

2017 ANNUAL REPORT



**THE HERMITAGE NO-KILL CAT
SHELTER & SANCTUARY**

A MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

As we are sure you all know, The Hermitage No-Kill Cat Shelter & Sanctuary achieved an important milestone in 2017: construction of our new shelter was completed, and we successfully moved all our precious feline residents out of the temporary digs we called home for just over a year back to our permanent location on 21st Street. We also celebrated our grand reopening in late October and had a very successful gala in early November that raised much needed funds for our new medical suite. We are proud to report that on May 2nd our medical staff performed the very first surgical procedure in our new medical suite. Being able to do spays, neuters, and dentals will help us cut veterinary costs immensely! And to top it all off, we had the best year ever for adoptions—The Hermitage found permanent homes for 667 cats in 2017. None of this would have been possible without the dedicated—and generous—support and hard work from our donors, volunteers, and staff. It has truly been a labor of love, and we are grateful that so many are committed to helping The Hermitage continue to be the best no-kill cat shelter in Arizona. As always, though, we still have hard work ahead of us. Now that we can finally put the construction of the new shelter behind us, we need to refocus our efforts on raising the funds necessary to keep the doors of the shelter open so we can continue to care for those cats who will always call The Hermitage home and to find loving homes for those who are only temporarily in our care. This is why we do what we do, but we cannot continue to succeed without your involvement. We hope you will be able to help us achieve our goals for this year and many years beyond. If you have not had an opportunity to visit lately, we look forward to welcoming each and every one of you to tour our brand new facility and meet our wonderful, dedicated staff.

Sincerely,



David M. Bishop, PhD
President



Karen T. Baden, MBA, MSL
Executive Director



MEET TORNADO, A SUCCESS STORY

Tornado transferred to The Hermitage from Pima Animal Care Center after being diagnosed with diabetes and being placed on emergency deadline due to his declining health. When he came to The Hermitage, he weighed six pounds and spent nearly a week hospitalized at one of our partner vet clinics.

Upon his return to the shelter, Tornado settled into a life of laziness. He received lots of love and attention from staff and volunteers, quickly becoming a shelter favorite. One of Tornado's favorite pasttimes was stealing wet food from the other diabetic kitties in our Diabetic/Weight Management Room. His last weigh-in had him tipping the scales at nearly 12 pounds. While diabetes is a little more difficult to regulate in a shelter environment, Tornado was clearly thriving.

In May of 2018, after being at The Hermitage for 18 months, Tornado was adopted into a loving home. Tornado is now big brother to Herbie, another Hermitage special-needs alum. Both of these sweet boys had once been roommates in our Diabetic/Weight Management Room. Tornado and Herbie's adopter tells us, "[Tornado and Herbie] are making their friendship doable; sometimes, they have to decide whose turn it is to get pets. Thank you so much, they are a perfect fit for our family."

