

CAT NIPS



Summer is here Summer is here!

Have you heard? Summertime is here! This is when I usually take my summer holiday, but this year there is so much happening, I couldn't pull myself away. Kittens are being cared for by the amazing ASAP Foster Team and WOW, there are some beautiful kittens ready to be adopted! Don't forget about my great "adult" friends, too. Sometimes the best option for them is a foster home. A few of them are featured inside, like B. Grace, Niko, and Felix. They are usually the ones who love to just sit on laps and lounge—much like me!

Speaking of lounging, do you have your cat hammock yet? It turns out there are a lot of people who love us soooo much that they create special spots for us felines to stretch out and extend our sleepy time... so comfortable, and if you are really creative you can have matching hammocks for you and your irresistible best feline friends. Invite me over, or better yet, invite over one of my ASAP friends!

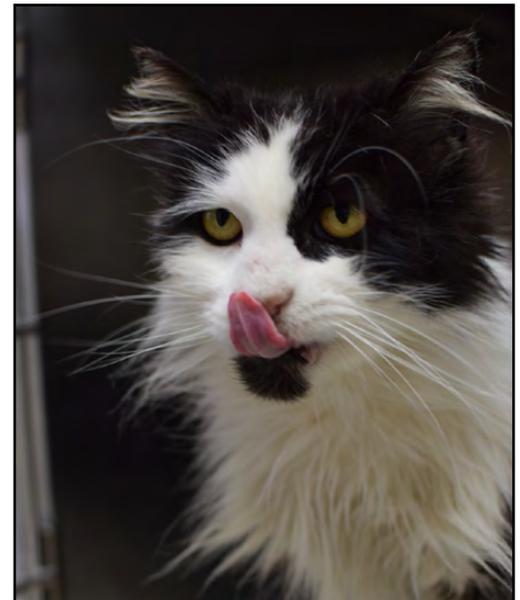
SO many of my feline friends are looking for a forever home this year. We've had near record numbers of cats at the shelter! Thankfully, we've also had some amazing happy endings for a few of our friends, including Snap, Crackle, Pop, and Sasha, all featured inside. They all have amazing stories to tell, as do all the cats and kittens at ASAP, so pull up a chair—no, not that one, I'm using that one—and we'll share a bit of happiness with you.

"Happiness" is how we feel about the absolutely purr-fect **30th Anniversary Celebration**—my BIG BASH! So many of you were there, volunteers, sponsors, supporters, cat-lovers and kitty champions! A very special thank you to our TOP CATs, and to so many folks who made it happen. Did you get a picture with me on the lawn? I LOVE being with all of you at the Bash each year. And yes, that was a big white tent! WOWZA! It was amazing to have my very own covered house for all of my friends to dance and enjoy each other's company—thanks to QAD for having me and my friends over again!

Before you go—did you know as of the time of writing this, ASAP has over 200 cat and kittens currently in our care! We need your help! Won't you consider giving some of your time to LOVE on my friends? ASAP works ONLY because of our amazing volunteers—and you get free training! Learn more on our website at www.asapcats.org or email our amazing volunteer team at volunteer@asapcats.org—you won't regret it! But fair warning, you WILL totally fall in love every time you come over!

Oh, did you hear something? I think that hammock is calling again...

Basil, OUT



Angel, one of ASAP's hospice foster cats, awaiting a foster family. More cats available for foster are featured inside!

Summer 2019

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Just like that, Snap, Crackle, Pop, You're Adopted!

Every so often at ASAP we come across special situations that remind us why we're here. Why we are a special organization, and are so grateful for our community of donors, volunteers, staff, and supporters who allow us to continue this life-saving work year after year.

In June of this year, FIFTEEN (15!!) cats were brought in all at once from one situation. They included a queen (that's "mom" in cat terms!) and her five kittens which went to another organization, plus another queen with five kittens that came to ASAP, *and* three young adult siblings. Believe it or not, one of these queens was the mother or grandmother to nearly the entire group! A clear example of the importance of spaying or neutering your pets.



Snap, Crackle, and Pop as they were known during the time at ASAP, always together.

