



# Roice-Hurst Humane Society

PO Box 4040  
Grand Junction, CO 81502



## SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS



### Mission

Promoting bonds between  
pets and their people

### Vision

We envision a community  
that is healthier for and  
thanks to its pets.

### Values

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

### Board of Directors

Zebulon Miracle, CEO  
Matt Bell, Chair  
Chris Hawkins, Vice Chair  
Dr. Cathlin Craver, Secretary  
Bill Wade, Treasurer  
Dr. Julia McHugh, Chair Emeritus  
Directors:  
Georgia Rock, Amy Jordan

## New CEO, Same Mission!

First and foremost, I want to express my deepest gratitude for the warm welcome you've generously shown me over the summer as I've settled into my role as Roice-Hurst Humane Society's new Chief Executive Officer. **It's clear how passionately this community cares about its pets and their people, and I feel deeply proud to be part of this important work every day.**

Over these past few months, it's been a great privilege to witness first-hand transformations of animals from lost, sick, tiny, or scared into happy, healthy, and beloved family members. Equally touching are the moments when a pet parent facing hardship is able to remain united with their beloved animal through our innovative programs like Crisis Boarding, Homeward Hounds, or another vital safety net initiative. **It's only because of your unwavering support that these transformations and preserved bonds are possible.** Truly, thank you. Your support is changing lives.

With gratitude,

**Zebulon Miracle**  
CEO, Roice-Hurst Humane Society



**Scan to learn more about the many innovative safety net programs that we offer beyond pet adoption!**



## It Takes a Veterinary Village

If you've visited Roice-Hurst, you've probably seen the mobile veterinary clinic parked in front of the shelter, which was purchased in 2019 with funds from a generous legacy gift. Inside, a team of talented vet professionals is hard at work!

**Shelter pets and community pets receive the care they need at Roice-Hurst thanks to a robust network of veterinary partnerships.**

Fantastic vets like Dr. Anneke Moresco and Dr. Terry McQuade perform spay/neuter surgeries aboard the bus, a rotating lineup of several other talented veterinarians administer vaccines and microchips at our public low-cost vaccination clinics, and more than a dozen local vet hospitals offer guidance, services, and equipment to our vet team as needed. **It truly takes a village!**

**During the school year, the mobile clinic is a classroom to students studying veterinary technology at Colorado Mesa University Tech.**

Students learn crucial skills assisting their professor, Dr. Moresco, as she performs surgeries on shelter pets.

**"We have these great partnerships because we're all sharing knowledge and working toward a common goal,"** RHHS Vet Services Manager Caitlyn Murphy, RVT, said.

So far in 2024, more than 500 pets have been spayed/neutered on the vehicle, and 500 more owned pets received low-cost vaccinations. This year, services were deployed to high-need areas including the Unhoused Resource Center and Delta.

**We couldn't be more grateful for our fantastic partners!**



Vet Services Manager Caitlyn Murphy, RVT, prepares a kitten for neuter surgery as Vet Assistant Brittany Hesterman assists with recovery and Dr. Terry McQuade performs surgery aboard the mobile veterinary clinic.



## Borrow a Buddy!

All summer long, each of our dog kennels have remained occupied with a steady stream of pups eagerly awaiting new beginnings. **It's thanks to foster families that dogs like Cynthia, an intelligent chocolate lab who deeply**

**dislikes the unfamiliarity of shelter life, get to await their new families from the comfort of a home instead of a kennel.**

Foster care is a temporary arrangement in which a pet is cared for in a volunteer's home. It's like borrowing a buddy for a week or two!





With so many dogs like Cynthia waiting in the shelter, we need your help. **Become a dog foster!**

**"The foster program at Roice-Hurst is the best I've been involved with,"** Karen, Cynthia's foster, said. "It's very rewarding. You receive unconditional love and get to help many dogs. And you don't have food and vet bills, so it's a win-win situation!"

**Learn more and sign up at [RHhumanesociety.org/foster/](https://RHhumanesociety.org/foster/)**



## Why foster a dog?

-  **It's free to you!** Roice-Hurst covers all necessary expenses, including vet care, food, and supplies.
-  **They're great company.** Need an exercise partner, snuggly movie buddy, or work-from-home coworker? We've got plenty to choose from. Show them the good life and get love in return.
-  **No long-term commitment.** Fostering is ideal for frequent travelers, college students missing their pets, parents teaching kiddos about responsible pet care, or anyone curious about life with a dog.
-  **Multiply your impact!** When a dog moves to foster care, a kennel opens up for another pet waiting for our help.



## NEW: Tax-Smart Ways to Give

Make your support even smarter! We recently launched a new suite of tools called Smart Giving by FreeWill, **which allows Roice-Hurst supporters to more conveniently contribute non-cash gifts, like stocks, cryptocurrency, grants from donor-advised funds, or qualified charitable distributions from an IRA.**

Non-cash gifts come with a variety of tax advantages for you while making an immediate impact on the pets and people we serve.

Learn more at [FreeWill.com/SmartGiving/RoiceHurst](https://FreeWill.com/SmartGiving/RoiceHurst) or scan with your phone.



## Is Your Information Correct?

Please take a look at the recipient's name on this mailing. Does all look correct? If not, please update your contact information at [bit.ly/rhhscontact](https://bit.ly/rhhscontact). Thank you!



