

2022 IMPACT REPORT

303-239-9680

www.catcaresociety.org

5787 W. 6th Ave. Lakewood CO 80214



We Care For ALL Cats



LETTER FROM YOUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As a recent addition to the fantastic Cat Care Society community, looking over the last year has left me awestruck at what has been accomplished.

Despite the lingering pandemic and the challenges it continues to pose, 2022 was an incredibly impactful year as we were able to secure new homes for more than 700 cats. Even as some owners made the heartbreaking decision to surrender their cats, we welcomed them with open arms, creating a safe space where they received proper dietary, medical, and social care until they were adopted into new loving homes.

Our supporters, donors, volunteers, staff, and the cats have demonstrated an unmatched level of resiliency that is truly remarkable and rare. One of my favorite things about working at CCS is the deep connection that you, our supporters, have with the organization. Daily, this strong community and connection is seen as we celebrate the cats in our care and continue to find even the most special cases homes.

Thank you for giving significant amounts of time, talent, and resources to sustain our beloved organization. It is because of your support and advocacy that we were able to navigate another challenging year and continue caring for cats until each is adopted.

We are thrilled to share this Impact Report with you to demonstrate how much your support means to the cats and our community!

Sincerely, EC Michaels



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
EC Michaels

SHELTER MANAGERS
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DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT
Ashleigh Leader

EVENTS & OUTREACH MANAGER
Mandy Babb

PHOTOGRAPHER/ DIRECTOR OF
DIGITAL MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS
Cat Miller

VOLUNTEER MANAGER
Amy Martin

SPECIAL EVENTS
Jane Dorsey

BOOKKEEPER
Jennifer Shannon



LETTER FROM YOUR BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

As your newly elected Board President, I am proud to present the Cat Care Society's 2022 impact report, which captures the wonderful accomplishments that YOU – our amazing donors, supporters, volunteers, and partners – have made possible to save and enrich the lives of homeless and vulnerable felines and strengthen the cat care safety net in Colorado's front range and beyond.

This year continued to pose challenges that still reverberate from the COVID-19 pandemic, including ongoing economic, supply chain and workforce constraints in the face of ever-increasing numbers of animals in need. Through it all, our team has made the best of it and has worked harder than ever to ensure that every cat and kitten coming through our doors receives the highest standard of care and best possible outcome.

I want to extend my personal gratitude and that of the board of directors and management staff for the steadfast and generous support of our donors, volunteers, partners, and the entire cat care community. I further give my heartfelt thanks to our staff for their hard work and dedication through the constant change and turbulence of the last few years.

Cat Care Society wishes you a safe and happy 2023 from our families to yours. We appreciate all that you have done to help further our mission in 2022 and look forward to an even better 2023.

Sincerely, Mark Colman



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Front Row Left to Right: Stephanie Gilmore, Mark Colman & Willow Arnold.
Back row: Cindy Adams, Ken Dobrovolny, Kathy McChesney, Kay Higgins, Kim Miller & Shannon Friel.
Not pictured Board Advisors: Linda Brandon & Clyde Dawson

LETTER FROM YOUR JUNIOR BOARD

2022 was a special year for Cat Care Society. Our leadership team strategized to form and create a Junior Board consisting of 13 local young professionals across all career paths. Together, we have supported and elevated the vision, mission, and goals of the Cat Care Society following the Board of Directors and with the support of Cat Care Society Staff.

Even though it was the first year of establishing the Junior Board, all of us have volunteered at various community events, helped with fundraising, and formed unique committees based on our professional skills to help the organization. As we continue to delve into what makes Cat Care Society tick and analyze all the spaces where we can assist in making it a must-see for all cat lovers. We know that the Volunteer and Foster programs need more support, as well as word spread about amazing programs such as the Nine Lives Legacy Society and Guardianship Program, Temporary Care, and Nibbles 'n' Kibbles.

It's been an honor to step in as the next generation of leaders to carry on and ensure the success of Cat Care Society into the future. Thank you for supporting Cat Care Society and our mission to improve the quality of life for homeless, abused, and injured cats!

