

### **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, CaptivatelQ

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, Foothills Animal Shelter

### 2022 IMPACT OVERVIEW



8,978 ANIMALS | 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** 



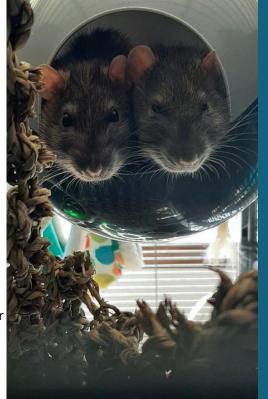
27,291

**DOGS LICENSED** 

## **ADOPTION UPDATES**

## **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!



### **Bambi**

Bambi just celebrated her two month anniversary with us on February 23rd. We celebrated with some dog friendly cupcakes.



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.

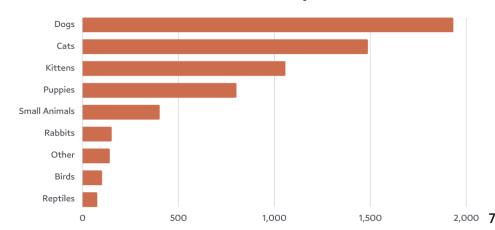


You might remember me as pet #240998, or "Ben". I'm writing to you today to let you know, I'm not coming back. My new name is "Master William Winkerson", but my humans usually just call me "Wink", or "Winkers". My humans love me very much, and I am inseparably bonded to them. My humans take very good care of me. They've given me a wonderful home, with TWO cat trees, lots of interactive toys, and so many cozy places to



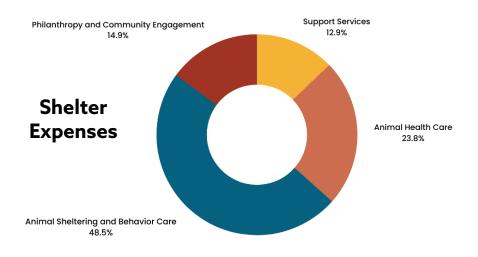
sleep. I wake my humans up every morning at breakfast time by licking their faces, and if that doesn't work, a gentle nibble on the nose usually does the trick. I've become very comfortable riding in cars, and I get to go on so many adventures with my humans. They say they're going to teach me to be 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.

# 6,033 Pets Adopted

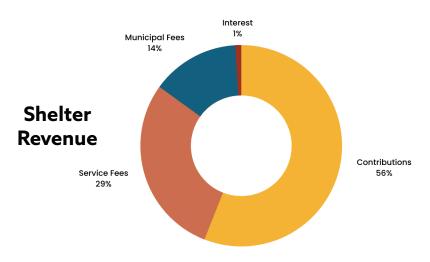




### **2022 FINANCIALS**



Friends of Foothills Animal Shelter raised more than \$2 million, a 28 percent increase over the previous year!



### Disclosure: 2022 revenue and expense dollar amounts unaudited.

# 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.

someone with the training to handle these situations and to truly operationalize this as a program." Each situation brings unique challenges, to those facing emergency situations. Functioning as case workers, Munz and the Better Together interns find and connect patrons with other community resources and programs. They deliver empathetic, nonjudgmental assistance to those often overlooked or blamed for the struggles they experience.

"We're really pleased with our results," Munz says, "especially for just the first year of the expanded program with new partnerships with our human service community." She explains how great it feels to say, "Yes! We'll help with your pet right now, and let's see if there is anything we can do to get help and support for yourself during this time too."

428
Patrons
Helped

666
Animals
Supported

478
Families
Reunited

# 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

# 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.



### **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



Holly O'Conner is a platinum level volunteer with 1000+ hours

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**

Active Volunteers 280
Full-Time Equivalent 15 employees

Total Volunteer Hours

31,966
an increase of 34% from 2021!

Estimated Value of Volunteer Hours \$18/hr

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**

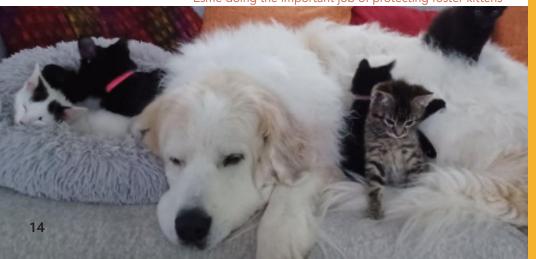
# **Saving Lives from Home**

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 handraising 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.

Esme doing the important job of protecting foster kittens



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 kitties — kitties who are friendly, social and exposed to a lot, so they're not scared, so they make wonderful, loving pets."

# Fostering Highlights and Stats

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.



### **OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

### **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 Adopta-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.



### **Corporate Partners**

\$10,000 +

AutoNation Subaru West Credit Union of Denver Grandma's Frozen Noodles Kroger

MetLife Pet Insurance

Nestle Purina PetCare Company

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Mile High Wine & Spirits

VCA Animal Hospitals

\$2,500-\$4,999

AAA
AE Design
Applewood Golf Course
Applewood Plumbing Heating & Electric
Colorado Credit Union
Highlands Animal Clinic

Jefferson Hills Corporation
Newgen Strategies And Solutions LLC
Peak Kia
Pershing Advisor Solutions
Stockton Pet Hospital
Sweet Freedom Farm | Gold Mine Cupcakes

## \$1,000-\$2,499

AAA Service Plumbing, LLC
ADC Management Services
Alphagraphics
Brick and Main Real Estate
Bustang
Catamount Constructors, Inc.
Causey Demgen & Moore P.C.
East West Partners and Slifer, Smith &
Frampton
Evolution Veterinary Specialist

Green Mountain Beer Company
GTS Corporate
Holidaily Brewing Company
Jefferson County School District
Maggie Fast with West + Main Homes
Merck Animal Health
Moneytree, Inc.
Muller Engineering Company, Inc
Old Barrel Tea Company
The Import Mechanics
TurnCommerce, Inc.

