Another chance at a happy home
Your gifts provide a life-time commitment

The MCHS team works hard to ensure that our adoptable animals go home with a family that is suited to that pet’s needs. But sometimes circumstances change, and adopters are forced to give up their beloved pet. When that happens, your support gives pets a safe place to return, with people who love them, until they find a new home. That’s what happened with Bloom, a two-year-old Chihuahua mix who was returned to us after living with her family for a year.

Within weeks, Bloom was adopted again, by Mary R. “Thank you so much for bringing Bloom (now ‘Blue’) into our lives!,” Mary exclaimed, when asked about the dog she’d adopted last month. She was looking for a small dog, and when she saw Bloom on the MCHS website, she rushed in to meet her. “We just clicked. I took her home that day.”

At first, Blue had trouble adjusting to her newest home. She behaved as if she expected to be given up again. But more than a month later, and with lots of love and patience, Blue has come into her own. “I’m glad she finally has a place she knows is hers,” Mary says.

When Blue isn’t cuddling with Mary, she can be found chasing her tail, tiring herself out by jumping between couches, and sitting at the window. And she never turns down a treat!

Gigi knows her new family will come

Gigi is a two-year-old, brown tabby who arrived at MCHS in May, and is still waiting for her new home. Gigi loves people, and enjoys the head- and chin-scratches she regularly receives from our staff and volunteers. She’s a lap cat who loves her window perch, but can be startled by loud noises and sudden movements. She’ll thrive in a quiet, cat-savvy home with her own space. Gigi’s also looking for a family that will commit to her diet, so she can continue to work on trimming her lovely figure. If Gigi seems like she’d be a good fit for you, visit www.MCHumane.org/adoptions, or come in and meet her! She’ll be the one looking for you from her window.

Your gift always matters

Our work is 100% funded by private donations, and your gift is guaranteed to change the life of a homeless animal. Please give today.

Visit mchumane.org or use the enclosed envelope.
Are your pets ready for winter?

Dear friends,

Fall is here, and that means winter is not far away! When cold weather comes, we naturally protect ourselves from cold with extra layers and warmer shoes, but it’s important to remember our pets, too – especially dogs, who traverse the cold, ice and snow right along with us.

*The New York Times* has offered some helpful suggestions for making sure your dog is ready for winter, and since the season is coming, I thought I’d share a few of them with you.

In an urban/suburban area like ours, dogs’ feet are at risk from road salt. To prevent injury, consider covering your dog’s paws in protective wax (available online). Doggie booties can work too, if your dog will tolerate that kind of fashion statement! Small dogs and dogs with short hair are particularly vulnerable to cold and wet weather. Sweaters or water-proof coats provide warmth and protection against the elements for those brisk winter walks. (Find the article at: [https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/18/well/family/how-to-winterize-your-dog.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/18/well/family/how-to-winterize-your-dog.html).)

It’s best to keep cats indoors all year long, of course, and their use of litter boxes makes winter easier for them and for us. It’s something I’ve been grateful for many times in bad weather!

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving! We’re grateful for all you do to make sure our animals get great care and new homes.

Cris Bombaugh
President and CEO

P.S. Your pets can share their wish lists with Santa, coming soon! Watch for details on how to register at mchumane.org.

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Meet the staff

Addie Soares

MCHS Humane Educator Addie Soares has a varied background, including training as a biologist and heading an environmental protection organization. She also has an extensive background in animal behavior. In 1991, shortly after moving to Maryland, this native Brazilian and life-long animal lover joined the MCHS animal care team. During her 27 years at MCHS, she has served in many capacities, including as part of the office staff, and as coordinator of the MCHS foster program. Currently, Addie is the heart of the MCHS humane education program.

Addie’s team includes two animal ambassadors (Guinea pig, Lenny and dog, Barney) as well as several human volunteers. They meet with thousands of children, teens and adults each year to promote compassion for and understanding of pets and other animals. Addie loves to watch her audiences respond to her messages. “The ultimate goal,” she says “is to teach the community to be more humane by understanding our animals.”

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Edison is content, and close, at home

Edison is a two-year-old American Bulldog-Dalmatian mix who was rescued by MCHS in early May. “Pit bull”-type dogs like Edison struggle in overcrowded public shelters, and often have a hard time finding homes due to their breed. But Edison’s sweet personality was endearing, and we knew we could give him the time he may need to find his home.

Lindsay F. wasn’t sure she was ready to adopt a dog when she visited MCHS in June, but some friends had told her about us, and on a whim, she visited one Saturday. She met Edison that day, and immediately fell in love. “All the other dogs were barking and going crazy when I walked in the kennel, but Edison was just sitting there quietly, looking at me and wagging his tail.” MCHS always checks with landlords to ensure that the pet will be welcome in the home, and luckily, Lindsay’s apartment complex was in the midst of changing their policy to accept “pit bull”-type breeds. As soon as she finished the application process, Lindsay and Edison went home.

Today, Edison “loves people, other dogs, and kids,” Lindsay says. “When I’m home, he follows me around – he always needs to be touching me, even when it means trying to sit in my lap.” Other favorite activities include chasing either his own tail or shiny reflections on the wall.
“I saw Ciara on the MCHS Facebook page and decided right away to meet her,” Jennifer B. tells us about her decision to adopt her a kitten in August. But, when she and her father arrived at MCHS, they got more than they bargained for. Ciara was playing with her little friend, Tux, a kitten from a different litter. “They get along so well,” her father observed. “Let’s get them both!”

