

# Michigan's 1<sup>st</sup> No-Kill Conference

No Kill Equation = Proactive Redemptions • Compassionate Director • Volunteers

Getting to the Goal  
*Michigan's 1<sup>st</sup> "No-Kill" Conference*

# Welcome

• Foster Care • High-Volume, Low-Cost Spay/Neuter

• Comprehensive Adoption Programs • Pet Retention

• Medical and Behavior Programs • Public Relations • Community Involvement • Feral Cat TNR

# Keynote Address

## The No Kill Equation: Dispelling the Myths

No Kill Equation = Proactive Redemptions • Compassionate Director • Volunteers

# Getting to the Goal

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# Deborah Schutt

• Foster Care • High-Volume, Low-Cost Spay/Neuter

• Comprehensive Adoption Programs • Pet Retention

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# ANIMAL SHELTER ACTIVITY REPORT 2009

SHELTER NAME: Addison Veterinary Clinic P.C.

MANAGER: Andrew E. Kelley, DVM

SHELTER ADDRESS: 6690 N. Rollin Hwy.

APT / STE:

CITY: Addison

ZIP: 49220

COUNTY: Lenawee

VET INFORMATION: Andrew E. Kelley, DVM

REGISTRATION #: 122169

DAYTIME PHONE: 517-547-7581

EVENING PHONE: 517-547-7581

FAX: 517-547-5185

EMAIL: avepc@groundcontrol.us

CANINES UNDER 6 MONTHS OF AGE RECEIVED/ADMITTED:	11
CANINES UNDER 6 MONTHS OF AGE RETURNED:	3
CANINES UNDER 6 MONTHS OF AGE ADOPTED:	0
CANINES UNDER 6 MONTHS OF AGE SOLD:	0
CANINES UNDER 6 MONTHS OF AGE TRANSFERS:	8
CANINES UNDER 6 MONTHS OF AGE EUTHANIZED:	0
CANINES UNDER 6 MONTHS OF AGE OTHER:	0
CANINES 6 MONTHS OF AGE AND OLDER RECEIVED/ADMITTED:	117
CANINES 6 MONTHS OF AGE AND OLDER RETURNED:	52
CANINES 6 MONTHS OF AGE AND OLDER ADOPTED:	12
CANINES 6 MONTHS OF AGE AND OLDER SOLD:	0
CANINES 6 MONTHS OF AGE AND OLDER TRANSFERS:	38
CANINES 6 MONTHS OF AGE AND OLDER EUTHANIZED:	15
CANINES 6 MONTHS OF AGE AND OLDER OTHER:	0

FELINES UNDER 6 MONTHS OF AGE RECEIVED/ADMITTED:	24
FELINES UNDER 6 MONTHS OF AGE RETURNED:	0
FELINES UNDER 6 MONTHS OF AGE ADOPTED:	24
FELINES UNDER 6 MONTHS OF AGE SOLD:	0
FELINES UNDER 6 MONTHS OF AGE TRANSFERS:	0
FELINES UNDER 6 MONTHS OF AGE EUTHANIZED:	0
FELINES UNDER 6 MONTHS OF AGE OTHER:	0
FELINES 6 MONTHS OF AGE AND OLDER RECEIVED/ADMITTED:	7
FELINES 6 MONTHS OF AGE AND OLDER RETURNED:	0
FELINES 6 MONTHS OF AGE AND OLDER ADOPTED:	7
FELINES 6 MONTHS OF AGE AND OLDER SOLD:	0
FELINES 6 MONTHS OF AGE AND OLDER TRANSFERS:	0
FELINES 6 MONTHS OF AGE AND OLDER EUTHANIZED:	0
FELINES 6 MONTHS OF AGE AND OLDER OTHER:	0

1. To learn what shelters in Michigan are doing a great job and to find out if Michigan has any shelters that met the no-kill definition
2. To recognize and award those doing great work
3. To hold those shelters up as the yard stick so that lesser performing shelters know what is possible
4. To inform the public – so they can demand accountability of their charitable contributions and tax dollars.

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Getting to the Goal

# No-Kill

- Most importantly we wanted to take the wind out of any argument that no-kill is unreasonable, impossible or cannot be done - remove the excuses of open admission vs. limited admission, small vs. large, rural vs. urban

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Getting to the Goal

# No-Kill

- It is claimed by those that aren't
- It is rejected as a title by some of those that are
- We would be better served if we have a term or phrase that captures the concept but was less of a lightning rod.
- It does NOT mean keeping alive very sick or suffering pets
- It does NOT mean keeping alive dangerous pets
- It does NOT mean saving only domestic cats but includes wild/feral cats/free roaming
- It does NOT mean keeping a dog or cat in a cage at a shelter for a year or more

Getting to the Goal

# So what is it?

- It is the unmitigated desire and WILL to rehome all homeless cats and dogs that are healthy or treatable .
- It is implementation of a systematic, proven approach to sheltering – 21<sup>st</sup> Century Best Practices.
- It is about what is best for the individual animal and the collective group of homeless pets.
- It is about being creative, innovative, collaborative and transparent.

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Getting to the Goal

# The start

- Honestly using the Asilomar Accords
- Based on a level of care typically provided to pets by reasonable & caring pet owners/guardians in the community.
- **Healthy** – dogs & cats 8 weeks of age or older, no behavior problems, no medical conditions, vaccinations are fine.
- **Treatable** – dogs and cats who are rehabilitatable and all dogs and cats who are manageable.

