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Unleashing a Brighter Future for Brown County's Homeless Pets Brown County Humane Society to Build a New \$3.2 Million Animal Shelter

Nashville, Indiana – June 1, 2019 –The Brown County Humane Society of Indiana has announced plans to build a new, \$3.2 million animal shelter. Designed by Shelter Planners of America, the new facility will be built next to the existing shelter on State Road 135 South in Nashville.

In addition to providing healthier and safer conditions for the shelter pets and staff, the new shelter will be built with the community in mind. The new space will allow for improved visitor and adoption experiences. It will accommodate more volunteers, including programs for children and groups, and will include a large multi-purpose room that can be used for both internal meetings as well as a public education space.

Operating for more than 30 years out of a 4,000 square foot building, the Brown County Humane Society has developed a national reputation as the “little shelter with big results,” achieving a 98% save rate—one of the highest in the nation. However, the small, aging building no longer meets the needs of the organization or the community and is constantly in need of ongoing and costly repairs.

According to shelter manager, Caity Robertson, “Our facility expenses have started to run the show. Our laundry facilities are starting to fail, our kennels are starting to deteriorate. We don’t really have a way to separate sick animals to prevent the rest of the population from getting sick, which in a shelter is huge. Overall the entire facility has done a great job but it’s reaching its breaking point.”

Of the \$3.2 million needed to fund the project, \$2.6 million has already been pledged from individual donations, grants, and businesses. At this time, dollar for dollar matching funds are still available for individual donations thanks to a grant from the Werling Charitable Foundation.

Now the Humane Society is reaching out to the public to help raise the remaining funds for the project. “The Humane Society contributes tremendously to the overall quality of life in Brown County. I think it says a lot about a community that takes care of their domestic animals as well as their human counterparts,” says Jerry Pittman, Brown County Commissioner.

The floor plan and conceptual drawing for the 9,100 square foot shelter building have been completed by the architectural firm and the geotechnical and property surveys are done. Architectural and engineering documents have been signed in order to move forward with the design phase. There is no official date for breaking ground, but the hope is to move forward as soon as possible.

“I think the excitement about this project is leaving something to future generations to continue our great work. What we’ve been able to accomplish with this small building has been amazing. We need to take that next step up. This building will allow us to set the stage for the future,” says board president, Sue Ann Werling.

People are invited to learn more about the project by visiting the capital campaign website at www.unleashbc.com, where they can see the floor plan, watch a campaign video, and donate to support the new shelter.

About the Brown County Humane Society

The Brown County Humane Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to serving Brown County Indiana's homeless dogs and cats. Providing temporary shelter and adoption services for homeless pets, low-cost spay/neuter assistance for the community, and pet assistance for those in need, BCHS has been nationally-recognized as a highly successful and progressive rural shelter, with a 98% save rate in 2018.

For more information about the Brown County Humane Society, visit www.bchumane.org

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