



Pitbull and Other At-Risk Dogs Project

Project #
17-229

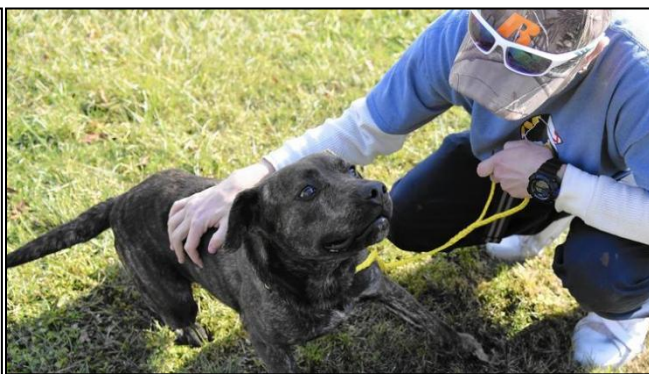
County: Carroll

Number of Cats Spayed:	0	Number of Dogs Spayed:	41
Number of Cats Neutered:	0	Number of Dogs Neutered:	59

Amount Received: \$10,000	Amount Remaining (to be returned to MDA): 0
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Project Synopsis:

The Pitbull Project targeted low-income Pitbull owners in Carroll county and proposed to provide no-cost surgeries to 100 dogs. The project was later amended to provide surgeries to all breeds of dog.



Project Description:

The Humane Society of Carroll County has been working diligently to commit to our new mission and vision. We place over 95% of the animals that come into our care while maintaining a managed admission status, performing animal control services, and cruelty investigations for Carroll County. The Humane Society employs volunteers, fosters, and adoption partners to achieve our success. The Humane Society is actively involved in spay/neuter efforts throughout the county with newly developed programs including the Pitbull Project, Operation CatSnip, and facilitating low cost services to the public.

The Pitbull Project provided 100 free spay/neuter surgeries to low-income dog owners in Carroll County. Our main objective was community outreach with the added benefit of hopefully reducing intake numbers. Dogs that arrived at the shelter as strays and returned to the owner with vouchers for spay/neuter have not returned. We also prevented the surrender of approximately 10 dogs to our shelter by offering no-cost spay neuter.

Summary of Approach:

December - June of 2017 we marketed the Pitbull Project on social media and or website. We had a front page article published in the Carroll County Times and the Hampstead/Manchester area Merchandiser in March of 2017. Our volunteers distributed flyers to libraries, the department of Human Services, and the Carroll County Health Department. Animal Control Officers were provided with flyers and applications to distribute through out the county. Flyers were also available at all of our public events, and on our Mobile Adoption Trailer, and our shelter staff provided information to anyone who demonstrated a need for spay/neuter services. Our social media marketing, website, and direct contact by our officers and staff continued throughout the program.

Accomplishments:



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We are very proud to have provided 100 dogs with surgery and rabies vaccines in our community. There currently are no free programs in Carroll County and very limited low-cost programs for pet owners. Our ability to provide services to our county helps us with our goal of growing community outreach. In addition to our broad marketing we targeted specific individuals offering spay/neuter options to avoid surrendering a dog to the shelter due to behavior issues caused by reproductive hormones. We were also able to address dogs that were frequently brought into the shelter for running at large due to being unaltered.

Lessons Learned:

We learned not to limit a program by making it breed specific. We also had to recruit a second veterinary hospital to make scheduling more convenient for participants. In the future we will go into a program with more resources than needed so as not to delay the program.

Attachments:

Carroll County Times front page article
List of completed surgeries
Program Flyer

For More Information Contact:

Name:

Karen Baker, Executive Director

Organization Name and Address:

Humane Society of Carroll County, Inc.
2517 Littlestown Pike
Westminster, MD 21158

Email: kbaker@ccg.carr.org



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