

MARCH VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH TOLENE ABAZA



What I like best about volunteering at Colony Cats:

Colony Cats quickly turned into my home away from home. I became part of a supportive and welcoming community after moving to Ohio. It's the perfect place to de-stress and get some self care - while petting cats and helping them find the purrrfect furrrever homes.

My pets at home:

My father was a huge animal lover and I've been blessed to have the same love he had. Right now (including my family pets) we have a total of 6 cats: **Zatar, Olive, Juju, Fufu, Zuko,** and **Tofu!** I'm grateful to have family that helps take care of all the fluff balls even when I'm miles away from home. Although, I must admit that without a doubt Fufu is my soul cat.

You can follow my furrriently felines on IG: @zukoandtofu

What I'd like you to know about me:

I have a masters degree in counseling, but my true joy and passion is animals. I'm a Jersey girl that has loved cats for as long as I can remember. I lived in California for a short period of time (before moving to Ohio), where I had the best job working at a cat café! I couldn't start one of my own, so the next best thing was to work for one. I'm currently the Colony Cats café coordinator, where I help pick the perfect cats for the café. I'm also on the foster admin team - but you'll find me all over Colony Cats helping whenever and wherever I can.

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

If I've been missing from Colony Cats for a while it usually means I'm visiting my family back home in Jersey. Otherwise, you'll usually always find me at Colony Cats... I can't stay away!

Dogs or Cats Rule?:

Cats, definitely! What's not to love about them?! They're the perfect little creatures that teach us about respecting boundaries and self worth. They confidently carry themselves no matter what.



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

With all the different areas and needs we have, there's something for everyone! We're ALL volunteers so everyone is there because they WANT to be there. There's flexibility in what you do and someone is always willing to lend you a hand or answer any questions you may have. Most importantly, find an area that you enjoy and have fun with it!

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

"Verily, with every hardship comes ease."

