

# Annual Report

2022

Kindness. Care. Compassion



# About Our Rescue

## Who Are We?

Moby Kit Rescue is a recently established 501(c)3 feline rescue that serves the Southcoast of Massachusetts. Our founders have over a decade of experience in the rescue community and specialize in the care and socialization of young kittens. Moby Kit is currently a foster-based rescue, which means that we do not have a physical shelter for our animals. Instead, we rely on our foster families to house, feed, and care for our adoptable cats and kittens until they find their forever homes.

# Meet the Team

We are a woman-run, all-volunteer rescue, so no one is paid a salary. We are a mix of women in healthcare, biotechnology, veterinary sciences, sales, social work, and creative arts, who are all united by our passion for cats and animal welfare.



As a foster-based rescue, we rely on our network of 19 fosters to house, feed, socialize and care for our cats and kittens until they are medically-cleared for adoption. We are a small, but mighty team!

# Mission

Our mission is to give kindness, care, and compassion to animals in need while publicly promoting their welfare and responsible pet ownership.

## Our Focus

### 01 – Rehabilitation

Rehabilitate kittens and cats that have sustained injury or illness while living outdoors. Examples vary from common upper respiratory illnesses, to recovery from an eye removal or amputation.

### 02 – Socialization

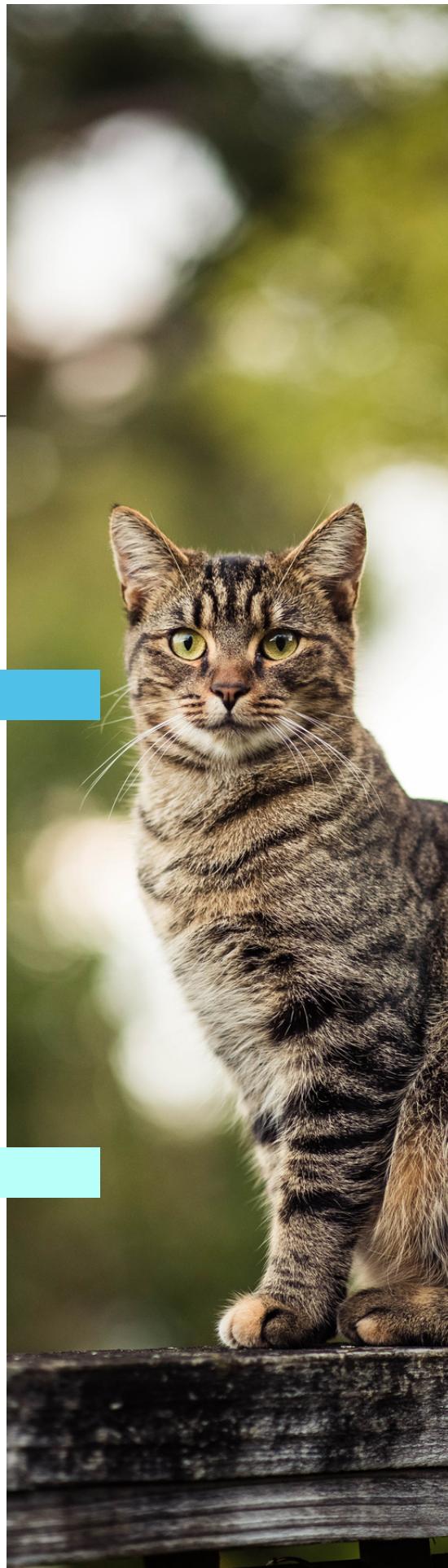
Socialize cats and kittens with very limited human interaction and/or victims of cruelty and abuse. This is important to improve the cats' chances at adoption and to ensure that they live a happy life with confidence, rather than a life of fear. We are one of very few rescues in southcoast MA that accepts semi-feral cats and kittens for socialization and adoption.

### 03 – Adoption

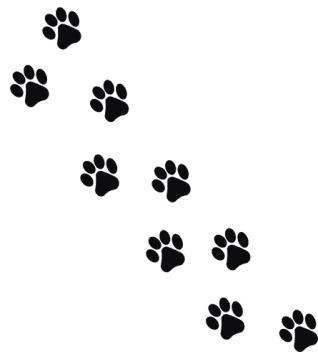
Advertise cats and kittens as adoptable, and vet all prospective applicants. Adoptable cats receive the following medical care before adoption: spay/neuter surgery, rabies vaccine, 2-3 distemper vaccines (age dependent), deworming medication, deflea treatment and microchip.

