



# Spay/Neuter Midshore 2021

Project #

21-609

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County: Talbot and Dorchester

Number of Cats Spayed: 362

Number of Dogs Spayed: 106

Number of Cats Neutered: 255

Number of Dogs Neutered: 108

Amount Received: \$28,715.00

Amount Remaining (to be returned to MDA): \$0.00

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## Project Synopsis:

Spay/Neuter Midshore exists to provide low/no cost spay/neuter services to residents of Talbot and Dorchester Counties in MD. Our program goal is to reduce the number of animals entering shelters, abandoned in communities, and suffering from lack of services within Talbot and Dorchester counties. The Maryland Department of Agriculture grant assists in funding surgeries for residents which qualify for no-cost services.

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Maryland Department of Agriculture  
Spay and Neuter Grants Program



## **Project Description:**

Spay Neuter Midshore serves residents of Talbot and Dorchester Counties in MD with spay/neuter surgeries and core vaccines at no cost to the pet owner. The grant from the Maryland Department of Agriculture currently funds approximately 39% of the full program, allowing Talbot Humane to continue to extend our reach of services to a larger portion of our community. Talbot Humane has provided spay/neuter services to the public in some fashion since 2003.

## **Summary of Approach:**

The program is run in a very efficient and successful manner. Residents contact our office via phone, email or in person. Our SN Coordinator obtains all the information from the owner on residency, qualifying income and animal details. Those who qualify for free services are not charged for surgery or vaccines. All other residents are on a sliding scale based upon income, fees range from 10% to full cost. Talbot Humane does offer extra services such as blood work, microchipping, and other appropriate items at the time of surgery at the cost to the owner. None of these are required to participate. If the veterinarian notices an extra service is needed at the time of surgery such as abscess care, tooth removal or more, our program pays for these needs if the owner is unable to pay.

## **Accomplishments:**

Spay/Neuter Midshore completed the use of granted funds by June 30, 2021. The program which serves resident pets of Talbot and Dorchester counties continued through the calendar year thanks to private funding. In total 831 dogs and cats were spayed or neutered from this specific program. 65% of these animals were from residents of Dorchester County, 35% from Talbot County. While it is difficult to surmise the true impact of the program within Dorchester county due to the lack of an open admission shelter providing clear data on the animals in need, experiences at Talbot Humane as well as discussions with residents shows us the impact on the wellbeing and safety of animals in this area from this program to be great. Known numbers of animals entering our care from this area account for approximately 14% of our total intake annually at Talbot Humane. Total cost of Spay/Neuter Midshore for 2021 calendar year equaled \$72,821.25 with Talbot Humane contributing \$43,941.25 of this total.



## **Lessons Learned:**

Each year we see a greater need from residents of Dorchester county. Our efforts to serve these residents have continued to grow. While we are hopeful the receipt of an MDA grant by an organization within Dorchester County for cycle 21 will help with this need, we are working toward a more robust approach to serving these residents in order to ensure more animals are served and less likely to suffer from abandonment, cruelty or neglect.

## **For More Information Contact:**

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## **Organization Name and Address:**

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