



cat adoption team

Newsletter

What's Inside?

Spring / Summer 2011

| | |
|--|----------|
| Thank You for Adopting / Join the Team | page 2 |
| 2010 Annual Report | page 3-6 |
| Solving the Mystery of the Unused Litter Box | page 7 |

Cover Photo Courtesy of



Thank You for Adopting

In a metro area that prides itself on being green and renewable, Portlanders are flocking to local animal shelters to adopt their pets – the ultimate in loving repurposing!

An overwhelming majority of those who responded to CAT's online quick poll indicated they adopted their pet from CAT (45.5 percent), a humane society (23.3 percent), an animal control shelter (8.5 percent), and/or another rescue organization (15.9 percent).

We were amazed to discover this since nationally only 30 percent* of pet owners adopt from an animal shelter.

Other than adopting, most found their beloved cat as a stray (33 percent – higher than the national average of 19 percent) or through a friend (21.6 percent – a little lower than the national average of 25 percent). †

Read more online at <http://tinyurl.com/adopt-a-pet-pdx>

*Associated Press-Petside.com Poll (2010)

†American Pet Products Manufacturers Pet Owner Demographics



*Louis & Gucci (adopted December 2010)
with the Jackson twins.*

Join the Team

We have many wonderful donors and supporters, and we thank you all.

Those who donate to CAT on a consistent, monthly basis provide a sustainable source of funding so we can continue to save more lives.

One of our long-time monthly donors felt so strongly about supporting CAT this way, he wanted to share his story to inspire and encourage more of you to join him as a monthly Meow Team donor.



**meow
team**

“A little money can go a long way when it’s used right, and I believe CAT does this with the money I donate to them. It was hard to have to reduce our donation back in 2009 when I lost my job, but out of every charity we donated to, we felt CAT was the most important, so we kept them.”

*Read more about why the McCrae family loves CAT and being Meow Team members by going to:
catadoptionteam.org/meow*

2010 CAT Annual Report

You make a difference to homeless cats and kittens.

Thank you for your support; thank you for adopting; thank you for donating a bag of cat food; thank you for volunteering; thank you for supporting our events; thank you for following us on Facebook and Twitter.

On behalf of the Cat Adoption Team's Board of Directors and staff, it is my honor to share with you our accomplishments of 2010.



Aaron Asmus, CAT Executive Director



Pretty, short-haired gray and white Morgan doesn't mind if you call her a senior - that just means she has the maturity that solid life experience brings. And that attitude some say she has? Well, you can call it that, if you want: to us, it just means she has a mind of her own. Now, after three years, she has people and a home to call her own.

Morgan's story demonstrates our firm belief that there is someone for every cat in our shelter. Some matches are made in hours, others take weeks, and in some cases, like Morgan's, it takes years. The wait is worth it.

Morgan was one of the **2,771** feline matches made in 2010. While most of our adoptions are made up of kittens and young adult cats, 2 percent are lovely senior kitties looking for quiet, comfortable surroundings.

Whether you have a kitten at home, a senior snoozing on your lap, or a cat aged somewhere in between, we want to thank each and every one of our adopters for choosing to adopt from CAT.

Morgan's adopter, Maureen W. of Portland, gives us this update:

“ Morgan is fabulous, she is a huge cuddler. My husband works from home so she is rarely alone. Morgan is becoming quite the daddy's girl. She is also a big help keeping the office in order. She surveys the desk from on top of the printer! ”





What do you do when, busy with a full-time job, family, and your own pets, it turns out that CAT cats need some additional exposure to potential adopters? You find the time to make videos of adoptable cats and post them on petfinder.com and YouTube, of course. Or at least that's what one CAT volunteer did.

As this story exemplifies, CAT volunteers continually impress us with their dedication, creativity, and willingness to pitch in, making room for homeless cats in their busy lives.

In 2010, **680 cat lovers** donated their time, talent, and love to CAT. The total number of hours contributed by these compassionate volunteers equates to having 30 full-time employees (*and CAT only has 27 staffers!*).

Volunteerism



Animal lovers helping cat owners is what the Cat Food Bank is all about.

With Oregon's economy still at rock bottom for many, the Cat Food Bank saw an increased demand in 2010. We broke records when we handed out 4,182 pounds of cat food in November alone! A total of **34,682.25** pounds of dry cat food was given out, more than in 2008 and 2009 combined. The need is great and never-ending. And all the food is donated by generous animal lovers of this community, like you.



Cat Food Bank

Petra, a senior client from Hillsboro, sums up the feelings of all our Cat Food Bank recipients with her brief note: **“With lots of appreciation for all the cat food and litter given to me. I really am grateful and hope you know how happy I am to be telling you so.”**

Feline Spay / Neuter

CAT's in-shelter hospital kept busy with the metro area-wide increased effort to spay/neuter owned cats. Our high-quality, high volume feline spay/neuter clinic fixed **1,078** owned cats, an increase of **22 percent** from 2009. This prevents the birth of thousands of unwanted kittens and continues to reduce the number of cats entering Portland's animal shelters.



