



ONLINE KITTEN CONFERENCE

A blue silhouette of a cat is positioned above the word "ONLINE". A yellow microphone is positioned above the word "KITTEN". An orange silhouette of a cat is positioned to the right of the word "CONFERENCE".

Saturday, June 8, 2024 | 10:00am-5:00pm EDT

Sunday, June 9, 2024 | 10:00am-5:00pm EDT

The 2024 Online Kitten Conference is proudly sponsored by:

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2024 Online Kitten Conference

Quick-View Schedule: All times are U.S. Eastern Time
([use this link to confirm your local time](#))



Saturday, June 8, 2024 (All times listed are U.S. Eastern Time)	
Time	Session Title
10:00 am - 10:15 am	WELCOME AND TECHNOLOGY CHECK
10:15 am - 11:00 am	THE TRUTH ABOUT SINGLE KITTEN SYNDROME: SEPARATING FACT FROM FICTION
11:00 am - 11:15 am	<i>BREAK</i>
11:15 am - 12:15 pm	MITIGATING FELINE UPPER RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS (URI) IN SHELTERS THROUGH STRESS MANAGEMENT
12:15 pm - 12:30 pm	<i>BREAK</i>
12:30 pm - 1:15 pm	FOSTER FINDERS: REMOVING THE MIDDLE MAN IN SAVING KITTENS
1:15 pm - 1:45 pm	<i>BREAK</i>
1:45 pm - 2:30 pm	FEELING THE LOSS OF A PET THAT WASN'T YOURS: GRIEVING LOSS IN RESCUE
2:30 pm - 2:45 pm	<i>BREAK</i>
2:45 pm - 3:30 pm	CAT TRAINING STARTS WITH KITTENS!
3:30 pm - 3:45 pm	<i>BREAK</i>
3:45 pm - 4:45 pm	RUNNING A RESCUE: HOW TO SUPPORT & EMPOWER YOUR FOSTERS
4:45 pm - 5:00 pm	CLOSING INFORMATION
Sunday, June 9, 2024 (All times listed are U.S. Eastern Time)	
Time	Session Title
10:00 am - 10:15 am	WELCOME AND TECHNOLOGY CHECK
10:15 am - 11:00 am	INTRODUCING A KITTEN TO YOUR FELINE FAMILY
11:00 am - 11:15 am	<i>BREAK</i>
11:15 am - 12:00 pm	THE IMPORTANCE OF BEHAVIORAL WELL-BEING IN KITTENS MANAGED WITHIN CAGES
12:00 pm - 12:15 pm	<i>BREAK</i>
12:15 pm - 1:15 pm	FROM HISS TO PURR - A KITTEN SOCIALIZATION GUIDE
1:15 pm - 1:45 pm	<i>BREAK</i>
1:45 pm - 2:30 pm	FELINE FETAL AND NEONATAL MORTALITY: WHAT WE KNOW AND WHAT WE ARE MISSING
2:30 pm - 2:45 pm	<i>BREAK</i>
2:45 pm - 3:30 pm	EQUIPPING FOSTERS TO WORK WITH UNDER-SOCIALIZED KITTENS
3:30 pm - 3:45 pm	<i>BREAK</i>
3:45 pm - 4:45 pm	INTRODUCTION TO GRANT WRITING
4:45 pm - 5:00 pm	CLOSING INFORMATION



Saturday, June 8, 2024 (All times listed are U.S. Eastern Time)

10:00am–10:15am

STACY LEBARON, COMMUNITY CATS PODCAST

ROSEMARIE CRAWFORD, THE NATIONAL KITTEN COALITION

Welcome

10:15am - 11:00am

LAURA CASSIDAY, CERTIFIED CAT BEHAVIOR CONSULTANT, PAWSITIVE VIBES CAT BEHAVIOR AND TRAINING

THE TRUTH ABOUT SINGLE KITTEN SYNDROME: SEPARATING FACT FROM FICTION

There are two sides of the coin when it comes to adopting out kittens. Some are adamant that kittens be adopted in pairs for their behavioral health, while others say that placing adoption bans on single kittens is just another barrier when it comes to getting kittens out the door. In this presentation, we will examine the concept of “Single Kitten Syndrome” and its empirical basis, considering research findings on the effects of socialization on kitten behavior.

