



Tabby's Place®

A CAT SANCTUARY



Spring Newsletter: Kitten Takeover Edition

The sweetest smidgens are stampeding your way!

It's springtime, when kittens appear in every meadow. But these fragile flowers need extraordinary love for any hope of survival.

You are extraordinary love in human form. That's why we're counting on you for our first annual **Cherish the Kittens Fund Drive**.

Baby blossoms are mewing for mercy, and the cost to save them skyrockets each spring. Tabby's Place takes kittens who are too frail for other shelters, because we have donors who are too kind to let these babies down.

We've let our littlest residents take over your spring newsletter, and we hope you'll let them take over your heart.



Newborns like Pho are tumbling our way
...will your love catch them?

New Beginnings: Fantasia

Angela Townsend, Development Director

Every kitten deserves a love story. But for one wee angel, hope seemed a faraway fantasy.

Fantasia was born with a mysterious case of anemia. Battling her own blood, the gentle gumdrop was weak and weary at the age when most kittens are bursting with zest. Life was about to end before it truly began.

But there's a kitten kingdom where fantasy becomes fact, and

love is as sure as spring's return. At Tabby's Place, mercy holds the pen and writes new stories for kittens like Fantasia.

Our veterinarian offered to foster Fantasia, providing 'round-the-clock nurturing, advanced care, and oodles of cuddles. Fantasia bloomed with bliss, learning to play and basking in love.

As of this writing, Fantasia's fairy tale is far from over. She still

faces dragons in her blood, as not even a splenectomy has resolved her anemia. But love is fighting her battles for her, assembling a global team of experts devoted to her future.

Your love



Fantasia is fortunate to have you on her side

is the big story at Tabby's Place, and your generosity is the reason Fantasia is still here. Thank you for helping to give her a future as real as her courage.

For updates on Fantasia, please sponsor our Kitten Fund. We'll send you regular news on the kittens in our care, and you'll save lives month after month.



Fantasia's needs may be great, but your friendship is true

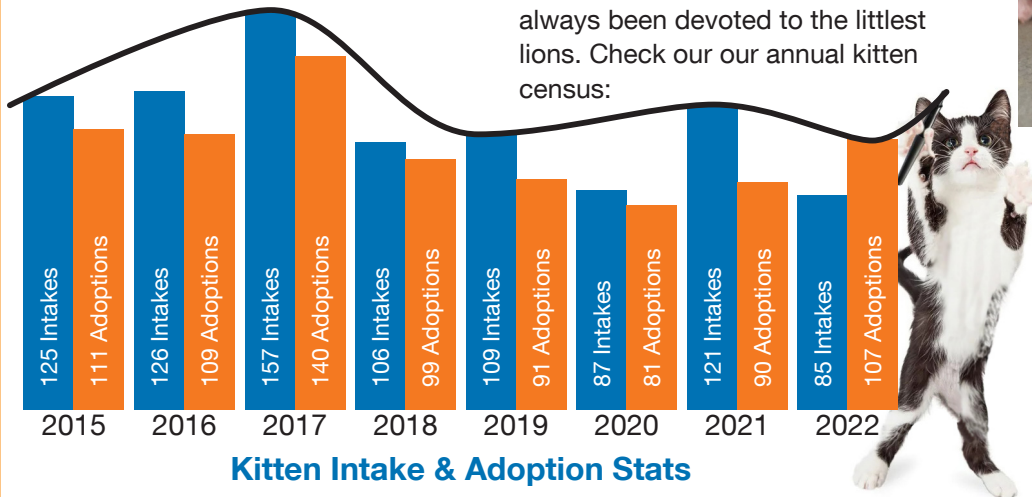
The History of Kittens

You're the size of a hamster, your tiny round ears still clinging to your head. You haven't seen your mama in days, and you're so very cold.

You couldn't be more helpless... but you're not hopeless.

You're about to become a Tabby's Place kitten.

When you do, you'll join a long legacy of love, following in the petite pawprints of babies who "shouldn't" have survived. But hope is as feisty as a kitten, and Tabby's Place has always been devoted to the littlest lions. Check out our annual kitten census:



Orphans like Rosebud & Blanche bloom at Tabby's Place

Note: We define 'kitten' as 'under 10 months of age.' Kittens who were not adopted either passed away in our care, or stayed into the next year. 2021 was a 'bumper crop' of late-year newborns, who were adopted in 2022.

