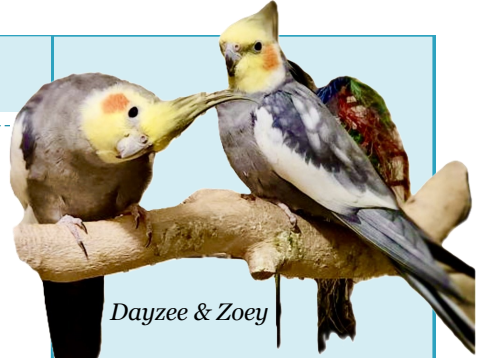




Spring 2025 Edition



Dayzee & Zoey

## Quarterly Report

### LEADING THE PACK: A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Hello, Reader –

Spring is here, and with it comes another season of change and challenge for our animal-loving community. As displaced animals continue to need support, Mending Spirits and other rescue organizations have joined forces to help meet placement demands.

This quarter, we've welcomed 107 animals into our care, including a variety of species—while managing steady intake and growing waitlists. Our biggest need right now is foster providers, and our most pressing challenge remains veterinary expenses, which have exceeded \$30,000 in the 1st quarter alone. We're actively seeking ways to close this financial gap.

You may have seen our incredible Community Engagement Directors, Nikki and Calista, out and about—leading reunification efforts, raising awareness, and creating fun, inclusive events. We're also thrilled to welcome Melissa, Brooke, and Kristi as our new Fundraising Directors. We're excited to see the energy and creativity they'll bring to our mission.

To all who advocate, foster, donate, volunteer, and believe in us—thank you. And to the fellow organizations who work alongside us: we're grateful for your partnership. Together, we make a powerful impact.

*With Gratitude—*

*Kristy*

### FEATURED FOSTER: CAMMIE BELLA

Cammie Bella joined the Mending Spirits family in 2021 and, after being adopted, returned to our care in 2024 through no fault of her own. This sweet, gentle Shepherd loves walks, car rides, and quiet moments near her people.

She's ready to go home—for good this time. Help us find her the home she deserves.

Learn more about Cammie Bella at [mendingspirits.org](http://mendingspirits.org)

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#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- All animals pictured in this newsletter are **available for adoption!**
- Meet our longest-waiting fosters! Read about our **Hidden Gems.**
- April is **Volunteer Appreciation Month!** Learn how our Volunteers make a difference.



Cammie Bella

# HIDDEN GEMS

*These incredible pets have been waiting the longest for their second chance.  
Could you be the one to change their story?*



Bestie: 275+ days waiting



Amari: 150+ days waiting



Hailey: 300+ days waiting



Sally: 160+ days waiting



Zeus: 275+ days waiting



Sharon: 465+ days waiting



Winifred: 115+ days waiting



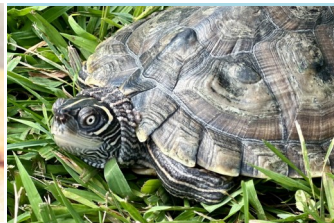
Sparky: 300+ days waiting



Everette & Marlin:  
500+ days waiting



Kyleigh: 425+ days waiting



Raphael: 245+ days waiting



Jrue: 275+ days waiting

## DID YOU KNOW?

- **Rabbits** love to *binky*, which is when they jump, twist, and kick in the air. This is the ultimate sign of happiness!
- **Guinea pigs** show excitement by jumping in the air like popcorn popping! Its their way of expressing joy!
- **Turtles** recognize their humans! They learn to recognize their caretakers and will swim excitedly toward them for food or attention.
- **Rats** can learn their names, come when called, and even do tricks like jumping through hoops!

## THE ONES WHO WAIT THE LONGEST

When people think of pet adoption, they often picture dogs and cats. But here at Mending Spirits, we have some very special animals who have been waiting for over a year for their forever homes: guinea pigs, rabbits, turtles, and even rats!