Sincerely, Lana Templeton & Sally Grum, Co-Chairs

JUNIOR BOARD MEMBERS

Front row Left to Right: Mackenzie Ross, Beth Dokolasa, Rachele La Grandeur, Lana Templeton & Amanda Huggett.
Back row: Alex Marvin, Julia Corne, Tara Deenihan-Hawthorne, Sally Grum, Jillian Rosile & Erin Ellebracht.
Not pictured: Suzannah Sage, Katie Shipley





We care for ALL cats. We are non-discriminatory in our love for cats: none are the wrong color, size or gender; none are too old or too young; none are too ill to be valued, loved and treated with dignity.

OUR MISSION

- To shelter cats in a healthy, cage-free environment and to find compatible and responsible families for every cat.
- To provide community outreach programs that improve the quality of life for cats and people.
- To sponsor educational programs that promote responsible pet ownership, humane treatment of all animals, and the elimination of pet overpopulation.
- To be a friend to all cats.

THE CAT CARE ENVIRONMENT

Our shelter is quite unique in that we provide a cage-free environment for our feline residents. The only kennel time they experience is within the first 3-5 days after admittance so that our vet staff has time to evaluate their health and decide which area of the shelter the cat should live, as well as give them time to adjust to their new environment. We have a large atrium hallway that houses our outgoing felines, as well as several rooms that house our cats with special needs, diets, or are maybe more on the shy side and prefer a quieter space. The shelter provides a temporary refuge for up to 150 cats until an appropriate and permanent home can be found for each. Veterinary care, premium diet, and human interaction are lovingly provided by dedicated staff and volunteers.

Cat Care Society is a limited admission shelter. Meaning, we can only accept new cats as quickly as our current cats find their forever homes. We are non-discriminatory in the cats that we accept and provide care for and are proud to serve as a safe haven for cats that might not be considered adoptable by others. This includes cats that have tested positive for FIV or FeLV, or have been diagnosed with chronic health conditions such as diabetes or kidney disease. We also pride ourselves in finding these cats loving forever homes, and educating cat owners on the relatively simple care requirements for cats with special needs.



ADOPTIONS

Each year over 700 cats and kittens are adopted from Cat Care Society.

We are proud to help find every cat their perfect home, including senior and special needs cats, which makes up almost 10% of our adoptions.

FOSTER CARE

In May of 2022, Cat Care Society had six, 2-month-old kittens relinquished to the organization. The kittens were born in a home that had multiple cats in it, and the owner was not able to take care of this new litter. The kittens came in rough shape. They were dehydrated, underweight, vomiting, having diarrhea, and had severe conjunctivitis. A test was performed that showed that they had panleukopenia, a highly deadly virus that attacks the white blood cells in felines.

The plan for these kittens (Cheesecake, Aperol, Spritz, Gelato, Cannoli, and Tiramisu) was to immediately get them in to a warm, safe foster home that could help them thrive and grow and get them the immediate medical attention that they needed. While the medical team and our Doctor of Veterinary Medicine were putting together a medical plan for the kittens, one of the smallest of the litter, Cheesecake, began to fail quickly. She couldn't keep her head up, and was continuing to have vomit and diarrhea she couldn't control. The doctor and medical team decided that humane euthanasia was the most compassionate step for this little one that was seemingly going downhill quickly and suffering.

The doctor pulled up the pain medication that is given before a humane euthanasia and gave it to Cheesecake while our medical team cuddled her and baby talked her through it. To everyone's surprise, the pain medication made the kitten feel better almost immediately - her head perked up, she began to meow and talk, and she ate up a storm!

The medical team and foster team at Cat Care Society decided then and there that all six kittens would get in to a foster home that could give them all a fighting chance - including Cheesecake! They would be on subcutaneous fluids, antibiotics, anti-nauseous medications, vitamins, high calorie food, and regular weight monitoring.

