



Little Hootie is a ball of energy and a delight to all who meet her.

New Beginnings

Hootz¹

By Angela Townsend

Little "Hootie"'s spectacular nature is remarkable given the pain she has seen. During her kittenhood, Hootz received a devastating spinal injury, leaving her fecal- and urinary-incontinent. As adopters passed her over for less "messy" cats, Hootie's odds of survival at a public shelter grew slimmer by the day. Happily, we were able to make room for her at Tabby's Place. We are quite enamored of this little cat and very happy that we can provide sanctuary for her. Because Hootz is so adorable and has a delightful personality, we are hopeful that the right person will fall in love with her, as we have.



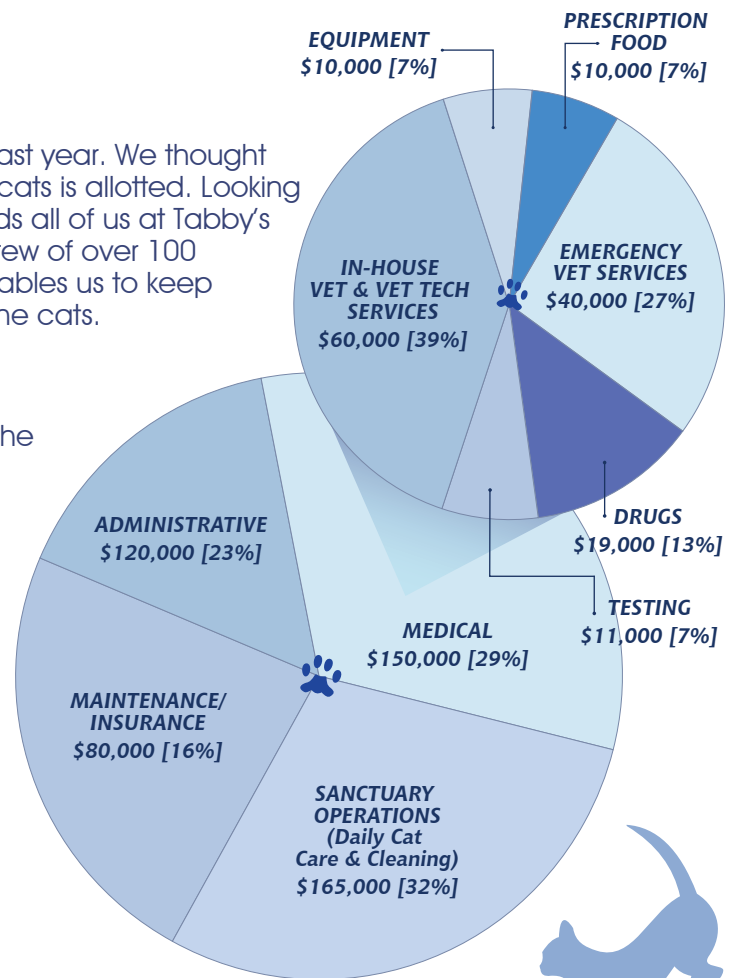
Kitty Cat Costs Of 2007

By Angela Townsend

It cost approximately \$515,000 to operate Tabby's Place last year. We thought you might appreciate seeing just how your support of our cats is allotted. Looking at our low percentage of administrative (staff) costs reminds all of us at Tabby's Place how grateful we are for our volunteers. This tireless crew of over 100 dedicated, cat-cuddling, litter-scooping, creative folks enables us to keep our staff lean and direct most of our funds to the care of the cats.

Staff

- **One Executive Director** (Jonathan Rosenberg, also the Founder, who is non-salaried)
- **One Development Director** and **one Development Associate** to raise funds
- **One Operations Manager** to oversee cat care, cleaning protocol, and adoption processes
- **Four Sanctuary Associates** to keep the sanctuary sparkling clean, counsel adopters and administer medications
- **One Veterinary Technician**
- **One Veterinarian**
- **One Administrative Assistant**



[1] www.tabbysplace.org/SN_page.php?id=497

🐾 Got a cat? Having a baby? No problem!

By Jonathan Rosenberg & Angela Townsend

Parents + Cat + Baby = Happy Family

The American Pregnancy Association¹ says it is not necessary to get rid of your cat in anticipation of a child. Despite this, we receive several calls a week from parents-to-be who say they must give up their cats. Each caller typically provides a litany of reasons, starting with "health concerns." The truth is that the majority of these concerns are baseless, or can be dealt with easily, as we will discuss below.

