

# MERCED SPCA

*Dedicated* to helping the abandoned

and abused *Animals* of Merced County.



DECEMBER 2022

Hello and Welcome to the Merced SPCA Newsletter reporting our activities accomplished in November!

We have been extremely busy in the month of November. For the month of November, our volunteers have spayed, neutered, vaccinated and chipped over 12 homeless cats. We were able to place 3 kitties in loving foster homes waiting for adoption. Additionally, we found wonderful forever homes for 3. This has been a very hard month for Merced SPCA. The local vet we have dealt with for years just discontinued the drop off protocol of TNR (Trap, Neuter, Release). Now, we must make appointments for kitties we've trapped for TNR. It's impossible to know if you're going to trap a kitty or not. They are booking appointments 45 days out which continues to increase our challenges in this dilemma.

We are currently communicating with other vets and they're working with us in the "drop off the day of trapping" protocol. Unfortunately, they cannot give us a discount so we're paying three times as much as we were previously. We are continuing to TNR all feral felines that we can including vaccinations and chipping.

Our wonderful feeders who make sure our colonies are loved, fed and well taken care of, to the best of our abilities, are stretched every day.

Our fosters are amazing. Our TNR volunteers work hard and relentlessly. Believe us, there's no way we could continue without each of these amazing, devoted volunteers. **WE DESPERATELY NEED MORE** colony caretakers, more fosters, more volunteers to TNR! Please consider what you can do in helping to save these innocent cats' lives.

Sadly this month, we have helped families with their beloved pets in crossing over the rainbow bridge by scheduling the appointment so they don't have to do that part of it. We also provided them with some financial support during their loss. We recently helped, financially, to spay and neuter two puppies due to the owner's recent loss of employment.

This is some of what we do month to month with the support of our wonderful volunteers, sponsors and SPCA members. Our local chapter hopes to increase our TNR, fostering and awareness programs but we are in desperate need of volunteers and financial support.

We have TNR over 800 homeless abused cats, provided medical treatment for over 102, found loving homes for over 59 and sadly had to put to sleep 63 kitties due to injuries or devastating illnesses.

Give the gift of hope this holiday season by supporting your local SPCA!  
Go to **WEBPAGE** <https://www.mercedspca.com/> **AND**  
**CLICK THE DONATION BUTTON OR USE PAYPAL OR**  
**MAIL TO MERCED SPCA P.O. BOX 929 MERCED, CA**  
**95341**

A little bit of history:  
Because our shelter building required thousands of dollars for repair to make it safe and we just didn't have those thousands of dollars, we had to close the building. However, we continue to contribute to the financial aspect of the medical care and well-being of abandoned and abused animals in Merced County.

Additionally, we assist other No Kill Animal Rescues financially and by fostering homeless animals.

If you feel you could be a good potential foster home, please email us your information.

**Fostering is extremely important and direly needed.**

Merced Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) is a 501(c)(3) focusing currently on the TNR (Trap Neuter and Release) Program. This is a local chapter and not affiliated with any national programs. Many factors have impacted the increasing number of feral cats including the rise in homelessness and the cost to spay and neuter your pets. In fact, a few years ago Police Chief Norm Andrade stated in an open forum that the financial impact to the City due to the feral cat colonies is approximately \$20,000 a month.

Our statistics over the last 24 months showed that through our efforts, we were able to TNR 802 cats, treat 102 cats and dogs that required additional medical attention and unfortunately had to euthanize 63 cats because of severe illness or injury.

Because the need is so great, we are looking for more volunteers to conduct TNR and also for financial support for our programs. We currently do not receive any local funding.

We are reaching out to you for support. With donations, we can continue to provide and expand these services and hopefully expand our foster programs for dogs as well. We would appreciate all donations as well as contacts for any volunteers interested in helping. A healthy and strong community offers foundational programs that support responsible actions.

**You may make a direct local donation on our website!**

**If you are interested in volunteering, please email [merced.sPCA@yahoo.com](mailto:merced.sPCA@yahoo.com).**



*Just some snap shots of the fur babies we have helped!*

# WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO SPAY AND NEUTER?

Information Provided By

**MERCED COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES**

**REDUCE**  
SPRAYING & MARKING



**REDUCE**  
ROAMING OF STRAY  
ANIMALS



**REDUCE**  
AGRESSION



**LOWER**  
RISK OF CANCERS AND  
OTHER HEALTH ISSUES



**DECREASE**  
OVERPOPULATION



**INCREASE**  
LIFESPAN OF  
3-5 YEARS



Did you know that in 3 years, and as early as 4 months old, 1 unspayed female and 1 unneutered male can produce:

512 Dogs

382 Cats