

# Semi-Annual Financial Statements and Additional Information



January 31, 2026

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Share Class | Ticker

A | QASGX

C | QCSGX

Institutional | QISGX

R6 | QLSGX

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## Federated Hermes MDT Small Cap Growth Fund

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A Portfolio of Federated Hermes MDT Series

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# Portfolio of Investments

January 31, 2026 (unaudited)

Shares		Value
	<b>COMMON STOCKS—97.8%</b>	
	<b>Communication Services—1.2%</b>	
304,048	<sup>1</sup> Bumble, Inc.	\$ 1,018,561
121,779	<sup>1</sup> E.W. Scripps Co.	407,960
494,525	<sup>1</sup> Lumen Technologies, Inc.	4,361,710
100,359	<sup>1</sup> Magnite, Inc.	1,452,195
117,373	<sup>1</sup> Thryv Holdings, Inc.	564,564
	TOTAL	7,804,990
	<b>Consumer Discretionary—7.1%</b>	
40,196	<sup>1</sup> Abercrombie & Fitch Co., Class A	3,924,335
5,384	<sup>1</sup> Adtalem Global Education, Inc.	557,513
31,586	<sup>1</sup> American Public Education, Inc.	1,319,663
327,679	Bloomin Brands, Inc.	1,966,074
21,397	<sup>1</sup> Brinker International, Inc.	3,374,735
97,474	Caleres, Inc.	1,191,132
263,548	<sup>1</sup> Coursera, Inc.	1,597,101
137,478	<sup>1</sup> European Wax Center, Inc.	540,289
313,362	<sup>1</sup> EVgo, Inc.	943,220
15,244	<sup>1</sup> Gentherm, Inc.	487,198
614,972	Krispy Kreme, Inc.	1,937,162
78,090	<sup>1</sup> McGraw Hill, Inc.	1,151,827
201,931	<sup>1</sup> National Vision Holdings, Inc.	5,320,882
44,804	OneSpaWorld Holdings Ltd.	880,399
58,097	<sup>1</sup> Peloton Interactive, Inc.	324,762
51,767	<sup>1</sup> Revolve Group, Inc.	1,431,358
87,110	<sup>1</sup> Rush Street Interactive, Inc.	1,539,234
4,144	<sup>1</sup> Shake Shack, Inc.	367,034
28,111	Steven Madden Ltd.	1,233,511
256,696	Super Group SGHC Ltd.	2,430,911
690,619	<sup>1,25</sup> Sweetgreen, Inc.	4,240,401
199,448	<sup>1</sup> The RealReal, Inc.	2,925,902
111,139	<sup>1</sup> ThredUp, Inc.	564,586
40,738	<sup>1</sup> Victoria's Secret & Co.	2,220,628
6,978	<sup>1</sup> Visteon Corp.	634,021
165,596	Wolverine World Wide, Inc.	2,934,361
	TOTAL	46,038,239
	<b>Consumer Staples—1.7%</b>	
34,274	Cal-Maine Foods, Inc.	2,862,907
174,670	MGP Ingredients, Inc.	4,351,030
24,596	Turning Point Brands, Inc.	2,979,805
11,629	<sup>1</sup> Vita Coco Co., Inc./The	620,407
	TOTAL	10,814,149
	<b>Energy—2.2%</b>	
66,270	Archrock, Inc.	1,960,929
63,276	Comstock Resources, Inc.	1,540,771
52,007	CVR Energy, Inc.	1,182,639
55,712	Delek US Holdings, Inc.	1,644,061
200,855	<sup>1</sup> DMC Global, Inc.	1,727,353
21,670	<sup>2</sup> Kinetik Holdings, Inc.	886,520
71,097	<sup>1</sup> Tidewater, Inc.	4,442,851
49,061	<sup>1</sup> Uranium Energy Corp.	845,812
	TOTAL	14,230,936

Shares		Value
	COMMON STOCKS—continued	
	<b>Financials—10.7%</b>	
137,241	Acadian Asset Management, Inc.	\$ 7,605,896
148,566	Artisan Partners Asset Management, Inc.	6,614,158
10,219	<sup>1</sup> Axos Financial, Inc.	1,011,579
33,061	Bank of Hawaii Corp.	2,472,302
123,022	<sup>1,2</sup> BRC Group Holdings, Inc.	1,028,464
9,537	<sup>1</sup> Coastal Financial Corp.	913,454
51,948	<sup>1</sup> Flywire Corp.	654,545
121,323	<sup>1</sup> Hamilton Insurance Group, Ltd.	3,366,713
9,447	HCI Group, Inc.	1,498,956
58,865	<sup>1</sup> Lemonade, Inc.	5,105,361
19,687	<sup>1</sup> LendingTree, Inc.	1,115,465
33,044	Marex Group PLC	1,304,577
4,888	Mercury General Corp.	428,140
34,818	Moelis & Co.	2,495,406
54,822	<sup>1</sup> NCR Atleos Corp.	2,044,861
37,386	<sup>1</sup> Palomar Holdings, Inc.	4,620,536
22,390	Pathward Financial, Inc.	2,021,593
556,377	<sup>1</sup> Payoneer Global, Inc.	3,555,249
8,788	<sup>1</sup> Root, Inc.	545,998
193,829	<sup>1</sup> Siriuspoint Ltd.	3,956,050
133,318	<sup>1</sup> Skyward Specialty Insurance Group, Inc.	5,948,649
71,368	<sup>1</sup> StoneCo Ltd.	1,151,880
30,591	<sup>1</sup> Texas Capital Bancshares, Inc.	3,094,892
12,509	UMB Financial Corp.	1,590,394
75,338	Victory Capital Holdings, Inc.	5,313,589
	TOTAL	69,458,707
	<b>Health Care—25.1%</b>	
270,181	<sup>1</sup> 4D Molecular Therapeutics, Inc.	2,393,804
67,515	<sup>1</sup> ADMA Biologics, Inc.	1,168,009
501,389	<sup>1</sup> Akebia Therapeutics, Inc.	706,958
154,276	<sup>1</sup> Alignment Healthcare, Inc.	3,475,838
104,346	<sup>1</sup> Alphatec Holdings, Inc.	1,547,451
88,456	<sup>1</sup> AMN Healthcare Services, Inc.	1,884,113
117,241	<sup>1,2</sup> Amylyx Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	1,675,374
43,601	<sup>1</sup> Apogee Therapeutics, Inc.	2,856,301
452,918	<sup>1,2</sup> Aquestive Therapeutics, Inc.	1,336,108
21,745	<sup>1</sup> Arcus Biosciences, Inc.	457,515
219,084	<sup>1,2</sup> Arcutis Biotherapeutics, Inc.	5,558,161
236,555	<sup>1</sup> Arvinas, Inc.	3,165,106
25,394	<sup>1</sup> Assembly Biosciences, Inc.	654,530
66,338	<sup>1</sup> Aurinia Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	963,891
306,150	<sup>1</sup> Aveanna Healthcare Holdings, Inc.	2,571,660
19,336	<sup>1</sup> Axsome Therapeutics, Inc.	3,562,658
71,421	<sup>1</sup> BioCryst Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	469,950
79,647	<sup>1</sup> Bridgebio Pharma, Inc.	6,154,324
238,303	<sup>1</sup> BrightSpring Health Services, Inc.	9,358,159
198,313	<sup>1</sup> Catalyst Pharmaceutical Partners, Inc.	4,819,006
9,039	<sup>1</sup> Celcuity, Inc.	989,047
104,674	<sup>1</sup> Cogent Biosciences, Inc.	3,758,843
84,831	<sup>1</sup> Cryoport, Inc.	806,743
5,977	<sup>1</sup> Cytokinetics, Inc.	377,687
55,322	<sup>1</sup> Edgewise Therapeutics, Inc.	1,557,314
11,176	Ensign Group, Inc.	1,918,472
268,719	<sup>1</sup> EyePoint Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	3,633,081

Shares		Value
	COMMON STOCKS—continued	
	<b>Health Care—continued</b>	
89,267	<sup>1</sup> Guardant Health, Inc.	\$ 10,180,009
74,000	<sup>1</sup> Halozyne Therapeutics, Inc.	5,306,540
55,395	<sup>1</sup> Harmony Biosciences Holdings, Inc.	2,023,025
15,656	<sup>1,2</sup> Harrow Health, Inc.	640,957
153,641	<sup>1</sup> Indivior Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	5,435,819
8,018	<sup>1</sup> Insmmed, Inc.	1,257,784
23,697	<sup>1</sup> iRhythm Holdings, Inc.	3,661,423
728,449	<sup>1</sup> Ironwood Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	3,562,116
116,178	<sup>1</sup> Keros Therapeutics, Inc.	2,080,748
9,962	<sup>1</sup> Krystal Biotech, Inc.	2,781,789
8,097	<sup>1</sup> Lantheus Holdings, Inc.	541,851
11,486	LeMaitre Vascular, Inc.	975,965
276,326	<sup>1</sup> LifeMD, Inc.	895,296
123,597	<sup>1</sup> Liquidia Corp.	5,239,277
30,237	<sup>1</sup> Livanova PLC	1,986,873
5,712	<sup>1</sup> Madrigal Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	2,794,939
87,406	<sup>1</sup> Mirum Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	9,022,047
314,119	<sup>1</sup> Neumora Therapeutics, Inc.,	625,097
73,381	<sup>1</sup> Omniceil, Inc.	3,558,978
188,576	<sup>1,2</sup> Perspective Therapeutics, Inc.	714,703
19,250	Phibro Animal Health Corp.	772,887
26,704	<sup>1</sup> Privia Health Group, Inc.	620,067
139,892	<sup>1</sup> Prothena Corp. PLC	1,232,449
45,758	<sup>1</sup> PTC Therapeutics, Inc.	3,456,102
115,723	<sup>1</sup> Puma Biotechnology, Inc.	749,885
39,728	<sup>1</sup> Rhythm Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	4,072,915
229,025	<sup>1</sup> Rocket Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	797,007
107,885	<sup>1</sup> RxSight, Inc.	937,521
109,270	<sup>1</sup> Tactile Systems Technology, Inc.	3,153,532
50,056	<sup>1</sup> Tandem Diabetes Care, Inc.	995,614
22,038	<sup>1</sup> Tarsus Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	1,422,333
166,257	<sup>1,2</sup> Teladoc Health, Inc.	906,101
27,590	<sup>1</sup> Tg Therapeutics, Inc.	811,974
21,201	<sup>1</sup> TransMedics Group, Inc.	2,840,404
18,512	<sup>1</sup> Travere Therapeutics, Inc.	575,538
101,755	<sup>1</sup> Viridian Therapeutics, Inc.	3,357,915
113,788	<sup>1</sup> Waystar Holding Corp.	3,022,209
257,755	<sup>1</sup> Xeris Biopharma Holdings, Inc.	1,897,077
	TOTAL	162,726,869
	<b>Industrials—24.2%</b>	
8,769	Albany International Corp., Class A	486,592
73,636	<sup>1</sup> Amprius Technologies, Inc.	916,032
18,472	Apogee Enterprises, Inc.	685,865
165,543	<sup>1</sup> Array Technologies, Inc.	1,874,775
4,522	<sup>1</sup> ATI, Inc.	543,997
19,644	Atkore, Inc.	1,364,276
58,117	Atmus Filtration Technologies, Inc.	3,369,043
91,482	<sup>1</sup> Bloom Energy Corp.	13,847,630
61,259	<sup>1</sup> Blue Bird Corp.	3,081,940
31,506	<sup>1</sup> Bowman Consulting Group Ltd.	1,097,354
5,219	Comfort Systems USA, Inc.	5,960,620
7,327	Emcor Group, Inc.	5,280,789
15,823	EnerSys, Inc.	2,851,146
124,800	<sup>1,2</sup> Eos Energy Enterprises, Inc.	1,827,072

