

Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA

ANNUAL REPORT 2009



Love Somebody!



Executive Director's Letter

LOVE SOMEBODY MEANS TAKING ACTION. IT'S ABOUT SOLUTIONS NOT EXCUSES!

You know all the sayings: when life gives you lemons, make lemonade; when the going gets tough, the tough get going; and my personal favorite, what does not kill you makes you stronger. In 2009, at the SPCA, we proved all of these sayings to be true.

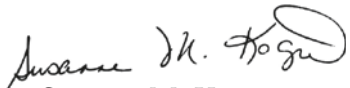
2009 was a challenging year for everyone, and the SPCA was no exception. We began the year surrounded by uncertainty and adversity with respect to our finances, the continuation of our City/County contract and our ability to maintain our No Kill community. Despite these challenges, every day animals came through our door in need of our help and our guarantee of life. The animals had their own challenges. They looked to us for answers—for aid, love and compassion. In early 2009, we saw ten times the number of animals entering our facility critically injured or ill. At this same time, we were reducing our expenses. It is because of sheer will and determination and **your support** that we were able to care for these animals.

Today, we look back with pride, relief and appreciation. The SPCA is a stronger organization now because of our achievements in 2009. We have a new City/County contract that provides fair compensation for services; we reduced our expenses through the creation of efficiencies and cost-cutting; and the 2009 Critter Ball, with its Dancing with Charlottesville's Stars competition, was our most successful event ever.

In 2010, we have a more solid organization to embark on the challenges ahead of us. So as we move forward, we remember that to "Love Somebody" requires action, continued determination and a whole lot of support from our friends.

Together we will create a better future for the animals and continue our No Kill mission.

Love Somebody! 


Susanne M. Kogut
Executive Director

A Look Back and a Peek Forward

Since embarking on our No Kill mission in 2005, with the support of the community, the SPCA has improved the lives of so many animals by:



Finding homes for more than 18,000 animals;
Spaying and Neutering more than 21,000 animals;
Providing life-saving medical care for more than 12,000 animals; and
Maintaining an approximately 90% community-wide save rate.

For these outstanding efforts saving lives, we have received local and national recognition:

2006 - Animal Shelter Director of the Year Award from the No Kill Advocacy Center;
2007 - The Compassion Award from the Virginia Federation of Humane Societies;
2008 - The Prestigious Lifesaving Award from Maddie's Fund;
2009 - The Henry Bergh Leadership Award from the No Kill Advocacy Center; and
2010 - The Ayshire Award for spay/neuter works from the Virginia Federation of Humane Societies.

Our approach to saving lives has been simple and successful. We spend our time and energy on solutions, not excuses, and we work hard.

We identify those areas that have the greatest impact on saving lives and apply our resources to a solution. We refer to our strategy as the "Just Do It" strategy. Under this strategy, we proved that our community can save lives today, while still planning and implementing a more strategic approach for the future.

This year's Annual Report not only provides information for 2009 but also reviews our five year progression. You will see how our focused approach has generated quick life saving results. So many communities promote spay/neuter and humane education but continue to kill animals today and hope for a better future tomorrow.

Thankfully for the animals at our SPCA, we are not as patient when it comes to saving their lives. We save lives immediately by increasing foster homes and adoptions, a very cost neutral solution. At the same time, we implement more long-term solutions to reduce the number of animals coming into our SPCA by helping pet owners keep their animals and offering the community subsidized spay/neuter services.

Although we have achieved our No Kill goal, our story does not end here. There are still challenges ahead. We must continue to reduce the number of animals that need our help. For example, the volume of kittens coming into our SPCA, and every animal shelter throughout the nation, remains very high. No community has solved this problem. As we move forward, we will tell you more about our strategic spay/neuter plans to reduce the number of kittens being born. We believe that the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA can develop a solution and continue to be a model for the nation.



Saving lives today requires immediate action...

Foster and Medical Care are essential components of any No Kill mission.

