

FIXING TO HELP



CNY Spay/Neuter Incentive Program, Inc.



Mission Possible!

**All because of our amazing
animal-loving donors
and supporters!**

To promote pet wellness and safety:

- We advocate for wellness services for pets, with special emphasis on pets of neighbors with low incomes.
- We facilitate access to those services.
- We share information about how to keep pets healthy, with special focus on the importance of spaying and neutering pets.

YES - We strive to help pets stay healthy longer – and at home with the people who adore and need them.

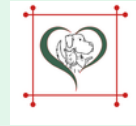
YES - We help with the cost of spaying and neutering family pets of residents of Onondaga County who have low incomes.

YES - We sing the praises of spay and neuter!

ANNUAL REPORT 2022- 2023



*We can never
adopt our way
out of the crisis
of pet
homelessness.
We have to
FIX it!*



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Sasha and her dad
2018

Miss Eleven, resting after
her spay...thanks to donors
2023



The seed for Fixing to Help was planted in the summer of 2018.

We spent a month surveying the neighbors visiting St. Lucy's food pantry about their pets.

They confirmed what we already knew in our hearts – caring pet owners with low incomes WANTED their cherished pets to be spayed or neutered. But they could not afford the price of even a low-cost spay/neuter clinic.

An anonymous donor stepped up to turn our dream into reality. And on November 18, 2018, the very first Fixing to Help pet, a dear little dog named Sasha, was spayed.

Her dad was beyond relieved.



Welcome!

A question: Do you think it's possible to hear love? We think yes.

We *know* yes.

It's what we hear when a caller says his dog hogs the couch and popcorn during the game. Or how her scrawny stray kitten turned into a raving beauty.

Sometimes love hides in laughter. "My dog weighs 80 pounds but thinks he's a lapdog!" Except when he destroys the fence trying to meet up with one hot lady dog down the street.

Or the lady who grabbed an old pair of panties to make a chastity belt for her 20-pound MALE dog, because her 40-pound female dog was in heat *again*. It worked – no puppies! Best of all, Mr. and Mrs. Furbaby are now fixed and fine.

Sometimes love is clouded in worry and tears. The woman faced eviction from the only safe place she could afford, unless her cat was fixed ASAP. The heat screams at night infuriated her sleepless neighbors.

The man took in a cat before the neighbor across the hall abandoned her. He fretted about not having money for her spay and shots. He called the very same day he found our flyer at the laundromat. Sometimes we hear love in a sigh of relief.

We faced jolting funding challenges this past year, as you will read. But through it all, the abundance of love for pets and for our fellow neighbors sustained us. Shutting down this program was never an option.

To our families, our supporters and collaborators, and our immensely visionary, compassionate donors and grantors, THANK YOU for placing your trust in spay and neuter and in us. Onward!

Love to you and yours,
Marcia Tupper
President, Fixing to Help



Peekaboo, Polo,
and Lenny, known
to interrupt callers
from time to time



Bandit, 2023

Spays and Neuters

Every single pet fixed this year was touched by the love of a donor, a devoted owner, and a trusted veterinary team

This past January, the number of phone registrations for pets eligible for Fixing to Help financial assistance surged (**1,050**). As a result, a record number of pets were spayed and neutered by Fixing to Help (**669**), bringing our 5-year total to 1,933. More than 20 local agencies and organizations referred pets to our program.

The 699 surgeries accounted for only 64% of the 1,050 pets registered and eligible for surgery. The owners of the remaining 36% of unfixed pets did not call the clinic for an appointment. In a very small number of cases, owners made appointments but did not show up and did not reschedule.

July 22-June 23	Neuter	Spay	Total
Cats	241	270	511
Dog	76	82	158
TOTAL	317	352	669

Noteworthy in 2022 -2023:

- The clinic's prices increased around 21% for cats and 18% for dogs.
- The number of days the clinic was open each month more than doubled during the second half of the fiscal year. This gave many more pets the chance to be spayed/neutered and vaccinated - with shorter wait times for appointments.
- These increases gave Fixing to Help a challenging but exciting opportunity to assist more pets!



Dollars and Cents

Our donors and grantors have brought small miracles into the financially strapped lives of our families and their precious pets. There could be no Fixing to Help without them.

