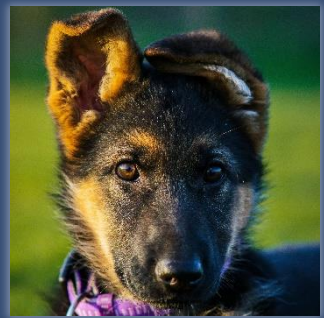


# HHS Auxiliary Membership Guide

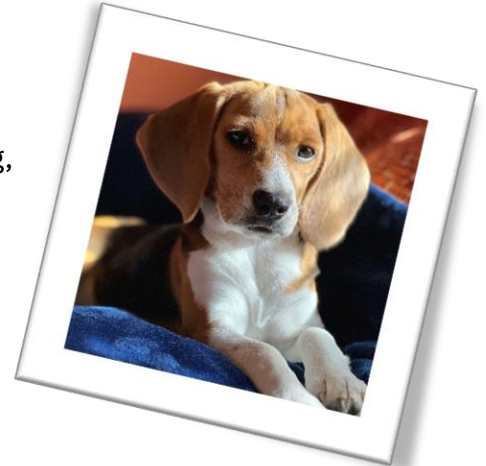


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## Mission: Heritage Humane Society Auxiliary

The **Heritage Humane Society (HHS)** serves as a compassionate steward of homeless pets that are in transition from stray/surrender to forever homes. HHS serves to educate the public about humane animal care and treatment, advocate animal welfare and provide affordable adoption services.

The **Heritage Humane Society Auxiliary (HHSA)** is a volunteer organization that supports the HHS mission through fundraising, service and community outreach. The Auxiliary helps organize fundraising events and programs throughout the year. The proceeds help HHS provide shelter, medical care and adoption services for homeless animals. The HHSA is a standing committee of the HHS Board of Directors; an Auxiliary member serves as a voting member on the Board.



Time is our most valuable and personal commodity. A gift of time is at the heart of volunteering. We commit time and provide services for the benefit of vulnerable animals in the care of HHS. For many Auxiliary volunteers, the greatest reward is seeing traumatized animals heal, rejuvenate and find loving homes with a new chance at life.

We invite you to join our caring, social and dynamic group of animal lovers.

### Your Gift of Time

#### **Plan**

*... organize events and programs*

#### **Support**

*... donate time, skills and resources*

#### **Create**

*... bake, knit, sew; design crafts and artwork*

#### **Promote**

*... community outreach for HHS*

### HHS Auxiliary Volunteer Opportunities

The Auxiliary offers a social structure where members work together and have fun through events, programs and informal gatherings. There are many ways to volunteer. Each project has a Chair or Co-Chairs and team members who donate their time and talents to planning and implementing the event or program. We need help with crafts, marketing, technology, event planning, community outreach and organizational leadership. Blending our members' diverse backgrounds, skills, interests and creativity is key to our success.

### HHS Auxiliary Fundraising Events

**Hearts for Homeless Pets:** We kick off the calendar year with an event that expresses our love for animals. In celebration of Valentine's Day, we offer pet owners the opportunity to honor their animals. Donors purchase paper hearts, customized with names and messages for pets, shelter animals, or animal loving friends. Auxiliary members create the hearts and decorate the lobby in January and February. The shelter is covered with hundreds of hearts by the end of this event.

**Make Par for Pets Golf Classic:** This annual fall tournament raises funds through sponsorship, raffles, golf contests and golfer fees. Auxiliary volunteers help plan the event, solicit sponsors, organize raffles and provide hands-on support on tournament day. Golfers enjoy breakfast, tee off on beautiful courses and finish the day with a lively awards banquet. This popular, high-profile event is one of the most impactful and high-revenue events on the HHS calendar.



**Holiday Fur Trees:** A holiday favorite in the community, the Holiday Fur Trees remind people of their much-loved pets, many adopted from HHS. Donors purchase red ribbons in honor or memory of their pets, shelter animals or animal-loving friends. Auxiliary members place the ribbons on two lighted trees at Heritage Humane Society. By seasons-end, the trees are bright red, honoring those who bring us joy and companionship.

**Holiday Bazaar:** One of the Auxiliary's major fundraising events, the HHS Holiday Bazaar is an anticipated celebration on Williamsburg's seasonal calendar. We raise funds through merchandise, soup sales, bake sales, raffles and sponsorships. Auxiliary members bake

holiday treats, organize soup donations, sew fabric creations, design crafts and assemble themed gift baskets. This well-attended and high-spirited event also raises awareness and support for the HHS mission in the community.

**Williamsburg Christmas Market:** Sponsored by [Culture Fix](#), the Christmas Market features festive kiosks, food stands and holiday entertainment from local vendors and artists. A complimentary booth is offered to non-profit organizations through a lottery system. HHS may be offered a kiosk on one or more days during the Market season. Auxiliary members sell HHS merchandise and unsold items from the Holiday Bazaar. The Market is an opportunity to chat with visitors; many bring their adopted animals to the event.

