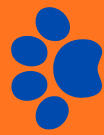


# ANGELS AMONG US

## ANGELS WITH PAWS NEWSLETTER



Winter 2026 Edition



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**Angels With Paws**  
**Cat Rescue & Adoption Center**

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(303) 274-2264

[www.angelswithpaws.net](http://www.angelswithpaws.net)

# A NOTE FROM ANGELS WITH PAWS



## Our Newsletter Is Back!

After a two-year “paws,” we’re excited to bring back our newsletter with a fresh look and a renewed focus on the heart of our work: the cats, the people, and the community that make Angels With Paws possible.

The past few years have brought growth, challenges, and countless moments that reminded us why this work matters. This new version of our newsletter is a way to share those stories more openly. The wins. The learning moments. The impact you help create every day. That includes a new name for our quarterly newsletter: *Angels Among Us*. We wanted a title that feels timeless and reflects the future we’re building together.

And, as you’ll see in this issue, we’ve been up to a lot lately. The newsletter isn’t the only thing that got a makeover—read more in our feature story on the next page and check out our recurring updates. As always, we want to hear from you and encourage you to share newsletter feedback, story suggestions, and, of course, stop by our rescue if you haven’t visited us in a while.

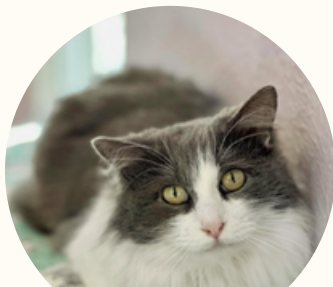
*We’re grateful to be back in your inbox, and we thank you for your continued support!*

Sincerely,  
Angels With Paws Staff and Board of Directors



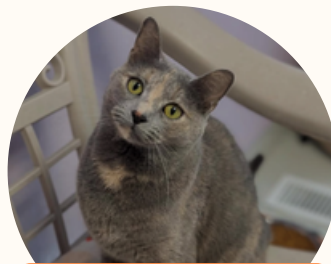
## ABOUT US

Angels With Paws is a mostly cage-free rescue shelter dedicated to providing compassionate care, rehabilitation, and security to cats in need until they find safe and lasting homes. A 501(c)(3) organization, our life-saving work relies entirely on private donations, as well as the invaluable support of volunteers and fosters. Every donation directly supports our staff and the cats in our care. Together, we can continue saving lives and finding loving homes for cats in need.



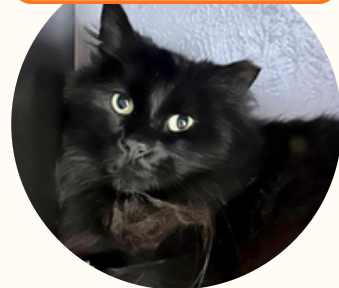
**Gracie Mae**  
(available)

**Ewok**  
(available)



**Emily**  
(recently adopted)

**Mr. Drac**  
(available)



# FRONT & CENTER

## A Welcome in Full Color



If you've driven by our rescue lately, you've probably noticed something new.

The front of Angels With Paws has been transformed.

Our new exterior mural, created by Vision 88 artists Heilig (lead artist), Grhimm Xavier, and Anna Ladika, covers the front of the building with vivid color and movement. What was once a neutral façade now serves as a bright, unmistakable welcome.

The project came together after the team reimagined an earlier concept and started fresh. "The project had previously been abandoned, so we kind of redesigned the mural, and it just seemed like a great opportunity to do something good for the community," Heilig said.

The artists brought the new direction to life in spray paint over just a few days.

Personal style is woven into the details. "I really love the background stripes," Heilig said. "I've been painting tapered stripes my whole life, so it really feels like it's something that represents my style."

The mural is vibrant and impossible to overlook. "Like most of my artwork, it's pretty lighthearted. So it's mainly, it's a bold representation of a cat meant to draw attention and hopefully raise awareness for the shelter," Heilig said.

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# FRONT & CENTER

## A Welcome in Full Color

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For Grhimm Xavier, the impact reaches beyond the wall itself.

