

# **OUR MISSION**

To provide comprehensive companion animal resources, services, and education to the community to prevent homelessness and promote the human-animal bond.









# **OUR VISION**

All companion animals experience a healthy home where they are wanted, cared for, and loved.

What a pleasure to share this snapshot of 2023 with you! I hope you will read this Community Impact Report with a sense of pride, as you see the incredible things our community of animal-lovers made possible. Of special note is 2023 being a record-breaking year for the number of spay/neuter procedures provided by Animal Friends Alliance (8,521!) and the number of cats and kittens helped through our community cat program. We know that providing accessible spay/neuter is CRITICAL to our vision of every pet being a wanted, cared for, and loved pet; and we continue to make this a priority in our programming - thanks to your support.

2023 was not without its challenges, and nationwide the animal-welfare industry saw an increased number of dogs surrendered to shelters, and a decreased number of dogs being adopted from shelters. This is a frustrating and heartbreaking symptom of the housing crisis in our nation, and the increasing number of housing options that don't allow dogs of certain breeds and sizes. Being a solution-oriented organization, we hired our first full-time Canine Behavior Veterinarian to work with the dogs in our shelter (many of whom were experiencing longer lengths of stay due to decreased adoptions) and to also offer affordable behavior services for dogs owned by the general public. It is our hope that providing these behavior services will reduce the number of dogs being surrendered to shelters due to fixable behaviors, while also helping to set our shelter dogs up for as much success as possible once they are adopted. Another strategy, which will officially launch this year, is the dissemination of information about the impact of dog breed/size restrictions in rentals on animal welfare to local landlords, HOAs, and property management companies.

Lastly, in 2023 our staff leaders and board of directors came together to set our new 5-year Strategic Objectives and Goals. I am excited to share these seven Objectives with you:

- 1. Increase both monetary and non-monetary assets to improve organizational stability.
- 2. Obtain and develop superior staff by being an employer of choice.
- 3. Prioritize the cultivation of volunteers.
- 4. Reduce the number of owner surrenders in Northern Colorado shelters.
- 5. Reduce the number of cats without a caretaker.
- 6. Serve the community by adopting out healthy and safe dogs and cats.
- 7. Develop community members as animal welfare advocates.

It is a great privilege to continue serving Animal Friends Alliance as your executive director. Thank you for your generous life saving support!

Sarah Swanty, CAWA
Executive Director & Co-Founder



# 2023 FUNDRAISING

# 2023 FUNDRAISING EVENT/CAMPAIGN CALENDAR

With your help, in 2023 we completed an ambitious seven fundraising campaigns which raised \$624,661.

This much needed, unrestricted funding supports programs and operations on both campuses.



February Fix Fest 2023

Donors Engaged: 154 Raised: \$26,198



**Gala For Animals** 

Donors Engaged: 683 Raised: \$215,571



Saving Pets Challenge

Crowdfunder Donors Engaged: 759 Raised: \$202,802

#### Run Fur Fun Spooktacular 5k

Registrants: 491 Raised: \$37,350



#### **Calendar Contest**

Entries: 233 Raised: \$17,504



#### **BrewPawPaw Bingo**

Cards Sold: 788 Raised: \$41,055



#### **Colorado Gives Day**

Donors Engaged: 593 Raised: \$84.181



# MAJOR GIFTS AND GIVING PROGRAMS



#### **5 Partners**

Superhero Level (\$10,000/year)

#### **16 Partners**

Hero Level \$300/Month (\$3,600/year)

#### 11 Partners

Luminary Level \$150/Month (\$1,800/year) 7 Partners

Guardian Level \$75/Month

# (\$900/year) 20 Partners

Caretaker Level \$35/Month (\$420/year)

# BIZPAW PARTNERS

Business Partners in Animal Welfare (BizPAW) commit to the long-term sustainability of our organization through monetary gifts or in-kind donations of goods or professional services that total one of five monthly giving levels. We publicly recognize our BizPAW member's commitment to helping pets in need in a myriad of ways, including recognition in print and enewsletters, on televisions in our shelter and clinic. and via social media channels.

