

# COMPANIONSHIP FOR A HEALTHIER COMMUNITY

*"My passion is community. The GTHS provides all of their services to the communities they serve with no government funding. They rely solely on donations and fundraising to continue their vital work. My teams at Tim Horton's Collingwood and Wasaga Beach are happy to donate their time and resources to this campaign for a new facility. We look forward to launching a provincially acclaimed, solution-based, community centre for pets and people. I encourage the business community to play a role to help. It's up to us to inspire the community and bring this wellness-based resource to life."*

Jan Trude

**Help us to build a brighter future for the pets and people of our communities. Please make your gift today.**

## Current Address

549 Tenth Line  
Collingwood, ON L9Y 0W1

📞 705-445-5204 ext. 224

✉️ [hope@gths.ca](mailto:hope@gths.ca)

🌐 [gths.ca](http://gths.ca)



## Future Address

135 Sandford Fleming Dr.  
Collingwood, ON L9Y 5A6



Jan and John Trude with their beloved dog, Trudy.

# FROM HOPE TO HOME



**BUILDING A REGIONAL  
CENTRE FOR PETS AND PEOPLE**



Tucker, a senior dog, was adopted in February 2022

Photo Credit: Gotcha! Photo Studio

# OUR FUTURE IS VULNERABLE

For nearly 20 years, the Georgian Triangle Humane Society has provided care and shelter to the homeless, hungry, and injured animals of the south Georgian Bay region. We have offered hope to those in crisis, brought joy to pets and people in need, and supported the most vulnerable members of our community through collaboration, compassion, and care.

**But, our ability to continue is in jeopardy.**

With a rapidly growing population, a building bursting at the seams and global economic events putting enormous strain on underserved segments of the community, pressure to safely deliver programs for pets and people mounts. **We are in desperate need of your help.**

We are embarking on a \$14 million fundraising campaign to build a new 19,200 square foot Regional Centre for Pets and People on 5 acres of land in Collingwood, Ontario.

**Our Regional Centre for Pets and People will offer hope to our community for the next 25 years and beyond.** It will be a community hub where youth find companionship, where seniors find purpose, where animals find safety and members of the community find meaningful employment and volunteer opportunities.

By raising the standard of care for vulnerable pets, the standard of care is raised for vulnerable people. The GTHS is a significant and essential resource for our community, **and we need your support.**



Sonya Reichel, GTHS Executive Director,  
with family dog Mara, adopted December 2021

## OUR CHALLENGES

A cramped hospital with very limited space for examinations and surgeries

Animals recovering from surgery in noisy, high-traffic spaces

Dog kennels requiring frequent repairs

Lack of parking for community members accessing our hospital services

No indoor space for community groups, classes, or outreach services

# A STORY OF HOPE

Dear Donor,

My name is Barney. I came to the Georgian Triangle Humane Society when my human sadly passed away and there was no one to take care of me.

When I arrived, I received a check-up from the GTHS medical team, who sprang into action to treat me for a few medical concerns.

It took about a month for me to receive all the treatment I needed. I was a little shy and unsure at first — my new surroundings were very different and I missed my human very much. Slowly but surely, I soon made lots of friends at the GTHS, including some very friendly human volunteers who gave me lots of love and cuddles. They knew I needed a special home, and thanks to them I found an incredible one! I was adopted in September, 2019. My new family and I are the perfect match.

I am so thankful to everyone at the GTHS. They took me in when I was scared, sick, and alone, and they made me feel safe and loved. I hope you will continue to support the GTHS, so that other animals like me are given the care and love that they deserve.

With love,

**Barney** 



## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*"I am incredibly proud to be involved with the Georgian Triangle Humane Society. The GTHS has evolved tremendously since its inception 20 years ago. It is now an essential community resource that provides life-changing services to the pets and people of the region. There is no doubt that the GTHS needs to expand – our community is relying on us."*

**David Garner**  
Chair, GTHS Board of Directors



# ENHANCING OUR COMMUNITIES

"As co-chair, I have the opportunity to dig deeper, building a bigger and better community here in the Georgian Triangle Region. So many people are impacted by the work of the GTHS. From youth learning about animal care and responsible pet ownership to the confidence that animals provide to aging adults.

**The new facility will be a destination and a community hub designed around providing access to all ages and enhancing the wellness benefits of the human-animal bond.**

A fully accredited animal hospital, with the space for our medical care team to efficiently operate in, will mean that access to affordable vet care is more of a reality into the future. **If we take care of the most vulnerable sector of our community, the health and wellbeing of the community will be enhanced. Healthier pets mean healthier communities.**

Our cat café will be a gathering place for children and older adults who may not have access to pets in their homes but who will certainly benefit from the interaction with animals.

The dream of a properly sized dog yard to run and explore in really excites my wife and I as donors to the project.

**This evolution of the GTHS is critical to the community** and I am personally very excited to see this project come to life."

