



TAILS TRIBUNE

NOVEMBER 2025



We are grateful for the devoted community members who serve on the Yakima Humane Society Board of Directors. Meet them (and some of their four-legged friends) below:



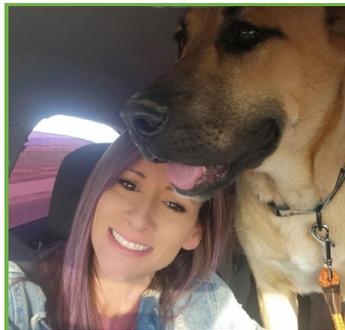
John Gorman - President



SaraBecca Martin - Vice President



Jeff Boyd - Executive Director



Heather Watson - Treasurer



Mary Jo Pinnell

Not Pictured: Bridget Gates - Secretary



MaryAbigail Dills



Dr. Sandy Wasson



Bruce Noyes



Tracy Anderson



Piper Richmond



Shantelle Peltier



Dr. Katie Isbell



Brittney Mercy

The Yakima Humane Society was founded in 1904. We are a private, nonprofit animal welfare organization proud to be serving the people and animals of Yakima County for over 100 years. We practice and promote the humane treatment of animals through our adoption, spay/neuter services, and outreach programs.

Dear Supporters,

As we begin this edition of the Yakima Humane Society newsletter, I want to share a bit of my journey and the exciting direction we are heading together.

I first joined YHS in 2005, when it was still known as the Humane Society of Central Washington. I was young and eager to work with animals, starting out as an Animal Control Officer. That role quickly immersed me in the realities of animal welfare. The shelter looked very different back then. It was a challenging time, and everything I have learned since has reshaped how I approach this work.

Over the years, I held many roles, including Pet Listing Specialist and Adoption & Transfer Coordinator. Each position helped me understand the needs of our community and how we could better serve it. Today, as Director of Shelter

Operations, I am proud to be part of a team that works every day to create positive outcomes for animals and the people who love them.

One of the most meaningful moments in my career was adopting a small dog in 2019 who had behavioral challenges. He became my little home greeter and now joins me at work, helping other animals who are struggling. It is a reminder of how far we have come and how much compassion drives everything we do. YHS is a dedicated, compassionate organization committed to growth, healing, and second chances. Thank you for being part of this journey. I am excited about what lies ahead and grateful for your continued support.

~Kelli

A LETTER FROM KELLI PEAL
DIRECTOR OF SHELTER OPERATIONS



**GET INVOLVED:
FOSTERING AND TRANSPORT DRIVING**

At Yakima Humane Society, we rely on community members to help us care for animals in need. Two of the most impactful ways to get involved are by **becoming a foster caregiver or a volunteer transport driver**. These roles are essential to our mission and offer meaningful, hands-on ways to make a difference.

Fostering saves lives. When you foster, you give an animal a break from the shelter and a chance to heal, grow, and prepare for adoption. Some fosters care for bottle-fed babies or nursing moms, while others help pets recovering from illness or injury. We also rely on fosters for shy or underweight kittens, or simply to give healthy pets a soft place to land. Whether it's a few days or a few months, your care will change a life.

Foster families provide a safe indoor space, basic care, socialization, and



transportation to vet appointments. Yakima Humane Society supplies everything else, including food, supplies, medical care, and 24/7 support. Fostering is flexible and deeply rewarding, especially for animal lovers who aren't ready to adopt full-time. And yes, if you fall in love with your foster, adoption is always an option.

Volunteer transport drivers play a key role in moving animals from the shelter to rescue partners, foster homes, or adoption centers. Whether it's a short local trip or a longer drive, they help pets reach safety and new beginnings. Volunteers must be 21+, have a valid license and insurance, a reliable vehicle, and complete a brief application and waiver.

FOSTERING SAVES LIVES. Driving changes futures. Join us today.



