



# For Pets' Sake Humane Society

## The Companion

### February 2023

**Supporting Planned Pethood: Volunteers working to improve the lives of companion animals in Montezuma & Dolores Counties, Colorado**

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[info@forpetsakehs.org](mailto:info@forpetsakehs.org)

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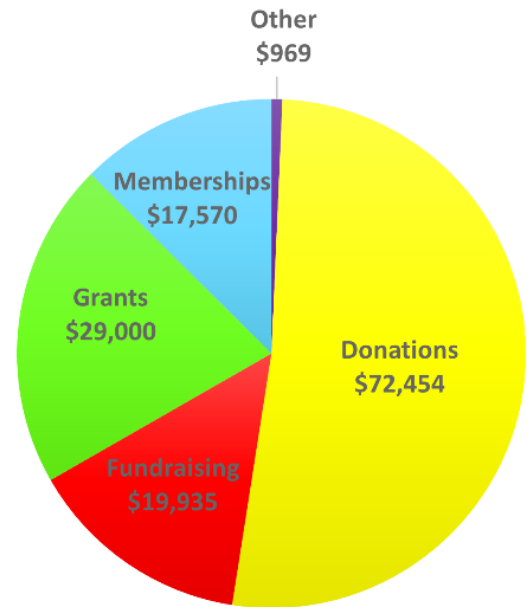
### 2022 Finances in Review

As always, your support is a pivotal part of our success. Donations from our members, business members and friends made up 51.78% of our revenue. Animal Artworks returned after a two year pause due to Covid-19 – a fun event that raised over \$1,400 from the sales of animal-themed art. Memberships, individual and pet, provided 12.56% of total revenue. A total of 64.34% of revenue came from YOU!

Fundraising events in 2022 provided 14.25% of total revenue. We held our first Bake Sales since the Covid-19 shutdown in 2020. We sold \$2,066 worth of goodies to satisfy the sweet tooth of residents of Cortez, surrounding areas and our board of directors! Thanks to you and our friends in the community the Fairgrounds Beef Barn was stuffed full with treasures for our annual Fall Yard Sale which grossed \$13,891. The Turkey Trot raised \$3,978 and we had the pleasure of talking to and trotting with our two and four legged friends who always entertain us with their creative costumes.

Grants received from Animal Assistance Foundation, Colorado Pet Overpopulation Fund and Friends of the Aspen Animal Shelter were instrumental to funding our Medical Assistance, Spay/Neuter and Feral Cat programs and provided 20.73% of total revenue.

How did we spend the money? \$158,837 was spent for direct services to animals - medical, spay/neuter, vaccinations, food, community cat colonies and foster cats and dogs. An additional \$12,796 was spent for fundraising costs such as rent for the yard sale building and administrative expenses such as advertising, publishing, postage, internet fees, web design, licenses, storage and insurance.



Total Revenue \$139,928

As you can see, expenses exceeded revenue. We were fortunate to have surplus cash remaining from a large bequest received in 2021 which enabled us to spay, neuter and provide food for a record number of community cats. The surplus and a large donation of pet food from the Colorado Pet Pantry allowed us to continue providing food for local pets despite the effects of spiraling inflation. Please continue reading the newsletter to see how many animals we were able to help in 2022.

**THANK YOU FROM THE FPS BOARD OF DIRECTORS,**

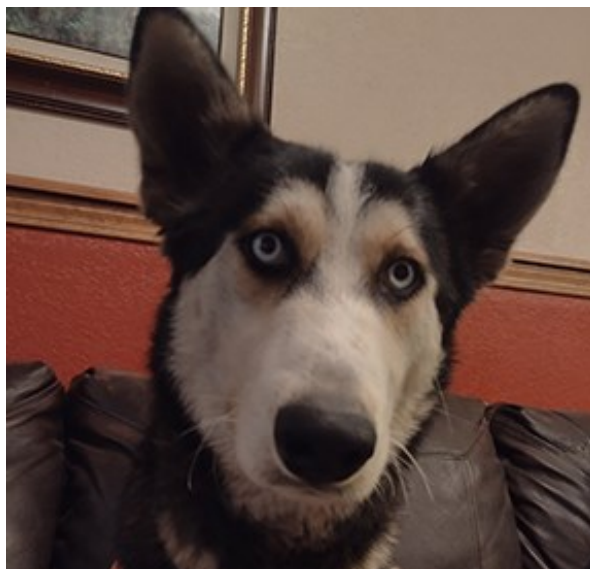
**WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU!**