The Cutest "Special Need"

Angela Townsend

They're exploding with energy, shimmering with self-confidence, and convinced they're indestructible. But kittens are the most fragile Special Needs cats.

Just like cats with diabetes or paraplegia, newborns and orphans are simply too much for many shelters to handle:

- **Orphanhood:** Mama cats are selfless, but the ravages of outdoor life often separate them from their babies. No one is more alone than an orphaned kitten.
- **Enemies:** From fleas and ticks to foxes and hawks, kittens are prime prey for nefarious neighbors. With their eyes closed and their soft little bodies unguarded, they are helpless against the animal kingdom.
- **Cold:** Without

a mother's warmth, a newborn kitten may only survive for a few frightening hours.

- **Hunger:** Neonatal kittens need to nurse day and night, dependent upon their mothers for basic nourishment as well as colostrum, a source of antibodies. Orphans must be fed an appropriate substitute to survive, but often struggle to accept a bottle, requiring painstaking, 'round-the-clock tube-feeding.
- **Congenital diseases:** The littlest buds may be born with such



Skilled foster parents save the day for orphans like Bao



Even before Kimchi opened her eyes, she felt a world of warmth at Tabby's Place

problems as umbilical hernias, cardiac abnormalities, or cleft palates. With early intervention, these troubles can be treated.

- **Infection:** With undeveloped immune systems, kittens are vulnerable to an army of infectious diseases, any of which can be life-threatening. Caregivers must be vigilant to the first signs of a fading kitten, and ready to provide heroic – and costly – intensive care.
- **Fear:** Without tender socialization

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before the age of around 8 weeks, kittens will struggle to trust humans all their lives. This can put them at risk of euthanasia at shelters that consider them “unadoptable.” Teaching a kitten to trust is a labor-intensive odyssey of the heart.

But Tabby’s Place is a haven for

the littlest and the lost, which makes kittens the ultimate “Tabby’s Place cats.”

Our team is skilled in raising newborns, making us a sheltering sky for these little moonbeams. Our foster network provides 24/7 care for the world’s most at-risk kittens, giving them the future that every innocent baby deserves.

And every spring, more kittens cry out for our help.

If these little ones have a big place in your heart, please support our first annual Cherish the Kittens Fund Drive.

Please give as generously as you can. Your love is their only hope for a future as bright as the springtime sun.

Sponsor the Smidgens

Angela Townsend

Like a parade of petunias, their little faces gaze up at you.

Will you be the one to shine?

Will your love give life?

Will you commit to the kittens in good times and bad, spring and

winter?

If your love knows no limits, you can make sure there’s no month without mercy for kittens. When you sponsor the Kitten Fund, your recurring donation will be the rhythm of life for the littlest Tabby’s Place residents.

Month after month, your generosity will save sweet babies like Alfie. With a cleft palate, but a zest for life, Alfie was too complicated for the average shelter. His bright eyes were endlessly runny, and he struggled to feed himself.

But at Tabby’s Place, Alfie was an all-star, adored and embraced. Kitten Fund sponsors funded expert foster care and diligent medical



Special Needs sweethearts like Alfie find hope and forever homes when you give from your heart



Ramekin arrived injured and anemic, but Kitten Fund sponsors helped save his life

treatment, and week by week he grew strong. Today, Alfie’s crooked, perfect smile is beaming in a forever home.

But Alfie’s many “cousins” are still mewling in the meadow. Will you be the one to love them? Please click here to give your heart today.

Remember the Kittens In Your Will

Angela Townsend

Kittenhood is a brief and tender season, but your love can last for lifetimes.

If little ladybugs like Soup and Salad have touched your heart, you can reach across the years to embrace hundreds of kittens who need you.

By including Tabby’s Place in your estate, you’ll ensure that your life stands for love, and your love saves lives. Bequests are the largest

and most impactful donations we receive all year, and a brief call to your attorney or estate planner today will translate into a legacy of love.

You may need our full name, address, and tax ID (EIN), which are Tabby’s Place: a Cat Sanctuary, Inc.; 1100 US Highway 202, Ringoes, NJ 08551; EIN: 22-3695520.

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Orphans Soup & Salad landed on ‘planet love’ at Tabby’s Place. Will you be there for the little ones yet to come?

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And if you've included Tabby's Place in your estate, please inform Angela

at at@tabbysplace.org or 908-237-5300 ext 235, so we can thank you properly for your love.