It was the right decision.

“They LOVE each other,” Jennifer says. “It’s adorable!” Ciara and Tux (now Clara and Tucker) enjoy exploring their new home, wrestling, and chasing each other around the house. Clara regularly grooms Tucker, and at the end of the day, the two kittens curl up with Jennifer’s miniature pinscher, Lila. “Lila likes watching the kittens play, but she still can’t figure out why the feather wand is so exciting,” says Jennifer.

When Clara and Tucker aren’t playing together, Tucker loves sunning himself in the window while watching the birds, and Clara enjoys long, peaceful naps.

Zena (now Mary Todd), the four-year-old Doberman who spent more than eight months at MCHS, takes a ride with new owners Earle and Kristen D. They currently live in Oklahoma, where Mary Todd’s hobbies include exploring and chasing drones.

PET PHOTOS WITH SANTA
Saturday, December 1, 12-3 p.m.
Pets and their families welcome!
Get a holiday keepsake and help homeless animals, too.
New! Pre-registration required.

Easy gifts from your IRA/retirement plan

Funding for MCHS’s programs and services depends almost entirely on private donations from people like you, and these include gifts from sources such as a traditional IRA. If you are 70½ or older, you can make a tax-free gift totaling up to $100,000 directly from your IRA to MCHS.

If you’re 59½ or older, you can make a withdrawal from your retirement account to make your gift. In this case, the distribution would count as income, which can be itemized as a deduction for tax purposes.

It’s always important to first talk to your financial advisor about whether these options make sense for you. To learn more about these or other ways to give, contact MCHS Director of Development James Nolan at (240) 616-1973, or JNolan@MCHumane.org. He’s always happy to help.
The Montgomery County Humane Society would like to thank all donors who contributed in fiscal year 2018 (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018). Without your financial help, our lifesaving work would not be possible.

Here we recognize Leadership Circle members for fiscal 2018:

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE
Gold Level ($5,000+)
Capital Hot Tubs
Janice Devine
Iowa Foundation for Education, Environment & the Arts
The Kay Family Foundation
Lisa and Roger Kingsley
Joy and Bruce Kramer
Charles S. Mack and Alice Barrett Mack
MLM International Corporation
Piper and Curtis Moffatt
Negola’s Animal Care
The Phase Foundation
Promark Partners
Anita Timrots
Maryellen Trautman and Darrell Lemke

CA Technologies
Greg Carroll
Comcast Corporation
The Compass Group, Inc.
Lara D’Agaro
Kate Davitt
Dekelboum Family Foundation
Brian Dietz
Marshall Dobbins
Melanie and Chuck Dolan
Loretta Downey
Pamela J. Easson
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Enterprise Rent-A-Car Company of Maryland
Julie Esson
John Fairbanks
Behnaz Fardshisheh
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Ronit Gold
Golden Help Desk
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Herson’s Honda & Kia
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Mr. Aaron Llanso
Lockheed Martin Employees Political Action Committee
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Nauticon Imaging Systems
Kevin and Stephanie Nealer
Network Express
Birgit Neuhuber
Steven and Barbara Newby
Bob and Shirley Noorigian
Paul’s Wine and Spirits
Olde Town Pet Resort
Ilene Pollack
Julia Porcino
Joan and Ignacio Rodriguez
Gary and Robin Rosenthal
Jeffrey E. Russel
Salon Jean & Day Spa
Janet C. Shaw
Josephine Shepard
Laurie Sigler
Luiz Simmons

Diana Simpson
Zee Snyder and Todd Travis
Charles Solla
William and Joanne Tell
William and Karen Tell Foundation
Joel and Jennifer Tobiansky
Daniel Tutus
Daniel Volchok
Diane Wernerke
Whole Pet Central
Yvonne and John Wood

LEGACY SOCIETY
MCHS also recognizes Legacy Society members, who have made commitments to MCHS through their estate plans:
Rick and Geri Bellman
Kenneth and Marsha Braunstein
Anthony and Karen Buckingham
Danny D. Cregger, Jr.
Jane A. Dean
Helene O. Di Gravio
Don Douglas
Kathleen A. Gall
Lenore Gelb
Ronit Gold
Terry Grimes and Kevin Woods
Norris and Joan E. Hekimian
Jo Ann Hoffman
Wanda Martinez
Byron Mason
James Ernest Owens
Patricia Romans
David S. Schwartzman
Luda C. Shields
Max and Mary Van Balgooy

Wine and Whiskey Lovers: This is Your Event!

Right around the corner! This 17th annual event will feature an expanded selection of tastings: 15 tables of amazing wines, spirits, local treats, silent and live auctions, and mixology demos of single malt Scotch, vodka and bourbon.

Saturday, November 3, 2018 • 6:30 – 9:30 pm
Embassy Suites Chevy Chase • 4300 Military Rd, N.W. • Washington, DC 20015
Tickets are $85 per person; available online at https://www.paulsdc.com/events/ or by calling Paul’s Wines & Spirits, 202/537-1900. Proceeds benefit the work of MCHS.