



## Lifesaver Spay/Neuter Program

Project #

25-10007

County: Allegany CountyGarrett County

Number of Cats Spayed: 189

Number of Dogs Spayed: 101

Number of Cats Neutered: 160

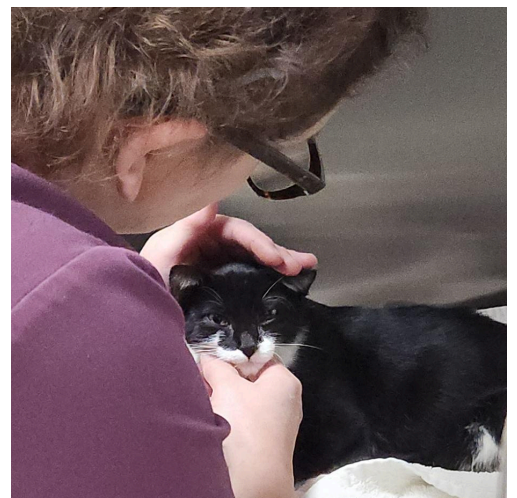
Number of Dogs Neutered: 80

Amount Received: \$47,275

Amount Remaining (to be returned to MDA): \$0

### Project Synopsis:

We are extremely grateful to receive this yearly grant. The grant allows us to offer a spay-neuter program to low-income residents who otherwise would not be able to afford to do so. Every year we see more spays than neuters, which can change the number of each type and the total number of animals we do. However, we always try to get it as close as possible. This grant is very needed and much appreciated by the residents in our area, and we are pleased to continue to receive it and offer assistance to those in need. This greatly helps us in our mission of saving the lives of homeless animals in our area.



Maryland Department of Agriculture

Spay and Neuter Grants Program



## **Project Description:**

Each year, the monies from the Maryland Spay Neuter grant are used to offer a low-income assistance program called Lifesaver to our residents in Allegany and Garrett County. This allows them to receive spay/neuter services free of cost. Many residents would otherwise not be able to afford to spay/neuter their pets, which would therefore result in higher numbers of unwanted pet litters in our area. We believe that this program greatly reduces those numbers, helping us save the lives of homeless animals.

## **Summary of Approach:**

After approval and receiving the grant, we then advertise that we are offering the low-assistance Lifesaver program to our local community. We then schedule the surgeries as the calls come in. We keep a spreadsheet of all surgeries that are performed and update it daily as those surgeries are completed. We then report quarterly on the Maryland One-Stop portal to record what we have completed thus far. Once we are close to using up the funds, we stop scheduling them and reconcile our numbers of what has been done and what is still scheduled in the future to ensure we do not go over the funds we have left. We then schedule what is needed to complete the year, getting as close to the proposed numbers as possible. At the end of the year, we complete the final grant progress report.

## **Accomplishments:**

This year, with the full grant amount requested, we were able to spay/neuter 530 cats and dogs for low-income families who otherwise would not have been able to afford to. That is 228 more animals than last year, almost nearly double. This helps us in completing our mission of saving the lives of homeless animals in our surrounding area by eliminating unwanted litters of kittens and puppies that otherwise may have been conceived. We are very pleased to offer our assistance program with the help of this grant. It is very needed in our area as we are a very rural area and have many residents who need assistance.

## Lessons Learned:

In years past, we have seen a huge increase in the need for the program and have almost depleted the funds before we are even halfway through the year. This year we were extremely grateful to receive the grant in full, but still used all funds by mid-way through September. We did not anticipate using them so fast and therefore ended up overbooking surgeries. We were able to cover those costs with other means, but we have learned that in this coming year, we need to do a forecast report to see how many we have scheduled as early as the first quarter of the year. The large amount of requests and calls we receive for this program teaches us every year just how much assistance is needed in our surrounding area.

## For More Information Contact:

STEPHANIE SPANO-WILSON

## Organization Name and Address:

P.O. Box 623

McHenry, Maryland 21541

**Phone:** 301-387-7729

**Email:** [stephanie@hartforanimals.org](mailto:stephanie@hartforanimals.org)

---

---

Maryland Department of Agriculture

Spay and Neuter Grants Program