### 04 – Education

Educate the public on responsible pet ownership through fundraisers, and social outreach. Make spay/neuter surgery and medical care more affordable to the community through the initiatives like Project Snip. Encourage the community to partake in TNR initiatives through programs like Sponsor-a-Feral.

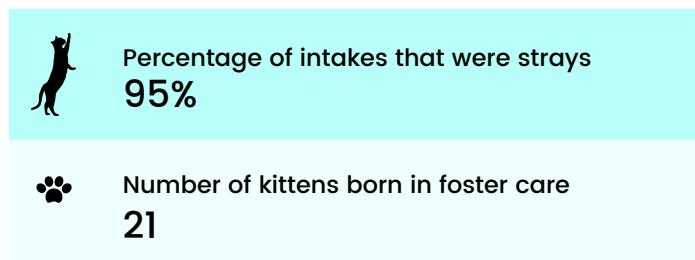
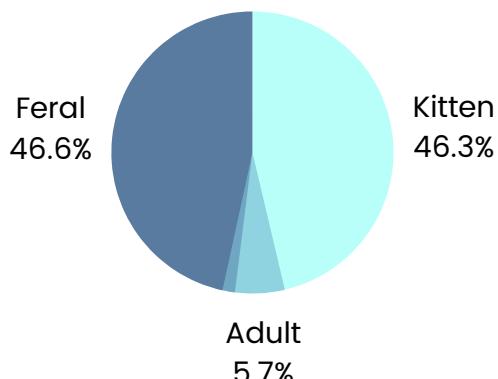


