



2025 Annual Report



MARK MORRIS
INSTITUTE

A Message from the CAO

2025 was a year focused on strengthening MMI's core initiatives—enhancing our teaching programs, expanding the number of students reached, and growing resources for the veterinary nutrition community.

MMI expanded its educational offerings with new and updated lecture content focused on the nutritional **management of renal disease, urolithiasis, and gastrointestinal disease**—ensuring students and educators have access to current, clinically relevant materials.

The **MMI Nutrition Guide** continued to grow in impact, now supporting more than **2,300 active users**. Widely used as both a teaching and clinical reference, the Guide remains central to expanding access to practical nutrition resources, with additional enhancements planned for 2026.

MMI's programs extended across the **United States, Canada, Mexico**, and the **Caribbean** in 2025. **Veterinary technician programs** also participated for the first time, broadening access to nutrition education across the veterinary care team.



Cailin Heinze, VMD, MS, DACVIM (Nutrition)
Chief Academic Officer and Executive Director



A LEGACY OF LEARNING

Founded in 1993, the **Mark Morris Institute** (MMI) honors the legacy of **Dr. Mark Morris Sr.**, a pioneer in small animal medicine and veterinary nutrition whose work helped establish the critical role of nutrition in managing disease and improving companion animal health.

Today, MMI continues that vision as an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit advancing veterinary nutrition education through evidence-based tools, resources, and partnerships with veterinary schools—supporting the integration of nutrition into clinical practice.

Committed to unbiased, science-driven education, MMI develops resources guided by expert instructional designers and independent veterinary specialists, empowering the veterinary community to make informed nutrition decisions that improve animal health and well-being.



Dr. Mark Morris Sr.

IMPACT

Strengthening Curriculum

MMI expanded its educational resources with new and updated lecture content focused on the **nutritional management of renal disease, urolithiasis, and gastrointestinal disease**—ensuring students and educators have access to current, clinically relevant materials.



Digital Tools

The MMI Nutrition Guide continued to grow in impact, now supporting **more than 2,300 active users**. Widely used as both a teaching and clinical reference, the Guide remains central to MMI's strategy to expand access to practical nutrition resources, with additional enhancements planned for 2026.

 MMI Nutrition Guide

HOW IT WORKSCONTACTNathan Lee ▾

MMI Nutrition Guide

Review summaries of nutritional management and compare products for specific disease conditions

Species

Select ▾

Age

Select ▾

Disease Condition

Select ▾





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BOARD MEMBERS



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VP Strategic Initiatives
& VP Finance (Retired),
Hill's Pet Nutrition



Secretary
Jessica Vogelsang

DVM, CVJ
Chief Medical Officer,
American Animal
Hospital Association



Iveta Becvarova

DVM, MS, DACVIM (Nutrition)
Senior Director of Global
Academic & Professional
Affairs, Hill's Pet Nutrition



Siobhan Bridglalsingh

DVM, MEd., PhD,
DACVIM (Nutrition)
Faculty, University of
the West Indies



Omar Farías

VMD
Senior Manager, Academic
Affairs, Hill's Pet Nutrition



Catherine Ruggiero

DVM, MS, DACVIM (Nutrition)
Senior Manager of Scientific
Communications, Hill's Pet
Nutrition



Peggy Schmidt

DVM, MS, DACVPM
Associate Dean for
Professional Programs,
University of Wisconsin
School of Veterinary
Medicine



Catherine Walberg

JD
Goodell, Stratton, Edmonds, &
Palmer, LLC

OPERATIONS



Cailin Heinze

VMD, MS, DACVIM
(Nutrition)
Chief Academic Officer
Executive Director



Liz Dorcey

MA
Administrative
Coordinator



Beth Harrison

BBA
Manager of Administration
and Finance (Retired)

ORGANIZATIONAL



Board Changes

- Dr. Omar Farías concluded his service on the Board in September. We are grateful for his contributions to and support of MMI's mission.
- Dr. Peggy Schmidt completed her Board service in December after many years of dedication. Her leadership and commitment to veterinary education have had a lasting impact.
- Dr. Catherine Ruggiero joined the MMI Board of Directors in November. As Senior Manager of Scientific Communications at Hill's Pet Nutrition, she brings a strong commitment to advancing veterinary education.

Operational Updates

- Beth Harrison concluded her time with MMI in April after decades of service that played a key role in the organization's growth and impact in veterinary nutrition education.
- Liz Dorcey joined MMI as Administrative Coordinator in November. She brings a strong background in higher and adult education administration, with experience supporting accreditation and educational initiatives.