**Derrick March**  
Capital Campaign Co-Chair

"Growing and evolving requires resources and space, and there is absolutely no doubt that the team at the GTHS has wrung as much as they can out of the current building.

The hospital is tiny, but has packed a huge punch in terms of what it has offered to the animals in the GTHS care and to deserving members of the community.

No one who sees what happens there could ever suggest there is still room to grow. The GTHS is bursting at the seams! **I believe the GTHS can set the bar for what's possible across Canada, and I want to be a part of that dream!**

**Lynn March**  
GTHS Volunteer and Donor

"I remember a time when there was no organization for helping unwanted and abandoned animals in this region. When the GTHS was formed, I donated to the campaign to build the current shelter. The GTHS has continued to evolve with expanding community services. **As the community continues to grow, the GTHS must grow with it to continue to provide services and have the ability to help animals find or stay in their forever homes.**"

**Monika Merz**  
GTHS Board Member and Capital Campaign Ambassador



"The completeness and joy that pets bring to our lives are immeasurable. Pets provide friendship and mental health wellbeing for people. They care for us, just as we care for them.

Unfortunately, both people and pets are often in situations where they experience pain, hunger and loneliness. **We work to alleviate these stressors through the essential solution-based community programs and services that we provide.**

**May Yam**  
Campaign Cabinet



"The GTHS is a great organization that not only supports animals in the traditional sense, but also brings us closer as a community and as families. **So many families have strong connections with their pets and the GTHS through their programs has found ways to strengthen these bonds.** Healthier communities mean healthier staff and the wellness of our staff is paramount. Our corporate commitment to our community, 'Enhancing Our Communities', has been chosen by staff because it reflects the importance to Tatham of giving back and making a difference in our community."

**Dan Hurley**  
President, Tatham Engineering, Corporate Supporter and Engineering Partner



# "We've run out of room, but we haven't run out of steam"

Dear Donor,

I am the Community Outreach Manager with the GTHS. I oversee a team of dedicated staff and volunteers who facilitate our Humane Education Program. The goal of this program is to teach students about the special relationship humans have with companion animals, recognizing that we share many of the same physical and emotional needs.

In November of 2021, a grade six teacher signed her class up for our in-class workshops. Michael was a student in her class. He was almost completely non-verbal and had been in therapy for over two years because he was so deeply depressed. Only in grade six, he was spending almost all of his time in his room, refusing to speak more than a few words, skipping school, refusing to engage in any activities in or out of school and not seeing his friends. His parents were terrified.

And then he met the GTHS.

During the first classroom session, he instantly began to communicate his love for animals. That night, he went home and told his parents that he wanted to join the Junior Volunteers. Michael had come out of his room, the first time in weeks, and ate dinner at the table with his family, talking about the lesson he'd had that day about the history of pets. He couldn't contain his excitement about joining the JVs. And by the next Tuesday he was almost unrecognizable ... talking, laughing, sharing, exploring and cuddling with the shelter animals. His engagement in the program had far reaching effects. He began consistently attending school, he started talking and interacting with his peers, he was laughing, he was joining in and he returned to his old self at home. His classroom teacher was on cloud nine and his parents were overjoyed.

It's stories like Michael's that continue to drive the Humane Education program. Every time a young person engages in our programs at the shelter or on our virtual platform, we make a difference in that child's life. I would even go so far as to say that we come pretty close to saving lives. And not just the lives of animals.

Moving ahead into our future, there are so many exciting opportunities for expansion of this program.

The time has come to create a Regional Centre that will become a critical resource, not only helping animals, but promoting compassion and kindness through a variety of programs and services available to the most at-risk members of our community.

**We cannot achieve this dream without you.**

*Karen Marsh*

GTHS Community Outreach Manager



"Through a collaborative partnership, the GTHS and My Friend's House launched an Emergency Boarding Program for women and children being admitted to the women's shelter and in need of a safe space for their pets. The relief we see on a mother's face when we tell her she doesn't have to tell her children their dog has to stay behind cannot be described."

**Alison Fitzgerald**  
Executive Director, My Friend's House  
(Community Partner)



## YOUR DONATION AT WORK

EXPANDING OUR SERVICES INTO THE FUTURE



Evidence shows that our Humane Education program has enhanced the social and emotional health of participants by 18%



