

CAT MATCH

Staff Spotlight: Josh Matter

For almost two years, Josh Matter has been part of the cat staff at Paws and Claws Humane Society (PCHS). As a member of the cat staff, he helps to keep the cat areas clean and give the cats any care that they need, whether it's pets or medications. He also assists with adoptions.

Josh has a long history of working with animals. He volunteered with another shelter years ago and really enjoyed the time with the cats and helping find the right cat-match. After working at a boarding facility, he realized that although he liked caring for the animals, he really missed the satisfaction of being part of adoptions. It was at that time that he decided to stop in to PCHS and see if there was need for a guy who gets along well with "MOST" cats. Luckily for PCHS, there was!

"It always feels good to help someone find the right cat-match, and then to see a cat we've come to know and love find their very own home and person."

— Josh Matter

One of the most rewarding parts of the job for Josh is sending cats to their Forever Home. "It always feels good to help someone find the right cat-match, and then to see a cat we've come to know and love find their very own home and person," says Josh. "It always feels a little extra special when the cat that is being adopted was one that came to us injured, broken, sick, or just barely hanging on, and is now healthy, happy, and heading home!" The hardest part of the job for him is losing an animal. It is part of the job, and sometimes they are in such pain that letting them go is the only humane choice. However, it still hurts every single time.

Another rewarding part of the job for Josh is working with the cats that are timid and afraid when they arrive, and then helping them to come out of their shells. That is why his current favorite cat at PCHS is Joy. Joy has been at PCHS for nearly a year. When she came in, she was nothing but hisses and flashing teeth and claws.

A rainbow of delightful cats in need of a Forever Home. From Left: Joy, Emmett, Margje, Mochi, Oscar, & Patrick.



Josh Matter loves working with the cats at Paws and Claws and helping people looking to adopt, find their perfect cat-match. Above: Josh and Scooter enjoy some fun buddy time!

She would hide behind and underneath whatever she could. She certainly didn't want to be petted or touched. Over the time she has been here, Josh has worked on making friends with her first, and is now trying to help her make friends with other people. She's come a long way, and now is one of the first cats to run to Josh when he enters her room. Josh can't wait until she meets that special person who will understand her and take her to her Forever Home!

When not at PCHS, Josh spends time with his five-year-old cat, Hailee. She came into the first shelter he helped at, went straight to his heart and they've been inseparable ever since! Josh also enjoys cooking and he looks for new recipes to try with his family and friends. In the same vein, he also enjoys trying new restaurants, dishes and cuisines – getting new recipe ideas, no doubt! He can also be found reading or looking for new music to add to his playlists.