We discuss the mixed results observed in studies and highlight the importance of considering individual kitten needs and available resources when making adoption decisions. Additionally, we emphasize the role of proper human interaction and environmental enrichment in promoting healthy development and social integration for kittens, regardless of adoption status. This presentation aims to provide factual insights into this complex topic, offering information for informed decision-making in kitten adoptions.

ABOUT LAURA CASSIDAY

Laura Cassiday is a certified cat behavior consultant living in Baltimore, Maryland. She began her career with Maryland SPCA, where she served as the cat behavior coordinator, implementing enrichment programs and initiatives to improve the treatment of shelter cats. In 2021, Laura founded Pawsitive Vibes Cat Behavior and Training, focusing on addressing behavior issues in private homes to prevent cats from entering shelters.

Through remote and local sessions, Laura resolves aggression, destructive behavior, and litter box concerns while empowering caregivers with a deeper understanding of their feline companions. Laura is also actively involved in advocacy efforts, such as supporting the Maryland Anti-Declaw Bill, is a published author of *The Complete Guide to Adopting a Cat*, and serves as Feline Division Chair of the Pet Professional Guild.

11:00am - 11:15am

BREAK



Saturday, June 8, 2024 (All times listed are U.S. Eastern Time)

11:15am - 12:15pm

BECCA BORONAT, VETERINARIAN, NATIONAL SHELTER MEDICINE, BEST FRIENDS ANIMAL SOCIETY

MITIGATING FELINE UPPER RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS (URI) IN SHELTERS THROUGH STRESS MANAGEMENT

In this presentation, we explore the intricate world of feline health within shelter environments, specifically the overwhelming issue of Upper Respiratory Infections (URI). Our focus extends beyond conventional treatments as we explore the profound impact of stress on feline well-being.

Shelters often face the challenge of providing a conducive environment for cats, balancing the need for care and the prevention of contagious diseases like URI. Join us in a compelling conversation of stress management strategies designed to create a shelter environment conducive to health. Through a comprehensive approach that combines housing, enrichment, and adequate care plans, we aim to effectively address the stressors unique to shelter life, mitigate the incidence and severity of feline URI, and promote the overall health and happiness of our feline companions.

This presentation invites all to join the conversation, sharing insights, experiences, and best practices in the pursuit of a healthier, more harmonious future for our shelter cats. Together, let's champion the well-being of these resilient animals and create a roadmap towards a brighter and better tomorrow.

ABOUT BECCA BORONAT

Becca Boronat is a passionate multilingual shelter veterinarian. After 6 impactful years in a shelter outreach program of the Charleston Animal Society, she joined Best Friends Animal Society as a Veterinarian with the National Shelter Medicine program in June 2023. She has served as board member of the Association of Shelter Veterinarians since January 2023.

Throughout over 20 years of experience and an international career, Becca has remained steadfast in her mission to elevate the quality of care and lifesaving efforts within animal shelters. She is driven by the unwavering belief that every animal deserves access to the five domains of animal welfare and a fulfilling life. By employing data-driven approaches and fostering a solution-oriented mindset, Becca continually develops evidence-based protocols and implements effective strategies, aiming to promote sustainable lifesaving practices nationwide. In addition to her shelter medicine and operations background, Becca holds certifications as an animal control officer, animal cruelty investigator, and animal welfare administrator.

12:15pm - 12:30pm

BREAK



Saturday, June 8, 2024 (All times listed are U.S. Eastern Time)

12:30pm - 1:15pm

MEGANN SMITH, DIRECTOR OF SHELTER OPERATIONS, WOOD COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

FOSTER FINDERS: REMOVING THE MIDDLE MAN IN SAVING KITTENS

Kitten season. What used to feel like a window of time we could prepare for in animal welfare is now a year-round symphony of calls, cries, and constant need for help with stray kittens and neonates. Shelter space is limited, fosters are full, and resources are finite. What if we created our own base of fosters?

Many individuals call when they find a neonate or nursing mom with kittens because that's "what they're supposed to do." Together let's change that narrative with some education, tools, and welcoming, honest conversation. By inviting members of the public to foster their find, we can expand community support through understanding and giving them a peek behind the curtain. Every known foster in our foster communities started with their first foster. Inexperienced, unsure, and finding their footing with each new foster experience. Whether the finder fosters for the full duration that's needed or until an experienced foster can be available, that's time provided to help more stray kittens and neonates.

Implementing this program through the Wood County Humane Society, we were able to assist 32 cats, kittens, and neonates during a period the physical shelter was under quarantine. I'll share how we implemented this overnight, what I wish we would have been prepared for, and the path for "kitten season."

