Vincent Fund Helps Odin Find New Pep in His Step

Odin was a kitten living in a feral cat colony in 2015. Knowing that it was a feat that might not offer a reward, a kind woman took him in to her home with the hopes of taming him after he was neutered. After several weeks, Odin was comfortable with human interaction and was brought to the shelter for adoption. His odd gait was originally diagnosed as atrophy due to living under a porch.

As most kittens are, Odin was adopted just days after his arrival. His adopter was encouraged to provide him with plenty of play time to strengthen his muscles, and for nine months Odin thrived in his home. Then suddenly Odin lost the use of his hind legs. After several consultations with different veterinarians, a BB was found near Odin’s spine and removed. The BB’s locale had caused spinal myelitis, but the diagnosis lead to a course of action and hope.

Your contributions to the Vincent Fund have given Odin an opportunity to thrive and inspire all that have come in contact with this amazing boy. After many weeks of physical therapy at MedVet and a series of acupuncture treatments at Elemental Veterinary Center & Pet Spa, Odin is walking now but does revert to a very effective scoot with his strong front limbs when playing with other cats or chasing a toy. We could not give these cats all of the special care they need without your generosity, and for that we are truly grateful.

The Vincent Fund was established to help pay for unexpected vital medical care for our shelter cats. The fund is named after Victoria Bonner’s cat Vincent. He was adopted from Cat Welfare in 1985 and sadly died at home on April 24, 2001, due to a terminal illness. He was 18. “I hope the funds raised by The Vincent Fund can help other cats so future owners can experience the kind of joy that I did with my beloved Vincent.”
Our Mission
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.

741 Wetmore Road
Columbus, OH 43214
614-268-6096
catwelfareassoc.org
facebook.com/catwelfareassoc

Hours
11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Monday, Thursday, Friday,
Saturday & Sunday
11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Tuesday & Wednesday
(Closed the first Thursday of each month and all major holidays)

The adoption fee of $20 ($10 for senior cats) includes spay/neuter surgery, initial vaccinations, testing for feline leukemia and FIV, microchip identification, flea treatment & deworming.

Board of Directors
President: Peggy Kirk
Vice President: Erik Diekmeyer
Secretary: Anne Riley
RoseAnn Ballangee • Steve Hebenstreit • Claudia Plumley

Holiday Window Contest to Begin

sponsored by Old Worthington Partnership

Magic Cruises, 656 High St., has made Cat Welfare its charity of choice for the Old Worthington Partnership’s “It’s a Wonderful Window Contest.” This year’s theme is Cats on Vacation. Shoppers will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite window display through a ballot box set up inside each participating store. Each vote is $1. Shoppers may vote as much as they want and for as many windows as they want. The window with the most votes at the end of the competition will win the Bronze Window trophy. More importantly, all the charities will be winners, as each charitable organization will keep 100% of the money placed in its ballot box.

All windows will be revealed during the “Big Reveal” at noon on Sunday, November 27, at the start of the Holiday Open House, which runs from noon to 5 p.m. The competition will run through December 26, 2016. Please be sure to stop by Magic Cruises, thank their staff for selecting Cat Welfare as their charity partner, and drop a vote or two in our ballot box.

Fill Your Feline Stockings with ‘Nip

Our holiday motif catnip toys are now available. Shop early so you don’t miss out. Last December 657 were purchased!

We thank the Cat Nippers for all of their efforts to make these beloved pillows.

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Since 1945 Cat Welfare’s mission has been 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. Felines not placed in forever homes live their lives in the care and comfort of our shelter.

As a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, membership dues help to pay for the care and feeding of around 300 felines waiting for permanent homes. Show your support of Cat Welfare and our feline friends by becoming a member!

**Core Benefits**

Members receive a membership card, access to discounts on tickets to CWA programs and events and six newsletters per year. After one year of membership, members who are at least 18 years of age are eligible to vote for Board members. After two years of membership, members are eligible to run for election for the Cat Welfare Association Board of Directors. Members are also welcome to attend Board meetings. Locations and times are posted to our events calendar. Of course, the greatest benefit of all is knowing that membership dues provide a funding source to give our feline friends the second chance they deserve.

