

Pet food available for those in need; donations being sought

The Humane Society of Truckee-Tahoe's Pet Pantry is a "no questions asked" program that distributes donated pet food to anyone who can't afford to feed their pets.

The tough economic times continue to affect some Truckee-Tahoe residents and their pets, forcing some families to give up their beloved companions due to financial hardship. To help prevent this, the HSTT has implemented the Pet Pantry Program.

"It's heartbreaking to see people have to leave their pets with us," Stephanie Jensen, executive director of the Humane Society of Truckee-Tahoe, said in a statement. "Our shelter is filling up with pets that cannot be cared for due to their owners' financial situations."

Under the slogan "Give what you can, take what you need," the nonprofit collects pet food and distributes it to needy families with pets in the Truckee-Tahoe area. Extra pet food or donations may be dropped off at collection barrels in Truckee at Pet Station and Scraps Dog Bakery.

The HSTT will also be collecting food at events throughout the summer, including the Tail & Ale Microbrew Fest on July 8 at the Biltmore and at the Village at Squaw during Brews, Jazz, and Funk Fest on Aug. 13-14 and Peaks and Paws on Aug. 27-28.

Anyone in need of pet food may pick it up at the kennel at 10720 Riverview Drive in Truckee. The kennel is open Monday through Saturday from 9am-5pm, closed from noon-1pm.