

ALLEY CAT ACTION®

On the Front Lines *Saving* Cats' Lives

Nomad here received critical
care in Mayfield, Kentucky,
thanks to you!

With notes
from the Alley
Cat Allies team!

Hope and Healing for **Mayfield's Community and Cats**

A little bit of hope and a whole lot of action—it's what every community needs in the aftermath of natural disasters. But too often, after the story slips out of the headlines, the outpouring of support does too, leaving those affected to pick up the pieces alone.

In many circumstances, cats and other animals who are impacted are overlooked entirely.

But thanks to our supporters like you, Alley Cat Allies can be there for those cats, providing direct, lifesaving care and relief at the most critical time. Most importantly, we stay—long after the cameras stop rolling.

When massive tornadoes tore through the U.S. Midwest in December of last year, Alley Cat Allies traveled to the hard-hit town of Mayfield, Kentucky, at the request of community leaders. We helped direct rescue and care of

(See *Hope and Healing for Mayfield's Community and Cats* on page 2)



Hope and Healing for Mayfield's Community and Cats

(continued from page 1)

cats and kittens, providing disaster relief expertise that we honed through infamous disasters, from Hurricane Katrina to the Camp Fire and Hurricane Harvey.

We coordinated emergency veterinary care with Mayfield Veterinary Clinic, and formed a strong partnership that would go on to help many cats: hundreds in fact! Throughout 2022, as Mayfield embarked on the long road to recovery, we worked with Mayfield Veterinary Clinic to hold free spay and neuter clinics each month. And as you read this, we continue to do so—nearly a year after the tornadoes first touched down.

“Alley Cat Allies came in when they were needed the most to help us through the aftermath of the tornado,” said Dr. Timothy D. Jones, director of Mayfield Veterinary Clinic. “We were able to assist in different areas of animals’ and families’ lives. Since then, the collaboration has allowed us to help with healing in our area.”

Hope and Healing for Cats and Their Caregivers

It isn't only people who lose their homes during disasters. Many cats and kittens were also left stranded after the tornadoes, and community cats were displaced from their original outdoor homes. In the Mayfield area, people already struggling to care for cats outdoors found themselves overwhelmed with new arrivals—sometimes up to 70+ cats!

Deborah B. is one of the most dedicated community cat caregivers in the Mayfield area. She wakes up at 4 a.m. to feed cats at eight different locations and is a whiz at teaching community members to do Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR).

The Mayfield Veterinary Clinic team examines Ramrod. He's looking a-okay!



Ramrod at a checkup after his eye surgery. YOU saved his life!

“So many cats fled or people could no longer afford to feed them, and with cleanup ongoing they're running out of places to hide,” says Deborah. “Plus, we've seen a boom in new kittens. The amount of food I used to provide my cats just isn't enough anymore.”

The solution: spay and neuter—and lots of it. With the support of our donors like you, Alley Cat Allies has helped Mayfield Veterinary Clinic pivot to meet the need and provide more TNR than ever. And when a cat or dog needs more intensive care, flea treatment (fleas are a big problem in the area), or anything else, we provide that too!

So when Deborah called us about Ramrod, a 3-month-old kitten whose severe eye infection became more dangerous, we connected with the clinic immediately to arrange emergency surgery and treatment—as well as neuter, eartip, and vaccination. Today, Ramrod (now nicknamed Popeye) and his siblings are healed, thriving, and—according to Deborah—more than a little spoiled.

“The people who fed these kittens didn't have money to get them veterinary care. If they'd been left where they were, they wouldn't have seen a vet, and they wouldn't have healed on their own,” says Deborah. “Alley Cat Allies has been such a lifesaver for so many cats in Mayfield and Graves County. It's wonderful, like a dream come true.”

That same sense of relief and hope is shared by many members of the Mayfield community, especially in the low-income areas that were hardest hit by the tornadoes.

Continued on next page.

On the Front Lines

Alley Cat Allies is on the ground saving cats' lives,
Our team member Coryn ensured Smoosh and family got the right care.
She drove them 5+ hours!

all thanks to you!

