

Pawpositive impact 2025



LEELOO
Adopted 11/14/25

SAVING LIVES THROUGH THE RESCUE, CARE AND ADOPTION OF HOMELESS CATS AND DOGS.

MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO MOVING THE MISSION FORWARD

Reflecting on 2025, I am struck by the sheer resilience and heart of this organization. It was a year of profound growth and evolution, marked by a milestone we are all so proud of: our 30th Anniversary.

Thanks to your unwavering support, we expanded our reach significantly. We cared for 1,067 animals—a 33% increase over last year—and celebrated a 34% rise in adoptions. These aren't just statistics; they are lives transformed and families made whole. We also saw our resale boutiques flourish under their new identity, Daisy's Rescued Goods, which drove a 13% increase in sales to directly fund our mission.

However, 2025 was not without its hurdles. Economic pressures led to a rise in surrenders, and we faced an exceptionally grueling kitten season. Our staff navigated weeks of heartbreak and disease with tireless dedication, fighting for every tiny life. Their courage during those emotionally taxing months is the backbone of Foothills Animal Rescue.

In 2026, our focus is on expanding our reach without outgrowing our roots. While our physical walls remain the same size, we are expanding our foster program to increase the flow of animals we can save. To support this growth, we have upgraded our software to ensure our online presence is user-friendly, making the adoption process seamless for every family. Most importantly, we are committed to deepening our care through continued learning. Many of our staff are currently undergoing specialized training in cat and dog behavior, ensuring we stay at the forefront of animal welfare. By investing in these resources and our team's expertise, we are shortening lengths of stay and improving outcomes for every life in our care. Through continued learning, we believe we can better serve both the animals in our care and the community who loves them.

Thank you for being a vital part of Foothills Animal Rescue's journey—here's to many more years of rescuing, caring and building brighter futures for animals and families alike.

Sincerely,

Shannon

Shannon Valenzuela, CEO



FLOYD
Adopted 4/5/25

ABOUT US

Foothills Animal Rescue has been transforming the lives of homeless pets and the people who love them since 1995. What began as a small foster-based group in Cave Creek, Arizona, has grown into one of the Valley's most trusted animal welfare organizations.

In 2016, we opened the Brynne Smith Memorial Campus & Adoption Center in North Scottsdale, providing a safe haven for pets in need and helping us place over 10,000 animals into loving homes.

Guided by a volunteer Board of Directors, we remain committed to advancing best practices in animal welfare. From rescue and rehabilitation to adoption, our team of staff and volunteers ensures every dog and cat in our care is treated with compassion and provided with the highest level of care.

As a 501(c)(3) private nonprofit, we rely on the generosity of our community and corporate partners to fund our lifesaving work. Together, we're changing lives—one rescue at a time.

Give a gift today so that pets can have a tomorrow.



5,902

DOG ENRICHMENT HOURS

2,809

CAT ENRICHMENT HOURS

\$1,500

AVERAGE COST OF CARE

110

DOGS SENT INTO FOSTER

273

CATS SENT INTO FOSTER

34%

INCREASE IN ADOPTIONS

AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY

28

DAYS

898

ADOPTIONS

635

CATS

263

DOGS

315

VOLUNTEERS

716

SPAY & NUETER SURGERIES

55

COMMUNITY EVENTS

12,786

HOURS DONATED

1,067

TOTAL ANIMALS CARED FOR

300+

HOURS OF STAFF TRAINING IN ANIMAL BEHAVIOR

↑ 33%

COMPARED TO 2024

BRYNNE SMITH MEMORIAL CAMPUS
10197 E BELL RD
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85260

DAISY'S RESCUED GOODS SCOTTSDALE
23030 N PIMA RD
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85255

DAISY'S RESCUED GOODS CAREFREE
22 EASY ST
CAREFREE, AZ 85377



MILO 190 DAYS

Milo arrived on March 6, and quickly became a staff favorite with his playful spirit and love for adventure, though his senior age and separation anxiety made finding the right home a challenge. After Lifted Trucks posted a viral video that captured his heart, Milo was adopted on Aug. 26. He is now living his best life as the adored companion of a loving couple. His journey is a reminder that even the happiest dogs sometimes need extra reassurance to truly feel at home.

RUSSELL 203 DAYS

Russell arrived on Feb. 9, after his owner experiencing homelessness made the difficult decision to surrender him, and he remained closely bonded with his best friend, Cinco. After 203 days of learning the ropes of indoor life (and even enjoying treadmill walks), Russell was adopted on Aug. 31, into a home where he could truly thrive. His journey reflects the resilience of dogs adjusting to entirely new ways of life.



