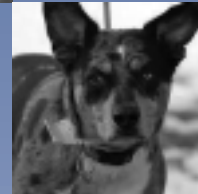
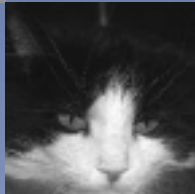
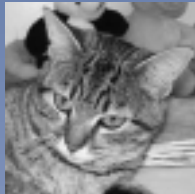
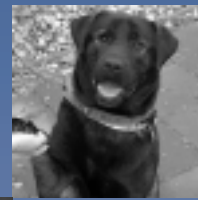
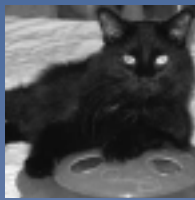


MaxFund Animal Adoption Center

2016 Annual Report

Thanks for giving us a second chance...



Rescue is challenging, heartbreaking, rewarding and full of miracles. All of that usually takes place on a daily basis.

MaxFund is special because we truly give the time needed to see those miracles take place. It can be costly, but is what we do. Some do not get it because “there are so many to be saved”. This is true, but once they are with MaxFund that is our pledge to them. A chance at life is what they are given.

Other times it is not cost but just time. Time is what the animals have at MaxFund. Time for love, care, trust and hope. Again a chance for the life they deserve.

They are not “throw aways”, they are not “too old” or “too sick”; they are special. They are not a number, they are not a statistic. They are MaxFund animals.

-Heidi Hahn

MAXFUND



MISSION



The MaxFund is a non-profit organization established to provide medical care for injured pets with no known owners and to find new homes for these animals once they have recovered.

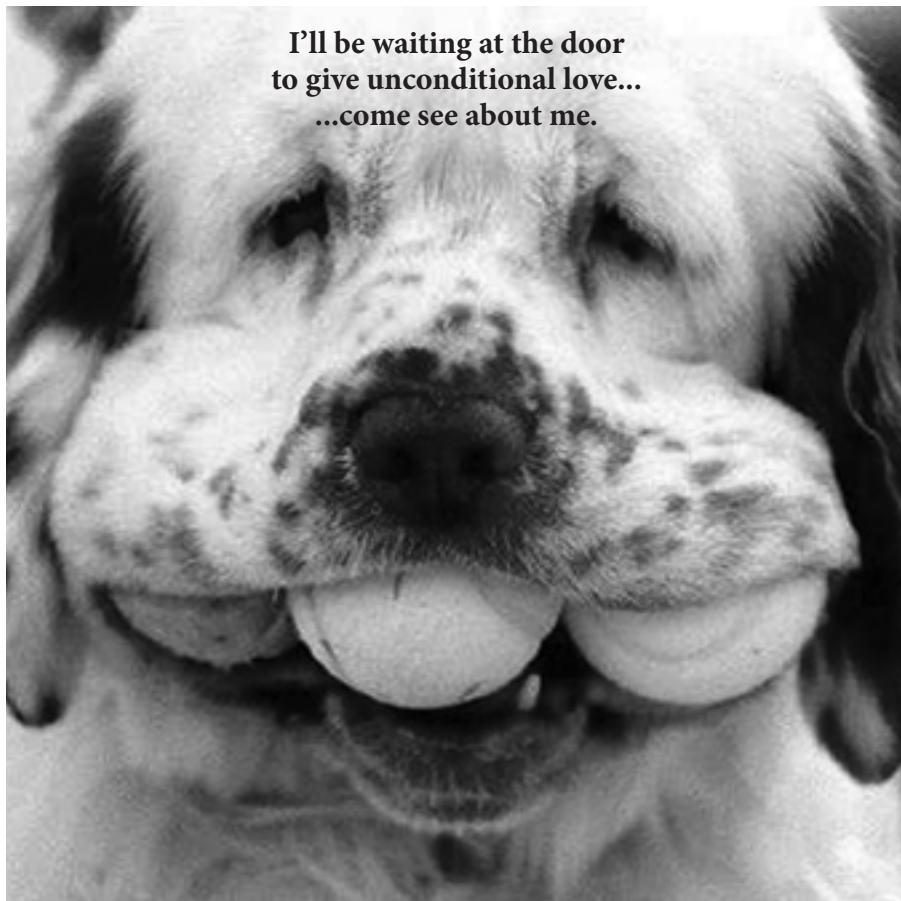
Further, the MaxFund is committed to the following goals:

Develop and implement education programs pertaining to animal care, with emphasis on the importance of spaying and neutering.

