

AUGUST VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

ALEXA ELIZONDO

What I like best about volunteering at Colony Cats:

I love so many aspects of volunteering with Colony Cats, it's hard to choose just one to be the best. Between all the friends I've met over the years who share my passion of helping the kitties, and getting the chance to change the life of a cat for the better... it's a tough choice! But, at the end of the day, I think the best thing is having such a strong community where everyone is working towards the same goal - helping animals.

My pets at home:

I have two rambunctious babies at home! **Kaito** was an orphaned stray who was found by a farmer - the fluffy runt became a part of my family when he was 6 months old. Fast forward to now, he's a very big 7-year-old man who fills my heart with such joy! The Big Man, as we call him, loves playing fetch with his springs and snuggling. His sister is **Bianca**, aka Babygirl, and she's been a part of the family for 3 years and turns 5 this year! She's the extrovert and loves to greet any and all guests who come to the apartment. When she's not playing with her brother she can be found snuggling up with her dad.

What I'd like you to know about me:

I didn't start out as a cat person (crazy to think that now)! I grew up with a dog, Junior, who was the best boy. I never thought I would own TWO cats and spend the last 5 years as an intake cleaner at Colony Cats. Originally, I was allergic to cats as well. A daily regimen of Kaito snuggles and allergy medicine eventually got my body used to it and now I no longer take medication!

Where you can find me when I'm not volunteering for Colony Cats:

Going on walks through the park with my partner or exploring local restaurants and coffee shops! I'm also always searching for good pop-up craft markets and hitting up the farmer's market. When I'm not out on the town I'm usually home snuggling with my cats and playing Animal Crossing.



What's your advice to a new Colony Cats volunteer?:

Use every encounter with a kitty as one to show them love and patience. A lot of the time, you might be their first encounter with a caring human, so take the time to show them kindness and respect. The best payoff is when you see the same cat over a period of time go from angry and scared into one who LOVES pets and attention, those kinds of stories make it all worth it.

Your unique Q&A, thoughts, or favorite saying:

One of the quotes I think is perfect for a CC&D volunteer, or really anyone: *"You can always, always give something, even if it is only kindness"* - Anne Frank

ColonyCats
& dogs