Almost immediately, ASAP knew that the three young adults of the group should stay together, despite the daunting task of adopting a group of three! Thanks to the hard work and encouragement from our staff and volunteers, that's exactly what happened. Check out their happy adoption story below!

It has been just over a month since we adopted the trio of cats named Snap, Crackle, and Pop—renamed Shanti, Sophie, and Pearl.

We are all getting along famously and we couldn't be more delighted with our new family. These cats are extraordinarily sweet, adaptable, social, affectionate, energetic, entertaining, and beautiful to look at and to touch. They, and we, are an excellent fit! They seem quite at home here in a short time and very happy. It is a wonderful experience to have so much vital energy in our household again.

We want to express our thanks to Becky, in particular, for her patience, kindness, and helpfulness through recent years in finding the perfect cats for us—and the wisdom of keeping this trio together.

We also ask that you pass on our gratitude/catitude to Bernard, who was on duty that busy morning, and whose calmness, patience, and good information helped us make the big commitment to adopt a threesome.

- Nina & Patrick



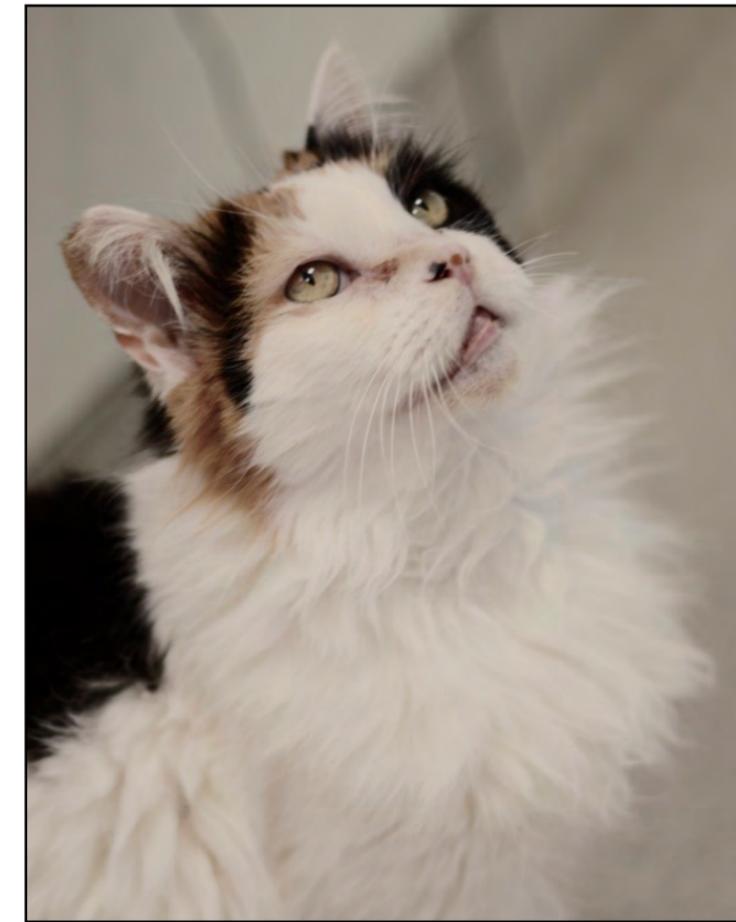
Snap, Crackle and Pop enjoying a family dinner together.

A Little Space and a Lot of Love Is All They Need

ASAP is often the place of last resort for cats with certain challenges. Owners surrender cats to us and other shelters reach out to us for help with cats who are feral, who have behavior issues or who are too young or too old and/or have medical issues and have no other place to go. Time and time again ASAP answers the call and finds a place in our shelter and in our hearts for these cats. Cats with behavior issues from extreme fear to assorted bad habits work with our amazing Behavior Team until they are ready for adoption. Feral adults enter our Working Cat program and are placed as mousers on ranches, wineries and nurseries where they can live the life they have chosen free of human contact. Feral kittens join our nationally acclaimed Tiny Lion™ Program where they are socialized into little purring balls of fur ready for adoption. Social kittens too young for adoption spend their time with our many kitten foster families, many acting as surrogate parents and bottle feeding their babies.