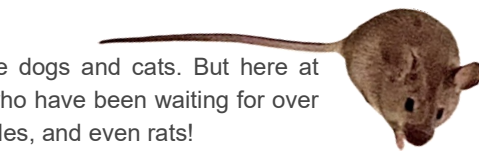
Foster animals that wait the longest aren't less deserving of love, they're just less noticed. Sometimes they're a little shy at first, or maybe people don't realize what great companions they are. But once these "hidden gems" feel safe, they blossom into the most loyal, loving companions imaginable.

Meet our [Hidden Gems](#) and help us find them the homes they deserve!

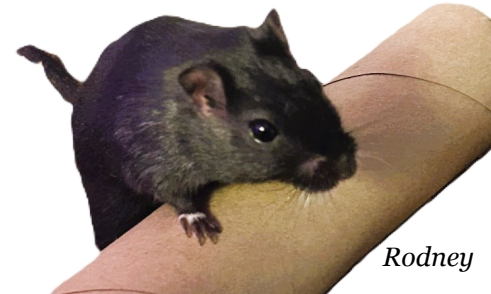
*“Could you be the one to change their story?”*



Amarilla



Dracula



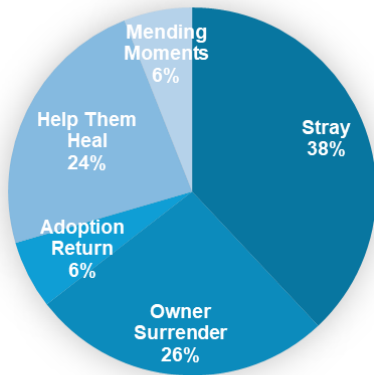
Rodney

# MENDING SPIRITS IN ACTION

In the first quarter of 2025, Mending Spirits welcomed 107 animals into our care and celebrated 120 adoptions—a strong start to the year and a testament to the dedication of our fosters, adopters, and volunteers.

Of the animals taken in:

## MSAR FIRST QUARTER INTAKES



(Graph showing the type of animal intake in the first quarter)



SMALL ANIMALS – 19



CATS – 44



DOGS – 44

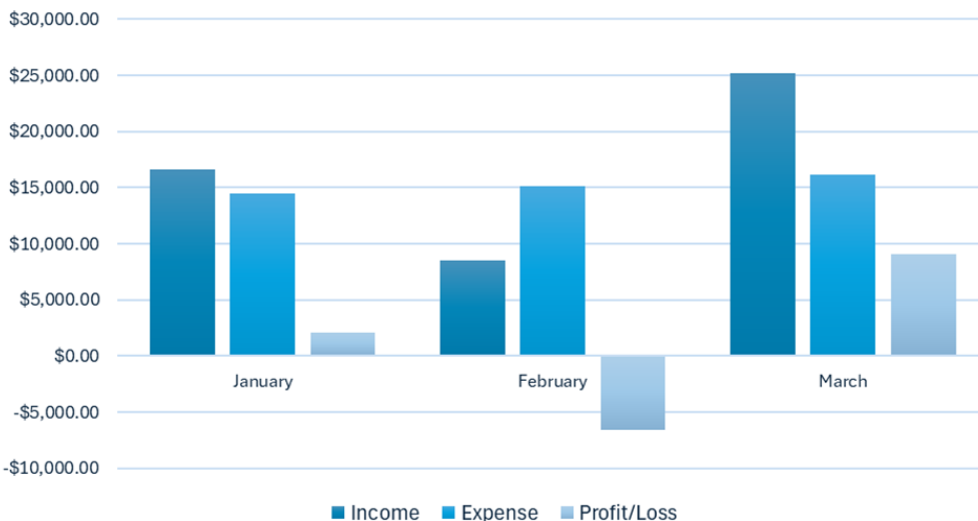
(Visual of the type of animal MSAR brought into care in the first quarter)

While these numbers don't tell every story, they reflect the diversity of animals and circumstances we continue to serve.

