



Saving cats' lives since 1989

ANIMAL SHELTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Impact Report 2024



The ASAP Cats Mission

The mission of the Animal Shelter Assistance Program (ASAP Cats) is to save the lives of the cats in Santa Barbara County by providing shelter, veterinary care, behavioral support, adoption and foster services, education, and community outreach.

In support of the primary goals above, ASAP also seeks to:

- Maximize community involvement through volunteerism and outreach;
- Reduce the population of stray, homeless, and feral cats through adoption, spay/neuter and Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) programs, redemption, foster care, and educational programs;
- Form strong partnerships with Santa Barbara County Animal Services and other animal welfare groups to promote animal welfare and related causes.



Teebee

A Message from Our Executive Director

In 2024, ASAP Cats achieved transformative growth, delivering critical care and lifesaving programs that brought hope and healing to Santa Barbara County's cats and kittens. This year, **we sheltered 1,318 cats and kittens**, providing them with medical care, compassion, and second chances they needed to thrive. With **881 adoptions** and **69 reunions of lost cats with their families**, we made countless dreams of companionship a reality.

A vital part of our mission included supporting Santa Barbara County Animal Services' North County shelters, which **transferred 277 cats and kittens** to ASAP Cats. Additionally, **we welcomed 61 cats from other shelters** within our partner network, **totaling 338 cats who found their way into ASAP Cats' programs**. These partnerships highlight the importance of collaboration in saving lives and ensuring every cat receives the care they deserve.

ASAP Cats expanded its leadership in specialized care by becoming the primary shelter in Santa Barbara County treating FIP-positive cats, giving these once-hopeless cases a chance at life through groundbreaking treatments. **36 hospice cats are now enjoying their lives in loving homes**, surrounded by the care and comfort they deserve, thanks to the compassion of dedicated fosters. Meanwhile, **102 unsocialized Tiny Lions™ with big roars entered our specialized training program**.

A major milestone of the year was our merger with Catalyst for Cats, Inc., a collaboration that strengthens our capacity to care for community cats and expands our volunteer network. Together, we are prepared to meet the challenges of 2025 with greater efficiency, more resources, and a unified mission.

None of this would be possible without the incredible dedication of our community. **Volunteers contributed over 35,800 hours of their time**, and donors made every rescue and recovery possible with their generous support.

As we close the year with a **95% live release rate**, we celebrate the lives saved and the futures created. But the work doesn't end here. Together, we're building a world where every cat has the chance to live, love, and thrive.

Thank you for being part of our story. The best is yet to come.



Jessica Wiebe

Jessica Wiebe
Executive Director

2024 In Review

Saving the Lives of 100% of Adoptable Cats and Kittens

1,318

cats & kittens sheltered

69

lost cats & families reunited

881

cats adopted

36

hospice cats
sleeping in homes

136

lifesaving surgeries
performed

917

spay/neuter
surgeries

151

public spay/
neuters

112

working cats placed
on ranches, nurseries,
greenhouses, and other
alternate placements

2,458

veterinarian exams
given

102

Tiny Lions™ tamed

126

feral/wildlife cats
taken in

51

cats TNR'd (Trap-
Neuter-Release)

35

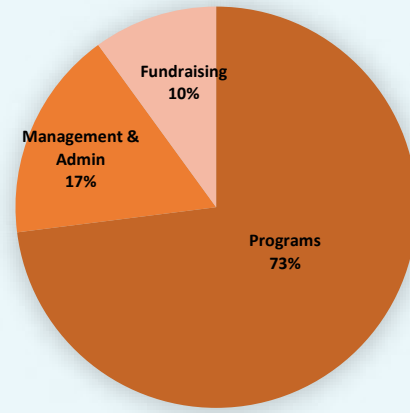
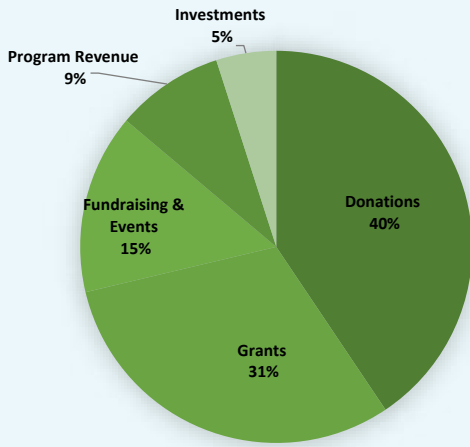
public assists with
cats in the community

made possible by

35,800
volunteer hours

equivalent to 17
full-time staff





INCOME: \$1,252,787

41%	DONATIONS	\$515,216
9%	PROGRAM REVENUE	\$112,256
31%	GRANTS	\$383,375
4%	INVESTMENTS	\$59,772
15%	FUNDRAISING & EVENTS	\$182,167

