



# Anne Arundel County Animal Care & Control

Project #  
18-323

County: Anne Arundel

Number of Cats Spayed: 70  
Number of Cats Neutered: 70

Number of Dogs Spayed: 84  
Number of Dogs Neutered: 92

Amount Received: \$23,850.00

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

## Project Synopsis:

This project targeted qualifying pet owners in Anne Arundel County, and proposed to provide no-cost spay and neuter surgeries to 150 Dogs and 150 Cats.



## Project Description:

Anne Arundel County Animal Care & Control is a county government agency that reports to the Anne Arundel County Police Department, located at 411 Maxwell Frye Road, Millersville, MD 21108. Its mission is to provide service to the community, promote the humane treatment of animals, and provide quality professional service. The organization promotes the altering of all dogs and cats in order to control the pet population. This is done by offering no-cost surgeries to qualifying pet owners especially those in deemed low-income zip codes within the county.

A grant of \$23,850.00 was received in November 2017 to be utilized for free spay and neuter surgeries in Anne Arundel County.

## Summary of Approach:

- The offer of no cost surgeries was made to qualifying owners of cats and dogs for the following circumstances:
- Impounded by AACACC and reclaimed by owner.
  - Owner surrender, in hopes a free surgery would encourage the individual to maintain ownership of their pet, including if they are surrendering offspring of their current pet to prevent future reproduction.
  - Animal Care & Control Officer determines altering will prevent high numbers of unwanted animals to be surrendered at a later time.
  - Encourage qualifying owners to spay or neuter their pets after learning about funding from the Maryland Dept. of Agriculture through our website, and social media, as well as encouragement at our weekly rabies clinics.

Our referral and application process on site helps us target low-income individuals, or individuals from areas in Anne Arundel County with higher intake rates (see attached).



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Adoption events are done at the facility twice a year ; once in June at a Car and Motorcycle show (Pistons and Paws), and at Halloween where free spay and neuter applications are given out to those pet owners that may qualify who own other pets.

The facility participates in the Maryland 2000 free cat adoptions each year, as well as the Annual Clear the Shelters initiative in August.

At these events, shelter visitors who own unaltered animals are encouraged to spay/neuter their animals and if they cannot afford those services they are encouraged to take advantage of this program.

### **Accomplishments:**

We were able to alter 296 pets with the funds from this grant, and 316 pets overall during the cycle.

We were initially granted an extension to use all funds by August of 2019, and we were able to deplete the funds by May 2019.

We were able to obtain other resources as we were running out of funding for dog surgeries during the cycle so that we did not have to turn away any qualifying pet owner in need of spay/neuter surgery for their dog.

We secured funds by other means for 20 additional dog surgeries and were able to exchange 6 open cat surgeries for dog altering surgeries due to public need.

AACACC's greatest accomplishment is that by utilizing the grant funds, less pets are reproduced, thereby lowering the amount of pets in the community that can further reproduce. During this cycle 56 animals that were at risk of being surrendered were altered and ended up not being surrendered, 202 animals at risk of producing litters were altered, 29 animals owned by individuals who Animal Care & Control Officer's believed need help to prevent future issues and 29 animals being reclaimed by owners at the shelter were altered. We know this grant funding impacted our intake both directly and indirectly. Directly by meaning 56 animals in danger of being surrendered were not and indirectly because of the way we target the animals we know those animals altered were more likely to contribute to future intake either by their history of roaming or by their living circumstances.

### **Lessons Learned:**

Throughout the grant cycle we were short of reaching our number of cat surgeries. For this reason we were granted an extension in using the funds.

The trend at our facility seemed to warrant more dog surgeries. As we ran out of funding for dog surgeries we focused more on altering cats in our county to in order to get closer to our projected number of cat surgeries. We saw the trend, and took action, so as not to turn away any dogs in need. We were able to partner with our associated non-profit organization consisting of volunteers.

"Friends of Anne Arundel County Animal Care & Control" was able to pay for 11 eleven additional dog surgeries for the county for Pit Bull type dog mixes totaling \$1089. This organization paid for, and continues to pay for overweight charges and surgical complication fees associated with the no-cost surgeries. The additional fees paid by "Friends of Anne Arundel County Animal Care & Control" was \$1302. at the completion of this grant. Therefore, we were able to obtain \$2391. in funds for dog surgeries that we would have not had otherwise. While our non-profit was paying for the dog surgeries, we actively continued to alter cats in order to come as close to our surgical number as possible.

Additionally, we were able to obtain funding from Anne Arundel County's Community Foundation to do yet another 9 dog surgeries in order to not turn any qualifying individual away totaling \$891; bringing total funds obtained outside of the grant to \$3282.

In conclusion, as all the funding for this grant was used ahead of the extension, AACACC performed 316 surgeries. Cat surgeries totaled 140. Six cat surgeries were switched out for dog surgeries due to need. Friends of Anne Arundel County Animal Care & Control paid for 11 dog surgeries, and funds from Anne



Arundel County's Community Foundation paid for another 9 dog surgeries, giving Anne Arundel County Animal Care & Control a total of 176 dogs that were altered during this grant cycle.

**Attachments:**

Free Spay and Neuter Grant Application  
Surgery Summary

**For More Information Contact:**

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**Organization Name and Address:**

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