Evolution of the Animal Welfare Movement: Meeting the Needs of Rapidly Changing Communities – Part 1

Heather J. Cammisa, CAWA  
President & CEO
10 years ago...
Many years ago...
Four years ago...
ASK US ABOUT OUR
Feline Pipeline

www.sthuberts.org
Today

• Trends, Momentum

• Response to Disparity

• Adaptation
You
https://www.census.gov/popclock/ Accessed May 22, 2017
“During the 1960s literature began to highlight the role that sterilization could play in prevention unwanted litters of puppies and kittens. It was during the 1970s that spay/neuter became an important part of animal shelter operations and animal placement. The ASPCA instituted a mandatory sterilization policy for all animals adopted, starting in 1972. This topic was hotly debated at shelters across the country as they began to implement this requirement. The primary objection was that people would not adopt if they were required to sterilize the dog or cat.”

-Steve Zawistowski, Ph.D.

*Companion Animal Populations: Historical Context and Future Direction, SPAYUSA Conference 2000*
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Response Highlight</th>
<th>Note</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If intake is declining, what do you believe to be the reason?</td>
<td>Spay/Neuter 79%</td>
<td>Dogs</td>
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<td>Priorities among other services provided beyond adoptions</td>
<td>Subsidized or free spay/neuter 73%</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Humane Education 66%</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Outreach to underserved populations 64%</td>
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U.S. Trends Impacting Field

- Spay Neuter
  - First S/N Clinics 1970s
  - Very different today
  - Pediatric Spay/Neuter
  - Now majority of cats & dogs altered (70-90%)

- Depth of Welfare Field
  - 3,500 shelters & 10,000 (?) rescue groups

- Professionalization of Animal Welfare Field

- Laws

- Public Attitudes & Awareness

- Trap Neuter Return


- Social Desirability of Adoption

- Areas of great opportunity, Areas of great need
Still areas of tremendous need
So – What do we do?

Work Together, Bring Tools
St Hubert’s Sister Shelter
WayStation Transport Program

Supported by
St. Hubert’s Sister Shelter Program

- Created in 2011
- Pick up of animals from areas in NJ and beyond
- Give back funds & hands up help to source shelter
- Formal MOU
- Positive, productive
- This was the spirit we brought to the WayStation initiative
Waystation in Brief

• Agreed upon medical protocols
• MOUs with sources & destinations
• Coordination handled by WayStation
• WayStation funds bulk transport cost
• Separately, “Give Back” funds donated by all partners to fund low-cost spay/neuter for the public in source communities
• Animals HC to St. Hubert’s. We cert onto destination, meet specific needs
• Coordination saves scarce resources and organizes capacity
• Help older, larger & special needs canines, too
• Keeps our community connected, weaves safety net
• Inspires donors
Strategic Plan Alignment

Expand Sister Shelter relationships

Provide Waystation Services to support distance transports

Organization Commitment

Strategic Directions & Priorities for 2015 – 2018

**Vision**
Champion animal welfare and be a leading resource on animal issues.

**Mission:**
St. Hubert’s Animal Welfare Center is dedicated to the humane treatment of animals. The organization believes in and provides services that support the human-animal bond and seeks to foster an environment in which people respect all living creatures.

**Services**
Be a premier provider of animal services that address the needs of animals, people, and the community at large.

**Leadership and Advocacy**
Integrate humane practices throughout society.

**Sustainability**
Ensure the growth and long-term viability of St. Hubert’s.

*Our Goals and Focus*
- St. Hubert’s has a robust presence in the community.
- We provide comprehensive animal services.
- We address the needs of animals, people, and the community.
- We advocate for animal welfare.
- We foster a culture of compassion and respect for all living creatures.

*Tasks and Measures*
- Develop and execute a strategic plan.
- Establish and maintain partnerships with local organizations.
- Promote the importance of animal welfare through public speaking engagements.
- Educate the community about the importance of animal welfare.
- Implement a comprehensive marketing and communications plan.

*Waystation Services*
- Provide animal care and support services to animals in need.
- Offer education programs for youth and adults.
- Develop and maintain a database of animal information.
- Foster a culture of compassion and respect for all living creatures.

*Our Goals and Focus*
- Develop and implement a strategic plan for the future.
- Enhance the organization’s visibility in the community.
- Establish and maintain partnerships with local organizations.
- Promote the importance of animal welfare through public speaking engagements.
- Educate the community about the importance of animal welfare.

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St. Hubert’s Animal Welfare Center

www.shuberts.org
WayStation Day
It’s a Relationship

Commitment to work it out.
Anderson County PAWS is so happy to report that due to your giveback program we have been able to implement a “Spay or Pay” program for dogs that are being returned to their owner. These individuals are able to have their dog spayed or neutered at no cost and we waive all fees associated with holding their animal. It has been amazing to see how many people are taking advantage of this program. So far we have altered 23 dogs! We have also been able to spay or neuter 9 dogs as an alternative to them being surrendered to the shelter. We can’t thank St. Hubert’s enough for being a partner and helping us give back to the animals in our community!

Dr. Kim Sanders
Anderson County PAWS, SC
Director and Veterinarian
March 22, 2017

Colleen Harrington
Transfer and WayStation Coordinator
St. Hubert’s Animal Welfare Center

The Toccoa Stephens County Humane Shelter has a goal of spaying/neutering 600 animals this year. As part of this plan, St. Hubert’s Animal Welfare Center’s “Give Back” program has provided funding to get 90 animals altered to date. As a result of your funding and a two small grants we have been able to secure a larger grant that will be able us to reach our goal of spaying/neutering 600 animals this year.

