

Mission

Promoting bonds between
pets and their people

Vision

We envision a community
that celebrates pets

Values

We are guided by
compassion, collaboration,
stewardship, leadership, and
excellence.

Anna Stout, Executive Director
Carl Hughes, President
Brad Junge, Vice President
Matt Angleman, Secretary
Peter Bacich, Treasurer
Directors: Dr. Cathlin Craver, Jen-
nifer Seal, Hon. Lance Timbreza,
Stacy Mendell, Dean Harris, Jeff
Kuhr, PhD

By the Numbers:
COVID-19 Statistics
(From March 2020 - June 2020)

200
shelter pets
found their
forever homes

3
virtual adoption
events

87.5%
of shelter pets
moved into
foster homes

64
nights of short-term
boarding provided to
people in crisis

2,328
pounds of pet food
provided throughout
the Grand Valley

97
emergency foster
homes established

89
owned pets
vaccinated

100%
of staff retained
and kept whole



970-434-7337 rhumanesociety.org

From the Executive Director's Desk

For many of us, including Roice-Hurst Humane Society, the global pandemic has been a time of **reflecting, reimagining, and rebuilding.** Animal welfare is no exception.

We are watching the animal sheltering model nationwide begin to focus more on the "people aspects" of how pets end up in shelters, on keeping pets with loving families by providing resources to pet owners, and on new ways of thinking about what our role as shelters and rescues really is. I am proud that Roice-Hurst has been a leader in this way of thinking since long before COVID-19 made its entrance.

But while the long-term trajectory is positive, the short-term impact of the pandemic will be difficult. As health and economic crises set in and people lose their livelihoods and their housing security, we anticipate an increase in pets surrendered to the shelter, a decrease in adoptions, and a decrease in donations, event

attendance, and program revenue. **That means we will be caring for more animals with far fewer financial resources.**

There are ways you can help us prepare for this looming sheltering crisis. **The first and most obvious way is to donate if you have the financial stability to do so.** And there are many ways to contribute other assets if cash flow is tight, like designating Roice-Hurst as the recipient of all or part of your tax refund, transferring stock to the shelter, and paying required minimum distributions (RMDs) on your IRAs directly to RHHS. Now is also a good time to look at your estate plans and consider including a bequest to RHHS or listing the shelter as a beneficiary on life insurance or other financial accounts.

But beyond financial contributions, you can help alleviate the looming crisis in other ways. **One of the biggest needs we anticipate is available foster homes.** As pets are surrendered, we plan to move



Executive Director Anna Stout

them directly into warm and loving homes while they await adoption. **The capacity of our shelter to take in pets is limited only by the number of homes we can find to help house pets,** so if you have room in your home and your heart for a pet in transition, consider filling out a foster home application today.

We are confident RHHS will emerge even stronger from this crisis because of the incredible support our community has always shown to its shelter pets. Thank you helping us through it.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Animal Welfare

Implicit bias (in other words, our subconscious assumptions) affects the decisions we make, the policies we write, and the systems we build. **This invisible force leads to unequal treatment of certain groups of people by well-meaning individuals and organizations, even within an industry that was founded on compassion and empathy.**

Shelters, rescues, and animal control organizations are not exempt from these biases. Our industry is very homogeneous

with very little diversity in our ranks, which impacts the way we serve diverse populations.

Animal welfare organizations must examine ways our internal biases have created systems that unintentionally discriminate against pet owners and potential adopters because of factors like race, gender identity, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.

At RHHS, this examination began five years ago by looking at how

our burdensome application process favored affluent adopters and denied loving, capable pet owners the opportunity to adopt a pet in need. As a result, we rebuilt our adoption and surrender processes to remove subjective and prejudicial criteria.

We commit to continuing to evaluate how all of our processes contribute to a diverse, equitable, and inclusive experience for all pet owners. If you have suggestions on ways we can improve, please reach out to me.

Thanks to your generosity, the mobile unit is ready to launch! Learn more inside....

