

It Takes A Community Effort...

Cats are everywhere. And — if you're like many vet clinics — you get frequent calls from people wanting to get their cats fixed. Many follow-through and set up their appointments, but many others don't.



Not because they don't love their cats or understand how important spay/neuter is for them, but simply because they lack the money to pay for it. They may be students, young parents, disabled or elderly adults living on a fixed income — or they may be property or business owners feeding cats that wandered into their yard and the sheer number of cats puts the surgery cost out of reach.

Instead of turning these callers away — consider referring them to our Cat Spay of Santa Fe programs. We may provide them with free vouchers covering both sterilization and one rabies vaccination.

Our service is **fast** (no waiting list) **convenient** (with surgeries performed at area veterinary clinics where the cats live) and **free** (to the caregiver).

If you'd like to be a participating clinic, let us know. It's a great way to do community service — and we'd appreciate your help. If not, we'd still appreciate referrals so the cats you aren't able to sterilize can still get fixed. Full program details are on our web site.

About Us

Since 2000 — first in Michigan and now in Santa Fe — we've been providing free spay/neuter vouchers (redeemable at area veterinary clinics) to both caregivers of lower-income pet cats and managers of naturally occurring yard and barn cats.



Although these groups can provide good daily care for their cats, often they **lack** the money to sterilize them. The consequences are disastrous for everyone — the cats, their caregivers and the community.

Inevitably the persistent kitting, yowling, fighting and spraying of the un-neutered cats becomes more than their caregivers can tolerate.

And when that happens — without money to sterilize them — their cats are abandoned outdoors (where they form or join feral cat colonies) or they're relinquished to animal control shelters (where they're often euthanized).

By simply providing them with free and convenient spay/neuter access we can eliminate the behaviors that cost these cats their homes. With the cooperation of area veterinary clinics — this is what we do.

So far we've helped over 5,000 caregivers fix — and keep — 14,000 cats. Cats that could have ended up on their own outdoors or euthanized in a shelter without this service.

Program Information For Area Vet Clinics



All too often we think of spay/neuter as the best means to lower the overall cat population — which it is — but it's also much more than that. Sterilized cats are healthier, make better companions, are easier to care for and are less likely to be relinquished to shelters or abandoned outdoors than intact cats.

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Cat Spay of Santa Fe Programs

Lower-Income Program

Our target group for spay/neuter are pet cats in lower-income families — those with annual household incomes under \$40,000.

Applications are taken over the phone and vouchers are mailed out within 3 business days of approval. In addition to meeting our income limit, the applicant must be committed to the life care of their cats *and* be willing to get them all fixed promptly. If they do so and cooperate with their selected vet clinics, they can receive more vouchers at a later time for any new cats in their care — up to a lifetime maximum of 6.

Feral Colony Program

We more selectively provide funding for feral colonies — *only if* the caregiver is willing and able to manage their colony in accordance with the guidelines on our web site.

In both instances, we mail all the vouchers for a given household's cats at the same time for redemption within a 30-60 day period (depending on the number of cats).

Redeeming Spay/Neuter Vouchers

We urge voucher recipients to set up their surgeries on receipt of the vouchers to ensure they'll be scheduled before their expiration date. They are advised to confine the cat indoors the day before their appointment and to bring the cat to the appointment in a cat carrier or live trap (if feral).

Using Our Spay/Neuter Vouchers

Vouchered Services

Sterilization includes surgery and a brief pre-surgical exam (no lab work).

Rabies Vaccination. Included at time of surgery.

Ear-tipping (Feral Program Vouchers Only)



Remove top 1/4" of left ear in a straight-line cut using a hemostat, styptic powder and a clean blade. *Please do not ear-tip cats on Lower-Income vouchers without the caregiver's prior permission.*

Voucher Restrictions

Covered Parties. Vouchers are *not* transferrable and must be used by the caregivers they're issued to for the cats specified on them.

Expiration Date. Vouchers must be used on or before the expiration date printed on them.

Cat Declawing. We don't support declawing and our vouchers are void if the cat will be declawed.

Clinic Payment Procedure

Checks are mailed within 3 business days of receipt by fax, mail or e-mail of your invoice and a copy of our voucher authorizing the work. *Invoiced charges must be within our range of \$50-90 for a spay package and \$35-70 for a neuter package.* **Package includes brief pre-surgical exam, sterilization and rabies shot.** Add-ons (\$10-20) are billable for pregnant females and cryptorchid males.

2011 Program Statistics

Package	Total Spent	Cats Fixed	Average Paid/Cat
Spay Package	\$44,727.55	623	\$71.80
Neuter Package	25,959.20	507	\$51.20
Total 2011	\$70,686.75	1,130	\$62.55

Service Area

City Served	Total	2011	2012
Santa Fe	506	307	199
Las Vegas	330	256	74
Edgewood	190	144	46
Moriarty	124	100	24
Pecos	64	42	22
54 Other Zip Codes	375	281	94
Total Sterilizations	1,589	1,130	459

Our service area covers most of northern New Mexico excluding Albuquerque and Rio Rancho. Work is done through participating local clinics.



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