One of our incredible fosters, Leah Kunkel, took on this challenge! All six kittens thrived in their new, safe foster home and all six of them were adopted to their forever home only a couple of



months after their treatment. And, Leah Kunkel adopted one too - often referred to as "foster failing", we definitely refer to these cases as foster wins!

Cat Care Society couldn't operate and save the lives they do without fosters that open their hearts and homes to these little ones that need the extra space and attention and care. We are proud to have such a wonderful team of employees, volunteers, donors and fosters that help us to literally save lives!



KEEPING PETS WITH THEIR PEOPLE

We value the human/animal bond and believe that there is no better place for pets than with the people who love them. That is why we offer free programs to help people keep their pets in their homes and out of shelters.

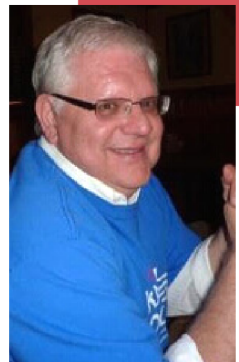
Our Temporary Care Program provides temporary housing for cats, including food and medical care, for up to 30 days when their owners are experiencing temporary hard times caused by an extended illness, domestic violence, and other hardships.

Nibbles "N" Kibbles, our on-site food pantry, provides food and litter to hundreds of people in need each year.

We also host free monthly behavior seminars to help prevent behavior problems before they ever start.

PROVIDING A PROMISE FOR THE FUTURE

Ralph Wilmont Moore II of Thornton, Colorado passed away in December 2020 at the age of 69. Because of his deep love for animals, Ralph left a significant bequest to the Cat Care Society. Ralph was known for his wry sense of humor, with a knack for trivia. He loved reading, going out to eat with friends, watching Denver sports teams, collecting model trains, attending classic car shows, and going on cruise ship tours. He donated



his time to various groups, organizations, and candidates. To recognize Ralph's incredible generosity, the CCS veterinary clinic located in the lower level of our shelter will be named after him, and desperately needed medical supplies and equipment, including x-ray and autoclave machines, have been purchased to ensure the best care possible for the cats in our shelter.

The Nine Lives Legacy Society (NLLS) was created to provide a promise for the future of Cat Care Society. By naming CCS as a beneficiary in your estate plans, you will become a member of the NLLS. An added benefit of NLLS membership is an invitation to enroll your cats in our Guardianship Program which provides that CCS will take guardianship of your cats should they survive you until they are adopted into their next home.

We are tremendously grateful to donors like Ralph and all those who leave a lasting legacy by naming Cat Care Society in their estate plans to provide a promise for the future of our beloved organization.

PARTNERING HELPS CATS

Our shelter works weekly with Pet Supplies Plus locations located all around Denver; from Littleton all the way to Golden. Throughout the last couple years, Cat Care Society and Pet Supplies Plus have been working together to get cats more attention and ultimately adopted beyond the shelter walls!

Cat Care Society loves working with Pet Supplies Plus locations as they have wonderful staff and the cats and kittens we bring are not in cages or kennels. Just like our shelter, Pet Supplies Plus locations have open rooms for cats and kittens to freely roam around in. In this type of environment, potential adopters are more likely to see the cats and kitten's true personalities while also being able to engage with them more.

While Cat Care Society will keep our older and special needs cats within our shelter, we love to get our younger, healthier cats and kittens out to the Pet Supplies Plus locations to be noticed and eventually adopted out.

So far since we have started working with Pet Supplies Plus, we have only had to bring a handful of cats back to our shelter - with over a 95% success rate for adoptions at the offsite Pet Supplies Plus locations! It is great Cat Care Society gets plenty of cats adopted within our shelter, but there is no denying that we have much success with adoptions offsite as well!

Overall, while Cat Care Society is a great shelter to adopt young cats, old cats, special needs cats and anything in-between, but it is great to be able to spread the care and goal of getting these amazing creatures adopted to locations all around the city. Pet Supplies Plus is a perfect place for all your pet needs, but they are also an amazing partner to bring our cats to for potential adoptions, which is almost always guaranteed! Thank you to all the amazing staff within Cat Care Society and offsite at Pet Supplies Plus that make everything possible to get our cats the best homes possible!

