

# COME TO THEIR RESCUE

Help us explore expanding our facilities.



*Muriel*



*Jingles*



*Smudgie*



*Harlow*



*Demeter*



*Ada*



*Joy*



*Sparkles*

# WE REALLY KNOW CATS!



**Cat Welfare has been the  
preeminent cat shelter in  
Central Ohio since 1945.**

**On average, we care for approximately 250 felines  
each day. Most of our cats are free-roaming  
throughout the shelter. You will find them in the  
cupboards, in the sunroom, playing on the cat walks  
or relaxing in the outdoor secure cat enclosures.**

**But, here's what really makes Cat Welfare  
such a special place for cats and kittens...**

*Dr. Danya Linehan, DVM,  
Shelter Veterinarian.*

## It's our MISSION STATEMENT

Cat Welfare Association is dedicated to the care of and education about cats and kittens. Our pledge is to cherish, nurture and provide veterinary care for homeless, abused, injured, and abandoned felines.

We strive to find each cat an appropriate, safe and loving home, allowing those not placed to live their lives in the care and comfort of our shelter.



Guided by our Mission Statement, Cat Welfare has rescued, rehabilitated and saved **more than** 30,000 cats and kittens since 1990.

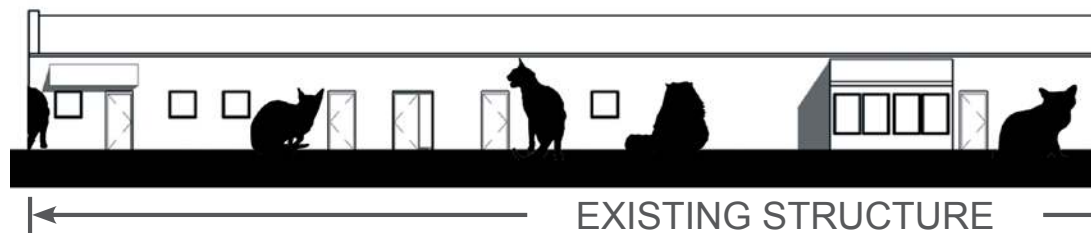
There are many more cats in Central Ohio that need our **immediate** help.

For Cat Welfare to continue to operate at its present level of care for cats and kittens in the foreseeable future, here's what we need to do...

