

Forgotten Cats, Inc.



Dear Friends,

Champ was a broken cat, both physically and mentally. His story shakes us to our core and reminds us why we fight every single day to save the *forgotten cats*.

It started with frantic messages buzzing through my phone from a volunteer who had just found a severely injured cat in the woods next to a shopping center. "This cat was attacked. He's covered in blood and can't stand. I think he's dying. Please help this cat!"

Every time you make a gift to Forgotten Cats, you save the life of a homeless cat.

When Champ arrived at our facility, we could see his emaciated, bloody body was covered in deep, penetrating bite wounds. This poor cat's body and soul were ripped apart. The attack left him with two shattered legs, a severely deformed ear, and only one functioning eye. The infection caused by all of his wounds was quickly racing through his body, making him weaker and more uncomfortable by the minute. Would he ever walk again? Would he even live?

Was Champ bait for dog fighting?

We will never know exactly what happened to Champ that fateful day. Based on his bite wounds and the condition in which he was discovered, we believe that this sweet, innocent cat may have been used as bait for dog fighting. Once he was beaten up so badly and no longer deemed useful, he was dumped in the woods and left to die a slow and painful death all alone.

Surely, we thought, the vet would want to humanely euthanize him. There's no way he can survive this. The volunteers paced around and tried to keep their minds off the inevitable. When the vet peered into his cage, she couldn't believe her eyes. This battered cat with not one but two shattered legs stood up on all fours and slowly began to eat. The vet hushed down the excited volunteers and heard something we never thought we'd hear from a cat in this condition: a purr. Despite the agonizing pain, neglect and cruelty he had suffered, he couldn't help but purr knowing that someone had offered him food and was finally looking out for him.



How Your Donation Will Help

\$25 provides an exam, first vaccine and worming for a kitten!

\$50 protects a feral family of 4 cats from the harsh winter weather!

\$100 provides the TNR (Trap, Neuter, Release) and sterilization of a female and male cat, preventing the birth of 2100 homeless cats within 4 years!

\$500 removes a small colony of cats from a dangerous situation and relocates to a safe barn home!

\$2,000 pays the rent for one month in one Forgotten Cats' facility!

It was in this moment that we named him Champ. Because he is a fighter, and if he is going to fight then so are we.

Because of you, we are able to fight for homeless, neglected cats like Champ.

A foster opened her heart and home to Champ knowing that the odds were against him. She figured that if nothing else, she would at least show him what it felt like to be loved.

Each day, Champ grew stronger. He purred, ate and snuggled. He stuck his nose in the air to ask for kisses. For probably the first time in his life, he felt love and compassion. Over the next three months, Champ's treatment plan included strict cage rest, medicine, x-rays, bloodwork, fluids, ophthalmology consults, check-ups and endless amounts of TLC.

Champ defied all odds. He now not only walks but he runs, jumps and plays! His beautiful black coat shines where his body was once riddled with bites and bruises. Champ still wears the scars of his past, but when we look at him, we see a fighter — a champion.

Champ's foster home turned into his forever home. His mama didn't want him to ever again feel one millisecond of fear, pain or abandonment. Champ is no longer forgotten.

Your support and generosity make this work possible.

This holiday season, please consider making a tax-deductible donation to Forgotten Cats so that we can continue to provide second chances for the thousands of forgotten cats and kittens just like Champ.

From all of us at **Forgotten Cats**, thank you for being such a compassionate friend to the cats, today and every day.

All the best,

Felicia Cross

Felicia Cross
Founder and Executive Director

P.S. Want to see how Champ is doing today? Head over to forgottencats.org for cute videos, pictures and a note from his forever family.