On the financial side, over 54% of our income came from adoption fees, with the remaining 46% from donations, fundraisers, and grants. Our total expenses for the first quarter exceeded \$45,000, reflecting the high level of care and support our animals require. 70% of those costs went directly to veterinary care, while the remaining 30% covered essential operational needs—including supplies, transportation, insurance, and other critical services that keep our rescue running.

As we look ahead, we're setting a clear goal: to expand our fundraising efforts and actively pursue grant opportunities that will help us meet growing needs while ensuring our animals receive the very best care. Every donation, share, and volunteer hour helps us get closer to that goal—and we're so grateful to have you with us on the journey.

## MSAR 2025Q1 Financial Report



## MENDING SPIRITS RESOURCES

Click on any of the links below for more information.

- [Pet Behavior Library](#)
- [Vetting Programs](#)
- [Surrender Process & Form](#)
- [Reporting Lost, Found, or Abused Animals](#)
- [MSAR Adoption Process](#)
- [Apply to Adopt](#)



## MSAR PANTRY PROGRAM

The Pantry Program is here to help families keep their beloved pets fed during times of need. Whether you have hamsters, birds, cats, or dogs, we offer support to help meet your pets' dietary needs—because no one should have to choose between feeding their pet and feeding themselves.

Visit the [Pantry Program](#) to request assistance or make a donation.





Vanitee

**THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!**

*With gratitude for our 1st quarter donors:*

- Alexis Fritz
- Allison Alger
- Amanda Reinarts
- Amazon Wishlist Donors
- Anonymous
- Ashley Eccles
- Bake Sale donors, volunteers, and treat seekers
- Benevity
- Bonfire Shirt Fundraiser
- Brook Devenport
- Catherine Rieff
- Charles Thompson
- Costco Workplace Giving
- Deanna Hofmeister
- Desiree Berg
- Donette Wheelock
- Douglas & Shelly Doescher
- Emily Molenaar
- Eric Miller
- Frandsen Bank & Trust
- Gerald Woodley
- Howard Rosten
- Job's Dance Fundraiser
- John Fisker Larsen
- Joshua Deegan
- K Behne
- Kailey Urban

*Continued* →

## SPRING INTO GIVING

April showers bring... donations, we hope! Our rescue animals are in need of a few essentials (and a few favorites!). Check out our wish list and help us stock up for a spring full of love and wagging tails.

- Martingale collars
- Small cat carriers
- Litter boxes & scoops
- Non-rawhide dog chews
- 36 inch tall X Pens
- Treats for our adoptable pocket pets
- PetSmart & Pet Expo Gift Cards: This helps us purchase bugs for our adoptable reptiles.
- Aldi Gift Cards: This helps us purchase produce for our pocket pets.
- Enrichment toys for all species
- Paper Towels

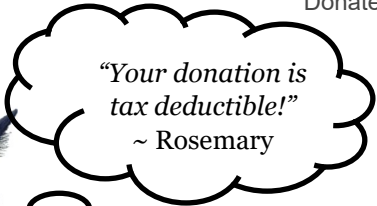


## LOVE IN EVERY DOLLAR

Want to make a big impact in a small way? Your monetary donations help us cover the daily needs and lifesaving care for our animals. Here's how your dollars make a difference:

Donation	What It Supports
\$25	Will fund a microchip to help reunite an animal with its family
\$50	Provides 3 months of flea, tick, & heartworm preventative
\$75	Helps cover transportation expenses
\$100	Can fund a full series of immunizations
\$300	Covers a spay or neuter surgery
\$500	Will fund care for complex needs such as dental work
Any Amount	Helps save lives and mend spirits!

Donate online by clicking your preferred method below! We also accept checks mailed to **P.O. Box 475, Mankato, MN 56002**. Every dollar brings us closer to giving each animal the love and care they deserve.



