

City Critters, Inc.

P. O. Box 1345, Canal Street Station, NY, NY 10013
www.citycritters.org • www.citycritters.petfinder.org
212-252-3183 • fax: 866-859-3319 • adoptions@citycritters.org

Newsletter
Winter 2008-2009

Dear friends, family, neighbors, contributors, adopters and volunteers

January 2009 marks City Critters' fifteenth year serving our community's stray and abandoned companion animals. In 1994 every situation was desperate. Every call for help was urgent, the future of every animal we were asked to help depended on us alone; each case was a matter of life or death. The many happy endings we celebrated were the result of heroic efforts, huge expense, good luck and—always—help from our community.

Fifteen years later, there are many more responsible organizations working on behalf of New York City's homeless animals, but the fact remains that many of the problems brought to City Critters' attention will either be resolved with our help or not at all. This is because the sheer number of homeless animals, especially cats, is so overwhelming and the agency charged with caring for them is so underfunded. Economic pressures resulted in people giving up pets in increased numbers throughout 2008, and we expect owner surrenders and abandonments to increase dramatically in 2009 as more people are forced to move, often to no-pet housing.

In such uncertain times charities face extra challenges. Donors are feeling the crisis and cutting back just as the need for our services increases. We expect no bailouts. Your help is more important now than ever.

In 2008, City Critters accepted more than 220 animals facing euthanasia from the city's "open admissions" shelter. We helped provide vet care and find homes for more than 300 cats and dogs received from private owners and rescued from the street, and helped get basic veterinary care, including spay/neuter, for many more.

City Critters has over 50 smart, talented and dedicated volunteers who serve our community's companion animals in need. Our group is known for doing a little bit of everything when it comes to cats, including working with hoarding situations, participating in emergency rescues and trap-neuter-return projects, facilitating low cost spay/neuter services for low income neighbors' pets and community strays, and running adoption programs in local pet stores since 1994.

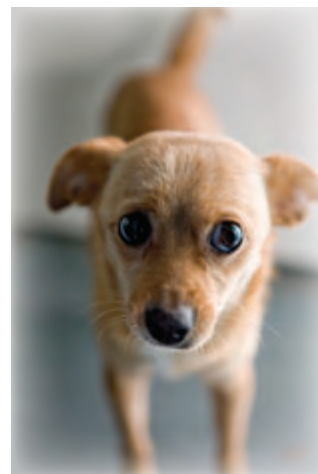
We couldn't have done all this without our network of vets, foster families, fellow organizations and myriad other members of the animal rescue community.

Thanks



This little diva, Roseberry, is one of 12 kittens we took in from a big TNR project on Berry Street in Brooklyn. She's been adopted by her foster family, but we still have many Berries who need homes, including Hollyberry, Foxberry, Moxieberry, Chuckberry and Veryberry.

CCI isn't just for cats, anymore! Lily is one of the many dogs CCI rehomed in 2008. This year we ramped up our efforts, and have been successfully placing a steady stream of small dogs.



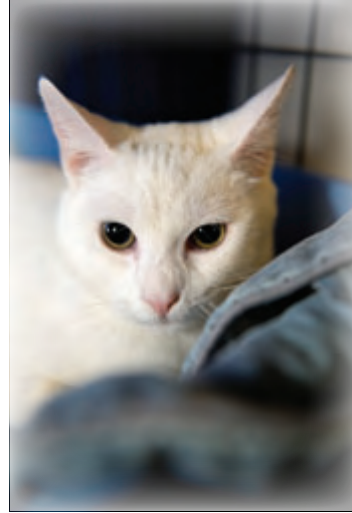
CCI founders came together to help stray cats in downtown Manhattan and our efforts there continue unabated. For instance, this summer we rescued Forsythia and her kittens from their dangerous parking lot home in Chinatown. Forsythia has a home thanks to our foster-to-adopt program, which allowed an allergic potential adopter to live with her for a few weeks in order to determine whether her allergies would pose a real problem. Forsythia's kittens, Anita and Marietta, are still looking.



Annemarie is just one of the hundreds of cats CCI has accepted from the city's Animal Care and Control for rehoming. She and her mom Kimberly were turned into the city shelter where they, like many other moms and kittens, ended up facing euthanasia.



Sumi's tale is an all too common one: her family was compelled by financial pressures to move into pet-unfriendly housing. After exhausting all options and a potential home fell through, they begged us to accept her into our adoption program.



Harry lived in a Village beauty shop until it closed and he was left to fend for himself on the streets. Local residents discovered this beautiful but shy kitty when they found him foraging for food; they began to feed him and asked us for help. He's got a good home now, but many cats in similar straits are still waiting for our help.

*We can make a huge difference.
How much depends upon the support of friends like you.*

How can you help? We need:

Donations: They help us pay vet bills for our rescued animals and buy the supplies we need to take good care of them. Checks can be mailed to our post office box and credit card donations made through the Network for Good button on our Web site www.citycritters.org. If you are considering making a bequest, please call 212.252.3183.

Foster homes: City Critters has no physical shelter. We're a foster network and we always need more foster homes. If you can't foster, perhaps you know someone who would like to. Enclosed with this mailing is a copy of our foster FAQ sheet. Email us at adoptions@citycritters.org or call 212.252.3183 if you would like to discuss foster opportunities.

Adopters: Please refer good candidates to us! If we don't find homes for the beasts we have, we can't help new beasts...nothing's more important than finding permanent homes.

Stuff: Towels, sheets, cat carriers, cages, food, litter, dog collars, leashes...we can use them all. Email us at info@citycritters.org or bring it by our adoption center at Petco Kips Bay (31st & 2nd Avenue in Manhattan) between 12 and 6 on weekends.

Your news: Whether or not you're able to send a donation, use the enclosed envelope to send us your news and photos of animals you adopted from us. Or email them to adoptions@citycritters.org. We love to get updates from our adopters and supporters.