TEMPORARY CARE PROGRAM

Cat Care Society's Temporary Care Program provides shelter, food, medical, and emotional support for cats on a short-term basis. It is available to any individual or family in the Denver metro area who is experiencing temporary housing insecurity, hospitalization, incarceration, domestic violence, or other similar circumstances. The goal is to care for each cat until they can be safely reunited with their families. In order to keep individuals and families from having to make the difficult decision of surrendering their cats, our Temporary Care Program provides a home away from home until the owner is back on their feet again.

This past year we met Mike, a Vietnam veteran and dad to four cats. Mike was struggling with homelessness and the loss of his car, all while going through treatment for cancer. He heard about our Temporary Care program from his case manager, and we gladly took in all of his cats while he worked to secure housing and finish treatment. After a round of treatment, Mike would visit his cats, barely able to walk, but elated just to be able to see his beloved fur babies. When Mike's treatments went longer than anticipated, we were glad that we were able to continue providing shelter and care for his cats. Even though Mike wasn't ready to take them back home yet, he visited them so often that he became a fixture at our facility. Eventually Mike was able to secure housing and a vehicle, and it was a very happy day when he was reunited with his four cats and was able to take them to their new home to continue living life together.

Our Temporary Care Program exists as a necessary resource for any person in our community who might need a little bit of extra assistance and time in order to improve various personal situations. The program not only provides peace of mind for the owner, but also provides a welcoming and loving environment for the cats.



ANNIE'S STORY

Annie, a.k.a. Twinkle Toes, is a beautiful tortoise shell kitty whom everyone adores. She and her sister were about 6-weeks-old when a Taco Bell employee found them in a dumpster and immediately took both of them to the closest shelter. After initial examinations, the shelter staff determined that Annie's sister was healthy but Annie needed a more in-depth evaluation so they transferred her to Cat Care Society.

Annie was in CCS foster care until she weighed 3 pounds and then she lived in the CCS kitten room for about two months until she was adopted by a CCS board member and his wife. Annie now has two older brothers, Pumpkin Pie and Ebony, who was also adopted from CCS. They get along well and although her brothers know she is "different," they want her to stay because they love her kitten food!

Several neurologists, an ophthalmologist, and numerous primary care veterinarians have examined Annie and they all agree she is totally cute and believe she has both Cortical Visual Impairment and Cerebellar Hypoplasia. Cortical Visual Impairment is when the eyes work well but the brain does not clearly interpret the images from the eyes. Cerebellar Hypoplasia is when the kitty walks and runs awkwardly and appears uncoordinated.

Neither condition is treatable but Annie loves life and does not seem to know she is "different." She does know that she is adorable and likes lots of petting and cuddling with just about anyone. All of her experiences with people, since her rescue, have been very positive so she thinks everyone is her friend.

Annie is now 14 months old. She runs a lot but she never runs into anything. She weighs about 5 pounds and her paws are about the size of an adult thumbnail. Despite what her photo below implies, she rarely talks or cries.

Her primary challenges are eating, not gulping, her food and knowing where her paws are in relation to the floor. She never jumps up on furniture and her paws are very sensitive to rough surfaces, i.e., towels are much better than litter for her. She rarely plays with toys, such as feathers or balls, but she does see "specters" under the sofa and kitchen appliances and tries very hard to get them. Her family is safe, so far, from the specters and, thank her for being so helpful and cute.

Without donations, Cat Care Society would not have the resources to support the lives of cats and kittens like Annie in the metro Denver community.



AWAITING A HOME

Bronx is a sweet 12-year-old male who takes some time to warm up to new people.

He loves a soft cozy bed by the window where he can watch the birds and squirrels. His favorite place to be pet is by his ears and chin, and you'll likely win him over with a kitty gogurt treat! He's playful and enjoys feather and string toys, combine the two, and he's set!