“This project has been a really great opportunity to kind of showcase how artistry itself can be a bridge to the community,” he said. “It gives the shelter much needed attention. And for me, I think that’s probably the most important thing.”

Executive Director Elizabeth Talamantez sees that shift immediately. “It reflects the care, comfort, and hope we work to give every cat who comes through our doors. Now people can feel that before they even step inside.”

“This mural honors the cats we’ve already helped and the thousands we’ll continue to serve,” said Board President Dalaina Daniels. “It’s a visible reminder of who we are and what this community makes possible.”

The transformation is hard to miss.

**Watch the mural come to life [here](#).**



**We’re grateful to Vision 88 for sharing their talent and vision with us.**



### MEET THE ARTISTS



Vision 88 is a Colorado-based artist collective known for large-scale murals and community-driven public art. Their work blends bold color, movement, and storytelling to create pieces that bring energy and connection to shared spaces.

Learn more at [vision88co.com](https://www.vision88co.com).

Connect with the artists on Instagram

- Heilig — [@heilig\\_art](#)
- Grhimm Xavier — [@grhimmx](#)
- Anna Ladika — [@a.lad.art](#)



# PURRSONALITIES

Elizabeth Talamantez  
Executive Director



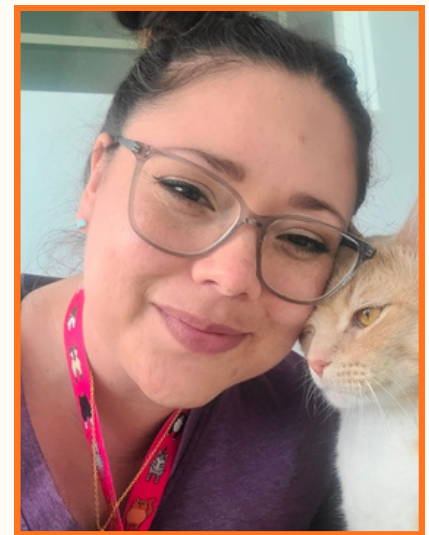
Elizabeth shares how she found her way to rescue, the moments that have shaped her, and her vision for Angels With Paws.

## ***What led you to get involved with Angels With Paws?***

"After a significant life change and becoming disabled, I found myself searching for purpose and direction. I began volunteering with AATPC, which reconnected me with my love for animals and reminded me how powerful that bond can be. When I felt ready to return to work in a meaningful way, I came across a part-time position with Angels With Paws, and that's where everything truly began."

## ***Is there a specific moment that stands out to you?***

"Rescue is incredibly rewarding, but it also carries profound heartbreak and moments of deep self-doubt. We once had a cat who was very reactive toward hands, and I worked tirelessly to earn his trust. Over time, he transformed into the biggest love bug and was ready for adoption. After moving to the adoption floor, he developed an upper respiratory infection. To avoid undoing the trust we had built through repeated medication, we opted for a Convenia injection after a veterinary exam. Tragically, he experienced a rare adverse reaction, and we had to let him go. In the aftermath, I questioned every decision. Rescue asks you to make the best choices you can with the information you have, but that doesn't shield your heart from the outcome. I still cry over him. I still miss him. Louie... my boy."



## ***What's one area of growth or progress you're excited to see at AWP?***

"I'm especially excited to grow our community-driven programs focused on keeping cats in the homes that already love them. Many surrenders happen because families need temporary support with veterinary care. By stepping in with assistance, we can prevent unnecessary separation and reduce shelter intake. I'm also looking forward to building a small boarding space to provide temporary refuge for cats whose families are facing domestic violence, homelessness, or medical emergencies. Sometimes all someone needs is a safe place for their pet while they stabilize, and we can be that bridge."

## ***If you had to describe AWP's culture in three words, what would they be?***

"Mission-driven, dedicated, and passionate"

Elizabeth's journey and vision go beyond this snapshot. Her full Q&A is on our website.

