

Catmatters

Celebrating 25 years!

Every Cat Matters. Every Person Counts.



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.

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GNHCP Catmatters staff

Aileen Fernandez, Ellen Su, Rhea Hirshman

Visit us Online!

Website: www.GNHCP.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/GNHCP
Instagram: @gnhpc.inc

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

Fall 2021

By Marie Carroll-Noonan

One morning I awoke to realize that my husband Brian and I had inherited total responsibility for a large intergenerational family of feline residents. Shortly after we bought our 1895 house in New Haven, our new neighbor, Gayle, confided she was deeply worried about the feral cats in her backyard, as she, her husband and son would soon relocate to the Midwest. Gayle had originally rescued 14 feral cats; with the help of The Greater New Haven Cat Project, she began the trap/neuter/return process that saved and vastly enriched those vulnerable lives. Gayle's husband Kirk built shelters, and the feline family began getting meals on a regular basis! Gayle found homes for the few domesticated fur persons, but the true ferals were unapproachable and therefore most vulnerable, dependent on her kindness for warm, dry shelter, food and protection. GNHCP President Cheryl and volunteer Betsy became supportive advisors and official cat aunties.

Gayle and I managed to capture the last non-neutered cat, Loki, and through GNHCP, Loki was spayed and her three tiny kittens adopted, two brothers together and the black-and white sister became my own dear Flora. It was love at first sight with Flora who had black ears tipped with white, like little stars in a midnight sky.

When Gayle's house was sold, we moved Marmalade, Merlin, Agamemnon (Aggie), Grendel, sisters: Loki, Ajax and Dynah, and brother Seigfried (Siggie), to our yard with their shelters, dishes, and uncertainties. They adapted with equanimity, napping in the sun and lining up for dinner with bright faces. Throughout the years, friend Betsy continued to supply extra treats to the changing family and assorted furry visitors.

Six years ago, Cheryl and GNHCP helped again by spaying a sweet all-white mama who appeared in our yard with six newborns. Mom was adopted by a GNHCP volunteer, two kittens were adopted together though our vet, and the four remaining kittens are now part of our own indoor fur family.

Our current solo backyard resident is Major Tom, perhaps a descendant of one of Gayle's original feral cats "Big Orange". A couple of years ago, after our huge backyard maple tree blew down in a storm and destroyed the original shelters, we moved Tom's 'condo' close to our house. He comes into the basement in bad weather and at night for protection. We offer Airbnb apartments, and the Major has become the treasured official greeter for visitors from all over the world! An enthusiastic purr seems to be the universal language.

All the original family members are gone now, many buried in our yard. My precious Flora passed away in my arms in May at a remarkable 20 years old, the last of the original family and a joy for us all her life. Gayle assures me that the "Cat Goddess" led us to buy this house and I must agree that the Cat Goddess blessed us all, feline and human alike!



Clockwise from top left: Miss Flora, looking doubtful about the whole photo business.; An erudite little lady (natural pose); The Major in springtime surveying his kingdom; A good spot is right between the human's feet - that way you miss nothing.

SHADOWCAT *By LS*

About 4 years ago, a black cat showed up in the courtyard of my apartment building. I named him Shadowcat because he blended seamlessly into his surroundings. I soon realized he was a stray and started feeding him. He always kept his distance and would hiss at me to keep mine. I discovered he was living in one of the garages behind my building so he at least had a roof over his head, but that didn't mean he was safe. Last summer, I started sitting on the stoop with a book after his evening meals and I'd talk to him. He slowly inched his way closer to where I sat reading and by the fall, he was sitting curled up next to me. Although he would still not allow me to touch him, I started thinking that he might be telling me he was ready to come inside. In November, GNHCPv helped me trap him. After a visit

