



## Eastside Spay & Neuter Program (ESNP)

Project #  
16-113

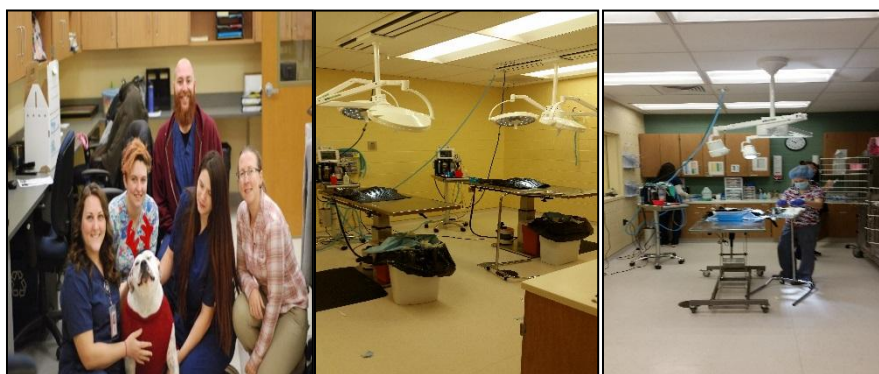
County: Baltimore County

<b>Number of Cats Spayed:</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>Number of Dogs Spayed:</b>	<b>176</b>
<b>Number of Cats Neutered:</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>Number of Dogs Neutered:</b>	<b>170</b>

<b>Amount Received: \$45,514.00</b>	<b>Amount Remaining (to be returned to MDA): 0</b>
-------------------------------------	--

### Project Synopsis:

This Project targeted low-income pet owners in the Baltimore County zip codes 21219 and 21222 and proposed to provide no-cost surgeries to 770 cats and 346 dogs.



### Project Description:

Baltimore County Animal Services (BCAS) is the only open admission shelter in Baltimore County, and averages 5,000 live impounds per year. This project focused on providing free spay/neuter services (including the following services provided by Baltimore County at no additional charge; rabies vaccination, microchip, Baltimore County pet license, initial distemper vaccination, deworming and if necessary, flea treatment) for low income areas of the eastern portion of Baltimore County, in an attempt to reduce the homeless/unwanted pet population, reduce the total number of animals impounded by the shelter, and reduce the overall euthanasia rate. While BCAS offers low cost spay/ neuter pet packages to all of it's citizens, it is understood that there can still be a barrier to entry even at a low cost price point. In addition to the free surgical procedures, a Spay/Neuter outreach coordinator met with community leaders and residents of the designated areas to explain the benefits of spaying/neutering their owned animals. Through this generous grant from the Maryland Department of Agriculture, BCAS was able to provide over 1,100 free spay/neuter procedures and did so in less than half of the designated period of performance time.

### Summary of Approach:

Through inter agency collaboration, community canvassing by the Outreach Coordinator, social media, word of mouth, volunteers sharing and reposting information, and County wide broadcasts and fliers, BCAS set out to participate in its very first Maryland Department of Agriculture Spay/Neuter Grant. A stair step approach was the initial plan, with scheduled increases in the amount of Grant funded procedures performed. The initial response was overwhelming and very quickly the calendar backed up 2, then 3, then 4 months with citizens eagerly registering their animals for this wonderful opportunity. As demand continued to increase, more surgical time was redirected from paying pet owners and allotted to grant participants in effort to accommodate the demand.



**MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**SPAY AND NEUTER GRANTS PROGRAM**



**Accomplishments:**

As previously stated, the program was a huge success, with over 1100 pets being altered in 9 months. Originally, the grant was approved for an 18 month period, with gradual increases in surgical slots being allotted to grant participants. It was quickly apparant that if the original plan was followed, there would soon be a 6+ month wait for a free grant appointment, which is not advisable from a customer service stand point and could result in additional litters being born in the time spent waiting for the appointment. The decision was made to decrease the paid surgical time slots in order to increase the grant slots to the maximum amount in order to schedule the grant participants sooner rather than later. We found that many of the pets from the grant were seeing a veterinarian for the very first time and took this opportunity to share with their owners the importance of follow up visits with private veterinarians to booster their pets vaccinations and promote overall good pet health.

**Lessons Learned:**

Baltimore County Animal Services learned that it was necessary to overbook the appointment slots as a higher than average "no show" rate occurred, even with confirmation and reminder emails.

**Attachments:**

ESNP Grant 2016 final patient list.xlsx

**For More Information Contact:****Name:**

Gary Klunk, Management Analyst  
410-887-0941  
gpklunk@baltimorecountymd.gov

**Organization Name and Address:**

Baltimore County Animal Services  
13800 Manor Road  
Baldwin, MD 21013  
410-887-7297

**Email:** [animalservices@baltimorecountymd.gov](mailto:animalservices@baltimorecountymd.gov)

