

Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA

ANNUAL REPORT 2007

We are loving life!





Executive Director's Letter

Several years ago, we boldly adopted a guarantee of life to the homeless and abandoned animals in our Charlottesville-Albemarle community. I am pleased to report that we achieved this laudable goal with a save rate of approximately 90% for the past two years. We have seen our euthanasia rate decrease by 70%, our adoption rate increase by 50% and our foster home program grow by 500%. Numerous regional and national organizations have recognized our life saving efforts. Animal welfare organizations around the country seek our advice about our best practice programs.

While all of this recognition is greatly appreciated, the real meaning of being a **No Kill** organization can be seen in the faces of the animals that have been guaranteed life. When an animal walks through our doors, we know that we will take care of their worries and find them a good home. We are incredibly fortunate; we are incredibly blessed—that when we look in those sweet and often sad eyes we can make the promise that everything will be OK.

It does not mean that we are no longer taking in large numbers of animals, or that our job is at all easy. Every day at the SPCA can still be a struggle. There are days when we take in anywhere from 50 to 75 animals. There are days when seriously abused or critically injured animals need our help. In all honesty, some days are heartbreaking. But we do our best and keep our heads high.

It is truly a sad fact that in most communities around the country a guarantee of life is not the case. Euthanasia of healthy and happy pets is still the case in many areas of the country, including right here in Virginia. As we continue our journey, we believe that with our continuing programs, we can reduce animal overpopulation in our area, and we can help others make the same guarantee of life.

We hope you will read our Annual Report to learn more about our life saving programs. We are thankful for the support of our community, and we hope that you will continue to help us in our efforts. Because of you, all the animals can meow, howl, bark (but not too loudly) and say ...

“We are loving life!”

Susanne M. Kogut
Executive Director

Summary Accomplishments

Serving the Charlottesville-Albemarle area for more than 50 years, the SPCA continues as the sole facility caring for the abandoned animals in our community. The SPCA provides vital services to animals and people alike, caring and sheltering animals in need, providing adoption, training and behavior evaluation services and youth education programs.

The SPCA continues to be recognized for our efforts to save lives. In 2006, we received the Animal Shelter Director of the Year Award from the No Kill Advocacy Center, and in 2007, the Compassion Award from the Virginia Federation of Humane Societies. More recently, in 2008, Maddie's Fund, a foundation whose mission is to revolutionize the status and well-being of companion animals, awarded the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA its esteemed Lifesaving Award, along with a grant in the amount of \$412,050. This prestigious award recognizes organizations that are pioneering efforts to save the lives of the nation's homeless animals.

Table 1 illustrates the SPCA's increased adoption rates, resulting in a corresponding decrease in euthanasia over the past few years. Most of the adoption increase is the result of increased cat adoptions. The slight increase in the 2007 euthanasia rate compared to 2006 was due to an increase in the amount of life-threatening cat illnesses.

Table 2 compares our SPCA save rate with the save rate of all organizations in the Commonwealth. The Table 2 save rate equals:

$$\frac{\text{Total received by organization(s)} - \text{euthanized}}{\text{Total received by organization(s)}} \times 100\%$$

