Project Synopsis:
This very effective project targeted low income residents in Crisfield, Marion station, Princess Anne, Westover, Deal Island and Smith Island. Pet owners are offered free Spay Neuter with rabies vaccines for their pet cats. Our mission is to reduce the Homeless Cat population in Somerset County.

Project Description:
To provide Spay/Neuter (S&N) and rabies vaccinations for 600 owned cats in Somerset County.

Summary of Approach:
We used newspaper ads and word of mouth about the grant. Many people borrowed carriers and traps to bring their pet cats to us at our pick up points. We conducted S&N clinics twice monthly transporting cats from Somerset County to Davidsonville, MD and back home. In some situations we used a local clinic to sterilize animals that are hard to catch or viewed as pregnant and fall between our bi weekly clinics.

Accomplishments:
We fixed 608 cats within 11 months, actually exceeding our goal at that time by 8 cats, with funds remaining. Using remaining funds of over $1,200.00 (savings on advertisement and other costs), we S&N an additional 24 cats, thereby exceeding our target by 32 cats in all. This valuable program helped many low income families with their pet sterilization problem. We have received accolades from many people and from county officials about our partnership with MDA and our joint success. We can see a difference in the cat population in the county; less dead cats on the road, less emergency rescue calls, less nuisance complaints, and emergency kitten rescues.

Lessons Learned:
There is much more to be done. We needed to plan for more than 600 cats, and actually 700 would have been a more accurate goal.
In our next pending grant request we have asked for funds to sterilize 700 more cats and we hope it will be approved. We are definitely making a difference now and county residents are becoming more cooperative and educated about Spay/Neuter. We are considering adding free microchips (at our cost) for pets to make the...
program even more attractive to residents. We definitely need to continue the program because we have a great momentum in progress. The Humane Society is the only active group in the county targeting cats for Spay/Neuter, operating over the entire county area including Smith Island and the borders of 2 adjacent counties.

**Attachments:**
Treasure’s Report for State Grant for the period Aug 2017 - July 2018

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