*~Liz Markum, Treasurer*

# MONA

In early January, FPS received a call concerning a dog picked up in McElmo Canyon. She was very thin and had a large wound on her shoulder. The finder took her home, but could not keep her. FPS had no open foster homes, but fortunately the finder had a friend that could keep her for a short period of time. She was scanned for a chip with no result, and was also put all over Facebook. No one responded. Her caregiver named her Mona, and took her to the vet as soon as possible. Besides being extremely thin, Mona was peppered with bird shot throughout her shoulder, back, and neck. Thankfully none of it was in her intestines so there was no danger of lead poisoning and no point in trying to remove the tiny pellets. She was put on pain medications and antibiotics and we'll never know what happened to poor Mona. Despite her shabby treatment by people, Mona is sweet and happy and loves people. She did extremely well with the resident dog in her foster home, and is just an all-around great girl. She looks as though she's had puppies in the not too distant past, and is only a few years old. After a week or so on antibiotics and pain medications, she gained almost 10 lbs. and we were able to get her an appointment to be spayed and fully vaccinated. Pre-surgical blood tests revealed she also had anaplasmosis, a tick-borne illness. Fortunately the treatment for that is just 30 days of a different antibiotic. While under anesthesia for her spay, the Vet was able to better examine her wounds. The healing is very slow, but the muscle is starting to grow back. She'll be on that antibiotic for a bit longer. Fortunately one of our wonderful rescue partners was able to intake Mona just a few days after her spay. They will continue to keep up on her wound care and find her a wonderful family in their beautiful mountain town.

Mona is another in a long line of animals FPS has been able to help because of your generous support. Her spay and vaccines, office visits, x-rays, food, medications, and transport costs all added up quickly. Without generous donors like you, FPS would have to say no to dogs like Mona. She's a sweet and beautiful girl who did not deserve to be abandoned and shot. Thankfully she is one of the lucky ones that received a second chance, thanks to YOU!



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## HOW WE HELPED IN 2022

### (WITH A LOT OF HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS)

In 2022 For Pets' Sake still faced many challenges: overworked Vets, supply chain issues, increase in demand for feral and pet food, never ending need for medical assistance, and way too many abandoned and unwanted animals. Nevertheless, For Pets' Sake made major strides in helping animals in their time of need. Thanks to YOU here is some of what FPS accomplished.

Spay/Neuter Services were provided to 260 animals. Of those, 232 were assisted through a grant from the Colorado Pet Overpopulation Fund. The general fund covered 28 animals who did not qualify for CPOF. Unfortunately assistance was more difficult to provide due to the limited availability of local veterinary services.

Emergency Medical Assistance was provided to 131 sick or injured animals. Due to a generous grant from the Animal Assistance Foundation, and YOU, our members, we were able to increase the amount of financial assistance provided to each animal, and make lifesaving contributions toward their well being. Once again, our numbers are lower due to the limited availability of local veterinary services. Many emergency situations had to travel to Durango and Moab.

