

ALLEY CAT ACTION®

Alley Cat Allies Newsletter | alleycat.org | SUMMER 2019

For Alley Cat Allies' Over Half a Million Supporters and Activists



FELINE FRENZY® CONNECTS A COMMUNITY TO SAVE CATS' LIVES



Two of the many cats and kittens who received lifesaving services at no cost during Alley Cat Allies' Feline Frenzy in the Florida Panhandle.

Alley Cat Allies' *Feline Frenzy* in the Florida Panhandle is an essential support system for the cats and people whose lives were uprooted by Hurricane Michael last October. Our campaign is bringing communities together to share resources and develop sustainable programs that will save countless cats' lives.

"We're reconnecting people and their local groups to better help cats," says Becky Robinson, president and founder of Alley Cat Allies. "Strong relationships are important for all communities, but especially those recovering from a disaster."

Feline Frenzy is permanently transforming the Panhandle to protect the cats who call it home. Alley Cat Allies provided immediate aid via high-quality, high-volume spay and neuter, vaccination,

and microchipping—plus eartipping and return for community cats. We conducted the procedures at no cost in Panama City in April and Pensacola in May. Our campaign has helped more than 1,340 cats and kittens so far.

That's also how we met Larry S., a Florida Panhandle resident who took on the care of 70 community cats and kittens. Hurricane Michael uprooted families and displaced countless cats and kittens. Many of the cats Larry now cares for moved to his neighborhood in the wake of Hurricane Michael.

When he heard about *Feline Frenzy*, Larry drove for two hours to Operation Spay Bay, *Feline Frenzy's* base in Panama City, to ask for help.

(continued on page 5)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

To our supporters everywhere,

Alley Cat Allies has been providing critical support after disasters thanks to you (page 3).

Our disaster response is both short-term and long-term. In the Florida Panhandle, still recovering from Hurricane Michael, our *Feline Frenzy* helped cats immediately with no-cost spay and neuter services. At the same time, we are actively connecting communities to make long-lasting change for cats, including implementing Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) (page 1).

When we head into disaster zones, we also microchip every cat we help. Implanting and scanning for this tiny technology is one of the most effective ways to bring a lost or displaced cat home (page 4).

I'm proud to say that Alley Cat Allies will continue to provide lifesaving support to affected areas for as long as we are needed. By protecting the animals, we are also providing much needed relief to the people who consider them family as they rebuild their lives. We couldn't do it without you. Thank you so much for always standing with us.



For the cats,



Becky Robinson
President and Founder

Connect with me online



facebook.com/ACAPresident



instagram.com/FeralBecky



twitter.com/FeralBecky

Alley Cat Allies President and Founder Becky Robinson with volunteer Cathy Buell at Operation Spay Bay on April 4 for Feline Frenzy. The two Florida Panhandle clinics changed the lives of more than 1,340 cats and kittens.



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Alley Cat Allies is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and tax-exempt organization. Alley Cat Allies' federal employer ID number is 52-1742079, and our CFC number is 10964. All contributions, donations, and gifts are tax-deductible, as allowed by law.

It is Alley Cat Allies' practice to exchange the names of our donors with other charities that share our values. We do this in order to both expand our donor base and spread our mission, and to support those charities that we feel are working toward the good of animals and our community. Please notify us if you would prefer that we not share your name. We would be happy to remove your information from our exchange list.



OUR MISSION: To transform and develop communities to protect and improve the lives of cats.

OUR GOALS: 1) Reform public policies and institutions to serve the best interests of cats; 2) Expand and promote cat care; 3) Increase understanding of cats to change attitudes and eliminate misconceptions.

COMMUNITY CHANGE IN THE WAKE OF DISASTER



An orange tabby displaced by California's devastating Camp Fire recuperates at the Alley Cat Allies Recovery Center®.

Disaster after disaster hit the United States in the last year, and Alley Cat Allies has been there for the affected cats and people through it all because of supporters like you. You've empowered our staff to provide expertise, funding, leadership, and relief to communities in California, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Florida, and more. By aiding cats and people when they needed us most, we're inspiring communities to move toward

embracing humane programs to save more cats' lives.


In California, the Alley Cat Allies Recovery Center®, managed by FieldHaven Feline Center, rescued, sheltered, and provided medical attention to more than 550 cats displaced by the Camp Fire in November 2018. The recovery center successfully reunited more than 130 cats with their families.

