CATalyst Council believes

- Cats are wonderful household pets with different personalities and qualities which can be matched with any person’s lifestyle.
- Animal care and control facilities should be the first source for anyone seeking to adopt a cat.
- Companion cats should be neutered unless they are used for responsible breeding or showing.
- All cats should have environments that are enriched.
- Owners should provide a nutritionally sound diet for their cat as recommended by their veterinarian.
- For optimum safety and health, companion cats are best supervised as indoor-only pets.
- Pet owners should be counseled on the proper claw care and that declawing is not necessary in most cases.
- All companion cats should have a microchip and wear a collar and tag(s) with up-to-date identification information.
- Cats should not be abandoned outdoors. Feral and community cats need to be addressed as a community issue to reduce the suffering of cats.
- Owners who lose their cat should report it immediately to a local shelter to increase the chance of being reunited.
- Veterinarians and adoption organizations should recommend that all cats, starting as kittens, have pet health insurance to ensure they receive optimal veterinary care without concern for cost.
- Companion cats should see their veterinarian within one week of acquisition and at least once a year thereafter for a complete physical examination and preventive care to ensure a lifetime of health and happiness.
- Companion cats should receive parasiticides including heartworm preventives and vaccinations as recommended by evidence-based preventive care guidelines and their veterinarian.
- Owners should consult their veterinarian or a veterinary behaviorist if they observe problems they perceive to be behavioral in nature.
- Together we can debunk myths and negative connotations about cats and improve their standing and well-being.