### HHS Auxiliary Programs (Year-Round)

**Antique Mall:** The [Williamsburg Antique Mall](#) generously provides a complimentary vendor's booth to the HHS. This booth is stocked with donated vintage and antique items, allowing the Auxiliary to earn monthly revenue from merchandise sales. In return, a designated Auxiliary volunteer manages and curates the items to ensure the booth is well-maintained. Every Friday afternoon, two Auxiliary members volunteer to assist the Mall's cashiers by wrapping and packaging customers' purchases.

**Belk Sale:** The [Belk department store](#) (Monticello Avenue, Williamsburg) hosts periodic sales to benefit local charities. HHS is typically given a promotional table for one or more days. Auxiliary members sell \$5 tickets before and during the event. Ticket revenue is donated to HHS, while shoppers enjoy a \$5 reduction on a single item and a discount on the full purchase price. Everyone wins!



**Critter Canisters:** The Auxiliary provides collection canisters to restaurants and businesses across the greater Williamsburg area. Each month, Auxiliary members collect and deliver canister donations to HHS. This program was one of the Auxiliary's first initiatives and continues to be a significant fund-raiser for HHS.

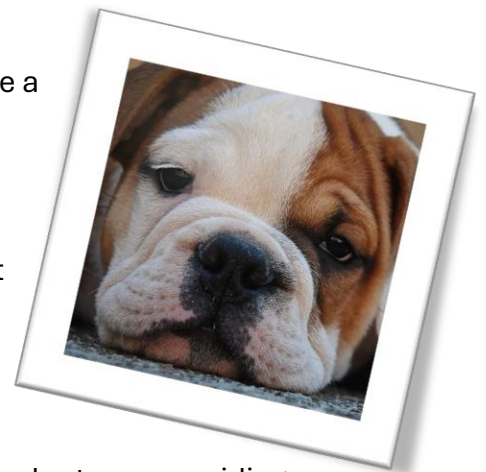
**Precious Pieces Handmade Blankets:** The fear and anxiety that comes from being abused, lost and abandoned can be overwhelming for homeless pets. Transitioning to a new home can create further stress for confused animals. The HHS staff and volunteers

provide compassionate care throughout the entire process. Our community provides transitional support through Precious Pieces. Generous and talented volunteers create cuddle blankets for every cat and dog adopted from HHS. The handmade blankets serve as a warm hug as animals move to their new homes. Thousands of blankets have been distributed since 2007. If you like to knit, crochet or sew, please join the [Precious Pieces Program](#).

### HHS Auxiliary Support Programs

**Heritage Humane Society Staff Appreciation:** The Auxiliary is highly supportive of the HHS shelter staff. Our fundraising success is due to community recognition of their compassion and dedication to the care of homeless animals. Each year, Auxiliary members contribute funds to purchase holiday gift cards for each shelter employee. During [National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week](#), the Auxiliary hosts a luncheon at a local restaurant for all shelter employees. It is an opportunity for Auxiliary members to socialize with employees and personally express our gratitude for their tireless work.

**HHS Social Programs:** We welcome everyone into the Auxiliary. We're a social organization with members who share a passion for animals. We encourage all members to attend monthly meetings and to volunteer for events and programs throughout the year. We host periodic get-togethers, such as potluck luncheons and other celebrations. People often meet informally to plan events—or just enjoy a cup of coffee. Members have formed lifelong friendships through their volunteer work with the Auxiliary.



**Shelter Volunteer:** Some Auxiliary members are also shelter volunteers, providing hands-on care for the shelter animals. The Volunteer Program is run by HHS, not the Auxiliary. The [HHS website](#) provides information and an application form.

**HHS Events:** HHS sponsors events to raise funds and increase awareness of the shelter mission. Auxiliary members are invited to volunteer at these events, providing another avenue to support HHS.

## HHS Auxiliary Organization

The HHS Auxiliary is governed by the **Bylaws**. The Executive Committee (EC) comprises the following elected officers who serve for two-year terms:

- President
- Vice-President
- Secretary
- HHS Board Representative
- Membership Chair
- Parliamentarian
- Immediate Past-President

The HHS Bylaws describe the responsibilities of each role. We encourage all interested members to consider leadership positions within the organization.

**Monthly Meetings:** HHS meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month at 10:15 AM at [HHS](#). A typical agenda includes reviews of upcoming events, an Auxiliary financial report and a shelter update from the HHS Executive Director.

**Application:** We hope you will join the Auxiliary. Please fill out the online [application](#). The information will help us identify events and programs that may be a good fit for your interests. All members are also required to submit a completed online Heritage Humane Society's Release From Liability & Photo Release **Form** and pay the requisite dues to join the Auxiliary.

**Dues:** The annual dues are \$30. Members who join after June 30 pay \$15 for their partial first year and \$30/year thereafter.

**Dues may be paid online or by cash or check.**

**Online:** Submit your payment on the [HHS website donate page](#). Please increase your fee to cover the credit card processing fee and designate 'HHS annual dues' in the memo line on the form.

**Check or cash:** Make your check payable to 'Heritage Humane Society' with the memo line 'HHS annual dues.' The envelope should include your name and notation 'HHS annual dues.' If you mail your check, send it to Heritage Humane Society, Finance and Administration, 430 Waller Miller Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185.