**If you're ready to get involved,
we'd love to hear from you!**

Contact Rachel at
Rachel@YakimaHumane.org

You can also learn more online at
www.YakimaHumane.org

Meet some of the furry friends who call the Yakima Humane Society home. Many of these animals have been with us for quite some time and are anxiously awaiting their new homes.

STOP BY AND GET TO KNOW THEM TODAY!



VEGAS arrived FEBRUARY 28, 2025

Vegas is a friendly, playful boy with a heart full of love and a tail that never quits wagging! This affectionate pup lives for attention and will gladly soak up every cuddle and belly rub you've got to give. This outgoing, happy guy would thrive in a home filled with love, playtime, and positive vibes.



DUSTIN arrived JULY 31, 2025

Dustin is all about fun, tail wags, and treats. He knows "sit," rocks a goofy grin, and gets along great with other dogs. Whether he's your one-and-only or part of a pack, Dustin is sure to bring endless smiles!



JIMMY arrived JULY 8, 2025

Jimmy is 60 pounds of pure love! This handsome boy has soulful, expressive eyes that could melt anyone's heart. He's friendly, eager to please, and adores being around people. A total lovebug who just wants to be near his humans.



MOLLY arrived JULY 28, 2025

Molly is 70 pounds of pure joy and tail wags! She's friendly, outgoing, and full of energy. Molly gets along great with other dogs and loves to romp around with friends. She's super social and adores people, too!



WEBSTER arrived JULY 24, 2025

Webster is the definition of a happy-go-lucky goofball! This medium-sized bundle of joy has a big heart, an even bigger personality, and a smile that never quits. Webster loves rolling in the grass, soaking up belly rubs, and greeting everyone like an old friend. He's full of joy, energy, and endless charm.



FREYA

Freya is a 4.5-year-old domestic shorthair who's full of spunk and sweetness. This playful girl will happily show off her pounce skills for anyone willing to play along! Adorable, curious, and full of personality, Freya is sure to bring joy and laughter to any home.



VIOLET

This sweet 4-month-old domestic short hair is still finding her confidence. Violet has gorgeous torbie markings and a super soft coat that's just begging for pets. With a little patience and love, she'll blossom into a playful, affectionate companion!



TIMS

This 7-month-old is as handsome as he is sweet. Due to a past illness, Tims has limited vision, but it doesn't slow him down! He enjoys listening to your voice, and often talks back with his adorable meows. Tims is a loving, vocal companion who just wants someone to share conversations.



KELLI MARIE

Kelli Marie is a spunky 3-month-old tabby kitten with a wild bobcat-like look! She's full of energy, curiosity, and affection, and she's ready to bring action and love into any home lucky enough to adopt her. Be prepared-this little dynamo is all about fun and snuggles!

LONG TERM RESIDENTS
AND ADOPTABLE PETS AT YHS

#GIVING TUESDAY

PAW

TUESDAY • DECEMBER 2, 2025

IF NO ONE ELSE CAN, THEN WHO WILL? If there was no Yakima Humane Society, or local animal rescues, what fate would be in store for the homeless and abandoned animals in our Valley? The answer is given: The suffering would be unimaginable. Last year, our shelter took in over 3,000 animals in need of a place to go.

THIS YEAR, WE ARE ON TRACK TO TAKE IN MORE THAN 4,000 ANIMALS. The demand for help is not only never-ending, but often overwhelming. All services are crucial, but spaying and neutering our pets is key to reducing animal overpopulation and ending animal suffering. We know we cannot adopt our way out of this crisis.

“The magic of generosity is that it’s never been about heroic individual efforts but about the collective power of people coming together, believing that we’re capable of so much more when we do things together.”

Asha Curran - GivingTuesday CEO

When you support the Yakima Humane Society’s 2025 **#GIVINGTUESDAY** campaign, you are supporting our lifesaving efforts through our **FRESH START FIX** and **MY LAST LITTER** programs.

