



SCFAW seeks to reduce the suffering of homeless cats by preventing the tragedy before it begins by keeping cats in their homes. We offer low cost spay & neuter services, provide counseling on difficult behavioral issues and access to discounted care for catastrophic illness or injury for animals from economically challenged households.

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The MRFRS is a nationally recognized, non-profit volunteer organization committed to ensuring the health and welfare of feral and domestic cats and kittens by promoting pro-active, compassionate, no-kill programs.

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Caring for Cats in Need in MetroWest and Central Massachusetts

August 14, 2011

Dear Friends,

Wow! This summer has brought a whirlwind of great news for Second Chance Fund for Animal Welfare (SCFAW) and the Merrimack River Feline Rescue Society (MRFRS)!

Last winter we were invited to submit a grant for a "dream" project focused on providing spay/neuter for cats. Uniting forces through our shared mission to support the health and welfare of cats, we dreamed big. We envisioned a mobile spay/neuter clinic that would operate in Massachusetts' Worcester County and the Metrowest area outside of Boston.

The new mobile clinic would be modeled on MRFRS' existing feline spay/neuter services van program, called the Catmobile. Currently, the Catmobile operates on the North Shore, an area extending from Boston to the New Hampshire border. MRFRS and SCFAW would mobilize their resources to add a second Catmobile to serve cats west of Boston. As a result, we submitted a grant application to launch a second Catmobile.

Today we're thrilled to let you know that we've been awarded \$100,000 by the John T. and Jane A. Wiederhold Foundation toward the purchase and equipping of a second spay/neuter van!

We hope to have Catmobile 2 - or CM2 - on the road by March 2012, providing low cost spay/neuter services for cats and kittens in underserved areas of Worcester County and Metrowest.

The \$100,000 grant and other monies available to us will fund most of the CM2 project, but not all. We still need to raise \$35,000 by October 2011, when we need to order the customized van to have it on the road by March 2012.

A Merger of Uncommon Synergy

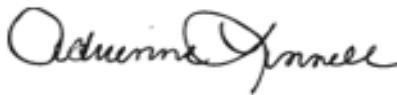
Over time, as we got to know each other's organizations, it became clear that we share so many characteristics that we should consider a merger. Both organizations missions are focused on enhancing feline health and welfare and provide programs that dovetail well with each other.

So in July the Directors of each group voted wholeheartedly to begin the process of merging our organizations. And once again, we're thrilled! The fantastic work and outstanding reputation of SCFAW in Worcester County coupled with the operational expertise of MRFRS will help bring CM2 online quickly, and we'll be able to assist an additional 5,000 cats and kittens with spay/neuter services annually.


We stress that all of the existing SCFAW and MRFRS programs will continue operating. We will work together, to increase our efficiency and effectiveness. And we will continue to depend on your volunteer and financial support even more than ever as we expand our service area and help more cats in need.

Please don't hesitate to contact either of us to learn more about the exciting opportunities our new merger creates. Thank you again for caring so much about the animals.

Sincerely,



Adrienne Linnell
President, SCFAW



Stacy LeBaron
President, MRFRS