## CELEBRATING OUR HEROS: VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION MONTH

Mending Spirits Animal Rescue is powered by the compassion and dedication of over 250 volunteers spread across southern Minnesota. From fostering animals in need to transporting them to vet appointments, coordinating fundraisers, capturing their best angles in photos, and more—our volunteers are the lifeblood of our mission.

Every adoption story, every second chance, and every wagging tail is made possible by the selfless efforts of those who give their time, energy, and hearts to this cause. We see you. We appreciate you. And we simply couldn't do this without you.

To every foster, transporter, photographer, event organizer, and behind-the-scenes helper—**thank you**. Whether you've been with us for years or just joined, your efforts mean the world to the animals whose lives you're changing.

Want to celebrate a Mending Spirits volunteer who has made a difference? Visit us on social media for National Volunteer Week—the week of April 21st—to share your appreciation!

### THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS (CONTINUED)

Kathryn Gumbel  
Kris Nordgren  
Kristen Hoff  
Linda Milow-Riedell  
Microchip Clinic volunteers  
and pet parents  
Neely Prenzlów  
PayPal Giving Fund  
Pet Expo Valentines Day  
Event donors & volunteers  
Pioneer Bank  
Puppy Bowl supporters  
Robert Bothmann  
Rose Wingert  
Sara McCargar

*“Our volunteers are the lifeblood of our mission.”*



## THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING PUZZLING & PETS!

A huge *THANK YOU* to everyone who joined us for our Puzzling & Pets event! Because of your support, we raised \$1,450 to help care for the animals in our program. Your generosity makes a real difference, and we're so grateful to have such a compassionate, puzzle-loving community by our side!



Sarah Henry  
Shawn Stollenwerk  
Susann Gageby  
The Paw  
Thomas & Robyn Hager  
Thrivent  
Tracie Myers

### IN HONOR & MEMORIAM

Friends & family of Russ  
Brunette  
James Lynch—In memory of  
Gary Karstens  
Lyle & Paula Piper—  
In loving memory of a  
cherished canine companion  
Melinda Smith—In honor of  
Bear Jaxon



# Foster | Adopt | Volunteer | Donate



**Mending Spirits Animal Rescue** is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, 100% volunteer-run, foster-based rescue serving Mankato, MN, and surrounding areas. Founded in October 2013, we are Southern Minnesota's only foster based rescue, dedicated to providing second chances to animals in need.

With a network of compassionate foster homes, we serve not only local communities but also extend our reach across Minnesota and beyond to help animals facing urgent circumstances.

Our mission is to be **"the bridge between"** for animals in need—ensuring that no animal is ever alone and that every pet finds a forever home.

While we are incredibly grateful for our 250+ volunteers, the demand for foster homes, fundraising support, and behind-the-scenes assistance continues to grow. The truth is, we can only save as many animals as we have volunteers to support them.

Right now, we urgently need more foster homes to provide care for dogs, cats, rabbits, and small animals. We also need volunteers to help with fundraising, transport, adoption events, and more.

**Can you help?** Even a few hours a month can make a huge difference! Whether you open your home to a foster pet, help drive an animal to safety, or lend your skills to fundraising, you become part of something life-changing.

Get Involved Today! Visit [MendingSpirits.org](http://MendingSpirits.org) to learn more!



## ♥ WALTER + SMOKE ♥

We didn't start out as brothers, but fate (and some kind-hearted humans) brought us together, and now we're best buds for life. We've been living together in foster care for over a year, sharing snacks, squeaks, and lots of cozy naps.

We're both gentle, curious, and full of personality. Whether we're dining on salads together or exploring our habitat, we do everything as a team. Our dream? A forever home where we can stay together, just like we are now.

If you've got room in your heart (and your home) for two charming piggies, we're ready to bring double the joy to your life!

*With love,*

**Walter & Smoke**



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