The **FRESH START FIX** program is intended to stop the cycle of unaltered pets roaming and reproducing in our Valley. When pets are redeemed from the Yakima Humane Society, their owner is provided with the opportunity to have that pet altered at the YHS Spay and Neuter Clinic free of charge. Pets that are spayed/neutered are proven to leave their property less and have fewer negative behavior interactions. By providing this service, YHS endeavors to fix these concerns while striving to end the overpopulation of unwanted pets.

The **MY LAST LITTER** program is designed to help curb the unwanted offspring of owned pets in our community. This program offers free spay, vaccinations and microchipping for the mother, and in turn, we accept the full litter of healthy socialized kittens or puppies, which will all be spayed/neutered, vaccinated and microchipped prior to adoption.



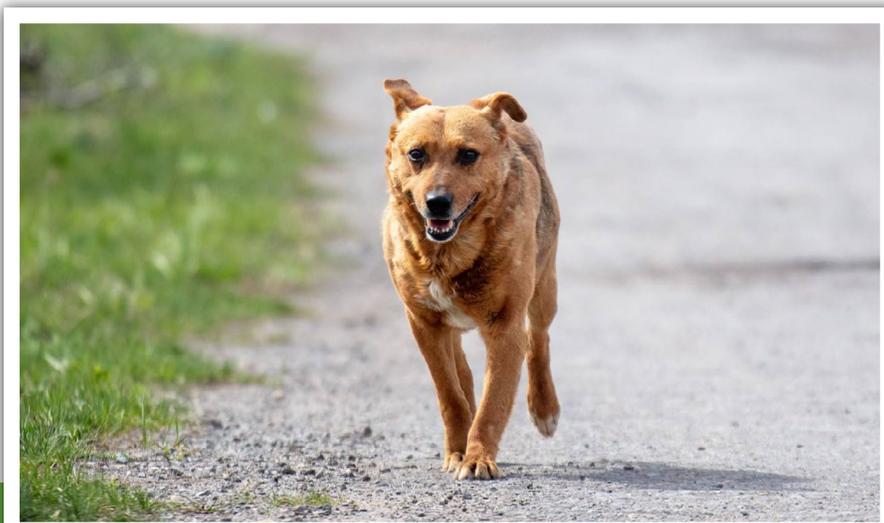
Your dollars will be doubled thanks to our generous sponsors:

TOP DOG

RICK AND MARY JO PINNELL

TRUE COMPANION

RUSSELL MAIER AND SARA CATE



HOW TO SUPPORT OUR WORK THROUGH THESE PROGRAMS:

YHS WEBSITE



www.YakimaHumane.org

MAIL A CHECK

Yakima Humane Society
2405 West Birchfield Road,
Yakima, Washington 98901

FACEBOOK



 /YakimaHumane

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2025 CHAMPS!



WE DID IT AGAIN! Thanks to the incredible passion and generosity of our supporters, **Yakima Humane Society has claimed the March Muttness National Championship for the second year in a row.** More than 600 donors rallied behind our mission, helping us raise over \$125,000 in the 2025 campaign alone.

Winning once was exciting. Winning twice shows the strength of a movement. This back-to-back victory reflects the heart of our community and the dedication of our team, volunteers, and partners. Every dollar raised brings us closer to a future where every pet is wanted, protected, and given a chance to thrive.

If you have not seen our trophy case lately, now is a great time to visit the adoption center and celebrate with us. And if you were one of the many who donated, shared, or cheered us on, thank you. **You helped make history.**

AT YAKIMA HUMANE SOCIETY, WE BELIEVE EVERY PET DESERVES ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL CARE. Our low-cost vaccine clinics help prevent deadly diseases like rabies, parvovirus, and distemper while making veterinary services affordable for families across Central Washington. These clinics are a lifeline for pets and a safeguard for public health.

