

ALLEY CAT ACTION[®]

Alley Cat Allies Newsletter | alleycat.org | Fall 2023

For Alley Cat Allies' Over 800,000 Supporters and Activists Across the Nation and Around the World



Protecting **CATS** After **MAUI** **WILDFIRES** *Disaster response UPDATE*

A community cat in Maui on the way to a meal provided by Alley Cat Allies.



When historic wildfires swept through Maui, Hawaii, in August, Alley Cat Allies was on the ground immediately to provide critical emergency support for cats. Amazing survivors that they are, cats and kittens continued to emerge from the scorched earth and ash for weeks—but many needed urgent and ongoing aid.

In the tumultuous time following the fires, Alley Cat Allies brought food to cats outdoors in the devastated Lahaina area, as well as medications, vaccinations, kitten milk replacer, and other needed supplies for affected companion and community cats. We flew a veterinary team to Maui to examine and treat multiple cats rescued from the fire zone and covered the costs of procedures from flea treatment to emergency dental care.

With our supporters by our side, Alley Cat Allies can continue our 33-year legacy of swift response for cats



Received emergency dental surgery covered by Alley Cat Allies.

LUCKY

even through the most catastrophic emergencies. The Maui fires were not the first or last major disaster of 2023. Because of you, we always stand ready to save cats' lives.

Your support of Alley Cat Allies has brought cats and kittens from the devastating grip of illness—or even the very edge of death—to a place of healing, hope, love, and new life. With so many inspiring success stories from this summer and early fall alone, choosing just a few to share with you in this newsletter was no easy task. So as you read, we want you to know: This is only a tiny sample of the lives you’ve helped us save!

YOU Saved THEIR LIVES

Emporio’s prognosis is positive—and he has many carefree days ahead of him! We’ll let his foster caregiver, Allison, say the rest:

“Each day, Emporio is becoming more like his old self again. His favorite game is running to catch toys and balancing himself on the top of his scratching post like a circus elephant on a ball. He even has most of his vision back! He is now over a year old and, thanks to your generosity, has a long and happy life ahead of him.”

These cats have many years ahead of them because of YOU

Emporio’s New Groove



EMPORIO

The only struggle a kitten should face is choosing between playing with a fun new toy or curling up in a sunbeam. But at not even a year old, Emporio’s mischievous, cuddly personality was fading day by day as he was

wracked with seizures that impaired his sight and adventurous spirit.

Emporio has a condition known as a portosystemic shunt, which is an anomaly in his blood vessels that causes blood to be diverted around his liver rather than through it for detoxification. Seizures are a common symptom, as are a host of other medical issues that, if untreated, are deadly.

He needed specialized surgery to have the best chance at survival—and Alley Cat Allies ensured he received it through a grant to Lollypop Farm, the Humane Society of Greater Rochester. Now, with the right ongoing care,

Two Lucky Charms



There’s a saying that “good things come in pairs,” and kitten siblings Clover and Charm certainly embody it! But despite their lucky names, good fortune isn’t the reason they can run, jump, and play to their hearts’ content today—the reason is due to generous people like you!

When Clover and Charm first came into Alley Cat Allies’ care as small kittens back in August, their eyes were crusted shut, and their tiny bodies were so weak with illness that they were limp. There were nights we worried they would not wake up in the morning.

But with top-notch, dedicated veterinary care—funded by our incredible donors—the brother and sister duo recovered little by little each day. And before we knew it, they were chasing each other around their playroom almost faster than the eye

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

could follow—little streaks of inky black you would never guess were deathly ill days before.

Charm still has a cataract in one eye as a scar of her ordeal, but it doesn't slow her down a bit. We think it just adds to her...charm!

It's been our privilege to watch Clover and Charm grow into bright, playful kittens with boundless energy and our honor to have supporters like you at our side to make it possible. These two lucky kittens will be zooming their way through their forever homes for many years to come!

Snowball's Chance

When Snowball, a companion cat, was abandoned near the outdoor home of a local community cat colony last year, he had a storm raging inside of him.

The moment Alley Cat Allies received a call about the unexpected new arrival from the cats' caregiver, we rushed the scruffy orange tabby to a veterinary clinic. The diagnosis: a urinary blockage, a critical condition that can become deadly—fast.

We jumped into action and provided Snowball with specialized surgery, which was a success but not the end of the story. For many months, Snowball struggled to recover. His health issues, and no doubt his abandonment, were taking their toll. His foster caregivers had to keep a sharp eye on his health and have the veterinarian on speed dial for many moments of setback.