Photo Courtesy of Kathi Lamm



Qualified cat owners can have their fertile cat or kitten fixed for just \$10 through the Spay & Save program, thanks to donations from animal lovers just like you. catadoptionteam.org/spay

As part of the Animal Shelter Alliance of Portland, CAT and other shelters in the greater Portland area have an ambitious goal to spay/neuter up to 10,000 cats each year for the next five years. This should reduce feline shelter intake by 30 percent.

Of course, the surgeries for publicly-owned cats are done alongside the spay/neuter surgeries for the cats and kittens in our care. In 2010, that was an additional 1,871 felines who will not add to the cat overpopulation crisis in the Portland area.



Photo Courtesy of Kathi Lamm

Fostering

Enjoying rambunctious, curious kittens over and over and over again. That's what fostering for CAT is all about – providing a loving start to a long life.

“Fostering has turned out to be one of the most rewarding and satisfying things I’ve done,” states CAT volunteer Barbara P.

“I’ve fostered over 100 kittens and am looking forward to the next 100!”

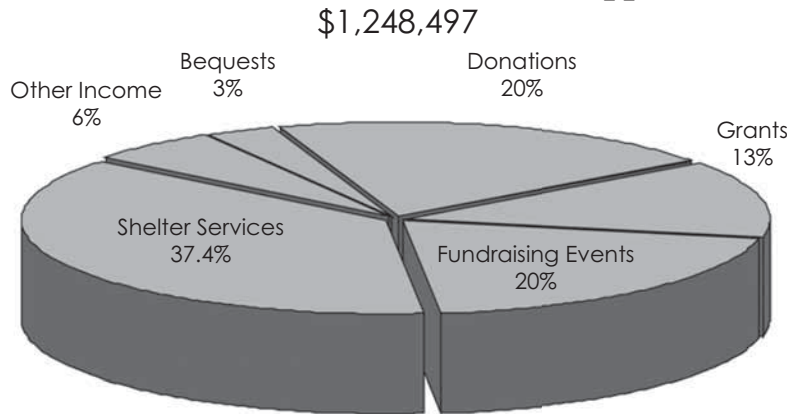
Fostering is also caring for adult shelter cats recovering from an illness or medical procedure. Nothing is more satisfying than helping a once-ill or injured cat heal, play, and successfully prepare for a forever home.

We had 112 families open heart and home to **1,064** cats and kittens in 2010. Thanks to your generosity, we continue to be the only shelter that provides baby bags full of supplies our foster volunteers use while caring for kittens. Join them – visit catadoptionteam.org/fostering

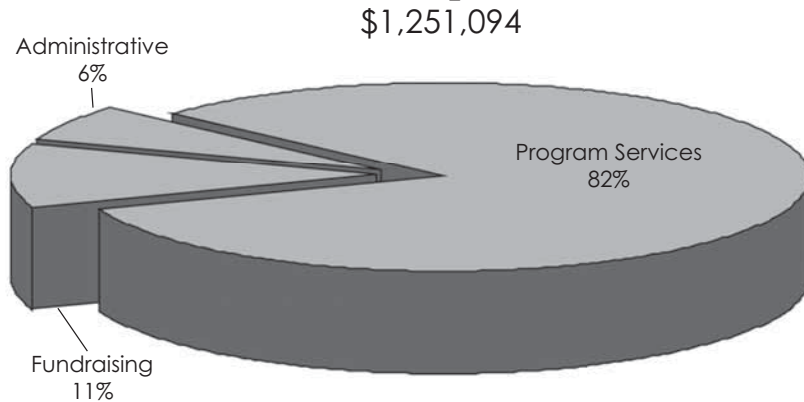
Numbers Behind the Lives Saved in 2010

2,546 Cats Received
 64% from Partner Organizations
 36% from the Public

2010 Sources of Revenue and Support



2010 Expenses



Cat Food Bank

- 34,682.25 Pounds of Cat Food Distributed
- 2,890 Pounds on Average Distributed Per Month
- 130 Families Aided on Average Per Month
- 415 Cats Fed on Average Per Month

Adoptions

- 2,771 Total Adoptions in 2010
- 1,594 Kittens
- 1,177 Adults
- 32% Black or Mostly Black
- 54% Female
- 24,649 Total Adoptions Since 1998

Volunteering

- 680 Active Volunteers
- 62,000 Total Hours Given = 30 Full Time Employees
- Foster Care: 25,000 Hours
- Caring for Shelter Cats: 7,435 Hours
- Off-Site Adoption Centers: 19,485 Hours

Hospital

- 2,949 Total Spay/Neuter Surgeries
- 1,078 Subsidized for the Public
- 6,284 Vaccinations Administered
- 60 Surgeries/Procedures
- 44 Cats Treated for Ringworm

