OUR BELIEFS
We are committed to making lives better for people and pets. This commitment informs the way we operate as a team of staff and volunteers driving us to build a stronger community. We empower our team to be flexible, innovative and compassionate to deliver the best possible experience and create the best outcomes for the people and pets we serve.

OUR CORE VALUES

TRUST
We trust our community to make the best decisions for themselves, their pets and their families. We work to earn the trust of our community through transparency and honesty.

PETS BELONG IN HOMES
Animals are healthiest with a family in a home, outside of shelter environments.

OPENNESS
We strive to approach conversations without judgement in order to support our community’s diverse needs.

EMOTIONAL WELLNESS
We are as kind to people as we are to animals. We give our community the benefit of the doubt and are a resource for pet owners in need.

KINDNESS
Emotional health is supported through positive, science-based, force-free training and behavior change methods.

OPTIMISM
Optimism fuels resilience. We are committed to serving our community with hopefulness and positivity.

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Good Human,

Thank you for supporting Foothills Animal Shelter in 2022. You play a major role in our important work making life better for people and pets in our shared community. Our entire team of open-minded animal welfare professionals and volunteers appreciate your participation and encouragement.

More of Everything, in a Good Way
Comparing year-over-year numbers, Foothills sheltered more animals and adopted out more animals last year. More families also reunited with lost pets, and a whopping 49 percent more pets received vaccines. Special thanks to Petco Love for providing us with free distemper vaccines for our community-owned pets in 2022.

Our 280 active volunteers donated enough time and energy to equal 15 additional staffers. In addition, 120 foster volunteers expanded our ability to help more pets by providing housing, hands-on care and love to 833 animals — 49 percent of them tiny, vulnerable kittens. We know that many of those tiny kittens would never survive without the round-the-clock nursing care that our foster families provide.

Stories Behind the Stats
We hope you see the heart behind every number in the pages ahead. Each animal helped, each donation made, makes a real difference. Every situation tells a story. As you learn more about a few of the amazing people who support our work in a variety of ways, know that your help makes it all possible. In particular, we want to draw your attention to the incredible outcomes from our Better Together program providing urgent help to people and pets facing a variety of emergency situations.

Impossible Without You
You remain a member of the Foothills family and an essential part of everything we do. Every success here and in the coming year would be impossible without you. Your donations, engagement and leadership in our community yields positive results for the people and pets of Jefferson County.

With gratitude,

Connie Howard
Executive Director
Board of Directors
2022-2023

President: Chris Lindsey, City of Westminster
Vice President: Marianne Schilling, City of Wheat Ridge
Secretary: Robert Buchan, Lakewood Police Department
Treasurer: Alex Mansfield, City of Golden

Directors:
Stephanie Corbo, Jefferson County
Ariany Young, City of Edgewater
Melissa Ryder, City of Arvada
Connie Howard, Shelter Staff Representative

Friends of the
Foothills Animal Shelter

President: Adam French, Elite Financial Team
Vice President: Mike Berry, University of Colorado, Denver
Treasurer: Stephanie Campigotto, Slalom
Secretary: Molly Ring, Independence Hydrogen

General Members:
Garrett Andersen, The Hughes Law Firm
Kari Knowles, ATA Services, Inc.
Stan Koniz, Retired
Sarah Kublanow, CaptivateIQ
Marlo Quade, Brick & Main Real Estate
Michelle Simons, Insight
Cassie Tanner, AAA Colorado
Jeff Berry, Independent Insurance Broker
Maia Brusseau, Left Hand Agency, LLC
Ariany Young, City of Edgewater, Foothills Animal Shelter Board
Non-Voting Member: Connie Howard, Shelter Staff Representative

2022 IMPACT OVERVIEW

8,978 ANIMALS SHELTERED | UP 17% FROM 2021

93% LIVE RELEASE RATE*
*Includes all animal intakes.