ABOUT MEGANN SMITH

Megann Smith holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology, with over a decade of experience in animal welfare. She is a cat lover and has a clowder of cats that have captured her heart. Megann is passionate about sharing knowledge on how to improve the lives of animals.

Most of her professional experience has been at a small private non-profit organization, where she has been able to engage with the community and keep up with the latest techniques and tips in the field. She found that, in her more rural area, the focus of care was mainly on dogs, and she wanted to expand the focus to include cats. This led her to dive deep into sheltering standards, understanding cat behavior, stress indicators, and more.

As the field of animal welfare progressed, so did her areas of interest. She began to add focuses on supportive and social care to her education, recognizing that the impact on animals begins with the people behind them. Recently, she obtained her certification as a Pet Loss Bereavement Specialist to become a larger support piece within the community. She is working towards expanding her credentials and is excited to share and discuss ways to help improve the lives of animals both in and out of shelters across the nation.

1:15pm - 1:45pm

BREAK



Saturday, June 8, 2024 (All times listed are U.S. Eastern Time)

1:45pm - 2:30pm

MEGANN SMITH, DIRECTOR OF SHELTER OPERATIONS, WOOD COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

FEELING THE LOSS OF A PET THAT WASN'T YOURS: GRIEVING LOSS IN RESCUE

As a volunteer, foster, or staff member in animal welfare, we give our time, energy, and hearts to the pets that cross our paths. We do this day in and day out despite knowing that one day we'll share our last walk, boop, or special moment. That last moment can arrive due to adoption, transfer, or crossing the rainbow bridge.

While it is an understood and accepted part of rescuing, it can still hurt. This session will provide ways to acknowledge, validate, and navigate that hurt not only for fellow team members, but for ourselves. Caregiving is a special skill that takes its weight in heartache. While society has taught us to shrug it off and move on, it's okay to stop and feel that grief. As a Certified Pet Loss Bereavement Specialist, I'll walk through why we grieve even when the loss is due to a positive moment like adoption or when we met the pet twice. We'll discuss why it's so important to validate that grief and we'll navigate ways to help understand and experience that grief. If we can do that, perhaps we can make it another day to see another goodbye.

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2:30pm -2:45pm

BREAK



Saturday, June 8, 2024 (All times listed are U.S. Eastern Time)

2:45pm - 3:30pm

STEVE APPELBAUM, PRESIDENT OF ANIMAL BEHAVIOR COLLEGE, ANIMAL BEHAVIOR COLLEGE INC.

CAT TRAINING STARTS WITH KITTENS!

Cats can be trained! This simple declaration is still met with disbelief from some pet parents, as "training" is often associated with dogs and obedience. While it's possible to teach cats to walk on a leash, sit and come when called, most cat training is about addressing behavioral challenges. This includes litter box training, spraying, scratching furniture, socialization with people and other animals, learning to enjoy traveling in a crate, and more.

Pet parents who start training with kittens can often prevent or minimize potential challenges down the road. Kittens are every bit as trainable and receptive as puppies, you just teach them to do different things! Join us for this fun, informative event. Kittens are welcome to Zoom in as well!

ABOUT STEVE APPELBAUM

Steven Appelbaum is the founder and president of Animal Behavior College (ABC). With 40 years of animal training and pet industry experience, he used his extensive knowledge and business acumen to create Animal Behavior College – the largest animal career school of its kind in North America that offers courses in all 50 states and in every Canadian province.

ABC offers seven core programs in cat training, dog obedience trainer training, service dog training, pet grooming, zookeeper assisting, aquatics maintenance and veterinary assisting. The school also offers five Short-term Programs on an array of subjects, including pet nutrition, training shelter dogs, pet massage, pet sitting and selling and teaching private lessons. At present time, ABC has graduated and certified more than 39,000 students in the U.S. and Canada combined.

Mr. Appelbaum is a lecturer and has been an expert consultant and expert witness on a number of dog bite cases. He has written numerous published articles and columns for magazines, including Pet Business, Pet Product News International, Off Lead, Real Simple and Purchase Family Magazine. Mr. Appelbaum is the author of the book The ABC Practical Guide to Dog Training, former editor of Off Lead Magazine, and currently writes a column for Pet Age.