Based on our experience, we believe that this "need to relinquish" is a result of the expectant couple feeling overwhelmed with impending responsibilities. Certainly, the arrival of a baby demands a large commitment, and it is not surprising that people look to shed other responsibility. But we suggest that this is the time to renew your lifelong commitment to your current family, including your cat.



Baby Juliana is fortunate to be growing up with feline friend Mr. Chong.

Copyright Mandi & Paul Vilares.



Neko the cat has always watched over baby Aubrey with love.

Copyright Gina Waters.³

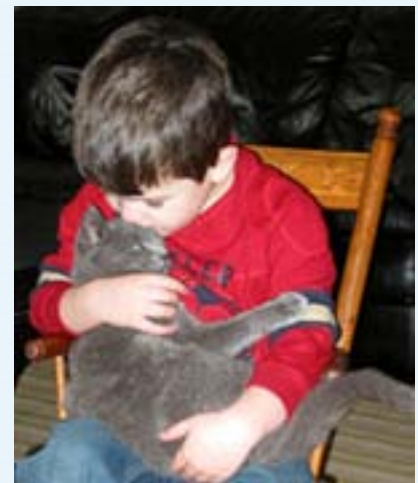
The most common health concern is *toxoplasmosis*, an infection caused by a parasite that can be shed in the cat's feces. While toxoplasmosis is not something to ignore, the Centers for Disease Control² explains how to avoid risk of infection. In fact, there is greater risk of becoming infected with toxoplasmosis from gardening than there is from your indoor cat. After the child comes home, common-sense hygiene and supervising your baby's interactions with your kitty is important.

Far from being a health risk, your cat can have life-long benefits⁴ for your child. People with pets have are less prone to minor illnesses, score better on psychological tests and experience a greater sense of well-being than pet-less families.

Concern for allergies is another frequent health concern. Contrary to popular opinion, exposure to cats at a young age can help a child develop resistance⁵ to allergens and asthma.

And, one of the most effective ways for your child to learn the importance of gentleness and responsibility is by helping care for a pet. Researchers⁶ at Kansas State University and the Manhattan Dept. of Human Development and Family Studies found that youngsters who have a bond with a dog or cat show more maturity in their cognitive, moral and emotional development than children without a pet.

We all hope to raise responsible, caring young people who will change the world for the better. Rather than giving up your faithful feline, let her be part of helping your baby grow into a loving, compassionate and healthy person. 🐾

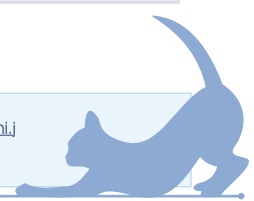


Zachary and Bomber bonded from the beginning to the benefit of both.

Copyright Patti Watson.

[1] www.americanpregnancy.org/pregnancyhealth/pets.html
 [2] www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/parasites/toxoplasmosis/ToxoWomen.pdf
 [3] <http://mirthful-menagerie.blogspot.com/>
 [4] www.boutiquekittens.com/Health-Benefits-of-Cat-Ownership.242.0.html

[5] www.boutiquekittens.com/Health-Benefits-of-Cat-Ownership.242.0.html
 [6] www.eric.ed.gov/ERICWebPortal/custom/portlets/recordDetails/detailmini.jsp?_nfpb=true&_ERICExtSearch_SearchValue_0=ED312085&ERICExtSearch_SearchType_0=eric_accno&accno=ED312085



Give your heart to loved ones AND cats this Valentine's Day!



Looking for a sweet way to show your love?

Honor your special someone with a gift that sends hugs and kisses to cats in need.

Tabby's Place will send a card, personalized by you, to your gift recipient. Click [here](#)¹ to create a Valentine's Day gift in honor of a loved one today.



Ringo² and Mittens³ love cuddles... send them your hugs this Valentine's Day by making a gift in honor of a loved one.

🐾 A Cat-tastic New Year

By Angela Townsend

It's that season of making promises to ourselves about the year ahead, and we hope you'll join us in pledging to do even better by our magnificent cats! The resolutions below have all been approved by the top cats at Tabby's Place.



