



2023

# ANNUAL REPORT

# OUR BELIEFS

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**We are committed to making life better for pets and people.** Our team of dedicated staff and volunteers is empowered to be flexible, innovative, and compassionate, ensuring the best possible experience and outcomes for those we serve.

## 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 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.

## OPTIMISM

We are committed to serving our community with hopefulness and positivity.

## KINDNESS

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



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## 2023

### Foothills Animal Shelter

**PRESIDENT** Marianne Schilling - Wheat Ridge

**VICE PRESIDENT** Chris Lindsey - Westminster

**SECRETARY** Robert Buchan - Lakewood

**TREASURER** Carly Lorentz - Golden

**FRIENDS BOARD LIAISON** Ariany Young - Edgewater

#### **GENERAL MEMBERS**

Stephanie Corbo - Jefferson County

Gabriella Bommer - Arvada

### Friends of Foothills Animal Shelter

**PRESIDENT** Adam French, Elite Financial Team

**VICE PRESIDENT** Marlo Quade, Brick & Main Real Estate

**SECRETARY** Shauna Peterson, USI

**TREASURER** Kari Knowles, ATA Services, Inc.

#### **GENERAL MEMBERS**

Garrett Andersen, The Hughes Law Firm

Jeff Berry, Independent Insurance Broker

Mike Berry, University of Colorado, Denver

Maia Brusseau, Left Hand Agency, LLC

Stan Koniz, Retired

Michelle Simons, Insight

Cassie Tanner, AAA Colorado

Miranda Vinyard, Swank Salon

Ariany Young, City of Edgewater, Foothills Animal Shelter Board



*Emmy J. (Shelter Services Specialist) and Hip Hop*

**NON-VOTING MEMBER** Connie Howard, Foothills Animal Shelter

# A LETTER FROM THE **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

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**Dear Friends,**

As we reflect on the remarkable journey of Foothills Animal Shelter in 2023, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your unwavering support. Your dedication plays a pivotal role in the work we undertake to make life better for pets and people within our shared community.

In the spirit of continuous improvement, our dedicated team of compassionate animal welfare professionals and volunteers worked tirelessly to provide a haven for animals in need.

The numbers speak volumes—we sheltered more animals and facilitated more adoptions than in previous years, and witnessed countless heartwarming reunions between families and their cherished lost pets. A significant milestone was the remarkable increase in pets that received crucial vaccines and microchips through our weekly low-cost Vaccine Clinic—a testament to our commitment to the health and wellbeing of pets not just in our care, but in our community.

Within the pages ahead, you will witness the heart behind every number. Each statistic represents a life positively impacted—a life changed. Your support, whether through donations, engagement, or advocacy in our community, is the driving force behind our shared success.

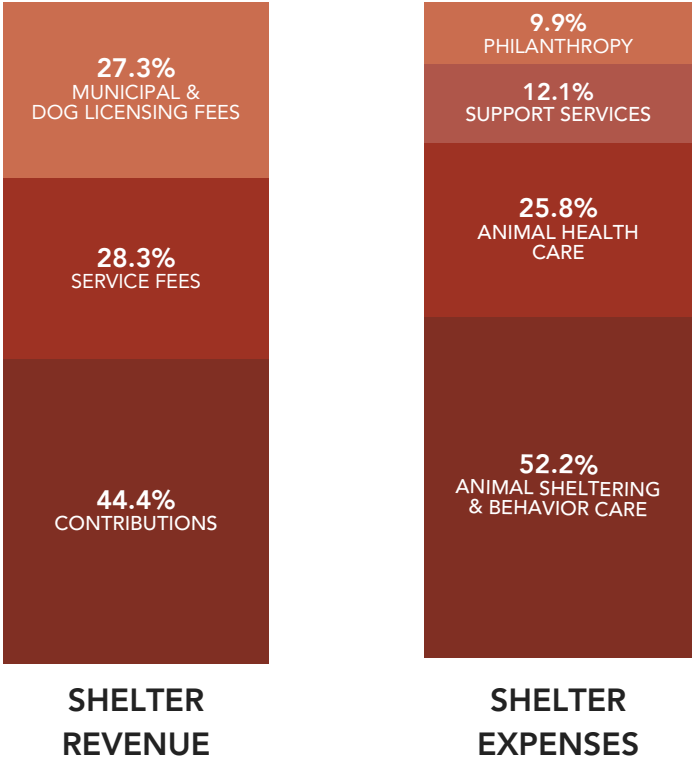
Your continued participation in the Foothills community is not only acknowledged, but celebrated. You are an essential part of our collective efforts, and your compassion and dedication resonate through the story of every pet who passes through our Shelter. Here's to another year of positive change and shared achievements.

