



Humane Society of Somerset County MD

Project #
21-604

County: Somerset

Number of Cats Spayed:	230	Number of Dogs Spayed:	0
Number of Cats Neutered:	182	Number of Dogs Neutered:	0

Amount Received: 13,600	Amount Remaining (to be returned to MDA): 0
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Project Synopsis:

This effective project targets 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. Once again this year we see a significant reduction in new born kittens. The residents trust and appreciate the program and its working . Thus far with only funds for three quarters we have Spayed and neutered 412 cats



Project Description:

Provides free sterilizations and rabies vaccinations for indoor-owned and outdoor community cats for poor and low income residents of Somerset County. The clinics are conducted by volunteer personnel and by using a highly reputable animal hospital

Summary of Approach:

We use newspaper adds & posters in local stores and word of mouth to spread the news about this excellent MDA program. We have three established pickup locations and times for our twice monthly sterilization clinics. Many people borrow our carriers to bring their pet cats to us at our pick up points where we briefly check the cats health and make sure it has not eaten in the past 10 hours, mark the carrier with the owners name. Next we then transport the cats to our partner sterilization clinic at stevensville, MD and return to the 3 pick up points usally 12 hours later. In some situations we used a local clinic to sterlize animals that are hard for owners to get into carriers or viewed as preganent or needed other vet services such as eye removal or limb amputation and or fall they between our bi weekly clinics.

Accomplishments:

We sterilized 155 cats this past Quarter. 63 using using the remaining allocated grant funds, and an additional 92 cats using our reserves. We still have a 4th quarter ahead of us un funded. This valuable program is helping many low income families with their pet sterilization problems, they could not pay 300-400 dollars to S&N their



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pets. We have received accolades from many people and from county officials about our partnership with the MDA & professional low cost spay neuter clinics. 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 more importantly less emergency kittens to rescue this year. Less cats coming to us at our rescue facility. During past years we averaged between 600-1200 cats sterilized each year for the past 11 years. Since we don't euthanize cats our best indicator of success is judging the number of Kittens rescued each year. 2016; 328 rescued, 2017; 160 rescued, 2018; 75 rescued; 2019 45 rescued; 2020; 42 rescued. As you can see these important numbers are an indicator that our S&N program is working. We have worked very to Sterilize thousands of cats to get these numbers to drop dramatically each year. Providing the Spay Neuter Program continues and we are funded we will prevail and finish the job.

Lessons Learned:

Volunteers wear out fast by going on long day trips to our low cost clinics, so I am now alternating my assistant on these trips. We are definitely making a difference now and county residents are becoming more cooperative and educated about Spay/Neuter. We definitely need to continue the program if the MD government still wants to reduce the homeless cat population and we are doing just that. We need more funding to keep it ongoing. We have a great program in place with momentum and proven progress. The Humane Society is the only active group in the county targeting cats for spay/ neuter. We are operating over the entire county area including Smith Island and the borders of two other adjacent counties. We worked very hard to sterilize between 600-1200 cats a year to reduce the number of Homeless cats in the county you can see by the significant reduction in kittens that needed to be rescued each year we are highly successful.

Attachments:

For More Information Contact:

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