Our lifesaving efforts were noticed by the community of Paradise, a town nearly decimated by the fire. FieldHaven Feline Center and Alley Cat Allies had an opportunity to meet with and educate Paradise's police department about the benefits of TNR, especially for cats displaced by the fire who had not been spayed or neutered. The city's Police Lieutenant is interested in the program and is working with FieldHaven to ensure any microchipped community cats

are returned exactly where they belong if they are ever impounded in the shelter.

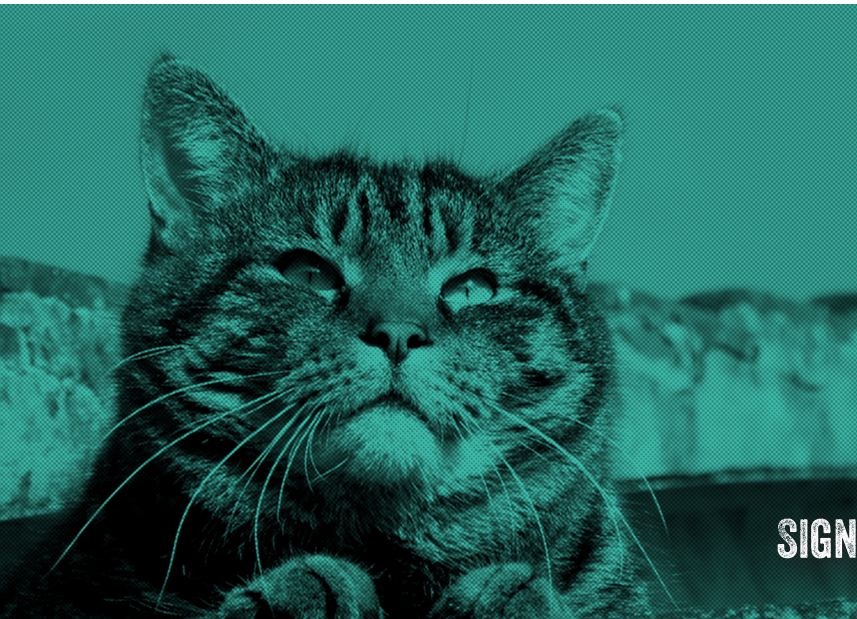
Alley Cat Allies is providing similar support in disaster zones across the country to save cats and advance long-term policies that protect them. When the Midwest was swept by record-breaking floods in March, Alley Cat Allies provided a grant to the Nebraska group Community Cats of Omaha to bring vital veterinary services and supplies to the cats re-emerging in devastated areas.

Then, when tornadoes and flooding hit Oklahoma in May, we issued an emergency grant to Tiny Paws Kitten Rescue, a member of Alley Cat Allies' Feral Friends Network®. The rescue utilized our funding to save more than 100 kittens, most of whom were neonatal (under four weeks old) and needed round-the-clock care.

Recovering from disasters is a long and difficult process. Alley Cat Allies is committed to helping communities rebuild into better, more humane places for cats along the way. 



Kittens like this one were rescued from flood waters in Oklahoma because of Alley Cat Allies' emergency grant.



OCTOBER 16, 2019

SIGN UP FOR UPDATES AT [GLOBALCATDAY.ORG](https://www.globalcatday.org)

ALLEY CAT ALLIES IS MAKING MICROCHIPS MATTER



A cat is scanned for a microchip at the Alley Cat Allies Recovery Center® in California. Many cats lost during the Camp Fire were reunited with their families thanks to their microchips.


A microchip has the power to save a life, but only if somebody scans for it.

This tiny piece of technology, about the size of a grain of rice, is injected just under an animal's skin. Each chip contains a number that connects with the contact information of whoever had the animal microchipped. For the microchip to work, a handheld scanning device must be waved over the animal's body. When it detects the chip, it displays the identification number associated with the chip.

A quick scan is all it takes to bring a microchipped cat home.

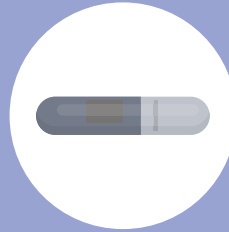
Alley Cat Allies' Plan to Scan® campaign is reminding animal control officers, shelter professionals, and veterinary professionals how important it is to scan for a microchip the moment an animal enters their care. That way, more cats can be quickly reunited with their human families indoors or cat families outdoors.

