



*Best wishes for the holiday season and
New Year from all of our cats and
volunteers!*

December 2020

What is Hope for Cats?

Hope for Cats is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, wholly volunteer organization. We have NO paid employees and all donations go directly to the care of our residents and foster cats. Hope for Cats operates Jake's Place - a cage free, no-kill shelter and adoption center. There is no limit to the length of time a cat can stay at Jake's Place. Admissions are limited only to control overcrowding. Hope for Cats receives no federal or state funding and is wholly dependent upon fundraising activities, foundation grants, and private donations to support its work. All of our cats are special, and we strive to provide excellent veterinary care and a home-like environment for each of them.

Birch and Crocus: Birch and Crocus were surrendered due to their owner's serious illness. The owner had been very diligent in providing veterinary care to his 2 cats, taking them on the bus from his East Side Buffalo home to his vet downtown. Although these two siblings had lived



Birch

together, when they were free-roaming at our shelter, it was apparent that they need not be adopted together. At 11 years old they were both adopted in 2020 and are thriving in their new homes. Birch is even helping his owner with her yoga routines!



Crocus

Volunteer Opportunities: We can always use volunteers to help at our small shelter. We ask only that you commit to volunteering once per week between 9:00 am and 9:00 pm on the day you choose. You can sign up to feed, clean, scoop litter, or do health checks and give medications to any cats who are on meds. Even one hour per week will be a great help. If you have fundraising ideas, we can always use funds to help with our veterinary expenses. There is a volunteer form which you can submit online (www.hopeforcatsinc.org), or you can contact Karen at 716.352.0439 or leave a message on our phone 716.997.8106.

*Please join us and help us continue to
help the homeless cats!!*

New \$300 Universal Charitable Deduction

To help alleviate the economic devastation caused by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, Congress enacted the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). Among its many provisions is a new universal deduction for charitable contributions.

Taxpayers who do not itemize may now deduct up to \$300 per year in charitable contributions. Such deductions must be:

- in cash (no property like old clothing), and
- given to a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

Simply, if you donate up to \$300 in cash to a qualified organization, your Adjusted Gross Income will be reduced by the amount of your contribution up to \$300 - and you can still claim the standard deduction.

This provision can benefit both taxpayers (by reducing Adjusted Gross Income) and charities (by encouraging donations). For more information, you should consult your tax preparer and/or the IRS.

****Note:** Hope for Cats has no intent to provide tax advice and provides this for information only.

Your donation will help us continue to provide shelter and care for cats in need. All of our cats are spayed/neutered, vaccinated and treated for internal and external parasites. Ongoing veterinary care is provided, including specialized diagnostics and treatments for cats requiring it.

Please donate online through PayPal by going to our website (www.hopeforcatsinc.org) and clicking on the "DONATE" button, or mail your donation to Hope for Cats, Inc., P.O. Box 243, North Boston, NY 14110.

Other ways to help:

United Way: Please specify Hope for Cats in your United Way donation and 95% of your donation will go to Hope for Cats. United Way Book #: 5176.

***Note:** the local United Way appears to have removed animal welfare charities from its "Donor Choice" List, which they state is "discretionary and subject to change". However, rest assured that we recertify every year and are able to receive your donations.

CFC and SEFA: Federal and NY State employees can designate Hope for Cats to receive campaign donations. SEFA Code: 57-00509. CFC Code: 33517

Amazon Smile & iGive: When you shop online and designate Hope for Cats, Inc. as your charity, we receive a percentage of your purchase.

Hope for Cats, Inc. is a non-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Your donation may be tax deductible for federal and state income tax purposes.

Annual Report 2019

Expenses:	Total:	\$66,005
Veterinary Expense & Supplies	\$42,052	63.7%
Supplies: food, litter, cleaning, etc.	\$15,441	23.4%
Shelter rent, utilities, facilities	\$6,723	10.2%
Telephone, postage, printing	\$1,392	2.1%
Other*	\$397	0.6%
Sources of Support:	Total:	\$61,089
Contributions, gifts, grants	\$58,644	96.0%
Fundraising (net income)	\$916	1.5%
Miscellaneous	\$464	0.8%
Adoption fees	\$1,065	1.7%

*Other - office supplies, filing fees, miscellaneous

Shelter Statistics:

Cats Surrendered: 58
Cats Adopted: 38

Volunteer Statistics:

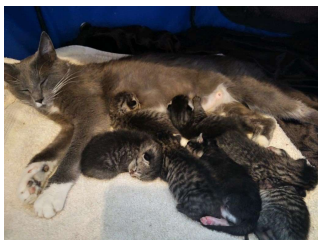
Average number of Volunteers: 30
Annual Volunteer hours: 4,000

Commentary:

As an all-volunteer organization, our administrative costs are very low, allowing 97% to 98% of our revenue each year to be expended in direct support of our cats. We value our ongoing relationship with the Tabby Town adoption center in the McKinley Mall, as well as the contributions of time, treasure, and expertise provided by our volunteers, individual and business supporters, and veterinary clinics.

Our Supporters: In addition to our many individual volunteers and supporters, we wish to thank the veterinarians and businesses that help us. Please check our website for a complete list, and thanks to **Buffalo Web Services, LLC** for designing and hosting our website. **Nestlé-Purina**: Special thanks for dry food donations and helpful warehouse staff!

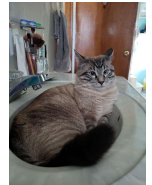
Mitty & her Kittens: Mitty was a stray on the East Side of Buffalo, thought to be pregnant. The day after Mitty was surrendered she had 7 kittens! Another rescue group, 10th Chance Animal Rescue provided a foster home, and the foster mom scooped up Mitty. Mitty spent a few days at one



of our foster homes, where she gave birth to her kittens, then went to her new foster home. Pictured is Mitty with her very young kittens, two of whom, Jasper and Jade have been adopted together, after they were spayed/neutered, vaccinated, etc. Mitty has been spayed and all of her remaining kittens have been spayed and are ready for adoption. Thank you to Chris and Justina of 10th Chance Animal Rescue who have given us a huge hand with this family!

Hope for Cats, Inc. is a New York State Registered Shelter/Rescue. Registration No.: RR272

Monroe: Monroe was found on the East Side of Buffalo by a family who cares for some stray community cats. He was obviously very friendly and had likely been abandoned. This very handsome blue-eyed boy was adopted and is now enjoying a life of leisure in his new home.



Cold season is starting. Cats like to seek shelter in and under cars. If you suspect a cat could get under or in the



car, honk the horn or bang loudly on the hood before starting the engine. This should wake up the animal and give it a chance to escape or let you know it's there, in which case you can pop the hood and let it out. This should be done at any time of year, not just during cold weather. This can also save opossums and other wildlife.



Special thanks to the following organizations:

- The Helen Dent Lenahan Foundation
- The Baird Foundation
- The Joseph R. Takats Foundation
- BISSELL Pet Foundation
- William Mattar Law Offices
- Harris Beach PLLC

Thanks to the **NY Institute of Massage** for sponsoring events to benefit Hope for Cats, and to the staff for volunteering time and efforts.



Cheeto is looking for a home: Cheeto is a 2-year-old female cat who was abandoned with Tommy, a young male. We



were contacted and they went into a foster home. Fortunately, the two unaltered cats had been kept in separate rooms, so there were no kittens. Tommy was neutered and soon adopted. Cheeto is a bit shy at first, but very affectionate - she just needs a few minutes of your time and attention. She was spayed and vaccinated, and is currently in a foster home where one of the other cats likes to come and visit her. If you are interested in adopting Cheeto, you can contact her foster home at 716.352.0439.
