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Donate Now!





Have You Entered BCR's 2020 Raffle?

To have a chance to win any of the great prizes YOU suggested for this year's raffle, Snicker says you have to enter! Have you done that yet?

CLICK HERE TO ENTER

Entries are \$10 each and if you buy 4 for \$40 we'll throw in a bonus entry!

Enter as many times as you like between now and November 12.

You might win any of these great prizes: fountains, climbers, fun cat beds, scratchers, couches, gift cards, and even a special cat-Celtic knot bracelet/necklace set!

The more entries you have, the better your chance of winning!

And EVERY entry supports the cats!

Please read the raffle rules here.

Winners will be selected and announced live on November 14!



Calling all Federal and State Government Employees!



Fall isn't just when the leaves change or when BCR holds its annual raffle. It's also the start of the Workforce Giving Campaign season. Exactly what is that? It's a time when employee payroll-deduction giving programs get launched, giving those employed by the federal government, the military and North Carolina state government an easy way to help out the non-profits they love.

BCR regularly participates in both the <u>Combined</u>
<u>Federal Campaign (CFC)</u> and the North Carolina
<u>State Employees Combined Campaign (SECC)</u>. If
you work for the federal government or military or are
retired from either one, you would participate in the
CFC. Any employee or retiree of the state of North
Carolina, and this includes those working for any of the
state universities in the UNC System, have access to
the SECC.

How important are these campaigns to BCR? In 2019, your contributions to the CFC and SECC raised more than \$21,000 for the cats! Your generosity contributes directly to BCR's mission: to give our cats a

safe, loving and healthy forever home. Your donations provide the day-to-day medical and dental care the BCR cats need, cover any specialized treatments that may be necessary and so much more.

How does it work? For both campaigns, you just select BCR from the campaign website (both links and our numbers are listed below) or from a printed booklet provided by the campaigns. You can set up your deductions online or complete a printed form that comes with the booklet. You decide how much you'd like to give to BCR for the year through payroll deduction. That tax-deductible amount will be deducted from your paychecks and sent to BCR. How much you feel comfortable giving is up to you. Even \$2 or \$5 given to BCR from each pay period helps enormously over a year! If you haven't heard about the campaigns yet this year, check with your Human Resources office. You'll also find frequently asked questions on each campaign's website.

These campaigns are as important to the cats as the donations we get from your purchases on AmazonSmile and the Daily Clicks! The 2020 CFC campaign ends on January 15, 2021. The SECC ends on March 1, 2021. The cats appreciate everyone who has donated to them through these yearly campaigns. If you aren't a federal or state employee but have friends or family members who are, please let them know about BCR and how they can help, too!

CLICK HERE to visit the CFC website – our charity number is 67324.

CLICK HERE to visit the North Carolina SECC website – our charity number is 3859.





As cold weather approaches, warm safe spots for outdoor cats get harder and harder to find. The good news is that it's very easy and cost-effective to put together shelters that can be those safe warm spots! If you'd rather purchase one than DIY, those are available, too.

Warm shelters are especially critical for stray cats and those who live in feral colonies. Check your area for TNR groups who might need a hand providing shelters for colonies near you. The same is true for stray cats in your neighborhood. You can help them by building a shelter.

Early fall is a great time to start putting winter shelters together. That way, when the truly cold weather comes, outdoor cats will know they have a place to go to get warm! Once your shelters are in place, keep an eye on them throughout the winter. Do any maintenance they need: keep them waterproof, replace the straw periodically, and put in new blankets, towels or whatever you've added for comfort.

Lots of How-to Info:

Check out all the different DIY winter shelters there are! **CLICK HERE**

Great tips from the experts for making your DIY shelter durable and waterproof. **CLICK HERE**

Want to see a video on how to create a DIY shelter? **CLICK HERE**



The BCR family is full of wonderful people who truly love the cats and we want you to meet them!

Each BCR cat sponsor gets a set of questions to answer and asked to send along

a photo of themselves or with their cat(s).