# ANIMAL ADVOCATE CLUB (AAC)

Our Animal Advocate Club recognizes supporters who provide a stable source of funds that we can count on monthly and annually. Recurring funds even out the ebb and flow of expenses and revenue throughout the year, and help us better plan for the future. Our Junior Animal Advocate Club allows youths in our community to get involved in philanthropy and volunteering. Memberships help Animal Friends Alliance to build a sustainable future with a greater sense of security, and gives us the opportunity to show our gratitude to supporters, an integral part of our success.

#### Leader

8 (\$400 Month)

#### Champion

14 (\$200 Month)

#### **Ambassador**

43 (\$100 Month)

#### **Protector**

69 (\$50 Month)

#### Friend

105 (\$25 Month)

#### Companion

136 (\$10 Month)

#### **Associate**

20 (\$5 Month)

#### **Junior**

14 (\$5 Month)



Legacy

of Love

Society

**MEMBERSHIP** 

**70** 

**FAMILIES** 

## LEGACY OF LOVE SOCIETY: PLANNED GIVING

Our Legacy of Love Society is driven by a deep passion to provide lasting support to the animals and people in our community through the vehicle of planned giving. Planned giving, often facilitated through wills, trusts, and insurance policies, allows individuals to leave a legacy of compassion and support. It provides

an opportunity to extend love and care for animals beyond our own lifetimes. By including these thoughtful provisions in estate plans, you ensure that the important work we do today continues to flourish and serve the animals and people in our community well into the future.

# GRANTMAKING DONORS

### **2023 GRANTMAKING**

We are deeply grateful for the support of numerous foundations and trusts whose values and missions align with ours. Their generous financial contributions are essential to our life-saving work, both helping us cover general expenses and funding specific programs that positively impact animals and pet families in our community. In 2023, we received grants from 26 foundations and trusts, totaling over \$292,150, including a \$30,000 grant to update our Ringworm Ward with new enclosures. We are honored to dedicate our work to saving animals and helping people, thanks in large part to the generosity of our grantmaking donors.





# CASE STUDY: HARMONY



At Animal Friends Alliance, we pride ourselves on creating lasting relationships within our community, especially with new adopters. Harmony, a resilient feline, exemplifies our commitment to the animals we serve. Originally adopted as a kitten in 2017, Harmony's journey has been filled with twists and turns. She was returned in 2019, adopted again in 2020, and then found herself at NOCO Humane in 2022. Recognizing our enduring responsibility to her, we facilitated her return to our shelter, determined to help her find a home once again.

When Harmony returned to us in late 2022, she was in poor condition, covered in skin wounds, and clearly uncomfortable. Our dedicated shelter vet team quickly identified that she was suffering from allergies, but the exact cause was unknown. Through several food trials and unwavering care from our foster homes, we worked tirelessly to find a solution. For 214 days, Harmony remained in our care as we pinpointed her dietary needs and found food that alleviated her symptoms. Despite our efforts, her special dietary requirements made it difficult for her to attract adopters.

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

# **VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**

We are thrilled to have over 705 dedicated volunteers supporting us each day in our life-saving mission! The compassion, generosity, and • advocacy our volunteers show for the animals and people we serve create a unique environment at Animal Friends Alliance, where service and community can drive social change. Our volunteers are vital to providing exceptional care for our animals, whether. in foster homes or our shelters.

> 705 **VOLUNTEERS SUPPORTING US**

> > 82.123 **DIRECT ANIMAL CARE VOLUNTEER HOURS\***

93.134 **TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS** 

\*INCLUDES FOSTER VOLUNTEER HOURS

# • VOLUNTEER ROLES Foster

#### **Animal Care**

Animal care volunteers care for cats and dogs at our shelter. They are responsible for cleaning, feeding, socializing, and assisting with medical care and enrichment. These volunteers play an essential role in our ongoing efforts to help community. animals and provide

resources and education to our community.

#### **Service Projects**

Several aenerous groups, including CSU students and local businesses, assisted with various projects such as weeding, deep cleaning, and event support.

Foster volunteers provide temporary shelter, socialization, and care for animals in their own homes. Fosters help us gain insight on animals as they prepare for adoption such as how they do in a home, with other pets, and out and about in the



### **SUPPLY DRIVES**

We had an incredible year in 2023 with our supply drives. We raised \$24,716.80 worth of in-kind donations along with \$1,482.55 in monetary donations. Supply drives play a vital role in keeping our shelter stocked with essential items.

# DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT





28.916 Facebook **Followers** 

8,643 Instagram **Followers** 



34,000+ Email Subscribers







Day after day, Harmony watched other cats and kittens leave in the arms of loving humans, patiently awaiting her turn. Her journey seemed never-ending until, finally, in the summer of 2023, the perfect adopter came along. This compassionate individual understood Harmony's medical needs and was ready to provide her with a loving home.

Harmony's new family shared their experience with us, highlighting her adaptability and affectionate nature: "When I moved houses, Harmony was excellent during the whole process; she didn't show any signs of stress or anxiousness. I started taking Harmony on short leashed walks because she became interested in being outside. She's such a loving and affectionate cat. I'm glad I chose her as my first ever cat to take care of."

Harmony's story is a testament to animals' resilience and the dedication of our staff and volunteers to making a difference in the lives of animals in need. Her journey highlights our commitment to every animal we serve, ensuring they find the love and care they deserve, no matter how long it takes.

# SHELTERING AND ADOPTION

Our adoption-guarantee shelter accepts surrendered and homeless cats and dogs and canine/feline transports from shelters in need. Prior to adoption, all animals are provided with preventative health measures, microchip, and spay/neuter.

# 1

#### **Feline Intakes**

Stray28
Owner Surrender/Return1,418
In-State Transfer183
Out-of-State Transfer 1,070

Total	2,699
Falina Ou	

# **Feline**

#### **Feline Outcomes**

Transferred Out	25
Transferred Out	25
Euthanized	
Died	
Reclaimed by Owner	.31
Adopted2	,573



Compared to 2022 intake rate

# Stray

#### **Canine Intakes**

,	
Owner Surrender/Return	.195
In-State Transfer	.43
Out-of-State Transfer	756

Total	999
4	



### **Canine Outcomes**

A A	
Total 1	,000
Transferred Out	14
Euthanized	26
Died	4
Reclaimed by Owner.	3
Adopted	953

# 97%

Live Release Rate

Live outcomes divided by total outcomes

# **FOSTERING**

Of the 3,891 animals that entered our care in 2023, 79% spent some time in foster care. Our extensive network of foster homes housed 2,386 cats and 691 dogs in 208 homes for a combined fostering feat of 3,077 animals fostered in 372 homes.

2,386

**Total Cats Fostered** 

691

**Total Dogs Fostered** 

372

**Number of Foster Homes** 

63,968

**Foster Volunteer Hours Logged** 

83.7%

% of Cats Who Were Fostered

66.3%

% of Dogs Who Were Fostered

# CASE STUDY: AANG



Introducing Aang (now Aengus), a resilient five-year-old husky mix whose journey from Texas to Animal Friends Alliance embodies the spirit of perseverance and the gift of second chances. Upon arrival, Aang faced a series of health challenges that required immediate and extensive medical attention. After undergoing both heartworm treatment and a dental procedure, our staff at the shelter noticed that Aang seemed to be favoring one of his front legs. Radiographs of Aang's leg revealed a fungal infection known as coccidiomycosis, or Valley Fever. This diagnosis meant prolonged and costly treatment with the potential for reoccurrences.

Many shelters might have resorted to euthanasia due to the complexities and expenses involved in treating Valley Fever. However, at Animal Friends Alliance, we believe every animal deserves a second chance at a healthy and happy life.

# COMMUNITY PET RESOURCE PROGRAMS

#### COMMUNITY CAT PROGRAM

Since 2014, our Community Cat Program has reduced the population of unowned cats in our community through sterilization and medical care. This program is an important vehicle for companion animal education and promoting pet-retention services.

### **Annual Trap Numbers**

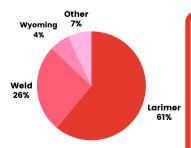
2023 1,265
2022 964
20211,124
2020813
2019
2018 635
2017 494

### **Trapping Outcomes 2023**

Trupping Outcomes 2023	
Returned After Spay/Neuter 65	8
Kittens Taken Into Foster52	2
Adults Taken Into Shelter8	0
Already Altered, Returned	.2
Futhanized	3

### PREVENT A LITTER + PROGRAM

The PAL+ program provides subsidized spay/neuter, vaccinations, and microchips for those who show proof of financial need via low income or government assistance. A small copay (\$25/cat and \$50/dog) is requested but not required. No animal is ever turned away.