Disseminate information on spay/neuter facilities, and, on a periodic basis, conduct a spay/neuter clinic for pets of low income families.

Be a voice for the animals on issues of animal welfare.

Cooperate with other animal facilities/shelters in accomplishing these goals.



Helping our community with their pets!

Dear Friends of MaxFund,

The MaxFund Animal Adoption Center has worked on educating the community on the importance of animal health and safety for nearly 30 years. Located in the heart of Denver, MaxFund was once a small, single building saving lives of injured strays with no known owners and finding them homes once they were adoptable. Staying true to its original mission, MaxFund has evolved into three facilities: a cat shelter, a dog shelter and a low-cost veterinary clinic for the community to utilize.

Educating the public and offering affordable vet care, which includes vaccinations, de-worming, spaying and neutering, allows the community the opportunity to get what is needed for their furry family members. Spaying and neutering keeps animal population down and unwanted animals off the street—there can be no argument that this creates a safer environment for the community. With our mobile medical unit, MaxFund also travels to rural areas of Colorado to assist people that are unable to make it to the big city, but desperately need their animals spayed/neutered and vaccinated.

In 2016, MaxFund accomplished the following:

- Adopted out 1,360 animals, still having a few hundred left in our care.
- Provided spay/neuter services and vaccinations for 984 animals in rural areas with our mobile unit.
- Through our Wellness Clinic, we spayed/neutered 1,343 shelter pets and 992 private pets while also providing low-cost clinic services to 4,166 animals in the community.

We are continually working to advance our shelter operations, programs and services to help improve the quality of life for the MaxFund animals and their families. Because our animals usually start off with a medical bill and period of recovery and rehabilitation, and because we are a true no-kill shelter, our operating costs are much higher than other shelters. MaxFund has consistently been granted Charity Navigator’s highest rating—a 4-star rating for ten years—for its ability to efficiently allocate and grow its finances with over 80 percent of funds raised going to our program.

Supporters of the MaxFund and their generosity have helped us speak for those that have no choice and no voice. We truly believe that every animal has a special place on earth and deserves a second leash on life. Thank you for helping continue our mission.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Grice
President of the Board

Officers:	Board:	Advisory Board:
Elizabeth Grice, President Dr. William Suro, Vice President Tami Tanoue, Secretary Elizabeth Grice, Treasurer	Jan Eckhardt Jordan Blakesley	Ann Williams; Deputy Director for Environmental Health and Safety City and County of Denver Bob Murdock; Owner-RLM Builders Ray Perry; Senior VP-Servo Miller Real Estate Alex Campbell VP-Enduring Resources

Dear Friends of Animals,

These are our accomplishments for 2016. We could not have done any of this without your help.

Here we are 28 years later, having saved over 30,343 (end of 2015) animals, and spayed and neutered 52,503 (end of 2015) to prevent unwanted animals. We have struggled through the years, sometimes wondering how we would even make payroll, we have been truly blessed. In 2015 we adopted out 1236 animals, still having a few hundred left in our care. Our mobile unit, that goes into rural areas provided spay/neutered and vaccines for 1847 animals through our grant program. In our shelter we spayed/neutered and vaccinated 1583 animals. Our clinic spayed and neutered 1024 for low-cost to the public. They also provided through our low-cost clinic 3418 private pets service. Our grant program; from the beginning has been The Walter and Charlotte Family Foundation, they have supported us every year, and we also are supported by Mary Bates Foundation and others.

We have received for 10 years the 4 star charity award meaning we handle our finances well, we show growth and fiscal wellbeing. We are in the top 12% of all charities rated by Charity Navigator. We are debt free, we do not spend money we do not have.

MaxFunders are, for the most part, ordinary hardworking people with an extraordinary dedication to the MaxFund, and to animals that get a second chance on life. Staff, volunteers, members, foundations, estates, and donors measure our success on a one-by-one basis, as each creature goes from a hopeless situation to the secure and happy life it deserves. For all those thousands of animals, we will always be the small shelter that does a big job.

What MaxFund does for the community-84% of our funds go into our programs.

