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JAMAICA PLAIN

Purrr-fect fit: A kitten adopted every minute at weekend event

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(Brian Adams, MSPCA-Angell)

Boston residents Steve Tanchuk and Kaileigh Mulligan with their new kitten companion Henry. Henry, his mother and siblings were surrendered after he and the rest of his litter were born.

By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

It's hard to think of a more adorable statistic for something happening once a minute.

At a nonprofit humane society's headquarters in Jamaica Plain Sunday evening, around one kitten was adopted each minute during the first hour of an event designed to move dozens of kittens from foster care to permanent homes.

More than 100 people, including adopters' friends and family, attended the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals-Angell's "Kitten Adopt-a-thon" in Boston, where 54 young felines met their new caretakers, said the organization's spokesman, Brian Adams.

"We had a line out the door before the adoption area even opened," Adams said.

In order to adopt the kittens through the program, individuals had to apply and be approved ahead of time and pay a \$200 fee. Around 40 cats were

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available for adoption initially, but after those kittens had all been claimed, more had to be brought in, he said.

The initial round of kittens, which were dropped off by foster families last week to be vaccinated, micro-chipped, and spayed or neutered, went home with their new owners on Sunday. The additional kittens that had to be brought in will go to their new homes today after they are spayed or neutered, said Adams.

The MSPCA holds adopt-a-thons when the number of certain animals in foster homes becomes high because the events are "very streamlined" and "the best way to find them new homes" in a safe, but quick manner, he said. Such a rapid transfer of kittens to permanent homes frees up more participants in the organization's foster program to take in homeless animals, which are often in need of special care.

Though animal adopt-a-thons are only several years old, the events have become very popular and are often well-promoted by people and groups outside the MSPCA, said Adams. That, combined with greater public and staff familiarity with the adoption process, has made adopt-a-thons efficient enough to produce the speedy adoption rates reached Sunday.

"Our last Adopt-A-Thon this past summer was such a success - we found homes for most of the kittens in the first hour," said MSPCA foster care coordinator Bryn Conklin in a release prior to the event. "Our foster care network has been essential in helping us save the lives of hundreds of kittens this summer and even more as we continue into the fall months."

More than 14,000 animals have been taken in and cared for at the organization's four Bay State adoption centers so far this year, a figure that is on pace with the MSPCA's annual average, Adams said. More than 1,200 kittens have been brought to the group's Boston adoption center this year, including over 90 since September 22, said the event release.

For more MSPCA photos from the event, [click here](#).

To contact MSPCA-Boston regarding adoptions and programs please call 617-522-5055 or visit www.mspca.org/boston.

E-mail Matt Rocheleau at mjrochele@gmail.com.

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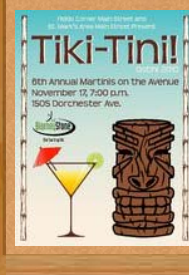


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(Brian Adams, MSPCA-Angell)

Lefty (pictured), and her sister Levi, were found at one week old and brought to MSPCA-Boston for care. The duo was bottle fed by hand through organization's foster care program and only waited a few minutes to be adopted Sunday.

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