970-434-7337 rhumanesociety.org

Become a Foster!

Do you want the fulfillment of caring for a pet but aren't ready for a lifelong commitment? Consider being a foster home!

Give a temporary home to one of our adoptable dogs or cats and help find its forever home as its adoption ambassador, or offer a safe, loving place for an underage, sick, or nursing animal to stay for a couple weeks. Our pets would much rather hang out with you than at the shelter!

There is no better time to make a difference through fostering because it's the height of kitten season. It's critical these vulnerable little babies have a safe place to grow, explore, and socialize until they are ready for adoption. If you have a spare bedroom or bathroom and some extra love to give, a kitten (or a whole litter!) would love to spend a few weeks with you.

To get started, visit rhumane-society.org/foster or email our Foster Coordinator at jenna@rhumanesociety.org.



Can't foster but still want to help our foster pets? Donate!

Our biggest foster pet supply needs are:

- Kitten Milk Replacement (KMR)
- Canned kitten food
- Small metal bowls
- Miracle Nipples
- SnuggleSafe heating disks
- Unscented, non-clumping litter
- Soft blankets
- Kitten nursing bottles
- Cat and dog toys

We're ready to deploy our Mobile Veterinary Outreach Vehicle!

Thank you to everyone who donated to the matching challenge to get our mobile unit ready for deployment!

Your generosity brought in over \$5,400 (which means almost \$11,000 after it was matched!) and helped purchase the supplies needed to begin surgeries on the vehicle.

We are starting by **working through the backlog of spay/neuter surgeries for adopted pets and current shelter pets that were postponed during the statewide stay-at-home order.** Non-essential surgeries, including veterinary surgeries like spay and neuter, were halted during the first stage of the pandemic to preserve human medical supplies.

We are now able to operate, but are conscious that **a change in our community's situation or a surge in cases elsewhere could mean we are forced to suspend services again.**

Once we have caught up on deferred surgeries, **we will also deploy to perform TNR (trap-neuter-return) for community cats in the 81501 zip code and offer vaccination clinics**

in underserved areas throughout our community. We are working out details to provide TNR assistance in Delta and Moab, as well.

We could not have imagined last year as we worked to purchase the mobile unit how critical mobile veterinary services would soon be. As the pandemic has confined so many of our neighbors—and their pets—to their homes, the animal welfare world is looking at more **ways to bring services directly to vulnerable people in a way that allows them to remain safely isolated and socially distanced.** We are grateful for Donna Baer's timely gift that will allow us to do just that.



Virtual Adoptions

Many singles have turned to online dating during the pandemic, and Roice-Hurst pets are no exception!

Twice a month, RHHS hosts an adoption event via Zoom and streams it live on Facebook. **Dozens of our pets join us on camera from the shelter and from their foster homes to "meet" potential adopters.**

Fosters share valuable insight about what they've observed in their homes, and adoption counselors stand by, ready to provide resources and **even process the adoption via Zoom.**

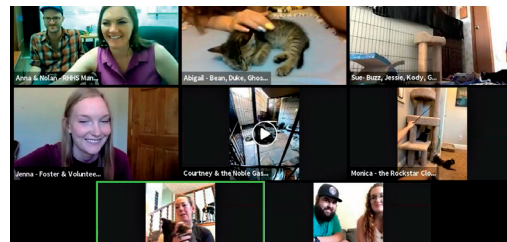
"I had a great experience with the virtual adoptions," said Jennifer Spencer, a foster who found forever homes for her litter of foster puppies during a recent Virtual Adoption Event. "It was easy to participate. **My favorite part was how the virtual event kept everyone home and safe.**"

RHHS was among the first shelters in the country to host virtual adoption

events after halting in-person adoption events during the pandemic. (We even caught the attention of WBUR-FM Boston!) **Potential adopters appreciate being able to ask questions before deciding to meet a pet.**

With 100+ pets in foster homes, **these events allow all of our adoptable and pre-adoptable animals to meet their future forever families from the comfort and safety of their own homes.**

Recordings of past virtual adoption events are available on our Facebook page. To learn more or register for the next event, visit rhumane-society.org/virtual-adoption-event.