JILLIAN 103 DAYS

After losing her lifelong owner, Jillian came into our care. Despite being 15 years old, she remained curious, affectionate and always first to greet visitors. To ensure she was as healthy as possible, she underwent a dental procedure and had a mass removed from her back while in our care. On Oct. 7, she found a loving home where she can spend her golden years surrounded by comfort and companionship. Her story proves that senior pets still have so much love left to give.

MOLLY 155 DAYS

Molly came into our care on July 7, after being abandoned outside the shelter, and quickly showed her sweet, resilient personality—especially during her time as our beloved office cat, where she greeted visitors each day. Along the way, she overcame a series of medical challenges, including dehydration, dental issues and an asthma diagnosis, all of which she handled with remarkable ease. On Dec. 12, Molly was adopted by a father and son who were committed to supporting her ongoing care.



BUSTER & RUSTY 111 DAYS

Buster and Rusty arrived on Jan. 20, as a bonded senior pair who were scared and unsure at first but soon revealed their sweet and loving personalities. After months of waiting side by side, they were adopted together on May 11, finally getting the forever home they had been hoping for. Keeping them together ensured they could continue to provide each other comfort and confidence.

CINCO 225 DAYS

Cinco came to us Feb. 9, after his owner experiencing homelessness could no longer care for him, arriving alongside his best friend, Russell. Over 225 days, he grew from a goofy, untrained pup into a well-mannered and lovable companion before finally finding his forever home on Sept. 9. With patience and guidance, he learned the skills needed to succeed in a home environment.



TWIX 148 DAYS

Twix arrived on March 23, and after concerns arose about potential adopters intending to let her live as an indoor/outdoor cat, our team made the decision to step in and protect her future. To ensure her safety, she was quietly moved into foster care and even given a new name—her own version of “witness protection”—until the situation settled and the right adopter could be found. On Aug. 18, Twix was adopted by the perfect cat mom who keeps her safe indoors and loves her exactly as she is.

DUSTY & MAEVE 168 DAYS

Dusty and Maeve, a bonded mother and son pair, arrived on Feb. 16, shy and unsure, with Maeve eventually blossoming into a social “hall monitor” while Dusty slowly warmed up to affection in his own way. After 168 days together, they were adopted on Sept. 22, into a home where they can continue life side by side. Their story shows how patience can help even the shyest animals come out of their shells.



THE LITTLE THINGS THAT SAVE LIVES

George's journey shows how love, attention and quick action can change everything.

When four-year-old George arrived on April 8, 2025, he made quite the first impression, **tipping the scales at a whopping 24.5 pounds**. But beyond his chunky figure was an irresistibly sweet, gentle cat who quickly stole the hearts of everyone he met. Volunteers couldn't help but smile when they saw him lounging comfortably, soaking up attention and affection.

George came to us with another cat, Tom, and the two settled into one of our adoption rooms. Everything seemed perfectly normal, until Tom was adopted, and George became the sole occupant of the room. That's when something small—but critical—was noticed.

Our staff and volunteers, who spend countless hours caring for and observing the animals, realized that George's litter box **remained empty after several shifts**. Because of their attentiveness, George was rushed to Arizona Animal Hospital.

There, it was discovered that George had been trying to urinate without success. An ultrasound revealed a dangerous blockage in his urethra caused by urinary crystals, leaving his bladder severely enlarged and at risk of rupturing. It was a life-threatening emergency.

Thanks to swift action and the expertise of our veterinary partners, **George received immediate care to relieve the blockage**. Over the next several days, he returned for follow-up treatment, including an overnight stay for continued monitoring and care. His journey wasn't easy, but George remained the same loving, gentle soul throughout it all, winning over every staff member and volunteer along the way.

With a new prescription, urinary diet and close monitoring, George slowly began to recover. Day by day, he grew stronger. Follow-up exams showed encouraging progress and before long, George was back to using his litter box and feeling more like himself again.



