

2025 ANNUAL REPORT



**Feline Advocates of Leon County
(FALC)**



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A Letter From the President



Michelle Hartsfield

President & Founder

Here we are in 2026, looking back on 2025, I have a vast array of feelings.

This year was full. Full of long days, hard decisions, tiny victories, and life-changing moments. But we made it through with many more wins than losses. And none of it would have been possible without our community, our donors, and our incredible volunteer team and directors.

Because of your support, we didn't just keep going, we grew stronger. We honored our commitment by bringing in and adopting out over 250 cats and kittens. We stayed dedicated through the Florida Animal Friends grant, completing hundreds of spay and neuter surgeries, helping prevent suffering before it even begins. But beyond the numbers, there are the furry faces I can't forget; cats who came to us scared, injured, overlooked... and left healed, safe, and loved.

We said yes to so many medical cases this year. Surgeries and recoveries that required patience, resources, and hope. And again and again, because of this dedicated community, we were able to say, "We can help." Lives were saved.

As we look ahead, we know a great deal of work is still in need. Cat overpopulation remains one of the greatest challenges facing our community, but we are more committed than ever to being part of the solution. We are actively building stronger partnerships with our city and county, along with other organizations and available resources, to expand access to spay and neuter services and create sustainable, long-term change. We believe that by working together, we can address the root of the problem and move toward a future where fewer cats are born into hardship.

I am eternally proud of what we accomplished together. Proud of every volunteer who showed up, every donor who gave what they could, every supporter who shared our mission or believed in our work. You are the heart of this rescue.

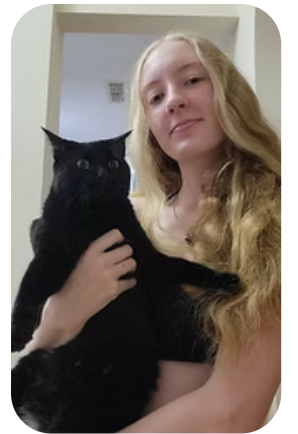
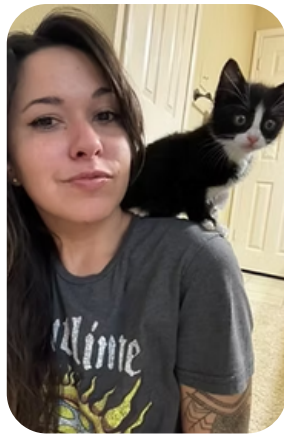
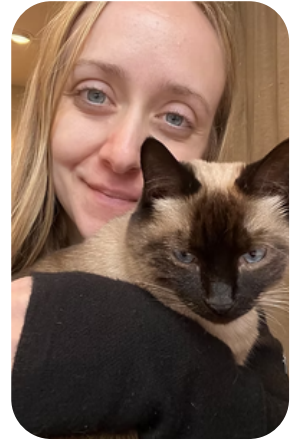
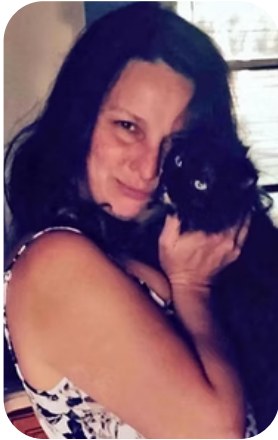
This work isn't always easy. It can be emotional and exhausting. But it is also deeply meaningful. And looking back on this year, I feel hopeful because of what we've achieved, and because of who we've done it with.

Thank you for standing with us, believing in our cause, and making this mission possible.

For all the cats,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Hartsfield".

Board of Directors



Mission

Dedicated to rescuing, rehabilitating, and rehoming animals in need while **educating** and empowering our community to **advocate** for the welfare of companion and community cats.

President & Founder
Michelle Hartsfield

Vice President
Sara Jones

Secretary
Gisele Poitras

Director
Melissa Blake

Director
Cailee Krambeck

Director
Lindsey Viramontes

Director
Gloria Alvarez

Director
Katherine Bullough

Honorary Directors
Susie Caplowe (Founder)
Gail Sloane

Impact and Lives Saved



Our Statistics

The significant rise in cats we helped in 2025 reflects both the growing need in our community and our unwavering commitment to step in when help is needed most. Each intake represented not just a number, but a life at a critical turning point.

Many of the cats arrived with complex and urgent medical needs, requiring extensive diagnostics, treatment, and recovery time. From abandoned cats found in unsafe outdoor conditions to animals overlooked or at risk in overwhelmed shelter systems, and loved pets whose families faced heartbreaking circumstances that made surrender unavoidable, our intake sources remained as diverse as the cats themselves.