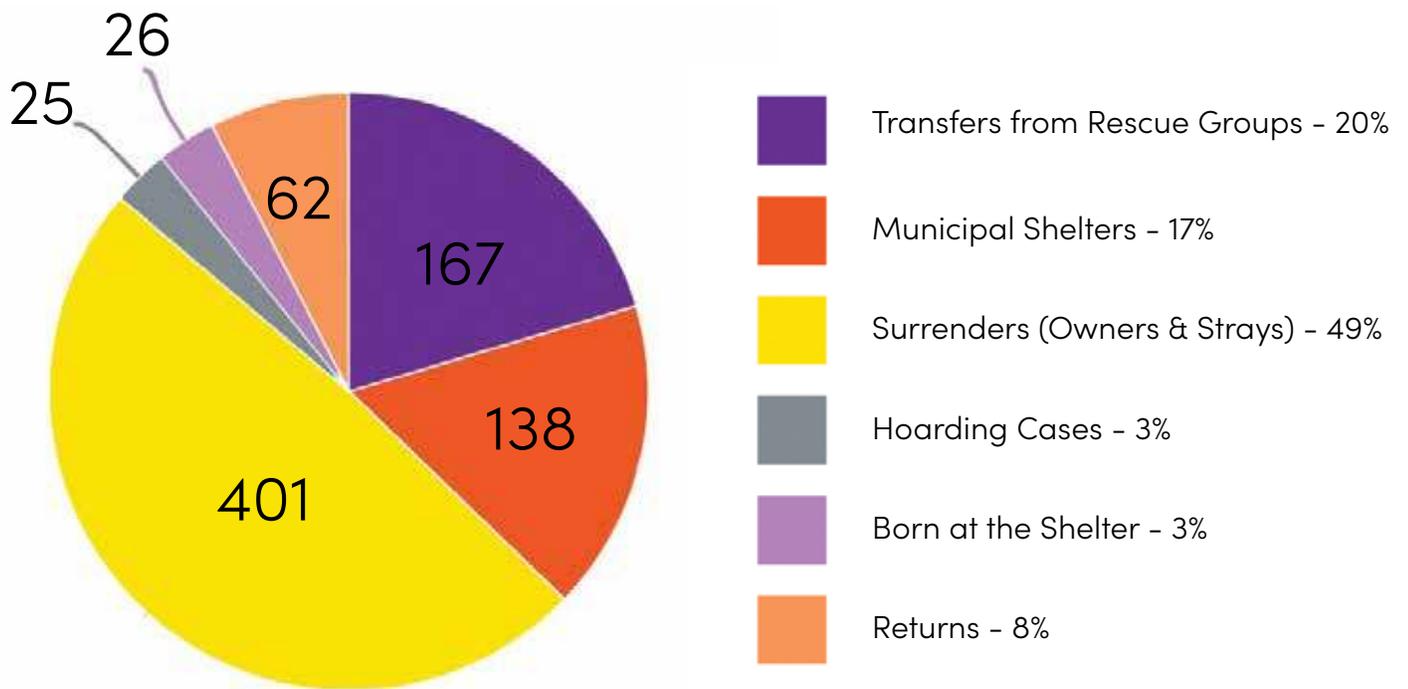
Without our donors and supporters, giving Tornado a home would not have been possible!



INTAKES AND OUTCOMES

In 2017, The Hermitage No-Kill Cat Shelter & Sanctuary took in 819 cats and kittens. This total intake number includes 305 felines who came from municipal shelters or other rescue organizations such as Pima Animal Care Center, Pinal County Animal Control, Maricopa County Animal Care and Control, and Save-A-Gato in Puerto Rico. With a record number of 667 adoptions in 2017, The Hermitage was able to find permanent forever homes for approximately 82% of the cats in our care.

Since we are an accredited Sanctuary, any of these cats who are unable to find a forever home will remain beloved residents of The Hermitage for the remainder of their lives.



The Hermitage collects and reports data based on the Asilomar Accords.

**Compassionate Euthanasia: 30

**Passed in Care: 22

ADOPTIONS

We strive to find loving permanent homes for every feline that comes to The Hermitage. Below are a few of our success stories.



TENZIN, barely a year old, was surrendered in February of 2018 by his owner because she was unable to care for him. This sweet boy came to us with a couple of injuries and an abscess on his jaw. After treatment by our medical team, he joined our general population as a beautiful and fully adoptable cat. Tenzin was also one of the feline ambassadors for our community programs like Purrs for Autism, Senior Snuggles, and

Meows for Military.

ADOPTED APRIL 2018

RAICHU is a special needs kitties. He has a congenital issue called cerebellar hypoplasia, meaning the portion of his brain that controls motor functions (walking, running, jumping, climbing) did not fully develop. As a result, he basically walks without having good control of where his feet are in space. It also affects his depth perception. He is virtually unable to jump or climb, but manages to ambulate well. Despite his challenges, Raichu is a sweet boy who enjoys attention.

ADOPTED MARCH 2018



FUZZY KNUCKLES is FIV+. Cats with FeLV and FIV are often deemed unadoptable and euthanized in other shelters. At The Hermitage cats with these issues find sanctuary and the opportunity to find a forever home. With her outgoing and friendly personality, Fuzzy Knuckles quickly became a favorite among staff and volunteers. She also has one of the loudest purrs you'll ever have the opportunity to hear.

ADOPTED DECEMBER 2017



VOLUNTEERS

The Hermitage relies on the help of our volunteers to accomplish our goals and succeed in our efforts. We have seen an increase in volunteerism of over 23% in the last year. In 2017, our volunteers provided the equivalent of nearly **eight full-time employees** throughout the year. This means our volunteers worked an average of 1,218 hours each month.

