

Second chances made possible

BY YOU!

Read more inside!

Koda

The Dish

HUMANE SOCIETY OF BOULDER VALLEY

WINTER 2026

FROM OUR CEO!

Dear Friends,

As 2026 draws to a close and the holidays approach, I'm filled with gratitude for all we've accomplished together. Because of your incredible support, thousands of animals found the second chance they deserved this year. As we look ahead to HSBV's 125th anniversary in 2027, I feel deeply honored to be part of this caring community of animal lovers.

Since 1902, HSBV has transformed the lives of pets and people throughout our community. Every animal who comes our way has a unique story, and thanks to you, each receives the medical care, training, and behavioral support they need. Finn and Benz, for example, arrived earlier this year in need of urgent medical treatment and are now safe and thriving in loving homes. I hope you'll read on to learn more about their incredible stories!

Our ability to continue this critical work depends on the sustained support of our community and supporters like you. I hope you'll consider standing with us again, as we prepare to kick off our 125th year of service. **On Colorado Gives Day – Tuesday, December 8 – your gift can go TWICE as far, thanks to a generous $75,000 matching opportunity.**

I've seen firsthand the beautiful difference your compassion makes at HSBV. Because of you, families discover beloved new companions in our adoption center, animals find healing and hope in our veterinary hospital, and training center graduates leave with renewed confidence and resilience. These joyful transformations we witness for the animals in our care inspire us every day – and they are possible because of you.

Thank you for being a true champion for pets and people in our community; your support means so much!

With heartfelt gratitude,

Kat Burns

Kat Burns
CVPM, CAWA,
CEO



BY THE NUMBERS

YEAR IN REVIEW THANK YOU!





MORE CARE

We've provided **1,700+ subsidized veterinary appointments** for community members, and **more than 26,000 pet meals were distributed** through our food share services. Our incredible **volunteers contributed 40,000+ hours** of service.



SERVING MORE COMMUNITIES

We've welcomed **more than 880 transfer animals** from our partner shelters.



MORE SECOND CHANCES

Our positive reinforcement-based training helps save more animals' lives and gets them ready for new homes! **More than 370 dogs and 190 cats** have been enrolled in behavior modification programs.



MEET FINN

An adorable 8-month-old puppy with a heart in need of repair

Finn arrived at the Humane Society of Boulder Valley after another shelter determined they could not provide the specialized treatment he needed for a severe heart murmur. Despite the odds, this sweet puppy was determined to keep fighting, and the HSBV team was determined to fight alongside him.

To give Finn the best chance at a healthy future, HSBV partnered with trusted veterinary specialist Dr. Gall to perform the lifesaving surgery he urgently needed.

While Finn waited for his big day, HSBV's certified positive reinforcement training and behavior team worked with him, ensuring he still had all his pivotal puppy experiences. They helped him build confidence, learn new skills, and prepare for life with a loving family once his recovery was complete.

Finn's surgery was complex and required an entire team of dedicated experts working together to keep him safe throughout the procedure. Thanks to their skill, determination, and care, the surgery was a success.

Today, Finn is thriving in his new home! His story is a powerful reminder of what is possible when compassion inspires action, and a community comes together to give an animal a second chance.

Join us in ensuring the next animal like Finn, now named Biscuit, gets their second chance by donating this Colorado Gives Day. Visit ColoradoGives.org/HSBV to make your lifesaving gift.

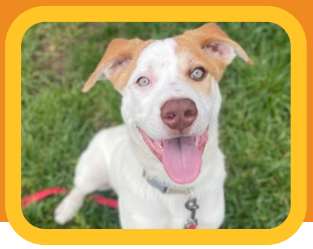




BECOME A CHAMPION

Your love for animals is doubled this Colorado Gives Day!







All donations **up to $75,000** will be matched

Double Your Impact for Animals in Need this Colorado Gives Day

Join us in ensuring that no animal is turned away from their second chance and help us enter our 125th year ready to care for more animals than ever before.