PAL+ Applicants by City/County

#### Services 2023

Spay/Neuter: 303 Cats, 470 Dogs

Vaccines: 2,829 Total

Vaccines, 494 Cats, 741 Dogs

Microchipping: 373 Animals

## KIBBLE SUPPLY PET FOOD PANTRY

Our pantry works in conjunction with PAL+ to enable pets to remain with their families. Pet owners receive food for three months before proof of need is required. Participants must spay/neuter their pet and are referred to our PAL+ program for assistance.



16,609 lbs Dry Cat Food 27,244 lbs Wet Cat Food



28,122.5 lbs Dry Dog Food 14,590 lbs Wet Dog Food

**627 Total Pet Guardians Helped** 



After 74 days in foster care, a remarkable family stepped forward, embracing Aang's medical needs and showering him with the love and care he deserved.

Today, Aang is living the life he always dreamed of, filled with affection, joy, and the warmth of a true home. He recently earned his B.A.R.K Ranger certificate at Lory State Park, a testament to his newfound happiness and health. Though Valley Fever remains a part of his life, Aang's new family is dedicated to ensuring he receives the necessary follow-up care from veterinarians.





Aang's journey from a challenging past to a hopeful future highlights the transformative power of love, care, and a belief in second chances. At Animal Friends Alliance, we are committed to making more success stories like Aang's possible with the support of our incredible community and partners.

# CLINIC

### **CLINIC SERVICES**

The services in our clinic are available to any dog or cat owner, or caretaker of feral/barn cats. and focus on the prevention of pet overpopulation and disease. We are a nonprofit, high-quality, subsidized clinic. All of our spay/neuter procedures are performed by licensed Colorado veterinarians with a tremendous amount of experience. We perform more than 7,000 spay and neuter procedures each year! We are able to provide our services at reduced cost because of the donations and grant subsidies we receive from many funders.

#### **Procedures Offered**

- Spay/neuter surgery for cats and dogs
- Vaccinations (weekly clinics)
- Blood testing
- Heartworm testing and prevention
- Dewormer
- Microchipping
- Nail trims

## **2023 SURGERIES**

2.579

Animal Friends Alliance
Shelter Cats and Dogs

105

Other Rescues' Cats and Dogs

3.898

Full-Pay Public Cats and Dogs/ Promotional Blitzes

1,237

Public Community Cats and Community Cat Program Trap/Neuter/Return

702

**PAL+ Patients** 

Total 8,521

### **VACCINE CLINIC PARTICIPANTS**





3,593 **Pets Vaccinated in 2023** 

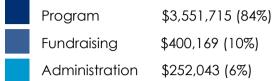
41,381 **Total Pets Vaccinated** 

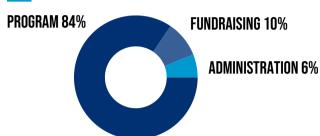


# **2023 FINANCIALS**

### **EXPENSES**

### Total: \$4,203,927





# Total: \$4,321,591

**REVENUE** 

animal





President: Kris Cafaro

Vice President: Jana Dean, DVM

Treasurer: Julie Piepho Secretary: Kirk Reimann

Voting Members:

Holly Ashby Stu Phillips Kathy Dalton Lisa Golicher **Bob Gregory** Simone Clasen Jean Opsomer Karen Horn

Travis Rounsaville

### **DIRECTORS**

Executive Director: Sarah Swanty, CAWA Director of Community Pet

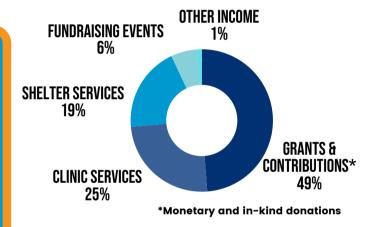
Resources: Mariah McCulley

Director of Shelter Services: Maria Hall Director of Development: Bailey Payton

### **Taft Hill Campus:**

2200 N. Taft Hill Road, Fort Collins, 80524 **Mulberry Campus:** 

2321 E. Mulberry Street, Fort Collins, 80524



### **ENDING NET ASSETS**

Total: \$4,247,651

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To provide comprehensive companion animal resources, services, and education to the community to prevent homelessness and promote the human-animal bond.

# **OUR VISION**

All companion animals experience a home where they are wanted, cared for, and loved.

# SavingAnimalsToday.org