Our expert staff has a finger on the pulse of legislation so we're always ready to support bills that improve cats' lives, including those that make immediate microchip scanning mandatory in shelters. Here's why: Countless cats who enter shelters are still killed. With a microchip, a cat is 20 times more likely to be returned to her family, but only if she is scanned right away.

You can learn more about effective microchip policies at alleycat.org/PlanToScan and alleycat.org/MicrochipsSaveLives. 

Microchips Save Lives

What is a Microchip?



Tiny technology, about the size of a grain of rice, that is implanted just under the animal's skin between the shoulder blades. It's a permanent ID with a unique number that corresponds with contact information in a microchip registry.

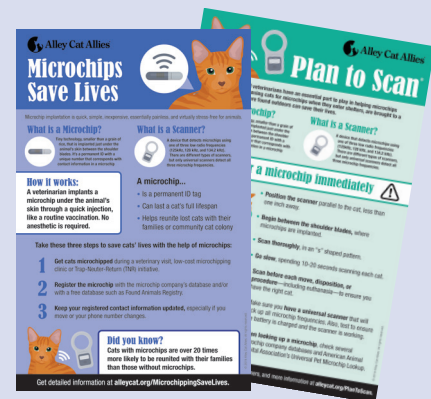
What is a Scanner?



A device that detects microchips using one of three low radio frequencies (125 kHz, 128 kHz, and 134.2 kHz). There are different types of scanners, but only universal scanners detect all three microchip frequencies.

Our new 11" x 17" posters are educational guides on microchips, microchip scanning, and how they save cats' lives.

Order yours today for \$2 each at alleycat.org/Shop.



Actual Size!



FELINE FRENZY CONNECTS A COMMUNITY TO SAVE CATS' LIVES

(continued from page 1)

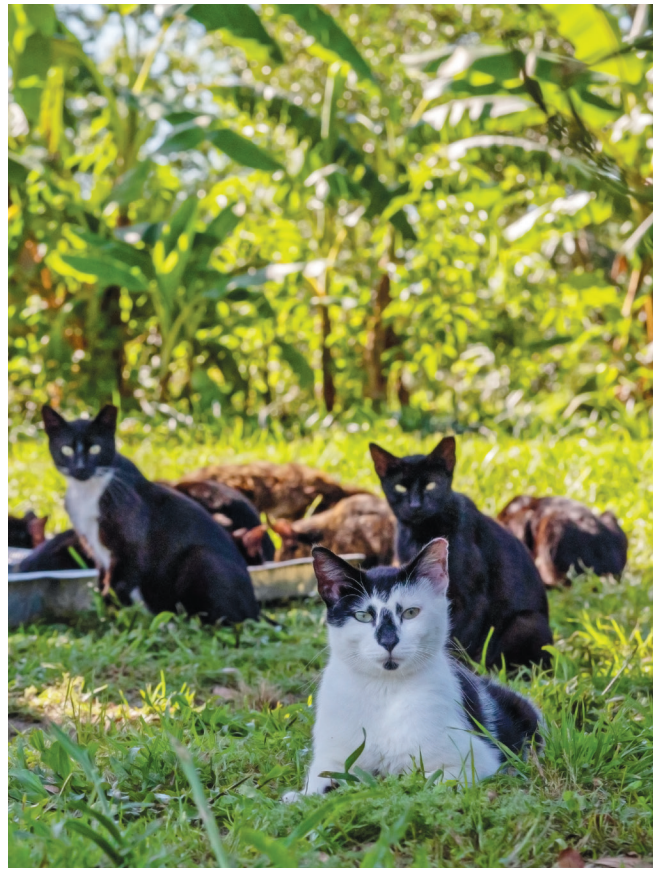
After Larry was taught how to use humane traps, he was able to safely bring in seven cats for TNR! We also connected him with local advocates and provided a grant to fund trapping, transport, and surgeries for all of the cats.

Today, the entire colony has been helped through TNR.

“Having this help has been so outstanding for me and these cats,” says Larry. “I wouldn’t be in this position today without all the support from rescues in the community, Alley Cat Allies, and all the veterinarians who agreed to do this work. They’ve gone the extra mile, and they’ve done it with love.”