And to help us get there, the dollar-for-dollar match is on!

Thanks to a generous group of animal lovers, every gift will be **matched dollar for dollar up to $75,000**, doubling your impact for animals in need.

Tuesday, December 8
ColoradoGives.org/HSBV

COLORADO GIVES DAY Presented by PNC

YOUR COLORADO GIVES DAY GIFT HELPS PROVIDE:

- **Safety, comfort, and compassionate care** for **4,000+ animals** each year
- **Affordable veterinary care** through **2,300+ discounted visits** for families in need
- **Positive-reinforcement behavioral support** that helps animals build confidence and thrive
- **Critical resources** that help families keep their pets, including **free pet food, low-cost training,** and **emergency boarding**

TOGETHER, WE CAN GIVE 2X THE ANIMALS THE SECOND CHANCE THEY DESERVE.

FALL FEST

RECAP & THANK YOU





Fall Fest guests watching a training Center demo

Thank you to everyone who joined us for HSBV's Fall Fest and helped make this inaugural event a tremendous success! More than **300** community members attended, including 85 first-time visitors to HSBV, and together we raised more than **$12,000** to support animals in need.

Attendees enjoyed a variety of experiences, including our Blind "Date" Adoption experience, Training Center demonstrations, Veterinary Hospital immersive walkthroughs, enrichment-making activities with our Volunteer Department, and much more.



We are especially grateful to our title sponsor, Flatirons Subaru, and our supporting event sponsors, Lucky's Market, Lucky's Bakehouse, Fetch, Nuf Said, and Purina for helping bring this special event to life. This support made Fall Fest a memorable celebration of our community's shared commitment to enhancing the lives of animals and the people who love them.



HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS FOR PETS

'Tis the season for our favorite treats, fun activities, and time spent with loved ones! However, as joyful as the holiday season is, it can introduce unexpected dangers to our pets. Below are some tips and tricks to keep the season fun and safe for our animals, too.

Foods to Keep Away From Pets

Pets (especially dogs) may be curious about new foods and flavors – as exciting and tasty as the food around this time of year may be, it's best and safest to keep to your pet's diet and regular feeding schedule. Here are a few popular treats to keep away from pets!

- **Chocolate** and sweets that contain xylitol.
- While seemingly safe, **bones in cooked chicken and turkey** can splinter and cut animal mouths and throats.
- **Onions, chives and garlic** are toxic to cats and dogs.
- If you're getting into baking around the holidays, keep **raw bread dough** out of your pet's reach.



Holiday Hazards Around the Home

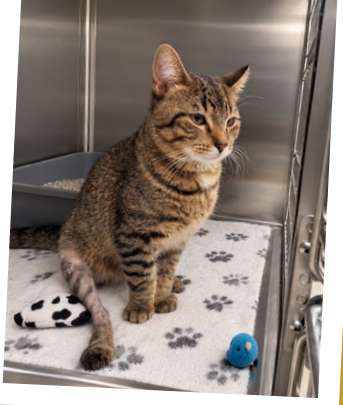
You may bring out festive decorations around this time of year, but to our pets, this could strike curiosity. Some items may look like treats, fun new toys, or cozy napping spots. Here are a few seasonal household items to be mindful of:

- **Wires and batteries** can shock and burn pets.
- **Glass ornaments** can cut paws and mouths.
- **Tinsel and ribbons** can look like string toys to cats. Ingesting them can lead to dangerous intestinal blockages.
- If you have one, **Christmas trees** themselves pose no immediate danger unless your cat is a big climber. Keep an eye out for jumping and climbing because they can knock those over!
- Practice caution around lit **candles** – a happy little tail wag can start a fire.

Other winter hazards for pets include **antifreeze, ice melt products and rock salt, and plants like poinsettias, holly and mistletoe**.



BENZ



When a Good Samaritan found 1-year-old colony cat Benz after he had been hit by a car, it was clear he desperately needed help.