Stray	Rescue/Shelter Transfer	Owner Surrender
188	50	29



32% Increase in
2025

Intakes - 267

From Rescue to Home



Our Statistics

This year was jam-packed full of adoptions, happy tears, and forever homes. Each of these 239 adoptions represents a second chance at life, one that each cat might not have gotten without our help. We are so grateful for the support of our community and those who open up their homes and hearts to give a rescued animal a chance at a happy life.

Several of these adoptions were long-time residents, such as Chili and Cinnamon, at Fat Cat Café, and Gunther (our Be The Solution Pet of the Year contestant) at Fat Cat Books, or Harry, a long-time foster care resident.

Fat Cat Cafe	Fat Cat Books	Total
204	35	239



41% Increase in
2025

Adoptions - 239

Healing in Action

Routine Vetting

Every cat that enters our care is fixed, tested for FIV/FelV, receives FVRCP, FeLV, and rabies vaccines, microchip, preventative deworming, and flea/tick/heartworm protection. This routine vetting sets up a cat for a healthy life in their forever home, and is especially critical for kittens under 8 weeks old that are most susceptible to illnesses and typically have a lower survival rate in traditional shelter settings.

Spay/Neuter Surgeries	Vaccines Administered
149	1,229

# Cats $\leq$ 8 weeks	Survival Rate (Cats $\leq$ 8 weeks)
118	94%

Advanced Medical Care

We pride ourselves on being a medically focused rescue and taking on tough cases. Nearly 1/3 of cats required advanced medical care and had needs beyond routine vetting. We spent \$35,000 on lifesaving care for these cats.

77 cats
28.8% intakes



\$35,000 spent

17 Hospitalized Cats	7 Dental Surgeries	5 Eye Enucleations
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Conditions We Encountered

- Rectal prolapse
- Kidney disease
- Hypernatremia
- Bobcat fever
- Ear hematoma
- Chronic URI
- Luxating Patella
- Lymphomatic Angioma
- Hepatic lipidosis
- Cancers
- Degloved tail
- Hernias
- Botfly larvae
- Symblepharon
- Congenital Porphyria
- Neurological Conditions

Most Complex Case

Orchid came into our care at 5 weeks old. From the beginning, it was clear she was developmentally behind. She had to be hand fed food and syringe fed water until she was 12 weeks old and faced multiple serious medical challenges, including hypernatremia, anisorcoria, and exophthalmos. She had to be hospitalized 6 times and receive intensive life-saving care. Thanks to dedicated medical support, and her incredible will to survive, Orchid is now thriving. We are so proud of her.

\$5,645 spent

Before



After



Fat Cat Cafe

A feline adoption center focused on kittens and young adult cats, combined with a cafe and an eclectic boutique, all with a groovy atmosphere.



Fat Cat Cafe celebrated its 8th year of operation, and what a journey it has been! We have transformed, adapted, and grown so much over the years. Beyond our daily operations, we held art classes, movie nights, and birthday parties. One thing that has always stayed constant is our passion for creating a fun and educational experience for our customers. We even anticipate hitting 2000 adoptions next year!

→ Cuddle Sessions

2,684

→ Special Events

10+

→ Adoptions

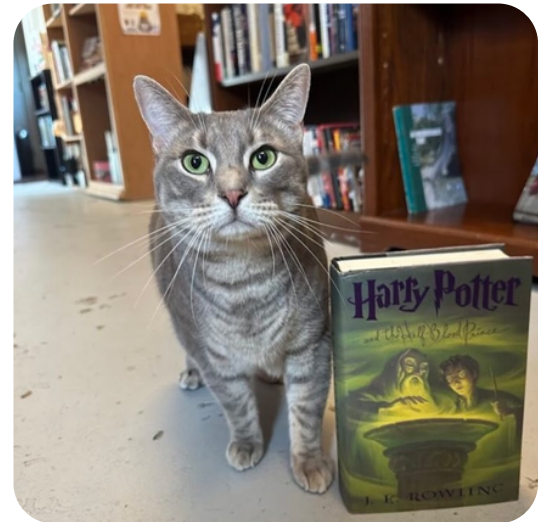
203

→ Revenue

\$65,532

Fat Cat Books

A feline adoption center focused on adult and senior cats, combined with a used bookstore and an eclectic boutique.



Fat Cat Books turned 5! It feels like just yesterday we were moving in bookshelves and setting up the space for our cats.

We are very thankful for all of our patrons and the Railroad Square community for their consistent support. We are happy to continue to be a safe haven for adult and especially senior cats. Our bookstore is one of our biggest revenue sources, and the proceeds allow us to continue doing what we love and helping cats.



→ Hardbacks Sold

1,392

→ Paperbacks Sold

2,722

→ Adoptions

27

→ Revenue

\$47,405

Revenue & Grants

Total: \$167,898

Fat Cat Cafe	\$65,532
Fat Cat Books	\$47,405
Grants	\$31,640
Fundraisers	\$23,321

2025 Fundraisers

- Blind Date With a Book - \$260
- Garage Sale - \$2,096
- For Cats' Sake Art Auction - \$9,125
- Quarterly Book Bag Sale - \$2,905
- Facebook Fundraisers - \$8,400
- Monthly Donor Program - \$535

Orphan Kitten Club

We are so thankful for our partnership with Orphan Kitten Club.

