

2020 RAVS Clinic Schedule Now Open!

If you have ever wanted to help the people and pets of underserved areas, then RAVS may be what you're looking for! The Fund for Animals [Rural Area Veterinary Services \(RAVS\)](#) program combines community service and veterinary mentorship to bring free veterinary services to underserved rural communities where poverty and geographic isolation make regular veterinary care inaccessible. Each year RAVS staff members and more than 350 veterinary and veterinary technician volunteers provide essential vet care for more than 8,000 animals, all at no cost to the clients or communities served. In addition, the program provides valuable training and experience for hundreds of veterinary students that goes far beyond anything they could learn in a classroom alone. The [2020 RAVS clinic schedule](#) is now open and student applications will be accepted through November 25th. Please email Anne Marie McPartlin, Program Coordinator, with any questions at amcpartlin@fundforanimals.org.



RAVS in Action in San Carlos, AZ.

Photo credit: RAVS.

Animal Welfare Symposium Hosted by Michigan State University CVM

HSVMA's fifth annual [Animal Welfare Symposium](#) was hosted by the HSVMA student chapter at Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine on Saturday, October 5th. There were two tracks of lectures covering topics including animal cruelty, street medicine, shelter medicine, wildlife medicine, end of life care, equine welfare and disaster response. A [RAVS](#) suture lab was also available for vet student attendees to practice techniques used during clinics. Several students presented posters of their summer research and an MSU student gave a lunch presentation about her experience with an equine welfare program in Mexico.

The following morning, student volunteers headed to Detroit to help [The Street Dog](#)



The HSVMA MSU Student Chapter l-r: Jennie Nguyen (President), Ashley MacDonald (Vice President) and Courtney Senkewitz (Secretary/Treasurer)

Photo credit: Jennie Nguyen.

[Coalition](#) and its founder and Director, Dr. Jon Geller. The Street Dog Coalition provided free basic veterinary care alongside other organizations which offered free services such as clothing, haircuts and medical care. The organizations involved plan to continue this pop-up clinic in the spring! This year's symposium was generously sponsored by the Kislak Family Foundation and [Total Planning Veterinary Services](#). The date and location of the 2020 Animal Welfare Symposium have yet to be determined but will be announced in a student alert in the spring of 2020.

2020 World Spay Day Grants Available for February Clinics

For nine years, HSVMA has provided grants to [World Spay Day](#) events that involve vet student and vet tech student participation. These clinics help prevent overpopulation of companion animals in addition to providing students with the training necessary to learn life-saving procedures. HSVMA also encourages students to participate because it is a great opportunity to help animals in their communities and connect with local welfare organizations. We will again be offering \$1000-\$2000 grants to clinics held in the month of February, known as spay/neuter awareness month. The funds must be given to a non-profit entity who is organizing the clinic. If your student group would like to apply for a grant, please contact Heather Schrader, Program Manager, Student Outreach, at hschrader@hsvma.org. Applications must be submitted by December 20, 2019, for consideration.



A vet student being supervised during surgery at a Cornell University World Spay Day clinic.

Photo credit: Patrick Connelly.

HSVMA New Benefit Partner: Total Planning Veterinary Services



HSVMA has a brand new benefit partner, [Total Planning Veterinary Services](#). They work with veterinarians and their families to assist them in all of life's important planning needs. They offer both health and life insurance planning for the veterinarian, as well as veterinary students, interns, and residents. They also offer special discounted rates for individual disability insurance programs for HSVMA members.

Total Planning Veterinary Services offers discounted individual disability insurance products to HSVMA members.

It's never too early to start thinking about how you will protect your livelihood after graduation. For more information about Total Planning Veterinary Services, including the discounted individual disability insurance program, visit the HSVMA website to [request a quote](#).

Comments or questions about HSVMA student outreach programs and activities?
Please contact us at students@hsvma.org.