Table 1

ADOPTION AND EUTHANASIA RATES 2004 - 2007

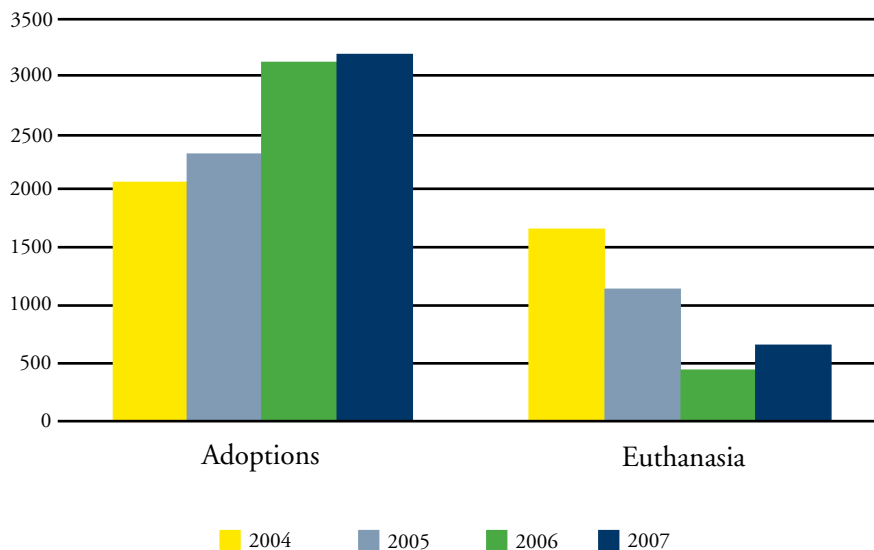
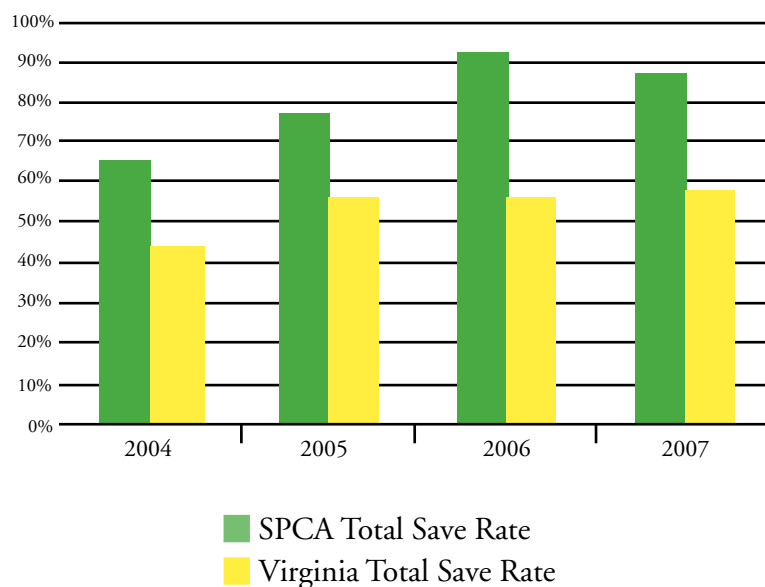


Table 2

SPCA'S TOTAL SAVE RATE COMPARED TO SAVE RATE IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA¹



¹ The Commonwealth of Virginia save rate is compiled from the cumulative data published by the Virginia Department of Agriculture at www.vdacs.virginia.gov/animals/.

Asilomar Records

As a condition of the Maddie's Fund grant, the SPCA has agreed to publish statistical information under nationally recognized guidelines known as the Asilomar Accords. The Asilomar Accords were developed in August 2004 by a group of animal welfare leaders for the purpose of building bridges across varying philosophies, developing relationships and creating goals focused on significantly reducing the euthanasia of healthy and treatable companion animals in the United States.

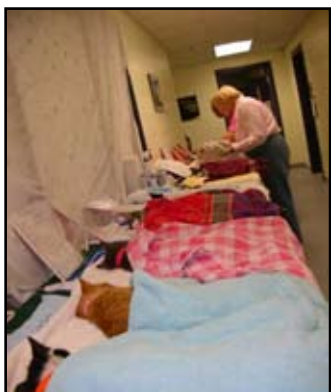
The terminology below contains definitions prescribed by the Accords. The statistics focus on "Live Release Rate," the percentage of pets that leave a facility alive. When comparing our rate to other organizations, it is expected that the Live Release Rate for facilities that operate as the local animal control facility, like our SPCA, may be lower than private organizations that do not contract with local governments and have the ability to limit the number and type of animals they accept. Our SPCA, however, has a Live Release Rate that even exceeds many private organizations that limit admission of animals.