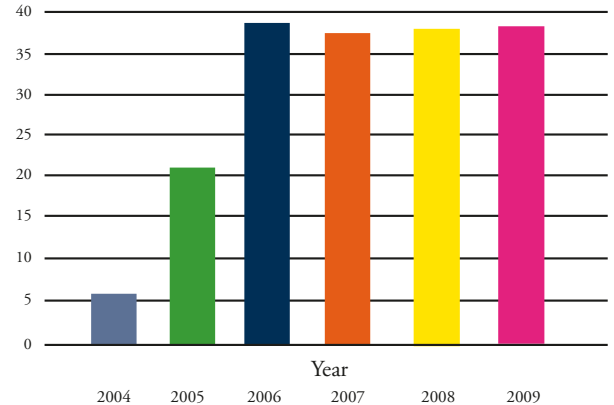
When we embarked on our No Kill mission, animals came into our SPCA daily but space was limited. We immediately asked our community for help. In just two short years, we increased the percentage of animals in foster care by over 600%. Foster parents provide temporary care for kittens, puppies, cats, dogs or other animals that need extra time and attention before being placed in permanent, loving homes. Our SPCA foster program, a key component of our No Kill mission, is now one of the best in the nation. Additionally, medical care is needed for all of the animals. Vet assistants examine the animals to assess their overall health and medical condition. They administer vaccines, test for diseases such as heartworm and feline leukemia and medicate animals daily or provide fosters with medications. The SPCA often provides immediate treatment for critically injured or ill animals and other animals needing additional medical attention.

Increasing adoptions means decreasing euthanasia today.

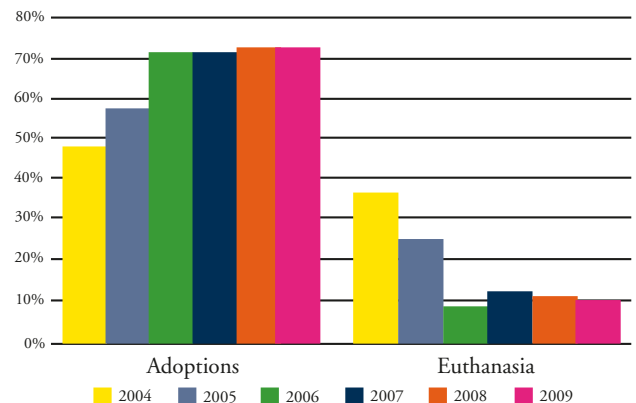
Adoptions, of course, are the focus of every SPCA. National statistics, however, show that animal organizations are failing with only 20% of pet owners adopting from an animal welfare organization. At the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA, we were and are committed to finding every healthy and treatable animal a loving home. Consequently, increasing adoptions was at the forefront of our No Kill initiative.

With so many animals in foster care, increasing adoptions was imperative. We opened every day from 12 pm to 6pm at our main Berkmar Drive facility to ensure everyone an opportunity to adopt a pet. We increased adoptions off-site with new locations for cats at our Purrin at Pantops center, the Rummage Store, and the Hollymead Petsmart, and at adoption off-site outings for both dogs and cats. Adoption promotions and events through out the year not only make adoptions fun but help the animals find new homes. Adoptions are the ultimate "Love Somebody" solution. Adopters save a life and get somebody to love for years to come. Our focused adoption efforts resulted in adoptions increasing over 50% and euthanasia decreasing.

PERCENTAGE OF ANIMALS IN FOSTER CARE



ADOPTION AND EUTHANASIA PERCENTAGES 2004 - 2009





Spay and Neuter Services

Spay/Neuter is clearly the most strategic action to reduce the number of animals needing our help in the future. Over the past five years the SPCA has provided resources to assure more than 21,000 animals have been spayed and neutered. In 2009, the SPCA spayed and neutered 4,680 animals. The SPCA alters all animals prior to adoption and provides subsidized and, in certain cases free, spay/neuter services for residents that otherwise cannot afford this service. The SPCA also partnered with Voices for Animals in holding feral cat spay/neuter clinics to alter and vaccinate 712 cats free of charge.

Spay/Neuter surgeries of cats 2,903
 Spay/Neuter surgeries of dogs 1,777
 Total Spay/Neuter surgeries 4,680

The SPCA believes that strategic and significant spay/neuter efforts are required to reduce the number of animals needing SPCA care in the future. Over the next few years we hope to work with the community to achieve this long-term solution.



ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Reduce the number of animals needing the SPCA by helping the community care for their pets.

Our community assistance programs reduce the number of animals actually needing the SPCA's help each year. SPCA assistance programs help pet owners keep their pets instead of relinquishing them to the SPCA. Assistance comes in the form a behavior advice, pet food assistance, and other counseling to prevent the separation of a loving pet owner from their pet. Each year the SPCA works with pet owners in our community to help them address their pet needs by providing subsidized spay/neuter programs, rabies clinics, behavior counseling assistance, food assistance and related programs.



