



Project Meow

Project #
FY19-424

County: Cecil County Maryland

Number of Cats Spayed:	208	Number of Dogs Spayed:	0
Number of Cats Neutered:	133	Number of Dogs Neutered:	0
Amount Received: \$26,781.95		Amount Remaining (to be returned to MDA):	0

Project Synopsis:

To focus on key zip codes within Cecil County Maryland to spay and neuter feral felines.



Project Description:

CFA's plan was to continue to spay and neuter all the community cats within Cecil County as funding allowed. There are approximately 9,000 unaltered feral felines in Cecil County. According to CCAS, this represents 85% of their feline intake and complaint calls.

This goal continues to be accomplished with CFA trained volunteers that will work alongside colony captains to trap and transport ferals to be altered to the the Miss Cat Spay and Neuter Surgical Suite. This program continues to lower intake to CCAS and increase their live release rate.

Cecil County's Community Cat Coalition led by CFA and CCAS held workshops to reach out to these target areas. The main goal was to educate colony captains to effectively manage and care for their respective colonies. TNR and its benefits were reviewed along with the feline trapping process. CFA volunteers or colony caretakers trapped and transported to Miss Cat Spay and Neuter Surgical Suite. 100% of these felines trapped were assessed for intake into our adoption program. All kittens were removed and placed in foster care. This process reduced the number of cats being released into the community as well as future litters being born. Cats not suitable for our adoption program were spayed/neutered, ear tipped, vaccinated and released back into their colony.

Additionally, CFA continues to ask that CCAS forward any complaint calls of feral colonies to CFA. Our dedicated volunteers make contact and assess the colonies for sterilization needs.

Summary of Approach:



During this grant cycle CFA completed 341 sterilizations. This process was a two-fold method in 2019, Targeted Zip Code Mapping and the Complaint Based Driven Concept.

1. Targeted Zip Code Area:

Since the founding of CFA our loyal volunteers, CCAS and residents have identified multiple colonies in Cecil County needing TNR. The following zip codes have the highest rate of feral colonies and we will continue our TNR efforts until they are 100% complete through the mapping concept.

- A. 21903 (Perryville)
- B. 21904 (Port Deposit)
- C. 21901 (North East)
- D. 21918 (Conowingo)
- E. 21911 (Rising Sun)
- F. 21921 and 21922 (Elkton)
- G. 21915 Chesapeake City.

2. Complaint Driven Concept:

CFA received over 300 compliant driven calls for help with feral felines in 2018. YTD, CFA has received over 150 calls for help. We believe this increase in calls is due to opening the Miss Cat Spay and Neuter Surgical Suite. Our schedules were arranged to sterilize up to 150 felines a month, this includes augmenting surgeries for our county shelter, CCAS. This program assisted the county with reducing their shelter intake as well as reducing their shelter euthansia rate.

We had either a monthly meeting or a conference call with the Executive Director of CCAS to discuss best practices. Our commitment to the county did not stop with just providing services to CCAS. We also assisted any person in the county that contacted us with a colony, regardless of size, through this program.

Accomplishments:

With the generous support from The Maryland Department of Agriculture, CFA has altered 1840 felines at the Miss Cat Spay and Neuter Surgical Suite since opening. During this grant period 341 felines were altered and 327 received rabies. This life saving program is making a difference, kitten intake was slightly down at the beginning of 2019. CFA's kitten intake for 2019 was 289. 27 Adults were accessed and deemed adoptable from feral colonies. CFA continues to provide services for Cecil County Animal Services. We provide them with at least 10 to 15 slots each surgery day.

Lessons Learned:

CFA continues to improve efficiencies within the surgical suite. Many forms have been changed, process for intake and recovery have improved as well. We continue to cross train other veterinarians with High Quality, High Volume Spay and Neuter procedures. CFA will be applying for Team Training with the Humane Alliance in 2020. Our goal is 30 cats per surgery day. We started to overbook by 20% for each surgery day due to cancellations. Trapping colonies 100% is much more efficient. We have also had to become more efficient turning over the surgical suite when we have back to back surgery days. A major donor provided funds for an additional anesthesia machine.

Attachments:

see attached

For More Information Contact:

Name:

Dawn Cowhey, President CFA

Organization Name and Address:

Chesapeake Feline Association
PO Box 743
North East, MD 21901



410-597-0663

Email: redawn33@gmail.com or Chesapeakefelineassociation@gmail.com



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SPAY AND NEUTER GRANTS PROGRAM

