



FixNation

Committed to Cats.
It Starts with One.



 Trap-Neuter-Return | Low-cost Spay/Neuter | Affordable Vaccine Clinic



If you listen carefully, you can hear it: the tiny sound coming from the corner of an abandoned building. You were just out for a walk, even though it's getting chilly. The winds had finally died down, and you needed a respite from a long, tiring day. An evening walk seemed perfect. Then came that sound that stopped you in your tracks.

Could it be? It sounds like ... a kitten. Moving closer, you discover that it is, indeed, a kitten, huddled up against a concrete wall, water from a leaky pipe dripping all around her. You reach down, pick her up and hold her close to your chest. The cries fade and the purring begins. Then you see them. More cats, tucked into corners, nestled in boxes, under stairs, using whatever cover they can find. That's when you know that what you've heard is true: there are hundreds of thousands of homeless, stray, and feral cats living on the streets of Los Angeles.

With the kitten in your arms, you eventually continue your walk, but you know in your heart that you have to do more. You've rescued one. But there are so many others out there—hungry and afraid of the unknown, the cold, the rain, and the predators.

About FixNation

FixNation is a non-profit organization funded completely by charitable sources – private donations, non-government grants, and fundraising.

Our mission is to reduce the population of homeless cats in Los Angeles by sterilizing as many as possible, and to demonstrate the effectiveness of Trap-Neuter-Return and proper colony management for the humane care of homeless cats.

We work towards this mission with the following programs:

- 🐾 Full-time spay/neuter clinic for cats
- 🐾 Free spay/neuter, vaccination, and limited medical care for homeless cats
- 🐾 Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) education and outreach
- 🐾 Free loan of humane cat traps (with more than 900 in the field)
- 🐾 Reduced-cost spay/neuter for companion cats
- 🐾 Affordable vaccine and microchip clinic for both cats and dogs

**Support FixNation to help Los Angeles' homeless cats.
It starts with one.**

A brief history

FixNation was founded by Mark Dodge, an attorney, and Karn Myers, an entertainment executive — a husband-and-wife team.

Mark and Karn became feral cat advocates after learning about the number of homeless cats in Los Angeles and around the country. After researching solutions, they developed a spay/neuter program and made a formal proposal to Best Friends Animal Society requesting support for their free-clinic model to be called *Best Friends Catnippers*. Best Friends provided initial funding to begin Catnippers in October 1999. This bi-monthly all-volunteer clinic is still run by Mark and Karn, and has sterilized more than 17,000 homeless cats since 1999.

After eight years of successful Catnippers clinics, Karn and Mark knew a permanent facility was needed in order to address the still-growing homeless cat population in L.A. After much planning and fundraising, FixNation was launched in 2007, a 501(c)(3) organization operating LA's first full-time spay/neuter facility with a Trap-Neuter-Release (TNR) mission.

FixNation provides comprehensive TNR support including free spay/neuter services for homeless cats, TNR outreach and education, and affordable care for companion cats and dogs.

It's estimated that between 1 and 3 million cats live and suffer on the streets of Los Angeles City and County.



FixNation's Founders

“We have always treated Catnippers like a business, even though it’s a volunteer program. In 2006, we realized that in order to really make a difference, we’d need to sterilize more than the 2,600 cats we saw each year in the Catnippers clinics. We started dreaming about having enough funding to start our own clinic and offer the community all the resources needed to maximize the potential of TNR – all under one roof. This became a reality when we discovered that PetSmart Charities wanted to start and fund up to eight new clinics in Los Angeles, to spay and neuter cats and dogs. After learning of their plans and acquainting them with the feral cat problem in L.A., and what a solution FixNation represented, PetSmart Charities provided FixNation a five-year operating grant. Their funding support encouraged other donors, and thus, FixNation was born!”