In a sense everything we do benefits the community. Many of the dogs and cats brought to MaxFund are found as strays and brought to us because we are a no-kill shelter. Getting these animals off the street saves taxpayers some of the cost for animal control and the Pound. These animals, if they are not rescued, contribute to sanitation problems, and public health problems, especially rabies. The MaxFund directly helps the pet-owning community by offering at-cost veterinary services

Internship at our clinic. We accept veterinary students to work in our clinic, to gain hands-on experience working with animals. We had 3 interns last year. It benefits them in getting their degree to become a veterinarian. Our clinic also is low-cost for the public, which makes vet care affordable. Location- 1000 Inca St.

We have several other programs, if you want more information. We will also provide detailed reports if needed. We know we make a big difference in our local community and throughout Colorado. Our shelter provides a safe haven for the injured, abandoned, and abused animals, we give them or sent to VRCC specialty clinic, or Access emergency, if needed. For instance our spay/neuter trailer goes out twice a month, to alter/vaccinate animals in economically depressed areas through our grant program. Another unique thing we do in chipping our animals, we chip them back to MaxFund, and the new owner can be secondary contact, what it means is; we have taken ownership of the animals we rescue. We have brought back our animals from New York, Cleveland, and Corpse Christi, which were found abandoned. We want to help them all their lives. We also take back our animals, as we know circumstances change, regardless of how many years they are gone.

Sincerely,
Nanci Suro, Cofounder/Director

Charitable organization			
Name	MAXFUND INC AKA MAXFUND ANIMAL ADOPTION CENTER		
Other names (DBAs)			
Status	GOOD as of 07/28/2017		
Good through	08/15/2018	Initial registration	08/24/2005
Registration #	20053007287	Established	05/18/1989, Colorado
EIN	84-1159932	Form	Corporation
Street	720 WEST 10TH AVENUE, DENVER, CO 80204		
Mailing			
County	DENVER		
Phone	720-266-0381		
Website	WWW.MAXFUND.ORG		
NTFC codes	ANIMALS		
Charitable purpose	ANIMAL SHELTER FOR INJURED ANIMALS WITH NO KNOWN OWNERS. VETERINARY CARE AND SPAY/NEUTER FOR LOW INCOME PEOPLE'S PETS. THE STATE OF COLORADO BENEFITS FROM OUR OUTREACH PROGRAM. WE TAKE OUR SPAY/NEUTER TRAILER ALL OVER THE STATE OF COLORADO TO SPAY/NEUTER FOR LOW INCOME FAMILIES PETS.		
Tax-exempt code	501(C)(3)	Donations tax deductible?	Yes

Three year data			
	12/31/2014	12/31/2015	12/31/2016
Revenue	\$3,087,507.00	\$3,011,450.00	\$2,938,206.00
Expenses	\$2,723,602.00	\$3,010,935.00	\$3,154,042.00
Assets	\$9,091,285.00	\$8,101,949.00	\$9,993,603.00
Liabilities	\$282.00	\$66,435.00	\$277,750.00
Program services to total expenses	84%		<i>About financial ratios</i>
Fundraising expenses to contributions	18%		

SPECIAL NEEDS POOCH WHEELS WAY INTO NEW OWNER'S HEART

By Connie Jo Discoe

Tuesday, November 10, 2015

<http://www.mccookgazette.com/story/2249014.html>

McCook, Neb. – Pistol Pete the Pomeranian “wheels” around McCook, Nebraska, not at all hindered by two hind legs that don't work.

Julie Sloggett's adoption of the special needs dog not only changed the little dog's life, it changed how Julie feels about adopting instead of buying a puppy.

Julie, of rural McCook, said she adopted the little dog in April 2015 from a rescue called “MaxFund” in Denver. Pistol was just a year old in April 2014 when he broke his back when he was hit by a car, and his elderly owners outfitted him with a “wheelchair.” Julie said the couple experienced health problems of their own later that year and Pistol Pete was taken to Denver's no-kill animal rescue shelter.

Julie lost her own Pomeranian, Shorty, in December. “It was so heart-breaking for me that I wanted to rescue a Pomeranian, and that's when I found out that so many animals need homes,” Julie said.

Julie said she found Pistol on the MaxFund site and deliberated a whole month about adopting the dog with the special needs and a “wheelchair.” “But he kept popping up on my computer searches,” Julie said. She adopted Pistol in April 2015, and hasn't looked back since.

“He's got such an outgoing personality,” she said, smiling at her buff-colored walking partner.

“He likes people, and little kids.”

Julie takes Pistol Pete to Dr. Wayne Watkins at Red Willow Animal Clinic for laser treatments that, according to Dr. Watkins, help encourage the body to heal damaged cells and tissues itself.



