

ALBUQUERQUE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION <i>Community Foundation</i> <i>"Mobilizing and stewarding resources to create equitable opportunity for all."</i> https://abqcf.org Profile prepared for: Forever Home Animal Rescue	[Foundation Logo]
Total Assets: \$160.6M (FY2024) Grants Paid (FY2024): ● Not published by field Avg Grant: ● Not published — Need to Know baseline is \$5,000–\$10,000; Annual Cycle amounts not disclosed by field Geographic Focus: Four-county Greater Albuquerque area: Bernalillo, Sandoval, Torrance, and Valencia counties	
 WORTH PURSUING?	
 Pursue with Strategy	
Mission Alignment	High — Animal Welfare is one of ACF's seven fields of interest, and it is their most active category: 11 grantees in 2025, more than any other field. Comparable funded organizations include RezDawg Rescue, Street Cat HUB Inc., and June's Senior Cat Rescue — all direct mission parallels to Forever Home.
Accessibility	Open — Annual Grant Cycle with a two-month open application window. Plus a rolling Need to Know program for grants of \$5,000–\$10,000 with monthly reviews. No invitation required. One of the more accessible community foundations for organizations meeting the geographic criteria.
Relationship Status	Cold — No prior relationship identified. ACF offers Coffee Chat support sessions for prospective applicants — this is the natural first step.
Ask Size Fit	Strong Fit — The Animal Welfare field carries no budget cap (unlike every other ACF category, which requires an organizational budget under \$8M). Forever Home can apply regardless of its operating budget. Specific grant amounts per field are not public — the Need to Know baseline (\$5K–\$10K) provides a floor.
Geographic Fit	Yes — Forever Home serves the Greater Albuquerque area. ACF's service area covers Bernalillo, Sandoval, Torrance, and Valencia counties — confirming overlap. Geographic eligibility is the single gating factor for this application; it is confirmed.

Competitive Landscape	Moderate — With 11 Animal Welfare grantees in 2025, ACF maintains an active community of funded animal welfare organizations. The pool is competitive but not crowded. Organizations with Albuquerque-area operations and demonstrated community outcomes are regularly funded.
Bottom Line: The surface assumption — community foundations are focused on human services and probably won't fund animal rescue — turns out to be wrong at ACF. Animal Welfare is their most active grantmaking category. Forever Home's geographic service area overlaps with ACF's coverage counties, and comparable rescue organizations are in the current portfolio. This is a direct pursue. Start with a Need to Know grant to establish the relationship, then apply in the Annual Grant Cycle.	

PART 2 — RESEARCH DETAIL

The assumption that community foundations don't fund animal rescue is understandable — and wrong here. Animal Welfare is ACF's most active grantmaking category by grantee count: 11 organizations funded in 2025, more than human services, arts, education, or any other field. Specific grant amounts are not published by field.

GIVING SNAPSHOT

FY2024 Grants Paid: ● Not published by field (63 grants)

FY2023 Grants Paid: ● Not published by field

FY2022 Grants Paid: ● Not published by field

Average Grant: ● Not published — Need to Know baseline is \$5,000–\$10,000; Annual Cycle amounts not disclosed by field

Median Grant: ● Not published

Largest Grant on Record: ● Not published — Unknown — donor-advised fund distributions are not publicly itemized (Unknown); Unknown

Multi-Year Grants: Unknown — ACF does not publish multi-year grant policies. The Annual Grant Cycle implies single-year awards. Multi-year status unknown — ask at the Coffee Chat session.

GRANT TYPES

- ✓ **General Operating Support** — Community foundations typically fund both operating support and program grants. ACF's guidelines do not specify — confirm at the Coffee Chat session.
- ✓ **Program / Project Grants** — Program grants to specific initiatives are standard in ACF's Annual Grant Cycle.
- ✗ **Capacity Building** — Not identified as a current program area. Confirm with ACF.
- ✗ **Capital / Facilities** — Not identified as a current program area.
- ✗ **Planning Grants**
- ✗ **Challenge / Matching Grants**
- ✗ **Seed / Startup** — Organizations must have at least 3 years of operating history.
- ✗ **Emergency / Rapid Response**
- ✗ **Fellowship / Individual Awards**

The Need to Know program (\$5,000–\$10,000, rolling reviews) is the fastest path to a first grant. It is an ideal relationship-building tool before a larger Annual Cycle application.