ANNUAL ANIMAL STATISTICS TABLE: CHARLOTTESVILLE - ALBEMARLE SPCA 2007

| | | Dog | Cat | Total |
|----------|---|------|------|-------|
| A | BEGINNING SHELTER COUNT | 149 | 472 | 621 |
| | INTAKE (Live Dogs & Cats Only) | | | |
| B | Intake from the Public | 1912 | 2781 | 4693 |
| C | Intake from Incoming Transfers from Organizations within Community/Coalition | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| D | Intake from Incoming Transfers from Organizations outside Community/Coalition | 27 | 5 | 32 |
| E | Subtotal Intake from Owners/Guardians Requesting Euthanasia | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| F | Total Intake [B + C + D + E] | 1939 | 2786 | 4725 |
| G | Owners/Guardians Requested Euthanasia (Unhealthy and Untreatable Only) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| H | ADJUSTED TOTAL INTAKE [F - G] | 1939 | 2786 | 4725 |
| | OUTCOME | | | |
| I | ADOPTIONS | 1082 | 2084 | 3166 |
| J | TOTAL OUTGOING TRANSFERS <i>to Organizations within Community/Coalition</i> | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| K | TOTAL OUTGOING TRANSFERS <i>to Organizations outside Community/Coalition</i> | 117 | 103 | 220 |
| L | RETURN TO OWNER/GUARDIAN | 545 | 59 | 604 |
| | DOGS & CATS EUTHANIZED | | | |
| M | Healthy (<i>Includes Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia</i>) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| N | Treatable - Rehabilitatable (<i>Includes Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia</i>) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| O | Treatable - Manageable (<i>Includes Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia</i>) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| P | Unhealthy & Untreatable (<i>Includes Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia</i>) | 192 | 406 | 598 |
| Q | Total Euthanasia [M + N + O + P] | 192 | 406 | 598 |
| R | Owner Guardian Requested Euthanasia (Unhealthy & Untreatable Only) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| S | ADJUSTED TOTAL EUTHANASIA [Q minus R] | 192 | 406 | 598 |
| T | SUBTOTAL OUTCOMES [I + J + K + L + S] <i>Excludes Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia (Unhealthy & Untreatable only)</i> | 1936 | 2652 | 4588 |
| U | DIED OR LOST IN SHELTER CARE | 29 | 171 | 200 |
| V | TOTAL OUTCOMES [T + U] <i>Excludes Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia (Unhealthy & Untreatable only)</i> | 1965 | 2823 | 4788 |
| W | ENDING SHELTER COUNT | 123 | 435 | 588 |
| X | Annual Live Release Rate/Percentage [I + J + K + L]/ T x 100 | 90% | 85% | 87% |

Medical Care

The SPCA facility contains a modern surgical suite with separate intake, prep, surgery and recovery rooms for quality medical care. SPCA clinic staff examines all animals, assessing their overall health and medical condition. The staff vaccinates all cats and dogs, tests for various common conditions, treats for intestinal parasites, fleas, ticks and other basic health concerns. Our staff medicates animals daily for various medical conditions, including respiratory infections, ear mites, kennel cough, numerous skin conditions and other treatable conditions. The cost of this medical care for the approximately 5,000 animals each year is significant. Additionally, our veterinarians are often called upon to provide medical care for critically injured animals or animals with more serious medical needs. Our clinic, which is a very high-paced environment, serves as a training ground for fourth-year veterinary students through our Veterinary Student Extern Program.



Spay/Neuter Services

The SPCA continues to spay and neuter animals prior to adoption.² Spay and neuter programs are very important to the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA, and it is through aggressive spay/neuter programs that we can reduce the numbers of orphaned kittens and puppies. In 2007, the SPCA increased its affordable and free spay/neuter services for the general public. These services are generally provided to residents at lower income levels that could not otherwise afford the cost of this veterinary service. Of the total surgeries below, the SPCA provided 667 of these surgeries free of charge.



Spay/Neuter surgeries of cats 2,891³
Spay/Neuter surgeries of dogs 1,560
Total Spay/Neuter surgeries 4,460



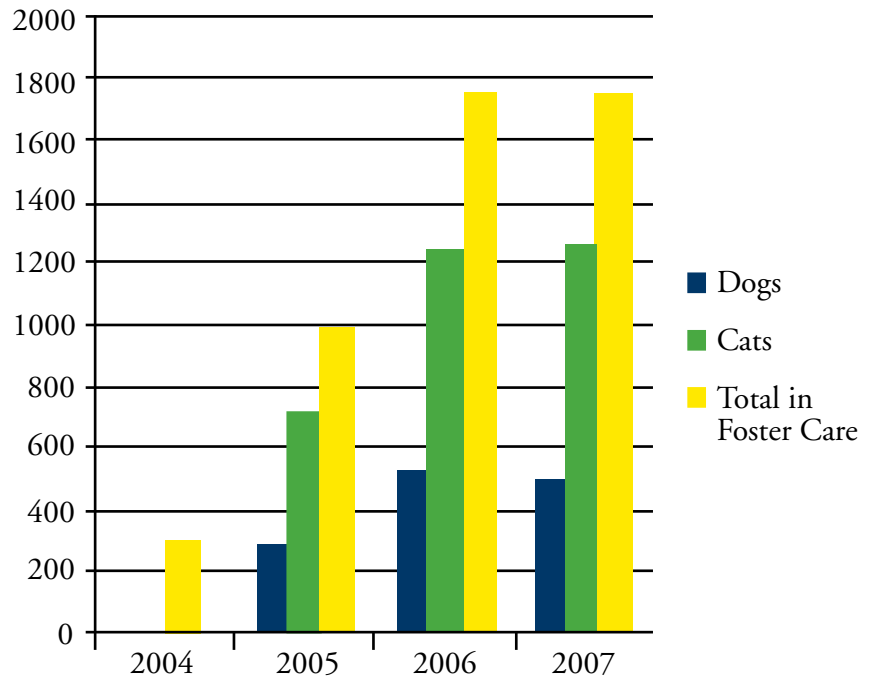
Although 2007 was a fabulous year, we still have a lot of work ahead of us. In 2008, we expanded free spay/neuter programs for cats to reduce the number of unwanted litters of kittens, and we are developing more targeted programs for specific areas of concern.