*[Continued on the next page]*

## HOW WE HELPED IN 2022, cont.

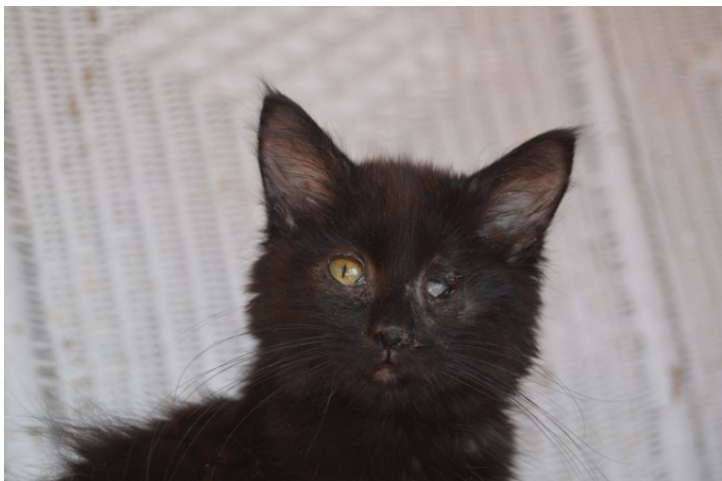
The Feral Cat Project fixed and provided needed medical care to 518 feral cats: 261 spays and 257 neuters. A total of 115 cats MORE than in 2021. It also provided over 26,000 pounds of food to 750 cats in 57 colonies and rescued 3 cats and 141 feral kittens. Friends of the Aspen Shelter provided 100 spay vouchers for the feral cat program. See the separate article about the success and needs of the Feral Cat Project below.

The Cat Foster Program fostered 13 adult cats and 159 kittens. Through our partnerships with Eagle County Animal Services, CARE in Glenwood Springs and other regional rescues, as well as local adoptions, 11 adults and 141 kittens found their forever homes. Going into 2023, there are still quite a few in foster homes patiently waiting their turn to find loving homes.

The Dog Foster Program assisted a total of 36 dogs and 42 puppies in 2022. To our many rescue partners, we transferred out 26 dogs and 41 puppies. Locally we adopted out 6 dogs and 1 puppy. We ended the year with a few adults still in foster homes, hoping to find their new best friends soon.

Pet Food Assistance fed many hungry pets by distributing 24,479 pounds of food to hundreds of hungry dogs and cats, living with local families in need. FPS received assistance from Walmart through their donation of over 17,000 pounds of dog and cat food, as well as many assorted cans of food and treats.

All of these program successes are thanks to our dedicated program managers, volunteers, and most of all YOU!



**ROXANNE**



**RYAN** (He didn't end up blind, though we thought he was when we rescued him.)

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## FERAL CAT PROJECT

The Feral Cat Project was so successful in 2022 that we almost ran out of money! We fixed 518 cats – our biggest year since the start of the project in 2009. That's a LOT of kittens we won't have to worry about this year and a lot of healthier cats. But our costs have gone up – not just from fixing more cats, but also because costs have gone up on everything. Especially cat food! Our discounted food program helped to feed 750 cats last year, but we paid \$7000 more for less than 1000 lbs. more of food because of price increases. Supply issues have been plaguing us, too.

We are thrilled with what we accomplished last year, but it has left us with \$6000 less at the start of this year than last year, and it's hurting. We are working on cutting some of our costs; we've already pared back and cancelled some of our trapping for January. And it looks like February won't be any better. We enthusiastically thank all of the supporters who kept us going full-steam ahead last year, and especially our Board members. They work HARD year round as volunteers. And not only do they donate 100's of hours of their time, but they also donated over \$4200 specifically to the Feral Cat Project so we could keep fixing cats. And we have already received \$1000 from a Board member this year. Thank you to all who have helped!

I want to share with you photos of two of the kittens (Roxanne and Ryan) we rescued from a sad colony in Dove Creek last year. Stay tuned and we'll show you how healthy they ended up in the next newsletter.

# IN FROM THE COLD

For Pets' Sake Volunteers have been feeding three separate feral cat colonies for close to ten years. Every day, even in the most recent snow storm, someone makes sure these cats have fresh food and water. Sometimes it means getting your car stuck in the snow, or walking in thigh deep snow to reach the feeding station, but for years these lucky cats have been cared for by dedicated FPS volunteers. In January of this year, two lucky boys, from two separate colonies, were moved in from the cold to their forever homes.