EXPENSES: \$1,362,103

73%	PROGRAMS	\$989,189
17%	MANAGEMENT & ADMIN	\$225,781
10%	FUNDRAISING	\$147,133

ASSETS & LIABILITIES

CASH ASSETS	\$154,032
PROPERTY, EQUIPMENT	\$64,877
INVESTMENTS	\$1,789,465
TOTAL ASSETS	\$2,008,374
CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$7,655
TOTAL EQUITY	\$2,000,718

THANK YOU
to the following for their generous support:

- Patricia and Paul Bragg Foundation
- The Wood-Claeysens Foundation
- Animal Charitable Foundation of Santa Barbara County, Inc.
- May and Bill Allison Foundation
- RLH Foundation
- Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians Foundation,
- Tribal Government Operations
- Noble Family Foundation
- Goleta City Grant Program

Thank you for all you do to make ASAP possible! With your help, we have accomplished a great deal during 2024.

The outfitting of our donated Mobile Unit and our merge with Catalyst for Cats reflect the commitment and vision ASAP shares, to continue to grow and evolve to meet the needs of the feline and human community of Santa Barbara County. Together our work has kept countless cats from needing to enter the shelter system, and none of these accomplishments would be possible without your support!

With gratitude,

Bernard Kelmenson

Bernard Kelmenson
Board President



Standing Up To Feline Infectious Peritonitis

Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP), a disease caused by certain strains of the feline coronavirus, was considered untreatable in shelters for years, but ASAP Cats is dedicated to securing critical medications, implementing effective protocols, and providing life-saving treatment to these cats in need.

As of this year, ASAP Cats is proud to announce we are the primary shelter in Santa Barbara County to help cats with FIP. We are fortunate to have the necessary resources and dedicated staff to provide treatment to these cats in need!

When we found out that one of our recently-adopted cats started not feeling well and that he had the telltale signs of FIP, our team knew exactly how to help.

Young Simba, not even a year old, was adopted over the summer to a very excited family who fell in love with him instantly. A cute, spunky cat with a lot of energy, we knew he was going to do well in his forever home – until he suddenly started not feeling well.

His stomach began to bloat, and while still cute as a rotund little guy, it was clear Simba was growing uncomfortable. The emergency clinic where Simba's family brought him diagnosed FIP and recommended euthanizing the young



Simba is currently healing well at home, while his family keeps ASAP updated on his condition.

cat, but thankfully Simba's family reached back out to ASAP. Having treated several cats with FIP, our Wellness team was prepared to step in and rescue Simba from his predicament.

As FIP treatments are rather expensive, Simba's family surrendered him back to ASAP so we could fully treat him. In the meantime, he's staying with his family as a foster kitty, and as soon as he completes treatment he'll be re-adopted. The brave young boy is slowly getting better, his tummy's bloat is decreasing, and he's still just as energetic and playful as he was before this harrowing set of events began.

As a high-save shelter, ASAP is proud to offer options to cats in need. FIP doesn't have to be a death sentence – not while ASAP Cats is here!

Catalyst for Cats, Inc. Merges with ASAP!

We are thrilled to announce that Catalyst for Cats, Inc. (Catalyst) has merged into Animal Shelter Assistance Program (ASAP), empowering the ASAP Cats nonprofit with a wealth of knowledge and creating an industry leader in animal welfare. We'll still be the same ASAP Cats you know and love, but now our cat-loving team is even stronger.

Are you a past Catalyst supporter or volunteer? We'd love to introduce you to our cats! Join our mailing list and stay up to date on all things ASAP, and make sure to tell your fellow Catalyst friends!

