

MY GRANDFATHER'S CAT



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

MYGRANDFATHERSCAT.CA

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER

As the second year of My Grandfather's Cat has come to a close, I am in awe of how this small charity has grown in this past year.

Since we launched on May 18, 2021, we have found second forever homes for more than 120 cats and dogs, with 79 of those second forever homes being found just in our second year of operation.

Our impact is felt around the world. As of May 2023, we had built a social media community of more than 60,000. Our work has inspired people to adopt senior cats from shelters and plan for their pets future.

I am proud to say our service has become a reliable way of seniors and terminally ill people finding homes for their pets, while providing comfort to those we serve. We continue to provide this service for free and not charge adoption fees.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you for believing in the work of My Grandfather's Cat. You make my dream a reality every single day, and I'm so grateful for your kindness, dedication and support.



Angela Rafuse is the Founder and CEO of My Grandfather's Cat  
Mackenzie Rafuse is the Founding Cat and our Inspiration



# OUR MISSION

My Grandfather's Cat is a registered Canadian charity that helps seniors and terminally ill people arrange homes for their pets before they move into retirement homes or pass away.

Through the generosity of donors, we are able to provide our service for free and not charge adoption fees. We are operational in all Canadian provinces and territories.

# OUR VALUES

At My Grandfather's Cat, our goal is to embody our values in every decision we make, with every adoptable we help, and every action we make.

## **Kindness**

We believe that you can be the change you want to see in the world.

## **Empowerment**

We will provide a service that is empowering to seniors and terminally ill people.

## **Transparency**

We will show you how your support is making a difference.

## **Inspiration**

We want to inspire others to take action and make change.



# 79

## second forever homes found

“As the average age of our adoptables is 12 years old,  
it isn’t always easy, but it is so worth it”

This year, we found 79 second forever homes for the animals of seniors and terminally ill people. Many families turned to us after a loved one had passed away, and there was no one in the family able to take the animal.

As the average age of our adoptables is 12 years old, it isn’t always easy, but it is so worth it. From cats with diabetes to cats that were 17 years old, our service was able to help animals regardless of the stage they are in life find loving homes.



Beanie, age 12  
Adopted June 2022



Daisy, age 17  
Adopted March 2023

# OUR 100TH SECOND FOREVER HOME FOUND

“our rehoming service has a 98% success rate”

In January 2023, we celebrated finding 100 second forever homes across Canada.

Through our detailed process of matching an adoptable to a family that meets their needs, our rehoming service has a 98% success rate. We proudly provide our service for free and do not charge adoption fees.

We are so grateful for the seniors and terminally ill people who trusted our service, our dedicated team of volunteers, our generosity donors and our community for making this milestone a reality.



# 950

## adoption volunteer hours

This year, our volunteers contribute more than 950 hours to our rehoming service. This included vetting each family we serve, getting to know the adoptable, writing the adoptables profile and vetting interested applicants.

This doesn't include volunteer time dedicated to fundraising, donations and more.





# DEXTER'S STORY

“Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we were able to cover Dexter’s emergency veterinarian expenses”

When his human passed away from terminal cancer six years ago, sweet Dexter was in need of a second forever home.

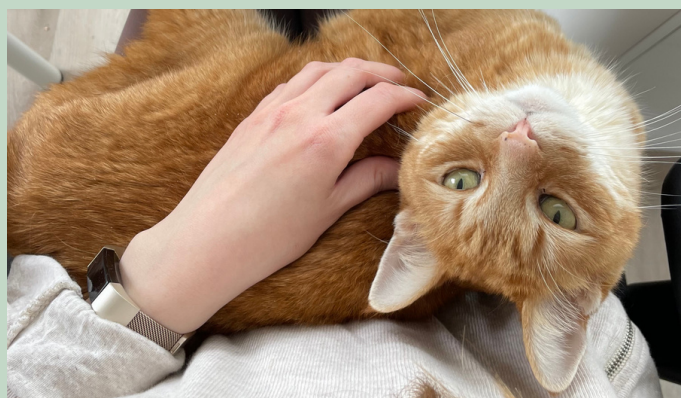
In a time before My Grandfather’s Cat existed, family members were able to house Dexter temporarily throughout the years, but when he was diagnosed with diabetes, they realized he needed stability. That’s when they decided to contact My Grandfather’s Cat.

