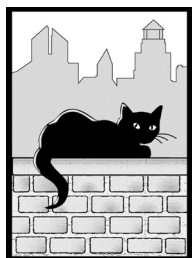


# C Tmatters

Every Cat Matters. Every Person Counts.

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Spring 2020



The Greater New Haven Cat Project, Inc. (GNHCP) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization formed in 1996 to address the problems of cat overpopulation, neglect and abuse in our area. GNHCP provides spay/neuter assistance for feral, stray and abandoned cats, and promotes responsible pet ownership through educational workshops. The organization is comprised solely of volunteers, and is funded through private donations, fundraising events and grants.

## The GNHCP Board

### Executive Committee

Cheryl DeFilippo	President
Diane Frost	Vice-President
Emily Doubleday	Treasurer
Sue Jordan	Secretary
Katherine Gaudet	Fundraising
Linda Klise	Development
Robert A. Schaper	V.M.D.

### Additional Board Members

Rachel Schupp, Social Media  
Renee Costantini, Public Relations  
Ellen Su, Webmaster & Graphic Designer

### GNHCP Catmatters staff

Muffy German, Ellen Su, Rhea Hirshman

### Visit us Online!

Website: [www.GNHCP.org](http://www.GNHCP.org)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/GNHCP](http://www.facebook.com/GNHCP)  
Instagram: [@gnhcp.inc](https://www.instagram.com/gnhcp.inc)

## LOVE CONQUERS ALL

*Submitted by a feral cat caregiver*

I have often wondered how heartless humans could abandon their pets to the wild. This is the ilk that falls “in love” with the adorable kitten, but does not want the gorgeous cat. Sadly, these cats are generally not vetted and the cycle of tremendous suffering begins.

Imagine being a kitten, petted and admired by all, and given food and a warm home. Then suddenly one day, when you are no longer entertaining, being taken for a scary car ride and dumped in an unfamiliar place, in the wild.

My yard abuts a wooded park, which sadly has become an animal dumping ground due to its seclusion. Dogs will be picked up for roaming and provided with food/shelter, while their owners or new homes are found.

Cats, on the other hand, are left wholly to fend for themselves — lonely, frightened, confused, trying to find something to eat, a warm place to nest, all the while attempting to avoid woodland predators. My heart just shatters contemplating their plight.

I began leaving food out about eight years ago, when I first became aware of some scrawny cats along the wood line. I fed them in the morning and evening. Over time, they began watching and waiting for me and I could identify them individually. I swore to myself that I wasn't going to name them, or get attached, but Mama, Missy, Whitey, Puma, Canute, Newton and Kenny knew better.

I first contacted the Greater New Haven Cat Project when one of the cats was heavy with pregnancy. That cat, the first I named, became Mama kitty.

The good folks from GNHCP were able to trap all of the cats except Mama, who had gone into hiding to give birth. They spayed and neutered all the trapped cats and gave them their vaccinations. The cats were returned to their location, fixed and healthy.

GNHCP came again when Mama finally emerged on a regular basis. Her kittens were then about six weeks old.



*Canute sitting on a shelter*

Continued from Page 1

GNHCP was able to trap Mama and all of her kittens. The kittens were young enough to be malleable, and eventually placed into loving, responsible forever homes of their own. Thanks to GNHCP, they need not live hard-knocks lives, but can live lives of love.

I can't even begin to thank this organization for what they accomplished. If not for their good deeds, this woodland would be crawling with litter after litter of cats born to a life of suffering, despair and disease.

This year the Greater New Haven Cat Project helped again. I noticed that Mama kitty was limping. I watched for over a month hoping for improvement but sadly, there was none. Mama was holding up her right front paw, hobbling and her face was etched with pain. I knew she was suffering. I didn't know what to do; although Mama would come within a couple feet of me, I could never get any closer to her.

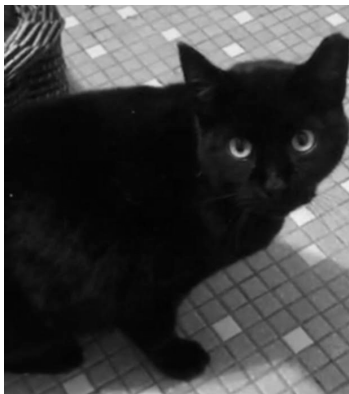
I called the GNHCP and they sent out a wonderful woman named Debbie. Debbie used a box trap to capture Mama and brought her straight to the vet. Mama had a deep abscess that wouldn't heal on its own. The vet cleaned it out and gave her antibiotic injections to fight the infection, then Debbie brought Mama back to me. We set her up in a quiet bathroom so she could recuperate. Mama has healed absolutely beautifully.



Outdoor shelters in winter



Missy, an outdoor cat

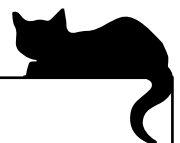


Mama Kitty safe at home

I am keeping her as an inside kitty so she won't ever have to deal with the elements and predators again. She was very frightened at first but over time, she has slowly come to trust me. As the saying goes, "Love conquers all."

I am so deeply grateful for all GNHCP does to alleviate the suffering of these beautiful creatures. The good works they perform have a definite ripple effect that prevents untold amounts of suffering. They make such a positive difference in the lives of these furry little souls.

Most important is their great love for the abused and forgotten. For it is generously offered in huge measure. It is a key ingredient in making these beautiful, valuable and life changing differences. May God bless all their beautiful, loving hearts!



Save the Date!

GNHCP is participating in...



MAY 5-6, 2020  
A 36-hour, online-giving event to support local nonprofits

www.thegreatgive.org/  
organizations/greater-new-haven-cat-project

For More Information, Visit  
TheGreatGive.org



## GNHCP RAFFLE!

It's the annual GNHCP Raffle! Purchase your raffle ticket from a GNHCP volunteer for \$1 between **May 1** and **July 25**. Winner need not be present to win.