Catalyst was founded in 1990 by local hero and cat activist Randi Fairbrother, who sought a way to provide safe spay/neuter to community cats. "We're really excited to maintain Randi's legacy and continue the great impact of these two organizations," says Jessica Wiebe, ASAP Cats' executive director.

Catalyst started just a year after ASAP Cats' founding in 1989, and both organizations have shared the same longtime goals of improving the lives of local cats while



decreasing the overpopulation of unaltered community cats. Offering several benefits to the cats of Santa Barbara County, including a Trap-Neuter-Return program and multiple Spay-A-Thon events, Catalyst's mission will carry on while merged with ASAP.

Want to continue Randi's legacy and make an impact on our community? Volunteer with ASAP's Community Cats program! Learn everything from TNR best practices to queens and kitten colonies, working alongside our team of expert trappers.



Ichabod

Rescuing Kitties in the Community

It was another day at ASAP, where help was needed in the local community and ASAP was there to provide. A woman we'll call Cecilia was being evicted from her Santa Barbara home, and she needed to find a safe place for her 14 cats – fast.

Cecilia mostly speaks Spanish, so she was contacted by Mary Scott, a Spanish-speaking volunteer at ASAP, when shelter staff initially learned of Cecilia's predicament. Cecilia's 14 cats consisted of a mother queen, eight kittens, and five young adults. Between Shelter Supervisor Nicole Wisneskie, Wellness Assistant Athena Brown, and Mary, a plan was hatched immediately to help Cecilia and her kitties. Mary and Athena planned to meet Cecilia at her home to transport the cats to ASAP for medical treatment and intake, while Nicole quickly prepped the shelter for their arrival.

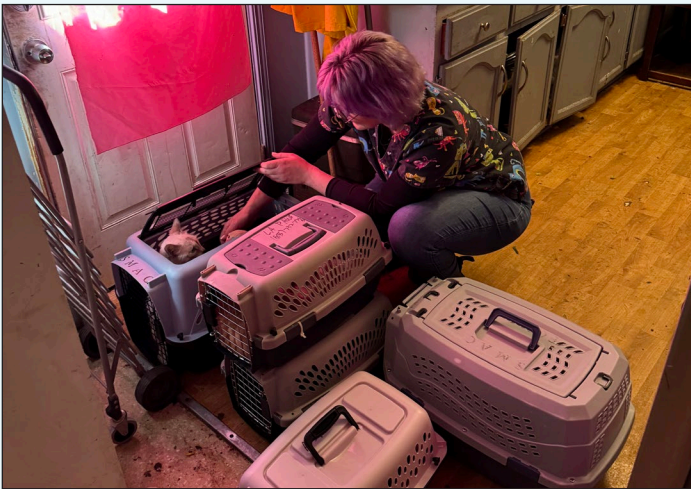
Cecilia fought back tears when Mary and Athena arrived with carriers. Her gratitude and relief were clear when she realized her cats would be safe, and that they were in the best of hands with a bright

future ahead. It was a bittersweet moment, but she knew she was making the right decision and that ASAP would take great care of her kitties. She took the initiative to rehome the eight kittens to a family friend, so only six cats needed transport to the shelter. Athena's expertise was front and center as she loaded the cats into carriers with help from Cecilia and Mary. Mary helped Cecilia fill out the proper paperwork to surrender the cats to ASAP, the cats were loaded into Athena's car, and they were whisked off to the shelter.

Mary received a text from Cecilia early the next morning: "Como estan los gatos?" How are the cats? she asked. Mary was happy to keep in touch with Cecilia every step of the process, reassuring her that her cats were all safe and well on their way to getting adopted.

ASAP is also keeping in touch with Cecilia's family friend with the eight kittens, ensuring all kittens will be altered as soon as they're big enough. A few have bravely gone through their surgeries already, including several males identified as cryptorchid, meaning that one or both of their testicles did not properly descend.

The six friendly, healthy cats will likely be adopted quickly, a result of ASAP's quick action and solution-centered approach to community outreach and service. Another successful community rescue from the ASAP Cats team!



When it comes to saving kittens, Athena Brown is always ready to spring into action!

