feeding, medicating, introducing and moving pets)
 - and many, many other ways... **PLEASE ASK HOW YOU CAN HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**
- 🐾 **AWAY FROM THE SHELTER** (some activities from the comfort of your own home or business!)
 - Be a '**Foster Parent**' for a dog, cat and/or litter until a permanent home is found
 - Fundraising - planning, organizing & promoting of events (also recycling alum. cans, Kritter Korner)
 - Grant Writing - (soooo important!) HSO receives **NO** government funding or grants for its operations!
 - Membership Drive – planning, organizing and promoting HSO yearly memberships
 - Recruiting Volunteers – this helps with the many fundraising & adoption events HSO has each year!
 - Public Relations - writing articles for the newsletters, media, and speaking to groups
 - Humane Educational Programs for children (we have a program, just need volunteers to promote it)
 - Be an "Adoption Assistant" at off-site adoption events (some are out of town)
 - Storage for rummage sale items (sorting, organizing, hauling items for sale)
 - Transportation of dogs to and from Veterinary appointments (once a week)
 - and many, many other ways... **PLEASE ASK HOW YOU CAN HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

- 🐾 We hope this '**FACT SHEET**' has provided you with some information to **get to know HSO!**
- 🐾 We so **VERY MUCH appreciate** your interest in helping **HSO** help the homeless animals of Polk County!
- 🐾 **Join us at our meetings at the Limetree Restaurant, Mena, 3rd Thursday of each month, at 6:30 pm!**

Please give us a call **479-394-5682**, or email us at **info@hsomena.org**