



NKUT
A BEST FRIENDS INITIATIVE

 Best Friends

What is NKUT?

No-Kill Utah is an initiative of Best Friends Animal Society that, along with a coalition of currently 56 Utah-based animal welfare organizations, is designed to make Utah a no-kill state by 2019.

That means that animal shelters in the state will save every healthy and treatable animal. In general, it means the statewide average will be that at least 90 percent of the animals entering the shelter system leave alive.

nkut.org

What is a coalition?

According to Webster:

- A group of people or groups that have joined together for a common purpose
- The action or process of joining together with another for a common purpose

nkut.org

What is NOT a coalition?

- Groups working solely independently
- Competitive mentality
- No leadership
- No shared vision
- No benchmarks, goals or measurements of success

nkut.org



In the year 2000 ...



- The NMHPU Coalition was started by Gregory and Julie Castle
- Goal was to bring together rescue groups, veterinarians and shelters
- Steering committee was formed to direct the work
- Key requirement of Maddie's Fund grant

nkut.org



How was the coalition formed?

- Simple: Successful rescue groups and expert individuals were asked to participate
- NMHPU provided the vision of a common purpose
- Benefits of membership were enticing
- Some skeptics

nkut.org



The NKUT Coalition

- Launched in 2014 to reinvigorate the NMHPU Coalition and provide laser-like focus on the home stretch of making Utah no-kill by 2019
- Based on the principles of honesty, integrity, professionalism and mutual respect
- New brand assists in marketing and expresses a simple, yet descriptive message for the public

nkut.org



The NKUT Coalition

- Our priority is saving dogs and cats found in Utah shelters and, in doing so, we believe that their interests are best served by cooperation among groups who share this common goal
- Membership is open to not-for-profit organizations, governmental agencies and animal-related businesses that provide services that contribute to saving animals in shelters

nkut.org



Why a coalition?

- No one organization can accomplish the work of no-kill alone
- Shelters need a variety of options for getting animals out alive
- Rescue groups already exist and a coalition increases their effectiveness
- For NKUT, necessary for expansive geographic impact

nkut.org



What is coalition leadership?

- NKUT is a Best Friends–led initiative, not a dictatorship
- Coalition leadership helps provide the information and resources necessary to accomplish the goal
- Feedback from coalition members is critical; they must have buy-in
- Best Friends–Utah has resources and provides incentives and support where needed to assist with “noses out”

nkut.org



Benefits of NKUT Coalition membership

- Participation in super adoptions and Strut Your Mutt
- Promotion of member organization's events through the NKUT website and social media
- Opportunity to learn about new and innovative programs through NKUT annual conference and quarterly idea exchanges
- Stipends, behavioral and medical resources, in order to increase transfers out of shelters

nkut.org



Benefits of NKUT Coalition membership

- Discounts at the Best Friends Spay/Neuter Clinic in Orem
- Free spay/neuter surgeries for pit-bull-like dogs and community cats
- Members are automatically qualified for membership in the No More Homeless Pets Network



nkut.org



Setting standards

The necessity of a coalition agreement:

- Formalizes the cooperative relationship among all members of the NKUT Coalition in support of our vision *to bring about a time when there are No More Homeless Pets*
- Outlines the expectations and responsibilities for members to facilitate cooperation, collaboration, coordination and effective communication between all members and with the public

nkut.org



Setting standards

All members of the NKUT Coalition believe in:

- Adoption of pets from shelters and rescue groups instead of buying from a pet store or breeder
- Spay/neuter for all cats and dogs, preferably before the age of 4-6 months
- Ordinances that protect communities from any dangerous dog, instead of breed-discriminatory legislation (BDL)
- Humane alternatives for community cats

nkut.org



Setting standards

All members of the NKUT Coalition believe in:

- Wider access to low-cost veterinary services, including spay/neuter, for low-income people
- Educating the public about responsible pet ownership
- Cooperation among rescue groups, shelters and volunteers to save more animals
- Microchipping all cats and dogs so that they always have a lifeline back to their homes

nkut.org



Setting standards

All members of the NKUT Coalition commit to:

- Provide Best Friends–Utah with monthly intake and save rate statistics
- Only adopt out sterilized animals
- Rescue groups must be approved 501(c)(3) nonprofits, per the IRS code, and in good standing with GuideStar Charity Check
- Maintain a lifelong commitment to animals adopted from the organization, which includes accepting returns for any adopted animal

nkut.org



Setting standards

All members of the NKUT Coalition commit to:

- Provide appropriate daily care to all animals under the care of the organization, including animals in foster homes or at other off-site locations
- Ensure no animal in the care, custody or control of the organization is bred or used for breeding purposes
- Be actively working toward the goal of a no-kill Utah



nkut.org



The role of the coalition in our success

- In 2015, NKUT was able to help 29 local shelters in Utah become no-kill.
- Before the coalition began its work in 2000, more than 46,000 dogs and cats died in shelters across the state every year. As of 2015, that number had dropped by over 80 percent to less than 9,000.
- Collectively, the coalition has supported more than 150,000 adoptions.
- Public-private partnerships between shelters and rescue groups are key to the success of NKUT. In 2015, coalition rescues saved nearly 10,000 animals from local shelters.

nkut.org



Recent no-kill success in Utah:
**Utah is no-kill for dogs, achieving a
93% save rate in 2015!**

Statewide save rate:
Dogs: 93%
Cats: 75%
Combined: 84%

nkut.org



NKUT Manifesto

We are the Best Friends of animals.
We are a movement.
We are a coalition of organizations
and passionate individuals dedicated
to making Utah a no-kill state.
Last year more than 3,200 animals
were killed in Utah shelters,
simply because they didn't have
a safe place to call home.
Each one an individual.
Each one a loving pet worth saving.
More than 3,200 dogs and cats.
That number should be zero.
And it can be. We can Save Them All®.
But only if we work together.
Join us and help turn Utah
into No-Kill Utah.

nkut.org

NKUT
A BEST FRIENDS INITIATIVE

Best Friends

Arlyn Bradshaw
Executive Director
Best Friends Animal Society–Utah
(801) 673-5052
arlyn@bestfriends.org



nkut.org



NKUT

NKUT
A BEST FRIENDS INITIATIVE

Best Friends