



The Dish

WINTER 2020



HUMANE
SOCIETY
OF BOULDER VALLEY

Embracing the NEXT Normal

Dear Humane Society of Boulder Valley Family,

We set out decades ago to reduce the number of dogs and cats without homes in Boulder County while building healthy relationships between pets and people. To that end, you helped us create innovative behavior and shelter medicine programs that are now cornerstone programs of HSBV's mission. And thanks to you, HSBV sees fewer animals from our community seeking new homes as relationship-saving resources like veterinary and behavior care are readily available. All of this is cause for celebration for how far we've come, together.

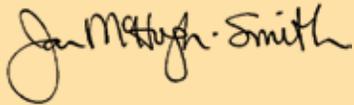
We will always be the safe haven for lost animals, strays, and companion animals awaiting new homes. **But the events of 2020 have made it clear that we have the opportunity — and responsibility — to expand our mission.** Our neighbors are facing an unprecedented economic crisis that has caused thousands of people to lose their jobs right here in Boulder County. They are left with unimaginable decisions, like how to care for their beloved pets.

We wanted you, our valued supporters, to be the first to know about some of our plans.

- We will be expanding our Safety Net services, which provides veterinary service grants, a pet-food and supply bank, and temporary housing for the pets of families who might otherwise have been forced to relinquish an animal for economic or personal health reasons. A critical service, especially in COVID-19 times.
- Our leading-edge behavior and training programs will change thousands of lives with our continued commitment to positive-reinforcement methods that are relationship strengthening and are based on a foundation of trust, kindness, and freedom to make safe choices.
- Our Transfer program will continue to bring thousands of animals to HSBV, providing them new beginnings through our adoption program and behavior and veterinary services, while providing relief to overburdened shelters outside of Boulder County.

This year's Colorado Gives Day is critical to ensuring our doors can be open to provide Safety Net services and continuing lifesaving Transfer, Shelter Medicine, and Behavior Modification programs. One of the most exciting days of the year, Colorado Gives Day is the annual statewide movement to celebrate lives changed and saved and make a promise to those still in need. We need your help to make the day a lifesaving success for those relying on HSBV right now and the thousands we know will need us next year. **All gifts scheduled and given this Colorado Gives Day will be DOUBLED – up to \$100,000 – OUR LARGEST MATCH EVER, thanks to several generous community members who have stepped forward during an exceptional year.**

We embrace the future, and we can't do it without you. I welcome your questions and am so grateful for your continuing support.



Jan McHugh-Smith, CAWA, CEO

Jan.McHugh-Smith@boulderhumane.org

303-442-4030 x629



Your Lifesaving Impact

Adoptions: **2,746**

Reunifications: **435**

Shelter Spay/Neuter Surgeries:
1,561

Behavior Care Animals: **579**

Transfers to HSBV: **1,337**

Nights of Emergency Boarding:
478

Pet Food Share Meals
to Community:
32,843

Through October 2020

Donate to help the animals:
boulderhumane.org/donate

Your Compassion in Action

Big Tuna, a 1-year-old Great Pyrenees, arrived at HSBV after being found stray in our community. This gentle giant was sensitive and overwhelmed by his new surroundings. Our Training & Behavior team enrolled him in our Behavior Modification program for Fear & Anxiety – providing him personalized enrichment sessions several times a day, play dates with puppy friends to help build his confidence, and leveraged positive-reinforcement based, force-free training to help encourage him as he learned to climb stairs, walk on a leash, and start on housetraining (Big Tuna is just a puppy in a big body!).

Big Tuna also helped other young dogs at our shelter as his soft and silly play personality encouraged others to come out of their shells. This custom care plan helped Big Tuna find a loving home, and our team is providing ongoing support to his new family to ensure he thrives. Because of your dedication to helping pets like Big Tuna, our training resources were ready support his needs, and our team's compassionate commitment helped him overcome his fear and learn to trust.



Did you know?

HSBV provides more than 1,400 lost pets shelter during their time of need – a critical resource to keeping lost pets safe. Many of these lost pets are quickly reunited with their loving families, and others are provided expert behavior and medical care to help them find new love in our community. Thanks to you, pets in need will always have a safe place to turn.

Training Center Tip

Positive Training — A Pillar of HSBV

By Allison Hartlage, CTC, KPA-CTP, CBCC-KA, CNWI
Manager of Animal Training and Behavior

If you set out to learn something new or moved to a country where everyone spoke a different language from you, how would you want to learn? Can you imagine how animals feel living in our world? Reward-based, positive-reinforcement training is force-free, creates a foundation of trust, and an environment where learning thrives.

When a teacher commits to using only positive-reinforcement, force-free methods, they commit to communicating, motivating, and reinforcing their learner without the use of fear, intimidation, force, coercion, pain, pressure, or any tool or equipment that are frightening, unpleasant, or painful.

Trainers should be professionally educated in animal learning and behavior (better yet, professionally certified) and committed to using rewards or motivators that communicate to the learner what we like and that build the behaviors you want more of. Positive rewards can include food treats, praise, petting, or a favorite toy/game — whatever is irresistible to your pet! Since most dogs are highly food-motivated, food treats work especially well for training — and we use a lot of treats at HSBV!

