



# Northern Prince George's County Free-Roaming Cat Spay/Neuter

Project #

23-8010

County: Prince George's County

Number of Cats Spayed: 406

Number of Dogs Spayed:

Number of Cats Neutered: 401

Number of Dogs Neutered:

Amount Received: \$57,600

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

## Project Synopsis:

This project was a coordinated effort by three cat TNVR groups to fix cats in the northern parts of Prince George's County.



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## **Project Description:**

This is a joint application for Laurel Cats, Beltsville Community Cats (BCC), Bowie Citizens for Local Animal Welfare (Bowie CLAW), and Outlaw Kitties. Our four organizations perform trap-neuter-vaccinate-return (TNVR) activities in the northern part of Prince George's County. We are requesting grant funds to support continuation of our cooperative work to alter and vaccinate unowned cats in northern Prince George's County, specifically in the 20705, 20706, 20707, 20708, 20710, 20712, 20715, 20716, 20720, 20721, 20722, 20740, 20769, and 20785 zip code areas (Beltsville, Berwyn Heights, Bladensburg, Bowie, College Park, Colmar Manor, Glenn Dale, Landover Hills, Lanham, Laurel, Mount Rainier, New Carrollton, Riverdale Park, and West Lanham Hills). Grant funds will be used to cover spay/neuter surgeries towards this goal.

## **Summary of Approach:**

1. Contact the person who called for assistance or filed the cat complaint with PGASD to get as much information as possible. 2. Visit the complaint location to identify any cat colonies and make contact with colony caretaker(s). 3. Work with the colony caretakers (if any) to trap the cats that will be transported to the vet to be fixed and vaccinated. 4. Friendly adults and young kittens will be brought into foster care with whichever group has room. 5. Unsocialized adults will be returned to the site and released to field the day after surgery. 6. Whenever possible, the colony caretaker will be enlisted to provide ongoing monitoring for the introduction of any new feral or stray cats, and to contact the relevant cat group to arrange to have the new unaltered cats TNVRed.

## **Accomplishments:**

Laurel Cats estimates that thanks to ongoing funding from MDA we now have more than 90% of the feral cats in Laurel altered. Continuing funding has allowed us to effectively address the epidemic of abandoned and unaltered house cats we found and continue to find on our streets that threatens to undue the progress with have made if not addressed quickly. BCC: See attached. Bowie CLAW: Over 200 TNR Cats and ~200 kittens were caught within the MD Agricultural Grant. Several very large colonies were addressed. They accounted for over half of our total. We made positive interactions with many families that wanted to do the right thing. The Grant provided a way to achieve that.



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## Lessons Learned:

Laurel Cats: Inflation was a huge factor in this project that we did not account for. While we did of course have price assurance forms signed for this grant, many vets provided a price range and raised their rates to the maximum rate in that range last year. Additionally, lower cost clinics were slammed with business and often unavailable to us forcing us to often use more pricey clinics. All of the above meant that not as any cats were fixed under this grant as we had initially proposed. For the upcoming proposal period, we will likely need to use higher cost estimates for writing our budget. BCC: See attached. Bowie CLAW: Communication is a key ingredient in doing TNR. Speaking to and explaining the process to neighbors is very helpful. Many need to vent. Showing results and them seeing the ear-tipping and understanding that they are vaccinated and can't have more kittens makes a difference.

## For More Information Contact:

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