IN 2017, WE HAD 51 VOLUNTEER ORIENTATIONS.

TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS FOR 2017:

14,613 (the equivalent of eight full-time employees)

VOLUNTEER GROUPS THAT SERVED IN 2017:

Alpha Phi Omega

Blue Chip Leadership

Changemaker High School

Khalsa Montessori Middle School

Raytheon

Sabino High School Cat Club

St. Michael's Middle School

TUSD ACT

United Way Days of Caring

University of Arizona Fellowship Program

University of Arizona Pre-Vet Club

Wildcats CARE

WorkAbility



WAYS YOU CAN HELP

SPONSOR A CAT: With your monthly contribution of \$25.00 or annual contribution of \$300.00, you can sponsor a cat of your choice for a year. Your sponsorship will cover the cost of food, veterinary care, and litter. We will provide you with regular updates about your chosen recipient. We can also select a cat for you, if you prefer, and ensure you are kept informed about the ongoing progress of your cat. For more information, visit www.hermitagecatshelter.org/sponsor/ or call 520.571.7839 to speak to a member of our staff.

PLANNED GIVING: By providing for The Hermitage in your will or trust, you can leave a legacy of compassion for animals who need your help. For more information, contact our Executive Director, Karen Baden at karen@hermitagecatshelter.org or 520.589.2733.

PAY IT FORWARD: If you adopt a cat from The Hermitage, you can pay it forward by sponsoring an adoption for someone else. Just \$65 will cover the cost of vaccinations, FIV and FeLV testing, spay or neuter surgery, microchipping, deworming, a complimentary post-adoption visit with one of our partner veterinarians, and a lifetime of love for one of our extraordinary cats. Call us at 520.571.7839 to speak with a member of our staff for more information.

DONATION IN HONOR OR MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE OR PET: With a donation, you can honor or memorialize your loved one or pet while providing funds for the continuing care of the cats at The Hermitage. You can make a secure online donation on our website - www.hermitagecatshelter.org

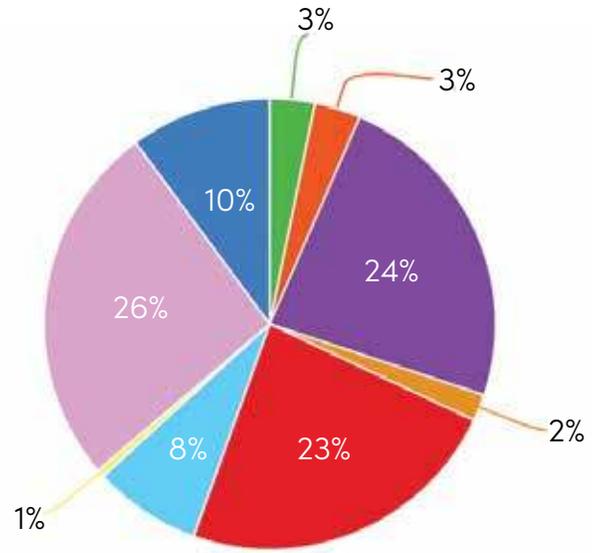
MEMORIAL BRICKS: Leave a lasting legacy by paying tribute to a beloved pet or loved one with a classic clay brick to be installed in the new landscaped entrance of our renovated shelter. For more information, contact Amber Nix at amber@hermitagecatshelter.org or 520.571.7839.



THE FINANCIAL PICTURE

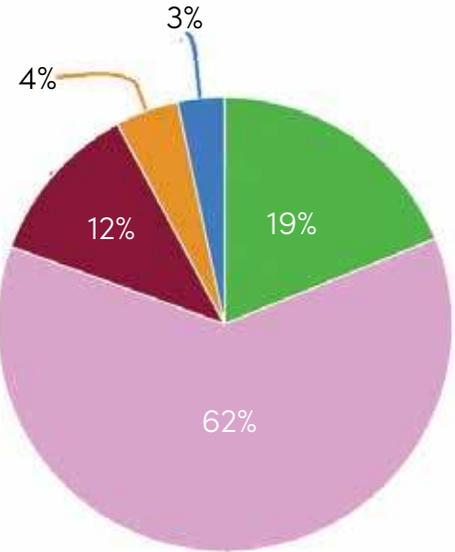
TOTAL 2017 REVENUE - \$1,153,746

- Adoptions - \$37,239
- Intakes - \$38,137
- General Donations - \$271,731
- Fundraisers - \$22,397
- Legacy/Bequests - \$270,737
- Events - \$89,350
- Grants - \$6,250
- Capital Campaign - \$301,083
- Restricted - \$116,822



