



The COVID pandemic has impacted our health, our economy and daily life – but it has not reduced the homeless cat population.

So Community Concern for Cats has continued to perform "essential services:" saving lives and preventing population explosions.

Our spay/neuter clinic only paused long enough to develop distancing and disinfecting protocols, then leaped into action again, helping our members and other rescue groups work to control the feral cat population, and prepare friendly cats and kittens for adoption.

For us, "shelter in place" meant:

- **Sheltering** the mother cats struggling to support their kittens, and the motherless kittens found struggling on their own.
- **Placing** as many as we could in loving foster care or forever homes.

One positive created by the shutdown has been more people willing to be foster homes -- opening their hearts and giving their time to caring for these homeless ones.

And although our weekend adoption sites in pet stores have been closed, our online adoptions have thrived. So, no, we have not closed!

Here are just a few examples of how CC4C members have continued our rescue work in the past months.

CC4C Cat Hospital Carries On

Spring is a critical time for trappers trying to prevent cat pregnancies. During the shutdown, our spay/neuter hospital in Clayton was one of the few non-profits still open for business – and business was brisk. After closing for just 10 days in March to develop COVID safety protocols for staff and clients, we kept up our 4-day-a-week schedule, performing 1688 spays and neuters through August, a 20% increase over a year ago.



The world's best "shelter-in-place"

CC4C Hotline Continues to Offer Help



Members of the public call CC4C daily – compassionate helpers of the lost or abandoned; sad people who must give up a cat; worried homeowners with feral families in their yard – and our small group of volunteers tries to help. It's not possible to handle them all. That's why we treasure resourceful callers like Summer. Working with CC4C member Judy, Summer has provided love and safety for at least 4 cats abandoned in her apartment complex. During the SIP, she found this big fluffy boy. Sebastian is 2 years old, handsome (boy, does he know it!) and super friendly. He can be yours! Please contact Judy at <code>judyheckman@gmail.com</code>. Thanks, Summer, for your active compassion.

Kittens Shelter in the Wrong Place



Dynamic rescue duo, Angela and Paul, responded to a hotline call for help to save 3 small kittens in the bottom of a an 8-foot-deep storm drain. The caller had been dropping food into the pit for 2 weeks to keep them alive. Her efforts to get fire or police help were in vain. Angela and Paul lowered a small trap-on-a-rope into the drain, and each hungry kitten went in for the yummy bait. The 3 babies were just 8 weeks old. Cali (a tortie), Korki and Baby (tuxedos) are healthy and friendly and ready for their next adventure in your home!

Please contact Angela at angie4077@aol.com.

The Adoption Pipeline Never Shut Down

Online postings have long been a fertile field for cat adoptions but the COVID shutdown forced us to redouble our online efforts. Faced with the spring tidal wave of kittens needing homes, CC4C member Renee pivoted from petstore adoptions to virtual online connections – and found that FaceTime kitten meetings were actually easier than faceto-face. NextDoor and Facebook helped her tap into the burgeoning pool of people ready to foster while sheltering-in-place. Renee's team of 23 foster homes also share their happy experiences on social media and attract more willing fosters. Using CC4C's careful adoption screening process and contactless payment, online superstar Renee has made more than 200 kitten adoptions since March.

Some Rescues are More Essential Than Others



It started as a routine hotline call – a woman who needed to rehome one of her too-many cats. CC4C volunteer Lea started the process to help her surrender the cat. Two days later, the need became urgent when the boyfriend had burned the cat with scalding water. The woman called the police; then Lea quickly took the cat away from danger directly to a nearby vet for treatment of the baseball-sized burn on her side. CC4C's hospital took over the next day, advancing the treatment over the next 2 weeks. Lea provided the love and twice-a-day ointment and pain meds needed for this sweet tortie to heal. And one month later, The Purr-Machine, as she was called, found her forever home.



RESCUED TREASURES Reopens with Proper Precautions

CC4C's cheerful thrift store has produced vital income for over 24 years. Its most significant contribution was providing the purchase funds for our Clayton spay/neuter hospital but its income is usually needed to cover a portion of our expenses. So when the COVID shutdown closed all retail, CC4C felt a sharp pinch in the pocketbook. As of July 14, our store has reopened with safety precautions firmly in place.

Today, like so many organizations, we're trying to make up for the months of income lost while our thrift store was closed. Please give what you can to help fill that gap.

{ Here's How } You Can Help: }

DONATE to CC4C

P.O. Box 3795 Walnut Creek, CA 94598

BRING & BUY

Bring your superior sellables and buy wonderful things at Rescued Treasures: 1270 Newell Ave., Walnut Creek Open: Tues.–Sat., 10am–5pm Donations: Wed. & Sat., 10am-4:30pm, Fri. 10am-2pm 925-937-3201

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This crisis has brought out the "hero" in so many people today. You have always been our hero, and we thank you sincerely – in letters like this, and by using your donation dollars to impact the lives of helpless, homeless cats. Bless you for caring!

Sincerely,

The Volunteers of Community Concern for Cats