970-434-7337 rhumane-society.org

The Kind of Story We Need Right Now

When Lulu's owner reached out to our Community Health Liaison, she wasn't sure where else to turn. She had been the victim of violence and was staying at a safe facility for teens run by The House. **Lulu was a source of stability and hope for her, and she could not bear the thought of losing her.** She was relieved to be able to have Lulu with her while she looked for stable, safe housing.

Unfortunately, Lulu had gotten pregnant, so the staff at The House helped connect her to our Community Health Liaison to make plans for the puppies. **When her owner came home to find she had given birth on her bed, they called Roice-Hurst, and Lulu and her puppies entered our foster program.**

Lulu was an amazing mom and raised



Lulu and her newborn puppies

eight spunky puppies. She fit right in at her foster home and was showered with love, **but she was ready to return home to her owner when her maternal duties came to an end** and her puppies no longer needed her. Lulu's puppies were quickly adopted and are now in loving forever homes.

While Lulu was diligently raising her puppies, her owner was able to focus on getting the resources she needed and escaping her painful situation. Lulu was spayed and the two were reunited in an emotional homecoming. Both Lulu and her owner are doing great and plan to spend forever together.

Mark Your Calendars! (COVID-permitting...)

WINE & WHISKERS

The "come-as-you-are" gala... even if you're covered in pet hair!

JULY 24 6-8:30pm

Two Rivers Winery

Featuring the best pet-themed silent auction in town!

Tickets \$45 - 2 options:

In-Person* OR Virtual Attendance**

*Masks required for in-person entry; includes 1 glass of wine and appetizers

**Includes delivery of 1 bottle of wine

Tickets available at rhumane-society.org/wineandwhiskers

WÜFFSTOCK MUSIC FESTIVAL

Celebrating the human-canine bond with live music, food, drink, and dogs!

August 8, 2020 3-9:00pm
Amphitheater at Las Colonias

VIP - \$65, 18 and over - \$20, ages 13-17 - \$10, kids under 12 and well-behaved, leashed dogs - free.

Featuring Bowregard, Leon & The Revival, and Stray Grass!

Tickets available at theampgj.com/events/wuffstock2020

Registration, ticketing, and information about these and other events can be found at rhumane-society.org/events

To learn more about our response to COVID-19, meet our adoptable pets, or access resources for your pets, visit our website at rhumane-society.org or call us at 970-434-7337.

Animal Resource Center

We are preparing for an increase in pet surrenders in coming months as federal and state pandemic assistance programs come to an end and pet owners are faced with difficult financial and housing situations. We are here for our community and have resources to help keep pets in their loving homes.

Our Animal Resource Center embodies our mission of promoting bonds between pets and their people and works diligently to keep pets with their owners, rather than being surrendered to a shelter.

Pet Pantry: Our pet pantry is here for pet parents who have fallen on hard times. We offer dog and cat food and other pet-related items. Supplies vary and quantities are limited. Delivery available. Call 434-7337, ext. 103.

Pet Behavior Counselors: One reason animals are rehomed is undesirable pet behavior. Fortunately, these issues can often be resolved with patience and persistence. Our skilled dog and cat behavior counselors are here to offer guidance and advice. Initial 30-minute consultations free during COVID. Call 434-7337, ext. 102 (dogs) & 110 (cats).

Community Crisis Boarding: This short-term boarding program is designed for qualifying individuals facing short-term crises and who are at-risk of being permanently separated from their pet(s). Application required. Email ashley@rhumane-society.org or call 434-7337, ext. 103.

Low-Cost Vaccination Clinic: Make sure your pets are up-to-date on vaccinations in the event they must go into short-term boarding or be temporarily rehomed. Vaccine clinics are offered twice per month by appointment only. Call 434-7337, ext. 100 to reserve your spot.