

# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



FEARLESS KITTY RESCUE

# About Us

Fearless Kitty Rescue was founded in 2012 on the belief that all cats and kittens deserve a chance to be Fearless. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit no-kill cat rescue in metropolitan Phoenix and the surrounding areas. We are dedicated to rescuing cats left homeless for whatever reason – cats in municipal shelters, where they are at high risk of euthanasia due to animal overpopulation, abandoned and homeless strays, cats surrendered by their owners because of difficult circumstances, and those in danger of abuse or neglect.



## Our Mission

Fearless Kitty Rescue is dedicated to providing a safe place for cats in need until they can be adopted into a loving home.

## Our Vision

A future when all cats live happy and healthy lives, free from loneliness, cruelty, and neglect.

# Message from Leadership

At Fearless Kitty Rescue, where every new purr tells a story of success, every success is one more life saved. In the pages that follow, we invite you to paw through the heartwarming tales and impactful achievements of our no-kill cat rescue over the past twelve months.

2023 was the culmination of a true milestone for us. We started a capital campaign in 2022 to raise funds for a down payment on our building we hoped to purchase in 2023. But first we had to qualify for a mortgage and then raise the funds needed to close. What a journey! But with the help of all of you we did it. Fearless Kitty Rescue was able to secure a mortgage and, with the amazing support of our donors, we closed our building purchase loan on March 31. What a fantastic achievement for us, showing the transformative power of love, compassion, and dedication of our volunteers and donors.



2023 was a fiscally challenging but rewarding year for Fearless Kitty Rescue. Our expenses were up too due to our commitment to save more lives, but we still managed to keep our overhead to less than 8 cents on each dollar. We have goals to upgrade our building facilities so that we can improve the lives of hundreds of cats that come through our doors. We know we cannot achieve this without our donors and volunteers. For more detailed information about our financial condition review *The Financial Picture* section of this report or visit our website at <https://fearlesskittyrescue.org/financial-information/>.

2023 turned out to be a record year of 365 adoptions and an amazing 359 intakes. Soon we will celebrate a total of 3,000 intakes since we opened our doors. It's those 3,000 lives saved, beginning from the tender moments of nurturing newborn

kittens to tearful adoptions, that mark the beginning of each new life. Each adoption, due to the collective efforts of Fearless Kitty Rescue supporters, is one more opportunity to save another life.

And there is more great news! This year we introduced a new program called Silver Whiskers, a program focusing on finding homes for cats 7 years and older. These cats deserve special attention because they are many times overlooked. With older cats there are many benefits like calmer personalities and the natural tendency toward lap cat enthusiasm. Silver Whiskers cats often end up in the rescue due to their owner's passing or inability to care for their beloved cat. We want to give these cats a loving safe environment to spend their remaining years.

Thank you so much for helping us make 2023 a success! Please join us as we continue to find loving homes for every cat and kitten who become *Fearless*.

Steven C. Hedden  
President and CEO



# To the Rescue...

During the holiday season Fearless Kitty Rescue received an unexpected gift when a box of kittens was left at the back door. A note was found wishing them a better life. Luckily for these three kittens they were found right away and work began to ensure they were healthy and safe.



Tinsel, Frostie and Rosebud were given the very best care. Two of them were adopted into their new homes very soon.

Unfortunately, Frostie had a birth defect that caused his legs to splay out like a little frog. The good news was that his joint issues could be corrected surgically once he got a bit older. Until then he needed a foster home. More luck came his way when

a wonderful volunteer stepped up to foster Frostie.

In his foster home Frostie blossomed into a happy, mischievous, active kitten. He loves to play fetch. “He started playing fetch without any training. We just threw his favorite mouse toy and he brought it back and dropped it at our feet,” the foster mom told us. “Whenever I come home, he hears the door and immediately runs to greet me. He’s the sweetest cat I’ve ever known.”

While Frostie may not have found a permanent home in time for the holidays, like his siblings did, we have no doubt there will be the perfect family eager to welcome him into their home once he's ready! Until then he is one *Fearless* little kitten!



Fearless Kitty Rescue could not share this heartwarming story if we didn't have your support. Our deepest gratitude goes to our donors, fosters, and adopters for making happy endings possible for countless cats like Tinsel, Rosebud and Frostie.

## Volunteers

Fearless Kitty Rescue relies heavily on very dedicated volunteers to accomplish our goals and succeed in our efforts. During 2023 our volunteers provided over 24,790 hours of helping us achieve our goals, amounting to nearly 12 full-time employees throughout the year. This is a huge success story, especially when we consider the large number of cats and kittens in our care.