Within a few days, a second forever home was found. While sweet Dexter settled in, the family had a change of heart and decided they couldn’t adopt him after all.

As he wasn’t able to return to the previous home he had been staying in, Dexter was picked up by our founder and transportation volunteer, Peter, and taken to the home of our emergency foster, Evelyn.

On the second day of his stay, Dexter began to show signs that he wasn’t feeling well. As he is a diabetic cat, we worried about his insulin levels and took him to be checked out by our local veterinarian. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we were able to cover his emergency veterinarian expenses.

While many kind families came forward with interest in adopting Dexter, the family felt that Julia could give him the stable second forever home he needed. She adopted him just five days before Christmas. He settled in nicely knowing he is in his forever home.



# EDNA AND DELIA'S STORY

“He was determined to find a home for his beloved cats before he passed away”

After a noble battle with terminal cancer, Edna and Delia's human chose medically assisted dying, meaning his beloved cats were in need of a second forever home. He reached out to his friends and family on social media, but no one was able to provide a home for these three-year-old sisters. That's when someone suggested he contact My Grandfather's Cat.

With a date in place, they began working to write a profile for the girls and send it out to our community. He was able to interview many interested adoptees, but ultimately chose Elizabeth to be their second forever family.

While we often work to keep animals with their human up until the very last day, he wanted the girls to move into their second forever home early. The girls settled in quickly and when the date came, he had the comfort of knowing his girls had a home where they will be loved for the rest of their lives.





# FROM OUR FAMILIES AND ADOPTEES

“About a month ago I found my new best friend. He has completely changed my world and I’m so happy we took the jump. When I saw Earl I knew he had to come home with us.”

– Earl Grey’s mom

“Zoey has become an incredible emotional support for my Mom. She snuggles and quietly talks to Mom. They are just two best friends sharing. Zoey rescued my Mom, and has brought so much to her life.”

– Robyn, Zoey’s mom

“She has settled in so well, not even a week of her being here and she’s getting more comfy each day. She is so sweet and cute. We love her!”

– Eva, Tinker’s mom

“It was quickly obvious that Beanie had a wonderful life with Oma, and then Rachel, before she joined our family. Ours is an "open" adoption and I send Rachel texts and pics from time to time.”

– Diane, Beanie’s mom

# REASONS TO SUPPORT OUR WORK



## **Our Rehoming Service**

We provide our rehoming service for free without charging adoption fees.

Our expenses include marketing costs to find potential adoptees, emergency vet expenses, salaries to manage this program and fundraising.

The annual cost to run this program is approx. \$50,000.



## **Our Pet Pantry**

Our pet pantry, which is set to launch next year, will provide 100 seniors across Canada with pet food and supplies, delivered right to their door. Our expenses will include pet food, costs to ship across Canada, salaries to manage this program and fundraising.

The annual cost to run this program will be approx. \$25,000.



## **No Adoption Fees**

Our operating expenses included our accounting fees, our donation platform, our website, volunteer emails, additional salaries and merchandise.

The annual operating costs outside our programs is approximately \$20,000.

# DEDICATION

The work of My Grandfather's Cat is, and always will be, dedicated to our founder's grandparents, Esther and Byron Rafuse.

They were proud parents to three children, six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. They filled their home with love, laughter and animals, including many cats, dogs, birds, rabbits, chickens, and one pig named Oinky.

They loved when their home was filled with family, especially their birthdays, which is why Angela chose to launch the organization on her grandfather's birthday.

We know they are beaming with pride as they watch from high above the clouds.







My Grandfather's Cat  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
[mygrandfatherscat.ca](http://mygrandfatherscat.ca)

Charitable Registration  
76082 1264 RR0001



@mygrandfatherscat