TOTAL 2017 EXPENSES - \$2,391,610

- Adoptions/Animal Care - \$451,412
- Fundraising - \$107,180
- Mgmt/General Admin - \$278,611
- Capital Campaign - \$1,474,944
- Restricted - \$79,463



Cash Assets
\$217,479

Fixed/Other Assets
\$314,796

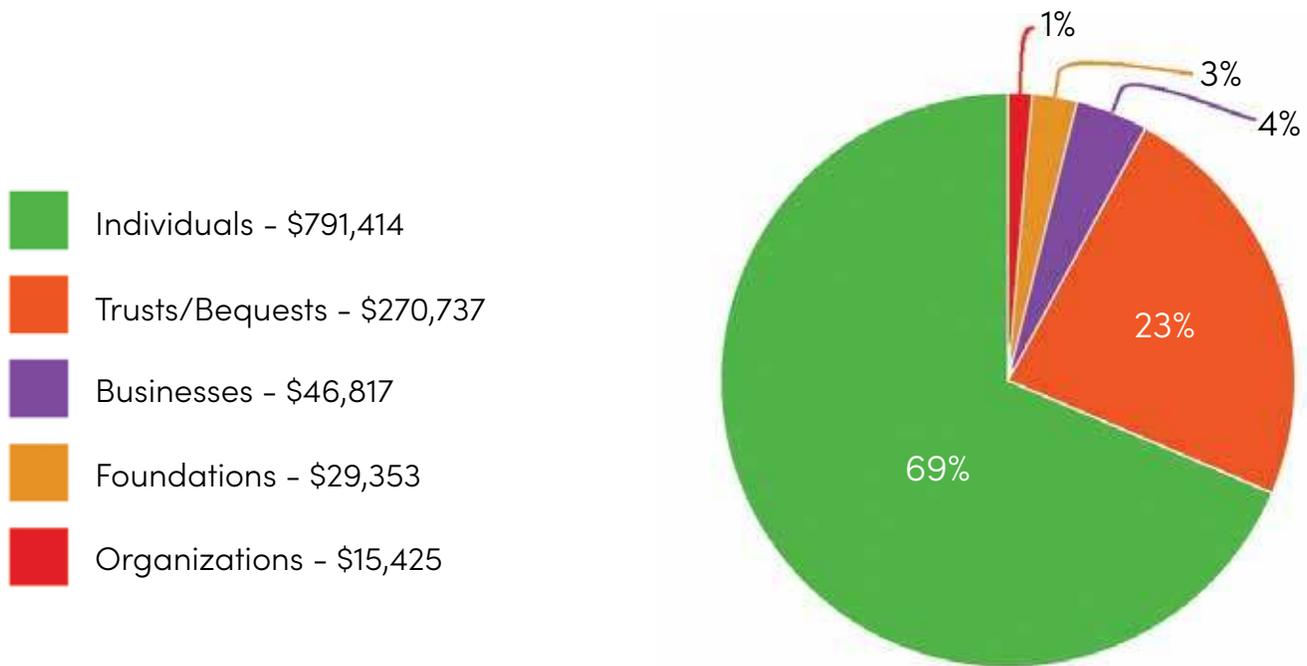
Net Assets
\$532,275

Liabilities
\$58,512



DONATIONS

The Hermitage No-Kill Cat Shelter & Sanctuary raised **\$1,153,746** in 2017. Thanks to the generosity of so many in our community, we were able to continue our mission to advocate for animal rights and end needless euthanasia of at-risk felines through protection, education, adoption, and sanctuary.



DID YOU KNOW?

\$25/month (\$300/year)

Sponsors the annual cost of food, litter and vaccines for one healthy cat in our care.

\$665/month (\$7,980/year)

Covers the cost of rabies vaccines for all the cats we take in for a year.

\$288.75/month (\$3,465/year)

Covers the cost of microchip identification for all of the cats we take in for a year.

\$100/month (\$1,200/year)

Covers the cost of food and medications for our diabetic cats for one year.