**Life Membership - $250 One Time Donation**

Life Membership affirms your long-term commitment to Cat Welfare Association (CWA) and its mission. As a Life Member you will receive Member Core Benefits. In addition, your name will be published in the CWA newsletter the year you join and displayed on the website to acknowledge your generous support. A Life Membership badge signifies your participation in this elite group of contributors. A single payment is preferred; however, installment payments can be arranged by contacting the shelter.

**Patron - $100 Annually**

Patron Members are special friends and supporters of Cat Welfare (CWA) who choose to contribute at a higher rate of giving on an annual basis. This generous membership donation helps keep the cost of some of the other membership opportunities more affordable. As a Patron Member you will receive Member Core Benefits. Additionally, your name will be displayed on the website to acknowledge your generosity. A Patron badge confirms your participation in this select group of contributors.

**Family - $50 Annually**

Family Membership is an opportunity for your whole family to be connected to Cat Welfare Association. Each family member (spouse or partner and dependent children under the age of 18) will receive Member Core Benefits. This is a wonderful way to make a positive impact in our community while enjoying family time.

**Individual - $25 Annually**

Individual Membership allows one individual to receive Member Core Benefits. This option provides an opportunity to support Cat Welfare’s mission and join our community of members dedicated to a common cause.

**Senior - $10 Annually**

Cat Welfare Association is mindful of our supporters who are living on a fixed income and offers a membership specially priced for those over the age of 65. Persons with a Senior Citizen Membership will receive Member Core Benefits.

**Pet Memberships - $5 Annually**

Many pets have magazine subscriptions and e-mail addresses, and now they can have their own membership to Cat Welfare Association (CWA)! What modern feline or canine wouldn’t want to help a fellow fur person, especially one living in a shelter? Pet members will receive a CWA collar tag to signify they are lending a helping hand to friends who are waiting patiently for a forever home. Pet members that do not wear a collar may want to give the collar tag to their human parents to use as a charm, zipper pull or key chain ornament!
In 2004 I came to Cat Welfare looking to adopt my first cat. This BEAUTIFUL tuxedo cat approached me, and how could I resist? The longer I held him, the more I could feel the attention we were receiving from the staff/volunteers. To make a long story short, Raymond had not let people near him in the three years he lived there. Within six months he overcame all of his fears and is now the most social, vocal love bomb ever. You can’t hold him enough. I was so touched by his story that I just knew he was the one for me. He has had numerous health issues, including cancer of the eye, which he has overcome—making full use of those 9 lives! Adopting him was the single best decision I have ever made. He is truly the love of my life, and I could not be any more grateful!

Jennifer Schleppi

I adopted Chevy and Miko in the spring. They are very cute, and they eat a lot! I never leave the food bag in some place they can find because they will open it and feed themselves.

Jane

While we recently lost our beloved Henry to cancer, we wanted to thank Cat Welfare for bringing him into our lives. In 2006 we met and fell in love with this charismatic guy, and he was the very heart of our home for nine happy years. Henry was a giant goofball and prone to enthusiastic head-butting and sprawling out on laps. He was a provider of endless affection and amusement, and simply an extraordinary cat. We are forever grateful to Cat Welfare for rescuing him so he could become part of our family.

Cynthia Greenleaf & James Weaver

We lost our beloved Zoo-gie after 15 years, so we decided to find a hard-to-place cat. We ended up with two! Hattie May, a notorious biter who had been at CWA for an amazing 11 years, and Azzie, another long-time resident, were our finds. Hattie May is companionable, energetic and affectionate. Azzie is as sweet as she can be and very intelligent. Both had adjustments to make but are now relaxed and happy. Here they are, lounging on the screened deck we built for them! (Hattie is on the right.) Thank you, CWA, for giving these wonderful girls a chance at a new life. HM and Azzie are proof that no cat should be overlooked – any of them can flourish in the right place!