Now WE are in need of help with one very special group of cats—our senior and hospice fosters. Over 30 cats are currently enjoying life in homes with our dedicated senior/hospice foster volunteers. There are even more of these wonderful cats waiting for foster homes. They are older, some a little arthritic, some with health issues, some on special diets, some require medication, a little bit of everything. But they all share one thing, they let us know every day that they are not done with life yet, they're in every way still cats with those charming, frustrating, silly, playful, and loving characters that draw us to them and all they want is to spend their remaining time in a home not a cage.

Can you help by fostering one of these wonderful cats? ASAP provides any special prescription food (or any food if necessary) and all medication and medical care. If you need a little vacation, we care for the cats while you are gone. You just supply a little space and a lot of love. Read on to learn more.



B Grace

B. Grace

B. Grace has been with us a while. She had been adopted, but our girl didn't get along with the resident cat. She wasn't aggressive, just hissy to make sure everyone knew she was the boss, in fact she is rightfully a bit of a diva. Unfortunately, she was forced to live outside because of her behavior and her health suffered. She has a heart murmur and some heart damage requiring meds daily but she takes them just fine.

Enough of the sad and the bad. **B. Grace is a WORLD CLASS LAP KITTY!** She will curl up for hours on any lap available. Of course that diva attitude may surface if you're done and she's not. We suggest keeping a supply of treats nearby to convince her to evacuate. But she is hardly a permanent couch potato. We put a new 8' tall cage in our run area. She promptly scaled 3 levels of shelving and perched herself on top of the cage where she could show the others who is in charge. Like we said, diva girl! And now she frequently calls out in a voice we all recognize as hers to let her out of her cage so she can assume her new place of honor.

Baby

Baby is an irresistible cat with a medical condition called *megacolon*. It can result in serious constipation and even a fatal blockage. We have worked to stabilize her with a combination of special food and laxatives given daily and she has responded well.

Anyone who has visited her recently has noticed the prominent 'poop log' posted on her cage. It is necessary to monitor her 'output' daily to make sure all is well. We know the kind hearted volunteers regularly slip her a few forbidden treats and that can affect her condition. Even in foster she will need to be monitored—just simply recording what is scooped from the litter box, and report any significant changes to ASAP's vet team.

Baby is a lovely outgoing girl. At only 6 years old, she is one of the liveliest of our fosters.



Baby

Huxley

Huxley is a huge Maine Coon mix and a gentle giant. He has a condition called 'inverted sternum'—a deformity of his chest wall. Luckily, in his case he doesn't seem to show any symptoms or require any treatment. He is also FIV positive, something we are sure all of our supporters have learned should not affect his life expectancy and also requires no treatment. Huxley does not have any special food requirement and eagerly eats everything we offer him.

Huxley can be a little shy at first, but he's still adapting to shelter life. But he is soon doing his favorite thing, rubbing on your ankles and purring loudly. In fact we think he would make a great exercise buddy. Want to work on balance and strengthening your core? What better way than adding the challenge of an ankle rubber to exercise with you.



Huxley

Niko

Niko is another cat with a condition called 'inverted sternum', a deformity of his chest wall. Luckily in his case he doesn't seem to show any symptoms or require any treatment. He has a heart murmur also requiring no treatment.

Niko is not doing well at the shelter. He can often be found on top of his Crijo with his back to the front of the cage. He accepts pets but certainly doesn't seem to enjoy them. And then the miracle occurs! We offer Niko a few treats and get to see the wonderful cat that was formerly depressed and hiding. He immediately jumps down to the front of his cage, purrs loudly and starts kneading. He happily rubs back when offered pets. It seems he completely forgets his situation and once he starts to interact he doesn't stop, even if there are no more treats. We hope someone will offer him a home soon so he can live out his life without the sadness and depression.