But through it all, Snowball never gave up—and his amazing foster caregivers were at his side the whole way. Today, after a long journey, we're thrilled to say Snowball is finally thriving with no medical concerns. Even better, his foster caregivers took the leap and adopted him!



We Want to Hear from YOU!

We want to know which issues affecting cats are most important to you. Please take



our 5-minute survey to share your thoughts.

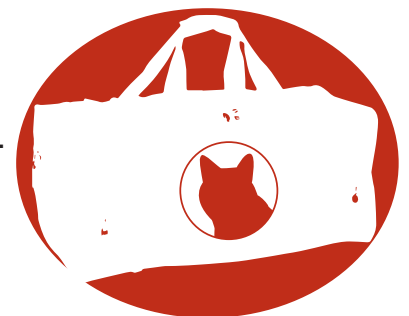


Stay Prepared in Case of Emergency

During our 33 years in action, Alley Cat Allies has responded to many disasters to save cats' lives. If we've learned one thing, it's this: Preparation is everything. If you don't have one already, please create an emergency kit for your cats.

CAT EMERGENCY KIT CHECKLIST

- Pet first-aid kit
- Supply of cats' prescription medications
- Veterinary and microchip ID records
- Photos of each cat
- Pet food (three to seven days' worth)
- Bottled water
- Litter box and litter
- Crate or carrier
- Blankets or towels
- Plastic bags, paper towels, soap, disinfectant
- Cat's favorite toys and treats



For more in-depth emergency kit and disaster preparation information, visit alleycat.org/DisasterTips.





Thank You for Our Biggest and Best Global Cat Day®

On October 16, cat advocates and allies all over the world took incredible Global Cat Day actions for cats. We truly brought the heart of this year's theme—Cats Are Community™—worldwide!

Cats Are Community is a rallying call of this global truth: Cats have lived alongside people for thousands of years, have a place in our communities, and deserve to be protected.

But even with so much history together, cats still face cruel threats to their lives every day. That's why every action, from holding a spay and neuter clinic to doing Trap-Neuter-Return to educating neighbors about cats, has a lifesaving impact.

There's still time to celebrate Global Cat Day! Tell us your cat's story, find lifesaving resources, take an action for cats, and get your gear at GlobalCatDay.org.



Meet the Global Cat Day Cats



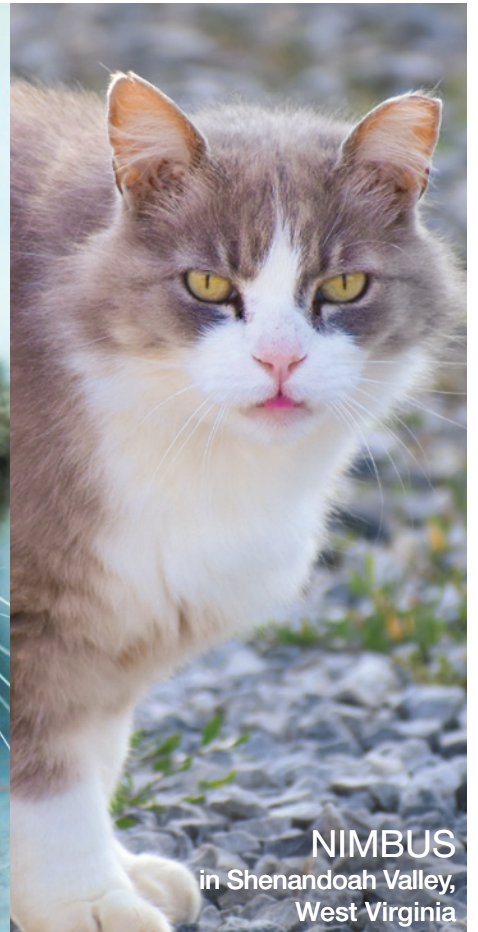
MIKEY
in Atlantic City,
New Jersey

Read his story and watch his video at GlobalCatDay.org/Mikey



LEO
in Istanbul,
Turkey

Read his story and watch his video at GlobalCatDay.org/Leo



NIMBUS
in Shenandoah Valley,
West Virginia

Read his story and watch his video at GlobalCatDay.org/Nimbus

VICTORY! Our latest victories to protect cats in legislation and beyond

Florida

With access to veterinary care more limited than ever, any step that clears the way for experienced veterinarians to provide volunteer services makes a massive difference. That's why Alley Cat Allies supported a Florida bill to allow veterinarians from out of state to legally provide spay and neuter and other care. It passed this summer, and we couldn't be more thrilled for all the cats and kittens it will help!