6,033 PETS ADOPTED | UP 14% FROM 2021

2,022 LOST PETS REUNITED | UP 20% FROM 2021

3,274 PETS VACCINATED | UP 49% FROM 2021

27,291 DOGS LICENSED
Bambi
Bambi just celebrated her two month anniversary with us on February 23rd. We celebrated with some dog friendly cupcakes. She continues to be an absolute sweetheart. She has fully integrated into our home. Her health/medical needs have greatly improved.

We absolutely love our precious senior girl. Bambi’s nickname is “Little Girl.”

Thank you again for giving this 14 year old girl the chance to be adopted. On December 23rd, when I saw her picture on your website, I knew that she was meant to join our family.

Master William Winkerson
You might remember me as pet #240998, or “Ben”. I’m writing to you today to let you know, I’m not coming back. My new name is “Master William Winkerson”, but my humans usually just call me “Wink”, or “Winkers”. My humans love me very much, and I am inseparably bonded to them. My humans take very good care of me. They’ve given me a wonderful home, with TWO cat trees, lots of interactive toys, and so many cozy places to sleep. I wake my humans up every morning at breakfast time by licking their faces, and if that doesn’t work, a gentle nibble on the nose usually does the trick. I’ve become very comfortable riding in cars, and I get to go on so many adventures with my humans. They say they’re going to teach me to be an “adventure kitty”. I wanted to thank you for taking such good care of me during my stay in your shelter, and for helping me to find such a wonderful family. On the one year anniversary of my Adoption Day, I wanted to let you know I’m doing very well, I am healthy, and so happy in my new home.

Bloo and Chip
I adopted a pair of rats, Bloo and Chip (I kept their original names), from Foothills on July 2nd, 2022. They love cuddles and respond to their names! I had been watching their listing on the website for several days. Bloo is more active and less social. Chip loves to come out to sit on shoulders and give kisses. Both are obsessed with carrot tops. It’s been amazing seeing them grow and seeing their personalities come out over these past months. They are incredibly smart and such a joy to have around. Thank you!

6,033 Pets Adopted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dogs</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cats</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kittens</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puppies</td>
<td>700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Animals</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rabbits</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birds</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reptiles</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Friends of Foothills Animal Shelter raised more than $2 million, a 28 percent increase over the previous year!

2022 FINANCIALS

Program Highlight:
Better Together

Helping Our Community in Crisis

Foothills Animal Shelter formalized efforts to support people in need throughout the county with its Better Together Program. It takes a One Health perspective that recognizes the interconnectedness between the health of humans, animals, and the environment. Better Together’s foundation is built upon scientific findings that confirm it is beneficial for people and their beloved pets to remain together during and/or after a crisis.

The program offers an emergency safety net for Shelter patrons needing assistance with temporary pet boarding as well as supplies and resources for their pets due to a variety of emergency situations. These patrons don’t want to relinquish their pet; they simply need access to resources. Foothills Animal Shelter’s innovative Better Together Program employs one of the first social workers in a shelter environment in Colorado. Kyra Munz, Better Together Program Manager, leverages her passion for helping pets and people to facilitate relationship preservation efforts.

Munz explains that the Shelter identified the growing necessity for such services as more people showed up on-site in crisis. “They recognized that these were groups that have been historically marginalized. All these systems are against them, and they’re all in a really high crisis, high emergency state,” she says. “The Shelter recognized they needed

CASE 1
First Stop

Foothills became the first stop for one woman fleeing domestic violence. She simply grabbed her dog and left. The dog entered the Better Together Program that day, and the Shelter made a referral to community partners at PorchLight. Following 10 days of pet boarding at Foothills and another 30 days at a partner organization, the woman reunited with her dog and moved into a new home that welcomed her dog.
CASE 2
In-Patient Treatment

A man planned to enter a 30-day, in-patient treatment program but his cats had no place to stay. He needed to be reunited with his cats because, like so many others tell us, his pets provide so much support. He relies on them for the long, emotional support and encouragement. Protective care for his cats included a combination of 10 days at Foothills and more time at a partner organization. The man completed the treatment program and reunited with his feline family members.