Tonto came from a colony located at an old abandoned home in the county. FPS Feral Cat Project has been feeding there since 2013 and has spayed/neutered a total of 30-35 cats there. Tonto was one of the original members of the colony, of which there are still four others left there. An ear abscess required Tonto to receive medical attention. Always friendly and purring for FPS volunteers, there was uncertainty as to how Tonto would behave in veterinary care. The Vet was amazed at how easy Tonto was to handle, even when cleaning and treating the ear. Purrs were the order of the day. Every one fell in love. Because Tonto is so sweet, and so old, and has been living in the terrible conditions at this colony, the decision was made that Tonto should live a life of leisure in his final years. (Tonto is at least 10 years old.) Tonto now lives with one of the volunteers who has been feeding at the colony from the beginning. Tonto is still working on settling into an indoor life, and learning to make friends with other family members. But the adjustment is being done slowly, and with a lot of purrs.



**TONTO**



**BW**

BW, a unique name for a black and white cat, lived at one of the trailer park colonies in Cortez. Volunteers have also been feeding there since 2013. At least 92 cats have been spayed/neutered there, and currently there are six cats that visit the feeding station. Most of the cats seek shelter under the trailers during bad weather, but BW was never seen coming from a trailer, but instead from the sagebrush in the adjoining field. Knowing BW definitely suffered from a bad dental situation, and the caregivers' concern about his ability to survive the winter out in the sagebrush, BW came in from the cold. He also proved to be a loving, but shy, cat. Once again the person who rescued him is one of the volunteers that has been feeding this colony all these years. He is slowly adjusting to his indoor life. It is uncertain yet whether he recognizes Rupert, who was earlier rescued from this colony, but hopefully over time they will resume their friendship.

The Feral Cat Project has many devoted volunteers that contribute to its success. BW and Tonto are just two of the many cats that have benefited from the program. Without your help, this program would not succeed. Tonto and BW send many purrs your way to say Thank YOU for making all this possible.

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Board Meetings:** February 16 and March 16 at 6:30

Saint Patrick's Day Bake Sale: With a little luck of the Irish, FPS will hold a Bake Sale in March to celebrate Saint Patrick's Day and bring in some lucky coins. Watch the March newsletter for the date.

## — WORKING AT VOLUNTEERING —

For Pets' Sake Humane Society is an all-volunteer organization with a working Board of Directors. We also have former Board Members and a few dedicated Volunteers who support us on a regular basis by taking on specific tasks or fundraising projects. Each year we publish this list of who does what, both so you can know who these dedicated people are and also recognize them for what they do.

### Services for Owned Pets

Spay/Neuter & Puppy/Kitten Vaccination Assistance: **LYNN DYER**  
Food Distribution to the Public: **RANDY ROBER**, DONNA RUSSELL, BILL WILLIAMS  
Emergency Medical Assistance: **LYNN DYER**  
Dog House Distribution: **DEBBIE DAVIS**  
Vaccination Clinics: **LIZ MARKUM**  
Other Requests: **KATHY McWHITE, LYNN DYER**  
(Lost & Found Pets, Animal Abuse, Volunteering, etc.)

### Services for Homeless Pets

Dog Foster Program: **DEBBIE DAVIS**  
Cat Foster Program: **RACHEL CACIAGLI, LYNN DYER, PAM SMITH**, ALLYSON WILLIAMS  
Transport: **RACHEL CACIAGLI, LIZ & RICHARD MARKUM, PAM SMITH**, PETER & **MARIAN ROHMAN, DEBBIE DAVIS, LYNN DYER**, BILL WILLIAMS, LOU KING, DICK LUNDBURG, JAMIE ELKINS, and JENNIFER HOPE

### Feral Cat Project

**MARIAN ROHMAN**, JUDY ASHTON, STACY OSIELDS, DICK & JOYCE LUNDBERG, RICHARD & **LIZ MARKUM, LYNN DYER, SALLY JO LEITNER, PAM SMITH**, DEBIE SCHMITT, MAGGIE SANDUSKY, and THERESA SMALL.  
(Trap/Neuter/Return, Food Distribution & Feeding)

### Fundraising

Annual Events  
Bake Sales: BILL WILLIAMS, JANET WILSON  
Yard Sale: **BOARD OF DIRECTORS, PAM SMITH, MARIAN ROHMAN**, and 70+ volunteers!  
Pennies for Pets: **SALLY JO LEITNER, BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
Turkey Trot: **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
Grants & Grant-Writing: **LYNN DYER, MARIAN ROHMAN**  
Miscellaneous Fundraising: **SALLY JO LEITNER, KATHY McWHITE, BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
(Pet Banks, Thundershirt Sales, Holiday Letter, etc.)