Craig & Loraine Treneff
We visited CWA in the hopes of bringing home two kittens after our 19-year-old cat left this world six months prior. I had looked at several kittens while my husband played with two energetic kittens. At the last minute he convinced me to take a look at them, even though I was pretty set on two others. They were still too young to take into the playroom, so I opened the cage just to pick one up. Digi fell asleep while I was scratching her, and Anni lay against my chest with her head on my arm and just purred. As tears came down my face I told my husband they are ours. I called daily until they were ready to take home. These furballs of love and fun have taken over our hearts and home. I look forward every day to see them after work, laugh at their awkwardness, and relax with one or both in my arms or on my chest. Thank you CWA for allowing us to take them home!

Darryl and Denise Lewis

Lucy came home with us as a hospice adoption over one year ago! She is extremely talkative but still shy. She loves sitting in the sunshine, drinking out of the toilet and eating only the gravy portion of wet food.

Alex & Ben

I adopted these two sweethearts in July! They have brought so much joy to me! As they were a bonded pair, I wanted to keep them together, and they are very happy. They spend their days lying in the sun, playing with their giant pile of toys and chasing each other while playing hide and seek. They have mastered the art of getting cat treats from me. Ophelia is a cuddle monster. She loves to curl up next to me any chance she gets. Pandora is still a little shy, but she loves her belly rubs and occasionally will join in for cuddles. I cannot express how thankful I am to have found my ladies. Thank you so much!

Kathryn

I adopted Sheldon from Cat Welfare four years ago; it was love at first sight. I couldn’t imagine my life without this silly cat. He’s a quirky goofball who absolutely loves snuggling. I am so thankful to Cat Welfare for helping me find one of the loves of my life.

Kelsey

Got a Happy Homes story? Upload it at catwelfareassoc.org or mail it to Cat Welfare, 741 Wetmore Road, Columbus, OH 43214.
If you are not looking to add to your feline family but would like to take another cat into your care, please consider sponsoring one of our wonderful Guardian Angels.

The Guardian Angel cats are permanent residents of Cat Welfare due to their various medical or behavioral problems. They will always have a home at Cat Welfare. With your help, they can also benefit from extra care and attention. Your generous tax deductible donation will ensure these cats are provided with veterinary care, vaccinations, medicine, food, litter, toys, love and a home at our shelter.

Join the Guardian Angels Program today, and you can follow the life of a Cat Welfare cat, become involved in his life, and offer him some extra love and attention.

When you select a cat that you would like to sponsor, you will be one of their Guardian Angels for an entire year. You will be contacted via U.S. mail or email to see if you would like to continue your sponsorship of your feline friend.

Do you have room in your heart to become a cat’s Guardian Angel today?

Guardian Angel Lily

Lily came to Cat Welfare in 2008. Being such a sweet and beautiful girl, she always got lots of attention from potential adopters. She was adopted out several times but was always returned when she stopped using the litter box. In 2011, it was decided that Lily would become a permanent resident of Cat Welfare.

Everyone who meets her falls in love with her. She is a striking beauty that loves to be held and petted, and she is a wonderful lap sitter. When she is particularly content, she will nibble lightly on your chin. She loves people and gets along well with the other cats in the shelter.

Lily is a regular visitor to nursing homes to give residents some much needed pet therapy. She is not a big fan of the car ride there, but once she is inside the building she quickly assumes her role as ambassador. She’s easy going with the residents and often climbs into their beds. She has also made special trips to some of the friends she made in the hospice program at one of the homes, even going to them in their final days because they asked to see her one more time.

Many times Lily can be found greeting people at the front of the shelter or meticulously grooming her beautiful hair on a chair or in a pet bed. Lily truly believes that one must always put their best foot (or paw) forward, so she likes to make sure her hair is always clean, free of tangles, and that the white parts are brilliantly white. Lily likes to imagine her marathon grooming sessions as time at a spa where she is being pampered and treated like she is the most precious girl in the world. Precious is definitely a word that describes our Lily.

Lily is one of our eight Guardian Angel cats. To learn about the others, please visit catwelfareassoc.org/guardian-angels.

Sponsor a Guardian Angel

Silver - $60
You will receive your cat’s story along with a note from your cat, a color photograph with a cute magnetic photo frame and a letter confirming your sponsorship.