Better Together Program Services

For people within Jefferson County, the Shelter currently offers these services:

- Up to 10 days of free temporary pet boarding — along with spay/neuter, if needed
- Free vaccinations and microchip
- Free pet food and supplies
- Transportation via ride-share services to drop off or reunite pets
- Referrals to other agencies for both human and animal needs

Types of Emergencies Patrons Face

Qualifying reasons for requesting Better Together Program services include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Death of pet’s primary caretaker
- Domestic violence
- Eviction
- Homelessness
- Hospitalization
- Emergency evacuations due to a variety of circumstances such as fire, flooding, power outages
- Incarceration
- In-patient treatment programs
Our Volunteers

Live Streaming Joy

Holly O’Conner began volunteering for Foothills in 2018. She recently hit the 1,000 volunteer hours milestone, making her one of 30 current volunteers to reach the platinum level. Retired, with kids now grown, O’Conner calls it her “volunteer hobby job” along with teaching a few fitness classes at a gym near her home in Evergreen. Thanks to a set schedule — Mondays, Saturdays and every other Thursday — she donates somewhere between seven and 11 hours each week to support the animals and people of Jefferson County. Currently, O’Conner volunteers in three of the Shelter’s 44 volunteer roles:

1. Walking adoptable dogs
2. Walking extended-stay dogs (custody, court holds, etc.)
3. Answering phones

Walking matches O’Conner’s love of exercise and daily miles goals. “I just feel like it’s the most enriching thing, aside from having a clean kennel, that I can do for the dogs,” she says. “Get them out. Get them exercise. Get them smelling different things outside of their kennel. It is a really enriching thing for an animal to enhance their stay at the Shelter. For the community, I feel like I make those dogs happier while they’re living in the Shelter environment, making them more adoptable because they’re learning how to walk a little bit better on leash.”

Saturday’s four-hour shift includes walking dogs for a couple of hours then answering phones. She likes supporting community members by phone and learning even more about Shelter operations, services and impacts. For tearful calls about surrendering pets, O’Conner reassures people about the Shelter’s no-judgement attitude and excellent animal care, explaining “If you cannot take care of your animal any longer, this is an amazing place. I also tell them how great our adoption program is.”

Recently, she helped a friend’s daughter understand the wisdom of bringing her dog to the Shelter. O’Conner says, “It was certainly a heartache, but the dog was adopted in four days. I called her immediately to let her know he found a perfect adopter.”

O’Conner’s Saturday vantage point in the Shelter’s main lobby gives her a prime spot to see the day’s adoptions. When asked if it feels like live streaming joy, O’Conner replies, “Yes, it really is.”

---

### 2022 Volunteer Program Contributions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Active Volunteers</th>
<th>280</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full-Time Equivalent</td>
<td>15 employees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Volunteer Hours</td>
<td>31,966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Value of Volunteer Hours</td>
<td>$18/hr</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Value of volunteer time contributed = $575,388**

The contribution of our entire volunteer roster is priceless.

Thank you to each of our volunteers who tirelessly support the programs and services of Foothills!
OUR FOSTER VOLUNTEERS

Saving Lives from Home

Kittens remain among the most fragile animals in all shelters, not just Foothills. With litters of kittens weighing mere ounces each, many arriving without their moms and needing bottle feedings every couple of hours, kittens present a big challenge and require a huge commitment. Thankfully, Foothills’ ranks of 120 foster volunteers include many, like Denise Leja, who specialize in hand-raising tiny kittens and giving pregnant feline moms a safe place to give birth and stay until weaning.

While Leja’s history of fostering dates back 30 years, including time in New Mexico before moving to Colorado, she is new to Foothills.

After losing her last cat at the age of 21 in 2021 and with an international move under consideration, Leja put off getting more pets. “I waited quite a while, and I just got really depressed not having any kitties in the house,” Leja explains. “So, I thought, ‘Let’s go back to fostering.’” Leja started volunteering for Foothills on April 30, 2022. Yet, she and her family fostered 35 cats and kittens for a total of 219 days, in just five months.

A total of 833 pets received at-home animal care and housing help in 2022 from 120 foster families. The actual number of people involved, is much higher than 120 since the 24/7 work of fostering pets becomes a whole-family affair. The number of pets needing foster care increased 28 percent in 2022 over the prior year, and we are grateful for the dedicated foster volunteers who open their homes to pets and carry the weight of the responsibility for some of the most fragile animals in our care.

