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Zimmer Feline Foundation

Annual Veterinary Update

for The Love of Cats Programs

January 15, 2017



Low-Income Spay/Neuter Vouchers

Our Free Cat Spay/Neuter Programs Reach 3,700 New Mexico Cats in 2016

2016 was our best-year ever — helping 3,700 cats get fixed through a network of 29 veterinary clinics who accept our vouchers for low-income indoor pet cats and 5 nonprofit partnerships that extend our spay/neuter umbrella to loosely-owned yard cats, barn cats and feral cats. If you were a partici-

pant, we thank you. It's your involvement that makes this program work as it allows us to cover a large geographic area while keeping the work local. *And — for many of the caregivers we serve— being local is as important as being free.*

New for 2017 we've added microchips (implanting and regis-

tration) to the list of optional voucher services we can provide at time of sterilization. A few years ago we added FVRCP vaccinations and treatment for visible parasites and the response from individual clinics has been good. It's nice to see these low-income pet cats get full services when they are fixed.



Veterinary Care Vouchers

Our Veterinary Care Assistance Vouchers help with minor health issues

Our **Veterinary Care Assistance Vouchers** can help caregivers with minor non-emergency health issues such as infections, injuries or wounds.

Our voucher covers up to \$300 of a bill under \$600. We can often process a voucher in less than an hour so the cat won't have to wait for treatment. For

procedures involving lab work or anesthesia we'll need a written estimate before approving the application — but for simpler problems we waive this.

To qualify, the caregiver must meet the same requirements as for a spay/neuter voucher **but** also be a food stamp recipient.

Cats must be at least 3 months old and previously sterilized. But — if you have a cat come in for spay/neuter with a treatable health issue we can fax you a voucher so the cat may be treated at the time of surgery. *(Photos of the cat and the caregiver's EBT card are required before the voucher is faxed.)*

New Mexico Cats Serviced By The Numbers

	Low-Income Spay/Neuter	Veterinary Care Assistance	Community Spay/Neuter	Total
2016	1,620	55	2,022	3,697
2010-2015	8,234	127	2,240	10,601
Total Program	9,854	182	4,262	14,298



Community Cat Outreach



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Want to help lower cat euthanasia rates and stem the growth of feral cat colonies all in one move? Join our *for* **The Love of Cats** programs and help us provide free-and-local spay/neuter and veterinary care assistance for low-income indoor pet cats.

These cats rarely come from shelters (who fix them *before* adoption) but are rescued outdoors or passed from one home to the next still intact. Without money for prompt sterilization, they often lose their homes when their intact behaviors (yowling, spraying and kitting) become too much for their caregivers to handle. By simply helping these cats keep their homes — and stopping their reproduction — we reduce shelter intake *and* stem feral cat colony growth. *What a great way to do community service!*

Both program information and clinic registration forms are posted to our web site.