“Pistol Pete” is a rear-wheel, two-wheel-drive dog, adopted in April.

Adopting Pistol has changed how Julie feels about adopting dogs. “There are so many animals (who) need homes,” she said.” And I love Pistol just as much as if I had gotten him as a puppy.”

OUR DOG, RUBY, AND HER LASER TREATMENTS...

Here's a little background on our dog, Ruby, who gets laser treatment at the MaxFund clinic. Ruby loves everyone at the clinic.

Ruby is our little princess. She's almost 14-years-old and now thanks to laser treatments at the MaxFund Wellness Clinic acts half her age. We adopted Ruby when she was 2 years old from a shelter where she had been returned twice for poor behavior. Her rap sheet showed a history of chewing (her last return was for eating someone's laptop), digging, barking, unable to be house trained, to name just a few undesirable traits. She also had been hit by a car at some point and was missing part of one ear and had a long scar down one side. One look at her and we knew she was our kind of dog.

Ruby has turned out to be one of the best dogs that we have ever had the pleasure to adopt. She has no bad habits whatsoever. She started to get a little stiff a couple of years ago and had trouble getting up on the bed or her chair. We learned that MaxFund was offering laser treatments which might help Ruby be more comfortable. What a difference the treatments have made! At first, she would cry when touched, but now she sails right through treatment and is enjoying the agility she had years ago. She also loves the attention she gets at the clinic and all the sweet talk. We are so pleased with how the treatments have helped her. Thank you MaxFund!



A TALE OF TWO DOGGIES

By Bill Suro, VMD

This is the best of times. This is the worst of times. I'm reporting on two doggies that superficially seem to have nothing in common except belonging to the same species and both having names beginning with the letter M. But Max and Malcolm both have medical conditions that are very similar. The fact that the MaxFund is handling both cases simultaneously is a real longshot coincidence. The fact that both dogs have a good chance of not only surviving, but of being adopted and living a fairly normal happy pet life, is a miracle.

This is the worst of times because nobody relishes the job of caring for a dog paralyzed from the waist down, much less two of them. This is especially true when in each case x-rays revealed that the problem started years ago, happened repeatedly, and if treatment had been started earlier, paralysis could have been avoided.

Max is a 9-year-old German Shepherd/Husky cross weighing in a more than seventy pounds. Malcolm is a five-year-old miniature poodle. They both have lumbar disc disease, which is common in the middle-aged poodle and uncommon in the large and giant breeds. The disc is a shock absorber that lives between every two vertebrae (*back bones*) in the spinal column, from head to toe. The disc is composed of an outer envelope holding a jelly-like substance. In some dogs the envelope becomes old and brittle while the dog is still young and active. In these dogs, some normal activity, such as jumping off the couch, will cause the disc to rupture and release the material inside. That material has no place to go except up into the spinal cord. How much damage it causes depends upon how much material gets released and how suddenly it rams into the spinal cord. The spinal cord runs through a narrow canal in the backbone and can't move away from the pressure. In both Max's and Malcolm's cases almost every disc in their backs had, over time, been affected. The end result was that both dogs have no feeling in their toes or reflexes in their hind legs. This is the best of times because neither dog was put to sleep for humane reasons, as would have happened just a few years ago.

We still use drugs in the cortisone family as well as pain killers in the treatment plan but the new element that we now have is the therapeutic laser; and that has made the difference. We can't save them all.

The spinal cord is composed of many nerves that are, of course, living cells. If the pressure on that is enough to cause many of them to die, then the effect is the same as if you cut a telephone wire in half; there is no message going down the line. No feeling, no stimulation of muscles, no reflexes to allow the legs to be useful. Since the MaxFund has started using the laser, we have been able to restore use to many cats and dogs with damaged nerve supply, some which we would have considered to have a poor prognosis and almost a dozen that we would have considered hopeless.

Max and Malcolm look like both are going to join this precious list. Max, the shepherd mix, has been in treatment longer and will probably be in a new adopted home before you receive this newsletter. Malcolm still happily running around in his cart, has restored function in one of his hind legs and is steadily improving on the other.

Yes, these are the best of times. Veterinary work is always demanding and sometimes depressing. But it becomes outright fun when we are able to help wonderful guys like Max and Malcolm and then find them loving homes. We can wish that we could be allowed to treat them earlier, before their condition became so desperate, but the human problem seems even more difficult to solve than the medical problems.