FUNDING PRIORITIES

Stated Priorities

- Animal Welfare — spay/neuter programs, animal shelters, veterinary education, service animal training (no budget cap exception)
- Arts & Culture — creative education, cultural expression, theater, dance
- Education — literacy, vocational training, special needs programs
- Environmental & Historic Preservation — land protection, historic sites, climate justice
- Economic & Workforce Development — local economy, entrepreneur support
- Human Services — homelessness, domestic violence, vulnerable populations
- Health — emergency care, food insecurity, mental health, dental programs

Actual Priorities (from public grant records)

- Animal Welfare — 11 grantees in 2025, the most of any single field
- Arts & Culture — 12 grantees in 2025
- Human Services — 9 grantees in 2025
- Economic & Workforce Development — 9 grantees in 2025
- Health — 8 grantees in 2025
- Environmental & Historic Preservation — 7 grantees in 2025
- Education — 7 grantees in 2025

△ The ACF website lists the Animal Welfare field alongside six others, suggesting equal priority. The actual 2025 grantee data tells a more nuanced story: Animal Welfare has 11 funded organizations, tied with Arts & Culture as the largest category. This signals meaningful institutional commitment to animal welfare — not just a secondary interest.

Will Not Fund

- Organizations with less than 3 years of operating history
- Organizations without a physical presence in Bernalillo, Sandoval, Tarrant, or Valencia counties
- Organizations with annual operating budgets above \$8M (Animal Welfare is explicitly exempted from this cap)
- Organizations out of compliance with ACF's anti-hate policy

Typical Grantee: Established nonprofits (3+ years) with a clear community-serving mission in the Greater Albuquerque four-county area. Animal Welfare grantees in the current portfolio include organizations of different specializations: general animal rescue and adoption (Animal Humane New Mexico, Street Cat HUB), spay/neuter and community animal programs (Animal Protection New

Mexico), specialized rescue (June's Senior Cat Rescue, RezDawg Rescue for Native community dogs), working animals (Paws and Stripes — service dogs for veterans), and large animal rescue (New Mexico Horse Rescue, Tamaya Horse Rehab, The Horse Shelter).

RECENT GRANT HISTORY

Source: 2025 Community Impact Grantees list — ACF public website (abqcf.org/grants/community-impact-grantees/). Note: dollar amounts are not published by ACF for individual community impact grants.

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- **Animal Humane New Mexico** (2025) — \$0 | Albuquerque, NM
Animal shelter, adoption, spay/neuter, and community animal programs — Albuquerque area ★
 - **Animal Protection New Mexico** (2025) — \$0 | Albuquerque, NM
Statewide animal protection advocacy and community programs ★
 - **RezDawg Rescue** (2025) — \$0 | Albuquerque, NM
Dog rescue focusing on animals from Navajo and Pueblo communities ★
 - **Street Cat HUB Inc.** (2025) — \$0 | Albuquerque, NM
Community cat rescue, trap-neuter-return, and adoption programs ★
 - **June's Senior Cat Rescue** (2025) — \$0 | Albuquerque, NM
Senior cat rescue and adoption ★
 - **Paws and Stripes** (2025) — \$0 | Albuquerque, NM
Service dog training for veterans with PTSD and traumatic brain injury
 - **Hawks Aloft** (2025) — \$0 | Albuquerque, NM
Raptor and wildlife rescue, rehabilitation, and education
 - **New Mexico Horse Rescue at Walkin N Circles Ranch** (2025) — \$0 | East Mountains, NM
Large animal rescue and rehabilitation
 - **Tamaya Horse Rehab** (2025) — \$0 | Santa Ana Pueblo, NM
Horse rehabilitation at Santa Ana Pueblo
 - **The Horse Shelter** (2025) — \$0 | Santa Fe, NM
Horse rescue and adoption — northern New Mexico
 - **Bro and Tracy Animal Welfare** (2025) — \$0 | New Mexico
Animal welfare programs — additional details not published ★