From Pharr away to a new home

Earlier this year, Alley Cat Allies drove a mother cat and



Smoosh in her new home—with her original caregiver!

her kittens from the border town of Pharr, Texas, all the way to Houston to kickstart their new lives. Callie P., their caregiver,

asked for our help to provide veterinary treatment to the kittens—low-cost care is next to nonexistent in Pharr—and find them new homes. So our team member, Coryn, headed down right away to take care of Smoosh, Pipsqueak, Squiggles, Snacks, Squirt, and mom Polly.

We have a great update! After Alley Cat Allies funded weeks of treatment and spay and neuter, Polly and her

kittens have been adopted. Our favorite part: Smoosh went home with Callie!

Helping Journey and Sharon take on the world

Alley Cat Allies is leading extensive efforts in the field in multiple West Virginia communities to protect cats—including through direct care. So when we got a call about Journey and Sharon, two kittens in Berkeley County who were deathly sick, we rushed them to emergency veterinarians.

Without that quick action, they wouldn't have made it through the night. But after treatment and

(See On the Front Lines on page 6)



SHARON

JOURNEY

Continued from previous page

"The people are so, so appreciative. I've had people cry and hug and everything else you can think of," says Lauren Bailey, Veterinary Technician at Mayfield Veterinary Clinic. "We're so grateful to be able to continue doing this, for the animals and for them."

Alley Cat Allies has since supported Deborah's community by providing food and critical flea prevention treatment for the cats she cares for.

We're Here for the Long Haul

Helping a community recover from a disaster and build new infrastructure to protect cats isn't a month-long or even year-long process. It's a long-term commitment. Alley Cat Allies is proud to say we're connected with the Mayfield community to help stabilize the community cat population, increase low-cost spay and neuter and TNR services, and save lives.

All thanks to you!

We're here for the long haul, and you empower us to accomplish this life-changing work every day. Thank you and stay tuned for more!



Sol and Momo in Mayfield relax with full bellies thanks to food from Alley Cat Allies.

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 online resources to help:



QUESTIONS?

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



DONATE

Support our work with cats and kittens.
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

Because of our supporters, our work to stop cruelty knows no borders.

Global Cat Day is October 16! On this day of action, Alley Cat Allies calls on people worldwide to become advocates for cats in their communities. Our biggest global fight: stop cruelty to cats. It's a lofty goal, and one that requires everything from boots-on-the-ground work to policy change in the highest houses of government.

With support from our donors, Alley Cat Allies is taking action on every level and internationally. Here are some of our most critical ongoing campaigns:

Ending Cat Killing in East Bay Regional Park District



PANTHER

Alley Cat Allies polled East Bay residents, and they overwhelmingly disapprove of lethal policies for community cats.

East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) in California is using the U.S. Endangered Species Act (ESA), a law designed to **protect** animals, as an excuse for its unlawful policy to remove community cats from parklands—including by killing. Hunting cats in a futile, ineffective effort to “protect” endangered species, as EBRPD claims to be doing, is NOT mandated by the ESA and is not backed by science.

“Alley Cat Allies will ensure public agencies like EBRPD are held accountable when they take actions which harm innocent cat populations and flout the fundamental transparency and deliberation requirements codified in California law,” says Yonaton Aronoff, a member of Alley Cat Allies’ legal team.

[Learn more at alleycat.org/EastBay.](https://alleycat.org/EastBay)



Fighting Cat Cruelty Down Under



Simba, a community cat who used to live along the Stockton Breakwall. He has since been rehomed.

In the Port of Newcastle, New South Wales, Australia, at least 12 beloved and cared for community cats on the Port’s breakwall were maimed or killed by a contract killer hired through the Port Authority in late 2020. These cats’ lives mattered. But in an instant, their lives were taken in an act of unspeakable brutality.

Alley Cat Allies is working with Australia’s Animal Justice Party to seek justice for these innocent cats, and protect cats across Australia from vicious lethal policies.

“The Australian Government should be supporting community cat caregivers running Trap-Neuter-Return and care programs,” says Emma Hurst, Animal Justice Party, Member of New South Wales Legislative Council. “Overseas, these programs have proven humane and effective as proven by the work done by Alley Cat Allies.”

