ORAGANIZATION HISTORY

Routt County Humane Society (RCHS) was established in 1985 to serve the welfare of animals in Routt County, Colorado. Since its inception, RCHS has worked in partnership with the Steamboat Springs Animal Shelter (SSAS), a facility of the City of Steamboat Springs to provide veterinary care for shelter animals as well as providing spay/neuter services to reduce pet overpopulation. The RCHS has also provided veterinary care assistance for low-income family pets.

On May 1, 2015, RCHS assumed full responsibility for the operation and management of the only open-admission animal shelter in Routt County. RCHS has evolved by changing its focus to the provision of animal-related programs for both shelter and community pets and by becoming a full-service adoption center that serves the community and reflects its values.
OUR MISSION

We are a nonprofit community resource dedicated to encouraging respect for the dignity and worth of all animals by providing safe haven, promoting adoption, and decreasing the number of unwanted pets. We believe in second chances and are committed to advocating for animals and the people who love them.

OUR VISION

Leading the movement toward innovative sheltering—nurturing animals in body, mind, and heart until everyone has a loving home.

THE FIVE FREEDOMS OF ANIMAL WELFARE THAT GUIDES OUR WORK

1. Freedom from hunger and thirst by ready access to fresh water and diet to maintain health and vigor.
2. Freedom from discomfort by providing an appropriate environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area.
3. Freedom from pain, injury and disease by prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment.
4. Freedom to express normal behavior by providing sufficient space, proper facilities and company of the animal’s own kind.
5. Freedom from fear and distress by ensuring conditions and treatment which avoid mental suffering.
CORE VALUES

1. Support an open-admission animal shelter. We believe all animals deserve a safe-haven and to have their care and treatment guided by the Five Freedoms.

2. Create a haven—a place offering positive opportunities and conditions for every animal and the community.

3. Be a compassionate and trusted resource for services, programs and information.

4. Cultivate and grow our community of volunteers, adopters, donors, employees, and animal lovers.

5. Better the lives of animals and humans through physical, mental, and spiritual support and connections.

6. Continually push toward our goals while staying rooted in our beliefs and beginnings.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Create Sustainable Funding

Branding, Education, and Advocacy

Provide Quality Animal Services and Programs to Enhance the Human-Animal Bond and Promote Responsible Pet Ownership

Culture and Governance

Create Innovative New Shelter to Serve Northwest Colorado
As Routt County Humane Society continues to evolve, we will strive to develop programs and services that benefit our community pets while providing quality care for shelter animals. With this strategic plan guiding our progress, our goal is to enhance the human-animal bond and to be the premier animal shelter in Northwest Colorado.