

Thomas after a few weeks of care

## What Your Support Means to Thomas

Every year, we perform several rescues that perfectly embody the importance of our work and of the Radiothon which raises essential funds to save these lives. This year, we were contacted by a desperate person who found a cat unable to walk. All four feet had open wounds, and in those wounds were maggots crawling around and eating the cat alive. The kind person reached out for help from several places and was turned away. Someone suggested that she call Animals in Distress, and she knew this was her last hope.

At such times, we can't sit around debating what to do. If such animals are to have any chance, they need medical care right away. No guarantee of outcome, but at least a chance—which is what they would not get elsewhere.

The orange cat, whom we named Thomas, was rushed to our vet and spent several days in the hospital so they could manage his pain, change his bandages, and work on trying to save his feet from amputation. He also had wounds on other parts of his body, parasites, and severe upper respiratory and eye infections. We have decided not to share pictures of his condition for fear people would get too upset.

As you can see, the donations we get from all of YOU are the difference between pain and death, or life and hope. Thomas and many of our other rescues have experienced more pain and fear than some of us experience in a lifetime, and they just need someone to step up and save them. **That someone is YOU.**