## Grants

Successful grant writing efforts can be a mainstay for non-profit organizations like Fearless Kitty Rescue. During 2023 we received several generous grants which helped us acquire kitten incubators, spay neuter services, vaccinations and much needed food and supplies. A total of \$20,250 was received from various grants. The work continues to ensure that more kittens and cats can find loving homes.

# Ways you can help

**Volunteer:** To provide our community with all the necessary services and programs to eliminate kitty homelessness, Fearless Kitty Rescue depends on the hard work and dedication of volunteers. Opportunities range from cat caregiver, events, facilities maintenance, boutique reception, adoption counselor, to a host of other opportunities. Volunteering is not just beneficial to Fearless Kitty Rescue. It's good for you too! Volunteers care for the kitties, meet new friends, learn new skills, and feel great about the work they do. And they should! They are saving hundreds of lives every year.



**Donate:** Lifesaving monetary donations are always needed and can be made via our donation page on our website, [www.fearlesskittyrescue.org](http://www.fearlesskittyrescue.org) or by check payable to Fearless Kitty Rescue, P.O. Box 19601, Fountain Hills, AZ 85269. We have wish lists on our website of items we are in need of and you can find them on our [website donation page](#), [Amazon](#) or [Chewy](#).

**Foster:** We need you on our team! Fostering a cat or kitten is so rewarding. Fostering gives a kitty time to shine and to feel what a real home is like. Fearless Kitty Rescue will provide all the supplies you need while the foster kitty is in your care. Fostering is flexible and isn't a lifetime commitment, but it is a commitment to save a life. To learn all about our foster program, visit our website <https://fearlesskittyrescue.org/foster/>.



**Ongoing Support:** Join, [Fry's Food Stores VIP shopping card](#), the [Cat's Pride Litter for Good program](#), and the [Fresh Step Paw Points Rewards](#).



**Continuing Care Program:** Pets who are enrolled in the program and have owners who predeceased them are welcomed into the loving arms of Fearless Kitty Rescue and cared for by Fearless Kitty Rescue volunteers until their next family is found. For more information, please email [info@fearlesskittyrescue.org](mailto:info@fearlesskittyrescue.org) or call (480) 837-7777.

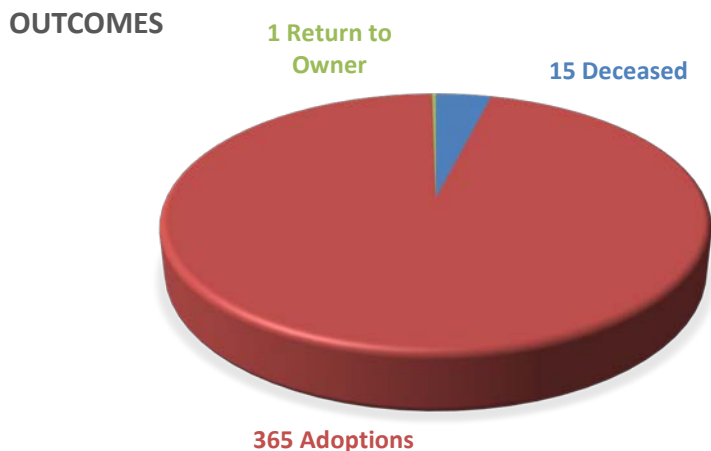
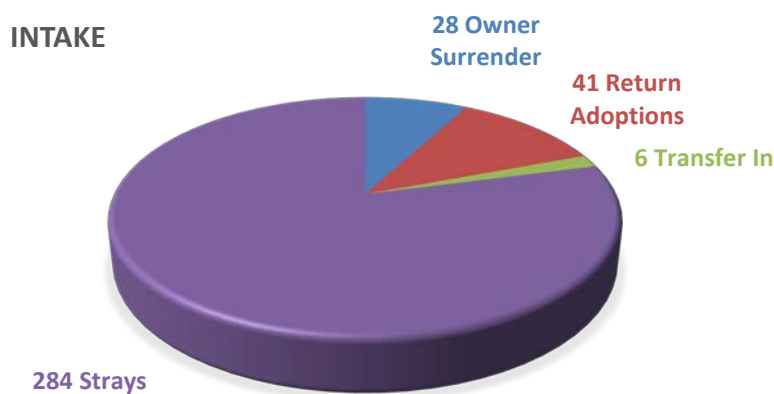
**Planned Giving Program:** Please consider including Fearless Kitty Rescue in your planned giving. By providing for Fearless Kitty Rescue in your will or trust, you can leave a legacy of compassion for animals who need your help. For more information, please email [info@fearlesskittyrescue.org](mailto:info@fearlesskittyrescue.org) or call (480) 837-7777.