Both of his hind legs were broken and required complex surgeries. But even through the pain, Benz's sweet personality never faded. He leaned into pets, purred, and accepted every cuddle he could get.

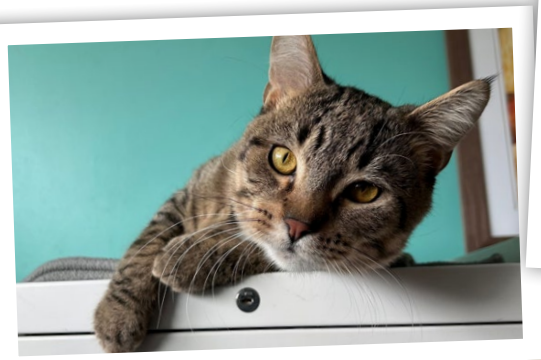
Thanks to HSBV's incredible partnership with renowned orthopedic surgeon Dr. Gall, Benz received the specialized care he needed and he got his second chance.

Because of the complexity of his injuries, Benz needed an extended period of rest and recovery at our hospital. While he healed, Benz's usual kitten zoomies were put on pause. However, the HSBV hospital team made sure he could still stretch his legs, taking him on harnessed walks around the veterinary suite!

After two months of healing, Benz was finally ready to move on to the next step in his recovery journey by moving into a bigger space to run, jump and play like a kitten again. Soon, he'll be ready for adoption, and at just one year old, Benz has a whole new life ahead of him!

Your generosity this Colorado Gives Day provides animals with nowhere else to turn the medical care, shelter, and love they need.





Lifesaving stories like these are only possible because of compassionate supporters like you. Your gift helps animals when they need it most. Thank you for making it all happen.

Make a secure donation today at:
ColoradoGives.org/HSBV

TRAINING CENTER SPOTLIGHT



Sidekicks Classes

Has your child ever wondered how to teach their dog (best friend) new skills and tricks? We've got the perfect class for winter break! HSBV's Sidekicks series gives children and their dogs an opportunity to learn, bond and have fun together. Your budding trainer will learn how to communicate with and better understand their dog while teaching new tricks and enjoying engaging activities.

This class is for kids aged 7+ and meets for one hour over three days. Children must be accompanied by an adult.



Pet Toy Workshop

Our Training & Behavior Center is hosting a DIY Pet Toy Workshop on Sunday, December 20, from 12–1:30 p.m. Snacks and hot chocolate will be provided! At just $15 per person, guests will spend a festive afternoon making a snuffle mat for their dog or a special toy for their cat to take home. Proceeds support shelter animals enrolled in HSBV's behavior modification program.

This class is for humans only, so please leave your pets at home. Children must be accompanied by an adult.



Learn more and sign up at:
boulderhumane.org/training



Gretta's Hamster Rescue Comes to HSBV

After five successful years of operation under the leadership of Copland A. LaBerge, age 14 at the organization's inception, Gretta's Hamster Rescue (GHR) is transferring its entire operation to HSBV, where the program will continue under our care.

With Copland pursuing animal sciences at Purdue University (and, in true fashion, caring for a hamster named Amy), he wanted to ensure GHR's impact would continue. HSBV is set to continue GHR's work ensuring adopters are empowered to care for hamsters in a way that promotes health, safety, and happiness, all in honor of Copland's childhood hamster who started it all, Gretta.

HUMANE SOCIETY
OF BOULDER VALLEY
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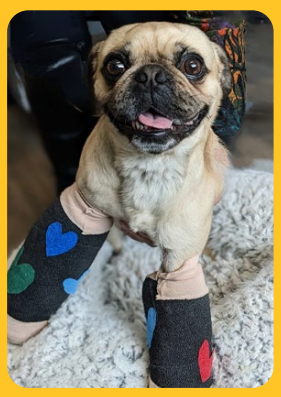
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Giving is Better When We Do it *Together*



All donations
up to $75,000
will be
DOUBLED

Tuesday, December 8
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