Play with your cat. A fun time of burning up that natural hunting energy makes your kitty less likely to bite and "hunt" you or other pets, benefits her health and strengthens your bond.



Make this the year that vet visits have a regular place on the calendar. Just as you want every human member of the family to have their annual check-up, Max and Missy need their yearly "all-clear," too. And, when in doubt, *call the vet.*



Consider that two may be better than one. Even if your single cat doesn't seem like a lonely only, odds are good that he would flourish even more with a feline companion. Why not come to Tabby's Place to see if [your cat's feline soulmate](#)⁴ is waiting for you?



Keep that litter box fresh as a tulip. A cat with a clean litter box is vastly less likely to go to the bathroom where she shouldn't, and subtle changes in your cat's bathroom habits can cue you in to medical issues.



Put cuddle time at the top of your list. Lower your blood pressure, increase your own odds of longevity, make a sweet creature feel secure, and deepen your bond with your beloved cat all at once.

...Continued on Page 4.

[1] www.tabbysplace.org/donate-hm.php?donationType=honor
 [2] www.tabbysplace.org/SN_page.php?id=355

[3] www.tabbysplace.org/SN_page.php?id=488
 [4] www.tabbysplace.org/adopt-a-cat.html



🐾 A Cat-tastic New Year [...continued from Page 3]

By Angela Townsend



Make your home safe for cats. Cat-proofing needs to be a regular event in every feline-friendly house. Check out Franny Syufy's helpful article, [Habits for a Cat-Safe Home](#)¹.

And most importantly...



Love them just the way they are. Your lazy lap-lover and your wall-climbing wild child are each doing what they do best – being cats. As you celebrate them for the one-of-a-kind personalities they are, life will become even sweeter for you and your fur-babies.

🐾 Forever Loved: Minke

By Jonathan Rosenberg, Founder & Executive Director

Shortly after [Minke](#)² came to Tabby's Place, his kidneys began to fail and he worsened quickly. He became my sixth officemate when [Susie](#)³ was adopted.

Minke was very engaging and proved to be my most devoted officemate. When I was at my desk he was by my side, touching my arm with his paw or his head. He would often tap my arm gently, reminding me of my primary duty: giving him attention.

I didn't get nearly enough time with Minke, as the disease quickly stole his quality of life. We let Minke go in my office, surrounded by people who loved him. My office is not the same without his presence. ❤️



Minke and Jonathan made a great team.

🐾 The Gift of Sponsorship



[Desi](#)⁶, [Anastasia](#)⁷ and their friends love each other...and your sponsorship!

You've scratched your head over what to get the person who "has everything" for the holidays...now that you've figured that out, what in the world will you get them for their upcoming birthdays, special events or – egads! – Valentine's Day?

Not to fear: Tabby's Place has the answer for the loving person on your gift-giving list. Celebrate your loved one's big heart by giving the [Gift of Sponsorship](#).⁴ For as little as \$14/month you can help provide medical care for a formerly-homeless cat with special needs. Your friend gets to "adopt" a feline, receives updates and photos of the sponsored cat every month, and is welcome to visit "their cat" at any time. For more information, contact [Angela Townsend](#).⁵

[1] <http://cats.about.com/od/catsafety/ss/goodhabits.htm>
 [2] www.tabbysplace.org/newsletter/Newsletter-5.1.pdf
 [3] www.tabbysplace.org/newsletter/Newsletter-5.4.pdf
 [4] www.tabbysplace.org/gift-sponsorship.php

[5] at@tabbysplace.org or 908-237-5300 ext. 233
 [6] www.tabbysplace.org/SN_page.php?id=246
 [7] www.tabbysplace.org/SN_page.php?id=171



🐾 **FLUTD: Feline Lower Urinary Tract Disease**

By Laura Collins, DVM



Darling Onyx¹ doesn't let FLUTD slow him down.

If you have researched cat diseases, you may have come across the acronym "FLUTD". FLUTD, which stands for "feline lower urinary tract disease," is a common diagnosis for cats with one or more of the following symptoms:

- Bloody urine
- Straining to urinate
- Urinating in inappropriate places
- Licking the urinary opening
- Urinary blockage

If your cat has any of these symptoms, your veterinarian may suspect FLUTD and recommend a urinalysis, blood panel, abdominal x-rays, or an abdominal ultrasound. Each case of FLUTD is treated according to its cause. A bladder stone is removed surgically or dissolved with diet; a urethral² blockage is cleared via a catheter, infection is treated with antibiotics, and bladder cancer is treated surgically or with chemotherapy.