Max

EXCRUCIATING PAIN: THE STORY OF CALLIOPE

By Bill Suro, VMD

I first saw Calliope on the 13th of January. I'm pretty sure that she was named for the Greek goddess, not the music maker on a merry-go-round, but she didn't look like any kind of goddess when I first saw her. In fact, the last words I heard when I was starting to enter the waiting room to meet Calliope and her owner, was a sarcastic, "Good luck with *that* case!"

Calliope at that point was a puny 5-month-old Great Dane that had to be carried into the MaxFund Wellness Clinic because she couldn't walk or stand on her own. When I commented on how pitiful she looked, Megan, her owner, said that I should have seen her on Christmas Eve when Calliope was taken to an emergency clinic. At that point, she was shrieking in pain, and the doctor there hinted broadly that euthanasia might be appropriate.

As I looked at her (*on cortisone plus three of the most potent pain killers we have*) all the joints in her four legs were swollen to three times normal size and so painful that she wouldn't allow us to feel her joints, and she wouldn't stand up. Calliope had a rare congenital disease of large breed dogs called HOV (*an acronym for a long compound Latin scientific name for the disease that causes the growing puppy to attack its own joint tissues.*) In fifty six years of veterinary practice Calliope represented the worst case of HOV that I have ever seen.

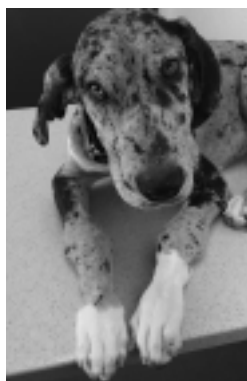
Thank goodness for laser therapy. In the good old days I would not even have had the medicines that Calliope was on now, much less something to cure the problem. And even with laser it took a while. But Megan noticed marked improvement after each laser treatment, from the first treatment on. After the second treatment, she would sit up on her own and started eating on her own.

After the third treatment, Calliope could get up and move around. After the fourth treatment she was moving freely and beginning to become like herself again. After the fifth treatment, she was able to go upstairs. After the sixth treatment, Calliope was on her own outdoors.

After the seventh treatment, we had to restrain her activity. You see how gratifying the progress was. One by one we were able to stop the narcotics and the cortisone while continuing laser.

It took almost two months of laser treatment before the huge wrist and heel joints started to return to normal size and feel; exactly three months before we could be sure that the wrists were going to be straight again. She is now a normal, severely spoiled Great Dane puppy who looks and acts that way. She has grown from 36 pounds to 76 pounds in those three months and has a definite mind of her own. Originally she was a passive lump who looked like she couldn't care less if she survived.

Calliope didn't just survive, she is thriving *AND* she is a living inspiration to us all.





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Name Only

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Charity Contact Info

MaxFund

720 West 10th Avenue
Denver, CO 80204
tel: (720) 266-6061
fax: (303) 595-0192
EIN: 84-1118862

[Visit Web Site](#)

Board Leadership

Elizabeth Gries
President

CEO

Nanci Suro
Executive Director

Animals: Animal rights, welfare, and services

MaxFund

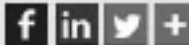
A true no-kill shelter

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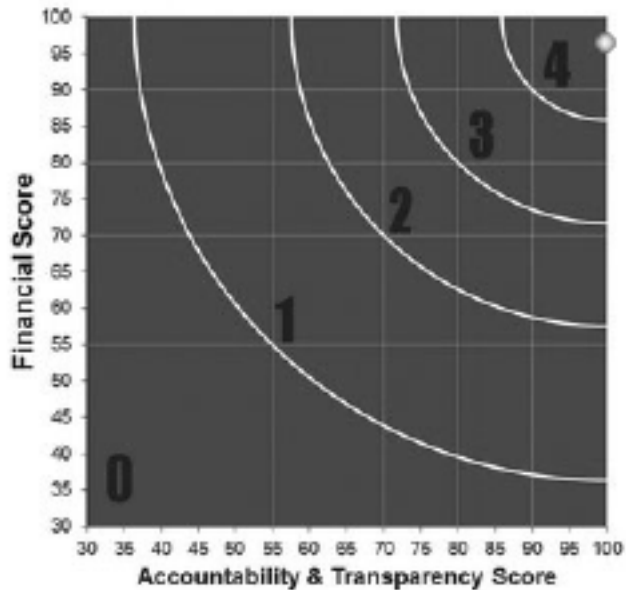
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[Comments \(0\)](#)

	Score (out of 100)	Rating
Overall Score & Rating	57.44	★ ★ ★ ★
Financial	96.36	★★★★
Accountability & Transparency	100.00	★★★★

This rating was published 06/01/2016 and includes data from FY2014, the most recent 990 received at that time.

