

Media Contact: Kathy Covey
(503) 710-8373
(503) 925-8903 ext. 228
kathyc@catadoptionteam.org
www.catadoptionteam.org



14 Cats from Beirut, Lebanon, Now Looking for Homes in Portland

International Feline Adoption Collaboration of the Pixie Project and Cat Adoption Team

(Jan. 25, 2008) — Fourteen feline refugees from Lebanon's capital city arrived in Portland on Monday, January 21 and are now available for adoption through the Cat Adoption Team and Pixie Project. Abandoned on the streets, rescued from neglect at a pet shop, found in a garbage pail, injured and discarded, Ella, Cookie, Dido, Karel, Bono, Nancy, and the others now have a real chance at finding loving, caring homes.

War and political instability in the region make finding permanent homes for these animals in Beirut extremely challenging. Daily circumstances change and funding evaporates, yet the need to help the animal victims continues. The majority of cats sheltered by Beirut for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (BETA) were dumped at the shelter doors, rescued from the highway, or so badly injured they were overlooked by others.

The Pixie Project, a rescue adoption center in N.E. Portland, worked with Beirut for the Ethical Treatment of Animals to bring some of their homeless animals to Portland in an effort to ease the burden on BETA's limited resources. The Pixie Project enlisted the aid and expertise of the Cat Adoption Team in this international adoption collaboration.

The 14 Beirut cats were given time to settle into new surroundings, observed for any ill-effects to their long transit, examined by veterinarians, and are now available for adoption from the Cat Adoption Team and Pixie Project.

BETA is the only animal rescue organization for Lebanon and cares for over 340 cats and dogs in their shelters. They have 7 paid staff and about 20 volunteers. BETA pets have found homes through international adoption collaborations in Germany, Holland, Canada, and the United States.

Fast Facts:

- Average age of BETA cats: 3 years
- All BETA cats are spay/neutered, vaccinated, tested for FIV/FelV, microchipped
- Total miles traveled: 6,794
- 5 cats are available through CAT
- 9 cats are available through the Pixie Project

-30-

The Cat Adoption Team (CAT) is the Pacific Northwest's largest non-profit, no-kill cat shelter with its own full service veterinary hospital on-site. CAT's mission is to work with the community to save the lives of homeless, sick and injured cats and kittens by offering shelter, adoption, foster, hospice, spay/neuter, and veterinary services to end needless feline euthanasia in our community. CAT, a 501(c)(3) publicly-supported charity, will save over 3,100 lives this year and relies heavily on the support of the public and generous volunteers.

14175 SW Galbreath Drive ~ Sherwood OR 97140 ~ (503) 925-8903 ~ www.catadoptionteam.org

Beirut for the Ethical Treatment of Animals

- Created in 2004 through grassroots rescue efforts.
- Registered charitable organization since 2005.
- Mission is to rescue and rehome strays and abused animals while combating abusive pet shops and the illegal trade in wildlife.
- Funded with private donations.
- Staff consists of 7 paid employees (5 working at the dog shelter and 2 at the cat shelters); 10 BETA members and volunteers; 15 drop in volunteers.
- Currently BETA is caring for 120 cats and 220 dogs.
- Average adoptions per month: 4 dogs and 3 cats.
- All animals are spayed/neutered and vaccinated prior to adoption.
- Average cost to care for a dog per month is \$80-\$150 US.
- Average cost to care for a cat per month is \$50-\$80 US.
- Dogs are sheltered in a converted pig farm.
- Cats are sheltered in 2 apartments.



Cat Adoption Team

- Founded in 1998.
- Adopted 3,129 cats/kittens in 2007.
- Spayed/neutered 2,571 cats/kittens in 2007.
- Funded with private donations and corporate support.
- Staffed by 13 full-time employees and 17 part-time employees.
- Has over 480 volunteers donating time to care for the animals.
- Utilizes 9 adoption outreach centers in the Portland metro area.
- Has 220 cats/kittens at its Sherwood shelter and 69 cats/kittens in outreach locations.
- All cats are vaccinated, FIV/FelV tested, spayed/neutered, and microchipped prior to adoption.
- Established a full-service in-shelter feline hospital in February 2002.
- Receives over 73 percent of its felines from other shelters across Portland.



Pixie Project

- Founded in 2005.
- Adoption center/storefront on NE MLK Jr. established in 2007.
- Shelters 5 dogs and 15 cats.
- 100 percent of its animals from Multnomah County Animal Services and the Humane Society of SW Washington.
- Has 50 volunteers.
- 100 percent of its pet store sales are dedicated to animal rescue, adoption, and spay/neuter services.
- Funded with private donations.