## **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.



Susan Sczepanski volunteering with a Foothills Animal Shelter resident

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.



### **Grant & Foundation Partners**

Foundation Partner	Amount
Petco Love	\$42,200
Nestlè Purina PetCare Company	\$20,000
Foundation at Rolling Hills	\$19,400
Pedigree Foundation	\$15,000
God's Light in the Darkness	\$10,800
Colorado Pet Overpopulation Fund	\$10,000
The Grey Muzzle Organization	\$10,000
Mary E. Bates Foundation	\$9,000
Maddie's Fund	\$3,000
The Negaunee Foundation	\$1,000
Total	\$140,400



Family Foundation	Amount
The Phyllis M. Coors Foundation	\$5,000
The Roland and Linda Lindsay Charitable Fund	\$5,000
Lundstrom Family Foundation	\$5,000
Dillon Foundation	\$1,000
J.K Mullen Foundation	\$500
Total	\$11,500

### 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.

#### 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 Dews
Christine Luttrell
Susan Sczepanski
Mary Sprinkle
Robin Tennant Colburn
Donna Toeroek

### \$5,000-\$9,999

Cyndi Brown Jeannette & Kurt Cambier Zona Kreidle Bryan & Kathryn Lees Pat & Ray Luzier Stephanie Machen Donna & Michael Madsen Jacob & Jenna Mathews Patricia McCausland David McGraw Barbara Reese
David & Linda Smith
June Travis
Jeremy Zehr
Marty Zinn

### \$2,500-\$4,999

Jennifer Andrade
Nancy Ballou
Richard Bowland
Sandy Campbell
Erin Castro
Donna Cunning & Viki Hennon
Madeline & Jeffrey Darst
Lorie Gillis
Carol & John Gunn
Michael Gutesha
Dorothy Hensley

Laurence Anthony Hubbard
Curtis & Jean Hull
Judy Hutchinson
Scott & Jennifer Jefferson
Roxanne & Tom Kelley
Bernadette Kenneally
Karen Lambert
Kent Lehman
Lauren Marshall
Mary Lou Martin
David & Diane Matlock
Sheri Mcfarlane
Mario Meiia

Priscilla & Danny O'Connor
Jon Pitt
Charlotte Reed
Scott Schroeder
Mark & Dana Shaefer
Cherie Sutley
Tane Tyler
Mary Waller
Tim Walsh
Lois & Frank Williams
Cindy Sue Wilson
Bob Woodward & Candy Allen
Sally Yeager

### \$1,000-\$2,499

Vera & Robert Aaron Linda Alexander Jennifer Alvarez Sheila Aragon Jude Bales Roger Barnes Michelle Barron & Greg Woskow Jonathan & Wendy Beggs Marilyn Bellis & Norman Kirsch Alison Benedetti David & Regina Benson Tom Bergstresser Mike Berry Lori Beuerle Maryann & John Bissell Shirley & Ray Bjarnason Linda Boden Mary Ann Bonnell Kathleen & Timothy Bradley Markay Brady Donese Brittingham Lawrence & Rebecca Brookes Maxwell Brown Lori & Casey Brown Tim Buddin Denise Burrows Stephanie & Mark Campigotto Kevin, Isabelle, & Marley Caputo **Eleanor Chavez** James & Patricia Clark William & Jennifer Colosimo Andrea Conen Kathy & Dexter Craig **Hubert Crouch Gregory Devereaux** Jen Dougherty Matthew & Dori Duncan David English Michael & Jennifer Fischer Courtney & Christopher Fox Maria Franson Naomi Funk Cynthia & Molly Gaffney Joyce Goh Richard & Isabel Goldstein **Amber Graves** Eileen Griffin Kathy & Tad Griffiths

**Brad Harris** 

Howard Hertzberg Sharon Hill Gary & Rhea Hillberry Amber Hills Holli Hoglund Connie & Paul Howard Patti Hueni Kathryn & Michael Huwaldt 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 Tracy 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 Jane Long Gene & Judy Lotspeich Joyce & David Mabe Sabine Major Sammantha & Patrick Mammoser Joan Marcum Elaine & Joseph Marolla Kelly Masuda Charlotte Maybury Pamela & Charles McDonnell Terry McLeod Matt & Tracy Meola Rodger Miller & Antoinette Bonacci-Miller Liz & Matt Mount

Carl Nelson

Elaine Noder Amy Ordino Monica Oshea William Painter Beth Parish Shaaron Parker Paul & Suzanne Paschke Margaret & Leslie Penvose William & Marilyn Plummer Caroline & Mark Poole Jean Powers Mann Terrie Ray Charles Roth Billie & Robert Runge Charles & Laura Sampson Heidi Saracino Leeann Seiderman Thelma & Charles Shaeffer Michelin Sharp Nicole Shaver & Paul Rosasco Jeff Shumaker & Anne McCallum Sandy & John Siems Fraser Francine Slack & Andrew Flynn Douglas Smith Sylvia & Edward Smyth Celeste & R. Gregory Spiers Holly Sprunger Nicole Steffeck Christine Stelplugh Christina Stelzer Jo Ann Storm Mark Sutherland Frank Swarbrick Carolyn Sykes John Thich Pat & Bruce Thoms Dara & William Tillataugh Travis Timmerman Robert & Margaret Trousdale Danielle & Will 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





Open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. | 580 McIntyre Street, Golden, CO, 80401 Main: 303.278.7575 | info@fas4pets.org | foothillsanimalshelter.org