

## Donor Challenge to Help Shelter Cats

**Morris Animal Foundation funding feline studies to improve health of shelter cats.**

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An anonymous donor has pledged to match every dollar given to Helping Shelters Help Cats up to \$500,000. Morris Animal Foundation's Helping Shelters Help Cats program is funding three feline health studies that aim to help shelter cats stay healthy and stress-free until they are adopted.

These grants are made possible through an anonymous challenge gift in which the donor will match every dollar given to this program up to \$500,000, for a potential total of \$1 million. The Denver-based nonprofit will continue to take matching funds until it reaches its goal.

The studies include: "Effect of Cage Enrichment and Predictability on Healthy Outcomes of Shelter Cats," by Linda Lord, DVM, Ph.D., at Ohio State University "Effectiveness of Behavioral Interventions to Increase Mucosal Immune Response in Shelter Cats," by Clive Phillips, BSc, Ph.D., at University of Queensland "Comparison of Two Cage Types: Effect on Shelter Cat Stress, Upper Respiratory Disease and Adoption," by Kate Hurley, DVM, at University of California, Davis

This shelter-health initiative is part of MAF's Happy Healthy Cat Campaign, a global effort to increase funding for feline health research and training of new scientists.

In addition, everyone who makes a donation to Helping Shelters Help Cats between now and Friday, June 19, will be entered into a daily drawing for a "Treats & Toys" gift basket.

News of the three grants and the shelter program coincides with the promotion of Adopt a Cat Month in June.