Her partner and their two dogs, Great Pyrenees named Esme and Oz, love the kittens too. The family dedicates two rooms in their home, just five minutes from the Shelter, for feline fosters. One houses pregnant cats and their litters until weaning. The other serves as a kitten playroom. Based on prior experiences in fostering, Leja understands just how good Foothills’ fostering program truly is. “They are extremely supportive of their foster volunteers. It’s really nice when you have sick kitties to know that you’ve got contacts, and they’re listening to what you’re saying” she says. “Foothills’ foster team is really responsive about knowing ‘this one needs to come in and get looked at right away.’ I think the level of support that fosters get at Foothills is really phenomenal.”

People often tell foster volunteers that they “could never do what you do.” To that Leja replies, “It’s saving lives. Yep, there’re hard parts to it. There are, but oh, it’s so rewarding. They’re delightful. This is my job. I work really hard to raise lovely kittens — kittens who are friendly, social and exposed to a lot, so they’re not scared, so they make wonderful, loving pets.”

Fostering Highlights and Stats
Home is Where Community Support Lives

Marlo and Jason Quade moved to Colorado 23 years ago. The couple own and run Brick and Main Real Estate, a boutique real estate brokerage specializing in helping people buy and sell residential real estate. “We always put our clients’ needs first,” Marlo says. “That includes their precious little four-legged family members.”

Amid all the running around town, their schedules frequently include time supporting Foothills. Jason served on the Friends of Foothills Animal Shelter board of directors, including as president for a couple of years.” He stepped down, so that I could be part of the board in 2020,” Marlo explains.

Starting their relationship with Foothills in 2015, they’ve judged costumes for Toby’s Pet Parade, donated fun silent auction items for Shelter fundraising events, participated in the Shelter’s Adopt-a-Space program, hosted a booth at pup-up markets and became monthly PAW members. Attend any Foothills event, and you’ll likely get to meet them both. “Every dollar counts,” she says.

Marlo & Jason Quade, owners of Brick and Main Real Estate, with their three dogs.
Donor Provides Legacy-Level Support to Foothills

Susan Sczepanski first moved to Colorado in 1977 for a graphic design job with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). When the St. Louis native and longtime Lakewood resident began pondering retirement, she planned to give back to Foothills.

Those ongoing gifts of time, energy, enthusiasm and money added up in a big way. Think legacy-level commitment. In addition to earning her gold pin for 10 years (and counting) of volunteer service to the Shelter in 2022, Sczepanski’s regular donations grew tenfold over the years. What started as $50 per month in 2013 now totals $500 per month as a PAW member donor. She also recently funded major upgrades to cat enclosures in separate, targeted donations. It’s all part of the Shelter’s evolution with better solutions for all the pets needing help.

These days, her donations also cover in-kind items such as the food, litter, beds and other supplies her foster cats and kittens need. The Shelter provides all medications, but Sczepanski takes on the additional costs of her own fostering supplies, which frees up dollars for Foothills to supply other foster families with everything they need for free.

Foothill’s New Cat Kennels

In 2022, Foothills Animal Shelter was a recipient of a $20,000 grant to improve cat living space, thanks to Nestle Purina PetCare Company.

To be installed in 2023, the larger spaces for cats to climb, hangout and explore will replace the existing cat housing in our adoption center. The new kennels will increase feline enrichment through natural movement. They also help lower any fear, anxiety and stress for the cats in our care. These kennels also allow the flexibility to house multiple cats together for social support or to give some cats a solo space if that better suits their needs and experiences.

Thank you, Nestlè Purina!
With Gratitude to All Our Donors!

You truly make our important work possible — dollar by dollar, event by event, grant by grant. See how your combined support and efforts add up to great things for the Shelter’s community. With gratitude to all individual donors, all foundations, all companies and workplace giving programs, we present this review of 2022 fundraising.