Please consider making a promise to our kittens that lasts beyond a lifetime.

Can You Make a BIG Impact For Little Ones?

Angela Townsend

If you've been blessed with both generous resources and a selfless heart, this spring could be a major moment for you...and for the kittens you love.

Every kitten is vulnerable, but some babies are uniquely "Tabby's Place kittens." With rare needs too severe for other shelters, orphans like Izzy and his siblings simply have

nowhere else to turn.

But this spring, perhaps they can turn to you.

Kittens in crisis call for our highest and best, and your donation of \$1,000 or more will help provide heat support for the most frail kittens, as well as training for a skilled network of foster families.

That means life and hope for little marvels like Izzy, Lita, Sebastian, Joan, and Blondie. Motherless and trembling, these rock stars were rolled by mysterious tremors. But tenacious medical care and tireless tenderness saved their lives, and today all five thrive in their forever homes.

This level of care is unique to Tabby's Place,



Your selfless gift will save newborns like Dorothy in our new Kitten Nursery

and if you're able to make a uniquely generous gift, you can ensure that we'll be here for many newborns with nowhere else to turn.

Your life-saving gift will ring through generations of kittens, and we'll be thrilled to engrave a beautiful paver in front of our new Quinn's Corner expansion, honoring a person or cat you love.

Please contact Angela at 908-237-5300 ext 235 or at@tabbysplace.org to find out more.

We hope this is your year!



Izzy, Lita, Sebastian, Joan, and Blondie once trembled with fear...but love like yours saved their lives

Is Your Next Cat ... A Kitten?

Angela Townsend

If all this talk of kittens has you smitten, you're in luck: Tabby's Place has a field of frisky flowers who would love to join your family.

But before you pluck a dainty daisy, consider all the petals (and any thorns):

• **She loves me:** Kittens are indescribably adorable. You'll get to watch your little goober grow into her gigantic ears and googly eyes, delighting in every

developmental stage.

• **She loves me not:** All that cuteness comes with a hearty side of chaos. Kittens are new to this business of being alive, and it's their job to explore everything from gravity to their own strength. Along the way, they will knock over all your knick-knacks and gnaw everything they can fit inside their mouths.

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A sweet niblet like Naveen would love to join your family

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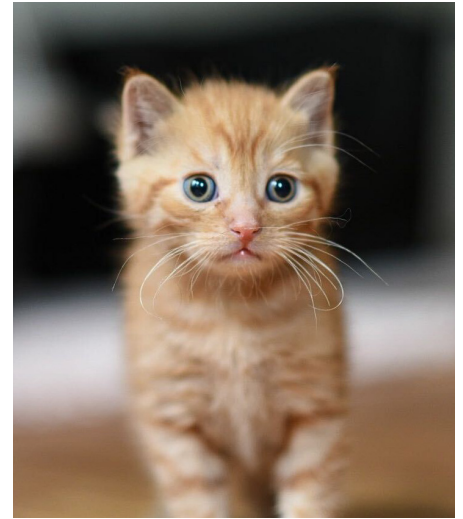
- **She loves me:** If you'd like more laughter in your life, a kitten is your comedian-in-chief. A wee one will romp and leap with you, chasing the wand toy long after your adult cat has skulked off to sleep.
- **She loves me not:** Playtime isn't all fun and games, it's an absolute requirement for a healthy



Cuties like Ciabatta make wild, wonderful companions

kitten. You must be committed to exercise and enrichment every day...as well as a good deal of education. The annoyances you overlook now (finger biting, destructive behavior, harassing other cats) will grow into pernicious problems as a kitten becomes a cat. You'll also need to baby-proof your house, protecting your kitten from her own curiosity. Raising a kitten requires patience and perseverance.

- **She loves me:** Your joyful jellybean is just beginning, which means you have so much to look forward to together. In most circumstances, kittens are in the prime of their lives, with many happy years ahead. Especially if your heart has recently been broken by loss, a kitten may be the companion you need.
- **She loves me not:** You're not the only companion your kitten needs. To bloom into a well-adjusted adult, and to avoid long-term aggression issues



A baby like Brioche would love to bake up bliss and mischief in your house.

that can develop from being an "only kitten," every kitten should have another playful cat in the household.

- **She loves me:** If you're smitten and committed, a kitten can always be right for you. Educate yourself in her needs, prepare your heart and home, and get ready for the adventure of a lifetime!