Shares		Value
	COMMON STOCKS—continued	
	<b>Industrials—continued</b>	
12,736	<sup>1</sup> Exlservice Holding, Inc.	\$ 498,614
18,514	Federal Signal Corp.	2,001,178
31,843	<sup>1</sup> Fluor Corp.	1,470,828
137,190	<sup>1</sup> Franklin Covey Co.	2,794,560
19,463	Global Industrial Co.	594,789
44,730	Granite Construction, Inc.	5,400,700
21,068	Griffon Corp.	1,715,989
23,071	<sup>1</sup> Huron Consulting Group, Inc.	3,898,999
11,709	Hyster-Yale, Inc.	391,666
26,281	Interface, Inc.	827,063
477,124	<sup>1</sup> JELD-WEN Holding, Inc.	1,297,777
100,832	<sup>1</sup> Joby Aviation, Inc.	1,065,794
29,643	KForce Com, Inc.	1,047,287
61,610	<sup>1</sup> Kratos Defense & Security Solutions	6,346,446
43,702	Leonardo DRS, Inc.	1,794,404
156,840	<sup>1</sup> Mistras Group, Inc.	2,217,718
18,630	MOOG, Inc., Class A	5,688,671
300,117	Mueller Water Products, Inc.	8,124,167
47,114	<sup>1</sup> NextPower, Inc.	5,516,578
191,394	Pitney Bowes, Inc.	1,996,239
192,111	<sup>1</sup> Planet Labs PBC	4,797,012
18,246	<sup>2</sup> Powell Industries, Inc.	8,093,743
91,296	Primoris Services Corp.	13,534,632
49,401	<sup>1</sup> Rocket Lab Corp.	3,955,538
13,052	<sup>1</sup> Sterling Infrastructure, Inc.	4,671,441
77,437	TriNet Group, Inc.	4,742,242
190,984	<sup>1</sup> TTEC Holdings, Inc.	609,239
62,614	<sup>1</sup> V2X, Inc.	4,309,722
20,415	Watts Industries, Inc., Class A	6,110,414
11,288	Worthington Industries, Inc.	627,274
12,638	<sup>1</sup> Xometry, Inc.	722,009
160,552	Zurn Elkay Water Solutions Corp.	7,403,053
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>157,452,917</b>
	<b>Information Technology—20.0%</b>	
44,705	A10 Networks, Inc.	779,655
10,232	<sup>1</sup> ACI Worldwide, Inc.	443,660
14,853	Advanced Energy Industries, Inc.	3,792,862
68,866	<sup>1</sup> Alarm.com Holdings, Inc.	3,359,283
145,496	<sup>1,2</sup> Applied Digital Corp.	4,929,404
123,619	<sup>1</sup> Arteris, Inc.	1,855,521
234,745	<sup>1</sup> Asana, Inc.	2,406,136
7,979	<sup>1</sup> ASGN, Inc.	415,626
264,198	<sup>1</sup> AvePoint, Inc.	3,072,623
39,126	<sup>1</sup> Axcelis Technologies, Inc.	3,445,827
11,975	Badger Meter, Inc.	1,755,296
9,002	<sup>1</sup> Blackbaud, Inc.	483,407
26,362	<sup>1</sup> Blackline, Inc.	1,225,042
17,925	<sup>1</sup> Box, Inc.	454,399
166,570	<sup>1,2</sup> C3.AI, Inc.	1,833,936
80,516	<sup>1</sup> Calix, Inc.	3,596,650
272,575	<sup>1</sup> Cerence, Inc.	3,088,275
50,272	Clear Secure, Inc.	1,639,873
43,314	<sup>1</sup> Coda Octopus Group, Inc.	461,294
11,652	<sup>1</sup> Commvault Systems, Inc.	998,576

Shares		Value
	COMMON STOCKS—continued	
	<b>Information Technology—continued</b>	
78,903	<sup>1</sup> Credo Technology Group Holding Ltd.	\$ 9,884,968
67,560	<sup>1</sup> Digi International, Inc.	2,909,809
82,897	<sup>1,2</sup> D-Wave Quantum, Inc.	1,759,074
166,604	<sup>1</sup> Extreme Networks, Inc.	2,429,086
10,915	<sup>1</sup> Fabrinet	5,342,238
60,309	<sup>1</sup> Five9, Inc.	1,065,057
25,437	<sup>1</sup> FormFactor, Inc.	1,793,054
201,055	<sup>1</sup> Freshworks, Inc.	2,167,373
21,300	<sup>1</sup> Intapp, Inc.	723,135
15,128	InterDigital, Inc.	4,938,384
60,057	<sup>1,2</sup> IonQ, Inc.	2,401,079
10,635	<sup>1</sup> Itron, Inc.	1,053,716
23,305	<sup>1,2</sup> Life360, Inc.	1,335,143
174,006	<sup>1</sup> MaxLinear, Inc.	3,019,004
37,913	Napco Security Technologies, Inc.	1,398,611
129,791	<sup>1,2</sup> Navitas Semiconductor Corp.	1,113,607
43,930	<sup>1</sup> nLight, Inc.	2,003,647
1,523	<sup>1,2</sup> OSI Systems, Inc.	380,963
118,658	<sup>1,2</sup> Pagaya Technologies Ltd.	2,300,779
89,485	<sup>1</sup> Pagerduty, Inc.	948,541
36,654	Power Integrations, Inc.	1,683,885
12,357	<sup>1</sup> Q2 Holdings, Inc.	756,866
35,857	<sup>1</sup> Qualys, Inc.	4,729,538
7,594	<sup>1</sup> Rambus, Inc.	864,425
108,308	<sup>1</sup> Rigetti Computing, Inc.	1,967,956
25,110	<sup>1</sup> Semtech Corp.	2,002,523
9,283	<sup>1</sup> SkyWater Technology, Inc.	293,900
48,649	<sup>1,2</sup> SoundHound AI, Inc.	411,571
569,083	<sup>1</sup> Sprinklr, Inc.	3,630,750
194,940	<sup>1</sup> Sprout Social, Inc.	1,764,207
67,536	<sup>1</sup> SPS Commerce, Inc.	6,028,263
309,331	<sup>1</sup> Tenable Holdings, Inc.	6,823,842
22,208	<sup>1</sup> Ultra Clean Holdings, Inc.	970,045
376,535	<sup>1</sup> Unisys Corp.	990,287
137,204	<sup>1</sup> Vistance Networks, Inc.	2,469,672
33,214	<sup>1</sup> Workiva, Inc.	2,558,142
427,554	<sup>1</sup> Yext, Inc.	3,061,287
	TOTAL	130,011,772
	<b>Materials—2.5%</b>	
25,517	<sup>1</sup> Century Aluminum Co.	1,156,686
209,315	<sup>1</sup> Coeur Mining, Inc.	4,278,399
22,402	Commercial Metals Corp.	1,722,042
126,648	Compass Minerals International, Inc.	3,163,667
127,211	<sup>1</sup> Constellation SE	2,858,431
9,527	<sup>1</sup> Ingevity Corp.	626,781
19,874	Koppers Holdings, Inc.	585,488
36,491	<sup>1</sup> O-I Glass, Inc.	557,582
3,860	Quaker Chemical Corp.	593,436
42,574	Ramaco Resources, Inc.	830,619
	TOTAL	16,373,131
	<b>Real Estate—3.1%</b>	
236,811	American Healthcare REIT, Inc.	11,108,804
259,005	Outfront Media, Inc.	6,299,002
132,674	<sup>1</sup> Real Brokerage, Inc./The	469,666

Shares		Value
	COMMON STOCKS—continued	
	<b>Real Estate—continued</b>	
164,086	<sup>2</sup> RMR Group, Inc./The	\$ 2,485,903
	TOTAL	20,363,375
	TOTAL COMMON STOCKS (IDENTIFIED COST \$472,031,352)	635,275,085
	INVESTMENT COMPANY—7.4%	
48,549,991	Federated Hermes Government Obligations Fund, Premier Shares, 3.59% <sup>3</sup> (IDENTIFIED COST \$48,549,991)	48,549,991
	TOTAL INVESTMENT IN SECURITIES—105.2% (IDENTIFIED COST \$520,581,343) <sup>4</sup>	683,825,076
	OTHER ASSETS AND LIABILITIES - NET—(5.2)% <sup>5</sup>	(34,098,641)
	NET ASSETS—100%	\$649,726,435

An affiliated company is a company in which the Fund, alone or in combination with other Federated Hermes funds, has ownership of at least 5% of the voting shares. Transactions with affiliated companies during the period ended January 31, 2026, were as follows:

Affiliated	Value as of 7/31/2025	Purchases at Cost	Proceeds from Sales	Change in Unrealized Appreciation/ Depreciation	Net Realized Gain/ (Loss)	Value as of 1/31/2026	Shares Held as of 1/31/2026	Dividend Income
<b>Consumer Staples:</b>								
MGP Ingredients, Inc.	\$4,939,668	\$—	\$ —	\$(588,638)	\$ —	\$4,351,030	174,670	\$—
<b>Health Care:</b>								
EyePoint Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	\$2,833,345	\$—	\$(200,324)	\$ 918,798	\$81,262	\$3,633,081	268,719	\$—
<b>Industrials:</b>								
TTEC Holdings, Inc.	\$ 951,100	\$—	\$ —	\$(341,861)	\$ —	\$ 609,239	190,984	\$—
TOTAL OF AFFILIATED COMPANIES TRANSACTIONS	\$8,724,113	\$—	\$(200,324)	\$ (11,701)	\$81,262	\$8,593,350	634,373	\$—

Transactions with affiliated investment companies, which are funds managed by the Adviser or an affiliate of the Adviser, during the period ended January 31, 2026, were as follows:

	Federated Hermes Government Obligations Fund, Premier Shares*
Value as of 7/31/2025	\$ 25,166,383
Purchases at Cost	\$ 267,329,991
Proceeds from Sales	\$(243,946,383)
Change in Unrealized Appreciation/Depreciation	\$ —
Net Realized Gain/(Loss)	\$ —
Value as of 1/31/2026	\$ 48,549,991
Shares Held as of 1/31/2026	48,549,991
Dividend Income	\$ 785,786

\* All or a portion of the balance/activity for the fund relates to cash collateral received on securities lending transactions.