Gold - $120
All silver level items plus a Guardian Angels cat pin and a mid-year update (with a note from your cat and a recent photograph).
Dr. Danya Linehan to Speak at Members Event

Cat Welfare will host a 90-minute members-only event on Monday, February 6 at Eat, Purr, Love Cat Cafe, 3041 Indianola Ave. Please join us at 7 p.m. for dessert and a discussion on Indoor Cat Enrichment with our shelter veterinarian, Dr. Danya Linehan.

Dr. Linehan has worked in the veterinary field since 1983 and has been a practicing veterinarian since 1993. She obtained a B.S. in Animal Science from the University of New Hampshire and received her veterinary degree from The Ohio State University. Dr. Linehan is a member of the American Veterinary Medical Association, Ohio Veterinary Medical Association and the Association of Veterinary Technicians Educators. Dr. Linehan currently serves as the Ohio Director for The Paw Project. Her other animal-focused waking hours are spent serving on the Ohio Pet Fund Board and helping provide trap-neuter-release (TNR), food and shelters for local feral colonies. Dr. Linehan spreads the word about animal issues—physical, societal and behavioral—through radio and webinar appearances and at seminars for the pet-owning public, shelter staff and volunteers.

This event is free to our members but limited to 25 attendees. You can reserve your spot online at signupgenius.com, select “Find a Sign Up” (located above “Create a Sign Up”) and enter the email address cwavolunteers@gmail.com, or call 614-268-6096, Ext. 103.

Shy Cats Ella and Gomez Now Ready for Their Forever Homes

Are you considering a new kitty friend? Are you a patient person living in a quiet home? Cat Welfare has a designated shy cat room, and we believe that some of the residents in that room are ready to transition into a forever home.

Ella was part of an outdoor colony comprised of herself and four littermates. While the littermates were feral, Ella was social and wanted to interact with her feeder. Ella has lived in the shelter since December 2015. We estimate Ella is right around 2 years old, and she is in good health. Typically Ella is the first to greet you when you enter the shy cat room, and she will seek your affection if you sit on the floor. Ella has tried leaving the shy cat room a few times but always retreats to the room. We believe Ella is ready to blossom in a home.

Gomez is not one you can expect to greet you, but he welcomes your gentle touch and soft voice. This young fella arrived at the shelter in October 2015 and is in good health. Gomez has no problem being around the other cats and will even offer his belly for a rub to people he trusts. We feel that there is a better life outside of the cubby Gomez calls home here at the shelter.

We offer these tips for a successful shy cat room visit: enter the room quietly; ask the staff for treats to offer the cats; try sitting on the floor to allow cats to come to you; give yourself plenty of time for a visit, as it takes time to develop trust amongst these kitties; bring a wand toy, as a number of the shy cats love to play; and come back for multiple visits.
Shop Amazon, Give to CWA

Will you be doing a lot of online shopping for the holidays? With the AmazonSmile program, you can shop as usual and Amazon will give 0.5% of your purchase to Cat Welfare! To qualify your purchase, go to smile.amazon.com and search for Cat Welfare Association.

Click the “Select” button to select it from the list, then shop as usual. It’s that easy! Eligible items are labeled “Eligible for AmazonSmile donation” in the box where the “Add to Cart” button is located on each product page. Your Wish List, baby and wedding registries, and other accounts are the same. A Wish List of things the shelter needs is available at goo.gl/uoUFHl.

Happy shopping!

Hugo and Megan Form a Bond

Hugo needed a friend. Due to unknown circumstances, senior cats Hugo and Rosario had become strays, and they were not faring well living on the streets. A compassionate person brought the duo to Cat Welfare, and before long, Hugo found Cat Welfare staff member Megan.

“I have a soft spot for all of the senior cats, but there is something very special about Hugo,” she says.

Hugo spends his day trailing Megan, and if he’s tired, Megan carries him around in a sling. “His demands for food crack me up. And Hugo is so affectionate. He is just the best cat ever.” We’re certain Hugo believes here at Cat Welfare he has found his best person ever.