Individual public donations accounted for 13% of our income, grants 87%. We were exceptionally fortunate to receive:

- two grants totaling \$75,000 from the Pet Wellness Fund at The Community Foundation of Herkimer and Oneida Counties.
- a \$2,000 CNY Tuesdays, chosen through their community voting process.

From January through June, pet owners' need for spay/neuter financial help skyrocketed. Appointment availability more than doubled. Clinic fees increased.

So, on June 16th, we temporarily stopped registering pets. It was time to create a new program model that would help a growing number of pets while maintaining our fiscal health.



Smokey Joe,
2022

Income	
Direct public donations	7,668.51
In-kind support - Goods	875.20
Grants (CNY Tuesdays)	2,000.00
Indirect public support (nonprofit grants)	75,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$85,543.71
Expenses	
Surgeries (with vaccines and pain meds)	62,226.00
Administrative costs (phone, website, fees)	1,548.83
Printing and Postage	426.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$64,200.83



Goals and Dreams

Our goals for 2023-2024 are clear.

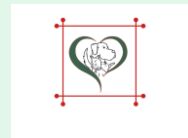
1. Help more pet families with low incomes to get spay/neuter services for their family pets.
2. Redesign our program model to meet the growing need for those services.
3. Develop the funding sources necessary to support the increase in services.
4. Continue to build our board and our volunteer base.



To accomplish these goals, we:

- Stopped taking new pet registrations on June 16, 2023, two weeks before the close of our fiscal year.
- Dedicated our remaining funds to covering surgery expenses for all pets with unexpired registrations. (The clinic had previously requested we place a 6-month expiration date on registrations, due to their backlog of waiting surgeries.)
- Began researching other regional spay/neuter assistance programs. (We found only four!) We did not include shelters, as they operate and are funded differently.

We hold tight to our dream of providing pet vaccination clinics and basic pet wellness care for pets whose owners cannot afford those services. This year, however, we must focus on more immediate needs.



How and Who

*Want to get involved as a volunteer,
a board member, or a donor?

*Want to share an idea or information?

*Want to learn more? *Need help?

Here's how to reach us and who we are.

PHONE: 315-729-8691 Please leave a message.

EMAIL: fixingtohelpcny@gmail.com

SNAIL MAIL: PO Box 194, Manlius, NY 13104

WEBSITE: www.fixingtohelpcny.com

FACEBOOK:

www.facebook.com/CNYSpay.NeuterIncentiveProgram

TWITTER: Fixing to Help CNY@FixingtoHelpCNY

INSTAGRAM: fixing_to_help_cny

Fixing to Help is a 501(c)(3) public charity. Donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. Fixing to Help is registered and in good standing with the New York State Charities Bureau.

EIN: 83-3017840



Fixing to Help Board of Directors

Marcia Tupper, President

Deanna Rodriguez, Secretary/Treasurer

Nancy Hohler, Director

Jennifer Lawrence, Director

Tina Fitzgerald, Director

Colleen Belge, Director



Then and Now

As planned, we stopped taking registrations for new spay/neuter surgeries this past June.

Since then, we have done our research, talked with other regional spay/neuter assistance programs, and revamped Fixing to Help's program model.

We plan to resume registering pets on October 10, 2023.

There were a few roadblocks we had to overcome along the way. But fellow spay/neuter warriors offered guidance and encouragement.

Heartfelt thanks go to our valued surgical provider Spay and Neuter Syracuse, to CNY Cat Coalition, and to 4PetSake for cheering us on, to our faithful donors, and to our beautiful Fixing to Help families for their generous gift of patience. You inspire us.

YOU are the heart and soul of Fixing to Help.

Here are the basics of Fixing to Help's new program model.

To be eligible for Fixing to Help assistance, pet owners must:

- provide proof of income and proof of residence in Onondaga County.
- have a total household income no greater than 185% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). This represents a lower income than we previously allowed. Our new income ceiling is also lower than the maximum total household income the spay/neuter clinic continues to allow.
- agree to pay the clinic a small copay, due at the time of surgery.

Copays are based on income. If the total household income is:

- at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), the owner pays a copay of \$1.
- above 100% of the FPL but at or below 185% of the FPL, the owner pays a copay of: \$25 for a male cat; \$35 for a female cat; \$40 for a male dog; \$50 for a small female dog and \$60 for a large female dog.

We will mail pet owners a copy of their copay agreement.



*Thank you for visiting
Fixing to Help.*

ONWARD!