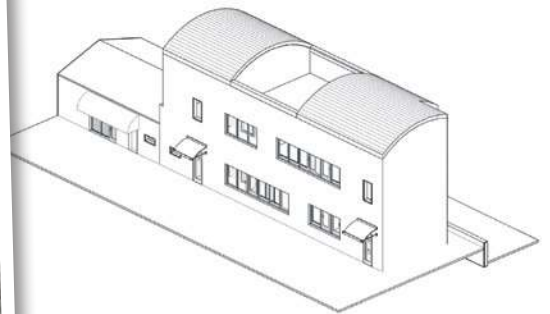
# We Need To EXPAND OUR CURRENT SHELTER

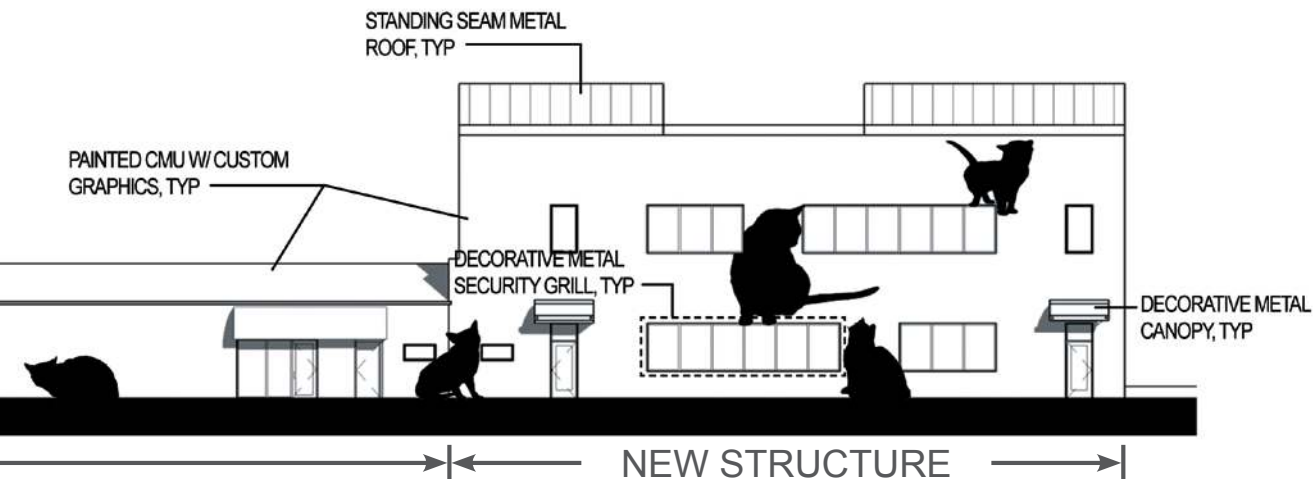


EAST ELEVATION



EXISTING STRUCTURE





**The Come to Their Rescue Campaign** will allow Cat Welfare to expand our facility utilizing a flexible architectural design structure.

The planned building expansion will increase the shelter size from 5,600 square feet to 11,000 square feet. This additional space is critical to stay true to our mission.

By expanding our current shelter,  
Cat Welfare will be able to...





...PROVIDE

# OUR VISION FOR EXPANSION

**DEDICATED SPACE** to take in more kittens that have fragile immune systems and need to be isolated from the general population. Over 700 kittens were admitted to the shelter in 2017.

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**PROTECTED SPACE** for cats with FIV or Feline Leukemia. Thanks to advances in medical treatment, these cats can live normal, happy lives and make wonderful companions. However, in a communal environment, their compromised immune systems require separation from the general population.

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**ISOLATED SPACE** to respond quickly to disease outbreak, so we're not forced to euthanize these cats.

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**MULTI-PURPOSE ROOMS** for acclimating cats, shy cats and felines needing a calm and stress-free environment. Our goal is to familiarize these cats with the shelter surroundings, promote trust and match them with a suitable loving home as appropriate.

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**MORE VISITATION AREAS** to allow cats and kittens one-on-one time with individuals, families and children. This interaction is crucial for successful adoptions.



**SPACE TO STORE CRITICAL DONATIONS** such as medical supplies and food donations.

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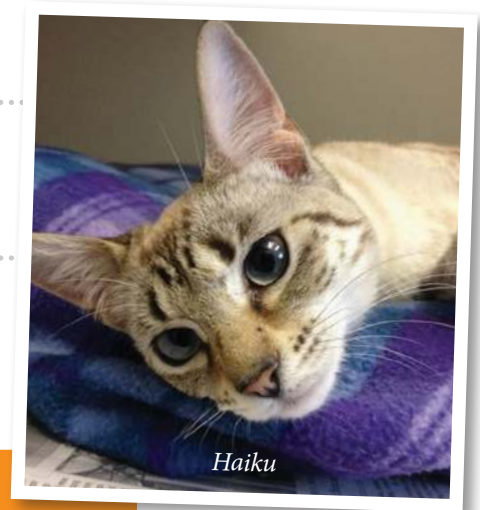
**EDUCATIONAL SPACE** for community outreach programs, cat care seminars, pet advocacy, donor and volunteer recognition.

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**SPRINKLER SYSTEM** installed throughout the existing building and new addition.