# Intake Summary

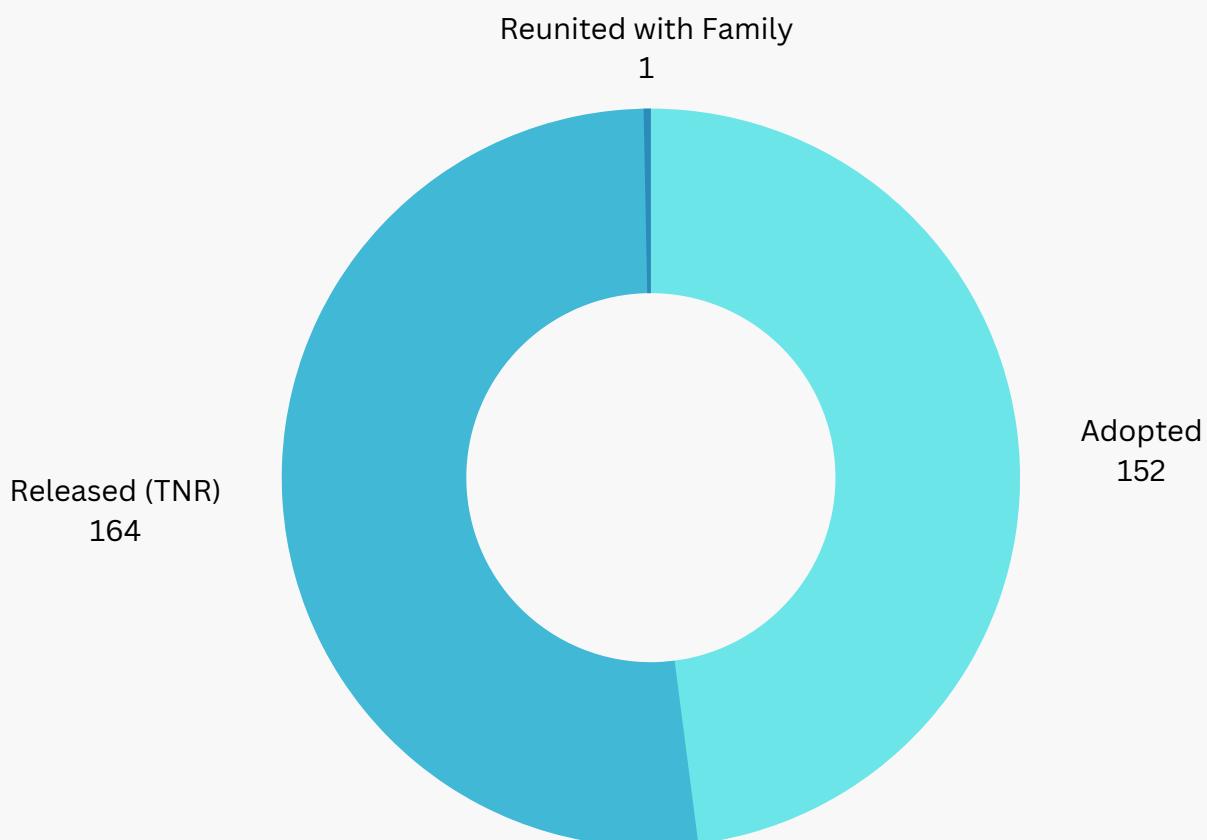


## Who do we help?

The vast majority of our intakes are homeless kittens and cats that were trapped or brought to us by good samaritans. The southcoast region of Massachusetts has a large number of unfixed, outdoor cats that are either stray, feral or owned by people in the community. Cats can have multiple litters of kittens each year starting at 6 months old, which can result in the overpopulation of stray cats if not controlled through spay & neuter initiatives.



# What are the outcomes?



## Why are so many cats released rather than being adopted out?

While the end goal is always adoption, many cats were born outdoors and have spent years of their life with little to no human contact. Because of this, they are very fearful of humans and would experience a great deal of stress if they were adopted out and forced to live in a home as a domestic pet. Additionally, many stray cats live in colonies or groups with other strays, that they are bonded with. By removing a feral cat from their colony and companions, we risk causing them emotional distress.

Moby Kit Rescue's medical team assesses all new intakes to determine whether or not they can be socialized and placed up for adoption.

# Spay & Neuter

## How do we combat feline overpopulation?

The best way to address the feline overpopulation epidemic in the southcoast area is to spay & neuter as many cats as possible. This includes all cats that are homeless and owned. We have a couple initiatives that we use to sterilize as many cats as possible.

### TNR

Our volunteers work with members of the community to trap, house and feed the feral cat(s) until they can be sterilization and ear-tipped by a vet. Sometimes they are smaller projects (1-4 cats) and other times they are large projects on sites with 30 or more cats.

### Project Snip

Veterinary care is out of reach for many low-income families, so we launched a program called Project Snip that makes sterilization surgeries & vet care available to families at a heavy discount.

### Sponsor a Cat In Need

We launched a program called Sponsor a Cat In Need, which enables people to sponsor the medical care of feral cats in the community. We hope that by also naming these cats, we can generate more empathy from the public so that stray cats are viewed less as a pest and more as a living creature that is no different than a family pet.

**323**

cats sterilized  
(spayed/neutered)





# Trap-Neuter-Release

**Spayed/neutered a colony of over 50 cats over a 3 month period**

In early 2022, we received a Facebook message from a property owner in Westport who had a very large cat colony multiplying on her property at an uncontrollable rate. Moby Kit's trapping team followed up and was on-site within the week. Over a 3-month period, we trapped 29 adults and 24 kittens. All of the cats were vaccinated, sterilized and treated for any infections or health issues they were facing (2 cats were treated for Toxoplasmosis). All the kittens and a couple of adults were socialized and adopted out, and the remaining adults were released back on the property, where they continued being fed and cared for by the property owner. We continue to remain in touch with the property owner to monitor the colony and provide food on occasion. With large feral cat colonies like this one, the goal is to trap all the cats and maintain contact with the site to ensure all "new cats" are also trapped and sterilized to prevent the cycle of reproduction from continuing.

**67**

Feral kittens socialized  
and adopted out

**25**

Sites worked on

**54**

Families benefited  
through Project Snip

# Adoption Methodology

We strive to find the perfect home for each cat and kitten that comes through our doors. This ensures long-term happiness for both our cats and their new families. To achieve a high level of "Adoption Success", we accept adoption applications for cats on a rolling basis until we identify an applicant that appears to be a good fit for the personality and ideal home for the cat they're applying for. Then we process their application.