Niko

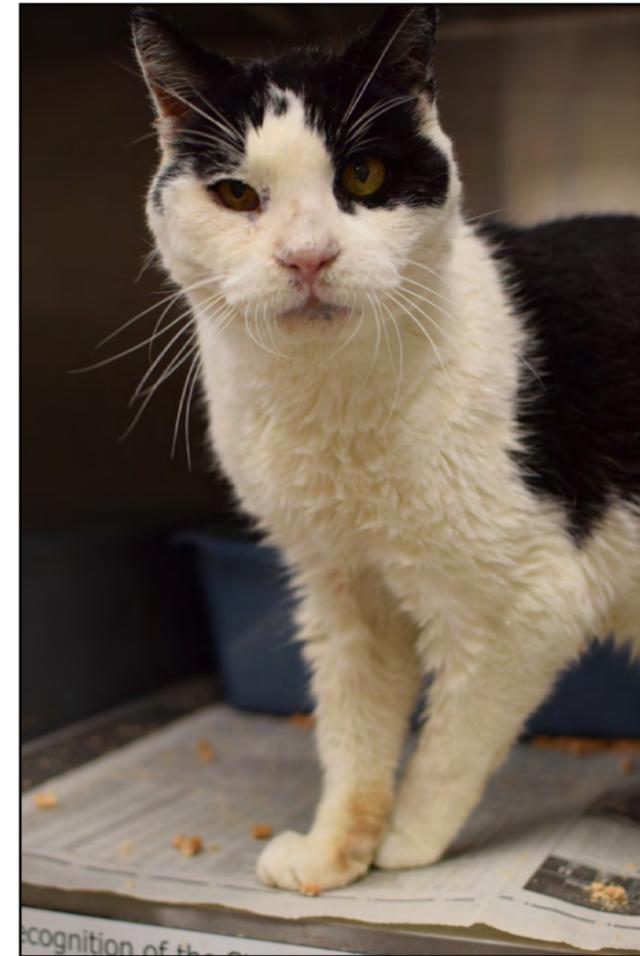
Felix

One look at Felix and it's obvious that he is a senior boy. But spend a few minutes with him and you quickly forget. He lives for attention and will spend his time at the front of his cage trying to attract anyone willing to offer pets. Until he sees another cat wander by, then he goes all macho with an admirable display of posturing and growls. He is definitely looking for a home without other cats.

Felix suffers from a little intestinal distress but it is controlled by meds daily and he is still able to eat a regular diet. Our vet staff would like his foster to document his fecal output on a 'poop log' to verify the medicine dosage is adequate, but no other care is anticipated.

If you are able to open your home to one of our very special hospice foster cats, or would like more information, please contact us at foster@asapcats.org or visit www.asapcats.org.

Please also consider a donation to our **Alexandra Fund**, which is specially earmarked for our senior cats, or our **Lester Fund** for extraordinary medical procedures.



Felix

Basil's Big Bash Recap

We could not be more thankful for the generosity that you, the ASAP community, showed us in celebration of ASAP's 30th anniversary. THANK YOU.

Our generous sponsors, donors, volunteers, and community partners made this a wonderful reflection and celebration of ASAP's history. Below are highlights from the past 30 years of ASAP, with just a few of the amazing accomplishments that our volunteers and staff have made since 1989.

ASAP's evolution has been miraculous. The early years were filled with stories of extraordinary efforts by amazingly dedicated volunteers just to keep the cats alive and available for adoption one more day.

Today, **nearly 1000 cats are saved every year.** Here's to many more life-saving years to come.