### Membership: **SALLY JO LEITNER**

### Dolores County/North Coordinator: **KATHY McWHITE**

### Publicity and Communication

Flyers, Posters: **BOARD OF DIRECTORS, LIZ MARKUM**  
Classified Advertising: **SALLY JO LEITNER**  
Website & Email: **RACHEL CACIAGLI, LYNN DYER**  
Facebook: **DEBBIE DAVIS, LIZ MARKUM**  
Newsletter: SHERE HOLLEMAN

### Administration

President: **LYNN DYER**  
Vice President: **PAM SMITH**  
Treasurer: **LIZ MARKUM**  
Secretary: **RACHEL CACIAGLI**  
Endowment Fund: **LYNN DYER**

**BLUE BOLD = Member of the Board of Directors**

# THANK YOU TO OUR BUSINESS MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS, AND TO ALL OF OUR MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS!

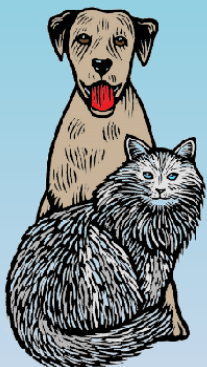
## Business Members

Absolute Bakery & Café  
Amrit Yoga, Mimi Scott  
Cortez Adobe Animal Hospital  
*Dr. Nancy Wegner*  
Dolores Food Market  
Encantos Products, LLC  
First National Bank, Cortez  
Four Corners Financial LLC  
Keesee Motor Company  
*Mary Ann and Joe Keesee*  
Mary Hanson  
Mesa Verde Media Services  
*Jennifer Hope*  
Montezuma Veterinary Clinic  
NetForce PC, Inc.  
Slaven's True Value Hardware  
TDS Broadband-Cortez  
Tequila's Mexican Restaurant  
Terry Woodrow: 4 Corners Properties  
The Good Life Pet Foods and Supplies  
Trees of Trail Canyon  
*David Temple*  
VanDeventer & Associates, P.C.  
XTROV Realty  
*Katherine Chaffin*

## Business Supporters

A&C Milling  
A to Z Storage  
Animal Assistance  
Foundation  
Aramark Mesa Verde  
Best Friends Animal Society  
Books  
Brand Central  
City Market  
City of Cortez-Library & Parks  
Cliffrose Garden Center & Gifts  
ColdStone Creamery  
Colorado Animal Rescue  
Express (CARE)  
Colorado Pet Overpopulation  
Fund  
Colorado Pet Pantry  
Cortez Animal Bed &  
Breakfast  
Dairy Queen  
El Grande Café  
Fahrenheit Coffee  
Roasters  
FB Organics  
The Farm Bistro  
Fiona King/ Artist  
Four Corners Free Press/  
*Gail Binkly*

Friends of the Aspen Animal  
Shelter  
Habitat for Humanity ReStore  
Housing Authority of the  
County of Montezuma  
IFA Country Store  
JC Pets  
The Journal  
Kokopelli Bike & Board  
KSJD Dry Land Community  
RadioKVFC/KRTZ  
Lotsa Pasta  
Methodist Thrift Store  
Mona Makes  
Mud Creek Hogan  
Once Upon a Sandwich  
Pioneer Printing  
Smitty's Liquors  
Sonja Horoshko/ Artist  
The Dog Ranch  
Tiger by the Tail/  
*Lan Degeneres*  
Vibrant Pet Animal Hospital  
Walmart  
WildEdge Brewing Collective



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