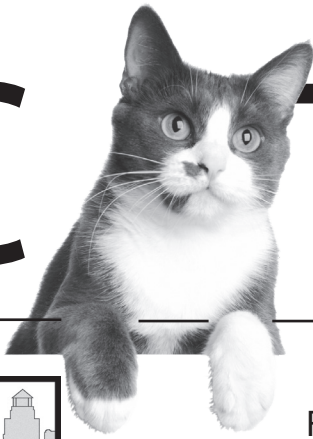


Cat matters

EveryCatMatters.EveryPersonCounts.



Fall 2023



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 primarily of volunteers, and is funded through private donations, fundraising events and grants.

The GNHCP Board

Executive Committee

Cheryl DeFilippo	President
Diane Frost	Vice-President
Sue Jordan	Secretary
Justin Paolillo	Treasurer
Linda Klise	Development
Robert A. Schaper	V.M.D.

Additional Board Members

Holly McCarroll, Fundraising
Renee Costantini, Public Relations
Rachel Schupp, Social Media
Ellen Su, Webmaster & Graphic Designer
Aileen Fernandez, Newsletter
Maggie Corley, Development

GNHCP Catmatters staff

Aileen I Fernandez, Ellen Su,
Rhea Hirshman

Visit us Online!

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

FOR RISË NELSON, FIV WAS NO BARRIER TO ADOPTION

By Rhea Hirshman

Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) is transmitted through bite wounds from an infected cat. The immune system of an FIV+ cat is compromised, and chronic or recurrent infections (skin, eyes, upper respiratory tract) can result. FIV cats are often referred to as “special needs” cats and overlooked for adoption. What people don’t realize is that with a proper living environment, and good nutrition, FIV+ cats can live well into their teens. It is also possible (and has become acceptable) for FIV+ cats to live with cats who do not carry the virus, provided the cats get along and do not fight. FIV is not transmitted through sharing a water or food dish, a litter box or grooming.

For most of her life, Risë Nelson has been a cat magnet. “Wherever I am in the world,” she says, “cats always find me.” From when she was four years old and persuaded her parents to let her bring in a little stray, Risë has had cats in her life. Throughout Risë’s adolescence, she brought home strays and adopted several cats over the years. They included gray and white Nesta (“My special baby,” Risë says) who came from GNHCP, and later Osiris whom Risë describes as “twenty pounds of pure muscle – a mini-panther” and who totally bonded with her infant son.



Randy Ray snoozing (top) and settled into his forever home (bottom).

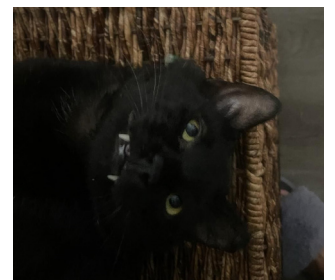
A New Haven native who was recently appointed as the inaugural director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for the Yale University Library, Risë cared for a colony of community cats when she and her son lived in Fair Haven. By 2020, after Osiris and two other cats passed, there were, for the first time since she was a young child, no cats in Risë’s home. “Something was definitely missing from my life,” she says.

But now, there is Randy Ray, who was brought into GNHCP for fostering one Saturday in February while Risë was working her monthly shift. After having been abandoned by his owners, Ray took up residence within a feral cat colony in the Fair Haven section of New Haven. He was frightened, nervous, and recovering from an ear injury. He was also a black cat (one of the more difficult to adopt) and FIV+. “I kept thinking about him,” Risë says, and offered to foster Ray. After a couple of months, she and her son decided to give Ray, now Randy Ray, a forever home.

Never having had a FIV+ cat, Risë had a lot of questions. But she says, “Caring for him has not been different from caring for any of my other cats.” He did have some digestive issues but those are well controlled with frequent small feedings and a grain-free diet.

A kitten mewling in a video caught Randy Ray’s attention recently, and Risë is thinking that she and Randy Ray might want to add another furry friend to the household. “He is so playful and loving,” Risë says.

“He shows me every day how grateful he is. I would encourage others to adopt a special needs cat – to open their hearts and bring these sweet friends into their homes.”



Randy Ray flashing his million dollar smile

BUILDING TRUST THROUGH ANIMALS

Hope, a young woman with a shy and gentle demeanor, has a special bond with animals and wanted to do something for GNHCP's foster cats. (Hope's family previously adopted 2 cats from GNHCP!) She, her friends, and family made cat nip toys, wands, and balls, as well as treat bags for dogs and



Hope (left) at the farmers market

cats and sold them at a local farmers' market. This gave Hope the opportunity to talk to people about her love for cats, develop self-confidence, and raise awareness -and money - to support GNHCP's mission.

Thank you, Hope, for being the special person you are and helping cats and GNHCP!

EVENTS.....

GIVING TUESDAY

Tuesday 11/28/23

Forget Black Friday and Cyber Monday, Join the international #GivingTuesday movement by donating to GNHCP on 11/28, the Tuesday after Thanksgiving!

Visit our website or Facebook page to learn more!

www.gnhcp.org/givingtuesday

#GlobalCatDay FUNDRAISER

MONDAY 10/16/23

GNHCP's mission is to end the suffering of homeless cats through the practice of trap/neuter/return (TNR), and also to educate the community ethically about the importance of animal welfare.

We are dedicated to providing a safe environment for all stray, abandoned, and feral cats by educating the public about our mission, and to meeting the spay/neuter needs of as many cats and to assist as many people as possible.

HELP SUPPORT OUR MISSION AND DONATE!

GNHCP.ORG/GLOBALCATDAY

highlighting local sponsors

join our local sponsor program to have your business showcased on our website!

learn more and see our current sponsors:
GNHCP.ORG/LOCALSPONSORS

GNHCP would like to highlight your business as one that advocates for cats! Check out gnhcp.org/localspendors, which features businesses who support our mission. Display your logo and information for a full calendar year (Jan-Dec) for a donation of \$300, renewable annually.