² All cats and dogs are altered prior to adoption except those with certain medical conditions for which surgery is not recommended or other minor exceptions. A majority of the rabbits, guinea pigs, and other small companion animals are also altered.

³ Includes 580 surgeries performed at feral cat clinics in partnership with Voices for Animals, a local, non-profit group, and local participating veterinarians.

Foster Care

In 2007, more than 1,700 of the 4,745 dogs and cats that came into the SPCA (over 35% of our animals) were placed in foster care for some period of time during their stay with the SPCA. Because of the dedication of our foster parents, the SPCA has one of the best foster care programs in the country. Our foster program is a key component of our life saving strategy. Animals that enter foster care often depend on additional care for their survival and eventual adoption, such as orphaned kittens and puppies, nursing mothers with litters, animals recovering from surgery or those that simply need training, socialization or a break from the facility.



Volunteers

Volunteers make our organization successful. Not only does the SPCA rely on the financial generosity of our supporters, but also on volunteers to donate their valuable time and energy. Volunteers contributed more than 15,000 hours assisting in many areas from socializing, exercising and grooming pets, to assisting with adoption and fundraising events and working in our SPCA Rummage store. The SPCA also hopes to pave the way for a new generation of compassionate pet owners through our humane education programs. More than 5,430 children participated in our humane education/junior volunteer programs, 64 attended summer camp, and 261 went to an SPCA-hosted birthday party.



Investigating Animal Cruelty and Neglect

The SPCA works in partnership with the animal control officers in the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County. Animal control officers investigate cases of animal cruelty and neglect. These officers have a very difficult yet important job in our community. The officers are charged with enforcing laws protecting the public and animals in our community. They educate citizens on proper animal care and encourage many to take advantage of SPCA resources like our affordable spay/neuter services. In cases of severe cruelty or neglect, animal control officers may seize animals and bring them to the SPCA for care and medical attention. Currently, there are three animal control officers serving Albemarle County and one officer serving the City of Charlottesville.



SPCA Rummage!

For many years, the SPCA's well-known rummage sale was an essential source of revenue for our operations. In the past, business supporters donated retail/warehouse space and dedicated volunteers gave of their time making this sale a success year after year. In 2007, the SPCA made a long-term strategic decision to open a year-round Rummage Store. With the sale growing in size each year, the space requirement and volunteer needs were becoming insurmountable to continue the Rummage Sale growth trajectory. The SPCA believes that the permanent store benefits SPCA donors who can now donate year-round and enables the SPCA to grow revenues on a more permanent basis. The Rummage Store opened in July 2007 and all signs point to a bright future.



Financial Information

Saving lives requires two essential ingredients—a relentless work ethic and money. As a private non-profit organization, the SPCA relies on the financial support from generous individuals, businesses and foundations. Our 2007 operating budget was approximately \$2.4 million dollars. Our expenses include interest payments on a \$2.8 million dollar building loan. Fundraising expenses this year grew over 2006 expenses in part due to event expenses related to our Four-Legged Fete and rent and other expenses related to our SPCA Rummage Store. The SPCA operation expenses remain steady; however, the SPCA is accomplishing more with each dollar spent on animal care and veterinary services. We continue to save more lives and in 2007, we have increased the number of affordable spay/neuter surgeries in our veterinary clinic. The SPCA hopes to continue to offer services to those low-income residents in our community that could not otherwise afford such services.