Comparable Orgs Funded: • **RezDawg Rescue** — direct mission parallel: general animal rescue serving underserved communities; Albuquerque-based

- **Street Cat HUB Inc.** — direct mission parallel: community rescue and adoption; Albuquerque-based
- **Animal Humane New Mexico** — directly comparable: shelter, rescue, adoption, spay/neuter; the largest animal welfare org in ACF's portfolio
- **June's Senior Cat Rescue** — comparable by type: specialty rescue and adoption
- **Bro and Tracy Animal Welfare** — comparable; additional program details not published

Important note: ACF does not publish individual grant amounts. The analysis above is based on the public grantee list only. Dollar figures cannot be provided without reviewing the 990 Schedule I (the required annual list of all individual grants paid) or contacting ACF directly.

Prior Giving to Client: No

★ = Organization comparable to Forever Home Animal Rescue

PART 3 — HOW TO PURSUE

Forever Home's mission fit is strong. The gating factor is confirming geographic eligibility — ACF's service area is strictly limited to four counties. Once confirmed, the strategy is a two-step approach: a small Need to Know grant to establish the relationship, then the Annual Grant Cycle for a full program ask.

GRANT STRATEGY

Probability Assessment: **High**

Recommended Program to Lead With: Apply under the Animal Welfare field of interest. Do not apply under Human Services (the human-animal bond angle, while real, is secondary to Forever Home's core animal rescue mission). The Animal Welfare field is where Forever Home's 11 peer organizations are funded — apply where the comparable grantees are.

Recommended Ask Size: Two-step approach: (1) Need to Know grant of \$8,000–\$10,000 to establish the relationship and confirm the review process. (2) Annual Grant Cycle ask — amount TBD after attending Coffee Chat and confirming typical award levels for Animal Welfare grantees. Confirm grant size norms with ACF staff before submitting.

Timing: Step 1: Request a Coffee Chat session as soon as the next application window opens. This should happen before any grant submission. Step 2: Apply in the next available Need to Know cycle (rolling, monthly reviews). Step 3: Apply in the Annual Grant Cycle once the relationship is established.

Relationship Entry Point: Coffee Chat session with ACF grants staff. Come prepared with a clear one-paragraph description of Forever Home's programs, budget size, and Albuquerque service area. The goal is not to pitch for a grant — it is to confirm eligibility, understand what ACF values in Animal Welfare applications, and put a human face on the organization before the portal submission.

LOI Emphasis: The application should lead with Forever Home's community impact in the Greater Albuquerque area: animals served, adoption rates, spay/neuter volume, and any programs that connect animal welfare to human outcomes (pet food bank, foster family support). ACF's equity mission means applications that show service to underserved communities — low-income pet owners, Native American community animals, working-class neighborhoods — will resonate.

Gaps to Address Before Applying

- Confirm that Forever Home has a documented physical presence in one of the four eligible counties — this is required and must be verifiable
- Compile outcome metrics before applying: number of animals rescued per year, adoption rates, community programs served
- Attend a Coffee Chat session to confirm typical grant sizes for Animal Welfare — this data is not publicly available and is critical for sizing the ask

Red Flags

- ⚠ Applying without confirming geographic eligibility — this is the most common reason applicants

are declined without review

- ⚠ Sizing the ask above what ACF typically awards in Animal Welfare without first confirming norms with grants staff

→ **Recommended Next Action:** Attend the next ACF Coffee Chat session (available during the application window — check abqcf.org/grant-deadlines). Use it to confirm eligibility, typical award sizes, and application priorities for Animal Welfare. Then apply in the Need to Know cycle within 60 days.

