

What is Good Mews?

Good Mews offers an alternative to traditional animal shelters in the Metro-Atlanta area by providing a no-kill, cage-free haven for homeless, abused, or abandoned cats until placing them in permanent, loving homes. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, we receive no government funding and instead rely solely on donations to care for our cats. Good Mews cares for around 100 cats in the shelter at any given time, with an additional 20-50 cats in foster care. As a shelter with limited resources, we are unfortunately forced to regulate the number of cats that we can help at Good Mews every year.

What is meant by the term “no kill” shelter?

There are varying definitions of the term “no kill” shelter depending on which organization you talk to. Most national organizations agree that a no kill shelter is defined as a shelter that does not euthanize any healthy, treatable, adoptable animals. However, another accepted definition of a no kill shelter is a shelter that maintains a save rate of 90% or more. This means that 90% of all admitted animals are adopted, reunited with their owner, transferred out to a licensed rescue organization, or are part of another live release shelter program. As industry standards continue to change, demands call for higher save rates of animals admitted into the shelter system. In fact, some organizations are looking to achieve a 95% save rate or more in order to call themselves a true “no kill” shelter.

What does “no kill” mean at Good Mews?

Once a cat is accepted into Good Mews, it has a home for life. Euthanasia is ONLY performed when a veterinarian has diagnosed that the cat’s quality of life is severely and permanently compromised by sickness or injury. No cat is ever euthanized to make room for another.

What is the difference between a limited admission shelter and an open admission shelter?

A limited admission shelter, like Good Mews, only accepts animals on a limited basis when there is enough space and resources to care for the animals they are accepting. At Good Mews, the number of cats that we save is directly tied to the amount of resources that we have. Conversely, an open admission shelter takes in ALL animals that come to their door. As a result, some open admission shelters are forced to euthanize for space, although many are working to become “no kill.”

How do cats arrive at Good Mews?

Good Mews takes cats from numerous places. We bring in cats from animal control or other open admission facilities where they may otherwise have been euthanized. We take in cats that are stray, injured, or abandoned. We help families that need to surrender their cats due to health or financial reasons. Additionally, Good Mews has worked with individuals, as well as law enforcement, to take in cats from hoarding cases. We are occasionally contacted by local veterinary and emergency clinics when they receive cats that need homes. Finally, “once a Good Mews cat, always a Good Mews cat” is a common saying here, as we ALWAYS take returns. We make every possible attempt to take cats from a variety of places in order to assist multiple areas throughout the region.

How many cats can Good Mews admit and care for every year?

The number of cats that Good Mews admits and cares for is subject to change every year. It is dependent upon our resources, as well as our adoption rates. In 2016 we were able to save 478 cats, which is a record number of intakes for Good Mews! However, sadly, this number pales in comparison to the thousands of intake requests that we received. Of the 478 cats that Good Mews rescued in 2016, 155 were pulled from animal control facilities and 152 were stray/abandoned, while the remaining 171 were made up of owner surrenders, hoarding situations, cats brought into partner vet clinics, and kittens born to pregnant mothers in Good Mews foster homes. Good Mews’ goal is always to rescue as many cats as we possibly can; that is why your help and support is so important to us in continuing our mission and assisting in our growth.

Does Good Mews have a wait list?

We are unable to operate a public waiting list due to the overwhelming number of intake requests that we receive each week. We would, however, be happy to post a flyer on the bulletin board in our shelter about the cat(s) available for adoption. Please include a colored picture if you can, and information concerning how a prospective adopter can contact you. Please send your flyer via mail to us at 3805 Robinson Road, Marietta, GA 30068. In addition, you may want to look at the “Resources” page on our website for a list of other no-kill shelters in the metro Atlanta area. You are welcome to check back with us after a few months to determine if space has opened up at our shelter.