With gratitude,

Connie Howard  
Executive Director

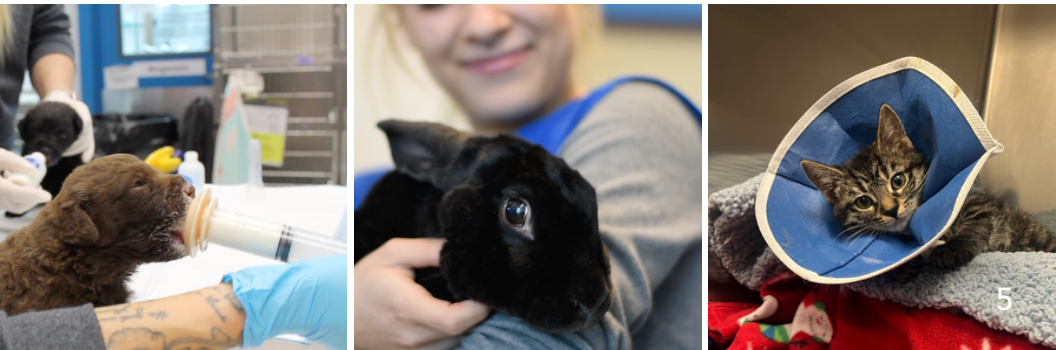


# 2023 FINANCIALS



**Friends of Foothills Animal Shelter raised more than \$2 million in 2023!**

*Disclosure: 2023 revenue and expense dollar amounts unaudited.*



# 2023 **IMPACT**



**10,018** ANIMALS  
SHELTERED  
UP 12% FROM 2022



**6,661** PETS  
ADOPTED



**1,340** LOST PETS  
REUNITED



**3,524** PETS  
VACCINATED



**33,224** VOLUNTEER  
HOURS DONATED



**918** ANIMALS  
FOSTERED

## ADOPTIONS BY SPECIES



**2,974**  
DOGS &  
PUPPIES



**2,879**  
CATS &  
KITTENS



**333**  
GUINEA PIGS  
& HAMSTERS



**125**  
RABBITS



**75**  
REPTILES



**66**  
BIRDS



**41**  
FISH



**168**  
OTHER

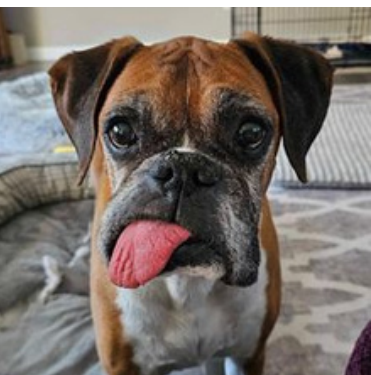
# ADOPTION STORIES

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## 🐾 🐾 LUNA & MALI

"We brought Luna (bottom) home in April 2023 and Mali (top) home in September 2023! They have made themselves right at home with each other and love to spend time curled up together. Luna was very timid at first, so we thought she might benefit from more confident feline friend. Mali was a kitten when we got her and had a carefree attitude, and is the perfect balance for Luna!"



## 🐾 🐾 VIOLET

"We adopted Violet in November 2023. I happened to see her shelter information just a few weeks after my sweet soul dog had passed away. She is literally his twin! I was speechless when I saw her photo. She has blessed us beyond measure and has helped my heart heal some from losing my boy. Thank you for giving her another chance and not giving up on a sweet old girl like her. Seniors are the best!"



## 🐾 🐾 ASTRO

"We saw Astro's picture online, and immediately drove to the shelter! He was spunky right out the gate. We played for about 5 seconds, and immediately adopted him! He's been my boyfriend's right hand man, and has so much fun playing with our other Foothills cat, Millie!"

# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT

## BETTER TOGETHER PROGRAM

"I need my cat. I have tried every medication I can to treat my depression, but nothing helps me quite like he does." Andrew almost needed to separate from his cat, Loki, due to a crisis—but the Better Together Program at Foothills was here to help, keeping Andrew and Loki together.



### WORKING TO ADDRESS HUMAN NEEDS

Our Better Together Program strives to keep families intact during hardship. To meet the spectrum of needs in our community, we provide free pet food and supplies and temporary animal housing for families who are going through emergency crises.

**We recognize that to keep animals with their families, we must also work to address human needs.** Managed by Kyra Munz, MSW, our Better Together Program has partnered with a number of human welfare organizations in our community to further serve patrons with critical needs.

In 2023, almost 700 pets were reunited with their families after a short-term stay at our Shelter—a crucial alternative to relinquishment due to a crisis event—and over 1,200 additional pets were supported with free food, supplies, spay/neuter services, and other key resources, barrier-free. We are grateful for this Program's unique ability to give back to our community, keeping families together through difficult times.