Legacy Giving

The Estate of Carol Christensen
The Estate of Carol Christie
The Estate of Philip Combs
The Estate of Patrick Arthur Curry
The Estate of Christine Gasser
The Estate of Ann V Knollman
The Estate of Twila Paul

$10,000+
Ted Batchelder
Toni Brock
Philip Edwards & Cathy Deys
Christine Luttrell
Susan Szezepanski
Mary Sprinkle
Robin Tennant Colburn
Donna Toeroek

$5,000-$9,999
Cyndi Brown
Jeannette & Kurt Cambier
Zona Kreidle
Bryan & Kathryn Lees
Pat & Ray Luzier

Barbara Reese
David & Linda Smith
June Travis
Jeremy Zehr
Marty Zinn

$2,500-$4,999
Jennifer Andrade
Nancy Ballou
Richard Bowland
Sandie Campbell
Erin Castro
Donna Cunning & Viki Hennon
Madeline & Jeffrey Darst
Lori Gils
Carol & John Gunn
Michael Gutesha
Dorothy Hensley
Karen Hollister

Priscilla & Danny O’Connor
Jon Pitt
Charlotte Reed
Scott Schroeder
Mark & Dana Sheafer
Chenee Sutley
Tane Tyler
Mary Waller
Tim Wash
Lois & Frank Williams
Cindy Sue Wilson
Bob Woodward & Candy Allen
Sally Yeager

$1,000-$2,499
Howard Hertzberg
Sharon Hill
Gary & Rhea Hillberry
Amber Hills
Holli Hoglund
Connie & Paul Howard
Patti Hueni
Kathryn & Michael Huwalt
Derrick Iglehart & Jennifer Dahl-Iglehart
Mark & Lorna Inglee
Richard Jaeger
John & Cheryl Jehn
Matthew Jones
Lorie & Dave Junnila
Reynold & Janet Kalstrom
Barbara Kemper & Joseph Towey
Ross Kerner
Cynthia Kirby
Kari Knowles & Greg Henry
Troy Kohm
Stan & Kathy Koniz
Janet & Robert Kreinbrink
Crystal Kreitzer
Dave & Michele Kuglin
Linda Kulp
Christopher Kurtz
David Lambert
Theresa & Joseph Lanigan
William & Diane Leckemby
Deborah Lee
Cara & Andy Lee
Rebecca Lefferts
Fran Lindaman
Glenn & Diana Link
Bene & Phillip Bridges
Gene & Judy Lotspeich
Joyce & David Mabe
Sabine Major
Samantha & Patrick Marcus
John Marcum
Elaine & Joseph Marolla
Kelly Masuda
Charlotte Maybury
Pamela & Charles McDonnell
Terry McLeod
Matt & Tracy Meola
Rodger Miller & Antonette Bonacci-Miller
Liz & Matt Mount
Carl Nelson

Elaine Noder
Amy Ordino
Monica Oshea
William Painter
Beth Parish
Sharon Parker
Paul & Suzanne Paschke
Margaret & Leslie Pervose
William & Marilyn Plummer
Caroline & Mark Poole
Jean Powers Mann
Terrie Ray
Charles Roth
Billie & Robert Runge
Charles & Laura Sampson
Heidi Saracino
Leeann Seideman
Thelma & Charles Skeafer
Michelin Sharp
Nico Shaver & Paul Rosasco
Jeff Shumaker & Ann McCallum
Sandy & John Siems Fraser
Francine Slack & Andrew Flynn
Douglas Smith
Sylvia & Edward Smyth
Celeste & R. Gregory Spiers
Holly Sprunger
Nico Stefek
Christine Stelplugh
Christina Stelzer
Jo Ann Storm
Mark Sutherland
Frank Swarbrick
Carolyn Sykes

John Thick Pat & Bruce Thoms
Dara & William Tillatou
Travis Timmerman
Robert & Margaret Trousdale
Daniele & Wil Trujillo
Lani Vigil
Ashlee & John Vigil
Richard Walls
Tim & Manoja Weiss
Eileen & Barrie Whitmore
Barry Wilkie
Erik & Teresa Wood
Tom Young
Trudy Younger & Jill Whidden