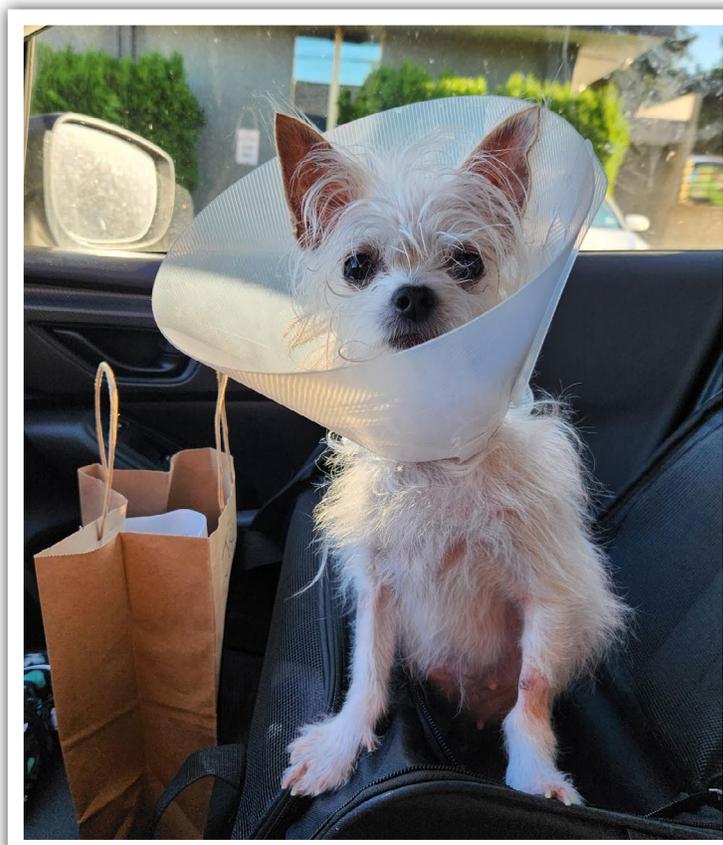


Thank you to Forbes Mercy for donating over 10,000 microchips, enough to cover an entire year of needs at YHS!

In 2025, we hosted three mobile clinics from Ellensburg to Sunnyside, providing hundreds of pets with vaccinations, microchips, and wellness support. For many families, this was their first opportunity to connect with veterinary care. We also offered education on spaying, neutering, parasite control, and responsible pet ownership, all of which help keep pets healthy and out of shelters.

We are proud of what we accomplished and excited to build on this success in 2026. Our goal is to expand clinic reach and frequency so that more families can access the care their pets need. **Every pet should be spayed, neutered, vaccinated, and microchipped, and every family should have the tools to make that possible.**

With your continued support, we can create a safer, healthier, and more compassionate community. Together, we are protecting lives and building brighter futures for pets and the people who love them.

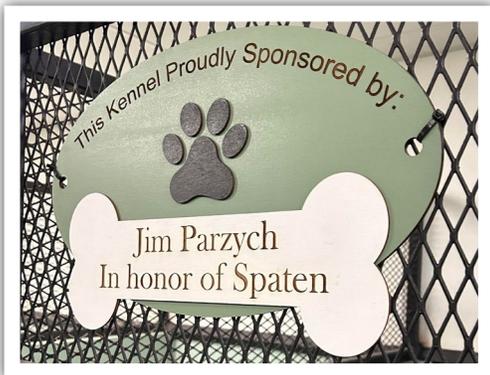




SPONSOR A KENNEL



• ONLY \$2.74 A DAY •



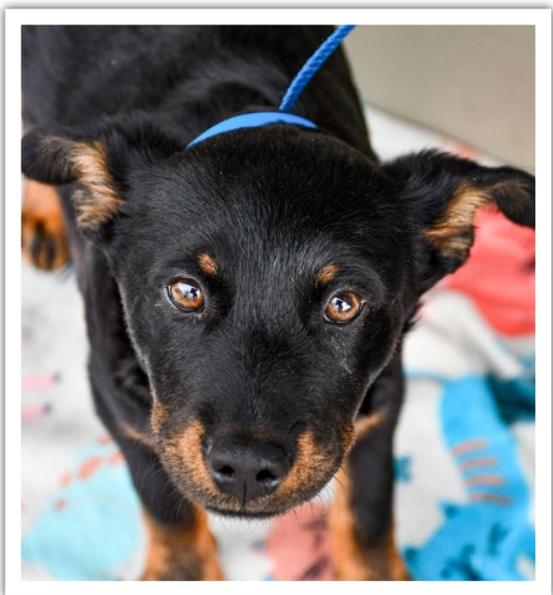
One of the most meaningful ways you can support the animals in need is by **sponsoring a kennel at the YHS Adoption Center**. When you become a kennel sponsor, we'll create a custom sign just for you and place it on the kennel of your choice. You'll have the pride of knowing that you are supporting an organization that protects and cares for over 4,000 homeless animals each year.