# MORE THAN AN ANIMAL SHELTER

A COMMUNITY CENTRE FOR YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES

Erika Ehrenreich, the GTHS Behaviour Specialist

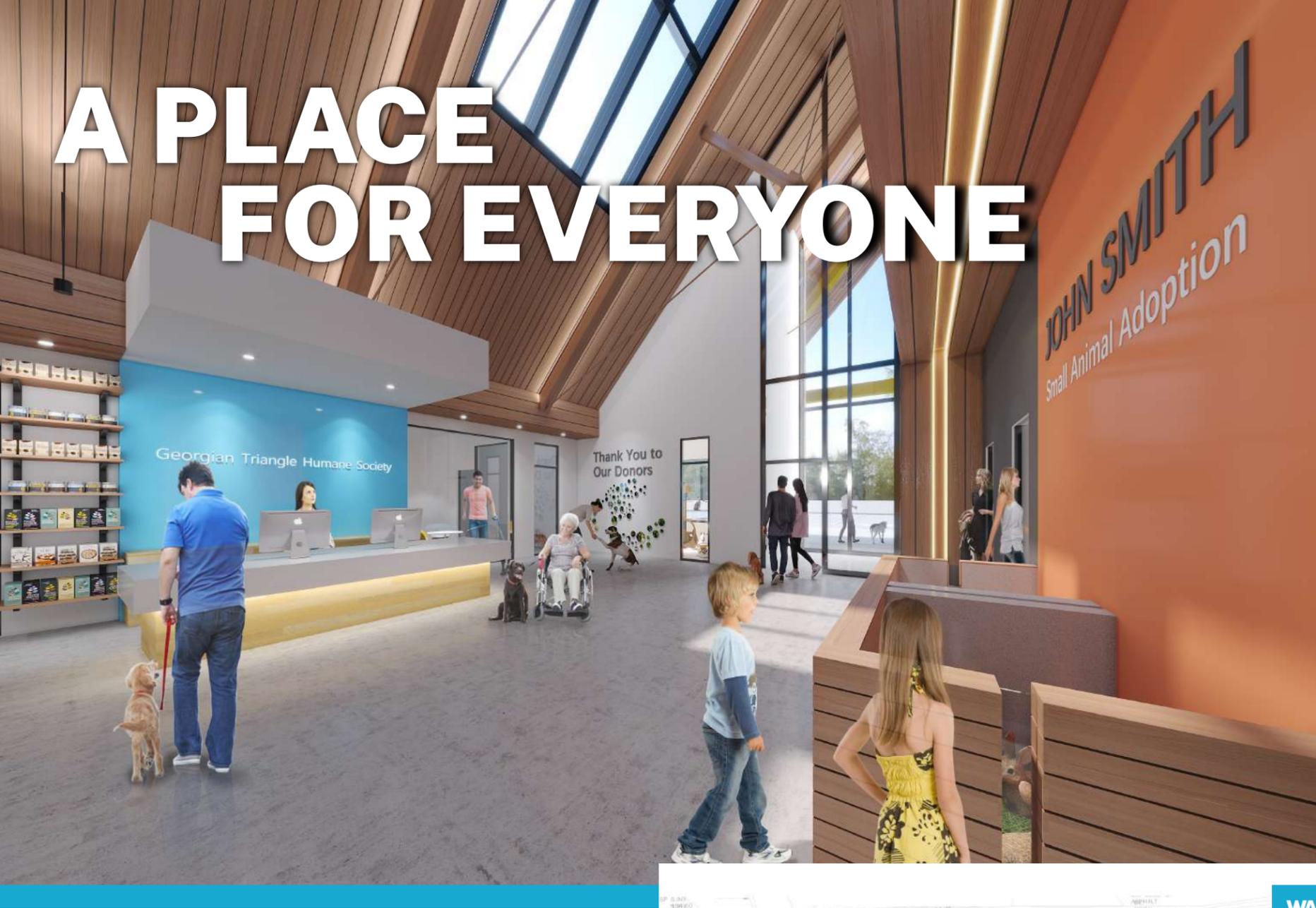
The Regional Centre for Pets and People will be an essential community-wellness resource, offering safety, comfort, care, and warmth: a home to both pets and people of the community.

The efficiently designed centre will deliver accessible, community-focused programs, providing support and resources to all members of the community. At-risk youth will learn new skills while finding purpose and belonging through educational programming and volunteer opportunities. Homeless animals will find warmth and shelter before being placed in new, loving homes. The centre's **fully accredited companion animal hospital** will provide advanced medical care to sick and injured animals.

## YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD PET RESOURCE

**The need for canine behavioural support is anticipated to rise exponentially.** Our canine services will meet this growing demand, providing resources for owners who are struggling to manage behavioural concerns while building better communication between owner and pet, alleviating stress, and strengthening the human-animal bond. The behavioural health program will have an incredible impact on dog owners in our region; raising awareness of responsible pet ownership and ensuring fewer dogs are surrendered into our care.

# A PLACE FOR EVERYONE



The centre's fully accredited companion animal hospital will offer accessible veterinary services including spay and neuter surgeries, dental procedures, rabies vaccinations, microchipping, and end of life services.

Dr. Anick Amaro and her medical team will be able to perform over three times the number of surgeries in the new centre hospital.



Everyone is welcome to take their dog for a walk along our scenic walking trail. Accessible from the parking lot, the trail will lead walkers around the property, through beautifully landscaped grounds with plenty of spots for dogs and their owners to explore.

The outdoor education centre will provide a scenic backdrop for humane education sessions, classes, and community events.