—Mark & Karn



One neighborhood, one hundred cats

“FixNation was a godsend. After [seeing so many] cats being hit by cars, and kittens getting sick from lack of nutrition, I reached out for help. I didn’t want the kitties to be put to death but they needed to be fixed so the cycle would stop. I felt overwhelmed, but all the people at FixNation reassured me that I could take control—the staff went above and beyond to save the life of these kitties. My neighbor teamed up with me and in one short year we brought in 100 kitties. I am so happy to say we have not had a single new litter of kittens in two years—and we actually adopted one of the last kittens taken in.”

—Kristin, Volunteer Trapper

Mission impact

FixNation remains steadfastly focused on achieving its mission of reducing the population of homeless cats in Los Angeles, thereby reducing the suffering of cats on the streets and their euthanasia in municipal shelters.

FixNation and its programs have sterilized
more than **200,000** cats.

FixNation has served more than **11,500** clients.

We sterilize an average of **80 cats per day.**

\$0.85 of every dollar

goes directly to programs and services to help homeless cats.

Helping homeless cats

Los Angeles is home to one of the nation's largest populations of homeless cats. Many communities use lethal control methods in an attempt to address the issue of stray, abandoned, and feral cats. Such methods are not only horribly cruel, they are also ineffective and costly.

There's a better way.

Trap-Neuter-Return is the humane alternative to euthanasia for managing and reducing homeless cat populations through sterilization. TNR begins with the trapping of cats using humane cage traps. The cats are then taken (in the trap) to be sterilized and vaccinated against rabies, distemper, and other diseases. Finally, the cats are "ear tipped" so that they can be easily identified as sterilized. Following surgery, the cat is returned to the trap and allowed to recover, then released to the site of capture.



“Ear tipping” is the universally accepted identification for sterilized homeless cats. While under anesthesia, the pointed end of the cats ear is cropped so that it has a square appearance. This allows for identification from a distance that a cat has already been spayed or neutered.



Before FixNation

“I have been trapping and rescuing cats in LA for 15 years. I used to get the cats fixed with different vets. Paying for it myself greatly limited the amount of TNR that I was able to do.

Since I discovered FixNation, not only can I help more cats, the cats are also getting much better service. In the past I was only able to have them fixed. With FixNation they are getting vaccinated, flea treated, fluids, and many other treatments—which FixNation provides free of charge.

I am forever grateful for FixNation! Their service is outstanding, the difference they make in the lives of cats and the people who care for them is remarkable. I couldn't go on without them.”

—Elle, Volunteer Trapper



Shared dedication

“My neighborhood had a terrible feral cat problem. We had more than 30 adult cats, many of which were sick, plus kittens being born every month. I didn’t know what to do, until my friend introduced me to FixNation. FixNation went above and beyond to help these poor cats. They trained me to properly and humanely trap cats and also provided me with traps. One of my neighbors and I, with the help of FixNation, were able to fix and treat all of the cats, set up a colony where the adults could live out their lives healthy and safe, and we were able to tame and adopt out countless kittens to forever homes. Because of FixNation we have not seen a new feral cat in our neighborhood for over 2 years. ”

—Rosemary, Volunteer Trapper



Comprehensive TNR services

With an untold number of cats living in the streets, alleyways, and hills of Los Angeles, FixNation's comprehensive, free services are essential.








We provide all of the tools, support, and resources needed to manage colonies of homeless cats, and give these cats the best medical care possible.

FixNation's philosophy is that we have just one day—one chance—to love and care for the cats that come through our doors. We treat these cats as if they were our own.

Caregivers and volunteer trappers receive:

-  Free trap training and informational materials
-  Free loan of humane traps, including trap covers

In addition to spay or neuter surgery, each homeless cat brought to our clinic receives:

-  Vaccinations
-  Fluids
-  Long-acting antibiotic
-  Pain medication
-  Treatments for mange, flea, ear mites, and worm infestations
-  Treatments for abscesses and injuries
-  Additional medical care (rarely needed) may include amputation of injured limb or tail

FixNation is a model for Trap-Neuter-Return support and humane homeless cat management across the country.

Take action

Contact FixNation:

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To make a donation or for media inquiries, contact:

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**“If the world seems cold to you, kindle fires to warm it.”
— Lucy Larcom, poet**