- 1 Non-income-producing security.
- 2 All or a portion of these securities are temporarily on loan to unaffiliated broker/dealers.
- 3 7-day net yield.
- 4 Also represents cost of investments for federal tax purposes.
- 5 Assets, other than investments in securities, less liabilities. See Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Note: The categories of investments are shown as a percentage of net assets at January 31, 2026.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in the three broad levels listed below:

Level 1—quoted prices in active markets for identical securities.

Level 2—other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, etc.). Also includes securities valued at amortized cost.

Level 3—significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments).

The inputs or methodology used for valuing securities are not an indication of the risk associated with investing in those securities.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in the three broad levels listed below:

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Level 3—significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments).

The inputs or methodology used for valuing securities are not an indication of the risk associated with investing in those securities.

As of January 31, 2026, all investments of the Fund utilized Level 1 inputs in valuing the Fund's assets carried at fair value.

The following acronym(s) are used throughout this portfolio:

REIT—Real Estate Investment Trust

See Notes which are an integral part of the Financial Statements

## Financial Highlights – Class A Shares

(For a Share Outstanding Throughout Each Period)

	Six Months Ended (unaudited) 1/31/2026	Year Ended July 31,				
		2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
<b>Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period</b>	<b>\$26.94</b>	<b>\$25.19</b>	<b>\$22.38</b>	<b>\$20.80</b>	<b>\$33.76</b>	<b>\$23.89</b>
<b>Income From Investment Operations:</b>						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>1</sup>	(0.08)	(0.12)	(0.11)	(0.03)	(0.04)	(0.15)
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	4.77	1.87	2.92	2.24	(4.34)	10.16
<b>TOTAL FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS</b>	<b>4.69</b>	<b>1.75</b>	<b>2.81</b>	<b>2.21</b>	<b>(4.38)</b>	<b>10.01</b>
<b>Less Distributions:</b>						
Distributions from net realized gain	(1.25)	—	—	(0.63)	(8.58)	(0.14)
<b>Net Asset Value, End of Period</b>	<b>\$30.38</b>	<b>\$26.94</b>	<b>\$25.19</b>	<b>\$22.38</b>	<b>\$20.80</b>	<b>\$33.76</b>
<b>Total Return<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>17.41%</b>	<b>6.95%</b>	<b>12.56%</b>	<b>11.18%</b>	<b>(18.45)%</b>	<b>42.03%</b>
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets:</b>						
Net expenses <sup>3</sup>	1.14% <sup>4</sup>	1.13%	1.13%	1.13%	1.13%	1.13%
Net investment income (loss)	(0.54)% <sup>4</sup>	(0.47)%	(0.51)%	(0.16)%	(0.16)%	(0.50)%
Expense waiver/reimbursement <sup>5</sup>	0.21% <sup>4</sup>	0.27%	0.26%	0.24%	0.21%	0.23%
<b>Supplemental Data:</b>						
Net assets, end of period (000 omitted)	\$89,156	\$74,959	\$80,198	\$80,993	\$88,900	\$129,226
Portfolio turnover <sup>6</sup>	35%	91%	90%	138%	140%	163%

1 Per share numbers have been calculated using the average shares method.

2 Based on net asset value, which does not reflect the sales charge, redemption fee or contingent deferred sales charge, if applicable. Total returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized.

3 Amount does not reflect net expenses incurred by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.

4 Computed on an annualized basis.

5 This expense decrease is reflected in both the net expense and the net investment income (loss) ratios shown above. Amount does not reflect expense waiver/reimbursement recorded by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.

6 Securities that mature are considered sales for purposes of this calculation.

See Notes which are an integral part of the Financial Statements

## Financial Highlights – Class C Shares

(For a Share Outstanding Throughout Each Period)

	Six Months Ended (unaudited) 1/31/2026	Year Ended July 31,				
		2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
<b>Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period</b>	<b>\$20.98</b>	<b>\$19.79</b>	<b>\$17.73</b>	<b>\$16.75</b>	<b>\$28.99</b>	<b>\$20.69</b>
<b>Income From Investment Operations:</b>						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>1</sup>	(0.16)	(0.26)	(0.23)	(0.16)	(0.21)	(0.33)
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	3.72	1.45	2.29	1.77	(3.45)	8.77
TOTAL FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS	3.56	1.19	2.06	1.61	(3.66)	8.44
<b>Less Distributions:</b>						
Distributions from net realized gain	(1.25)	—	—	(0.63)	(8.58)	(0.14)
<b>Net Asset Value, End of Period</b>	<b>\$23.29</b>	<b>\$20.98</b>	<b>\$19.79</b>	<b>\$17.73</b>	<b>\$16.75</b>	<b>\$28.99</b>
<b>Total Return<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>16.97%</b>	<b>6.01%</b>	<b>11.62%</b>	<b>10.27%</b>	<b>(19.14)%</b>	<b>40.93%</b>
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets:</b>						
Net expenses <sup>3</sup>	1.96% <sup>4</sup>	1.99%	1.98%	1.96%	1.96%	1.88%
Net investment income (loss)	(1.36)% <sup>4</sup>	(1.32)%	(1.35)%	(0.99)%	(0.99)%	(1.25)%
Expense waiver/reimbursement <sup>5</sup>	0.11% <sup>4</sup>	0.14%	0.14%	0.12%	0.12%	0.15%
<b>Supplemental Data:</b>						
Net assets, end of period (000 omitted)	\$10,862	\$9,787	\$15,530	\$18,262	\$19,373	\$28,084
Portfolio turnover <sup>6</sup>	35%	91%	90%	138%	140%	163%

1 Per share numbers have been calculated using the average shares method.

2 Based on net asset value, which does not reflect the sales charge, redemption fee or contingent deferred sales charge, if applicable. Total returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized.

3 Amount does not reflect net expenses incurred by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.

4 Computed on an annualized basis.

5 This expense decrease is reflected in both the net expense and the net investment income (loss) ratios shown above. Amount does not reflect expense waiver/reimbursement recorded by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.

6 Securities that mature are considered sales for purposes of this calculation.

See Notes which are an integral part of the Financial Statements

# Financial Highlights – Institutional Shares

(For a Share Outstanding Throughout Each Period)

	Six Months Ended (unaudited) 1/31/2026	Year Ended July 31,				
		2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
<b>Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period</b>	<b>\$29.11</b>	<b>\$27.15</b>	<b>\$24.07</b>	<b>\$22.27</b>	<b>\$35.50</b>	<b>\$25.05</b>
<b>Income From Investment Operations:</b>						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>1</sup>	(0.05)	(0.06)	(0.06)	0.02	0.02	(0.08)
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	5.16	2.02	3.15	2.42	(4.67)	10.67
<b>TOTAL FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS</b>	<b>5.11</b>	<b>1.96</b>	<b>3.09</b>	<b>2.44</b>	<b>(4.65)</b>	<b>10.59</b>
<b>Less Distributions:</b>						
Distributions from net investment income	—	—	(0.01)	(0.01)	—	—
Distributions from net realized gain	(1.25)	—	—	(0.63)	(8.58)	(0.14)
<b>TOTAL DISTRIBUTIONS</b>	<b>(1.25)</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>(0.01)</b>	<b>(0.64)</b>	<b>(8.58)</b>	<b>(0.14)</b>
<b>Net Asset Value, End of Period</b>	<b>\$32.97</b>	<b>\$29.11</b>	<b>\$27.15</b>	<b>\$24.07</b>	<b>\$22.27</b>	<b>\$35.50</b>
<b>Total Return<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>17.56%</b>	<b>7.22%</b>	<b>12.85%</b>	<b>11.49%</b>	<b>(18.29)%</b>	<b>42.40%</b>
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets:</b>						
Net expenses <sup>3</sup>	0.89% <sup>4</sup>	0.88%	0.88%	0.88%	0.88%	0.88%
Net investment income (loss)	(0.29)% <sup>4</sup>	(0.22)%	(0.27)%	0.09%	0.08%	(0.25)%
Expense waiver/reimbursement <sup>5</sup>	0.19% <sup>4</sup>	0.24%	0.23%	0.20%	0.18%	0.16%
<b>Supplemental Data:</b>						
Net assets, end of period (000 omitted)	\$304,358	\$220,731	\$218,620	\$258,459	\$304,721	\$428,578
Portfolio turnover <sup>6</sup>	35%	91%	90%	138%	140%	163%

1 Per share numbers have been calculated using the average shares method.

2 Based on net asset value. Total returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized.

3 Amount does not reflect net expenses incurred by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.

4 Computed on an annualized basis.

5 This expense decrease is reflected in both the net expense and the net investment income (loss) ratios shown above. Amount does not reflect expense waiver/reimbursement recorded by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.