FLUTD can be a frustrating disease for owners and veterinarians. While there are many identifiable causes for FLUTD (including bladder stones, urethral blockage, infection and cancer), about 50% of the cases are "idiopathic," meaning no cause can be found. In many of these cases, the symptoms will flare up periodically throughout the cat's life. The good news about idiopathic FLUTD is that medication and diet can help control and prevent recurrences.

FLUTD becomes a medical emergency if your cat has a urethral blockage and is unable to pass urine. A complete blockage can be fatal within 24 hours. The symptoms of a blockage are a cat straining but passing no urine, crying out as he is straining, and, if untreated, becoming weak, vomiting and collapsing.

I hope that this brief article has given you a better understanding of this not uncommon disease. With regular veterinary attention and a bit of extra care, a cat with FLUTD can live a long and healthy life. 🐾



Youthful Francis³
FLUTD is in great control.

🐾 **Tis better to iGive AND receive**



Maybe Grandpa wrote you a truly generous check this holiday season. Or perhaps Aunt Maud gave you a glittery sweater, and you're ready to swap it for something a little less...glittery. What are you going to do with all that cash? If your answer is 'shopping online,' why not painlessly benefit the cats of Tabby's Place while getting a great deal? Register for free at iGive⁴ and shop at over 600 brand name stores like Barnes & Noble, Eddie Bauer, Lands' End, and Petco. Up to 26% of every purchase is donated to Tabby's Place!

[1] www.tabbysplace.org/SN_page.php?id=511

[2] The "urethra" is the small tube that connects the bladder to the outside of the cat.

[3] www.tabbysplace.org/cat-desc.php?id=379

[4] www.igive.com/tabbysplace



🐾 Catnip Couture for Chic Kitties



It's fun, it's organic, and it's 100% Franny¹ approved. Get your kitty his own Catnip Couture today!

Catnip Couture is now available! All the stylish cats of Tabby's Place agree: every well-loved feline simply must have his own hand-made toy filled with organic catnip from Washington state. Handcrafted and donated by one of our faithful supporters, Catnip Couture toys can be purchased for \$3 each, exclusively from Tabby's Place. If you and your classy cats live outside the NJ area, you can order Catnip Couture by contacting us at info@tabbysplace.org. Shipping costs an additional \$2 per order. 🐾



Catnip Couture is perfect for the feline with magnificent taste.

🐾 Happy Endings: Blackjack

By Angela Townsend

Greeeeeeen acres is the place for...Blackjack? Yes, and our beloved raven boy is living it up, country-style, in his fantastic new home. The first cat to successfully "graduate" from Tabby's Place's [weight management room](#)², beautiful Blackjack made quick work of endearing his new family to himself. Even the non-human and non-feline members of Blackjack's new crew have welcomed him with open arms...and snouts...and horns. Blackjack is sharing his new abode with a pig, a pair of goats, as well as cats and dogs (plus a family of very loving, patient people!). We hear that, in typically exuberant, friendly Blackjack style, he is having a ball. 🏠



We always knew Blackjack was full of fun - and now he gets to share his cheerful ways with an especially animal-friendly family!

🐾 Calling all Tabby's Place Alumni

By Angela Townsend

Feline alums, that is! If you've ever adopted a cat from Tabby's Place, you know our parting words and lingering looks - "please send pictures, and stories!" Well, now we're ready to give all our former TP 'kids' a place in the sun - er, web. Is your kitty feeling left out because he wasn't adopted from Tabby's Place? No worries! We'd love his pics and stories too. Does your cat sense thunderstorms or wake you up when you're hypoglycemic? Maybe she's the boss of your large dog. Whatever the story, we'd love to hear it - submit your photos and stories to info@tabbysplace.org and keep an eye on our newsletter for a new feature celebrating all those great photos, happy endings & marvelous tales.



Is your cat as amazing as the elderly but still playful Ringo³? We want to hear it.

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[1] <http://search.petfinder.com/petnote/displaypet.cgi?petid=7622885>

[2] www.tabbysplace.org/newsletter/Newsletter-5.3.pdf

[3] www.tabbysplace.org/SN_page.php?id=355