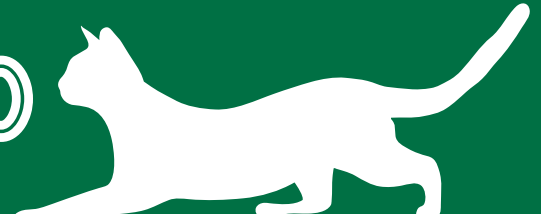
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**THIS ADDITIONAL SPACE IS NEEDED IF WE ARE TO REMAIN A NO-KILL SHELTER.**



Here's what YOU can do to help...

# WE NEED YOUR HELP



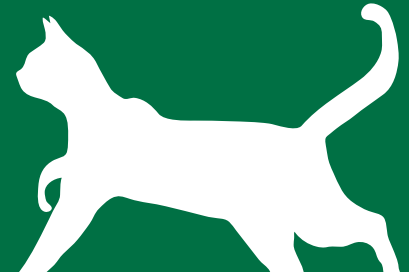
**Cat Welfare needs *your help* to alleviate the pressures of operating at full capacity in our current shelter.**

- Cat Welfare honors its Mission Statement by accepting all pregnant or injured cats at all times – **even at full capacity.**
- Cat Welfare accepts the return of cats adopted from Cat Welfare – **even at full capacity.**
- Unwanted cats and kittens are routinely abandoned at our door. Cat Welfare has no other option but to open our shelter to these unfortunate felines – **even if we are at full capacity.**

In 2017, we received approximately 13,000 inquiries from people desiring to surrender *stray, homeless* cats and kittens. Cat Welfare doesn't have the space to house them all and we have to turn away many cats. We need more space so we can keep more cats off the streets and in the safety of the shelter until they find their forever homes. With your help, we can better serve the compelling needs of these *abandoned felines*.

**For these reasons, we are exploring a \$3 million capital campaign** to expand our facility on our existing property.





Many of the stray cats admitted to the shelter come from the worst possible conditions. In 2014, an incoming cat was diagnosed with *Trichomonas Foetus* (Tritrich), a highly contagious disease. Approximately 200 cats in our shelter were exposed to the disease. Fortunately, only 20 cats tested positive. As a no-kill shelter, we quickly restructured space in our current facility to quarantine the 20 cats during their one-year treatment protocol.

We were lucky we could accommodate those cats. However, what if more cats had been infected? This new addition will ensure that we have the ***flexible space*** to address unexpected situations.

Many shelters choose to euthanize ill cats. ***We choose to heal.***



# COME TO THEIR RESCUE

**Help us explore expanding our facilities.**

**We are a safety net for homeless, unwanted and abused felines in Central Ohio.**

The proposed new addition will strategically position Cat Welfare to effectively address the challenges of the growing population of unwanted stray cats and kittens. This expansion will give us the tools required to serve our community in the years to come.

Thank you for taking the time to help us explore the possibility of expanding our facility. Please see the following appendix to learn more about our current programs and successes.

## **Board of Directors**

Peggy Kirk, President  
RoseAnn Ballangee, Vice President  
Anne Riley, Recording Secretary  
Erik Diekmeyer  
Steve Hebenstreit  
Claudia Plumley  
Karen Ramey

## **Treasurer**

Judy Vertikoff

## **Executive Director**

Helen DeSantis



# OUR CURRENT PROGRAMS & SUCCESSES

## APPENDIX



*Chanel*



*Junior*



*Gus*

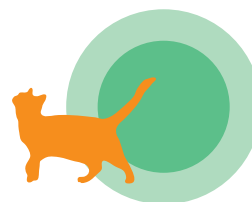


*Victor*

# OUR CURRENT PROGRAMS & SUCCESSES

Because of the generosity and commitment of our donors, members, volunteers, dedicated staff and Board of Directors, we accomplished the following in 2017 alone:

In 2017 **1,615** cats and kittens  
admitted to the shelter,  
many with serious injuries.



Our adoption program has been growing by leaps and bounds. Our cats are available for adoption by loving and appropriate individuals or families. Adoption fees are \$20 for cats and kittens and \$10 for cats 8 years and older. Cats and kittens eligible for adoption are micro-chipped, spayed or neutered and receive the appropriate vaccinations and tests.