Prince



Stuey's Foster Win *by Judy Savage*

While saving for a home of their own, my daughter and her husband moved in with us for a time. We had lost our cat two years ago, and my daughter decided that in addition to two humans, a new cat should be introduced into our once very quiet household. She wrote, "I should know better than to look at the ASAP page... but what is Stuey like?" So I told her that I would check on him during my Tuesday morning shift.

In our Cat Chat binder at the shelter, I wrote: "Checked on Stuey...A note on his cage says 'get me out of here.' He doesn't like the shelter; it is hard to know what his personality is really like because he doesn't like the shelter, so we can foster him." I decided to give Stuey a break from the shelter.

I came back Tuesday afternoon and took Stuey home to foster. Although Stuey did not like being caged at ASAP, he paradoxically did not want to leave his cage! He would not let himself be put in a cat carrier on Tuesday or Wednesday, but finally on Thursday afternoon I received a message from Stacey: miraculously, Stuey was ready, in his carrier, and available for me to pick up.

For several weeks after his arrival, Stuey hid in a bunk bed amongst a bunch of stuffed animals, hissing if anyone approached him, only leaving the bed to eat and use his litter box when no one was in the room. Gradually my daughter got him to trust her, and they began to build a relationship. From that moment on, things started to improve and our bond with Stuey grew even more.

Today, after adopting Stuey, he is lord of the manor! He bounds around the house like a ping pong ball, checking out all his favorite windows, playing with his favorite toys, or just enjoying his catnip. He has a favorite window seat for his daytime catnaps, and cuddles with my daughter and her husband at night.

His inner clock tells him when my daughter should return from work at night, and he sits by the front window waiting for her arrival, only to dissolve in a puddle of fur and purrs around her legs when she finally opens the door.

He is also our self-proclaimed guard dog! Last night I heard him howling and found him defending us from the night critters on the other side of the window. What a brave boy, defending the house that has become his home. We're lucky to have him!



Stuey loves to curl into a ball whenever there's a comfy blanket around. He loves to lounge!

ASAP Cats Saving Lives on the Go

Thanks to an amazing donation from our partners at C.A.R.E.4Paws, ASAP Cats is proud to announce our newest resource for saving cats: our first ever Mobile Spay/Neuter Care Unit! Allowing our Wellness team to save cats on the go, ASAP's influence can reach farther than ever before with this mobile unit, serving feline families and cats out in the community.

In addition to providing spay/neuter services to community cats, this mobile unit will provide low cost care to pet families, bringing critical vaccinations, microchips, and other lifesaving resources directly to cats in need.

Special thanks to our amazing sponsors who've helped us already raise over \$100,000 for our mobile unit. We couldn't do this without you!

We spoke with our friends at PC Mechanical Inc. while they're fixing up the unit, and things are moving right along. They've replaced the engine, transmission, and catalytic converter, and now are performing final checks.

While our mobile unit is in the shop getting repaired and tuned up, it should be ready to hit the road end of March, so stay tuned for updates!

To donate to the ongoing maintenance of the mobile unit, **scan the QR code at the end** or visit our website at asapcats.org.

Under Fund Designation, simply select "**Spay Neuter Mobile Unit**" to contribute.



Delorean

Adopt

Directly save a life and enrich your own by opening your home and heart to a shelter cat — and encourage friends, family, and community members to adopt from ASAP.

Foster

Give a cat a break from shelter life by opening your home to foster. We provide the supplies, you supply the love — it's a win-win! Fostering is also a great way to socialize cats and allow their real personalities to shine through,

Future Gifts

Ensure that the the most vulnerable cats will always be saved through a bequest to ASAP. Contact director@asapcats.org for more information, or to let us know if you have already included ASAP in your estate plans.

Volunteer

With just a few hours a week, you can make a profound difference in the lives of the cats in our shelter. From animal care to administrative support to social media, there are many ways to help!

To learn more, email volunteer@asapcats.org or visit our website at asapcats.org/volunteer

Donate

Every gift directly saves cats. Give online by visiting us at asapcats.org or simply scan the QR code. ASAP Cats welcomes gifts of stock as well as in-kind donations. For more information, email us: info@asapcats.org.

To make a tax deductible contribution by mail, send to:

ASAP CATS
PO Box 357
Goleta, CA 93116



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