Why isn't this based on more recent data?



MAXFUND PROGRAMS



Foster Program

MaxFund is looking for foster parents willing to foster animals in need of a safe, caring environment in which to reach their full loving potential. Animals in our loving foster homes are much easier to adopt because they heal more quickly from any existing injuries or medical procedures and don't suffer from some of the more common issues found in shelter animals: obesity, depression, anxiety, fear, or other health issues.

For approved foster parents, MaxFund will provide on-going access to the Foster Coordinators and or Veterinary Technicians to answer any health or behavior related questions, vaccines, medications, collar and tags, prescription food, and veterinary care at the MaxFund Wellness Center.

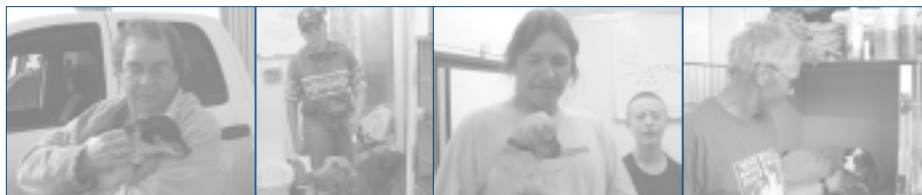
Fostering is a very rewarding experience and allows animals to be in a more comfortable environment before they find their forever home. If you can help, please e mail to fostering@maxfund.org, or call the shelter to get started at 303-595-4917.

Animals placed in foster care gain the experience of living in a home. They are in a less stressful environment and have more opportunities for socialization. Fosters receive more attention and exercise on a one to one basis. They have someone to bond with and understand them.

MaxFund maintains foster parents that have supported MaxFund for an extended period of time. Foster parents also provide more community exposure of MaxFund and participate at monthly events.

MaxFund has a Dog Foster Coordinator, Amy Allan; and a Cat Foster Coordinator who are readily available to speak with or follow-up with. These two ladies also make regular contact with MaxFund foster parents to see if there has been interest in the animal's adoption, update personality information and follow their progress.

In some cases our foster placements are long term, but 100% of our foster animals are eventually adopted to a forever loving home! Many times the foster parent will become attached and adopt the animal themselves!



Volunteer Program

MaxFund relies on its volunteers to fill many of the needs at the shelter, and the volunteer program is extremely flexible and rewarding! No matter what your interest in helping MaxFund, there are likely many things you can do!

Areas of volunteer opportunity include:

- Animal Care- Housekeeping
- Special Events, Mobile Adoptions, and Fundraising
- Lobby Greeting and Animal Adoptions

In order to volunteer at the shelter for ANY of the volunteer positions listed, you must first be accepted as a volunteer and go through a volunteer orientation. Once volunteers have gone through an orientation, they can do just about anything at the shelter, based on whatever interests you have. For more information on getting started as a volunteer, and to download a volunteer application, please visit www.maxfund.org.

Every month 25 to 40 new volunteers are recruited, and the mission of MaxFund is shared with animal lovers! It is important to us that we can encourage each and every new volunteer to stick around long term. The animals need them!

MaxFund is so appreciative and reliant on all the volunteers that come to exercise and love our animals. After 23 years of being in operation, volunteers are the base of the shelter and have a crucial role in supporting the mission of MaxFund. They observe our pets, participate in training and socialization, and they enable the pets to get more exercise than the staff can provide on an individual basis. There are over 500 active volunteers and we can never thank them enough for sharing their personal time with the animals in need!

The MaxFund Volunteer Coordinator, is regularly in touch with all volunteers about questions, concerns, ideas for improvement, and other suggestions. She is readily available to help and answer any questions and guide you through the process to support the MaxFund animals.

When you walk into MaxFund, it is clear that the volunteers are valued and appreciated. At any given time there are more volunteers than staff members who are willing to walk dogs, spend time with cats, help feed and clean, do dishes, or catch up on laundry. Together we keep the shelter clean and the animals happy!