6 Securities that mature are considered sales for purposes of this calculation.

See Notes which are an integral part of the Financial Statements

## Financial Highlights – Class R6 Shares

(For a Share Outstanding Throughout Each Period)

	Six Months Ended (unaudited) 1/31/2026	Year Ended July 31,				
		2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
<b>Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period</b>	<b>\$29.13</b>	<b>\$27.17</b>	<b>\$24.09</b>	<b>\$22.29</b>	<b>\$35.51</b>	<b>\$25.06</b>
<b>Income From Investment Operations:</b>						
Net investment income (loss) <sup>1</sup>	(0.05)	(0.06)	(0.06)	0.02	0.02	(0.08)
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	5.18	2.02	3.15	2.42	(4.66)	10.67
TOTAL FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS	5.13	1.96	3.09	2.44	(4.64)	10.59
<b>Less Distributions:</b>						
Distributions from net investment income	—	—	(0.01)	(0.01)	—	—
Distributions from net realized gain	(1.25)	—	—	(0.63)	(8.58)	(0.14)
TOTAL DISTRIBUTIONS	(1.25)	—	(0.01)	(0.64)	(8.58)	(0.14)
<b>Net Asset Value, End of Period</b>	<b>\$33.01</b>	<b>\$29.13</b>	<b>\$27.17</b>	<b>\$24.09</b>	<b>\$22.29</b>	<b>\$35.51</b>
<b>Total Return<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>17.62%</b>	<b>7.21%</b>	<b>12.85%</b>	<b>11.49%</b>	<b>(18.24)%</b>	<b>42.38%</b>
<b>Ratios to Average Net Assets:</b>						
Net expenses <sup>3</sup>	0.88% <sup>4</sup>	0.87%	0.87%	0.87%	0.87%	0.87%
Net investment income (loss)	(0.28)% <sup>4</sup>	(0.21)%	(0.26)%	0.11%	0.10%	(0.24)%
Expense waiver/reimbursement <sup>5</sup>	0.11% <sup>4</sup>	0.14%	0.14%	0.12%	0.09%	0.09%
<b>Supplemental Data:</b>						
Net assets, end of period (000 omitted)	\$245,351	\$185,904	\$184,233	\$182,071	\$256,060	\$309,117
Portfolio turnover <sup>6</sup>	35%	91%	90%	138%	140%	163%

1 Per share numbers have been calculated using the average shares method.

2 Based on net asset value. Total returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized.

3 Amount does not reflect net expenses incurred by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.

4 Computed on an annualized basis.

5 This expense decrease is reflected in both the net expense and the net investment income (loss) ratios shown above. Amount does not reflect expense waiver/reimbursement recorded by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.

6 Securities that mature are considered sales for purposes of this calculation.

See Notes which are an integral part of the Financial Statements

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities

January 31, 2026 (unaudited)

## Assets:

Investment in securities, at value including \$34,293,698 of securities loaned and \$57,143,341 of investments in affiliated holdings* (identified cost \$520,581,343, including \$56,473,519 of identified cost in affiliated holdings)	\$683,825,076
Cash	593,967
Income receivable	119,800
Income receivable from affiliated holdings	48,975
Receivable for investments sold	2,446,262
Receivable for shares sold	1,053,574
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>688,087,654</b>

## Liabilities:

Payable for investments purchased	2,570,691
Payable for shares redeemed	163,972
Payable for collateral due to broker for securities lending (Note 2)	35,414,986
Payable for investment adviser fee (Note 5)	25,490
Payable for administrative fee (Note 5)	2,788
Payable for distribution services fee (Note 5)	6,960
Payable for other service fees (Notes 2 and 5)	42,866
Accrued expenses (Note 5)	133,466
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>38,361,219</b>
Net assets for 20,064,232 shares outstanding	\$649,726,435

## Net Assets Consist of:

Paid-in capital	\$479,502,365
Total distributable earnings (loss)	170,224,070
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$649,726,435</b>

## Net Asset Value, Offering Price and Redemption Proceeds Per Share:

### Class A Shares:

Net asset value per share (\$89,155,924 ÷ 2,934,261 shares outstanding), no par value, unlimited shares authorized	\$30.38
Offering price per share (100/94.50 of \$30.38)	\$32.15
Redemption proceeds per share	\$30.38

### Class C Shares:

Net asset value per share (\$10,861,561 ÷ 466,385 shares outstanding), no par value, unlimited shares authorized	\$23.29
Offering price per share	\$23.29
Redemption proceeds per share (99.00/100 of \$23.29)	\$23.06

### Institutional Shares:

Net asset value per share (\$304,358,207 ÷ 9,230,172 shares outstanding), no par value, unlimited shares authorized	\$32.97
Offering price per share	\$32.97
Redemption proceeds per share	\$32.97

### Class R6 Shares:

Net asset value per share (\$245,350,743 ÷ 7,433,414 shares outstanding), no par value, unlimited shares authorized	\$33.01
Offering price per share	\$33.01
Redemption proceeds per share	\$33.01

\* See information listed after the Fund's Portfolio of Investments.

See Notes which are an integral part of the Financial Statements

# Statement of Operations

Six Months Ended January 31, 2026 (unaudited)

<b>Investment Income:</b>	
Dividends (including \$243,842 received from affiliated holdings*)	\$ 1,460,236
Net income on securities loaned (includes \$541,944 earned from affiliated holdings related to cash collateral balances*) (Note 2)	255,786
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>1,716,022</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>	
Investment adviser fee (Note 5)	2,281,909
Administrative fee (Note 5)	222,355
Custodian fees	24,524
Transfer agent fees (Note 2)	284,275
Directors'/Trustees' fees (Note 5)	2,061
Auditing fees	16,920
Legal fees	5,602
Portfolio accounting fees	71,300
Distribution services fee (Note 5)	39,893
Other service fees (Notes 2 and 5)	114,502
Share registration costs	40,648
Printing and postage	38,123
Miscellaneous (Note 5)	15,294
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>3,157,406</b>
<b>Waiver and Reimbursements:</b>	
Waiver/reimbursement of investment adviser fee (Note 5)	(313,838)
Reimbursement of other operating expenses (Notes 2 and 5)	(154,391)
<b>TOTAL WAIVER AND REIMBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>(468,229)</b>
Net expenses	2,689,177
Net investment income (loss)	(973,155)
<b>Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments and Foreign Currency Transactions:</b>	
Net realized gain on investments (including net realized gain of \$81,262 on sales of investments in affiliated holdings*)	27,737,881
Net realized gain on foreign currency transactions	75,103
Net change in unrealized appreciation of investments (including net change in unrealized appreciation of \$(11,701) on investments in affiliated holdings*)	61,207,422
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments and foreign currency transactions	89,020,406
Change in net assets resulting from operations	\$88,047,251

\* See information listed after the Fund's Portfolio of Investments.

See Notes which are an integral part of the Financial Statements

## Statement of Changes in Net Assets

	<b>Six Months Ended (unaudited) 1/31/2026</b>	<b>Year Ended 7/31/2025</b>
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>		
<b>Operations:</b>		
Net investment loss	\$ (973,155)	\$ (1,364,762)
Net realized gain (loss)	27,812,984	37,668,862
Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation	61,207,422	(4,454,389)
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM OPERATIONS	88,047,251	31,849,711
<b>Distributions to Shareholders:</b>		
Class A Shares	(3,414,521)	—
Class C Shares	(563,523)	—
Institutional Shares	(10,431,456)	—
Class R6 Shares	(8,267,689)	—
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS	(22,677,189)	—
<b>Share Transactions:</b>		
Proceeds from sale of shares	149,448,900	114,343,453
Net asset value of shares issued to shareholders in payment of distributions declared	19,959,594	—
Cost of shares redeemed	(76,432,469)	(153,394,741)
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM SHARE TRANSACTIONS	92,976,025	(39,051,288)
Change in net assets	158,346,087	(7,201,577)
<b>Net Assets:</b>		
Beginning of period	491,380,348	498,581,925
End of period	\$649,726,435	\$ 491,380,348

See Notes which are an integral part of the Financial Statements

# Notes to Financial Statements

January 31, 2026 (unaudited)

## 1. ORGANIZATION

Federated Hermes MDT Series (the "Trust") is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Act"), as an open-end management investment company. The Trust consists of five portfolios. The financial statements included herein are only those of Federated Hermes MDT Small Cap Growth Fund (the "Fund"), a diversified portfolio. The financial statements of the other portfolios are presented separately. The assets of each portfolio are segregated and a shareholder's interest is limited to the portfolio in which shares are held. Each portfolio pays its own expenses. The Fund offers four classes of shares: Class A Shares, Class C Shares, Institutional Shares and Class R6 Shares. All shares of the Fund have equal rights with respect to voting, except on class-specific matters. The investment objective of the Fund is to provide long-term capital appreciation.

## 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following is a summary of significant accounting policies consistently followed by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements. These policies are in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

### Investment Valuation

In calculating its net asset value (NAV), the Fund generally values investments as follows:

- Equity securities listed on an exchange or traded through a regulated market system are valued at their last reported sale price or official closing price in their principal exchange or market.
- Shares of other mutual funds or non-exchange-traded investment companies are valued based upon their reported NAVs, or NAV per share practical expedient, as applicable.
- For securities that are fair valued in accordance with procedures established by and under the general supervision of Federated MDTA LLC (the "Adviser"), certain factors may be considered, such as: the last traded or purchase price of the security, information obtained by contacting the issuer or dealers, analysis of the issuer's financial statements or other available documents, fundamental analytical data, the nature and duration of restrictions on disposition, the movement of the market in which the security is normally traded, public trading in similar securities or derivative contracts of the issuer or comparable issuers, movement of a relevant index, or other factors including but not limited to industry changes and relevant government actions.

If any price, quotation, price evaluation or other pricing source is not readily available when the NAV is calculated, if the Fund cannot obtain price evaluations from a pricing service or from more than one dealer for an investment within a reasonable period of time as set forth in the Adviser's valuation policies and procedures for the Fund, or if information furnished by a pricing service, in the opinion of the Adviser's valuation committee ("Valuation Committee"), is deemed not representative of the fair value of such security, the Fund uses the fair value of the investment determined in accordance with the procedures described below. There can be no assurance that the Fund could obtain the fair value assigned to an investment if it sold the investment at approximately the time at which the Fund determines its NAV per share, and the actual value obtained could be materially different.

### Fair Valuation and Significant Events Procedures

Pursuant to Rule 2a-5 under the Act, the Fund's Board of Trustees (the "Trustees") has designated the Adviser as the Fund's valuation designee to perform any fair value determinations for securities and other assets held by the Fund. The Adviser is subject to the Trustees' oversight and certain reporting and other requirements intended to provide the Trustees the information needed to oversee the Adviser's fair value determinations.

The Adviser, acting through its Valuation Committee, is responsible for determining the fair value of investments for which market quotations are not readily available. The Valuation Committee is comprised of officers of the Adviser and certain of the Adviser's affiliated companies and determines fair value and oversees the calculation of the NAV. The Valuation Committee is also authorized to use pricing services to provide fair value evaluations of the current value of certain investments for purposes of calculating the NAV. The Valuation Committee employs various methods for reviewing third-party pricing-service evaluations including periodic reviews of third-party pricing services' policies, procedures and valuation methods (including key inputs, methods, models and assumptions), transactional back-testing, comparisons of evaluations of different pricing services, and review of price challenges by the Adviser based on recent market activity. In the event that market quotations and price evaluations are not available for an investment, the Valuation Committee determines the fair value of the investment in accordance with procedures adopted by the Adviser. The Trustees periodically review the fair valuations made by the Valuation Committee. The Trustees have also approved the Adviser's fair valuation and significant events procedures as part of the Fund's compliance program and will review any changes made to the procedures.

