



# The Maryland SPCA: Providing High-Quality Free Spay/Neuter Service for Low-Income Residents In Baltimore City

Project #  
FY17-232

County: Baltimore City

<b>Number of Cats Spayed:</b>	<b>552</b>	<b>Number of Dogs Spayed:</b>	<b>122</b>
<b>Number of Cats Neutered:</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>Number of Dogs Neutered:</b>	<b>133</b>

<b>Amount Received: \$104,030.00</b>	<b>Amount Remaining (to be returned to MDA): \$0.00</b>
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### Project Synopsis:

Providing free spay and neuter surgeries for low-income residents of six targeted zip codes in Baltimore City - 21201, 21202, 21215, 21216, 21217, 21218, 21223, and 21229.



### Project Description:

Located in Baltimore City, the Maryland SPCA is a private, nonprofit animal welfare organization founded in 1869.

In 2017, the Maryland SPCA expanded its efforts to provide free spay/neuter services for both cats and dogs (to include rabies and distemper vaccinations) via an established voucher program that focused on zip codes 21201, 21202, 21215, 21216, 21217, 21218, 21223, and 21229. This year we continued to provide feline and canine surgeries at the Spay/Neuter Clinic on our campus.

### Summary of Approach:

The original goal for our 2017 program was to alter 1000 cats and 275 dogs. In October, we were given permission to convert a select number of dog surgeries into cat surgeries when we anticipated that our funding for cats would be depleted in early November. Included with each procedure, were rabies & distemper vaccinations for cats & dogs, as well as microchipping for dogs. The Maryland SPCA employed an Outreach Coordinator, Marcus Brown, whose position on staff has been instrumental in helping to establish trust in our targeted communities. In addition, he provided transportation for those pet owners who were unable to travel to our clinic. In 2017 we added two more zip codes, 21201 and 21202, to our targeted zip codes in which 24-40% of those residents have income below poverty level.

### Accomplishments:

Once again, we are proud that we were able to reach so many low-income pet owners in Baltimore City. We continue to have a positive impact the communities that we serve via our shelter, our spay/neuter program,



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**SPAY AND NEUTER GRANTS PROGRAM**



humane education, and the Wellness Clinic discount program for low income clients. We thank you for your continued support.

**Lessons Learned:**

This was the first year that the Maryland SPCA absorbed all the surgeries at our clinic (in 2015 and 2016, 250 dogs were seen at BARCS). Our surgical suite is extremely small, allowing us to accommodate only 4 large dogs per day. Because of this, no-show appointments for dogs were especially frustrating and impactful. We did find that we had fewer no-shows from those owners who had the opportunity to meet our Outreach Coordinator and a Behavior staff member in the park during our free monthly pop-up trainings, as we had been able to develop an established level of trust.

The face-to-face time, overall, has been invaluable. We reached many people going door-to-door, attending BARCS monthly vaccine clinics, and attending B'More Dog events. We were also able to share our message through our Humane Education and Community Affairs programs and events.

We fully understand that partnerships are key and will continue to utilize our in-house programs and our relationships with other organizations in 2018 - especially in circumstances where transport is needed.

**Attachments:**

**For More Information Contact:**

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