Getting to the Goal

- **Treatable-Rehabilitatable** – Could become healthy with medical, foster, behavioral or other care. Acute & Curable Conditions.
- **Treatable – Manageable** – Not likely to become healthy. Satisfactory quality of life with medical, foster, behavioral or other care. Chronic Conditions
- **Unhealthy & Untreatable** – Public health or safety risk, medical conditions adversely affecting the animals health and not likely to become healthy or treatable with reasonable care.

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# Asilomar Mapping

	Healthy	Treatable/ Rehabilitatable	Treatable/ Manageable	Unhealthy & Untreatable
Space		Feral<12 weeks	Allergy	Aggression
		Heartworm	Breed	Auto Immune
		Injured	Dysplasia	Cancer
		Kennel Cough	Repeat escape	Canine Distemper
		Mange	Fearful	Exotics
		Ringworm	FL-UTD	Hybrids
		Too young	Geriatric	Infant Medical emergency
		URI	Fearful	Medical severe
			House soiling	Parvo
			Separation anxiety	Panleukopenia
			Medical:	
			Heart Murmur	
			Physically impaired	
			Seizures	
			FIV	

Getting to the Goal

No Kill =

Saving ALL Healthy and Treatable dogs and cats

# 11 Programs of the No Kill Equation

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Getting to the Goal

# Proactive Redemptions aka reuniting lost pets

How is your Missing Animal Response Program?

- Lost & Found Procedures
  - Identification check – chip, licenses
  - Knock on 6 doors to see if anyone can identify the dog or cat
  - Upload photo, description, location of where the stray was found
  - Daily try to match lost reports with shelter pets
- Lost Pet Counselors (lost reports & where else to look)
- Reverse – volunteers post flyers where found
- Volunteer night search teams – especially for cats
- Distant Shelter checks
- Cold Case teams



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Getting to the Goal

prayer/neuter

companion

# Comprehensive Adoption Programs

- Public Accessible hours – weekend and evenings when most people are available
- Trained staff and GREAT friendly customer service
- Offsite Adoptions
- Adoption Incentives
- Effective Marketing & Promotion



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Getting to the Goal

# Pet Retention

- Behavior Counseling
- Food Banks – Meals on Wheels
- Temporary foster
- More



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Getting to the Goal

# Fosters

- Quarantine for contagious diseases, socialization, healing and wellness. They make space when the shelter doesn't have any.
- Resources – food, medicine, treatment etc.



Getting to the Goal

# Rescue Groups

- Adoption or transfer to free up cage and kennel space, reduce expenses – feeding , cleaning and improve save rates.
- Some rescue organizations need to step up their professional capacity



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Getting to the Goal

# Medical & Behavior Programs

- Spay/Neuter prior to adoption whenever possible
- Medical attention for injury and illness
- Behavior
  - Manners
  - Potty training
  - Food aggression
  - Separation anxiety



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# Volunteers

- An absolute MUST – they provide a free expanded staff
- Train them!
- They need to be treated with the same expectations and respect as staff
- Use them in all areas – inside and outside the shelter – walking, cleaning, socializing, training, fundraising, corporate sponsorship, media relations, lost cold case investigations, Petfinder photos/descriptions/input, transport.....

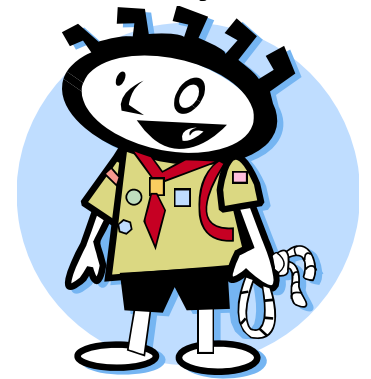


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Getting to the Goal

# Public Relations & Community Involvement

- Homeless Pets are a community issue – involve them.
- Del Harvey had businesses sponsor a pet in an ad in the local newspaper weekly.
- Become the recipient of the charitable casual day fund.
- Involve the Scouts
- Adoptable animals in the annual parade
- The sky is the limit
- A LOVED and RESPECTED shelter will have no funding issues



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# TNR Program



- STOP euthanizing ferals cats stop taking taking/accepting them into the shelters
- Educate the public that removing kittens and cats from a colony creates a vacuum that will be FILLED – making the problem worse
- Eliminating Ferals can only be accomplished through TNR and colony management.

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# High-Volume, Low Cost Spay/Neuter

- Irresponsible pet owners are to blame for overpopulation.
- Over 70% of the population currently spays/neuters their pets. Most pet owners are responsible.
- National average is that 80% of the unwanted pet births come from 3% of the population – people who CANNOT afford to spay/neuter.

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Getting to the Goal

# Compassionate Leader

- If the current shelter director – the top banana - isn't working to make improvements and change – they never will – REPLACE THEM.



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Getting to the Goal

No Kill Equation = Proactive Redemptions • Compassionate Director • Volunteers

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## One Michigan Success Story

Humane Society of  
Huron Valley

Tanya Hilgendorf

• Foster Care • High-Volume, Low-Cost Spay/Neuter

• Comprehensive Adoption Programs • Pet Retention

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