

9th Life Hawaii



Email Newsletter

January 2009

They say that it takes a community to solve a community problem. On Maui the cat overpopulation is clearly visible. The obvious and humane solution is to spay and neuter as many cats as we possibly and as often as we can. 9th Life Hawaii, Maui's only non-profit, NO KILL Cat Rescue & Sanctuary did just that this past weekend holding Maui's first ever marathon, three day feline spay/neuter clinic. The tremendous community response both in the number of cats brought in (more than 459 cats) for sterilization and the huge outpouring of volunteers for the three days once again demonstrated the Maui community at its best. Aloha, kuleana and kokua are alive and well on Maui.

To list all the volunteers some 30-40 volunteers daily and different volunteers each day and their tremendous role in the clinics success, we would easily run out of space nor do we wish to infringe upon anyone's privacy. However, we do want to recognize the huge community response and the enormous community kuleana to sterilize Maui's cats and bring an end to cat overpopulation. Mahalo to the vets and their staff: Dr. Jeff Young (Planned Pethood Plus-Colorado), Dr. Jeff Fankhauser (Colorado) and Dr. Leeth Harper (Arkansas.) Mahalo to the Grand Wailea for providing luxurious accommodations for the vets and their staff when the clinics were over. And to the volunteers who provided lovely accommodations for the vets Upcountry during the actual three day clinic. Mahalo to the volunteers who transported the cats to 9th Life Hawaii's upcountry facility. We

even had a volunteer transport cats from as far away as the Westside. Mahalo to the person who lent us brand new traps and also kicked off the event by covering the first weeks advertising. Mahalo to the volunteers who rented vans for 9th Life so we could transport huge numbers of cats safely to the clinic. Mahalo to the couple, who cooked and prepared a lunch buffet from soup to nuts including some fabulous desserts for all three clinic days. Mahalo to the volunteers who made hundreds and hundreds of phone calls arranging the clinics and coordinating the pickup and delivery of the cats and to the volunteers who checked in the arrivals at the sanctuary. Mahalo to the men who showed up to help with the heavy lifting of so many crates and carriers. Mahalo to the pre-teens, some as young as 7 and to the teenagers who worked in the recovery room to help monitor and waken cats post surgery. We WOULD also like to mention all the volunteers by name on our website but do not want to infringe on anyone's privacy. Please contact us with your permission and we will be thrilled to share your part in this fabulous event. This three day clinic which was, as is 9th Life Hawaii's customary policy, FREE to those who could not make a donation brought out the best on Maui. The outpouring of volunteers and of the people who brought cats to our clinic from all over Maui was astonishing. 9th Life is now receiving calls and letters of thanks from so many residents who told us they simply could not have afforded to sterilize their cats if not for 9th Life Hawaii's free/low cost clinic. This brought smiles and tears to all of us who worked so very many long hours to put this together. 9th Life Hawaii wants to thank everyone who helped us and to the Maui community who cared enough about their cats to do the right thing and that is to sterilize the cats in order to humanely, non-lethally control the cat overpopulation that plagues our fair island. If we have forgotten to thank someone, it is not intentional. Our hearts swell with happiness and gratefulness for all the volunteers and participants. We could not have done this without the huge amount of volunteers who helped put this together. Maui can be proud and we should all celebrate together that 459 cats will not be making any more kittens. Mahalo nui loa. And if you could not make it to this January clinic, 9th Life Hawaii is having a smaller clinic (30 cats) in February and some individual appointments as well. Call 573-3365 so we can help you sterilize your cat.

HOW TO HELP

If you wish to help us continue our Spay/Neuter clinics uninterrupted, please consider donating at your best level. Donations in general are dwindling due to the

economy. The ONLY place 9th Life Hawaii can reduce expenses is to limit our Spay/Neuter clinics as our first priority is to provide the highest level of care for the 200+/- cats we already shelter at our sanctuary. Your ongoing donations are needed in order for us to continue our Spay/Neuter clinics uninterrupted. You can make donations through our website at www.9thlifehawaii.org And a new feature allows you to have automatic, monthly deductions/donations made from your credit card. Please look for that link on our website. You can always mail donations to:

9th Life Hawaii
Box 476
Makawao, HI 96768

Mahalo nui loa. The Board of 9th Life Hawaii and Maui's kitties thank you.
P.S. We need volunteer fundraisers, foster parents, tile installers, carpenters, painters.
Call our main line 572-3499 if you can help.