Fill the Forester for Ferals

Cat food drive to benefit The Greater New Haven Cat Project, Inc

Saturday, December 2 from 10am-2pm

Premier Subaru Branford

155 North Main Street
Branford, CT 06405

Feral Feline Festival

IN PERSON RAFFLE
NOV 4TH & 11TH | 2-6PM
GNHCP CENTER
965 STATE ST. NEW HAVEN
RAFFLE TICKETS ARE \$5

ONLINE AUCTION
BEGINS @ 8AM NOV 4
ENDS @ 8PM NOV 11

RAFFLE BASKET SILENT AUCTION

BID ON OUR GREAT RAFFLE BASKETS!

[VISIT GNHCP.ORG/FERALFELINEFESTIVAL](http://VISITGNHCP.ORG/FERALFELINEFESTIVAL) TO LEARN MORE!

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT JUSTIN PAOLILLO



THE GREATER NEW HAVEN CAT PROJECT
Volunteer spotlight - Meet Justin

After interacting w
GNHCP for about a
year as an outside
accountant, Justin
joined as treasurer in
Fall 2022!

At GNHCP, he helps
to draft the budget,
prepare tax filings,
and review the
organization's
books/records
monthly!

In his free time, I
enjoys watching,
and attending,
professional
sporting events,
as well as
checking out local
breweries with my
friends.

Justin & his friends
VERY photogenic cat!
(Justin is allergic!)

 @GNHCP.INC

HOLIDAY GIVING WITH GNHCP

At GNHCP, we keep our overhead low — stretching our donors' dollars for the benefit of our felines. Our work would not be possible without the generous support of caring people like you. Since 1996, GNHCP has been able to provide spay/neuter and veterinary assistance to more than 12,059 feral and stray cats in the greater New Haven area.

Your donation will work instantly to continue our mission to address cat overpopulation through spaying/neutering and public education. You can also designate how you would like your donation to be used: to provide food and veterinary care for our foster cats or our special needs cats (The Tommy Fund); to the spay/neuter program for feral and stray cats; or for overhead at our center (e.g. electricity, rent); or for salary support.

With the flurry of activity between mid-November through the end of the year, now is the time to consider an end-of-year donation. GNHCP is also able to receive securities. GNHCP is an authorized tax-exempt, non-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. This classification means your contributions may be fully tax-deductible to the amount allowed by law. Please help GNHCP continue its important work. Thank you.

PURRSONALIZED PHILANTHROPY REMEMBERING THE GREATER NEW HAVEN CAT PROJECT

Dear Friend and Supporter:

It's easy to remember The Greater New Haven Cat Project in your will, simply by having your attorney include our legal name in your will or trust or other estate planning documents. And we look forward to gratefully acknowledging your generous gift intentions and support.

-- Legal Designation --

The Greater New Haven Cat Project, Inc.,
PO Box 1432, New Haven, CT 06506-1432.

Federal Identification Number: 06-1463271

We'd be glad to help you personalize your gift and suggest sample language to address the Cat Project's needs of greatest interest to you, both for current and future gifts.

You may designate a specific dollar amount, a particular asset, or a percentage of your estate. You may name us a "contingent beneficiary," in case your named beneficiary predeceases you. Donors have also named The Greater New Haven Cat Project as the beneficiary of assets remaining in their living trust and in charitable trust documents.

Please review your plans with your estate

and financial advisors.

Your feline friend,
Perry Mason (the cat, not the lawyer)



For further information and to discuss your plans, contact Cheryl DeFilippo, President, The Greater New Haven Cat Project, Inc. (203) 782-2287, gnhcp1@gnhpc.org, www.gnhcp.org.

Memorial Contributions

- In Memory of "Yodi" & "Latte", Mary Ann Moran
- In Memory of Josephine Earley-O'Connell, from Charles Iadaresta
- In Memory of Linda Howe & "Hillary", from Richard Howe
- In Memory of "Polka Dot", from Pat Wiener
- In Honor and Memory of Conrad Boucher, from Debbie Lovely
- In Memory of "Marty", a much loved New Haven cat, from Eleanor Tutt
- In Memory of Christine Kossodo and her cats "Binky" and "Willie" from Anna Schildroth
- In Memory of Robin Cooper from Robert Heckler



Donations

The Greater New Haven Cat Project, Inc. (GNHCP), established in 1996, works to combat the cat overpopulation problem with a comprehensive low-cost spay/neuter program for tame cats and a trap/neuter/return (TNR) program for feral cats. Friendly cats and kittens that we have rescued are also adopted into loving, stable homes. If you would like to support our mission, please consider one of the following options:

Basic Donation:

Basic donations fund our spay/neuter programs for tame and feral cats.

Operating Costs:

Donations toward operating costs fund overhead and salary-related costs.

Gift Donation:

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 be used for the Tommy Fund, which provides extraordinary veterinary treatments for feral and GNHCP foster cats.

Foster Cat Sponsorship:

Foster cat sponsorship includes an update and photo of the foster cat you are sponsoring.

Please sign me up for a:

Basic Donation : \$ _____ Operating Costs : \$ _____ Gift Donation : \$ _____ Sponsor a Foster Cat : \$ _____
 Memorial Donation: \$ _____ In memory of: _____
 Contribution to GNHCP: Spay/Neuter Program \$ _____ Tommy Fund \$ _____ Center expenses \$ _____

Name _____

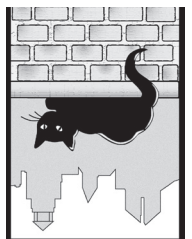
Full Address _____

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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