**1,368** cats and kittens  
adopted in 2017.

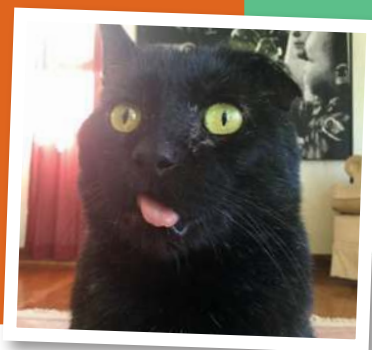


In 2017  
**24** FIV positive cats  
adopted to  
loving homes.



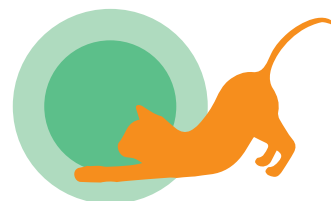
After feeding Mr. Minx as a stray, we decided to rescue him and took him to the vet. Cat Welfare helped us tremendously with the vet fees and guided us in the right direction. It took time to get close to him, but eventually Mr. Minx was comfortable with our family. He has been through a lot – he can't walk in a straight line, he has one tooth, his tail has been broken in several spots, and one of his ears is mangled. But Mr. Minx is now thriving, and has become my best friend. I will always be grateful to Cat Welfare for all the love, support and care they provided.

– Zoe and the Kiger family



As part of our spay and neuter programs, we provide financial assistance to low-income families to make sure cats are spayed and neutered as part of our overpopulation prevention efforts.

In 2017 **2,058** altering surgeries subsidized through Cat Welfare's low-cost spay and neuter programs.



**316** kittens cared for in foster homes in 2017.

As part of our foster care program, our volunteers provide care in their homes for stray kittens (with or without mom). Kittens are returned to the shelter for adoption when they weigh at least 2 pounds. Foster care is also provided for special needs cats until adoption is feasible.

In 2017 **175** non-shelter cats received \$25,625 in emergency medical treatment paid from Joey's Good Sam Fund.

Our Joey's Good Sam Fund subsidizes veterinary care for cat owners who cannot afford medical treatment for their companion cats.

# OUR CURRENT PROGRAMS & SUCCESSES

## *More News to Meow About...*

We increased awareness sessions held for community members to learn about the care of feral colony cats and older cats' care.

The Catique, Cat Welfare's resale shop, celebrated its 3rd anniversary at the Mediterranean Ave. location in the Busch Boulevard Centre. Proceeds help to fund shelter operations.

The number of cat visits to nursing care facilities expanded, much to the delight of their residents.

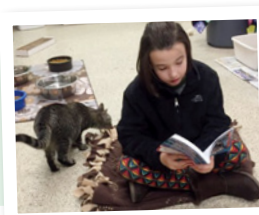
With close to 10,000 social media champions, the word is spreading about our good work.

Toby, a kitten adopted by Olympian Gabby Douglas, was featured in Episode 3 of Douglas Family Gold.



Cat Welfare was one of 5 animal advocacy leaders honored at a Columbus City Council meeting in a Resolution sponsored by Councilman Mike Stinziano. This Resolution designated February 2017 as Spay and Neuter Awareness Month in Columbus. We are very proud to be among the select few acknowledged for our efforts to help curb pet overpopulation!

Cat Welfare's successful reading program for children was featured in *The Columbus Dispatch*.







SOME OF OUR WONDERFUL STAFF MEMBERS



# COME TO THEIR RESCUE



*Anni and Digi*

Executive Director  
**Helen DeSantis**

(614) 268-6096, Ext. 109

[executivedirector@catwelfareassoc.org](mailto:executivedirector@catwelfareassoc.org)

**Cat Welfare Association**

741 Wetmore Road  
Columbus, OH 43214  
[catwelfareassoc.org](http://catwelfareassoc.org)