3:30pm - 3:45pm

BREAK



Saturday, June 8, 2024 (All times listed are U.S. Eastern Time)

3:45pm - 4:45pm

CAROLINE GRACE, FOUNDER/DIRECTOR OF BABY KITTEN RESCUE

RUNNING A RESCUE: HOW TO SUPPORT & EMPOWER YOUR FOSTERS

Foster care is an essential part of animal welfare organizations that rely on the help of volunteers to provide temporary homes for animals in need. To ensure that these animals receive proper care and attention, it is crucial to have a systematic process in place. This session describes a systematic process to train, support, and empower your fosters to provide high quality care to their foster animals.

Supporting and empowering your fosters increases life-saving outcomes for the animals, increases foster satisfaction, and increases foster retention. Fosters are capable of so much more than you may think, given the appropriate training, support, and guidance!

ABOUT CAROLINE GRACE

Caroline is the Founder and Director of Baby Kitten Rescue. Baby Kitten Rescue specializes in neonatal, critical care, and special needs kitten rescue in Los Angeles, California. Caroline started Baby Kitten Rescue in September 2021 to focus on the most vulnerable population of kittens and to make fostering a better, more supportive, and more empowering experience for the fosters.

At the end of 2021, Baby Kitten Rescue only had 4 people fostering for the rescue. Now there are over 40 people who foster for the rescue. Caroline is passionate about educating, supporting, and empowering her fosters to provide the highest quality care to their foster kittens. Caroline is also a yoga teacher, and she holds Kitten Yoga events a few times a year at the studio where she teaches.

4:45pm-5:00pm

CLOSING REMARKS



Sunday, June 9, 2024 (All times listed are U.S. Eastern Time)

10:00am–10:15am

STACY LEBARON, COMMUNITY CATS PODCAST

ROSEMARIE CRAWFORD, THE NATIONAL KITTEN COALITION

Welcome Back!

10:15am - 11:00am

LUCY HOILE, FELINE BEHAVIOURIST, INTERNATIONAL CAT CARE, CEVA (FELIWAY), ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR AND TRAINING COUNCIL, PETSURE

INTRODUCING A KITTEN TO YOUR FELINE FAMILY

Adding a new kitten to your home is undoubtedly an exciting time, but does your resident cat feel the same? Often they don't, and if things don't go to plan, you can find yourself in a logistical nightmare - split between two cat families. Add to that, a healthy amount of guilt for bringing home a bundle of joy (that you already love so much!) that has so clearly upset your older cat - it can be a very difficult time with no easy solution.

First impressions count! And the process of introducing your new kitten to your adult can be crucial in getting them off to a good start and setting them up for a long and happy life together. A harmonious multi-cat household is not always easy to achieve and this talk will guide you through a successful integration. In this session, we will discuss how to choose a kitten that is the most compatible with your household. We will also cover the steps to gradually introduce your new kitten to your resident cat, ensuring that both kitties are happy throughout the process. Additionally, we will discuss how to set up their living space for long-term success, even after the introduction process is complete.

Taking these steps can help you encourage your cat accept your kitten as part of the family and not just a housemate.

ABOUT LUCY HOILE

Lucy is a feline behaviourist and author of *The Book Your Cat Wishes You Would Read*. As an expert in feline behaviour, Lucy has been improving the lives of cats and their carers since 2010 by resolving their challenging behaviours. She holds a Masters degree in Companion Animal Behaviour Counselling and is one of only handful of exclusively fully accredited feline behaviour practitioners in the United Kingdom.

Lucy lectures on cat behaviour on an international scale and aims to reach as many cat carers as possible through talks, books, articles and social media. Lucy and her family are lucky enough to share her home with two cats, Fig and Sparx, Labrador, Bucky and axolotl, Peach.



Sunday, June 9, 2024 (All times listed are U.S. Eastern Time)

11:00am - 11:15am

BREAK

11:15am - 12:00pm

ILARIA VENTURIN, FELINE BEHAVIORIST AND KITTEN CARE COACH, L'ARY E IL MONDO DEI GATTINI - ADAS ONLUS

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEHAVIORAL WELL-BEING IN KITTENS MANAGED WITHIN CAGES

When kittens are rescued, they may need to be placed in small cages that can be easily cleaned and disinfected. They are often kept in quarantine for two or more weeks. However, the enclosures they are held in may not be adequately enriched, there is no change in the setup and human interaction with the kittens is often limited.