Sasha: Once an ASAP Cat, Always an ASAP Cat

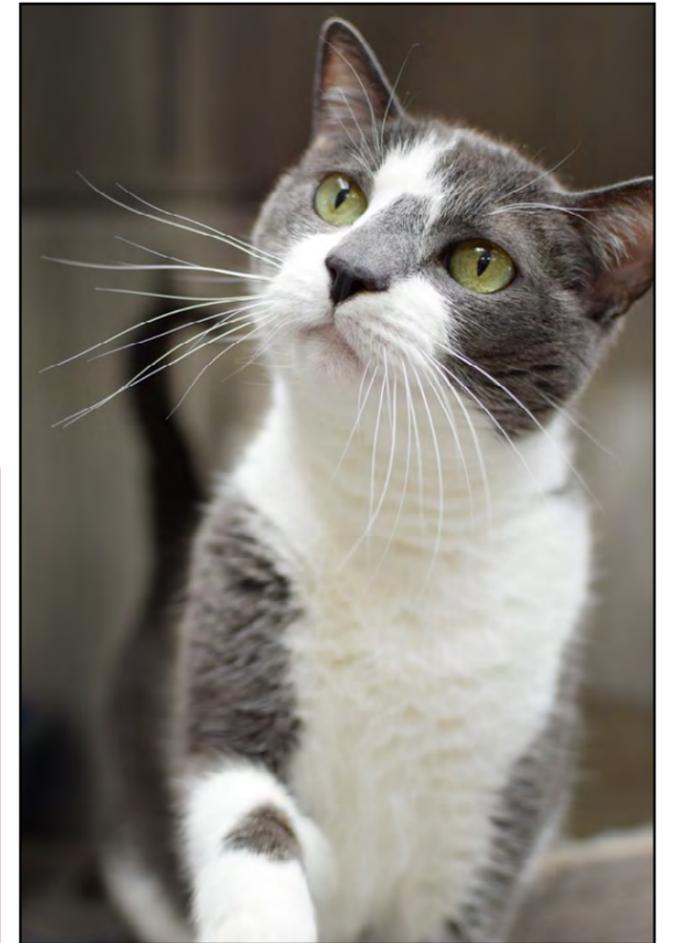
For any number of reasons, cats and kittens are sometimes unable to stay in their adopter's homes. While we always hope that adoptions are **forever**, we know that many circumstances mean that can not be the case. For Sasha, that unfortunate series of events happened **THREE** times! But ASAP cats are alumni for life, and we welcomed her back into the shelter again and again, knowing that another chance and another opportunity was out there for her.

Thankfully, this time, The Gordon Family and Sasha (now named Mako) both found exactly what they were looking for.

We've had Mako (Sasha) for a little over a month now and she is adapting nicely. She is still unsure about her furry sister Talula but they are working on their relationship.

Mako has recently mastered the art of the cat flap, which leads into our bedroom and the bathroom, and now has full access to the house.

She loves finding places to nap some that we know of & some that we don't! She enjoys bed time stories with her brother Santi, getting brushed and long naps in her cat bed haha! We love her!
— The Gordon Family



Sasha during her time at ASAP, patiently awaiting her forever family.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM ASAP'S HISTORY

= 1,000 lives saved

30,000 lives saved and counting...

1989
ASAP is established and within ONE YEAR adoption rates increase from 10% to 100% of adoptable cats

1991
First Veterinarian in shelter's history is hired

1993
Available housing for shelter cats increased from 35 to 110

1995
Spay/Neuter Program introduced - all cats/kittens are altered before adoption

1997

1998

1999

2001
ASAP's Sponsor-a-Cat Program is introduced to help raise funds for the care of cats and kittens at the shelter

2001
Complete Shelter Remodel

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

2010

2011

2012

2013
Tiny Lions Program debuts. Nearly 400 feral kittens have been 'tamed' and adopted since the program began!

2014
ASAP's 25th Anniversary and Basil's 1st Big Bash

2015

2016
Memorial Garden and outdoor Catio's open, allowing cats to enjoy additional exploration and time outside of their cages

2017

2018

2019

2020

Celebrating 30 Years...