### 2023 COMMUNITY RECAP

 **3,524 PETS VACCINATED**

 **2,125 ANIMALS SUPPORTED**

 **1,104 PATRONS HELPED**

 **655 FAMILIES REUNITED**

# THE VALUE OF OUR VOLUNTEERS

Our Animal Care volunteers support the foundation of our commitment to providing a safe, clean, and nurturing environment for our Shelter animals.

## IT TAKES A VILLAGE

The meticulous work of our Kennel Cleaning volunteers goes beyond maintaining cleanliness; it creates a comfortable shelter experience for our animals, fostering a positive emotional state. "You feel so good when you get done with your tasks. It's so important for them to have clean kennels, and it's a great way to spend your time," says Kennel Cleaning volunteer David Molden. "There's always a way to give, whether it's your time, or pet food, or money."



Our Kibble Care volunteers play a crucial role in ensuring that every animal receives the nutrition they need. This commitment is particularly vital for animals with specific dietary requirements or those recovering from health obstacles.

Additionally, our Laundry volunteers contribute to the comfort of our sheltered animals by maintaining a constant supply of clean and cozy bedding. Laundry volunteer Julie Porter says something as simple as clean

bedding goes a long way in making the Shelter experience better for our animals. "You can't change the world, but you can make it better, a day at a time," says Porter. "Volunteering puts everything in this world in perspective."

## A POSITIVE EMOTIONAL STATE

"Coming here is my favorite day of the week. Giving the cats a clean space is good for them, and making sure the space is nice and clean is good for our patrons," says Kennel Cleaning volunteer Liz Mount. "It feels good to do something that helps the animals and the shelter."





# PARTNER HIGHLIGHT

## MILE HIGH WINE AND SPIRITS

### POURING SUPPORT FOR FOOTHILLS

In the heart of Belmar, there's a liquor store that's not just about spirits and libations; it's about community, compassion, and making a difference. Since 2018, Mile High Wine and Spirits has been a stalwart supporter of Foothills, demonstrating an unwavering commitment to philanthropy and community engagement. Through various fundraising initiatives and events, they've showcased their dedication to both exceptional service and giving back.



### CHEERS TO MILE HIGH WINE AND SPIRITS

One of their standout events, Uncorked Winefest held in August 2023, not only tantalized taste buds but also warmed hearts by raising \$5,000 for Foothills. This event wasn't just about swirling glasses and savoring flavors; it was a celebration of compassion and generosity, where every sip contributed to the welfare of our Shelter animals.

Chris Giellis, the owner of Mile High Wine and Spirits, embodies the spirit of community stewardship. When asked about their partnership with Foothills, Giellis expressed profound gratitude for the opportunity to make a difference. "The Mile High team has been fortunate to partner with the amazing volunteers and staff of Foothills over the many years. Many of these volunteers are customers of Mile High and we are so grateful for their support and patronage."

We raise our glasses in celebration of Mile High Wine and Spirits' remarkable efforts. Together, we can make a difference—one pour at a time.

**Thank you,  
Mile High Wine and Spirits!**





# GRATITUDE FOR OUR PARTNERSHIPS

## CORPORATE PARTNERS



## COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Applewood Seed Co  
Ballmer Peak Distillery  
Blueprint Skilled Services  
Caesars Enterprise Services LLC  
Credit Union of Denver  
Equity Associates LLC  
FashionNation  
Greenfields Pool & Sports Bar

GTS Corporate  
Irrigation Technologies Inc.  
Muller Engineering Company  
Network Affiliates  
NewGen Strategies  
National Renewable Energy Laboratory  
Schulhoff Tree & Lawn Care, Inc.  
Subaru of America

## FOUNDATIONS & GRANTS

Animal Assistance Foundation  
ASPCA  
Beverly A. & Gary T. Sanders Charitable Fund  
Bill and Lissa Staples Family Fund  
Bow Wow Buddies Foundation  
Cindy Beeks Charitable Fund  
Colorado Gives Foundation  
Colorado Pet Overpopulation Fund  
God's Light in the Darkness Foundation

Golden Civic Foundation  
J.K.Mullen Foundation  
Petco Love  
The Mary Elizabeth Bates Foundation  
The Negaunee Foundation  
The Phyllis M. Coors Foundation  
The Roland and Linda Lindsay Charitable Fund  
The Rudich/Cirasole Family Fund  
The S. Lundstrom Fund

## ADOPT-A-SPACE PARTNERS

AAA  
Colorado Credit Union  
Credit Union of Denver

Evolution Veterinary Specialists  
GoodVets  
Stockton Pet Hospital



Open daily 10 am - 5 pm | 580 McIntyre Street, Golden, CO, 80401  
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