Are you interested in being in the Sponsor Spotlight? Email us and let us know!

How did you first learn about BCR?

I first learned about Blind Cat Rescue & Sanctuary from a former work colleague, Seth Jason, who, along with his wife, Katherine Hilton, brought their own blind cat, Marla, to a Combined Federal Campaign kickoff meeting to get the word out about BCR to encourage more donations. Before talking with them and seeing how happy Marla is, I never even thought about blind cats and the troubles they might face. I was shocked to learn that in some states blind cats are not even considered to be adoptable! As a long time cat lover, this was very upsetting, that just because they were blind these cats were in danger of being killed instead of living out their lives in a happy home.

Have you visited BCR and if so, what did you enjoy the most? What surprised you the most?

My dream is to get down to North Carolina to visit Blind Cat Rescue, to see all the cats, especially Elvira, and offer my thanks in person to the wonderful staff of BCR who make sure all the cats are healthy and happy. Until I do get down to North Carolina, I am content watching the cats online. It's great to see Elvira outside on the patio basking in the sun and resting on a top kuranda.



What cats do you sponsor? Why did you choose them?

Not long afterward learning about Blind Cat Rescue and Sanctuary, my own cat Koko lost his life from diabetes and I went to the Blind Cat Rescue and Sanctuary website hoping to cheer myself up by looking at all the cats. I happened upon the cats' page and was fortunate to see Elvira. Not only did she not have any sponsors at that time but she is also a beautiful black cat just like my cat Koko! I immediately knew I was supposed to sponsor Elvira and quickly sent an email to BCR volunteering to become Elvira's first

sponsor. While I have yet to meet Elvira in person, getting to see her on line and seeing her monthly picture is such a delight. It's gratifying to know that, thanks to BCR, Elvira will always have a safe and comfortable home.

I don't know if Elvira is a lap cat but when I do get to meet her in person she can be assured of plenty of chin scratches and a lap if she wants to be held. But I warn the staff in advance, they might want to do a head count when I leave because Elvira might jump into my tote bag! I'd also be ready to help clean the rooms, do the laundry, prepare meals and, of course, make sure any cat who wants some attention gets it!

If you could tell people one thing about BCR, what would it be?

I grew up with cats and they were respected and pampered members of the family. I learned at a young age that I might wind up sleeping diagonally on the bed or off to the side because my cat had already claimed a big chunk of the bed for his own. Seeing the cats at Blind Cat Rescue treated with similar respect and given the autonomy to live their lives as they desire is one of the things that drew me to BCR.

I own more than a few Blind Cat Rescue T-shirts and wear them with pride. Happily explaining to people what BCR is and what a wonderful job they do taking care of blind, FELV- and FIV-positive cats. I'm grateful that after seeing my shirts and hearing me talk several friends have also donated to BCR because it is a phenomenal organization with an incredible staff and volunteers.



Molly knows it's true! You can create a **Facebook birthday donation fundraiser!**Molly says "It's so easy!" - and each one helps the cats so much - here's how:

An average birthday fundraiser raises \$100 - for the cats, that pays for

A vet office visit ** A big bag of food ** A box of Fresh Step litter

YOUR fundraisers help make it possible for the cats to have the healthy and happy lives they deserve.

Set up is fun - <u>use this link to go to</u>

<u>Facebook</u> and follow the instructions.

Personalize your message, ask your friends and family to donate to your special cause, set a target, and even monitor how it's going and say thanks when your friends contribute!

The cats send a big thank you PURR to those who have already donated a birthday in 2020!







October 16 - National Feral Cat Day - Begun in 2001, this day is all about awareness - making sure people know about feral cats, how to care for them and how to reduce their number through spay and neuter programs. Many of BCR's cats were once strays and have experienced the dangers of living that life. We're glad to see more people learning about them and helping these cats!

Join the Friends of BCR!