## Purr-om Is Back for 2026

After hosting our first-ever Purr-om in July 2025, we're bringing it back! What began as a new fundraiser quickly became a night that brought our community together while raising critical support for the cats in our care. Planning for Purr-om 2026 is already underway, and we're assembling the team to help shape the event. From décor and themes to sponsorship outreach, raffles, and logistics, there are numerous ways to contribute. **Email us if you'd like to join our planning committee.**



## Volunteers Make It Possible

The daily work inside the rescue depends on volunteers. From feeding our kitties to doing laundry (we have a lot of laundry!) to cleaning rooms and tackling the small projects that keep everything running, it all adds up and makes a real difference. **We're always looking for volunteers. Ready to get involved? Contact us.**

## New Website Is Coming Soon

We're putting the finishing touches on a refreshed Angels With Paws website with a clean, modern design and improved navigation to make finding information on news, events, and adoptable cats even easier. Stay tuned!

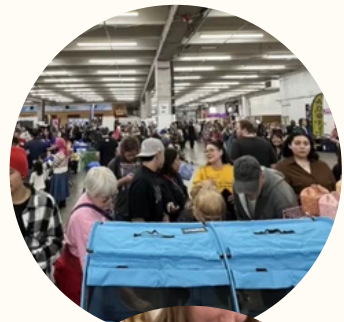
# EVENTS & HAPPENINGS

## Cat Fest Is Coming to Loveland!

On Saturday, March 21, Angels With Paws will be at **Cat Fest Loveland** at The Ranch Events Complex—and we're bringing the same energy that helped us find homes for 11 kittens at Cat Fest in Denver last November. It's truly one of our favorite events of the year, and we know so many of our supporters love it too.

Stop by our table, meet the team, and support the rescue through merchandise sales that directly support the cats in our care. If you're interested in volunteering to help with setup or staffing the booth, **we'd love to have you join us.** The event starts at 11:00 a.m., with VIP entry at 10:00 a.m.

With spring just around the corner, festival season will soon pick up, bringing plenty more opportunities to connect with Angels With Paws in the months ahead.





# BY THE NUMBERS

2025 was our biggest year ever for intakes and adoptions at Angels With Paws!



Intakes  
in 2025



Adoptions  
in 2025



Active foster homes

# \$40,603

You stepped up in a **big** way to support us! Colorado Gives Day is our largest fundraising effort of the year, and thanks to you, we raised more than \$40,000 to help care for the cats in our shelter. That total doesn't include the generosity you show us throughout the year.

2025 marked a record year for spay and neuter surgeries. It was also a year that tested us, with several unexpected medical emergencies requiring immediate and often intensive care.

These situations can be expensive, and the support of our community allows us to respond when they arise. It ensures we can continue providing the care our cats need.





## Peanut & Cleo

"Just over eight years ago, I walked into the rescue. As a young 21-year-old, I had always dreamed of adopting a cat, and I had my mind set on a younger, healthy, solo kitty to bring home.

After looking at (almost) all the cats currently up for adoption and not feeling a bond, I was walking out the door when I heard a meow that would forever change my life.



Cleo was meowing and standing on her hind paws at the window to their small, padded room. I looked at the clipboard: a 7-year-old brother-and-sister bonded pair with Cerebellar Hypoplasia (CH). Not at all what I had been looking for. But I felt a pull. The second I went in and sat down, they both ran (wobbled) to my lap, and it was like two pieces of my soul clicked into place.

Eight years later, so much has happened. For eight years, they have been my one constant comfort. They have saved my life more than I ever could have known, and every morning I wake up, I thank the universe and you all for sending me my two angels with paws.



It has been hard for me as they've gotten older. They've been there for me through my most challenging times, and I cannot imagine life without them. I try to appreciate every moment with them and cherish every wobble and snuggle.

They are my family and my home, and I am so irrevocably grateful to Angels With Paws for bringing them into my life.

I am forever changed for the better, thanks to them and to you all.

Thank you, from the bottom of my heart."

