



## St. Mary's Animal Welfare League's St. Mary's Spay Neuter Your Pet (SNYP) Program

Grant ID  
FY23-8079  
Owned Pets

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**County(ies) Served:** St. Mary's County

**Date of Final Report:** 3/20/2024

**Number of Cats Spayed Total:** 119

**Number of Dogs Spayed Total:** 34

**Number of Cats Neutered Total:** 92

**Number of Dogs Neutered Total:** 25

**Number of Cat Surgeries Total:** 211

**Number of Dog Surgeries Total:** 59

**Total Number of Surgeries Completed:** 270

**Grant Amount Awarded:** \$29,970.00

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

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### Project Synopsis:

We had an overwhelming response to these grants this year and expended the full grant in less than three quarters. Because we use three different clinics we have seen almost no difficulty in scheduling surgeries this year, with the except of surgeries for large dogs. We are continuing to provide assistance using our own funds at this time as the community need is great and we have been successful with fundraising efforts. An additional 55 surgeries have been provided using SMAWL funds. Surgeries for cats far outnumbered requests for dogs.

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### Project Description:

SMAWL's Spay Neuter Your Pet (SNYP) Program serves the St. Mary's County community. We provide vouchers for spay or neuter surgeries to community members in financial need that can be redeemed at 3 local participating vet clinics. We pay for the costs of surgery and rabies vaccine. Marketing materials that will target the populations most in need of the SNYP Program will be provided by SMAWL and will be primarily distributed at community events, the local clinics and vet offices. St. Mary's Animal Control also distributes information regarding our program and in this partnership we have been able to target community members with pets at risk of losing their pets due to behavior issues associated with remaining intact. We also have the support of a local group who prepares a bi-monthly newsletter which highlights our adoptable animals and our programs, including the SNYP program. Additionally we have budgeted for a limited number of free rabies vaccines to our low-cost clinic clients who meet our financial criteria.

### Summary of Approach:

SMAWL has presented grant information along with spay/neuter education materials at many community events. Working alongside Animal Control officers, we are also able to target individuals who are at risk for losing their pets as a result of behavior issues resulting from remaining intact. Local clinics have also provided us with patients who are unable to pay for their surgeries. Review of eligibility is conducted by a team of 4-5 volunteers and we are generally able to approve and schedule within a week of our first contact with the pet owner.

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**Accomplishments:**

We completed 270 surgeries with grant money provided by the Department of Agriculture. We have also funded an additional 55 surgeries with SMAWL's funds due to successful fundraising efforts.

**Lessons Learned:**

We need to find additional grant sources and the Board is working on that. We also need to add staff for reporting purposes.

**Project Photos:****For More Information Contact:**

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