HOW TO APPLY

Submission Type: Open

Unsolicited Proposals Accepted: Yes

Letter of Intent (LOI) Required: No

Full Proposal: Applications submitted through the online portal at grantinterface.com. A single application covers all fields of interest — select Animal Welfare as the primary field. Applications include: organizational overview, program description, budget, outcomes, and documentation of physical presence in eligible counties.

Grants Portal: <https://grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=ACF>

Required Attachments

- IRS determination letter (confirms tax-exempt status)
- Current operating budget
- Documentation of physical presence in Bernalillo, Sandoval, Tarrant, or Valencia county

Word/Page Limits: Not published — check the portal for current application format

ACF offers Coffee Chat support sessions during the application period — these are Zoom calls where prospective applicants can ask questions about eligibility, fit, and the application process. Highly recommended for first-time applicants. Coffee Chats are not evaluative — they are staff support sessions.

GRANT CYCLE & TIMING

Current Status: **Open** · Annual Cycle

Full Proposal Deadline: Two-month open window annually — specific dates rotate each year. Check abqcf.org/grant-deadlines for current cycle dates.

Next Cycle Opens: Check abqcf.org/grant-deadlines for current schedule

Decision Timeline: Not published — check with ACF at a Coffee Chat session

The Need to Know program accepts rolling applications year-round with monthly reviews. Suggested grant range is \$5,000–\$10,000. This is the fastest path to a first ACF grant and a relationship-building tool before applying in the Annual Cycle.

KEY CONTACTS

Grants staff (name not published)

Grants Team

Focus: All fields of interest including Animal Welfare

Email: grants@abqcf.org

Phone: (505) 883-6240

ACF does not publish individual program officer names for each field of interest. Contact the grants team by email or attend a Coffee Chat session to identify the staff member who reviews Animal Welfare applications.

RELATIONSHIP INTELLIGENCE

Board Overlap: ACF board composition not cross-referenced against Forever Home's board for this profile. This is a recommended first step — ACF board members are sometimes active in Albuquerque nonprofit leadership and can serve as informal advocates.

Shared Grantees: • Multiple current ACF Animal Welfare grantees are active in the Albuquerque animal welfare community — organizations like Animal Humane New Mexico and Animal Protection New Mexico likely have working relationships with Forever Home through community programs, foster networks, or shared donor bases

- If Forever Home collaborates with any current ACF grantee, a peer reference to the grants team would strengthen the application

Warm Intro Potential: 1. Attend an ACF Coffee Chat session during the next application window — this is a staff-hosted support session, not evaluative, and it is the natural first touchpoint

2. Ask whether any Forever Home board member has a relationship with an ACF board member or major donor — ACF board members sometimes facilitate introductions for strong applicants

3. Connect with Animal Humane New Mexico or RezDawg Rescue — peer organizations in the ACF portfolio — and ask whether they'd be willing to speak positively about Forever Home to the ACF grants team

Values Alignment: • ACF has an explicit anti-hate policy — the application requires alignment with it

- The foundation's equity commitment applies across all fields, including Animal Welfare
- Forever Home's community-serving rescue and adoption mission aligns with ACF's equity framing (serving underserved communities' animals, low-income pet owners, etc.)

Known Deal-Breakers: • Organizations without a confirmed physical presence in the four eligible counties — this is a hard eligibility requirement

- Organizations with less than 3 years of operating history
- Any organizational posture inconsistent with ACF's anti-hate policy

Reputation in Sector: ACF is regarded as an accessible and community-centered funder. The Coffee Chat program reflects a genuine commitment to supporting nonprofits through the application process. The fact that Animal Welfare grantees span a wide range of organization types — from large humane societies to small specialty rescues — suggests the foundation doesn't favor established players over smaller organizations with strong missions.

Prepared for: Forever Home Animal Rescue • Report Date: June 2026 • Prepared by: Giving Geek Consulting

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