Factors considered by pricing services in evaluating an investment include the yields or prices of investments of comparable quality, coupon, maturity, call rights and other potential prepayments, terms and type, reported transactions, indications as to values from dealers and general market conditions. Some pricing services provide a single price evaluation reflecting the bid-side of the market for an investment (a "bid" evaluation). Other pricing services offer both bid evaluations and price evaluations indicative of a price between the prices bid and ask for the investment (a "mid" evaluation). The Fund normally uses bid evaluations for any U.S. Treasury and Agency securities, mortgage-backed securities and municipal securities. The Fund normally uses mid evaluations for any other types of fixed-income securities and any OTC derivative contracts. In the event that market quotations and price evaluations are not available for an investment, the fair value of the investment is determined in accordance with procedures adopted by the Adviser.

The Adviser has also adopted procedures requiring an investment to be priced at its fair value whenever the Valuation Committee determines that a significant event affecting the value of the investment has occurred between the time as of which the price of the investment would otherwise be determined and the time as of which the NAV is computed. An event is considered significant if there is both an affirmative expectation that the investment's value will change in response to the event and a reasonable basis for quantifying the resulting change in value. Examples of significant events that may occur after the close of the principal market on which a security is traded, or after the time of a price evaluation provided by a pricing service or a dealer, include:

- With respect to securities traded principally in foreign markets, significant trends in U.S. equity markets or in the trading of foreign securities index futures contracts;
- Political or other developments affecting the economy or markets in which an issuer conducts its operations or its securities are traded;
- Announcements concerning matters such as acquisitions, recapitalizations, litigation developments, or a natural disaster affecting the issuer's operations or regulatory changes or market developments affecting the issuer's industry.

The Adviser has adopted procedures whereby the Valuation Committee uses a pricing service to provide factors to update the fair value of equity securities traded principally in foreign markets from the time of the close of their respective foreign stock exchanges to the pricing time of the Fund. For other significant events, the Fund may seek to obtain more current quotations or price evaluations from alternative pricing sources. If a reliable alternative pricing source is not available, the Valuation Committee will determine the fair value of the investment in accordance with the fair valuation procedures approved by the Adviser. The Trustees periodically review fair valuations made in response to significant events.

### Repurchase Agreements

The Fund may invest in repurchase agreements for short-term liquidity purposes. It is the policy of the Fund to require the other party to a repurchase agreement to transfer to the Fund's custodian or sub-custodian eligible securities or cash with a market value (after transaction costs) at least equal to the repurchase price to be paid under the repurchase agreement. The eligible securities are transferred to accounts with the custodian or sub-custodian in which the Fund holds a "securities entitlement" and exercises "control" as those terms are defined in the Uniform Commercial Code. Certain repurchase agreements may be structured as loans secured by a security interest or lien on the eligible securities. The Fund has established procedures for monitoring the market value of the transferred securities and requiring the transfer of additional eligible securities if necessary to equal at least the repurchase price. These procedures also allow the other party to require securities to be transferred from the account to the extent that their market value exceeds the repurchase price or in exchange for other eligible securities of equivalent market value.

The insolvency of the other party or other failure to repurchase the securities may delay the disposition of the underlying securities or cause the Fund to receive less than the full repurchase price. Under the terms of the repurchase agreement, any amounts received by the Fund in excess of the repurchase price and related transaction costs must be remitted to the other party.

The Fund may enter into repurchase agreements in which eligible securities are transferred into joint trading accounts maintained by the custodian or sub-custodian for investment companies and other clients advised by the Fund's Adviser and its affiliates. The Fund will participate on a pro rata basis with the other investment companies and clients in its share of the securities transferred under such repurchase agreements and in its share of proceeds from any repurchase or other disposition of such securities.

### Investment Income, Gains and Losses, Expenses and Distributions

Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade-date basis. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions are recorded on an identified-cost basis. Interest income and expenses are accrued daily. Dividend income and distributions to shareholders are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Foreign dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date or when the Fund is informed of the ex-dividend date. Distributions of net investment income and capital gains, if any, are declared and paid at least annually. Non-cash dividends included in dividend income, if any, are recorded at fair value. Amortization/accretion of premium and discount is included in investment income. Investment income, realized and unrealized gains and losses, and certain fund-level expenses are allocated to each class based on relative average daily net assets, except that select classes will bear certain expenses unique to those classes. The detail of the total fund expense waiver and reimbursements of \$468,229 is disclosed in various locations in this Note 2 and Note 5. Dividends are declared separately for each class. No class has preferential dividend rights; differences in per share dividend rates are generally due to differences in separate class expenses.

### Transfer Agent Fees

For the six months ended January 31, 2026, transfer agent fees for the Fund were as follows:

	Transfer Agent Fees Incurred	Transfer Agent Fees Reimbursed
Class A Shares	\$ 65,904	\$ (43,046)
Class C Shares	6,550	—
Institutional Shares	172,541	(111,345)
Class R6 Shares	39,280	—
TOTAL	\$284,275	\$(154,391)

### Other Service Fees

The Fund may pay other service fees up to 0.25% of the average daily net assets of the Fund's Class A Shares and Class C Shares to financial intermediaries or to Federated Shareholder Services Company (FSSC) for providing services to shareholders and maintaining shareholder accounts. Subject to the terms described in the Expense Limitation note, FSSC may voluntarily reimburse the Fund for other service fees.

For the six months ended January 31, 2026, other service fees for the Fund were as follows:

	<b>Other Service Fees Incurred</b>
Class A Shares	\$101,302
Class C Shares	13,200
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$114,502</b>

### **Federal Taxes**

It is the Fund's policy to comply with the Subchapter M provision of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and to distribute to shareholders each year substantially all of its income. Accordingly, no provision for federal income tax is necessary. As of and during the six months ended January 31, 2026, the Fund did not have a liability for any uncertain tax positions. The Fund recognizes interest and penalties, if any, related to tax liabilities as income tax expense in the Statement of Operations. As of January 31, 2026, tax years 2022 through 2025 remain subject to examination by the Fund's major tax jurisdictions, which include the United States of America and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Fund may be subject to taxes imposed by governments of countries in which it invests. Such taxes are generally based on either income or gains earned or repatriated. The Fund accrues and applies such taxes to net investment income, net realized gains and net unrealized gains as income and/or gains are earned.

### **When-Issued and Delayed-Delivery Transactions**

The Fund may engage in when-issued or delayed-delivery transactions. The Fund records when-issued securities on the trade date and maintains security positions such that sufficient liquid assets will be available to make payment for the securities purchased. Securities purchased on a when-issued or delayed-delivery basis are marked to market daily and begin earning interest on the settlement date. Losses may occur on these transactions due to changes in market conditions or the failure of counterparties to perform under the contract.

### **Securities Lending**

The Fund participates in a securities lending program providing for the lending of equity securities to qualified brokers. The term of the loans within the program is one year or less. The Fund receives cash collateral for securities loaned, which generally is invested in an affiliated money market fund. Collateral is maintained at a minimum level of 100% of the market value of investments loaned, plus interest, if applicable. In accordance with the Fund's securities lending agreement, the market value of securities on loan is determined each day at the close of business and any additional collateral required to cover the value of securities on loan is delivered to the Fund on the next business day. Earnings from collateral invested in affiliated holdings as presented parenthetically on the Statement of Operations do not reflect fees and rebates and are allocated between the borrower of the security, the securities lending agent, as a fee for its services under the program and the Fund, according to agreed-upon rates. The Fund will not have the right to vote on securities while they are on loan. However, the Fund will attempt to terminate a loan in an effort to reacquire the securities in time to vote on matters that are deemed to be material by the Adviser. There can be no assurance that the Fund will have sufficient notice of such matters to be able to terminate the loan in time to vote thereon.

Securities lending transactions are subject to Master Netting Agreements which are agreements between the Fund and its counterparties that provide for the net settlement of all transactions and collateral with the Fund, through a single payment, in the event of default or termination. Amounts presented on the Portfolio of Investments and Statement of Assets and Liabilities are not net settlement amounts but gross. As indicated below, the cash collateral received by the Fund exceeds the market value of the securities loaned reducing the net settlement amount to zero. The chart below identifies the amount of collateral received as well as the market value of securities on loan. Additionally, the securities lending agreement executed by the Fund includes an indemnification clause. This clause stipulates that the borrower will reimburse the Fund for any losses as a result of any failure of the borrower to return equivalent securities to the Fund.

As of January 31, 2026, securities subject to this type of arrangement and related collateral were as follows:

<b>Fair Value of Securities Loaned</b>	<b>Collateral Received</b>
\$34,293,698	\$35,414,986

### **Other**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts of assets, liabilities, expenses and revenues reported in the financial statements. Actual results could differ materially from those estimated. The Fund applies investment company accounting and reporting guidance.