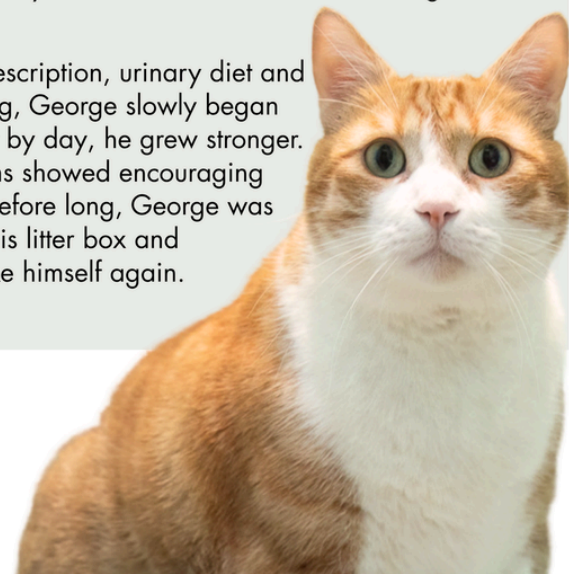
George's story is a powerful reminder that **it's often the smallest details that matter most**. Because our volunteers and staff know each animal so well—and care so deeply—we were able to catch a silent, life-threatening condition before it was too late.

After 67 days in our care, George was adopted into a loving home where he can continue to thrive (and maybe shed a few pounds along the way).

Every animal who comes through our doors is watched over with that same level of compassion and attention. And because of that, lives like George's are not only saved but given the chance to be truly lived.



Adopted 6/14/25



Reimagining Resale

What began as Foothills Animal Rescue's Resale Boutique entered an exciting new chapter with its rebrand to **Daisy's Rescued Goods**. We celebrated this milestone with a ribbon cutting on Aug. 12 and the **grand opening** of our new Carefree location on Oct. 4—ushering in a refreshed energy and renewed commitment to our mission. With 100% of proceeds directly supporting Foothills Animal Rescue, this momentum led to a record-breaking year, generating \$1,045,067 in sales.



A First-of-Its-Kind Foster Partnership

On April 17, we launched a partnership with **Lone Mountain Memory Care**, where residents help foster our tiniest kittens until they're ready for adoption. Providing love, comfort and socialization, this unique program **supports the kittens' growth** while creating meaningful, enriching moments for the residents who care for them.



30th Anniversary Gala

On **March 21**, our community gathered for an evening of reflection and celebration. The 30th Anniversary Gala was a milestone event where we honored the thousands of lives saved since our founding. Thanks to the incredible generosity of our supporters, we **raised \$161,174** to fuel our mission as we look ahead to the next year of impact.



Whiskers & Wine

On **Oct. 29**, our supporters gathered at The Homestead in DC Ranch for our annual Whiskers and Wine fundraiser. It was an unforgettable night filled with fine wine, delicious food and a shared passion for animal welfare. The evening successfully **raised \$41,277**, providing vital funds to the animals in our care.



Photo Contest

Our annual photo contest **raised \$39,396**, with winners receiving professional studio sessions captured by the talented Maren Sater. The celebration continued on **Sept. 27**, at Pinnacle Brewing Company, where we unveiled a limited-edition beer can label featuring our winners.





ANSWERING THE CALL

We are often called to step in when situations reach a critical point, and on Oct. 1, we **received a call from the Humane Society of Yuma** after they took in 30 dogs from an abandonment case. Like many shelters across the state, they were already operating at capacity, and this sudden influx of animals **created an urgent need for additional support.**

Just two days later, our team made the drive to Yuma, AZ. What we found was a large group of dogs adjusting to an unfamiliar environment, many showing signs of **fear and stress** after everything they had been through. It was clear these dogs needed time, care and space to begin their next chapter.

After careful evaluation, we brought **14 pets (12 dogs and two cats) back with us**, including 11 directly from the abandonment case. With our shelter at capacity, we adapted quickly by utilizing our isolation shelter space connected to one of our resale stores.

The road to recovery wasn't immediate. Many of these dogs required medical care, proper nutrition and **extensive socialization** to learn to trust people again. With the unwavering support of our dedicated staff and volunteers—who showed up day after day to provide care, comfort and consistency—they slowly began to feel safe and heal.

Today, **every one of these animals has been adopted into a loving home.** What began as an urgent plea became a powerful reminder of what's possible when we come together to act.



From Neglect to Nurture

On Aug. 6, we met Layla, a tiny Maltese mix who had known only neglect. Her owner had entered a rehabilitation facility, leaving Layla in uncertain care. When she arrived, she was **matted so severely the tangles made up nearly 10% of her body weight.** As our team gently shaved her, Layla sat frozen in fear.

Once bathed, fed and wrapped in a soft blanket, her spirit began to shine. Layla moved into a foster home where she was syringe-fed until she regained her strength. **On Sept. 19, after 44 days in our care, Layla found her forever home.** Today, she is happy, healthy and cherished, the dog she was always meant to be.



\$59,567

in veterinary services for advanced or specialized care to ensure animals receive expert medical attention.



