



October 1, 2018

**Peter Zippi Memorial Fund Inc.**  
1560 Pacific Coast Highway  
Hermosa Beach, California 90254

(310) 379-1264  
Fax: (310) 379-4356  
Tax ID #47-4691814  
www.peterzippifund.org

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Dear New and Long-standing Friends and Supporters,

Please join us for our annual Holiday Open House, Silent Auction and Boutique Fundraiser. This year's event will take place on Sunday, November 11, between 11am and 4pm, and we hope to see many of you here. Renew friendships, compare photos, listen to speakers, and have a little lunch with us. You can help support PZF for another year by shopping at our Boutique and Silent Auction and purchasing raffle tickets for a number of special prizes, or simply by making a donation.

The majority of PZF intakes to date in 2018 have been our usual mix of injured or orphaned shelter cats and kittens. PZF is able to be a primary rescue to take in expensive surgical and medical-needs cats and kittens from the city shelters, only due to our generous supporters. Most of these felines have no other way out. One adult had needed eyelid surgery for the entire seven years of his life, another needed a hind leg amputation, and a third had neurological symptoms. All three were intelligent, sweet, and extremely loving. Two are in happy homes as this goes out. Three tiny kittens with fractured hind legs, one also with a ruptured diaphragm, have been successfully repaired, and adopted. Each required many weeks of healing cage time, and significant expense. One with a forearm fracture only spent four days at PZF before going into a foster home, and was ultimately adopted there. Eight kittens were offspring discovered when strays were trapped to spay. Fourteen stray kittens came from varied sources, and five from homeless people who had cared for them with love. Stray admissions to PZF represent animals deflected from shelter intake.

Of most concern are recent credible data showing the Los Angeles area to have one of the nation's highest shelter kill rates. The majority are kittens, particularly neonates. Thirty-two have come in this year with mothers, others needing bottle-feeding. Foster volunteers are always "ready for the next ones." Over the past few years, PZF has taken as many as we could fit into foster homes until they are big enough to be fixed and adopted. The difficulty is finding adopters for all these perfect youngsters. We utilize Internet, print, and social media forums, and attend off-site and special event adoptions to help find homes. Each home found makes a space for another threatened shelter cat. PLEASE keep spreading the word in all forms of communication you use. You are each part of the rescue team extending our reach. Every time you share on social media, chat with friends, or put up a picture at work about our adoptable felines, you are actively saving lives.

Spay and Neuter is the actual solution to ending shelter kitten deaths. Recently, PZF has increased volunteer hours as well as financial resources to this endeavor. PZF has helped "fix" 675 community stray and companion cats in the first three quarters of 2018. Each one represents a succession of litters of unwanted kittens that has been averted. Our major source of grant funding is no longer available, and we are researching alternative funding

opportunities. We hope to continue increasing our involvement in spay and neuter. Every dollar PZF receives from Kroger Charities via Ralphs Rewards cards goes to community spay/neuter, and we ask that you continue this form of your support. Please renew your designation of PZF as your Rewards card charity of choice if you have not as of yet, as all charities are removed every August 31<sup>st</sup>. Instructions are included in this envelope. You will also find instructions for utilizing the Amazon Smile portal for your Amazon.com purchases. This is a similar donor program by Amazon, from which we receive payments relative to subscribers' purchases.

In our facility, adult and high school volunteers care for cats and kittens awaiting homes. We affiliate with many local public and private high schools' community service programs. After adults and students are given basic training they are scheduled to work with an experienced volunteer for on-the-job 'finishing school.' Early reinforcement of duties and responsibilities helps imbed the training. Margaret Jambor, the patient and efficient mentor to many new trainees, is tireless in her dedication to this often-difficult task. For her quiet, painstaking and priceless work on so many evening shifts as well as her own weekly duty time, Margaret has been recognized as the PZF 2018 Volunteer of The Year.

Margaret began early in her volunteering to take responsibility and act where action was needed. Not one to sit still, she identified where work was to be done, and led by example in getting it done properly. Margaret is confident, asks for the information needed to achieve a goal, and gets it done. She has never acknowledged a shortcut when it comes to a safe, enriched and clean environment for the cats and kittens. Soon, new adult volunteers were being assigned to work with Margaret following training. Once they had experienced Margaret's "Let's get it done with compassion." style, they were comfortable as well as motivated to handle their own shifts. Now overseeing the adult and high school volunteers on a number of evenings, Margaret leaves us wondering how it ever ran without her. She is highly respected and admired by all volunteers.

For the 11th year, PZF has received a \$10,000.00 matching gift challenge. We need to receive donations totaling this amount by December 31, 2017, in order to receive the gift. We ask that you help keep our winning streak going.

When you make a donation, that gift is directly paying for the medication we administer. It is paying for the cages our small charges live in. It provides the surgeons repairing broken lives. It is spaying and neutering cats that have no ability to stop their own endless reproduction. Every day, we witness this direct relationship between our donors and the cats and kittens. Those of us who put your generosity to humane use feel the same direct connection to you, the donor.

Thank you for supporting and partnering with PZF. In the past 12 months, 95 cats and kittens have found homes. The complexity of the care many required resulted in long stays. Know that you are right there with PZF, and that we are accomplishing all of this together.

Sincerely,

  
Dr. Alice Villalobos, Founder

  
Leslie Naff, President