to the vet he was ready to come home. I kept him in the spare bedroom and slowly acclimated my 2 cats, Tiberious and Matisse, to him. Luckily, they mostly just stared at each other. At first he hid under a shelf but soon let me put my hand in to pet him and he quickly learned that pets were a great thing! Within a month, he was venturing out of his room, exploring and taking his place in our home. At first Tiberious hissed at him a lot, but when Ti slept, Shadowcat would creep over, snuggle up and go to sleep too. Now, Ti will lick him on his head and Matisse and he love to chase each other around the apartment. Shadowcat is a smart, sweet, cockeyed, toothless drooler who loves to cuddle and, even though the vet thinks he's about 8, is a silly kitten at heart; always playing. He's won all our hearts over.



Shadowcat has made himself at home and cuddles with his brother Ti to sleep

EVENTS

The Greater New Haven Cat Project: Giving homes to feline friends.



Cat overpopulation is an issue. And we must work together to prevent it.

ZsaZsa

Felix is a young man who made a poster about GNHCP to teach his class about feral cats. Zsa Zsa is his cat who was adopted from GNHCP. Thank you Felix for sharing your knowledge!

"The Greater New Haven Cat Project, Inc. ("GNHCP") is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization located in New Haven, Connecticut run exclusively by volunteers. 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. Our primary goal is to provide the low-income and transient neighborhoods of the greater New Haven area with a comprehensive TNR program and a low-cost spay/neuter program. These programs play a vital role in giving cats a second chance at life. We are dedicated to providing a safe environment for all abandoned, feral and stray cats by educating the public as to the importance of our mission and to meet the spay/neuter needs of as many cats and people as possible."
-GNHCP



Feral Feline Festival!

IN PERSON RAFFLE
NOV 6 & 13 • 2-8PM
GNHCP CENTER
965 STATE ST, NEW HAVEN
RAFFLE TICKETS ARE \$5

ONLINE AUCTION
BEGINS @ 8AM NOV 6
ENDS @ 8PM NOV 13
RAFFLE BASKET
SILENT AUCTION

Learn More & Join in:
GNHCP.ORG/FERALFELINEFESTIVAL

GIVING TUESDAY

Forget Black Friday and Cyber Monday, join the international Giving Tuesday movement by donating to GNHCP the Tuesday after Thanksgiving.

Go to our website or Facebook page to learn more!

Nov 30, 2021

Fill the Forester for Ferals



Saturday, 12/4, 10am-2pm

Premier Subaru Branford 155 North Main Street
Branford, CT 06405
(800) 411-4551

GNHCP **OCT 16**
#GlobalCatDay
FUNDRAISER
gnhcp.org/globalcatday

IN MEMORIUM: ALICIA BUTLER



Alicia Butler was someone who always greeted you with a welcoming smile. In her professional list, she was a teacher and school psychologist for the

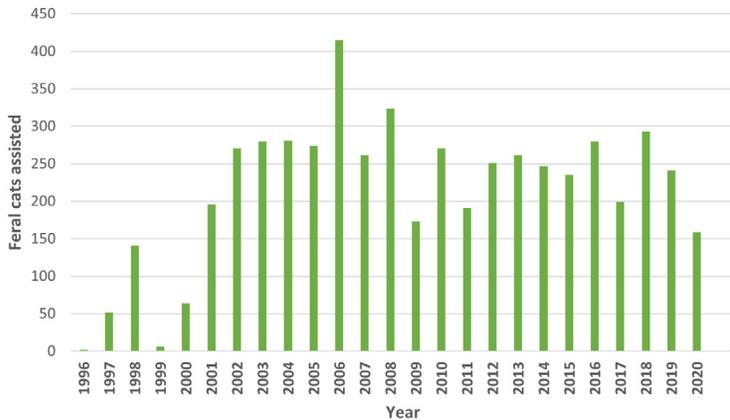
Cromwell public school system dedicated to helping children with special needs. Alicia's special love for cats led her to GNHCP and she began volunteering with our organization in 2005 as one of our Direct Care volunteers, responsible for the Sunday morning cleaning shift at the GNHCP Center. She would often bring her mom, Nancy, to help clean and play with the cats. During this time, Alicia became very close to two GNHCP foster cats, Ben & Brandon, who were rescued with their sister, Beatrice, in Hamden during 2008. Ben & Brandon were very bonded, with Brandon being the shyer of the two. Alice adopted them as young adults in 2011. The "boys" became very fond of Alicia's partner, John, who didn't start out being a "cat guy." (We all know that men who become cat converts make the best parents!). In

