

The Adoption of ICS Cats: An Overview

One of the main purposes of the ICS is to search for suitable homes for its resident cats. Therefore the following process has been developed to meet that purpose.

During the open hours of the ICS, Adoption counselors are available to interact & interview those individuals who have chosen a cat and have completed an application during that visit. The intent is to determine if the applicant(s) is the one to provide the ICS cat with a forever home.

1. The application(s) with comments by the Adoption counselor(s) are then submitted to the Adoption Review Committee whose members call listed references, call the identified Vets, validate the listed home address and call NW Indiana Animal shelters for any Do Not Adopt Listing.
2. The individual Adoption Review Committee member then makes a recommendation based on the information from these calls and submits it to fellow Committee members for their input into the decision as to whether to approve, not approve or needing additional information.
3. Once the decision is made, the initial reviewer calls the applicant with the Committee Decisions.
4. If approved, the date and time of kittycat pickup is determined and the ICS shelter is notified of the status of the application.
5. If the cats medical History is up to date, reflects the necessary vaccinations and Spay/Neuter status etc is in order, then an adoption folder is compiled along with sample dry food and other items for the determined pick up date.
6. The Shelter is notified of the adoption date and time which is then placed on the weekly Status chart
7. Both the volunteer who creates the Weekly Status Chart and the Membership Committee Chair are given the specifics of the adoptive 'parent' and cat's name to be entered into their files.
8. Once the adoption is final, the initial Adoption Committee Reviewer enters the information into the Pet Point Program.
9. Follow up calls to the adoptive owner are made one and two weeks following the adoption to validate how well everyone is settling into a new life. This too is entered into Pet Point Program

Cat Care Program: A Brief Overview

One of the tenets of the ICS is to provide food, shelter and professionally supervised medical care to all ICS cats/kittens until a proper home is found for as many unwanted and homeless cats as space and finances allow. Therefore many aspects of care occur when implementing this principle. From the daily physical cleaning of each room by the employed Cleaners, the administration of medications by the employed Medicators, the observations resulting in Vet visits to the myriad of activities to enhance the life within the Shelter performed by the many volunteers.

In addition to providing housing for each cat/kitten, supplies including food, litter, toys, office and general supplies are maintained to facilitate continuous operation of the Shelter. Those individuals such as the Room Moms have the most contact with each of their charges and are therefore encouraged to write their observations in the Cat Care Notebook. This communication is extremely important for the Medicators to implement protocols based on their observations of the cats and the comments written in the Cat Care Notebook.

1. Cats nails are clipped, coats are brushed, weights are performed as needed, linens changed and general clean ups of rooms are done as needed throughout the day and evening when room moms or other volunteers visit.
2. The Medicators follow protocols as established by the Board, the Vet and Researched based Outcomes of Cat Care.
3. Food and medications are administered by the Medicators only.
4. Cats are kept in their rooms during the Adoption hours to prevent any potential accidents by visitors or volunteers.