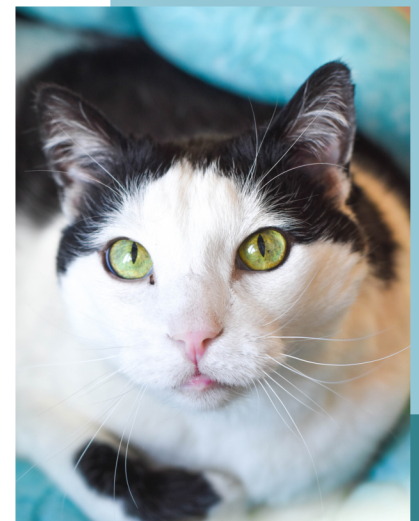
Bronx came to Cat Care Society after his previous owner had a difficult time with his temperament. Although he is a little grumpy in the shelter, when there are no other cats around, he loves to hang out with the humans.

Like many older cats, Bronx has arthritis. He is currently well managed

on supplements and a once-a-month injection. It will be important to keep him at a healthy weight for the future.

As you can probably tell from our previous statement, Bronx does not enjoy other animals, so he would prefer if he was the only pet in the home. Due to his temperament, he would do best in a home without children. His ideal home would be with a person who is fine letting him do his own thing while they do theirs but will also give him affection whenever he asks for it.

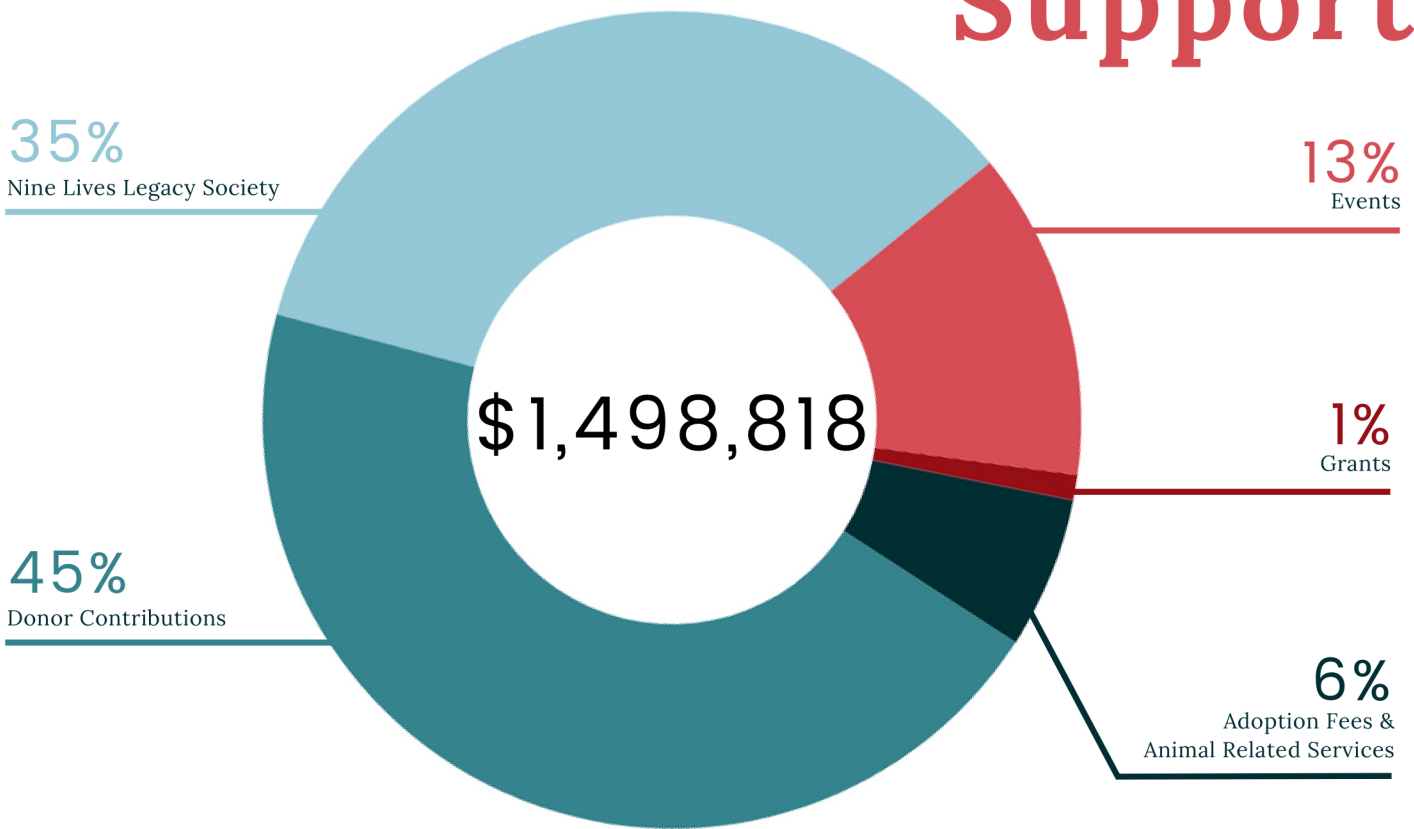
Bronx is currently in our foster care program and has been doing great in a home environment! His foster has been sending us pictures of him sharing the bed with her and getting comfy in his surroundings. His adoption fee has been sponsored and we would love to see him find his forever home.



