



Spay/Neuter Midshore 2023

Project #

23-8027

County: MD

Number of Cats Spayed: 281

Number of Dogs Spayed: 81

Number of Cats Neutered: 217

Number of Dogs Neutered: 69

Amount Received: \$43,595

Amount Remaining (to be returned to MDA): \$0.00

Project Synopsis:

Spay/Neuter Midshore is an overarching spay/neuter program providing services to residents of Talbot and Dorchester counties in Maryland, shelter pets and local rescue assistance. The Maryland Department of Agriculture specifically assists pet owners who qualify for no-cost services through this program.



Maryland Department of Agriculture
Spay and Neuter Grants Program



Project Description:

The MDA funded portion of Spay/Neuter Midshore accounts for approximately 40% of the surgeries performed through our overarching program. This program provides spay/neuter and vaccination services free of charge to qualifying residents of Talbot and Dorchester Counties in Maryland. Talbot Humane subsidizes the cost of core vaccines, geriatric bloodwork, as well as other veterinary services deemed necessary by the attending veterinarian which allows for a healthier life for pets and their people.

Summary of Approach:

We are the facilitators for the services provided at participating veterinary clinics- with more than 95% of our surgeries being completed at Shore Pet Surgery (formerly Spay Now) in Grasonville. Our Spay/Neuter Coordinator processes all applications and determines if applicants qualify for the no cost or low cost programs. She schedules the surgeries which take place every Thursday. Once scheduled owners are mailed a reminder card 10 days prior to surgery with directions for that day. They are called the Monday prior to surgery with a reminder. Owners bring the animals to Talbot Humane between 7:30 and 8:30A at which time they sign surgical permission forms, pay for any elective services they may have chosen to have for the animal. The animals are transported to Shore Pet Surgery and return the same day to Talbot Humane for discharge to the owners. At discharge each owner receives instructions for aftercare and any medications that may have been sent with the animal.

Accomplishments:

Talbot Humane committed to providing at least 572 surgeries for dogs and cats within Talbot and Dorchester counties in Maryland for calendar year 2023. We exceeded our goal with the granted funds by 12% or 76 more surgeries than planned. The entire program served 844 privately owned animals, more than 400 shelter pets, and assisted in spay/neuter for several community cat projects through 2023. We are pleased to have the opportunity to provide these services to residents of these 2 counties. We have witnessed notable decline in the numbers of puppies and kittens entering our care over the past 10 years.



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Lessons Learned:

This year we have found focusing on ensuring owners understand the process, procedures they are agreeing to and the risks and rewards has been paramount. Additionally we are focused on target area spay/neuter where we are seeing an increased surrender or stray rate in both Talbot and Dorchester counties.

For More Information Contact:

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