Pet Food Supply Program

For those people struggling in this economy and having difficulty supplying food to their cats and dogs, MaxFund is here to help. MaxFund offers a food giveaway program for individuals on a low income. You can come in once a month for a free bag of cat food or dog food for your family pet. Proof of income and state identification are required to enroll, and there are no special requests. MaxFund runs on donations only, so what there is extra of is what we can provide.

MaxFund has prevented many animals from coming in to shelters simply because their owners cannot afford to feed them. With our struggling economy, we are here to help feed the animals.



Outreach Program

Our mobile unit travels the I-25 corridor from Trinidad/Alamosa to Weld County spaying and neutering animals in rural communities. MaxFund has always believed in spaying and neutering. From the beginning in 1988 we made it one of our missions. As we grew, so did the problem of pet over-population.

In 1995, we were receiving calls requesting that we expand the program. We began performing spay/neuters in fire stations and at community centers; not only locally but in rural communities. We are sometimes asked to come to trailer parks where cats have been left; our last project included 80 cats. We also helped when Lowry AFB closed. We trapped, spayed/neutered and found homes for those cats.

We had humble beginnings indeed and started with an old converted Snap-on-tool truck. Our driver took us to rural areas, trailer parks, shelters just surviving and neighborhoods wanting help. We even go to the sheriff's department in Weld County to help with spaying/neutering and vaccinations. We resorted sometimes to using kitchen tables for surgery. We knew the need and had to address it, so we started a capital campaign.

We researched basic mobile units to start as we had grown out of our old van. We found the van types were too expensive, so we opted for a trailer. Ron and Nancy Soule were the first to donate enough funds to almost cover the cost of the trailer. Essentially, they were the ones who gave us a base to start the program. The Soule family still gives us a grant each year as the base of our SN program. We were fortunate with many blessings as money continued to come in. With that we bought a used 1995 truck.

We are proud of the fact that both the truck and trailer are still in operation today. Our mobile unit alone spays and neuter about 1000 animals a year in the rural area. Dr. Beth Watts is our veterinarian and sets up the clinics. She generally does 20 animals a day and the clinics go from 1 to 3 days. In today's economic times it is important that people know that they have a resource that can help the health of their pet. As we travel in the rural areas, we find that it is difficult sometimes for those individuals to take care of themselves, much less for their animals. This program makes a huge difference in saving lives of the animals, giving peace of mind to communities and helping people with their pets.



Adoption Program

Rescue is challenging, heartbreaking, rewarding and full of miracles. All of that usually takes place on a daily basis.

MaxFund is special because we truly give the time needed to see those miracles take place. It can be costly, but that is what we do. Some do not get it because "there are so many to be saved." This is true, but once they are with MaxFund that is our pledge to them. A chance at life is what they are given.

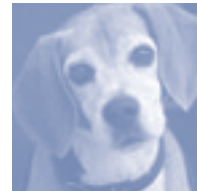
Other times it is not cost but just time. Time is what the animals have at MaxFund. Time for love, care, trust and hope. Again a chance for the life they deserve. They are not "throw-aways" they are not "too old" or "too sick"; they are special. They are not a number, they are not a statistic. They are MaxFund animals.

WHAT ELSE IS UNIQUE ABOUT THE MAXFUND?

MaxFund is a TRUE no-kill shelter. There is no initial pre-sorting of animals into “adoptable” and “non-adoptable” categories, discarding the so-called “unadoptable.” The MaxFund takes every animal it has the space for. EVERY animal is kept until its owner is found or it is placed in a new adoptive home. The only reason for euthanasia is when it is in the humane interest of the animal. No animal is discarded to municipal shelters for them to be euthanized when the prescribed number of days run out. Because our animals usually start off with a medical bill and period of recovery and rehabilitation, and because we are a true no-kill shelter, our operating costs are much higher than other shelters.

We also provide:

- Low cost vaccinations, pet food, and spay/neuter clinics for pets of low income families.
- No-fee adoptions, pet food, cat litter and transportation for veterinary services for senior citizens and AIDS patients.
- Therapy Program which takes pets to visit senior centers, the VA Hospital and nursing homes.



IN SUMMARY

As we head into 2017, we want to thank you for your support and believing in us as we continue to grow and to help as many animals as we can. Your support is our lifeline, we could not accomplish any of this without you. We are looking forward towards another great year working for the animals. The wonderful animals are why we are here: and the inspirations is what carries us on to do the best for them. In return they enrich our lives and those who support and adopt them. *Thank you.*