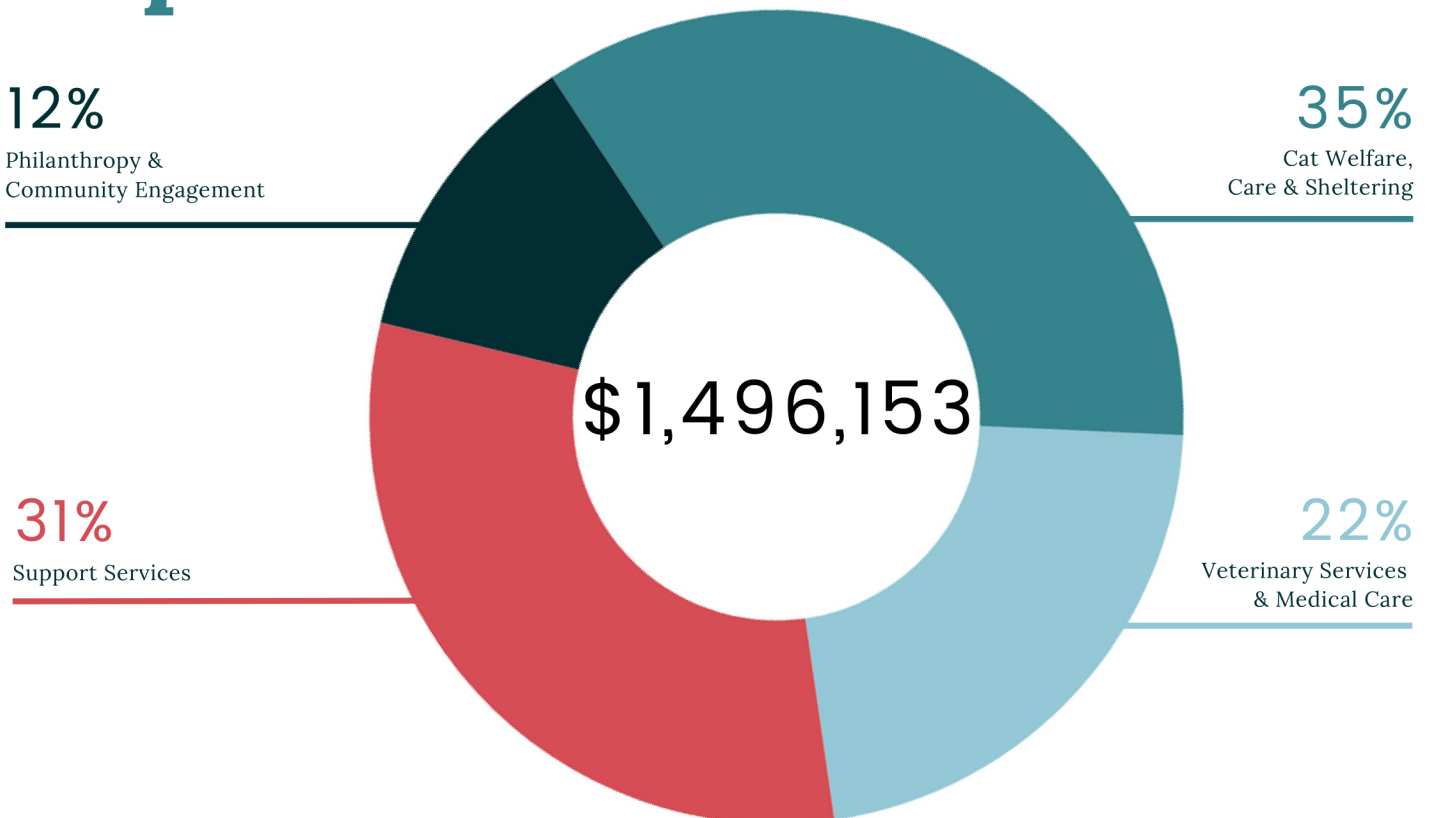
FINANCIALS

FISCAL YEAR: JULY 1, 2021 - JUNE 30, 2022

Support



Expenses



BY THE NUMBERS

FISCAL YEAR: JULY 1, 2021 - JUNE 30, 2022



716

cats and kittens came into our care

35

cats were returned to their owners as part of our Temporary Care Program or came in as found pets.



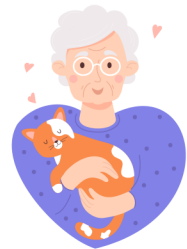
737

cats and kittens were adopted into loving homes



2,710 NIGHTS OF SHELTER

for animals whose families are facing times of crisis or hardship



10%

of cats and kittens adopted were either seniors or had special medical, dietary, and/or behavioral needs



411

cats and kittens were fostered in loving homes provided by volunteers



783

Life-saving medical procedures performed



3,758

Hours of volunteered time have been put in by 203 volunteers who help our shelter with events, feed & scoop, maintenance, and more.



1,555

Vaccinations given

WHY WE DONATE

If you've ever attended a Cat Care Society event or been around the shelter, you've likely seen the dynamic duo of Clyde and Barbara Dawson, a married couple that shares a passion for cats and drive to give back.

Both Barbara and Clyde grew up in Albuquerque, though they met here in Denver. Clyde grew up with cats, and while Barbara didn't, she quickly came around. Now, Rico, a CCS rescue and "total lap cat with a rambunctious side," lives with them.

The Dawsons started their relationship with CCS as financial supporters. In 2008 — a year after Clyde retired — they were invited to a donor party, in which they met the organization's then-executive director. Upon Clyde's mention of prior service on other animal rescue boards, he was invited to a CCS board meeting, and promptly began service. In fact, he served continuously up until two years ago and is still an advisor.

A numbers guy, Clyde soon became board treasurer. "It was a very fulfilling way for me to serve the organization because I really got to know the finances and be part of the planning and analysis aspects of what goes on," he said.

Clyde also served a short term as interim executive director in 2011 when the country was still struggling economically, and CCS

felt the same strain. He and the board stepped in to get the finances back on track by selling a building, receiving some much-needed bequests, and paying down debt. The efforts gradually paid off, and the board has since made sure that CCS manages revenues more strategically.

Meanwhile, Barbara started helping at the shelter a few years after Clyde, initially answering phones. Eventually, she took on sending the bi-weekly newsletter — which she still does today — and helping with event promotion and marketing. A former music major and teacher, she can also be found playing piano at events. Her favorite accomplishment, though, is helping promote Colorado Gives Day. Those efforts were worth it, as the last few years have seen the highest-ever donations. Of course, she credits the hard work of the entire team for a successful campaign.