\$15,168

in medical supplies to support daily care



\$29,794

for vaccines & medicine, to keep animals healthy and stop the spread of disease



\$57,230

in spay & neuter surgeries to prevent overpopulation, improve long-term health outcomes and prepare every animal for a responsible and successful adoption

Breaking the Cycle

In 2025, we saw a troubling rise in "accidental" hoarding situations, often beginning with good intentions before quickly spiraling out of control. On Aug. 28, we stepped in after six cats were discovered abandoned inside a home in severe hoarding conditions. All required medical attention, baths and treatment for ear mites. With socialization and care, these cats transitioned from neglect into safety, ensuring their cycle of abandonment stopped with us.



A New Path Forward

On Aug. 22, we took in five dogs from a breeder abruptly trying to give them away for free online. To ensure these dogs weren't passed into another breeding situation, we took all five into our care. By the end of the month, every dog was spayed/neutered and adopted, guaranteed to live out their lives as beloved pets rather than profit sources.



NOT YOUR TYPICAL ANGEL

Angel's path to adoption was built through consistent care and thoughtful intervention.

Angel, a two-year-old dog, arrived at Foothills Animal Rescue on June 16, 2025, after being transferred from the Humane Society of Yuma, which was facing critical space limitations.

From the beginning, it was clear that Angel was highly intelligent, but he **struggled with consistency and responsiveness**. Without ever having experienced the stability of a home, he lacked the foundation needed to build trust and connection with humans. Recognizing his potential, our team partnered with Destination Dog Training to assess his behavior and develop a path forward.

In August, Angel was **enrolled in a board-and-train program**, with staff regularly visiting to monitor his progress and reinforce his training. He returned to the shelter showing meaningful improvement, though like many dogs with limited life experience, he continued to have occasional setbacks. To support his development, volunteers provided doggy day outings—introducing him to new environments like parks, coffee shops and community spaces—helping him build confidence beyond the shelter.

Over the course of **190 days in our care**, Angel made steady progress with the help of dedicated staff, volunteers and ongoing training. While his journey required patience, our focus remained on finding the right home—not just the next one.



That home came in December, when a couple with experience caring for behaviorally challenged dogs visited the shelter. **Understanding both his strengths and his challenges**, they saw in Angel exactly what they were looking for. After spending time with him, they returned just days later on **Dec. 29, to adopt**. Now renamed Jojo, he is settling into a home that offers the patience, structure and commitment he needs to thrive.

Angel's story reflects the importance of individualized care and the impact of investing time and resources into animals who need it most. With the right support, and the right match, even the most challenging cases can lead to lasting, successful adoptions.



"Angel is now named Jojo because it was clear he was no angel. Most importantly, he now has a loving family, great yard to play in and goes on multiple walks or car rides each day. We love Jojo and are working daily to correct his behavior issues."



REVENUE \$2,715,643

EXPENSES \$2,306,561

April 7 April 19-25 May 9 August 31 October 21 December 1



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jack Gustin Chairman
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 Holly Bergman
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LEADERSHIP

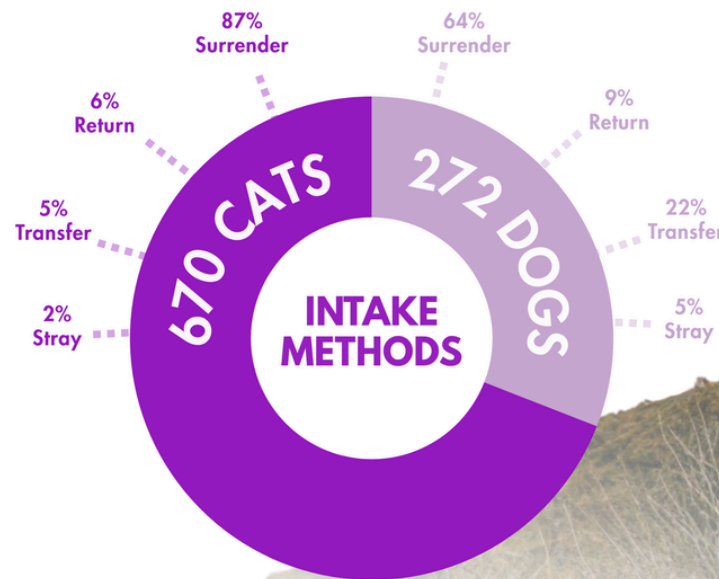
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 Emily Sathis Director of Community Engagement
 Tina McCabe Director of Resale Operations

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BRYNNE SMITH
MEMORIAL CAMPUS



I CHOSE ADOPTION