Tiny Cats, Gigantic Grief

Angela Townsend

Every kitten deserves a sea of springtimes and a life as long as a symphony. But tragedy touches even the tiny.

As a haven for the vulnerable, Tabby's Place faces sorrow too often. How do we handle the canyons of grief?

- **We turn to each other:** Tabby's Place is a community of love, where staff, volunteers, adopters, and donors treat each other with gentleness and respect. In times of sorrow, it's safe to grieve, knowing we'll find a shelter in each other's care. When your heart is broken, let your dear ones love you.
- **We marinate in memories:** In the fog of loss, we can despair that we couldn't do more. But this is the time to remind ourselves of the sweet moments and the tenderness that transcends time. We did our best to fill their days with lifetimes of love, and not even death can end our bond. It can be helpful to share funny memories, knowing every kitten would want us to keep laughing in their honor.
- **We write (and more):** Grief contained is grief made colossal. Expressing ourselves, whether through written tributes to the cats we've loved; journaling; visual art; or even singing sad songs on the car ride home are all ways of letting love and sorrow knit something healing and new.



The loss of a little one like Lucius (2022 - 2022) transcends heartbreak

- **We know when we need help:** Sometimes sorrow is just too wearying to "white-knuckle."

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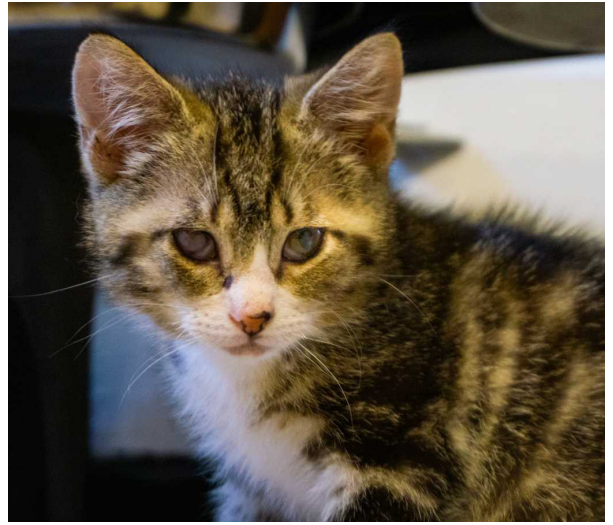
Counseling, pet loss support groups, and even medication can help us through a loss we feel we can scarcely survive.

- **We love forward:** At Tabby's Place, death and life stand shoulder-to-shoulder and whisker-to-whisker. No sooner have we said goodbye to a beloved resident, than another is crying for comfort (or dinner). Loving the cats who still need us is a way of honoring the cats who have taken

such good care of us.

Indeed, Jonathan founded Tabby's Place as a way of continuing to care for Tabby in the face of each cat we rescue. The best way to keep love alive is by loving.

We never really 'get over' goodbye to a true friend like tiny Pingu (2021 - 2021)



Sweet scamps like Rodeo hope you'll join our [volunteer family](#)

Come Cuddle Kittens!

Calling all kitten aficionados: your heart and hugs are in high demand.

Tabby's Place needs an armada of adorers to care for needy kittens and cats. We are blessed to have over 200 active volunteers in our family...but as we continue to expand, so do our cats' needs.

That's where you

come in. If you can mop a floor or socialize shy sweethearts; fold letters or enfold kittens in your family as a foster parent; we need you!

Volunteers range in age from 12-90+, and we have shifts and tasks to fit every schedule and talent. [Click here](#) to submit an application, or [contact](#) Director of Volunteers Karina Jewitt with any questions.

Our kittens can't wait to cuddle you!

Kitten Wishes

Angela Townsend

Kittens come into this world with a lifetime supply of cuteness. But they need a few other supplies to get by, and you can be their springtime Santa.

In every season, our kittens wish for:

- Kitten milk replacer
- Canned or dry kitten food
- Jarred baby food
- Non-clumping clay kitty litter
- Gift cards to Amazon or Chewy
- Sponsors for the Kitten Fund Too far to hand-deliver

happiness? You can send the kittens a care package through our [Amazon wish list](#) – just please provide your name and address on the gift receipt



Kittens like Rosalita count on your kindness

so we can send you their purrs of gratitude!



You can give niblets like Nod something to smile about

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