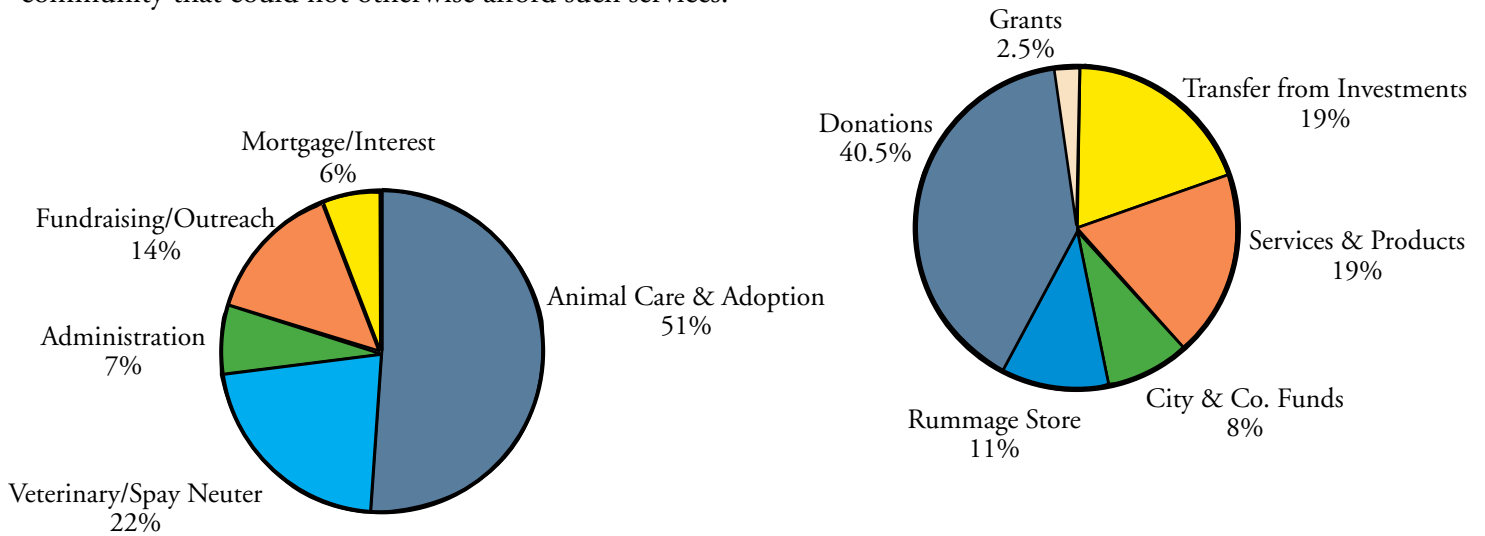


photo: Kevin Blackburn

Donor Recognition

The SPCA relies on the financial support of the community to help save homeless, abandoned and injured animals. Because of the generosity of our donors, we are able to help animals in need. From all of us at the SPCA and on behalf of all the animals whose lives you have changed forever for the better, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

We are pleased to acknowledge the generosity of those individuals, corporations and foundations, who supported the SPCA with direct contributions totaling \$250 or more. Additionally, we thank everyone who has ever donated to the SPCA, including to the SPCA Rummage Store.

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 Smart Books, Inc.
 Southland Homes, Inc.
 The Humane Society of the United States
 The Trust Company of Virginia
 UVA Health Services Foundation



photo: Kevin Blackburn

We do our best to maintain complete and accurate records; however, oversights may have occurred, for which we sincerely apologize. If you find an error or omission, or if you would like information on ways to contribute to the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA, please contact Natasha Soderberg (nsoderberg@caspc.org or 964-3320) or Susanne Kogut (director@caspc.org or 434-964-3323).

photo: Kevin Blackburn



Mission

The Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA is a nonprofit animal welfare organization that provides a safe environment for the lost, abandoned, and homeless animals of Charlottesville and Albemarle County and places them in good homes. We strive to set a standard of excellence and leadership in animal care, humane education, and progressive animal welfare programs.

Vision

- * To guarantee a good home to every healthy and behaviorally sound companion animal.
- * To save all dogs and cats that can be medically treated and behaviorally rehabilitated and do not pose a public health and safety risk.
- * To be a leader and an example for other organizations. To set the standard for our region, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the nation for how to save lives.

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Jan Cabbage
Amy Gardner
Caroline Grassi
William Hay, DVM
Phyllis Barlow Hopkinson
Scott Karr
Jessica Nagle
Erika Robinson
Sara Schroeder
Sissy Spacek
Robert Tobey



photo: Alexander Dearborn

Dixie

2008 SPCA Mascot

STAFF

Susanne Kogut - Executive Director
Makena Yarbrough – Associate Director
Jennifer Hall – Director of Animal Care & Clinic Operations
Cheryl Graybush, DVM - Director of Veterinary Services
Beth McPhee – Building Administrator/Spay-Neuter Manager
Nancy Cranwell – Humane Education Manager
Jammie Davis – Animal Care Manager
Sharon Johnson – SPCA Rummage Store Manager
Amy Kirchner – Community Services Manager
Natasha Soderberg – Annual Giving Manager
Heather Sullivan – Clinic Manager

VETERINARY ADVISORY PANEL

Martin Betts, DVM – Charlottesville Animal Hospital
Steve Epstein, DVM – Ivy Animal Hospital
William Hay, DVM – Airport Animal Hospital
Chris Middleton, DVM – Charlottesville Animal Hospital

All animals pictured in this report are SPCA alumni living happily with their new adoptive families!

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