Larry’s story shows how *Feline Frenzy* is reinvigorating communities in the aftermath of the hurricane.

“The people here live with these cats and want what’s best for them, but haven’t had the services to help them, especially after Hurricane Michael,” says Becky Robinson. “Alley Cat Allies is here to boost these critical services and embed them into the framework of these communities.” 🐾



Community cats on Larry’s Florida Panhandle property six months after Hurricane Michael. Alley Cat Allies provided a grant to spay and neuter, vaccinate, microchip, and eartip each cat.

PROFILE IN COMPASSION: BRANDI WINKLEMAN



Brandi Winkleman is a rock star in the Florida Panhandle’s advocacy world, and an invaluable partner for Alley Cat Allies’ *Feline Frenzy*. Once an accountant who volunteered at Santa Rosa County Animal Services, Brandi knew she had to do more after she witnessed the many kittens and cats who were killed there.

She became a full-time advocate and in 2017

Brandi Winkleman kisses one of the many kittens she and her organization saved alongside Alley Cat Allies.

founded A HOPE for Santa Rosa County FL, Inc., a 501(c)(3) animal welfare organization that is also a

member of Alley Cat Allies’ Feral Friends Network. The group pulls cats from the overcrowded shelter, provides TNR assistance, and transports cats to low-cost spay and neuter clinic Operation Spay Bay. It helped an amazing 768 cats in 2018!

“We’re helping more of the community and seeing an increase in the number of animals saved in the local shelter. It’s such an incredibly encouraging reminder of how important our work for cats is,” Brandi says.

Brandi also organized the transport of hundreds of cats to receive vital veterinary services during *Feline Frenzy*. Looking to the future, Brandi educates local officials and residents, advocates for humane laws, and is building a low-cost spay and neuter clinic. She even connects with high schoolers to encourage their animal advocacy. Her three children have become cat and TNR experts! 🐾

PLANNED GIVING PROFILE: ANN ALLEN



Ann Allen with Teddy, the senior cat she adopted from the Alley Cat Allies Recovery Center®.


found loving homes for more than 2,000 cats. “I can’t imagine not helping cats,” Ann shared. “It’s just...who I am. I care about them so much.”

Ann says she became a major donor to Alley Cat Allies

Ann Allen can’t go anywhere in Marin County, California, without being recognized for her 30 years of cat advocacy. Through volunteering at her local shelter and establishing a nonprofit rescue group, Marin Cat Connection, she has

because we operate on every level to protect cats, from making widespread change in policies to providing on-the-ground aid after natural disasters.

“Alley Cat Allies knows that the big picture is critical. You go into communities and turn them around with education. You connect all the dots of us little guys in rescue and build something bigger,” says Ann.

Ann has included Alley Cat Allies in her estate plan to further empower our mission and leave a legacy for cats. She also joined us in saving cats in the aftermath of the Camp Fire in Northern California. She sent vital supplies to rescuers and recently adopted a beautiful older black cat from the Alley Cat Allies Recovery Center®. Ann named the lucky cat Teddy and says he’s loving life in his new home. 

Visit alleycat.org/PlannedGiving (CFC #10964) (EIN #52-1742079) or for more information, call **866-309-6207**.

HISSES AND PURRS The stories of those who deserve to be celebrated...or scorned.



PURRS to four animal shelters in **Spokane, Washington**, for teaming up to carry out a strong TNR effort for the community.



HISSES to the government in **Australia** for its effort to slaughter 2 million feral cats by 2020. Alley Cat Allies is speaking out strongly against the killing.



PURRS to **New York** for becoming the first state in the nation to pass a bill banning declawing. Declaw surgery is ineffective, unnecessary, and can cause long-term trauma for cats.



HISSES to the **Hamilton Township Animal Shelter in New Jersey** for two years of “euthanizing” 236 cats and 93 dogs instead of waiting the mandated seven-day holding period.

SAVE A CAT WITH A MOUSE

With just a few clicks, you can make a difference in cats’ lives and help transform communities. Here are some online resources to help you on your way:



QUESTIONS?—Looking for assistance with cats? Get the help you need!
alleycat.org/GetHelp



DONATE—Support cats nationwide.
alleycat.org/Donate



LEARN—Advocate for cats in your community.
alleycat.org/CommunityChange



TAKE ACTION—Receive our action alerts and other emails.
alleycat.org/SignUp