They provide MightyCat Medical Grants for up to 4 kittens annually. Kittens must be under 12 weeks old and facing life-threatening medical ailments. In 2025, we had 4 recipients.

We also received an Innovation Grant that allowed us to purchase a kitten incubator.

Additionally, we participated in a Strategic Grant Cycle called Heat Wave, and were provided with heat disks for fosters with kittens 0-4 weeks old.

\$12,500	\$1,900	8 Heat Disks
MightyCat Medical Grants	Innovation Grant	Strategic Grant

\$14,640 funded



MightyCat Grant Recipient Artemis
4 Hospitalizations and diagnosed with congenital Acute Intermittent Porphyria (AIP)



Revenue & Grants

Florida Animal Friend

Our grant application focused on bringing targeted, full-circle TNVR to communities in Tallahassee. While we love our foster and adoption program, we recognize that the solution to overpopulation and suffering is spaying and neutering animals, and most importantly TNVR of community cats.

We were excited and honored to be selected for a \$15,000 grant!

This grant cycle ran from August 31st, 2024 to August 31st, 2025.

Thanks to Florida Animal Friend, we were able to spay or neuter 506 cats!



\$15,000 funded



506 Cats Fixed

Penny Fix

We were fortunate to be selected for a PennyFix grant in 2025. We received \$2000 to fix as many animals as possible in 90 days. In those 90 days we fixed 139 cats and 1 dog.



\$2,000 funded

Community Partners

A special thank you to our incredible community partners who stand beside us in this work. From veterinary teams to sponsors and rescue collaborators, your support makes lifesaving care possible and helps us create a kinder world for animals.



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ANIMAL AID SOCIETY SPAY AND NEUTER CENTER

Our Village



Fosters

Our fosters are the foundation of our rescue. By opening their homes to cats in need, they provide safety, healing, and love. From bottle babies to medical recoveries, their compassion allows us to continue saying “yes” to the cats that need us. Every successful adoption begins with a kind human who chose to help.



Volunteers

Our volunteers are the steady hands behind everything we do. They support events, cleaning, transports, fundraising, administrative work, and so much more. Their time, talent, and dedication keep our mission moving forward and ensure our spaces remaining welcoming for both cats and community members.

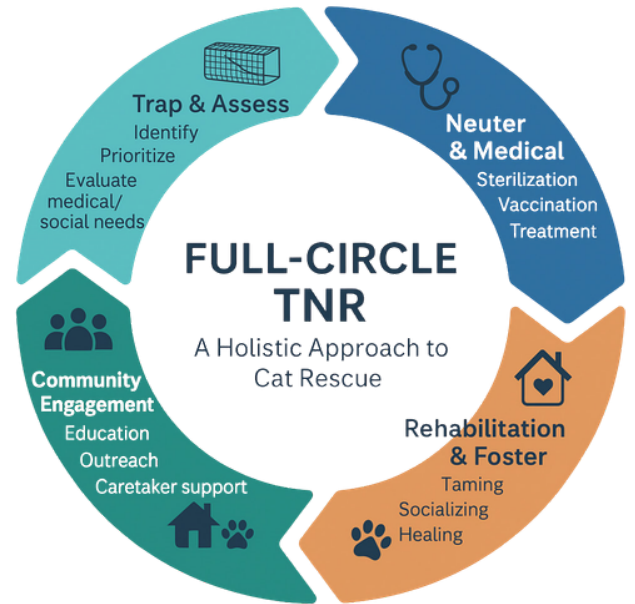


Employees

Our employees are a dedicated team that keeps our adoption centers running each day. They care for the cats, serve the general public, support adopters, are the daily face of our rescue, and manage many moving parts. Their professionalism, consistency, and heart help turn our mission into daily action.

TNVR & Spay/Neuter

Spay and neuter is the single most effective way to reduce pet overpopulation and prevent unnecessary suffering, and it is the foundation of our Full-Circle TNVR (Trap - Neuter - Vaccinate - Return) approach. When we take in a kitten, we don't stop at rescue; we work to identify where that kitten came from and locate the mother, siblings, and surrounding colony members so they can also be spayed and neutered as well.



By addressing the source, we prevent future litters from being born into the same vulnerable conditions. This full circle model turns each rescue into prevention, creating lasting impact for families of cats and reducing the ongoing cycle of feline homelessness in our community.

Every kitten has an origin story



Tally Spay - 288

Intakes	142
Public Assists	28
Community Cats	118

Animal Aid - 183

Intakes	7
Public Assists	41
Community Cats	135

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