OUR NEW SHELTER

Thanks to our donors and our community partners, we completed a massive renovation of our facility in 2017. Our cats now roam freely within 9,000 square feet of fully remodeled indoor and outdoor space specifically created for their comfort and needs. We can effectively house up to 188 felines.

This renovation accomplishes a number of things:

- Improves the lives of our resident cats
- Creates a more positive experience for those walking through the facility in search of their forever cat
- Increases adoption rates
- Increases our capacity for rescued cats
- Provides state-of-the-art medical/surgical suite for the evaluation and treatment of all of our cats on-site
- Provides cost savings by performing spays, neuters, and necessary dental cleaning in our own clinic, thus eliminating the need to take cats off-site
- Provides space for a collaborative environment for visiting veterinary medicine students and Pima Medical Institute interns



VETERINARY SERVICES

As part of our remodel we gained a much needed medical/surgical suite that allows us to care for our ill or injured animals safely, without the need of transport. This reduces the stress on the animals and allows us to work more quickly. We now have a fully equipped surgery suite, x-ray machine, a spacious treatment area, and roomy temporary kennels for ill or injured cats.



SPECIALTY ROOMS

The safety and comfort of our cats is a pivotal part of our mission. We take in animals regularly who have specific medical needs, and because of that, we have separate rooms for them.



DIABETIC ROOM: Our Diabetic & Weight Management Room allows us to monitor the diets of our cats whose well-being depends on specialized food, medication, and portion control. One of our diabetic cats is Puss 'n Boots. She was scheduled to be euthanized by another shelter that did not have the resources to closely monitor her care. We were happy to welcome this special girl to our shelter. Her outgoing personality has quickly made her a staff and volunteer favorite.

FELV ROOM: FeLV, or Feline Leukemia Virus, is one of the most common viruses found among the cat population. Because it is easily transferred between cats through mutual grooming or bite wounds, it is important to give these cats a space where they can thrive without the risk of transferring the disease to other uninfected cats. Honey's FeLV+ status has not affected her ability to live a happy life. At the age of 8, Honey proves that with proper care, FeLV does not mean a death sentence for a cat.



FIV ROOM: FIV, or Feline Immunodeficiency Virus, compromises a cat's immune system, leaving the cat vulnerable to infections and diseases. FIV+ cats can lead happy, healthy lives with proper diet and veterinary care. The transmission of the disease to uninfected cats is less likely (occurring mostly through biting); however, in a shelter environment it is important that these cats have their own space to avoid accidental transmission. Abandoned on our property, Tatania found a home with us, despite her FIV status.



GI ROOM: Our GI Room is home to our cats with digestive conditions that cause incontinence issues. These cats are often labeled unadoptable by other shelters and rescue groups. Because of our sanctuary status, The Hermitage can be home to these special cats for the rest of their lives, or until they are able to find a forever home. Sweet Pea is just one of the room's residents. Her friendly, affectionate personality makes her a shelter favorite.



SENIOR ROOM: With age comes privilege. Our Senior Room provides our older residents with an environment quieter than the usual hustle and bustle of our main shelter area. Whether it's a comfy cat bed inside or lounging in the sun puddles on the patio, our senior population can enjoy a serene, lazy day without the unwanted energy of their younger counterparts. At 17, Tuki is one of our more senior seniors. She enjoys the leisurely pace of life in The Hermitage Senior Room.



OUTREACH AND SERVICES

The Hermitage No-Kill Cat Shelter & Sanctuary believes in giving back to the community that supports us. We partner with The Autism Society of Southern Arizona, WorkAbility, Literacy Connects, and others to strengthen our educational programs. The Hermitage recognizes the unconditional love that animals provide can make a real difference in the lives of others. Our community outreach programs have taken cat ambassadors to visit the Southern Arizona VA, The Forum at Tucson, and other assisted-living facilities to provide residents with the benefits of the animal-human bond.

SNUGGLES FOR SENIORS: Senior adults know better than most of us how cats can improve our daily lives. Aside from noticeable mood improvement, research has also shown that interacting with a pet can decrease blood pressure. In 2017, our program recorded 50 visits at 11 different locations in the Tucson area for a total of 718 seniors served.