### 3. SHARES OF BENEFICIAL INTEREST

The following tables summarize share activity:

Class A Shares:	Six Months Ended 1/31/2026		Year Ended 7/31/2025	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount
Shares sold	333,663	\$ 9,972,856	238,594	\$ 6,062,083
Shares issued to shareholders in payment of distributions declared	95,818	2,900,399	—	—
Shares redeemed	(277,701)	(8,304,635)	(640,003)	(16,240,817)
NET CHANGE RESULTING FROM CLASS A SHARE TRANSACTIONS	151,780	\$ 4,568,620	(401,409)	\$(10,178,734)

Class C Shares:	Six Months Ended 1/31/2026		Year Ended 7/31/2025	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount
Shares sold	38,363	\$ 888,822	54,843	\$ 1,097,482
Shares issued to shareholders in payment of distributions declared	24,255	563,448	—	—
Shares redeemed	(62,645)	(1,436,415)	(373,265)	(7,301,670)
NET CHANGE RESULTING FROM CLASS C SHARE TRANSACTIONS	(27)	\$ 15,855	(318,422)	\$(6,204,188)

Institutional Shares:	Six Months Ended 1/31/2026		Year Ended 7/31/2025	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount
Shares sold	2,663,204	\$ 86,678,901	1,957,582	\$ 52,342,763
Shares issued to shareholders in payment of distributions declared	298,556	9,804,591	—	—
Shares redeemed	(1,314,507)	(42,735,907)	(2,427,106)	(64,825,583)
NET CHANGE RESULTING FROM INSTITUTIONAL SHARE TRANSACTIONS	1,647,253	\$ 53,747,585	(469,524)	\$(12,482,820)

Class R6 Shares:	Six Months Ended 1/31/2026		Year Ended 7/31/2025	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount
Shares sold	1,597,381	\$ 51,908,321	2,042,285	\$ 54,841,125
Shares issued to shareholders in payment of distributions declared	203,564	6,691,156	—	—
Shares redeemed	(748,430)	(23,955,512)	(2,442,136)	(65,026,671)
NET CHANGE RESULTING FROM CLASS R6 SHARE TRANSACTIONS	1,052,515	\$ 34,643,965	(399,851)	\$(10,185,546)
NET CHANGE RESULTING FROM TOTAL FUND SHARE TRANSACTIONS	2,851,521	\$ 92,976,025	(1,589,206)	\$(39,051,288)

### 4. FEDERAL TAX INFORMATION

At January 31, 2026, the cost of investments for federal tax purposes was \$520,581,343. The net unrealized appreciation of investments for federal tax purposes was \$163,243,733. This consists of unrealized appreciation from investments for those securities having an excess of value over cost of \$196,255,864 and unrealized depreciation from investments for those securities having an excess of cost over value of \$33,012,131.

### 5. INVESTMENT ADVISER FEE AND OTHER TRANSACTIONS WITH AFFILIATES

#### Investment Adviser Fee

The advisory agreement between the Fund and the Adviser provides for an annual fee equal to 0.80% of the Fund's average daily net assets. Subject to the terms described in the Expense Limitation note, the Adviser may voluntarily choose to waive any portion of its fee and/or reimburse certain operating expenses of the Fund for competitive reasons such as to maintain the Fund's expense ratio, or as and when appropriate, to maintain positive or zero net yields. For the six months ended January 31, 2026, the Adviser voluntarily waived \$298,608 of its fee and voluntarily reimbursed \$154,391 of transfer agent fees.

The Adviser has agreed to reimburse the Fund for certain investment adviser fees as a result of transactions in other affiliated investment companies. For the six months ended January 31, 2026, the Adviser reimbursed \$15,230.

## Administrative Fee

Federated Administrative Services (FAS), under the Administrative Services Agreement, provides the Fund with administrative personnel and services. For purposes of determining the appropriate rate breakpoint, "Investment Complex" is defined as all of the Federated Hermes Funds subject to a fee under the Administrative Services Agreement. The fee paid to FAS is based on the average daily net assets of the Investment Complex as specified below:

Administrative Fee	Average Daily Net Assets of the Investment Complex
0.100%	on assets up to \$50 billion
0.075%	on assets over \$50 billion

Subject to the terms described in the Expense Limitation note, FAS may voluntarily choose to waive any portion of its fee. For the six months ended January 31, 2026, the annualized fee paid to FAS was 0.078% of average daily net assets of the Fund.

In addition, FAS may charge certain out-of-pocket expenses to the Fund.

## Distribution Services Fee

The Fund has adopted a Distribution Plan (the "Plan") pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the Act. Under the terms of the Plan, the Fund will compensate Federated Securities Corp. (FSC), the principal distributor, from the daily net assets of the Fund's Class A Shares and Class C Shares to finance activities intended to result in the sale of these shares. The Plan provides that the Fund may incur distribution expenses at the following percentages of average daily net assets annually, to compensate FSC:

	Percentage of Average Daily Net Assets of Class
Class A Shares	0.05%
Class C Shares	0.75%

Subject to the terms described in the Expense Limitation note, FSC may voluntarily choose to waive any portion of its fee. For the six months ended January 31, 2026, distribution services fees for the Fund were as follows:

	Distribution Services Fees Incurred
Class C Shares	\$39,893

For the six months ended January 31, 2026, FSC retained \$3,319 of fees paid by the Fund.

When FSC receives fees, it may pay some or all of them to financial intermediaries whose customers purchase shares. For the six months ended January 31, 2026, the Fund's Class A Shares did not incur a distribution services fee; however, it may begin to incur this fee upon approval of the Trustees.

## Sales Charges

Front-end sales charges and contingent deferred sales charges (CDSC) do not represent expenses of the Fund. They are deducted from the proceeds of sales of Fund shares prior to investment or from redemption proceeds prior to remittance, as applicable. For the six months ended January 31, 2026, FSC retained \$2,019 in sales charges from the sale of Class A Shares.

## Other Service Fees

For the six months ended January 31, 2026, FSSC received \$7,821 of the other service fees disclosed in Note 2.

## Expense Limitation

The Adviser and certain of its affiliates (which may include FSC, FAS and FSSC) on their own initiative have agreed to waive certain amounts of their respective fees and/or reimburse expenses. Effective October 1, 2025, total annual fund operating expenses (as shown in the financial highlights, excluding interest expense, extraordinary expenses and proxy-related expenses, if any) paid by the Fund's Class A Shares, Class C Shares, Institutional Shares and Class R6 Shares (after the voluntary waivers and/or reimbursements) will not exceed 1.14%, 2.02%, 0.89% and 0.88% (the "Fee Limit"), respectively, up to but not including the later of (the "Termination Date"): (a) October 1, 2026; or (b) the date of the Fund's next effective Prospectus. Prior to October 1, 2025, the Fee Limit for the Class A Shares, Class C Shares, Institutional Shares and Class R6 Shares was 1.13%, 2.01%, 0.88% and 0.87%, respectively. While the Adviser and its applicable affiliates currently do not anticipate terminating or increasing these arrangements prior to the Termination Date, these arrangements may only be terminated or the Fee Limit increased prior to the Termination Date with the approval of the Trustees.

## Directors'/Trustees' and Miscellaneous Fees

Certain Officers and Trustees of the Fund are Officers and Directors or Trustees of certain of the above companies. To efficiently facilitate payment, Independent Directors'/Trustees' fees and certain expenses related to conducting meetings of the Directors/Trustees and other miscellaneous expenses are paid by an affiliate of the Adviser which in due course are reimbursed by the Fund. These expenses related to conducting meetings of the Directors/Trustees and other miscellaneous expenses may be included in Accrued and Miscellaneous Expenses on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities and Statement of Operations, respectively.

## 6. INVESTMENT TRANSACTIONS

Purchases and sales of investments, excluding long-term U.S. government securities and short-term obligations, for the six months ended January 31, 2026, were as follows:

Purchases	\$257,154,812
Sales	\$192,969,885

## 7. CONCENTRATION OF RISK

The Fund may invest a portion of its assets in securities of companies that are deemed by the Fund's management to be classified in similar business sectors. Economic developments may have an effect on the liquidity and volatility of the portfolio securities.

A substantial portion of the Fund's portfolio may be comprised of entities in the Health Care sector. As a result, the Fund may be more susceptible to any economic, business, political or other developments which generally affect these entities.

## 8. LINE OF CREDIT

The Fund participates with certain other Federated Hermes Funds, on a several basis, in an up to \$500,000,000 unsecured, 364-day, committed, revolving line of credit (LOC) agreement dated June 17, 2025. The LOC was made available to temporarily finance the repurchase or redemption of shares of the Fund, failed trades, payment of dividends, settlement of trades and for other short-term, temporary or emergency general business purposes. The Fund cannot borrow under the LOC if an inter-fund loan is outstanding. The Fund's ability to borrow under the LOC also is subject to the limitations of the Act and various conditions precedent that must be satisfied before the Fund can borrow. Loans under the LOC are charged interest at a fluctuating rate per annum equal to (a) the highest, on any day, of (i) the federal funds effective rate, (ii) the published secured overnight financing rate plus an assigned percentage, and (iii) 0.0%, plus (b) a margin. Any fund eligible to borrow under the LOC pays its pro rata share of a commitment fee based on the amount of the lenders' commitment that has not been utilized, quarterly in arrears and at maturity. As of January 31, 2026, the Fund had no outstanding loans. During the six months ended January 31, 2026, the Fund did not utilize the LOC.

## 9. INTERFUND LENDING

Pursuant to an Exemptive Order issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Fund, along with other funds advised by subsidiaries of Federated Hermes, Inc., may participate in an interfund lending program. This program provides an alternative credit facility allowing the Fund to borrow from other participating affiliated funds. As of January 31, 2026, there were no outstanding loans. During the six months ended January 31, 2026, the program was not utilized.

## 10. OPERATING SEGMENTS

An operating segment is defined as a component of a public entity that engages in business activities from which it may recognize revenues and incur expenses, has operating results that are regularly reviewed by the public entity's chief operating decision maker (CODM) to make decisions about resources to be allocated to the segment and assess its performance, and has discrete financial information available. A management committee of the Adviser acts as the CODM. The Fund represents a single operating segment, as the CODM monitors the operating results of the Fund as a whole and the strategic asset allocation is determined based on the investment objective of the Fund and executed by the Fund's portfolio management team. The financial information in the form of the Fund's portfolio composition, total returns, expense ratios and changes in net assets (i.e., changes in net assets resulting from operations, subscriptions and redemptions) which is reviewed by the CODM to assess the Fund's performance in comparison to the Fund's benchmarks and to make resource allocation decisions for the Fund's single segment is consistent with the information presented in these financial statements. Segment assets are reflected on the accompanying Statement of Assets and Liabilities as "total assets" and significant segment expenses are listed on the accompanying Statement of Operations.

## 11. INDEMNIFICATIONS

Under the Fund's organizational documents, its Officers and Directors/Trustees are indemnified against certain liabilities arising out of the performance of their duties to the Fund (other than liabilities arising out of their willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of their duties to the Fund). In addition, in the normal course of business, the Fund provides certain indemnifications under arrangements with third parties. Typically, obligations to indemnify a third party arise in the context of an arrangement entered into by the Fund under which the Fund agrees to indemnify such third party for certain liabilities arising out of actions taken pursuant to the arrangement, provided the third party's actions are not deemed to have breached an agreed-upon standard of care (such as willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of their duties under the contract). The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet arisen. The Fund does not anticipate any material claims or losses pursuant to these arrangements at this time, and accordingly expects the risk of loss to be remote.

