

# SPAY NEUTER MIDSHORE YEAR 3

Project # 18-318

County: Serving Talbot and Dorchester Counties

Number of Cats Spayed: 276 (TC:119 DC157) Number of Dogs Spayed: 117 (TC:50 DC:67) Number of Cats Neutered: 241 (TC:91 DC:150) Number of Dogs Neutered: 102 (TC:35 DC:67)

**Amount Received: \$52,508.50** Amount Remaining (to be returned to MDA): \$0.00

### **Project Synopsis:**

Spay/Neuter Midshore provides no cost spay/neuter surgeries and vaccines to qualifying residents of Talbot and Dorchester counties in Maryland.





SPAY NEUTER MIDSHORE









Contact us today! (410)822-0107 or info@talbothumane.org

## **Project Description:**

Spay Neuter Midshore was created in order to provide no cost spay/neuter services to qualifying residents of Talbot and Dorchester Counties in MD. The program is an extention of Talbot Humane's Low/No cost spay neuter program which has been in place for more than 15 years and a component of The Intervention and Retention Program created to help loving pet owners and their pets stay together. Our goal is to narrow the service desert we see for pet owners in need of affordable services.

## **Summary of Approach:**

Spay/Neuter Midshore continues to be a beneficial and successful program in our community. Our partnerships with other agencies and organizations has proven to be a strong factor in reaching residents in need of assistance in order to provide information about the program. These partnerships include but are not limited to: Dorchester County Dog Control, Talbot County Social Services, Dorchester County Health Department, Talbot County Health Department, Baywater Animal Rescue and TomCat Solutions. advertised in areas where the target population may frequent and used easy to grab postcards to leave in these locations. This year we used our weekly radio spot to promote the program and print ads in the local paper. We used all attended community events to sign up potential pet owners and spread information and received advertising free of charge with several local outlets.

#### **Accomplishments:**

For this project our target was to alter 300 pet cats and 250 pet dogs, for a total of 550 animals. We exceeded this target by fixing 736 animals, 34% beyond our target. In addition we supplied low cost services to 61 cats





and dogs of owners who learned about the program but did not meet the income qualifications for the free service.

Year 3 of the program has proven to be a a success for the animals of our community.

- 1- We are scheduled several weeks into January 2019.
- 2- We were able to assist residents with other pet related needs such as education on good nutrition, proper veterinary care and provide supplies and knowledge on crate training dogs and encouraging cats to stay indoors when not supervised. We were able to provide fee free microchip specials several times this year to all program participants. This has been a popular offering and we have noted an increase in registration for surgeries during the times this is offered. We will continue to run these specials at different times during the next year. Our intervention program continue to offer residents with acute medical needs, behavioral issues and other conditions which all too often place companion animals at risk of being booted outside or surrendered to the shelter.
- 3- Thanks to the support of the MDA grant our support from community donors increased for this program as well which allowed us to continue to offer services in December once the funds for the grant were used. This allowed us to expand our program further this year, all in all serving more than 1,000 pets in either low or no cost services.

#### **Lessons Learned:**

Ensuring any program is being fairly used by all consumers in order to serve the community properly is a priority to our organization. This year we were extremely fastitious with ensuring services were appropriated allocated to residents in need and offered different forms of assistance to those who did not qualify due to being more financially stable.

Another important lesson we learned, mainly from year 2 and we executed this year was to focus our attention to dog owners and take the time to explain tangible reasons for spaying and neutering dogs. Examples- when someone's dog was picked up by animal control running at large we used this as an opportunity to explain the benefits and would sign them up at the time of reclaim. Events such as local blessing of the animals and the multicultural festival were great opportunities where people who may not generally come to Talbot Humane were present to discuss all programs and services available to our residents.

#### Attachments:

spayneuter midshore 2018 postard.pdf

For More Information Contact:

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