– Daisy

**We LOVE hearing and sharing these stories! If you have a submission you'd like us to consider for Angel Connection, [please email us.](#)**

# COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

Just before the holidays, one “yes” changed everything.

Angels With Paws was preparing to take in one double-positive kitty (FIV+ and FeLV+) from Oklahoma. What began as a rescue for one cat quickly expanded when a small colony needed placement after a local rescue stepped in to provide spay, neuter, and vaccinations.

Several of the cats were adoption-ready. They just needed space and a partner willing to help them begin again.

That’s where **Pilots N Paws** stepped in. Thanks to volunteer pilot James, 10 cats made the journey from Oklahoma to Colorado and arrived safely in our care.

We’re also grateful to **Kit E Kat’s Rescue** in Tulsa for coordinating the effort and helping give these deserving cats a fresh start in Colorado.



# WHISKER WISDOM

## Why Do Some Cats Love Catnip?

If you’ve ever watched a cat roll, flop, or sprint across the room after sniffing catnip, you’ve seen the effect firsthand. But not every cat reacts the same way.

Catnip contains a compound called nepetalactone. When cats smell it, it binds to receptors in the nose and stimulates sensory neurons that influence behavior. The result can look dramatic: rolling, rubbing, zooming, or bursts of energy. Some cats become more relaxed instead. Sensitivity is hereditary, and about 30 to 40 percent of cats show little or no response. Kittens under a few months old typically don’t respond because the sensitivity develops as they mature.

The effect usually lasts 10 to 15 minutes, followed by a short period of temporary desensitization, meaning your cat won’t respond again right away. In small amounts, catnip is safe and can encourage play or activity.



# SUPPORT THE MISSION



**Cheech**  
(available to foster to adopt)

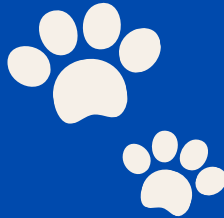
You can help Angels With Paws by purchasing much-needed items from our Amazon and Chewy wish lists. From food and litter to cleaning supplies, grooming essentials, treats, and toys, we go through a significant amount each month to keep the shelter clean and our cats happy and healthy. Your support helps us focus our resources where they matter most: caring for the cats.

[Amazon Wishlist](#)

[Chewy Wishlist](#)

**Every monetary donation counts—no matter how big or small:**

- [Givebutter](#)
- [Paypal](#)
- Cashapp: \$angelswithpaws1970
- Venmo: @awpcatrescue



*Check out the Donate page of our website for other ways to give back and support Angels With Paws!*



**Support Angels With Paws Through King Soopers Community Rewards**

You can support Angels With Paws every time you shop at King Soopers. **Through the King Soopers Community Rewards program, a portion of your everyday purchases is donated to the rescue at no additional cost to you.**

To participate, sign in to your digital King Soopers account and select Angels With Paws in the Community Rewards section to link your Shopper's Card. Once linked, simply shop and swipe as usual. It's an easy way to support us through your regular grocery purchases.



# SUPPORT THE MISSION

Because who doesn't love cute cat photos and videos?! Give us a follow:

**Anders**  
(recently adopted)



[facebook.com/awpcatrescue](https://facebook.com/awpcatrescue)



[instagram.com/angelswithpawscatrescue](https://instagram.com/angelswithpawscatrescue)



[tiktok.com/@angels.with.paws](https://tiktok.com/@angels.with.paws)



## Support the Rescue. Wear It Well.

The Angels With Paws merchandise collection is available through Bonfire. Every purchase helps fund the daily care our cats depend on, from meals and litter to medical support and enrichment.

**[Take a look at the collection](#)** and find your favorite.

## CONTACT US

Have a question, idea, or story to share? Whether you're interested in volunteering, fostering, or being featured in our newsletter, we'd love to hear from you.

**Volunteering:** [volunteer@angelswithpaws.net](mailto:volunteer@angelswithpaws.net)

**Fostering, newsletter features, or general inquiries:** [info@angelswithpaws.net](mailto:info@angelswithpaws.net)