PURRS FOR AUTISM: Purrs for Autism is a collaborative program of The Hermitage Cat Shelter, The Autism Society of Southern Arizona, and WorkAbility, a program under the administration of United Cerebral Palsy of Southern Arizona. Hermitage cats who are social and curious spend one-on-one time with children who have autism and are 6 to 12 years of age. There were 44 visits in 2017 and 161 children benefitted from the program.



MEOWS FOR MILITARY: The Hermitage's Meows for Military is a program for military veterans at the Southern Arizona VA Healthcare System in the Community Living Center. Our outreach coordinator and a feline ambassador provide supportive therapy by spending time interacting with the veterans who reside there. There was a total of 134 visits with our veterans in 2017.



CAT CAMP: Designed for children ages 6–12, Cat Camp teaches kids to properly care for their feline friends, and is held in our shelter. They learn important rules for pet care while interacting with our cats and each other. Parents sign up their kids for one of four week-long sessions during the summer. They also receive information about feeding, first aid, Trap-Neuter-Return, animal cruelty, cruelty-free products, foster parenting, bottle feedings, maintenance for their pets, and much more, in addition to learning fun crafts.



FOOD FOR PEOPLE'S PETS: FFPP provides pet food and pet supplies to people who are in need. In 2017 we distributed \$26,229 in pet food:

- 14,586 lbs of dog food
- 17,484 lbs of cat food
- 1,654 lbs of other pet foods (birds, chickens, rabbits, small mammals)



CANS FOR CATS: Help the planet and our cats at the same time! Give us your crushed, clean aluminum beverage cans or cleaned, label-less aluminum cat food cans. This is a great project for young children, teaching good use of natural resources, kindness to animals, responsibility, and that even small efforts can mean a lot.



TNR (TRAP-NEUTER-RETURN): A program dedicated to the promotion of TNR, humane education, and promotion of best practices of colony management. Altering and returning community cats to the field reduces population growth, promotes health, and reduces nuisance behaviors. TNR classes are held monthly, and The Hermitage acts as a trap-depot, providing traps for rent to the public.



OUR PEOPLE

Our facilities and programs would not function without our team!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- David Bishop, PhD - President
- Ingrid Novodvorsky, PhD - Vice President
- Tina Wolf - Treasurer
- Maggie Gilmer - Secretary
- Susan Parker-Hotchkiss - Director
- Robert Murray - Director

STAFF:

- Karen Baden, MBA, MSL - Executive Director
- Amber Nix - Executive Assistant to the Director
- Julianne Gathers - Adoption Coordinator
- Karina Levine - Volunteer Coordinator
- Ashley Davis - Community Outreach & Foster Care Coordinator
- Emma Crawford - Donor Relations & Program Coordinator
- Rachel Broderick - Creative Marketing Specialist
- Dr. Beth Neumann, DVM - Shelter Veterinarian
- Lauren Brooks - Certified Veterinary Technician
- Shannon Racadio - Veterinary Technician
- Desteny Flores - Veterinary Assistant
- Rebekah Heaton - Veterinary Assistant
- Joshua Desmarais - Facility Maintenance
- Robert Howard - Facility Maintenance

OUR MISSION

Advocating for animal rights and ending needless euthanasia of at-risk felines through protection, education, adoption, and sanctuary.



OUR HISTORY

Arizona's first no-kill shelter, The Hermitage No-Kill Cat Shelter & Sanctuary has been a sanctuary for abandoned and unwanted cats and kittens in southern Arizona since 1965. We were founded as the Arizona Animal Anti-Cruelty League by Sister Theresa Seraphim, a Russian Orthodox nun from England. Sister Seraphim moved to Tucson in 1969 and lived at this location until she passed away in 1990. During her tenure at The Hermitage, Sister Seraphim rescued cats, as well as chickens, guinea hens, peacocks, a handful of dogs, and a donkey.



OUR NO-KILL PHILOSOPHY

The Hermitage No-Kill Cat Shelter & Sanctuary has long been an advocate for the no-kill philosophy. We were founded on the ideal that every animal is precious and should never be euthanized for the convenience of humanity. No animal is euthanized to make space, no animal is thrown away.





THE HERMITAGE NO-KILL CAT SHELTER & SANCTUARY

 5278 E 21st St • Tucson, AZ 85711

 520.571.7839

 PO BOX 13508 • Tucson, AZ 85732

 www.hermitagecatshelter.org