## Evaluation and Approval of Advisory Contract – May 2025

### **FEDERATED HERMES MDT SMALL CAP GROWTH FUND (THE “FUND”)**

At its meetings in May 2025 (the “May Meetings”), the Fund’s Board of Trustees (the “Board”), including those Trustees who are not “interested persons” of the Fund, as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Independent Trustees”), reviewed and unanimously approved the continuation of the investment advisory contract between the Fund and Federated MDTA LLC (the “Adviser”) with respect to the Fund (the “Contract”) for an additional one-year term. The Board’s determination to approve the continuation of the Contract reflects the exercise of its business judgment after considering such information deemed necessary to evaluate the terms of the Contract and to approve the continuation of the existing arrangement. The information, factors and conclusions that formed the basis for the Board’s approval are summarized below.

#### ***Information Received and Review Process***

At the request of the Independent Trustees, the Fund’s Chief Compliance Officer (the “CCO”) furnished to the Board in advance of its May Meetings an independent written report regarding data related to the Fund’s management fee (the “CCO Management Fee Report”). The Board considered the CCO Management Fee Report, along with other information, in evaluating the reasonableness of the Fund’s management fee and in determining to approve the continuation of the Contract.

In addition to the CCO Management Fee Report, the Board considered information specifically prepared in connection with the approval of the continuation of the Contract that was presented at the May Meetings. In this regard, in the months preceding the May Meetings, the Board requested and reviewed written responses and supporting materials prepared by the Adviser and its affiliates (collectively, “Federated Hermes”) in response to requests posed to Federated Hermes by independent legal counsel on behalf of the Independent Trustees encompassing a wide variety of topics, including those summarized below. The Board also considered such additional matters as the Independent Trustees deemed reasonably necessary to evaluate the Contract, which included detailed information about the Fund and Federated Hermes furnished to the Board at its meetings throughout the year.

The Board’s consideration of the Contract included review of materials and information covering the following matters, among others: (1) copies of the Contract; (2) the nature, quality and extent of the advisory and other services provided to the Fund by Federated Hermes; (3) Federated Hermes’ business and operations; (4) the Adviser’s investment philosophy, personnel and processes; (5) the Fund’s investment objective and strategies; (6) the Fund’s short-term and long-term performance - in absolute terms (both on a gross basis and net of expenses) and relative to an appropriate group of peer funds and its benchmark; (7) the Fund’s fees and expenses, including the advisory fee and the overall expense structure of the Fund - in absolute terms and relative to an appropriate group of peer funds, with due regard for contractual or voluntary expense limitations (if any); (8) the financial condition of Federated Hermes; (9) the Adviser’s profitability with respect to managing the Fund; (10) distribution and sales activity for the Fund; and (11) the use and allocation of brokerage commissions derived from trading the Fund’s portfolio securities (if any).

The Board also considered judicial decisions concerning allegedly excessive investment advisory fees charged to other registered funds in evaluating the Contract. Using these judicial decisions as a guide, the Board considered several factors it deemed relevant to an adviser’s fiduciary duty with respect to its receipt of compensation from a fund, including: (1) the nature and quality of the services provided by the adviser to the fund and its shareholders, including the performance of the fund, its benchmark and comparable funds; (2) the adviser’s cost of providing the services and the profitability to the adviser of providing advisory services to the fund; (3) the extent to which the adviser may realize “economies of scale” as the fund grows larger and, if such economies of scale exist, whether they have been appropriately shared with the fund and its shareholders or the family of funds; (4) any “fall-out” benefits that accrue to the adviser because of its relationship with the fund, including research services received from brokers that execute fund trades and any fees paid to affiliates of the adviser for services rendered to the fund; (5) comparative fees and expenses, including a comparison of management fees paid to the adviser with those paid by similar funds managed by the same adviser or other advisers as well as management fees charged to institutional and other advisory clients of the same adviser for what might be viewed as like services; and (6) the extent of care, conscientiousness and independence with which the fund’s board members perform their duties and their expertise, including whether they are fully informed about all facts the board deems relevant to its consideration of the adviser’s services and fees. The Board considered that the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) disclosure requirements regarding the basis for a fund board’s approval of the fund’s investment advisory contract generally align with the factors listed above. The Board was guided by these factors in its evaluation of the Contract to the extent it considered them to be appropriate and relevant, as discussed further below. The Board considered and weighed these factors in light of its substantial accumulated experience in governing the Fund and working with Federated Hermes on matters relating to the oversight of the other funds advised by Federated Hermes (each, a “Federated Hermes Fund” and, collectively, the “Federated Hermes Funds”).

In addition, the Board considered the preferences and expectations of Fund shareholders and the potential disruptions of the Fund's operations and various risks, uncertainties and other effects that could occur as a result of a decision to terminate or not renew the Contract. In particular, the Board recognized that many shareholders likely have invested in the Fund based on the strength of Federated Hermes' industry standing and reputation and with the expectation that Federated Hermes will have a continuing role in providing advisory services to the Fund. Thus, the Board observed that there are a range of investment options available to the Fund's shareholders in the marketplace, and such shareholders, having had the opportunity to consider other investment options, have effectively selected Federated Hermes by virtue of investing in the Fund.

In determining to approve the continuation of the Contract, the members of the Board reviewed and evaluated information and factors they believed to be relevant and appropriate through the exercise of their reasonable business judgment. While individual members of the Board may have weighed certain factors differently, the Board's determination to approve the continuation of the Contract was based on a comprehensive consideration of all information provided to the Board throughout the year. The Board recognized that its evaluation process is evolutionary and that the factors considered and the emphasis placed on relevant factors may change in recognition of changing circumstances in the registered fund marketplace. The Independent Trustees were assisted throughout the evaluation process by independent legal counsel. In connection with their deliberations at the May Meetings, the Independent Trustees met separately in executive session with their independent legal counsel and without management present to review the relevant materials and consider their responsibilities under applicable laws. In addition, senior management representatives of Federated Hermes also met with the Independent Trustees and their independent legal counsel to discuss the materials and presentations furnished to the Board at the May Meetings. The Board considered the approval of the Contract for the Fund as part of its consideration of agreements for funds across the family of Federated Hermes Funds, but its approvals were made on a fund-by-fund basis.

#### **Nature, Extent and Quality of Services**

The Board considered the nature, extent and quality of the services provided to the Fund by the Adviser and the resources of Federated Hermes dedicated to the Fund. In this regard, the Board evaluated, among other things, the terms of the Contract and the full range of services provided to the Fund by Federated Hermes. The Board considered the Adviser's personnel, investment philosophy and process, investment research capabilities and resources, trade operations capabilities, experience and performance track record. The Board reviewed the qualifications, backgrounds and responsibilities of the portfolio management team primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund and evaluated Federated Hermes' ability and experience in attracting and retaining qualified personnel to service the Fund. The Board considered the trading operations by the Adviser, including the execution of portfolio transactions and the selection of brokers for those transactions. The Board also considered the Adviser's ability to deliver competitive investment performance for the Fund when compared to the Fund's Performance Peer Group (as defined below).

In addition, the Board considered the financial resources and overall reputation of Federated Hermes and its willingness to consider and make investments in personnel, infrastructure, technology, cybersecurity, business continuity planning and operational enhancements that are designed to benefit the Federated Hermes Funds. The Board considered Federated Hermes' oversight of the securities lending program for the Federated Hermes Funds that engage in securities lending and noted the income earned by the Federated Hermes Funds that participate in such program. In addition, the Board considered the quality of Federated Hermes' communications with the Board and responsiveness to Board inquiries and requests made from time to time with respect to the Federated Hermes Funds. The Board also considered that Federated Hermes is responsible for providing the Federated Hermes Funds' officers.

The Board received and evaluated information regarding Federated Hermes' regulatory and compliance environment. The Board considered Federated Hermes' compliance program and compliance history and reports from the CCO about Federated Hermes' compliance with applicable laws and regulations, including responses to regulatory developments and any compliance or other issues raised by regulatory agencies. The Board also noted Federated Hermes' support of the Federated Hermes Funds' compliance control structure and the compliance-related resources devoted by Federated Hermes in support of the Fund's obligations pursuant to Rule 38a-1 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, including Federated Hermes' commitment to respond to rulemaking and other regulatory initiatives of the SEC. The Board considered Federated Hermes' approach to internal audits and risk management with respect to the Federated Hermes Funds and its day-to-day oversight of the Federated Hermes Funds' compliance with their investment objectives and policies as well as with applicable laws and regulations, noting that regulatory and other developments had over time led, and continue to lead, to an increase in the scope of Federated Hermes' oversight in this regard. In addition, the Board noted Federated Hermes' commitment to maintaining high quality systems and expending substantial resources to prepare for and respond to ongoing changes due to the market, regulatory and control environments in which the Fund and its service providers operate.

The Board considered Federated Hermes' efforts to provide shareholders in the Federated Hermes Funds with a comprehensive array of funds with different investment objectives, policies and strategies. The Board considered the expenses that Federated Hermes had incurred, as well as the entrepreneurial and other risks assumed by Federated Hermes, in sponsoring and providing on-going services to new funds to expand these opportunities for shareholders. The Board noted the benefits to shareholders of being part of the family of Federated Hermes Funds, which include the general right to exchange investments between the same class of shares without the incurrence of additional sales charges.

Based on these considerations, the Board concluded that it was satisfied with the nature, extent and quality of the services provided by the Adviser to the Fund.

#### **Fund Investment Performance**

The Board considered the investment performance of the Fund. In evaluating the Fund's investment performance, the Board considered performance results in light of the Fund's investment objective, strategies and risks. The Board considered detailed investment reports on, and the Adviser's analysis of, the Fund's performance over different time periods that were provided to the Board throughout the year and in connection with the May Meetings. These reports included, among other items, information on the Fund's gross and net returns, the Fund's investment performance compared to one or more relevant categories or groups of peer funds and the Fund's benchmark, performance attribution information and commentary on the effect of market conditions. The Board noted that it evaluated investment performance at meetings throughout the year and received reports from Federated Hermes regarding the performance of certain Federated Hermes Funds as well as Federated Hermes' explanations for less favorable performance and any specific actions Federated Hermes had taken, or had determined to take, to seek to enhance Fund investment performance and the results of those actions.

The Board also reviewed comparative information regarding the performance of other registered funds in the category of peer funds selected by Morningstar, Inc. ("Morningstar"), an independent fund ranking organization (the "Performance Peer Group"). The Board noted the CCO's statement that comparisons to fund peer groups may be helpful, though not conclusive, in evaluating the performance of the Adviser in managing the Fund. The Board also considered a report comparing the performance of the Fund solely to other funds with a quantitative focus in the Performance Peer Group.