While force-based methods may get you the short-term results you want, it is important to recognize the potential fallout and likely exacerbation of problem-behaviors related to the use of these techniques. Even if you do see results, consider the foundation of the relationship you are creating.



Relationships flourish most when they are built on trust and are kind and compassionate.

Positive, force-free training does not use:

- Fear, intimidation, or coercion
- Pain or pressure
- Shock, choke, pinch, or prong collars
- Hitting, yelling, throwing, or shaking things (like penny cans) at the learner

Positive, force-free training is:

- Humane and based on rewards, respect, and choice
- Empowerment through managing the learning environment
- A reciprocal conversation between the teacher and the learner. The learner is allowed to say "no," "not right now," "I can't," or "I'm overwhelmed."
- Productive + science-based — we get results!
- Fun for all ALL participants — trainers and learners!

HSBV is committed to positive-reinforcement, reward-based, force-free methods for all shelter and community animals we serve. Check out our Training & Behavior Center classes to join this scientifically-proven movement, strengthen your relationship with your pet, and learn new things!

boulderhumane.org/training-and-behavior

OUR LARGEST MATCH EVER!
Thanks to generous friends of the animals.



All donations will be
DOUBLED
UP TO
\$100,000

Schedule your Colorado Gives Day gift!

THE BEST DAY TO
save lives!

TUESDAY, DEC. 8

coloradogives.org/HSBV

- \$50** → **\$100** providing 500 free meals to community pets through Food Share
- \$150** → **\$300** shelters 2 animals displaced due to natural disaster, like wildfires
- \$250** → **\$500** supports urgent veterinary care for a pet whose family is facing crisis
- \$100,000** → **\$200,000** strengthens our safety net for pets and people of our community



Shelter Medicine Program



Control Service Center

GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY OUR FRIENDS AT Control Service Center

Control Service Center (CSC) does more than keep our animals, staff, and visitors comfortable in our facility.

Through their generosity, CSC helps shelter animals get the crucial medical treatment they need before adoption and supports our Safety Net services so pets can remain with their loving families through hardship. From spay, neuter, and dentistry to critical intensive care, more than 8,800 lives were touched this year by our Veterinary Clinic.

Thank you, Control Service Center, for sponsoring our Shelter Medicine program and Medical Access Fund in October!



Gemma
The CSC Mascot!

Holiday Wish List

Looking to spread a little holiday cheer? Here are items and ways you can make a life-changing difference:

- Schedule your Colorado Gives Day gift
- Send a holiday ecard to a friend
- Donate your vehicle
- Donate your gently used goods to our Thrift Store
- Shop at the HSBV Thrift Store and Book & Jewel

Program Needs

- Hot dogs
- Cheese
- Potty training pads
- Meat-flavored baby food

Help the animals at HSBV at www.boulderhumane.org "How to Help"

Pets in need find shelter during wildfire evacuations

This October, HSBV's Safety Net services responded to support our community members displaced during the unprecedented wildfires in our area. As the evacuation areas quickly shifted, our team guided pet guardians to pet friendly housing, extended free pet supplies and food for evacuated pets, and provided a total of 146 nights of care for 28 animals while their families sought shelter and anxiously awaited their return home.

Thank you for ensuring our Safety Net program was at the ready to lend a helping hand to our neighbors in need. Because of your support, each of the animals who relied on HSBV during this year's wildfires found compassion, critical care, and important resources to keep them with their loving families.



Rosie



Neptune

Did you know?

The Safety Net program's Food Share service has distributed over 30,000 free pet meals to our community this year. Our free emergency boarding has provided over 450 nights of care for community pets as their guardians were hospitalized, displaced from their homes, or facing another crisis – reuniting these beloved pets with their families when they are back on their feet.

A Lifesaving Safety Net for Chata

Chata, a 6 year old boxer-mix, arrived at HSBV after having been seen by another veterinarian earlier in the day for an ulcerated mammary mass. Her guardian, who loves Chata very much, was unable to pay for her costly treatment so came to HSBV for help. Our veterinarians took Chata in right away and provided the lifesaving surgery she needed to alleviate her pain. Thanks to your support of our Safety Net services, we were then able to reunite Chata with her loving family once she was feeling better. She is now on the road to recovery — at home for the holidays — with her lifelong guardian. Thank you for making Chata's care and this reunion possible for this family in need.



Holiday shopping that helps the animals at HSBV and our community!

Follow the Humane Society of Boulder Valley Community Resource Center on Facebook to join our online holiday shopping extravaganza! All of your purchases directly support veterinary care, behavior support, shelter, and safety net services for animals in need.

Support the Thrift Shop and the animals all holiday season long with your purchases! For store hours and information: boulderhumane.org/thrift

Online auction starts December 4!

 [@HSBVCommunityResourceCenter](https://www.facebook.com/HSBVCommunityResourceCenter)



Thank you, Purina! Their year-round support of the animals at HSBV keeps them happy and healthy — and smiling!



All donations will be **DOUBLED** UP TO **\$100,000**

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