



Friends of Metro Animal Services October 1, 2025 Newsletter

Sending Lots of Love: Give for Good Day

We are so thankful for the amazing community support we received on Give for Good Day! Over 230 people donated to FOMAS, which will help support our programs, like Pay It Forward. Thanks to this generous support, we surpassed our goal and raised over \$27,000.

Give for Good Day proves, once again, how powerful the love for our community pets can be. We are truly blown away by the impact that each of you has made by donating to save lives. Many animals will receive the care and attention they deserve thanks to your donation. In the past month, the Louisville community not only tuned in for the WHAS11 Telethon supporting FOMAS, but now Give for Good Day. Together, we are making a difference.



Not All Heroes Wear Capes, But Ours Do! Long-Stay Champions Program

Champions are individuals who have overcome obstacles, succeeded despite adversity, and risen above the rest. Metro Animal Services (MAS) is full of animals that we consider "Champions." To help these animals succeed and find their furever home, FOMAS funds the Long-Stay Champions Program, which focuses on animals that have been at the shelter for at least 45 days or longer.



The average length of stay at MAS for dogs is 14 days, while the average stay for cats is 9 days. While some animals find their homes within this time period, some animals are unfortunately overlooked. There are several factors, like size, age, and health condition, that impact how soon animals at the shelter are adopted. Our Long-Stay Champions Program is intended to highlight those animals so that we can improve their odds at getting adopted.

In addition to FOMAS covering the adoption fee, adopters who take home a Champion receive a free VIP package valued at over \$500. The VIP Package includes items such as: core vaccinations (covered for 3 years); Jefferson County Pet license (3-Year); heartworm preventative (6 months supply); a freedom harness with a leash; a bag of starter food; and a large crate (upon request). This package sets the Champion's new family up for success with their newest member. If you are looking to grow your family, please consider meeting a Champion. These animals have a lot to offer a loving family.



A Peek into the Void: Black Cats' Bad Reputation and Troubling History

With Halloween quickly approaching, we wanted to take a minute to explore the history and superstitions surrounding black cats. While in places like Egypt and Japan, black cats are generally associated with good luck, black cats have been widely associated with bad omens in many cultures. In medieval Europe, they were considered witches' companions, and this connection to witchcraft made them targets during the Salem Witch trials in North America. During the Bubonic Plague, black cats were hunted and blamed for the epidemic, when in reality, they were some of the best frontline fighters against the spread. As Halloween became a more mainstream holiday throughout the world, black cats were used as a poster child for the spooky and mysterious.



This is all fun and games until it impacts an animal's ability to get adopted. Some studies have found a historic "Black Cat Bias" that resulted in a higher rate of euthanasia and a lower rate of adoption for these furry felines, which was likely due to superstition and mythology. The good news is that the narrative for black cats appears to be shifting in recent years. Black cat adoption rates appear to be on the rise for the first time in history.

During the month of October, we want to shine a light on black cats and combat any historic misconceptions about these loveable and playful creatures. Let's finally embrace these cats and dispel the old myths surrounding them. So if a black cat crosses your path don't let it ruin your day, embrace it!

The Monthly Metro Animal Spotlight

Catchelor: Cleaner

Halloween is just around the corner and maybe having a little void (kitty) in your life wouldn't be so bad? Meet Cleaner (A786630). Unfortunately, this little man has been at MAS since August. He is 3 years old and is patiently awaiting his furever home. We caught up with his wingman at MAS on why he's just what you need:

"Don't be fooled by what you've heard about black cats. Cleaner is a sweet boy. This void just wants to cuddle up and disappear into you. He'll clean out a treat jar, so make sure yours has a good lid."



His perfect match would be someone not afraid of the myths and superstitions. If you want to love this cute boy, find out more about him [HERE](#)!



Barkchelor: Great American Cookie

We hope you have a sweet tooth for Great American Cookie (A784772), a 2-year-old Pit Bull Terrier mix. He is as sweet as his name and loves treats. We asked his wingwoman for more information on this eligible Barkchelor:

"Great American Cookie just wants to have a grand old time. It's so surprising that he has been in the shelter for 2 months now. He is a very sweet and intelligent pup. He loves going on long walks. He's learning that he can get an extra treat for a handshake or two. He lives for playtime and having fun. He has done wonders on his field trips outside of the shelter. He's just such a happy guy."

Great American Cookie's perfect match would be someone who enjoys long walks and a good time. If you want someone to bring joy into your day, he's the dog for you. Check him out [HERE](#) to get more information!

Upcoming Events

October 5 @ 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM |
Trunk for Treats (Metro Animal Services)
3516 Newburg Rd, Louisville, KY 40218

October 12 @ 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM |
Bark & Boo at Le Moo (MAS Days)
2300 Lexington Rd, Louisville, KY 40206

October 25 @ 9:00 AM - 12:00 AM |
Pumpkin Spice 5K at the Cherokee Park
745 Cochran Hill Rd, Louisville, KY 40206

October 25 @ 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM |
Adoption Event at Mall St. Matthews
5000 Shelbyville Rd, Louisville, KY 40207



October 25 @ 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM |
Nulu Halloween Festival
Nulu East Market District

Mark Your Calendar

October 1 | National Fire Pup Day

October 1 | National Black Dog Day

October 5 | National Do Something Nice Day

October 12-18 | National Veterinary Technician Week

October 22 | National Make a Dog's Day

October 27 | National Black Cat Day

October 29 | National Cat Day

Want to give back to your community?

FOMAS is always in need of dedicated volunteers and donations to help with the cause. Check out the links below to connect with us. Your support will go a long way in finding furever homes for animals just like Cleaner and Great American Cookie!

[Volunteer SignUp!](#)

[Donate Today!](#)

Contact Us:
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Administrative Assistant
admin@fomaslou.org

Learn More:
www.fomaslou.org

Donation Remittance:
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