Texas

A new law passed in Texas recognizes Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) as a defense against cat abandonment claims, giving reassurance to caregivers and shelters who perform TNR that they are doing the right thing to help cats. Alley Cat Allies advocated in support of this law, and we're pursuing stronger TNR protections in the Lone Star State!

One for Us All

Alley Cat Allies just earned the 2023 Platinum Seal with Candid as well as the coveted Charity Navigator 4-star rating for the 10th consecutive year—the organizations' highest levels of recognition! These achievements are a result of Alley Cat Allies' commitment to transparency in everything we do with our supporters' donations. You can be confident that every gift you give us has a direct, lifesaving impact on cats and kittens!



Since Alley Cat Allies' Boardwalk Cats Project® began protecting the cats living outdoors along the Atlantic City Boardwalk in New Jersey in 2000, the community has truly come together in compassion for their feline neighbors.

Linda Richardson and her husband, Steven Korman, are among the dedicated people closely bonded with the Boardwalk Cats. Even more inspiring, they are major donors to Alley Cat Allies who are committed to ensuring the Boardwalk Cats—and all cats—can live happy, full lives.

"Alley Cat Allies is an extraordinary organization dedicated to its mission to make these cats' lives safer and better," says Linda, who is a lifelong advocate for cats and all animals. "[The Boardwalk Cats] are truly living their best life outdoors."

And Linda would know—Boardwalk Cat Baby visits her all the time!

"She comes to me every day and does a little dance for her breakfast and dinner. I'm not able to pet her, but she comes right up to me," Linda explains.

Steven, meanwhile, has a daily appointment with Boardwalk Cats Snickers, Elizabeth, and Sweet Boy and is their advocate and protector.



Alley Cat Allies is proud to have united the Atlantic City community around the Boardwalk Cats, and we are honored to have donors like Linda and Steven who make our work to build a better world for cats possible every day.

YOU can also make a true difference for cats with a gift of any amount at alleycat.org/Donate. Or consider leaving a long-lasting, lifesaving legacy with a planned gift at alleycat.org/PlannedGiving (CFC#10964) (EIN #52-1742079). For more information, call 866-309-6207.

Learn more about the Boardwalk Cats Project at alleycat.org/BoardwalkCats.



Alley Cat Allies

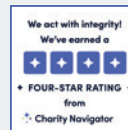
ALLEY CAT ACTION, Volume 34, Issue 1, FALL 2023

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OUR MISSION:

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

1,000 Cats *HELPED*, 1,000 *MORE* to Come!

Our TNR program in Atlantic County, New Jersey,
is a powerhouse



We may have provided spay and neuter, vaccination, and other needed veterinary care for more than 1,000 cats between June 2022 and May 2023, but we at Alley Cat Allies never rest on our laurels

(and we know our supporters feel the same)! As soon as we crossed the 1,000-cat threshold in our work with the Humane Society of Atlantic County in New Jersey, we only had one thing to say: “Let’s help 1,000 more!”

So we cracked our knuckles, stocked the spay and neuter clinic, and set to work. We set a new goal to Trap-Neuter-Return 1,000 cats and kittens between May and October of this year—and we’re so close to the finish line.

And as with all of our work, providing greater access to veterinary care for the community’s cats is a top priority. Cats like Luna, who came into one of the clinic days half-blind and with potential drug exposure, are treated for as long as it takes them to recover as a built-in component of our grant.

Luna is doing amazing, undaunted by her disability, and is currently looking for her forever home. Thanks to our grants, nearly 2,000 more cats and kittens have also been spayed or neutered and vaccinated in Atlantic County since June 2022. On top of it all, our food bank in the county is helping dedicated caregivers provide for their community cats. That’s what we call impact!

And we’re already gearing up for the next logical question: “How about 1,000 more?”



ALLEY CAT ALLIES' 2023-2024 CALENDAR Is *Here!*

Our popular 15-month calendar is packed with gorgeous photos of the cats in our supporters’ lives and their heartwarming stories, as well as lifesaving information every cat advocate needs to know. We can’t wait for you to meet cats like Pistachio, Momo, Almond, and Coconut—this year’s cover kittens!

Get your copy at
alleycat.org/Shop