Personalize your sign as you see fit – your name, your business, or in memory of a beloved family member, friend, or cherished pet. It's entirely up to you!

For just \$1,000 a year, you can transform a life! By sponsoring a kennel, you provide homeless pets with safe shelter, nourishing meals, clean water, essential medical care, and, most importantly, a chance to find a loving forever home. Your generosity gives them the second chance they deserve!

Best of all, you'll receive a personalized email each month with a picture of the pet who spent time in your kennel.

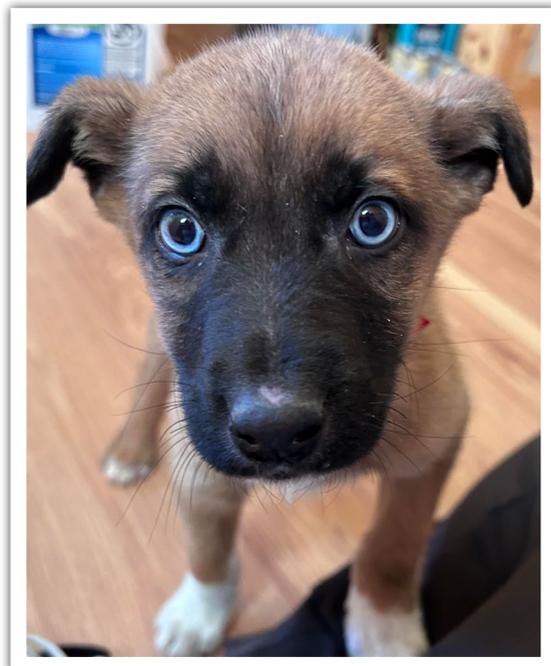
YHS is a 501 (c)(3) Nonprofit organization. Our success relies solely on donations from caring and generous members. Donations are tax deductible.



The Yakima Humane Society's partnership with the City of Ellensburg has sparked a major shift in animal welfare across Kittitas County. **Since taking on operations, we have increased both adoptions and spay and neuter surgeries by 250 percent**, creating safer communities and brighter futures for pets and people alike.

The Ellensburg Adoption Center is now a cornerstone of care in the region. With a growing foster network, new rescue transfer partners, and a dedicated team on site, we are reaching more animals than ever before. Every adoption and every surgery reflects the power of local support and the strength of our shared commitment.

If you live in Kittitas County and want to get involved, there are plenty of ways to help. Whether you are ready to adopt, foster, volunteer, or donate, your support makes a direct impact right here at home. Visit www.YakimaHumane.org to learn more and take the next step.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



FUR BALL GALA & AUCTION

is making its long-awaited return in the
Fall of 2026!

Get ready for an unforgettable evening filled with heart, celebration, and community. **Stay tuned for the official date and location** — this is for sure to be the event of the season!

CLAWS FOR PAWS CRAB FEED is back —
SAVE THE DATE for **Saturday, February 7, 2026!**

Join us at the Yakima SunDome for an unforgettable evening in support of the Yakima Humane Society. Bring your friends and enjoy a lively night filled with dinner and drinks, an epic dessert dash, ring toss fun, exciting raffle prizes, dancing, and more.

Tickets go on sale in December, and since this event sells out every year, grab yours early and secure your spot for one of the most beloved gatherings of the season!

Fur Ball

GALA & AUCTION