[Learn more at alleycat.org/Australia.](https://alleycat.org/Australia)



Our work is showing institutions everywhere:
Killing cats will never be acceptable.



Profile *in* Generosity

MELODY KRETZINGER-STEWART

Our amazing donors like Melody change the world for cats!

Melody once had nothing. But after hard work for many years, today she has the means and the drive to make a true difference in the world.

While conducting extensive research, she was inspired by Alley Cat Allies' highly acclaimed work for cats and kittens worldwide. So, Melody made the compassionate decision to name Alley Cat Allies as the beneficiary in her and her son's will. Additionally, she made large gifts to support our critical efforts right now. All of it to save countless cats' lives—today, tomorrow, and in the many years to come.

Melody and her son, Matthew, have now joined Alley Cat Allies' Legacy Society, a community of dedicated people leaving a legacy of love for cats by naming Alley Cat Allies as a beneficiary in their wills. This kind of giving is all about the future, and powers our mission to create an enduring positive impact for the cats and kittens who need us.

For Melody and Matthew, securing a brighter tomorrow for cats means everything. Melody's own cats, Mindy and Katie, are her steadfast friends.

"They can go anywhere they want, but they love spending time with me," she says. "They're fabulous companions, and I firmly believe their adorable faces and purring are good for a person's mental health. They're just the greatest creatures on earth."

We thank Melody for her incredible generosity, compassionate spirit, and dedication to cats and kittens everywhere. And if you're reading this, Matthew, we thank you deeply as well!



Melody's cat companions, Katie and Mindy.

Planned Giving

Learn how you can invest in a brighter future for cats with a planned gift at alleycat.org/PlannedGiving (CFC#10964) (EIN #52-1742079) or for more information, call 866-309-6207.



Alley Cat Allies® ALLEY CAT ACTION, Volume 33, Issue 1, FALL 2022

7920 Norfolk Ave., Suite 600 • Bethesda, MD 20814-2525
Tel: 240-482-1980 • Fax: 240-482-1990
www.alleycat.org

© 2022 Alley Cat Allies. All rights reserved.

All rights reserved. We may make this material available for use by other groups, but none of it may be reproduced in any format without specific written permission from Alley Cat Allies.

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.



OUR MISSION:

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

On the Front Lines

(continued from page 3)

recovery time in an experienced foster home, they not only survived but thrived!

Today, Journey and Sharon are on a new journey together—both were adopted by their foster! Alley Cat Allies continues our work throughout West Virginia to save even more lives.



Our team member Jake rescues two kittens, Flynn and Cass, in dire need of care in Berkeley County, West Virginia.

We Gave a **NEW START** to **100+ Cats and Dogs**

Alley Cat Allies hit the ground to save animals from a dangerous facility

This summer, Alley Cat Allies saved more than 100 suffering cats and dogs from a dire cruelty case in a rural Louisiana animal facility. We placed all in loving foster homes until they could be adopted. But this was not an isolated incident. In fact, it is the type of situation Alley Cat Allies has found again and again, both in this community and across the nation.

Alley Cat Allies is leading critically needed change that will create true reform in shelters and animal control agencies to protect animals from harm and neglect.

This kind of work isn't for everyone, but we never back down.



5 DISASTER PREP STEPS You Can Take For Cats

Climate change means disaster season is becoming an increasingly year-round event. Here is how you can protect your family, including your pet cats and the community cats you care for.

We've responded to many disasters over 30 years. Preparedness means everything.



1. Prepare photos/descriptions of the cats.

If your cat is displaced, this will help identify them.



2. Microchip and update your info.

A microchip could be your cat's only way of coming home if she is lost.



3. Enlist a back-up caregiver.

If you have to evacuate, they can come check on and help community cats.



4. Create an emergency kit.

Include food, water, bowls, litter pans, extra medication, and cats' vet and ID records.



5. Make a list of local animal shelters.

Keep this contact info in case you need their help or resources.

Alley Cat Allies has resources to help you protect cats in the worst-case scenario. [Learn more at alleycat.org/Disaster](https://www.alleycat.org/Disaster).

Three of many cats Alley Cat Allies rescued from dangerous conditions and provided critical care.