Volunteers

Volunteers are instrumental to our life-saving work at the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA. We rely heavily on volunteers who donate their time, talents, and energy to help the animals. Individuals from all walks of life give countless hours exercising and loving the cats, dogs and small animals, assisting with pet adoptions and providing fundraising, grounds beautification, administrative support and more. An important aspect of our volunteer program is developing volunteer leaders and trainers and building a team-based approach to volunteering. Groups like Madison House at UVA led by their own team leaders brought over 90 volunteers to the SPCA during the 2009 school year. Many local social organizations, groups and businesses take on large projects to help achieve our mission. In 2009 volunteers donated over 17,000 hours to help achieve our No Kill mission.

We are also proud of our successful efforts to create the next generation of loving pet owners, donors and volunteers. Junior volunteers logged in more than 2,500 hours and our humane education programs reached more than 3,300 children, including favorite SPCA programs like summer camp and SPCA hosted birthday parties.

As our community grows, we are grateful for our volunteers who are involving their companies, their friends and their social and civic groups to support and strengthen our future as a leader in the No Kill movement.



Love
Somebody!



SPCA Rummage!



In its third year of operations, the SPCA Rummage store continues its success providing significant revenue to help the animals. Charlottesville's Daily Progress readers voted the SPCA Rummage Store their favorite thrift store two years in a row. The Store offers a unique shopping experience, and is a favorite spot for bargain hunters, antique buyers and designer label seekers alike. The store accepts and sells vehicles, equipment, appliances, furniture, computers, electronics and clothing, with a pick-up service for large donations. We even have playful cats and kittens to love or adopt during your shopping day.

Asilomar Accords

The SPCA publishes 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 collection and publication of this data is sponsored by Maddie's Fund®, www.maddiesfund.org.

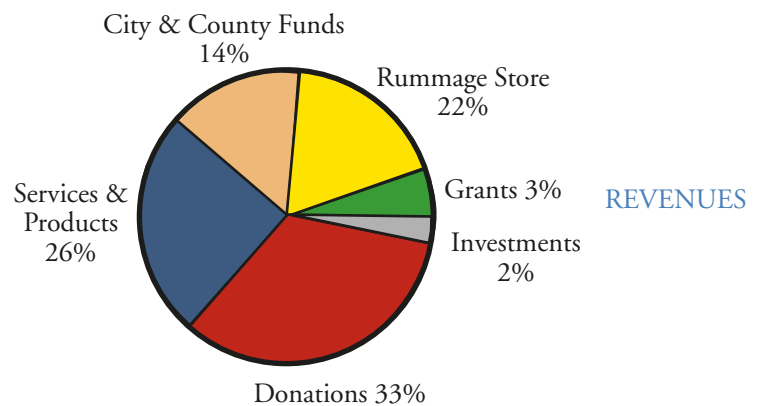
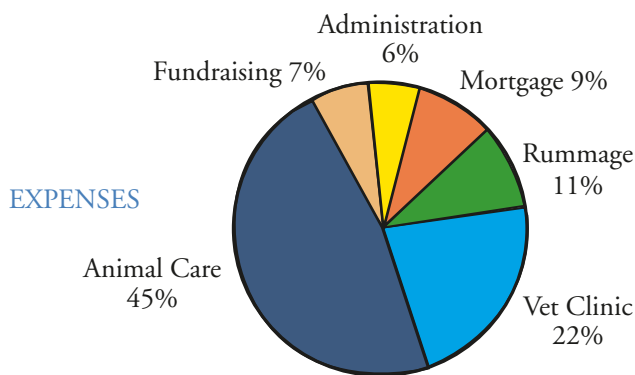
The terminology below contains definitions prescribed by the Accords. The statistics focus on “Live Release Rate,” the percentage of pets that leave a facility alive. Because the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA contracts as the local animal control facility and is the only facility in the community, the SPCA Live Release Rate is the rate for the Charlottesville-Albemarle community.

