

NYS Companion Animal Capital Project Grant

Updated Aug 2024

The Lewis County Humane Society (LCHS), located in Glenfield, NY, has been taking care of neglected and homeless animals since 1915. All of our animals are spayed/neutered before adoption, helping to keep our local stray population down.

Our shelter is governed by NYS Agriculture and Markets Law, and follows The Association of Shelter Veterinarians' (ASV) Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters. **There are new state standards taking effect December 15, 2025 with which we must comply.**

Our shelter is old and was cobbled together over the last several decades, and currently meets less than half of the ASV guidelines pertaining to the facility design and shelter environment.

The Lewis County Humane Society applied for and obtained a grant under the **NYS Companion Animal Capital Projects Fund** in the amount of \$500,000. Here is some info and facts on our grant:

- To support a full \$500,000 grant, our shelter was obligated to provide additional matching funds of at least \$166,667 (\$666,667 project minimum). To reflect a variety of required enhancements, our initial submission was \$709,000. Unfortunately, due to construction and materials cost increases, the total project expense is \$837,761, leaving a funding shortfall of \$337,761. We will be fundraising to help with this matching portion.
- This project will make improvements to bring the shelter into compliance with most ASV guidelines for facility design and shelter environment, as well as to comply with the new state standards taking effect on December 15, 2025. Only capital projects necessary for the secure containment, health and adequate care of sheltered dogs and cats are eligible for funding.
- Without this project, LCHS could face fines for non-compliance and/or closure. This is an expensive project for us, but the County and surrounding communities are counting on our shelter. The County would face a severe hardship if our shelter closed as there are no other local shelters to house our stray, abandoned/seized, or even surrendered animals.
- Here is a list of what our final project includes:
 - Repair roofing
 - Reconfiguration of main kennel area & construction of new concrete kennels
 - Repair concrete floors and epoxy painting
 - Replacing window/doors
 - New individual cat condos
 - FRP on most surfaces
 - Update plumbing
 - New outdoor fencing/kennels/dog runs
 - Radiant floor heat
 - New heating, ventilation and air conditioning throughout
 - New quarantine areas for dogs & cats
 - Separate Clean & Dirty rooms

- New work area with stainless tables
 - Soundproofing between dogs and rest of shelter areas
 - Upgrade electrical
 - Upgrade fire & security systems
 - New bathroom (ineligible expense which must be funded 100% with our own dollars)
 - New office
 - Upgrade & reconfiguration of all cat rooms
 - New food storage and general storage areas
 - No-Dig system in outdoor kennels
 - Outdoor Kennel coverings to prevent jumping and provide shade
 - Commercial washer & dryer
 - Generator and automatic transfer switch
- Project completion is due by Dec 2025.

Although we are excited to announce we have signed contracts and construction started on July 15, 2024, we will have to do a lot of fund-raising to make up the shortfall. After expenses are paid, all profits are dedicated to the project. Our initial fund-raising campaign has raised \$95,879.76 and we now need an additional \$241,881.24.

We thank you for your continued support, and look forward to this amazing opportunity to bring our shelter up to current standards, thereby making it a more comfortable and welcoming place for our community's homeless animals.

If you would like to donate to help cover our associated project costs, there are several ways to do so:

- Facebook donate button
- PayPal to lewiscountyhumanesociety@gmail.com
- Mail checks to Lewis County Humane Society, PO Box 682, Lowville, NY 13367
- We can also take credit card donations via the phone, 315-376-8349
- Of course, you can drop off donations at the shelter anytime during open hours Mon, Tue, Thu & Fri 2-6, Sat 11-4. We are closed Sun & Wed

