



ZIMMER FELINE FOUNDATION

for The Love of Cats Programs

2021 Annual Report

2021 Programs At A Glance				
	Voucher Spay/Neuter	Voucher Vet Care	Nonprofit Spay/Neuter	Total
2021	1,742	26	2,064	3,832
2010-2020	16,285	404	18,746	35,435
Total	18,027	430	20,810	39,267

2021 was another home-focused year. Pandemic protocols loosened, but we still found spending time at home with family and pets safer than venturing out with others. And, judging from the 25% increase we had in spay/neuter voucher applications, it was also a good year to invite a new pet cat into our lives. We were happy to see so many people enjoying the companionship a pet cat provides and mailed free spay/neuter vouchers for 2,800 cats in 17 New Mexico counties.

Free Spay/Neuter Vouchers



We were also pleased that 1,742 cats used their free vouchers and now stand a much better chance of keeping their indoor homes long-term. Our participating veterinary clinics performed magnificently. In the midst of cumbersome covid protocols, staff changes and an across-the-board increase in the number of cats born during the pandemic, they fixed more cats for us than they had in any of the last 6 years. We truly appreciate their efforts.

Yet in spite of their stellar performance, appointments were tough to get. Pre-pandemic, our vouchers were

routinely redeemed within 2-3 weeks of when they were issued. In 2021 that stretched out to 2-3 months, and as of now over 1,000 vouchers from 2021 are still open – many scheduled with surgeries in 2022. With female cats this extra lead-time is problematic as it only takes 63 days to produce a litter of kittens.

We recently added 4 more clinics to help cut down surgery lead times and would love to have many more clinics register. The more locations available, the more cats (and caregivers) we can service.

Non-profit Spay/Neuter Partnerships

Surgery availability wasn't just a problem for our voucher cats. It also impacted our nonprofit partners. The number of surgeries they could schedule dropped dramatically reducing the number of cats they could help. It's through these partnerships that we reach cats not included in our voucher program such as feral cats and foster kittens who should ideally be sterilized before adopted to permanent homes.

Last year we were optimistic that pandemic issues were in our rear-view mirror. This year we learned otherwise. Perhaps 2022 will run more smoothly and we can all enjoy our indoor pet cats without the worry of an unplanned litter. We hate to see intact cats lose their homes for issues (spraying, yowling and kitting) that can easily be resolved through a simple sterilization procedure.



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