2013, Alicia added Zoey (aka Gloria) to the household. Zoey was rescued as part of a trap/neuter/return call in New Haven but did not act like a feral kitten and stole Alicia's heart. Zoey fit right into the feline mix at Alicia and John's, keeping the settled in sibling brothers on their toes.

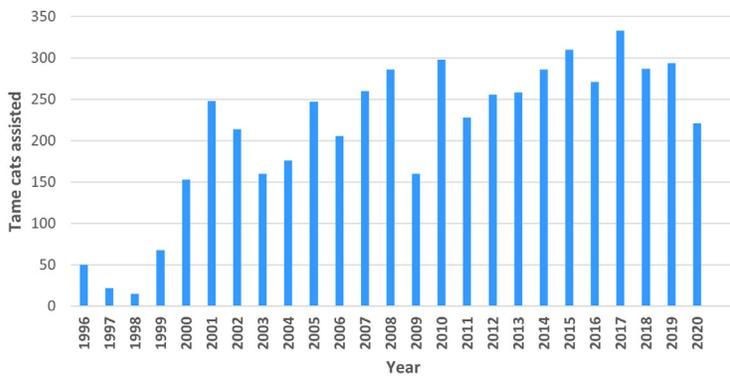
Alicia left the direct care shift shortly after Ben & Brandon's adoptions, but remained active in GNHCP's fundraising efforts, hosting the annual tag sale at her home in Hamden, baking for Coffee & Cats, purchasing items for raffle baskets for the Feral Feline Festival, and attending many of the fundraisers. Alicia was always gracious and willing to help out in any way she could. She will be greatly missed by GNHCP.

25 Years of GNHCP Assistance

FERAL CATS ASSISTED BY GNHCP 1996-2020



TAME CATS ASSISTED BY GNHCP 1996-2020



Holiday giving with GNHCP

At GNHCP, we keep our overhead costs low and the benefits for felines high. We have a strong tradition of stretching our donors' dollars as far as they can go. Our work would not be possible without the generous financial support of caring people like you. Since 1996, GNHCP has been able to provide spay/neuter and veterinary assistance to more than 10,828 feral and stray cats in the greater New Haven area (see graphs).

Your donation will go to work instantly to enable GNHCP to continue its mission to address cat overpopulation through spaying/neutering and public education. If you prefer, you can designate where 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 or feral and stray cats; or for over head at our Center (i.e., electric bill, rent, etc). With the flurry of activity that takes place from mid-November through the end of the calendar year, now is the time to consider an end-of-year donation to GNHCP. 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. What does it mean to be a 501(c)(3) organization? For donors like you, this means your contributions may be fully tax-deductible to the amount allowed by law. Please help GNHCP continue its good work. Thank you.

Memorial Contributions

- In Memory of Chloe Yeltema Townsend, from Mary Ann Krivicky
- In Memory of "Dash" from Taryn Smith
- In Memory of Josephine Earley-O'Connell, from Charles Iadaresta
- In Memory of Christopher Canali, from Barbara Canali
- In Honor of Barnum & Bailey, from Syd Lillick

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.

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 _____

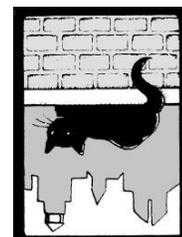
Full Address _____

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



www.gnhcp.org
Visit us on the web

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