It is crucial for the kitten's well-being to have proper psychological care, which can help boost immune defenses and reduce healing time. This session will provide practical insights on creating enriching environments for kittens confined to cages during quarantine periods.

ABOUT ILARIA VENTURIN

Ilaria Venturin has been a certified feline behaviorist with a cognitive zooanthropological approach and is certified in the Fear Free Shelter Program. Since 2004, Ilaria has specialized in caring for newborn and growing kittens in Venice, Italy.

Due to a lack of information on kitten care in Italy, Ilaria founded the first Italian blog in 2020 to help educate others. Ilaria has been a board member of a local nonprofit animal protection association for 10 years, where she consistently trains volunteers. Her ultimate goal is to spread accurate information about kitten care to save their lives and nurture their growth while respecting their species-specific needs.

12:00pm - 12:15pm

BREAK



Sunday, June 9, 2024 (All times listed are U.S. Eastern Time)

12:15pm - 1:15pm

KRISTI BROOKS, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS, CAT ADOPTION TEAM

FROM HISS TO PURR - A KITTEN SOCIALIZATION GUIDE

Kittens are adorable balls of fluff that everyone loves. Even when they hiss and spit a little, we still think they are cute. But hissy, swatting kittens aren't easy to adopt out, and we all know how "cute" hissing is in an adult cat! With a little training, your foster parents and shelter/rescue team can turn those little hissing kittens that come into your program into snuggle buddies ready to be great companions.

In this session, we will discuss how kittens learn, and we'll share techniques that can turn anyone into a kitten whisperer. We will go through step-by-step instructions for working with kittens for just 5 to 10 minutes, several times a day, to turn even the scariest little critters into cuddly, confident kittens. The key learning objectives for the session include; setting up a room, identifying the supplies necessary for success, safely interacting with the kittens, cycling them to new foster homes, using effective socialization techniques, ending sessions on a positive note, and tracking progress.

Most of these kittens are under eight weeks of age and are candidates for foster care already. Why not improve your skills and make them the best kittens they could possibly be? Even if your shelter is not ready to add a true socialization program to your foster program, these tips and tricks will help even well-socialized kittens become even more confident, teach them manners, and help them be successful in their new homes.

ABOUT KRISTI BROOKS

Kristi Brooks is the director of operations for Cat Adoption Team (CAT), the Northwest's largest adoption-guarantee, cat-focused shelter. CAT finds homes for approximately 3,300 cats each year, including more than 1,000 "graduates" of the kitten foster program.

Kristi got her start in animal welfare in 2002 as a foster volunteer at CAT. She became the organization's first paid kitten foster coordinator three years later. During her tenure at CAT, Kristi has helped develop the foster program into a nationally recognized model, Fostering 4 Rock Stars (F4RS). Kristi has traveled to shelters across the country to help them implement kitten foster programs based on the F4RS model, resulting in dramatic increases in save rates in these shelters. In 2019 and 2020 (before the pandemic), Kristi trained 50 new students via Maddie's Fund Apprenticeship program. The program is now a self-paced online course as well as an instructor-led course at Maddie's University. A native Oregonian, Kristi lives just outside of Portland with her husband, her latest batch of foster kittens, and her quarterhorse, Taco.

1:15pm - 1:45pm

BREAK



Sunday, June 9, 2024 (All times listed are U.S. Eastern Time)

1:45pm - 2:30pm

ALEJANDRA LABLÉ, DVM, MSc, PHD (C), PONTIFICIA UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA DE CHILE

FELINE FETAL AND NEONATAL MORTALITY: WHAT WE KNOW AND WHAT WE ARE MISSING

Fetal and neonatal mortality in felines is a complex issue that has not been studied in depth. In this talk, we will delve into the physiology, syndromes, and signs of these patients, and explore the various possible causes of death.

The session will include an examination of the challenges involved in clinical diagnosis and research. Understanding the causes of fetal and neonatal mortality in felines is critical for developing effective prevention and treatment strategies. By exploring this topic, we hope to shed light on this important yet poorly understood issue and pave the way for further research in the field.

ABOUT ALEJANDRA LABLÉ

Dr. Lablé completed her graduation in Veterinary Medicine from the University of Chile in 2016 and feline medicine from the same university in 2020. In 2021, she started her residency in cardiology and a master's program in Veterinary Cardiology at the Technological University of Mexico. Since her graduation, she has been working in internal medicine and began her feline medicine practice with a focus on neonatology and cardiology. Dr. Lablé is currently conducting research on the causes of feline neonatal and fetal death as part of her Ph.D. work in the Biological and Medical Engineering program at the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile. She is also an ISFM/AAFP Cat Friendly Practitioner and a current Honorary Academy Member of the International Society of Feline Medicine.