ANNUAL ANIMAL STATISTICS TABLE: CHARLOTTESVILLE - ALBEMARLE SPCA 2009

		Dog	Cat	Total
A	BEGINNING SHELTER COUNT	96	424	520
	INTAKE (Live Dogs & Cats Only)			
B	Intake from the Public	1789	2157	3946
C	Intake from Incoming Transfers from Organizations within Community/Coalition	0	0	0
D	Intake from Incoming Transfers from Organizations outside Community/Coalition	50	2	52
E	Subtotal Intake from Owners/Guardians Requesting Euthanasia	0	0	0
F	Total Intake [B + C + D + E]	1839	2159	3998
G	Owners/Guardians Requested Euthanasia (Unhealthy and Untreatable Only)	0	0	0
H	ADJUSTED TOTAL INTAKE [F - G]	1839	2159	3998
	OUTCOME			
I	ADOPTIONS	1122	1744	2866
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>	30	44	74
L	RETURN TO OWNER/GUARDIAN	532	60	592
	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>	159	225	384
Q	Total Euthanasia [M + N + O + P]	159	225	384
R	Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia (Unhealthy & Untreatable Only)	0	0	0
S	ADJUSTED TOTAL EUTHANASIA [Q minus R]	159	225	384
T	SUBTOTAL OUTCOMES [I + J + K + L + S] <i>Excludes Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia (Unhealthy & Untreatable only)</i>	1843	2073	3916
U	DIED OR LOST IN SHELTER CARE	12	87	99
V	TOTAL OUTCOMES [T + U] <i>Excludes Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia (Unhealthy & Untreatable only)</i>	1855	2160	4015
W	ENDING SHELTER COUNT	80	423	503
X	Annual Live Release Rate/Percentage [I + J + K + L] / T x 100	91%	89%	90%

Financial Information

Like most businesses, 2009 presented many financial challenges for our SPCA. As a private non-profit organization, the SPCA relies on the financial support from generous individuals, businesses and foundations to fund our No Kill mission. Faced with an uncertain financial forecast, the SPCA took significant cost-cutting measures to weather the times. We reduced our operating expenses from \$2.9 million in 2008 to \$2.5 million in 2009. Expense measures consisted of a freeze on hourly and salary rate increases for all staff, reductions of certain employee salaries and of other employee benefits and decrease in number of employees through attrition. Additionally, operational efficiencies in animal care reduced expenses and public spay/neuter services were reduced from prior 2008 record setting levels.



Donor Recognition

The SPCA relies on the generosity of the community to support our mission. It is your donations that make our life saving work possible. From all of us at the SPCA, and on behalf of all the animals, whose lives you have forever changed for the better, we thank you.

We are pleased to acknowledge the support of those individuals and foundations supporting the SPCA with direct contributions totaling \$250 or more. Additionally, we thank everyone who has ever donated to the SPCA, including all donors to the SPCA Rummage Store and those individuals donating through the Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign. Thank you for Loving Somebody with your donations to help the animals.



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Business and Organization Support

The SPCA is extremely grateful to our many business partners that embrace our No Kill mission and provide vital support to its achievement. SPCA business partnerships can often be a win-win for both organizations. Business partners support SPCA events through donations, sponsorships, events, gift match programs, naming opportunities and many other creative opportunities.



In memory of Aaron "Dub" Boyd

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\$10,000 - \$24,999

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\$5,000 - \$9,999

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\$250 - \$999

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Animal Hospital of Ivy Square

Bank of America

Bankers Insurance, LLC

Covesville Store

Design Benefits

Diversified Intelligence Services, LLC

Fried Companies

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S.L. Williamson Company, Inc.

Smart Books, Inc.

St. John, Bowling, Lawrence & Quagliana, LLP

Tiger Fuel Company

Trust Company of Virginia

U.Va. Core Lab

U.Va. Student System Project

Virginia Animal Law Society

Virginia CFO Services, LLC

Wal-Mart Distribution Center #7016

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 contributing to the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA, please contact director@caspc.org or 434-964-3323.



Marco & Sophie
2009 SPCA Mascots



Love Somebody!

Stay tuned for our upcoming campaign of
love, love and more love!



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.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Denise Yetzer, President
- Scheline Crutchfield, Vice President
- Willis Logan, Treasurer
- Rhonda Quagliana, Secretary
- Kristen Smith Bain
- Ric Barrick
- Jan Cabbage
- Steve Epstein, DVM
- Amy Gardner
- Caroline Grassi
- Fred Haar
- Scott Karr
- Susanne Kogut
- Sara Schroeder
- Sissy Spacek
- Robert Tobey



STAFF

- Susanne Kogut – Executive Director
- Jennifer Hall – Director of Operations
- Emily Beichel, DVM – Director of Veterinary Services
- Beth McPhee – Business Manager
- Mike Alexander – Community Engagement Manager
- Nancy Cranwell – Humane Education Manager
- Heather Sullivan – Animal Care and Clinic Manager
- Sharon Johnson – SPCA Rummage Store 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

Many thanks to Kathryn Goodson for Graphic Design and to Dog Bone Studios, Ben Hernandez, Elizabeth Stone and the Charlottesville Photography Meetup Group for Photography!

All animals pictured in this report are either SPCA animals available for adoption or SPCA alumni living happily in their new homes!



ANNUAL REPORT 2009