But why this shelter? "It's the cats!" Clyde said. "There's nothing more motivating than spending time at the shelter in the cat rooms. That's what keeps us grounded to CCS."

The Dawsons help with a few other animal and wildlife-related causes, but they especially value the way CCS supports cats and the people who love them.

For Barbara, it's the mission that keeps her coming back. "We've learned in last few years that helping others through our good fortunes is a true path to happiness," she said.

WHY I VOLUNTEER

Almost 30 years ago, Charlene Orr discovered Cat Care Society quite by accident! While working downtown, she spotted a house full of cats and stopped in to see what the fuss was about. That house was the shelter's first location at 11th and Harlan. She recalls the front featuring a "habicat" — a safe haven for the cats to enjoy the outside, protected by a screened-in walkway to the lawn.

Before she knew it, Char had become an official volunteer, complete with a name tag and key. Back then, the shelter had few volunteers, and she spent many holidays caring for the cats while her husband served as a firefighter.

Three decades later, Char is still a key volunteer, having done tasks from administering medicine to kitty transports, feeding, scooping litter, laundry, fundraising, and marketing. "I wear my CCS shirt proudly and just love when I hear someone exclaim,

"I got my cat there!" she says.

Kitty transports remain her favorite job, where she brings them somewhere for special treatments. "I always come in the day before transport," she says. "I introduce myself and spend time with the kitty, so that picking them up the next day seems more relaxing. I sing and talk to them during the drive."

But her efforts don't stop there. Char is also a multi-gallon platelet/plasma donor. In 2005, she worked with Bonfils Blood Center to initiate a donor account, which has been used by other CCS volunteers. Last she heard years ago, there had been 127 successful draws.

Char is involved in many other local organizations, and says her mother instilled the value of volunteering at a young age. She has been nominated for the Governor's Volunteer Service Award and is one of many Channel 7 Everyday Heroes. "Inspired to help others is a way of life for me," she says.





LOOKING AHEAD

Now that you've been able to see all the amazing things we accomplished over the last year, we couldn't be more excited to talk about the future, because it is bright.

Thanks to a generous donor, we have been able to purchase new veterinary equipment for our clinic and have the ability to increase our capacity for special needs cats. We are growing our shelter network to ensure that cats across the state will have opportunities to come to CCS for care.

Our Board is committed to exploring and implementing a new strategic plan that will continue to grow and strengthen CCS as an organization, building upon our 40-year history and continuing to be a friend to all cats for years to come.

I am so grateful for what I have been able to experience in my time so far at CCS, and so excited to lead the organization into the future!

Sincerely, EC Michaels

GET INVOLVED

- If you can't make a long-term commitment right now, we are always in need of foster parents who can open their homes to cats or kittens for several weeks or a month.
- No space for a cat? Consider donating the cost of the care for some of our cats. We'll send you a personalized thank you, and of course you're welcome to visit as often as you like!
- Can't donate money? Donate your time. Volunteers are the foundation of Cat Care Society. From hands-on work like feeding, scooping, and socializing to running events, entering data, and answering phones, volunteers play an integral role in our daily operations. A couple hours a month can make a world of difference to homeless cats in our community.
- Don't have time? Spread the word about us and share our social media posts. With one click you have helped our cats reach their future adopter, found us a new volunteer, piqued the interest of a potential lifelong donor and more!





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SPONSORS & ASSOCIATES



WISH LIST

WE CAN ALWAYS USE THE FOLLOWING FOR THE SHELTER

- Clay, Non-Clumping Litter
- Clumping Cat Litter
- Paper Towels & Toilet Paper
- Tuna, Canned in Water
- Dry Cat Food
- Canned Food*
- (Cat, Kitten, Grain Free, Prescription)
- Kitten Food
- Trash Bags
- Cat Enrichment Toys
- Hand Sanitizer Refills
- Liquid Laundry Detergent
- White Copy/Printer Paper
- Litter & Food Donations for our Nibbles & Kibbles Food Bank

*Premium Brands: Science Diet