The Board considered that for the one-year, three-year and five-year periods ended December 31, 2024, the Fund's performance was above the median of the Performance Peer Group. In addition, the Board was informed by the Adviser that, for the same periods, the Fund underperformed its benchmark for the three-year period and outperformed its benchmark for the one-year and five-year periods.

Based on these considerations, the Board concluded that it had continued confidence in the Adviser's overall capabilities to manage the Fund.

#### **Fund Expenses**

The Board considered the advisory fee, and overall expense structure of the Fund and the comparative fee and expense information that had been provided in connection with the May Meetings. In this regard, the Board was presented with, and considered, information regarding the contractual advisory fee rates, net advisory fee rates, total expense ratios and each element of the Fund's total expense ratio (i.e., gross and net advisory fees, administrative fees, custody fees, portfolio accounting fees and transfer agency fees) relative to an appropriate group of peer funds compiled by Federated Hermes from the overall category of peer funds selected by Morningstar (the "Expense Peer Group"). The Board received a description of the methodology used to select the Expense Peer Group from the overall Morningstar category. The Board also reviewed comparative information regarding the fees and expenses of the broader group of funds in the overall Morningstar category.

While mindful that courts have cautioned against giving too much weight to comparative information concerning fees charged to funds by other advisers, the use of comparisons between the Fund and its Expense Peer Group assisted the Board in its evaluation of the Fund's fees and expenses. The Board focused on comparisons with other registered funds more heavily than non-registered fund products or services because such comparisons are believed to be more relevant. The Board considered that other registered funds are the products most like the Fund, in that they are readily available to Fund shareholders as alternative investment vehicles, and they are the type of investment vehicle, in fact, chosen and maintained by the Fund's shareholders. The Board noted that the range of such other registered funds' fees and expenses, therefore, appears to be a relevant indicator of what investors have found to be reasonable in the marketplace in which the Fund competes.

The Board reviewed the contractual advisory fee rate, net advisory fee rate and other expenses of the Fund and noted the position of the Fund's fee rates relative to its Expense Peer Group. In this regard, the Board noted that the contractual advisory fee rate was below the median of the Expense Peer Group, and the Board was satisfied that the overall expense structure of the Fund remained competitive.

The Board also received and considered information about the nature and extent of services offered and fees charged by Federated Hermes to other types of clients with investment strategies similar to those of the Federated Hermes Funds, including non-registered fund clients (such as institutional separate accounts) and third-party unaffiliated registered funds for which the Adviser or its affiliates serve as sub-adviser. The Board noted the CCO's statement that non-registered fund clients are inherently different products due to the following differences, among others: (i) types of targeted investors; (ii) applicable laws and regulations; (iii) legal structures; (iv) average account sizes; (v) portfolio management techniques made necessary by different cash flows and different associated costs; (vi) the time spent by portfolio managers and their teams (among other personnel across various departments, including legal, compliance and risk management) in reviewing securities pricing; (vii) SEC mandated risk management programs with respect to fund liquidity and use of derivatives; (viii) questions on regulatory reporting; (ix) a variety of different administrative responsibilities and (x) degrees of risk associated with management. The Board also considered information regarding the differences in the nature of the services required for Federated Hermes to manage its proprietary registered fund business versus managing a discrete pool of assets as a sub-adviser to another institution's registered fund, noting the CCO's statement that Federated Hermes generally performs significant additional services and assumes substantially greater risks in managing the Fund and other Federated Hermes Funds than in its role as sub-adviser to an unaffiliated third-party registered fund. The Board noted that the CCO emphasized that differences in fees for providing advisory services to other types of clients may not be appropriate when judging the appropriateness of the Federated Hermes Funds' advisory fees because of the different services provided.

Based on these considerations, the Board concluded that the fees and total operating expenses of the Fund, in conjunction with other matters considered, are reasonable in light of the services provided.

### **Profitability**

The Board received and considered profitability information furnished by Federated Hermes. Such profitability information included revenues reported on a fund-by-fund basis and estimates of the allocation of expenses made on a fund-by-fund basis, using allocation methodologies specified by the CCO and described to the Board. The Board considered the CCO's statement that, while the cost allocation report applies consistent allocation processes for purposes of general comparison of funds, the inherent difficulties in arbitrarily allocating costs lacks precision and may cause the report to be unreliable because a single change in an allocation estimate can dramatically alter the resulting estimate of cost and/or profitability of a Federated Hermes Fund and may produce unintended consequences. In addition, the Board considered the CCO's statement that the allocation methodologies used by Federated Hermes in estimating profitability for purposes of reporting to the Board in connection with the continuation of the Contract are consistent with the methodologies previously reviewed by an independent consultant. The Board noted that the independent consultant had previously conducted a review of the allocation methodologies and reported to the Board that, although there is no single best method to allocate expenses, the methodologies used by Federated Hermes are reasonable. The Board considered the CCO's statement that the estimated profitability to the Adviser from its relationship with the Fund was not unreasonable in relation to the services provided.

The Board also reviewed information compiled by Federated Hermes comparing its profitability information to other publicly-held fund management companies, including information regarding profitability trends over time. The Board recognized that profitability comparisons among fund management companies are difficult because of the variation in the type of comparative information that is publicly available, and the profitability of any fund management company is affected by numerous factors. The Board considered the CCO's statement that, based on such profitability information, Federated Hermes' profit margins did not appear to be excessive and that Federated Hermes appeared financially sound, with the resources available to fulfill its contractual obligations.

### **Economies of Scale**

The Board received and considered information about the notion of possible realization of "economies of scale" as a fund grows larger, the difficulties of isolating and quantifying economies of scale at an individual fund level, and the extent to which potential scale benefits are shared with shareholders. In this regard, the Board considered that Federated Hermes has made significant and long-term investments in areas that support all of the Federated Hermes Funds, such as: portfolio management, investment research and trading operations; shareholder services; compliance; business continuity, cybersecurity and information security programs; internal audit and risk management functions; and technology, systems capabilities and use of data. The Board noted that Federated Hermes' investments in these areas are extensive and are designed to provide enhanced or expanded services to the Federated Hermes Funds and their shareholders. The Board considered that the benefits of these investments are likely to be shared with the family of Federated Hermes Funds as a whole. In addition, the Board considered that fee waivers and expense reimbursements are another means for potential economies of scale to be shared with shareholders and can provide protection from an increase in expenses if a Federated Hermes Fund's assets decline. The Board considered that, in order for the Federated Hermes Funds to remain competitive

in the marketplace, Federated Hermes has frequently waived fees and/or reimbursed expenses for the Federated Hermes Funds and has disclosed to shareholders and/or reported to the Board its intention to do so (or continue to do so) in the future. The Board also considered that Federated Hermes has been active in managing expenses of the Federated Hermes Funds in recent years, which has resulted in benefits being realized by shareholders.

The Board also received and considered information on adviser-paid fees (commonly referred to as “revenue sharing” payments) that was provided to the Board throughout the year and in connection with the May Meetings. The Board considered that Federated Hermes believes that this information is relevant to consider whether Federated Hermes had an incentive to either not apply breakpoints, or to apply breakpoints at higher levels, but should not be considered when evaluating the reasonableness of advisory fees. The Board also noted the absence of any applicable regulatory or industry guidelines on economies of scale, which is compounded by the lack of any uniform methodology or pattern with respect to structuring fund advisory fees with breakpoints that serve to reduce the fees as a fund attains a certain size.

#### **Other Benefits**

The Board considered information regarding the compensation and other ancillary (or “fall-out”) benefits that Federated Hermes derived from its relationships with the Federated Hermes Funds. The Board considered that Federated Hermes may derive a benefit to its reputation as an adviser to the Fund, which may help in attracting other clients and investment personnel. The Board noted that, in addition to receiving advisory fees under the Federated Hermes Funds’ investment advisory contracts, Federated Hermes’ affiliates also receive fees for providing other services to the Federated Hermes Funds under separate service contracts, including for serving as the Federated Hermes Funds’ administrator and distributor. In this regard, the Board considered that Federated Hermes’ affiliates provide distribution and shareholder services to the Federated Hermes Funds, for which they may be compensated through distribution and servicing fees paid pursuant to Rule 12b-1 plans or otherwise. The Board also received and considered information detailing the benefits, if any, that Federated Hermes may derive from its receipt of research services from brokers who execute portfolio trades for the Federated Hermes Funds.

#### **Conclusions**

The Board considered the CCO’s presentation and statements and the information accompanying the CCO Management Fee Report. The Board recognized that its evaluation of the Federated Hermes Funds’ advisory and sub-advisory arrangements is a continuing and ongoing process that is informed by the information that the Board requests and receives from management throughout the course of the year.

On the basis of the information and factors summarized above, among other information and factors deemed relevant by the Board, and the evaluation thereof, the Board, including the Independent Trustees, unanimously voted to approve the continuation of the Contract. The Board based its determination to approve the Contract on the totality of the circumstances and relevant factors and with a view of past and future long-term considerations. Not all of the factors and considerations identified above were necessarily deemed to be relevant to the Fund, nor did the Board consider any one of them to be determinative.

*Mutual funds are not bank deposits or obligations, are not guaranteed by any bank and are not insured or guaranteed by the U.S. government, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Reserve Board or any other government agency. Investment in mutual funds involves investment risk, including the possible loss of principal.*

This information is authorized for distribution to prospective investors only when preceded or accompanied by the Fund's Prospectus, which contains facts concerning its objective and policies, management fees, expenses and other information.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT FUND DOCUMENT DELIVERY**

In an effort to reduce costs and avoid duplicate mailings, the Fund(s) intend to deliver a single copy of certain documents to each household in which more than one shareholder of the Fund(s) resides (so-called "householding"), as permitted by applicable rules. The Fund's "householding" program covers its/their Prospectus and Statement of Additional Information, and supplements to each, as well as Semi-Annual and Annual Shareholder Reports and any Proxies or information statements. Shareholders must give their written consent to participate in the "householding" program. The Fund is also permitted to treat a shareholder as having given consent ("implied consent") if (i) shareholders with the same last name, or believed to be members of the same family, reside at the same street address or receive mail at the same post office box, (ii) the Fund gives notice of its intent to "household" at least sixty (60) days before it begins "householding" and (iii) none of the shareholders in the household have notified the Fund(s) or their agent of the desire to "opt out" of "householding." Shareholders who have granted written consent, or have been deemed to have granted implied consent, can revoke that consent and opt out of "householding" at any time: shareholders who purchased shares through an intermediary should contact their representative; other shareholders may call the Fund at 1-800-341-7400, Option #4.



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Contact us at [FederatedHermes.com/us](https://www.federatedhermes.com/us)  
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