### Four Prizes to be awarded:

- \$250 Visa gift card
- \$200 gift card for Stop & Shop
- \$100 gift card for Subway
- \$50 gift card for Petco

Raffle drawing to be held at The Greater New Haven Cat Project, Inc. on **7/25/20 at 6 PM.**

## GNHCP Tag Sale

9AM - 3PM on Saturday, July 11th  
2 Belfast St, Milford, CT

Bring items to donate or take home some treasures at our annual Tag Sale! Sales support our mission at GNHCP. Rain date is Sunday, July 12th.

Call (203)782-2287 or email [gnhcp1@gnhcp.org](mailto:gnhcp1@gnhcp.org) for info.



# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

## CHERYL DEFILIPPO, PRESIDENT, GNHCP

In lieu of our usual individual volunteer spotlight, I would like to use this opportunity and space to thank all of our volunteers. The Greater New Haven Cat Project, Inc. (GNHCP) has been entirely run by volunteers since it was founded over twenty years ago, and the organization would not be able to do our work without this dedicated network of compassionate people - whether they work full-time, part-time, or are retired, our volunteers work tirelessly to provide many services to the organization. Our Center requires 2 daily shifts to take care of our foster cats awaiting adoption into permanent homes; our spay/neuter programs require grant writing and organizing events to keep them funded so we can offer low-cost assistance for tame and feral cats; our websites, Facebook Page, and Instagram are utilized for community outreach to raise awareness of GNHCP's mission and educate feral cat caregivers on proper feeding and sheltering for outdoor cats; our Board members foster cats and kittens rescued through our trap/neuter/return program; we assemble shelters for outdoor cats with youth groups to talk about responsible pet ownership; these are just some of the things our volunteers engage in.

Even during these unprecedented and uncertain times, our volunteers are still tirelessly supporting our mission by fostering the cats that are normally at our center in their homes, spreading our message on social media, and planning for future fundraisers to continue supporting our mission.

THANK YOU to all of our volunteers. You are the backbone of this organization.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please complete the volunteer application through our website ([www.gnhcp.org](http://www.gnhcp.org)) and visit us during our open house on June 20th!

**We need volunteers!**

The Greater New Haven Cat Project is looking for volunteers!

**We're looking for help with:**

- Weekly shifts to clean the Center and feed & play with the cats
- Staffing for fundraisers and events
- Grant-writing or non-profit fundraising

To apply, go to:  
**[www.gnhcp.org/volunteer](http://www.gnhcp.org/volunteer)**  
Volunteers must be 21 or older



## GNHCP OPEN HOUSE



Elise Betty Boop Coffer Finn

Come to the Center and meet our volunteers and meow-dels!

**Saturday, June 20th, 1-4PM**


🐾 965 State St., New Haven, CT 🐾

*Light refreshments will be served*



## Memorial Contributions

In Memory of Josephine Earley-O'Connell (from Charles Iadaresta)  
In Memory of "Miss Maggie" (from Cheryl Dolbrick)  
In Memory of Paul Bliss (from Christina Bliss)  
In Memory of "E2" and "Mr. Big" (from Brian Reichert)  
In Memory of my Grandmother (from Susan & Michael Keeney)  
In Memory of "Sylvie" (from Cecelia Berner)



# Donations

The Greater New Haven Cat Project, Inc. (GNHCP), begun in 1996, works to combat the cat overpopulation dilemma with a comprehensive spay/neuter program that focuses on the numerous feral colonies and abandoned cats of Connecticut. We also locate excellent, stable homes for the friendly cats and kittens that are found or abandoned in the streets and houses of the Greater New Haven area. Finally, we offer other programs such as The Tommy Fund, Barn Home Project and regular operations at our Center. If you would like to aid and abet our burgeoning mission, then please consider one of the following options for your gracious donation:

## Basic Donation:

With an annual donation of \$25, you will receive copies of our newsletter, Catmatters twice a year.

## Population Donation:

With an annual donation of \$60, you will receive a copy of our newsletter, Catmatters, twice yearly as well as a 10% discount on all tickets for a GNHCP fundraising event. Most importantly, this type of gift enables GNHCP to spay one female cat and to promote a healthy, humane approach to the cat overpopulation problem.

## Gift Donation:

With a minimum donation of \$25, this gift is a great idea for a birthday or holiday for the fellow or sister cat lover in your life. The recipient will receive an acknowledgment on your behalf in addition to our newsletter, Catmatters, for one year.

## Memorial Donation:

You can recognize a special animal or person in your life with a donation that will help other cats.

## Additional Contribution:

Any additional donations received through our newsletter will help to fund our spay/neuter program, The Tommy Fund (for extraordinary veterinary expenses) or operations at our Center.

## Foster Cat Sponsorship:

With a donation of \$125, you will receive our newsletter, Catmatters, for one year, a photo and update on your sponsored cat and a 10% discount on GNHCP merchandise or tickets for a GNHCP fundraising event.

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Please sign me up for a:

Basic Donation (\$25) : \_\_\_\_\_ Population Donation (\$60) : \_\_\_\_\_ Gift Donation (\$25) : \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor a Foster Cat (\$125): \_\_\_\_\_

Memorial Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution to GNHCP: Spay/Neuter Program \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Tommy Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Center expenses \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

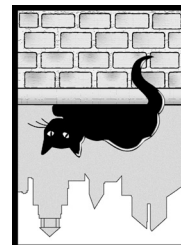
Full Address \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your support of our efforts. All donations are tax deductible.



www.gnhcp.org  
Visit us on the web

The Greater  
New Haven  
Cat Project, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1432  
New Haven,  
Connecticut 06506



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