

2018 Annual Report



A LOOK BACK AT OUR FIRST YEAR OF SAVING THE TINIEST FELINES



A Note From Hannah

Dear friends,

What an incredible and impactful year we had for kittens in 2018! We saved orphaned neonatal kittens from the wildest places—from underneath bushes to underneath oil paintings; from inside shelters to the side of the road; from our nation's capitol to the border of Mexico. No matter how small or sick, these vulnerable orphans found a safe haven here with Orphan Kitten Club.

In 2018, we officially obtained our 501c3 nonprofit status and proudly set up our beautiful kitten nursery in California, complete with incubators, treatment areas, and an enrichment room where our babies can overcome their challenges and grow into healthy, mighty cats. Being able to witness these little lives transforming before my eyes fills me with so much hope...and compels me to keep pushing bravely ahead. I am so grateful for the generous support of our community, and I know that together we will continue to make the world a safer place for the tiniest and most vulnerable felines.

For the kittens,

Hannah Shaw
Founder of Orphan Kitten Club

Our Mission

The mission of Orphan Kitten Club is to protect the tiniest and most vulnerable felines, orphaned kittens. We provide specialized, around-the-clock care to sick, injured, and motherless neonates in our dedicated kitten nursery, and prepare kittens for adoption into loving forever homes.

Our Core Values

FOCUSED. We have a singular purpose to serve young kittens and organizations that support them.

PROGRESSIVE. We provide high quality, innovative care and we value forward-thinking approaches to kitten welfare.

POSITIVE. We deliver a hopeful message because we truly believe that our approach is making a difference.

COLLABORATIVE. We support our internal team and external partners in their efforts to advance kitten welfare.

IMPACTFUL. We approach the problem at an individual and community level to make a significant difference for kittens.





Rosalita's Story

Little Rosalita became an Orphan Kitten Club member on her first day of life. This tiny singleton was found outside at just a few hours old—cold, covered in dirt, and alone. Our team cleaned her up, got her warm, and gently cared for her day and night. Her little body was frail at first, but after many days of tube-feeding and incubation, Rosalita finally began to perk up...and in just 10 days she doubled her body weight!

As time passed we noticed that she wasn't meeting the traditional milestones of kitten development; there was something very special about this tiny calico. Rosalita appeared to be significantly visually impaired. After working with a neurologist, it was determined that she has a congenital malformation of the brain that causes cortical blindness, resulting in challenges with spatial awareness, social skills, and vision. In spite of all her challenges, Rosalita was a happy and robust kitten, and soon she was learning to run, pounce, climb...and even play with the other kittens in the nursery!

Rosalita's story shines a light on the importance of having hope for animals who are so often considered hopeless. A motherless kitten deserves to know comfort. A blind kitten deserves to see herself in a loving home. And even the tiniest orphan deserves a chance to be mighty. We believe that kittens like Rosalita are beaming with potential when given a chance to thrive, and we are so proud of her for doing just that.

Some of the Kittens We Saved in 2018



What We're Looking Forward to in 2019

Orphan Kitten Club is on a mission to end the killing of neonatal kittens—and to give every kitten a chance at a full and happy life. We are building a safer world for the tiniest felines by rescuing them in our state-of-the-art kitten nursery. In 2019 we are very excited to announce we will be launching two more programs that help us fully accomplish our mission.

Our Full Circle Program is focused on ending the cycle of reproduction that leads to kittens being born outdoors—and ultimately orphaned. Through Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR), we are able to ensure that the kittens we rescue are the last to be born in their colonies. We are committed to sterilizing community cats in the neighborhoods where our kittens are rescued, making a full-circle, permanent impact.

In 2019 we will be piloting our Mightycat Program—the very first grant program in the world to specifically fund the care and protection of neonatal kittens! We believe that every kitten deserves an opportunity to grow, to heal, and to become a mighty cat. We are partnering with approved nonprofit organizations who share our vision and providing them with targeted grants that save the lives of the tiniest felines.



orphankittenclub.org

Orphan Kitten Club • PO Box 633 • Spring Valley, CA 91976
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Photography by Hannah Shaw and Andrew Marttila.