Dr. Lablé's interest in neonatology began about four years ago when she observed the shortcomings in the diagnosis and treatment of neonatal and pediatric patients. This led her to pursue several courses in pediatric imaging and medicine, as well as a diploma in Neonatology and Pediatric medicine. She hopes that her current research work will contribute to the clinical diagnosis of these patients, enabling them to access better treatments and reducing the mortality rate.

2:30pm - 2:45pm

BREAK



Sunday, June 9, 2024 (All times listed are U.S. Eastern Time)

2:45pm - 3:30pm

MADISON HARRIS, FELINE INTAKE AND ASSESSMENT COORDINATOR, FOOTHILLS ANIMAL SHELTER

EQUIPPING FOSTERS TO WORK WITH UNDER-SOCIALIZED KITTENS

While socializing kittens is important for any litter, under-socialized kittens require extra attention and patience when working with them. In this session you will learn tips, tools, and resources to help equip foster parents for working with under-socialized kittens in their home. The presentation will include definitions of key socialization terms, printable behavior handouts, and examples of success stories from previous fosters.

By following the tips and advice provided foster parents can create a safe and nurturing environment for under-socialized kittens, where they can learn to trust humans, socialize with other cats, and develop into well-adjusted felines.

ABOUT MADISON HARRIS

Maddy began her animal welfare career at Cat Care Society in Lakewood, CO, and started her journey at the Feline Fix in Commerce City, CO, midway through 2023. She is currently on the behavior team at Foothills Animal Shelter in Golden, CO. She specializes in working directly with under-socialized kittens and orphaned bottle babies and helping to place adult cats in the best shelter/foster space for them. She is a passionate advocate for TNR and works with many trappers in her area.

Her weakness is singleton kittens who end up at her jobs, in need of a safe spot to land, and she just recently adopted a disabled kitten she fostered with The Feline Fix.

Maddy has a degree in journalism and media communications from Colorado State University. She currently resides in Arvada, CO, with her husband and cats. Outside of working with animals, Maddy loves reading horror novels, playing video games and exploring in the mountains.

3:30pm - 3:45pm

BREAK



Sunday, June 9, 2024 (All times listed are U.S. Eastern Time)

3:45pm - 4:45pm

STEPHANIE MATHERS, CEO, GRANTS 4 ANIMALS LLC

INTRODUCTION TO GRANT WRITING

This session will walk participants through every aspect of grant writing as it relates to animal-related nonprofits. The process starts with becoming grant-ready, and most of the session will focus on specific steps nonprofits can take to increase their grant readiness. Then, we'll discuss the types of grants out there for animal-related nonprofits and how different types of grants can help fund your lifesaving work.

After identifying a strategy and potential projects, we'll talk about how to research grants and build a grant pipeline. Next, we will talk about writing and submitting actual grant applications. Finally, we'll discuss how to proceed once you get a grant regarding implementation, tracking, and reporting. After this fast-paced session, we will take some time to answer your specific questions. Absolutely no grant writing experience or knowledge is required for this session!

ABOUT STEPHANIE MATHERS

Stephanie Mathers has been involved in animal welfare since adopting her first cat, Shakespeare, in 2002. As her love for animals grew, she rescued more cats (along with a few house bunnies) and became involved in TNR for community cats in Williamston, Michigan. After moving to Utah in 2010, Stephanie started helping animal rescues in her spare time. Her roles varied from animal care volunteer to board member to grant writer. In the meantime, she fostered a career in education, with roles including English Teacher, Principal, Curriculum Director, and Policy Writer. During this time, she also wrote grants in the education sector.

In 2021, Stephanie started focusing more time and energy on her work writing grants for animal-related nonprofits and officially started Grants 4 Animals LLC. Quickly, she recognized a deep need among animal-related nonprofits for grant writing assistance. Today, Stephanie works with a small group of grant-writing clients and enjoys providing training, tools, and courses for animal-related nonprofits looking to earn grants and foster additional income streams. In the past two years, Stephanie has been involved in earning, managing, and reporting on over \$2,720,000 in funding for animal-related nonprofits.

4:45pm-5:00pm

CLOSING REMARKS