

## ANGEL Program: Animals Need to Give Everyone Love

In the spring of 2010, the Community Foundation made a grant to the Little Traverse Bay Humane Society for \$3,600 to fund their ANGEL Program. Jane Balmer, Pet Therapist, brings appropriate shelter animals into area convalescent and senior care facilities several days a week. The program gives seniors joy and affection, while simultaneously providing shelter animals with attention and activity. "The nurses, aids, activity directors, and administrators praise the benefits residents receive from the unconditional love of the animals. They tell us that the visits bring smiles, laughter, sensory stimulation, respite from pain, and a break from the normal daily routine," says Balmer.