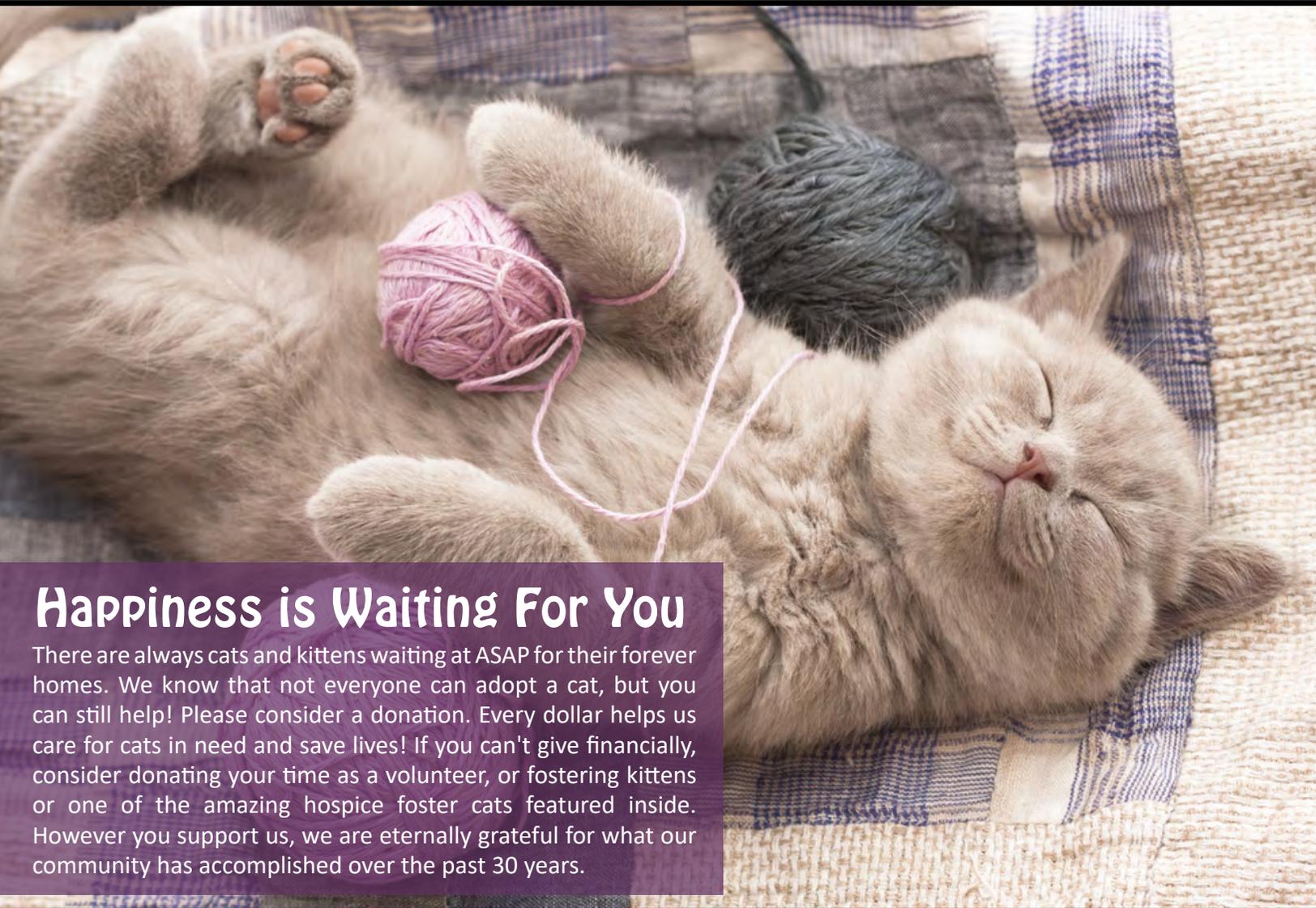


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Happiness is Waiting For You

There are always cats and kittens waiting at ASAP for their forever homes. We know that not everyone can adopt a cat, but you can still help! Please consider a donation. Every dollar helps us care for cats in need and save lives! If you can't give financially, consider donating your time as a volunteer, or fostering kittens or one of the amazing hospice foster cats featured inside. However you support us, we are eternally grateful for what our community has accomplished over the past 30 years.

ASAP - Animal Shelter Assistance Program

5473 Overpass Road, Santa Barbara, CA ▪ Monday-Saturday 10:00AM–4:45PM ▪ Open Until 7PM Wednesday and 12PM–3PM Sunday
ASAP is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization ▪ Federal Tax ID: 77-0283500