



WINTER 2023 NEWSLETTER

“Working together to improve the welfare of reservation dogs and cats”

“Diné Bikéyah bikáá’góó, ahiil-neilnishgo lééchaah’i dóó mósí baa’ ádahwiilyáago”

Email: blackhathumane@gmail.com

www.BlackhatHumaneSociety.org

Facebook: [Blackhat Humane Society](https://www.facebook.com/BlackhatHumaneSociety)



All happier **Song**

Since her father is veterinarian, Skyler Stevens often gets calls from her friends when they find a starving or injured animal. One hot July day, while Sky was in Ecuador returning from a trip to the Galapagos Islands, it was her friend Jess on the phone. On the highway somewhere between Window Rock and Gallup, Jess had picked up a weak, starving puppy and his emaciated mom. Upon her return, Sky picked up the pair to foster them for Blackhat. The puppy, Oliver, rebounded quickly, but the mom,

whom Sky named “Song Dog” because she was so coyote-like, had a bad case of pneumonia, a tick-borne disease and a diaphragmatic hernia that had completely displaced her internal organs. Undaunted, Sky set about to raise the money for her vet bills, first with a GoFundMe page and then with an appeal to Blackhat donors, who came through

Song when she was first rescued (right) and now (above)



big-time. Five months later, Sky is a happy, healthy dog with personality plus. Her main quality, as her name implies, is her incredible vocal range. “She howls, whines and grumbles,” Sky explained. “She’s always telling me her opinion, and her opinion is usually that I’m not giving her enough food!” Sky is going to take Song home to Memphis for Christmas in hopes that a family member will adopt her.

In Memoriam

In memory of Rex, a beautiful German Shepherd adopted in 2016. We couldn’t have asked for a more perfect dog. If only we could have more time together.

— T. & P. John

It’s that time of year!

There are many ways to support Blackhat with a tax-deductible end-of-year donation. Donate through our website, use Zelle or just put a check in the mail, and ask us for a tax letter if you’d like one. You can also shop our unique products! Our 2024 calendar is out, and of course there are always our fabulous T-shirts and stickers! Just visit our website.



The Numbers

September through November

36 new dogs/cats taken into foster care

44 adopted

52 dogs/cats in foster care looking for their forever homes

The Money

September through November

\$ 19,348 spent on vet services

\$5,905 on foster support

\$1,015 spent on transport

\$ 1,413 on community service/outreach

Ahehee’ Thank you!

Airport Animal Hospital, Cedar Animal Medical, Continental Animal Wellness, Kaibab Veterinary Clinic, Montezuma Veterinary Clinic, Nav Nation Veterinary Services, Prescott Animal Hospital, Rez Solutions, Dr. Sand, San Juan Veterinary Hospital, Thrive Pet Health Care Specialists, Wild Horse Ranch Rescue, K. Arrington, O. Bortfeld, T. Braymer, T. Burgess, E. Caryl, L. Close, M. Daggett, M. Dargitz, N. Davis-Bowen, K. Edwards, T. Eilerts, J&C Enns, M. Folkemer, T. Frost, E. Fryer, L. Gilbert, P. Giordano, J. Goheen, N. Hager, C. Hansel, K. Hood, J. Jim, B. Johnson, K. Kitchen, R. Lackey, D.Lee, P. Massey, E. McCollum, A McGregor, G. Morris, K&F Palumbo, N. Platzer, L. Reed, C. Roberts, S. Scheffler, R. Sherwin, T. Sharp, N. Shinn, E. Stabler, A. Stump, M. Tiscareno and all who fostered, adopted, donated, prayed, transported or contributed in any way.



P.O. Box 3123
Durango, CO
81302
www.blackhathumanesociety.org



B L A C K H A T H U M A N E S O C I E T Y

Driving Miss Daisy (and Buddha Boy, and Rain, and Larry, and Susie and...)



Chuck transporting Rain, who ended up being a foster failure in Durango.

As a kid, Chuck Greiner never got to have a dog. With five children, his parents felt there was enough chaos in the house without adding a puppy.

But when he was in high school, and some of his older siblings had already left the house, Chuck's father came home with a Labrador retriever to help him hunt. Chuck was smitten, and since he has been an adult, dogs have been a part of his life, including his current two Corgis.

"When I retired, I knew I wanted to do dogs," Chuck said. Living in Mesa, Arizona, he had always been intrigued by the Navajo reservation, and when he saw a Facebook post one day in 2021 about a dog needing transport from Chinle, he volunteered.

"I was nervous because I had never done anything like that before," Chuck recalled. But Buddha Boy lived up to his name, calm and quiet throughout the long drive, and Chuck thought this was something he could do.

Over a dozen transports later — including one all the way to Sisters, Ore. — Chuck is still enjoying his role as the main transporter for Blackhat. He has the checklist down: two leashes per dog so he can hold one in each hand and minimize escapes during potty breaks; seat covers, an assortment of crates, cleaning supplies, treats, toys, and a sealable container to store soiled bedding so it won't smell up the car.

"I enjoy the dogs, I enjoy meeting the fosters and adopters and I really enjoy the beauty of the rez," he said. "I know to some people the need seems overwhelming, but the way I see it, any little thing you can do helps. Getting one dog to a good home is better than none."