Welcome, Laurel Bidwell

Laurel Bidwell has joined Cat Welfare as our new volunteer coordinator. “I’m happy to join the CWA team because during my very first visit it was obvious that the cats were the priority,” she says. “I look forward to working with you all!”
Altering Fund Assists Cats Throughout Columbus

An unspayed female cat, her mate and all of their offspring, producing 2 litters per year, with 2.8 surviving kittens per litter can total:

1 year: 12
2 years: 67
3 years: 378
4 years: 2,107
5 years: 11,801
6 years: 66,088
7 years: 370,002

The Altering Fund helps us fight the problem of pet overpopulation by providing vital low-cost spay and neuter services to cats in the community through partnering veterinarians. Established in the 1970s, the Altering Fund is one of Cat Welfare’s oldest dedicated donation sources. In the third quarter of 2016, Cat Welfare’s Altering Fund received a staggering 185 applications requesting vouchers with just over 90% of the requests being for multiple cats.

Mary L. is dedicated to trap-neuter-return (TNR) and spay/neuter in general as a means for “slowly stopping the overpopulation of strays on the streets.” Mary credits Cat Welfare’s Altering Fund with subsidizing surgeries for nearly 225 cats over the past five years. “I am extremely grateful to Cat Welfare for all they have done to assist me in my inner city rescue efforts. There is a continued need for this program as we continue to educate people and train others on how to participate in TNR,” she says.

Kathy E. has been instrumental in assisting with the educational component of our Altering Fund. “We began with a conversation about helping folks in the poorer parts of town become more responsible pet owners in 2006, and as a result, at least 1,000 cats have been altered and the calls continue,” she remembers. “We put a flyer out at Reeb Elementary for our first mobile clinic in October 2006. We anticipated the team of veterinarians would complete 45 surgeries, but the people just kept coming. We ended up spaying and neutering nearly 70 cats that day.”

Kathy believes our Altering Fund is a community outreach program at its best, and she sees what she helped develop in the South and West sides of Columbus touching the future. “Now calls come from young people who were children, students when we helped their parents. They have learned from their parents about their responsibility to their pets. We have given hope to people in areas where hope is often missing.”

Please consider donating to our Altering Fund so together we can continue to make a difference.

Amy Appreciates Harry’s Antics

CWA staff member Amy loves Harry. Harry loves to cause trouble, and that makes Amy laugh. Amy has a theory: she believes that life on the streets required Harry to problem solve on a daily basis, so life here at the shelter is, well, kinda boring. He loves to pester other cats and eat off-limits food when there are clearly food choices available to him. Harry loves a target that reacts, whether they’re four-legged or two. Amy encourages you to come meet Harry. Who knows, you just might fall in love.
Joey’s Good Sam Fund Helps Mr. Minx Thrive

Although Mr. Minx was not a Cat Welfare cat, CWA did help save his life. For years my family and I fed him as a stray. It took us about a year and a half to get close to him. But before I knew it, he became comfortable with me and would sit on my lap outside. He especially loved climbing up my pant leg so that he could stand on my shoulders. Unfortunately, he has been through quite a lot during his life. He cannot walk in a straight line, he has one tooth (which is why his tongue is always out), his tail has been broken in several spots, and one of his ears is mangled and partially missing due to a bad case of ear mites. One day we decided to rescue him and take him to the vet. Cat Welfare helped us tremendously with the vet fees and guided us in the right direction. Now, a year later, he is thriving and has become my best friend. I truly believe he saved me! Mr. Minx and I will always be so grateful for Cat Welfare and its staff for all the love, support and care they give.

Zoe Kiger’s Mr. Minx is just one of the many cats we were able to help via our Joey’s Good Samaritan Fund. Joey’s Good Samaritan Fund provides assistance to owned cats that are in need of medical care beyond the financial ability of their families. Joey’s Good Samaritan Fund will help keep beloved felines in their forever homes. We thank you for your contributions.
We Love Our Donors