## What Do We Evaluate?



### Family & Environment Fit

What is the activity level of the household? Any kids? Does the adopter already have pets, or have they had any in the past? How would they address behavioral or medical issues that arise post-adoption? Do they plan to declaw the cat(s)? Do they plan to have the cat live indoors-only or will they let them outdoors?



### Housing Approval

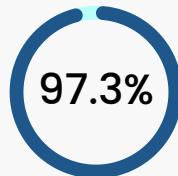
Does the applicant own their home, or rent (home ownership is verified)? If they rent, does the landlord know they're applying to adopt a cat? Are they aware of any other pets the applicant may have? Do they have any concerns regarding the applicants' ability to care for a cat?



### Veterinary Check

Does the applicant have any current or former pets? Are/were they seen for annual exams and vaccine boosters? Are all their current and former pets spayed or neutered? Does the vet have any concerns regarding their candidacy?

# Adoption Summary

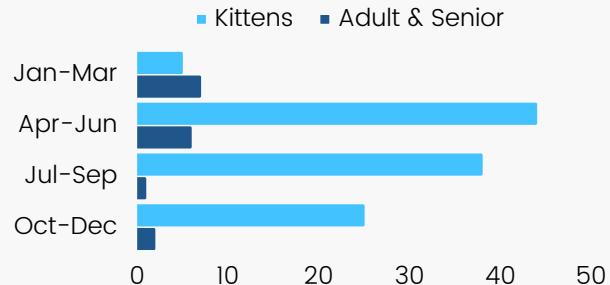
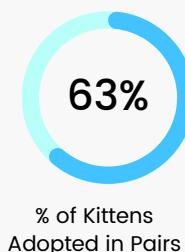


Adoption Success Rate

## Adoption Process & Objectives

Our goal is to adopt out as many cats as possible, so they have a chance at a long and healthy life with a loving family. If they are semi-feral or shy, our team of experienced fosters will use a hands-on approach to socialize the cats and help them build confidence. Once the cats are medically-cleared for adoption and at an appropriate stage of social development, we advertise them for adoption and perform thorough reviews of all prospective adopters.

We prioritize the adoption of kittens in pairs and pride ourselves on having a very high rate of Adoption Success, which is measured by the rate of cats that are returned by their adopters due to compatibility issues.



Number of Adoptions in 2022

**152**



Average No. of Days that Adoptable Cats Spend on Petfinder

**25**

# Fundraisers & Events

**May 21**

## Moby Kitten Pop-Up at Shimmer Boutique

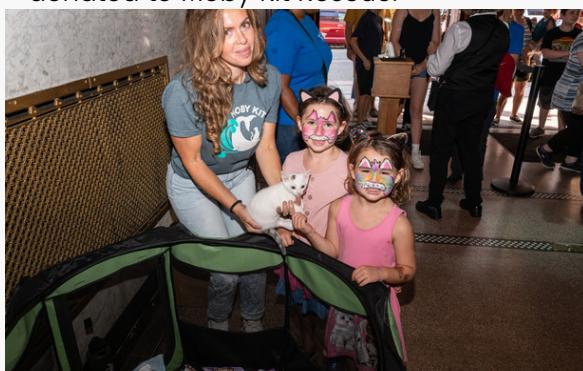
Pop-up event at a local beauty supplies store. Featured adoptable kittens and a donations box.



**Sep 18**

## Cat Video Fest at the Zeiterion Theatre

Featured at Cinema New Bedford's Cat Video Fest event and invited to set-up a table at the event with adoptable kittens. A portion of the proceeds raised were donated to Moby Kit Rescue.



**July 17**

## Flapjack's for Cats at Applebee's Dartmouth

Pancake fundraiser hosted at Applebee's to raise money and awareness for Moby Kit Rescue.



**Oct 30**

## Halloween Meowsquerade at Dartmouth VFW

Live music event with cat costume contests and prizes. Proceeds raised to support the spay & neuter surgeries for pets of low-income families.



# Thank You

**We couldn't have had such a successful first year without your support!**

We are incredibly proud of everything that our team of volunteers and fosters have achieved this year. And we are also grateful to our community of supporters that believes in us and the work we do, and rallies for us when needed. We can't wait to see what 2023 has in store for us. Keep rescuing!



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**Website**

[www.mobykitrescue.org](http://www.mobykitrescue.org)