

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACT:

Deborah Schutt
877-FUR-PALS
chair@michiganpetfund.org



MICHIGAN PET FUND ALLIANCE RECOGNIZES TOP ANIMAL SHELTERS IN MICHIGAN

Bloomfield Hills, Michigan – Michigan Pet Fund Alliance is pleased to announce the winners of their annual Shelter Awards. The top shelters in each category will receive a plaque and cash prize.

This year's top honors go to:

- Large Shelter with the Greatest Lifesaving Improvement
 - Detroit Animal Care & Control, 32.55% improvement
- Medium Shelter with the Greatest Lifesaving Improvement
 - City of Romulus Animal Shelter, 10.06% improvement
- Small Shelter with the Greatest Lifesaving Improvement
 - Arenac County Animal Control, 15.23% improvement
- Micro Shelter with the Greatest Lifesaving Improvement
 - Sanilac County Animal Control & Shelter, 10.21% improvement
- Limited Admission Shelter with the Most Adoptions and 90% Save Rate or Greater
 - SPCA of Southwest Michigan, 1541 adoptions, 98.97% save rate

Ratings are based on the annual report each licensed shelter is required to submit to Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. Using the data submitted in the shelter reports, Michigan Pet Fund Alliance determines each shelter's save and live release rates based on how many animals the shelter takes in, releases alive, and euthanizes. Live release includes adoptions, lost pets returned to owners, and animals transferred to other shelters and rescue organizations that have room.

"We feel it is important to take a comprehensive look at the reports to compare how shelters stack up against each other and recognize those that are making improvements and leading the way," said Deborah Schutt, Michigan Pet Fund Alliance Founder and Chairperson. "We hope these awards inspire other shelters to help us achieve the goal of making Michigan a no-kill state."

Michigan Pet Fund Alliance began calculating save rates in 2009 and started mapping the statistics by county in 2011. Based on the 2016 shelter reports, 60 out of 83 counties in Michigan are considered to be "no kill" with a 90% or better live release rate. In 2011, only 10 out of 83 counties in Michigan were no kill.

"'No kill' means that no healthy or treatable animal is killed in our shelters," said Schutt. "We still have a lot of work to do to reach the goal, but it's exciting to see the progress the shelters have been making by adopting best practices and working together."

View the **2016 Michigan Shelters by Save and Live Release Rate Report** here: <http://bit.ly/2ytBK27>

View the **2011-2016 Save Rate Map Progression** here: <http://bit.ly/2ztdkEd>

ABOUT MICHIGAN PET FUND ALLIANCE

Michigan Pet Fund Alliance is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization that works with shelters, rescue organizations and animal advocates to achieve the goal that no healthy or treatable animal is euthanized due to lack of shelter space or permanent home. For more information, please visit www.michiganpetfund.org.

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