Ishie Memorial Fund
for long-term care of shelter residents

In memory of Emily Stopa:
Trillium Staffing, OSUWMC Recruitment Team, Mary Conlon, Lynn Hoffman, Denison University Dept. of Philosophy, Gloria Gagnon, Nina Kowalczyk, The Allen Family, Jennifer Dorr White & John Eisner, The Ohio State University Medical Center HR/Service Center, Marsha McConnell, Educational Development & Resources of The Ohio State University, Kathleen Pfendler, Bill & Pam Esch, Priscilla & William Gray, and Constance Johansson
● Richard Austin “In memory of BabyCat”
● Melissa & Stephen Clines “In memory of Daisy Penn”
● Catherine Zitko “From Dottie & Macy”
● John & Maryann Gall “In memory of Jean Cook”
● Shirley Stone “In memory of Vance”
● Susan Graham “In memory of Allie”
● The Girl Friends Columbus Chapter “In memory of Betty Sawyer”
● David Kraft “In memory of Jan Puchan”
● Debra Petersilge “In memory of Doug Buhrer”
● Chris Nixon “In memory of Roy, a very special kitty of Donice Wooster & Burdette Green”
● Ryan & Sarah Sarni “In memory of David Sholis”
● Valerie Haulk Photography “In memory of Kaylee Maple’s cat Tigger”
● Grace Austin “In memory of BabyCat”
Hiromi Hoshino, Diane Curry, Juergen & Rotraud Moslener, Steven Puckett, Adrianna Kenworthy, Patricia Baus, Bill & Rosemary Bringardner, Patricia Grosec, and Anita Dean

Vincent Fund
for emergency care for shelter cats

Kathryn Lang, Sylvia Wilson, Linda Schellkopf, Ann Smithhisler, Anna Teichmoeller, Lynne Bonenberger, Fred Weinberger, Kristine Kuzora, Sally Hinshaw, the team at SpeechPath Ohio “In memory of Janice Lynn Puchan, who was passionate about helping stray cats and finding them homes. Her kindness will be forever missed but never forgotten,” Anna Herod, Marjorie Obrist, Dick & Linda Hamilton, Kristine Kuzora, J.G. Kassel, Anita Dean, and Leon & Patricia Cohan Jr.

Joey’s Good Sam Fund
for medical care of owned cats

Cheryl McFarren, Amber Hagenbuch, David Barriou “In memory of Emily Stopa from the division of Homeostasis and Thrombosis at Harvard Medical School,” Randall Hertzer “In memory of Doug Buhrer,” Andrew Restrepo, Lisa Wolfe, Patricia Eiben, Randall Joseph, Anita Dean, and Kathy Ebersbach

Willard’s Village Babies Fund
for care of feral cat colonies

Juanita Woods “In memory of darling Willard,” Diane Couden, Richard Austin “In memory of BabyCat,” Maresa Fanelli, PetFBI, and Margaret Munch

Cat-A-Lack Chow Club
for food for the shelter residents

Fred Weinberger, Charlene Hertzer “In memory of Doug Buhrer”, Leisa Fent, Renee Weldy, and Beth Canfield-Simbro

Cat Welfare would like to thank:

Randall W. Hertzer for purchasing three platform carts. The new carts help tremendously with daily operations.

Brian Kreger for his donation to cover the expense of a projector and screen to help with educational endeavors.

Barbara Mann for her service on our Board of Directors.

From January through October 2016, we adopted 1,177 cats into loving homes and from January through September 2016 subsidized 1,398 spay and neuter surgeries through our various Altering Fund programs.
Ursula is seeking a forever home after varying circumstances have displaced her three times in the past two years. This 4-year-old kitty is quite the lover. She purrs loudly during lap time and enjoys sharing a conversation. She is wary of other cats and does not like them to approach her, but she is never aggressive and would probably be just fine in a home with other cats that would not be seeking her affection. So what’s the catch? Due to a condition called eosinophilic granuloma complex (EGC), which refers to a group of inflammatory skin problems in cats, Ursula requires a special diet. We have seen a great improvement and resolve to her skin lesion when she is fed ONLY Hill’s® Prescription Diet® d/d Skin Support Adult Cat Food. So this means Ursula needs a forever owner who is committed to her diet. If you think this just might be a good fit for you, please stop by and ask to visit with this special gal.

Cat Welfare has nearly 300 cats available for adoption. Find your new feline friend by visiting catwelfareassoc.org or stopping by our shelter. The kitties would be happy to see you!