<u>Marshmallow</u> and <u>Wifi</u> know that having friends is the BEST! They want you to find some friends, too, in the Friends of BCR Facebook group! Everyone shares photos and stories of their own kitties and you'll find the BCR cats there, too, along with helpful information! <u>Join our Friends of Blind Cat Rescue Facebook page today!</u>

The Cats are on TikTok!



Want to see more of your favorite BCR cats? In addition to Facebook and Instagram, you can also now find them on TikTok! On our TikTok page, you'll find short videos featuring all our wonderful felines! Follow us and you'll see new ones when they go up!

BCR's Famous Couples and Best Buddies!

Bear and Socks

These two sweet kitties have a close relationship and enjoy each other's company - especially when a cardboard box is involved!



Do Our Cats Name Us, Too?



BCR Cats in Action!

The dedicated BCR staffers spend every day with our very wonderful resident cats, seeing them play, learning about their personalities and finding out what they love! We want you to see what they see so we hope you enjoy these video clips of the BCR cats in action - doing what they do best! To view a video, just click where it says **CLICK HERE** or on the photos and sample life with the BCR cats!



Miss <u>Journey</u> can be pretty dramatic and has her own opinions on things. But she does LOVE her pets and rubs. Just see how she is putty in the hands of loving BCR staffers! <u>CLICK HERE</u> to see Journey in full attention mode!



Eggroll is kind of a miracle kitty. He's gone from being pretty terrified of everything to a being a very affectionate cat who regularly plays with his best friends. **CLICK HERE** to see how the BCR miracle worked for Eggroll!

Helping the cats is EZ!



Thank you!

Hey! We thank our eight



We LOVE our ebay sellers! With every purchase from one of our ebay sellers, they donate a portion of the sale back to us! Have a special event coming up? <u>Try ebay!</u>

Are You an ebay Seller who supports BCR?

Please let us know so we can thank you and shine some light on your special ebay auction page! <u>Just email us</u> and we'll be in touch with you!



A few free clicks each day can help the BCR cats! **CLICK HERE** to go to the ShopforYourCause website and start with the daily click, that gives 2 cents to BCR! Then take a quiz or two to add to that donation!





More and more companies are launching Matching Gift programs! Is your company one of them? Check here to see if you can <u>double your BCR donation</u>!



You shop. Amazon gives.

When you shop online, please <u>use Amazon Smile</u> and pick Blind Cat Rescue as your charity. With every purchase, their foundation donates to BCR. There is no charge to you!

Direct link: https://goo.gl/4DJHX2



Are you a Fresh Step Litter user? If you don't use your <u>Fresh Step Litter</u> paw points, please donate them to the cats! You'll help provide shelters with free litter in exchange for paw points!! We use more than 90 boxes of litter every month! Your points help us get free litter for the cats!! <u>CLICK HERE</u> for details.



Smudge hopes you won't say says BOO! to getting rid of your old vehicle and donating it to help the cats! I f you have an old car, truck, van, SUV, boat, motorcycle, ATV,



RV, trailer or even an airplane, you can donate it BCR. We'll even arrange pickup! Find out how here.

We thank those who have already donated a car this year!



Are you an Alexa user? Did you know that you can **make charitable donations using Alexa**? It's true. It's very easy and secure! All you have to say is: Alexa, make a donation to Blind Cat Rescue! She'll take it from there. Need more information on how this works? **CLICK HERE**.



We're all walking and being outside a lot these days. As you get your daily exercise, track your route and help the BCR cats at the same time! Sponsored by **BestFriends**, ResQwalk is a free app you can put on any phone.



Check out our very own cat-tastic dedicated site, <u>BCR on YouTube</u> - the home channel for the latest kitty videos, helpful cat-care hints, shelter tours and boxes sessions and even the history of BCR and its resident cats.



For all things cats - <u>follow BCR on Pinterest</u>! From DIY cat projects to articles and stories on cat health to cat tattoos and just fun photos, you'll find it all here!



Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, there are no open houses scheduled for 2020.

Important Reminder!

Please remember to add blindcat@blindcatrescue.com to your email "safe" list so we don't wind up in your Junk Mail box!























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