# Intakes and Outcomes

Every year Fearless Kitty Rescue receives thousands of requests for help. We work tirelessly to offer resources or services for every request. In 2023 Fearless Kitty Rescue was able to take in 359 cats and kittens<sup>1</sup>. This total intake number includes those who came from the public, municipal shelters or other rescue organizations that are at capacity. With 365 adoptions in 2023 Fearless Kitty Rescue was able to find homes for 98% of those kitties we took in this year and some who were already with us from the previous year. Every year our goal to rescue more lives grows more important, but we cannot do it without your support!

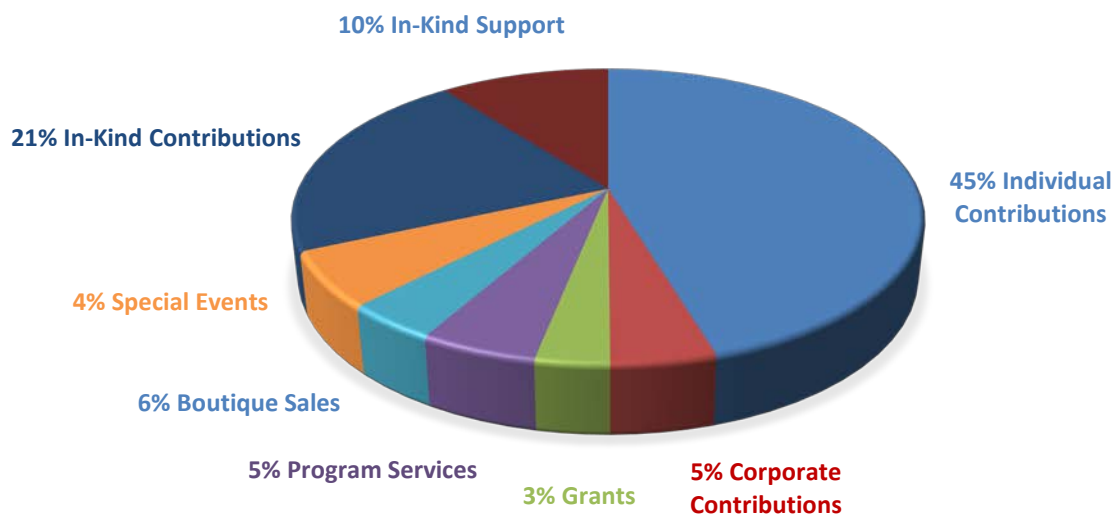


<sup>1</sup> Fearless Kitty Rescue collects and reports data based on Shelter Animal Count

# The Financial Picture<sup>2</sup>

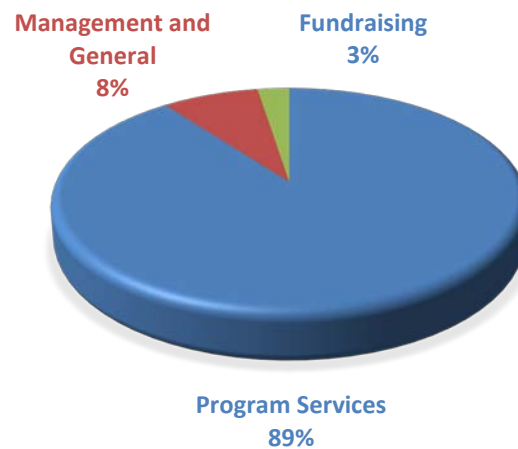
## Donations and Earned Income

Individual Contributions	\$285,866
Corporate Contributions	28,741
Grants	20,250
Special Events (net)	25,729
Program Services	32,963
Boutique Sales	38,093
In-Kind Contributions	133,900
In-Kind Support	65,500



## Expenses

Program Services	\$421,002
Management / General	\$36,475
Fundraising	\$11,911



<sup>2</sup> For further information our 2023 I.R.S. Form 990 can be found on our website <https://fearlesskittyrescue.org/financial-information/>

## Board of Directors

Steve Hedden – President & CEO  
Linda Kavanagh – Vice President  
Linda Bucaro – Treasurer  
Vanessa Emerson – Secretary  
Chris Kaatz  
Barbara Kveseth  
Betty M. McDonald  
Christine Orbeck  
Debbie Peglow  
John Wolfe

## Advisory Members

Scott Cargill  
Kim Kamins, Founder  
Kristen Skivington



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