Solving the Mystery of the Unused Litter Box

By Kathy Covey

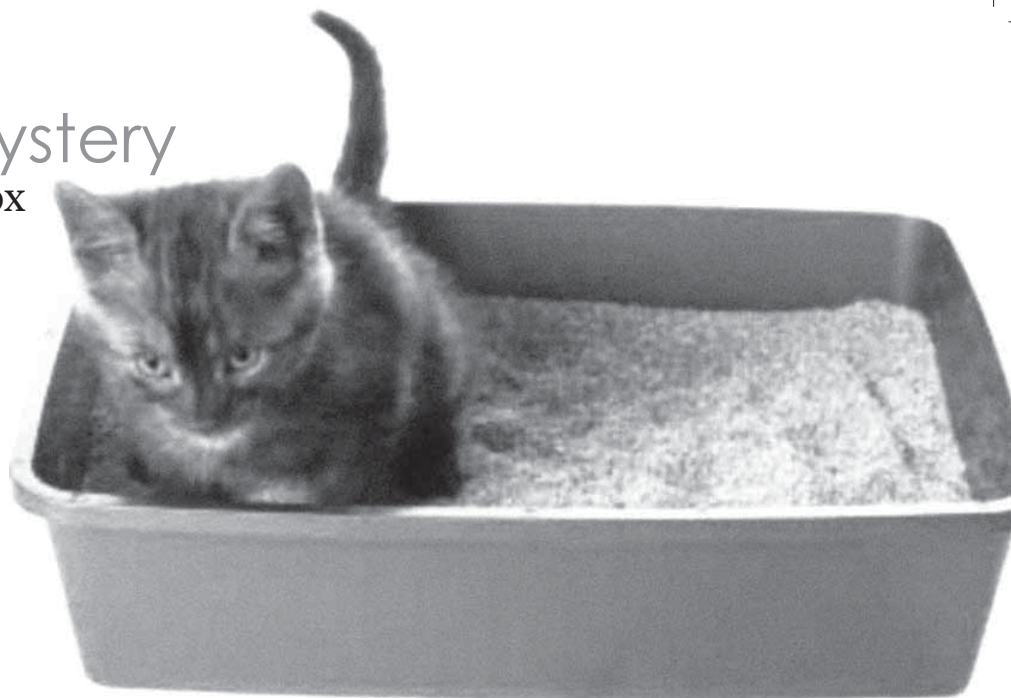
Every cat has an accident every now and again. When those accidents become chronic, it might be time to figure out why your pet is not using the litter box.

One of my cats experienced inappropriate litter box issues while my husband and I rented a three-story townhouse in Maryland. The litter boxes were in the “perfect” location, an unused room on the bottom floor. Well, perfect for us, not for one of my cats. Clio left us messages that she’d rather not go all the way downstairs to use the litter box. After ruling out any medical issues, we put a litter box in our walk-in closet upstairs – problem solved!

It is an unfortunate fact that failure to use the litter box, or “inappropriate urination” trouble, is one of the common reasons a cat is brought to an animal shelter, such as CAT.

So what’s the first thing to do if your cat is peeing outside the box? Take your cat to the veterinarian for a checkup to ensure there is nothing medically wrong.

Then, if your cat gets a clean bill of health, scratch your head and think about what might have changed in your life, home, family, or routine. Cats like routine, and inappropriate litter box habits often show they are not adjusting to change.



Nothing comes to mind? Well, perhaps your cat is picky, as Kim G. discovered. “**If the box is not clean when he has to go, he’ll go somewhere near the box, just not in it.**” Her solution – “**I have to keep it sparkling.... All the time!**”

Maybe the problem is too few options. Have more than one litter box. In fact, the standard most “**cat-knowing**” people quote is one box per cat and then an extra. Amy B. adds that she not only has multiple boxes, they are “**in private, separate locations.**”

On CAT’s website you will find a very comprehensive tip sheet. All these tips are real-world solutions from our volunteers, adopters, and our own experiences.

Check them out at <http://tiny.cc/litterboxtips>. Please share with other cat owners.

Answers to your cat’s little problems:
catadoptionteam.org/solutions

scratching

litter box issues

aggression

getting along with other pets

kitten behavior

and more!



If you have a tip you’ve successfully used that is not on this page, I’d love to add it. Together we can solve the mystery of the unused litter box.



cat adoption team

14175 SW Galbreath Drive
Sherwood, Oregon 97140

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CAT's Mission: *To work with our community to save the lives of unwanted, sick, and injured cats and kittens by offering shelter, adoption, foster, spay/neuter, and veterinary services to end needless feline euthanasia.*



Please Join Us

Friday, August 12 / 5 pm - 9 pm

5k Steps off at 7 pm

\$20 per person / \$15 for youth under 18

Sherwood High School - 16956 SW Meinecke Rd.

catnipfriday5k.org

CAT Newsletter :

A publication of the Cat Adoption Team, the Pacific Northwest's largest feline-only non-profit shelter.

14175 SW Galbreath Drive
Sherwood, Oregon 97140
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catadoptionteam.org

CAT Shelter Hours

Mon. - Fri. 11 am to 7 pm

Sat. - Sun. 10 am to 6 pm

2010 Board of Directors

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