



A Cat's Life Rescue

Spay It, Don't Spray It

Project #
24-9094

Date of Report: 10/24/2024

Project Focus: Feral Cats

County(ies) Serviced: Prince George's County

Total Number of Cats Spayed: 144

Total Number of Cats Neutered: 136

Total Number of Surgeries: 280

Amount Received: \$18,200.00 **Amount Spent:** \$18,200.00 **Amount Remaining (to be returned):** \$0.00

Project Synopsis:

A Cat's Life Rescue (ACLR) spayed, neutered, and vaccinated 280 cats in Bladensburg, Clinton, Hyattsville, Riverdale, and Upper Marlboro as part of their "Spay It, Don't Spray It" program. TNR was conducted entirely by trained volunteers.

Project Description:

ACLR's program "Spay It, Don't Spray It" provided TNR services to the targeted neighborhoods of Upper Marlboro, Riverdale, Bladensburg, Hyattsville, and Clinton, focusing specifically on the zip codes of 20772, 20774, 20710, 20735, 20737, and 20781. These zipcodes accounted for approximately 9% of Prince George's Shelter total cat intakes. ACLR volunteers identified colonies within the target region. Volunteers set traps, transported the cats to the spay/neuter clinic, released them to the original colony, and ensured they received proper care. ACLR's grant funded 280 spays/neuters and rabies vaccines.

Summary of Approach:

ACLR's "Spay It, Don't Spray It" program offered a streamlined coordination of volunteers to operate a bi-weekly clinic for the residents of the target region. ACLR volunteers worked with colony caregivers to identify specific colonies in the target region. Volunteers, alongside caretakers, trapped entire colonies of cats during the bi-monthly clinics. All cats were evaluated initially by ACLR volunteers, then again by Program Director, Niki Cochran. Friendly cats or kittens under 10 weeks old were placed in ACLR's foster program to be made eligible for adoption. In instances where cats were injured and needed long-term care, ACLR's foster volunteers provided a space for the cat to recover.

Accomplishments:

In 11 months, ACLR spayed, neutered and vaccinated 280 cats, as part of the FY24 grant. We TNRed an additional 100 cats from the grant's target area, for which additional funds needed to be raised. Overall, from October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024, ACLR TNRed 957 cats in Prince George's County.

Lessons Learned:

We learned that our evaluation of our target areas and their need for TNR was accurate. While our FY24 grant request was for 350 cats, we received funding for 280 cats. Ultimately, we TNRed 380 cats in the target area, so our estimates and request were appropriate. Our target area also only included 1 zipcode of Hyattsville (20781), yet over 50% of our non-grant-funded TNRs came from the Hyattsville zipcodes of 20782, 20783, and 20784. In FY25, we aim to cover these



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additional zipcodes to have a greater impact in Hyattsville. In 2023 and 2024, we also began utilizing a third spay/neuter clinic in order to handle our increased caseload. This clinic charged about \$10-20 more than our grant estimate so the difference was made up through donations. As a result of the additional zipcodes, the continued need in the target area, and increased surgery costs, we increased our requested funds for FY25.

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