## Kruz the Kitten Kid

**Eleven-year-old Kruz has fostered kittens for more than a decade.**

His mom, Celeste Miller, is an experienced kitten caregiver specializing in saving the most vulnerable kittens, whether orphaned, sick, injured, or disabled. **She began fostering in 2010, and having baby Kruz didn't slow her down.**

"My life was already hectic with a little human, so what's one more thing to add?" Celeste said. **"Caring for animals teaches kids kindness and empathy."**

Feeding, playing with, and caring for kittens has been a daily occurrence throughout Kruz's childhood, and over the years, he's become quite an expert.

Kruz's bottle-feeding skills even impressed well-known kitten rescuer, Hannah Shaw, best known as Kitten Lady, when she hosted a kitten care workshop with Roice-Hurst in May!



Kruz Simpson poses with his foster kitten, Paisley, alongside his mom Celeste Miller (left), and well-known kitten rescuer Hannah Shaw (right) at a Kitten Lady workshop hosted by Roice-Hurst in May.

**"My favorite part of fostering is knowing that you're starting their life out correctly and knowing that you're making their life happier and better,"** Kruz said.

If Kruz has inspired your family to try fostering kittens, sign up at [RHhumanesociety.org/foster/](https://RHhumanesociety.org/foster/)

## Mark Your Calendars!



Get tickets as they become available at [RHhumanesociety.org/events/](https://RHhumanesociety.org/events/)!



**Stray Grass for Stray Pets Concert**  
Friday, October 11  
Grande River Vineyards

Presented by St. Mary's Regional Hospital, spend an evening in the grapevines enjoying a glass of wine, food trucks, and live acoustic Americana music by popular local band Stray Grass!



**Howl-o-ween Fun Run & Dog Walk**  
Saturday, October 26  
Grand Junction Regional Airport

Dress up with your furry friend and join the Grand Junction Sports Commission for a dog 5K benefiting Roice-Hurst!



**Wine & Whiskers Gala**  
Saturday, March 29  
Two Rivers Winery

Our annual gala has moved to the springtime! Sip local wine, enjoy appetizers, bid in the auction, and meet the pets you help support.



**Have a business? Sponsor an event!** Visit [RHhumanesociety.org/corporate](https://RHhumanesociety.org/corporate)



## Lives Transformed

Each day, pets and people find the help they need at Roice-Hurst Humane Society. These are just a couple of our most heartfelt stories of pets we met recently.

### No Eyes, No Problem!

This summer, a tiny orange kitten named Braille was discovered living outdoors by himself. **He had no eyes, was battling a serious upper respiratory infection, and, at five weeks old, was much smaller than he should've been.**

At Roice-Hurst, Braille received the stabilizing care he needed and moved into foster care with a wonderful vet tech. Life started looking up!

Just a few days of medicine and love made a world of difference. Who needs eyeballs anyway?

**"He is so determined,"** his foster, Desiree, said. "He gets around great. We will continue to love him until he is ready for his very special forever home. **He is going to be an amazing cat."**

At his foster home, Braille spends his days soaking up the sunshine, hanging out with his canine buddy, and growing stronger each day.

**But Braille's journey is not over yet - soon, he'll undergo surgery to remove what ocular tissue remains to avoid medical issues down the road.** Then, he'll be ready for his big adoption day!

Even without sight, Braille knows his future is bright!



### Remembering Odis

Odis' story is one of love, gratitude, and compassion, illuminating the difficult yet vital role that shelters like Roice-Hurst often occupy in the lives of those who need us most.

Odis wandered the streets as a stray before he was brought to Roice-Hurst's Delta satellite facility by a kind stranger.

It wasn't long before he had our whole team wrapped around his paw - we adored all 102 pounds of this big, goofy boy!



But then, we received crushing news. A routine exam for a presumed ankle injury from his time on the streets revealed the worst - **Odis was diagnosed with osteosarcoma, an aggressive malignant bone cancer.** Odis was a hospice case.

A volunteer took him home to fulfill his wildest dreams. He spent his final days indulging in decadent meals, sleeping in a warm bed, playing unlimited tug-of-war, walking at sunset, and visiting the shelter to be pampered by his forever family - our team.

**We said goodbye to Odis knowing that he felt the love, comfort, and compassion that every dog deserves in these moments, but not all are fortunate enough to receive.**

While Odis' story is a tear-jerker, we share it because it highlights the profound impact shelters make on sick animals who have no one else to love and grieve them. **We are so grateful that, with your support, terminal pets like Odis experience comfort and love until the very end.**



### ASK CORALINE

*Coraline is Roice-Hurst's resident all-knowing office cat. She joined our team in 2015.*

#### Dear Coraline, What is Jake's Fund?

##### **Coraline Answers:**

Oh, I'm so glad you asked! Jake's Fund saved my life back in 2015 when I was found sick, skinny, and frostbitten in an oil field with my litter of tiny kittens.

Jake's Fund is an amazing donation fund at Roice-Hurst for pets who need extra medical care. Whether it's fixing broken legs, removing bad eyes, or treating parvo, this fund makes sure sick and injured pets get the care they deserve.

Jake's Fund was created in memory of a senior black lab named Jake, pictured below. Jake sadly passed away from severe heartworm in 2011, but his legacy lives on in all the lives this fund has saved - including mine! What a legend.

Love,

**CORALINE**