FINANCIALS

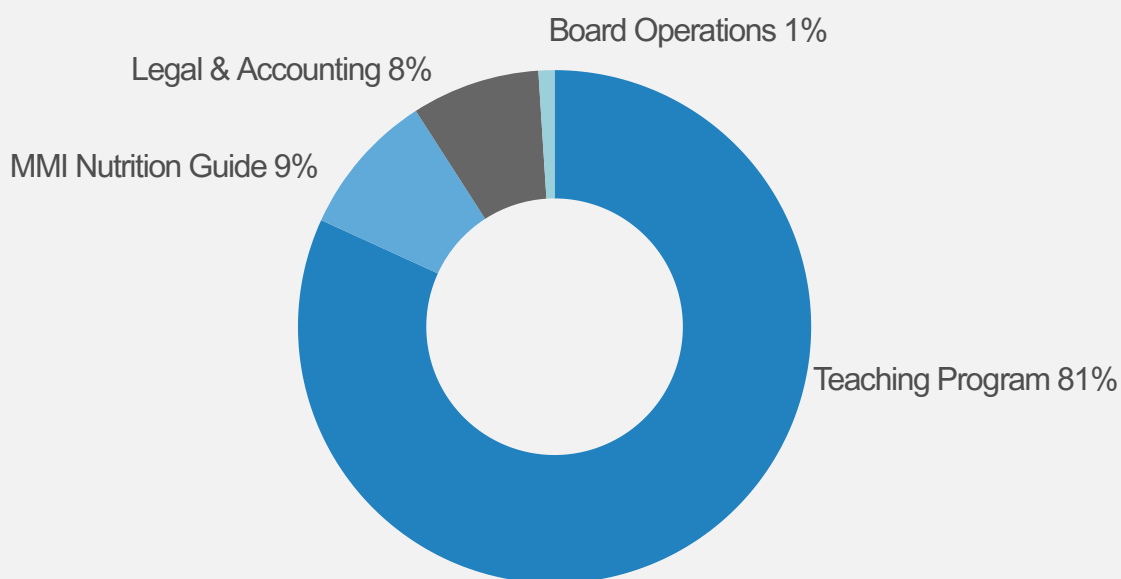
In 2025, the Mark Morris Institute (MMI) continued to maintain a strong financial position, supporting our mission to provide unbiased, evidence-based veterinary nutrition education.

The largest share of expenditures (81%) supported development and administration of our **Teaching Program**, reflecting MMI's core commitment to high-quality veterinary nutrition education for students and professionals.

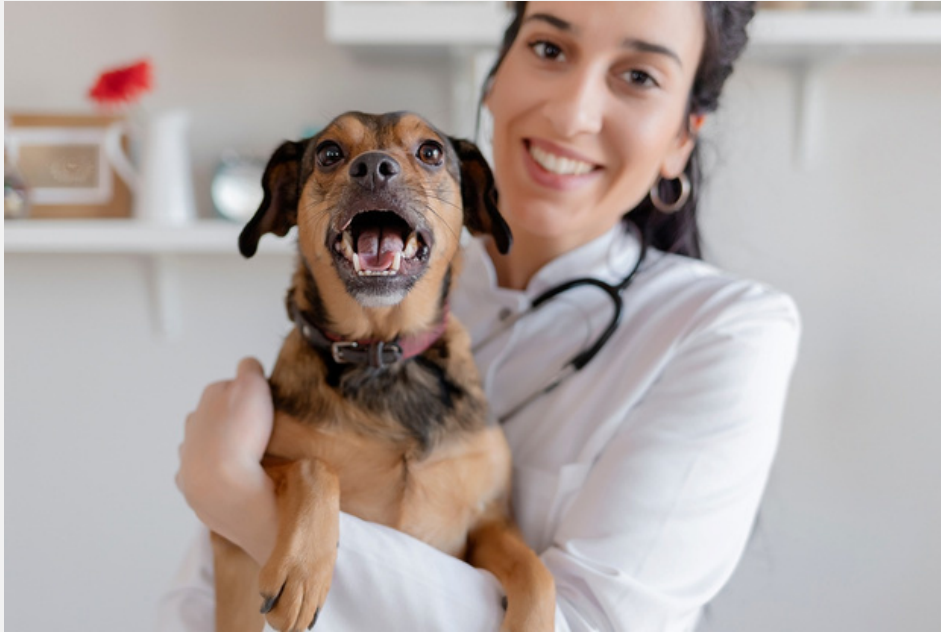
An additional 9% of expenditures supported the **MMI Nutrition Guide**. The Guide continues to grow as a valuable teaching and clinical reference tool for veterinarians, receiving strong feedback from practitioners regarding its practical utility in clinical settings.

Legal and accounting expenses accounted for 8% of expenditures.

Board Operations remained highly cost-efficient at just 1% of expenditures, enabling the organization to prioritize educational expansion and curriculum development while maintaining strong fiscal stewardship.



LOOKING FORWARD



MMI has exciting plans for 2026, including adding more topics to our nutritional management of disease lecture series and **expanding our e-learning courses** to include clinical as well as healthy pet topics. We will also introduce much-awaited feature enhancements for the MMI Nutrition Guide.

We also look forward to **additional academic partnerships** as new veterinary schools develop their curriculums and strengthening our existing courses at our current schools.

2025

YEAR IN NUMBERS

2,521

Total Students Reached

24

Schools



4

Countries

340

Instructional Hours

2,300

Nutrition Guide Users

20,383

Student Contact Hours



MARK MORRIS
INSTITUTE

A leader in veterinary
nutrition education

16%

Increase in
Students
Reached

STAY CONNECTED



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