The Toccoa Stephens County Shelter is four years old and was built as a result of the community wanting to provide for more humane care for the homeless pets in the community. With a small population base it is critical that we seek places for our animals outside the county. In addition to shelter adoptions and seven day a week off-site cat adoptions at a nearby PetSmart a strong transport partner is critical to our efforts to save as many animals as possible. Our “live release rate” for the last three months has been 80.39%, 86.58% and 83.96% WE COULD NOT HAVE ACHIEVED THESE NUMBERS WITHOUT St. Hubert’s help!

Thank you for helping us save lives today (by taking our dogs) and helping us save lives tomorrow (by reducing the number of unwanted animals born) with the help of your “Give Back” program.

Jeff Roberts
Executive Director
Toccoa Stephens County Humane Shelter

Dear Becky and the Wonderful People at St Hubert's,

I can’t begin to tell you how happy we are with our partnership. We were discussing how best to use the money from the Giveback program and came up with a special spay or neuter program for our pit bull and pit bull mixes. So many of our dogs, whether they be strays, owner surrenders or puppies have pit in them. Because we realize we do not have enough funds yet to fix them all, we are holding a contest. Pit bull owners tell us their story and we pick a winner. Right now we have been able to support spay and neuter of everyone that has applied. When we ask how they got their pets, all either found them as strays, got them free from family or from someone who posted on Facebook and in one case, the puppy up from Walmart parking lot.

This program has allowed us to reach people that would not normally come to us for help. Many are struggling with paying their bills and fixing their pets is just not possible. Some of these also now participate in our free food program. We have a partnership with Purina in Nashville, TN and they allow us to get food from broken bags of dog and cat food.

I wanted you to see some of the great dogs that are being fixed under this program. Again, thanks is just not enough for how you have helped us help the animals.

Ann Hunter
President, Humphreys County Humane Society

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www.tschs.org • Fax: 706-886-7358
501c3 Tax ID #06-1342208

St Hubert’s
Animal Welfare Center
Hands Up

Jennifer and I had a wonderful time at the conference and we have so many new ideas! The best part was meeting you and your team. You are all fantastic people and we feel so incredibly lucky to have a partnership with you!

Please know that we are grateful for all that you do for FOTAS and for our dogs and puppies. You make a huge difference and we all appreciate it! We are looking forward to sending you more dogs and pups next week! Jennifer and I will be working on new promotions, new ideas and incorporating new software that we learned about at Expo.

Thank you!

-Kathy

Animal Care EXPO, May 12, 2016
Keeping The Welfare Community Connected

Thank you for making me cry Becky, and I mean that. It is so easy for us to get complacent up here and complain about the things the sending shelter is doing wrong, and what is their problem anyway?, when the reality is they are dealing every day with a situation that would crush a lot of us. Thank you so much for the beautiful memo, the stories and sharing the humanity of these amazing people. It is such a good reality check for us spoiled norteners!

And we are so grateful to be able to help! Yahoo! Nice job Becky, nice job everyone!

Annie

Annie Guion
Executive Director
Windham County Humane Society
Serving Southern Vermont since 1887
PO Box 397, Brattleboro, VT 05302
802-254-2232 phone
802-254-3680 fax
www.wchs4pets.org
Partners & Language

**St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center**

October 22 at 5:05pm

Billigggg day for the Hollander family! They all agreed that Callie (l) is a perfect addition to the clan. She transferred in earlier in the week via the WayStation Program from partners Humane Society of Greenwood, SC, ready to steal some NJ hearts. Mission accomplished!

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**St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center**

October 20 at 12:24pm

There’s nothing like family. The Maitras celebrated October, Adopt A Shelter Dog Month, by inviting sweet baby Goatith to join theirs! He transferred in via the WayStation Program from our partners at Menifee County Animal Shelter and is now happily at home.
EXPO, Ft. Lauderdale, May 2017

- Five source shelters attend by scholarship, including airfare, registration, hotel & staff coverage so they may attend.
Opening night excitement when scholarship recipients Ann and Bill Hunter from Humphreys County Humane Society TN won a $1,000 Maddie’s Fund grant for their shelter!
Adaptation

A change or the process of change by which an organism or species becomes better suited to its environment.
Adapting
Outreach Programming & Support
US Trends – Progress

Euthanasia per ,000

https://www.census.gov/popclock/ Accessed May 22, 2017
President/CEO Heather Cammisa kicked off the Great Crate Challenge at Madison with The Humane Society of the United States at noon. 4 minutes confinement proportionate to the space a pig has in a gestation crate for 4 YEARS! It’s impossible not to recognize that no animal should endure such cruelty—come join us—challenge continues until 2 p.m. urging our Governor to sign S.998 into law.
### SAWA Survey - Focus in 10 yrs?

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Response Highlight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Will intake continue to decline</td>
<td>Yes – 68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If your intake were half...</td>
<td>Focus on ways to stay relevant 63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Provide community outreach programs 53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Summary

- Regional population disparities
- Opportunities (& need) to work together to efficiently & effectively fulfill our missions and keep us connected
- Communicating this new phase
- Language, framing goals
- Adapting— programming, sustainability, advocacy, mergers, infrastructure for “Hurricanes & Hoarders”
- Advancing or securing the success: legislation, backstops, networks
Out of Space

Opportunity Space
Thank you for giving these dogs a place to go!

Thank you!
Heather Cammisa
hcammisa@sthuberts.org
Evolution of Animal Welfare
Part 1
Meeting the needs of rapidly changing communities
Thinking 10 years into the future
About me

“You look just like your profile picture.”
SAWA Survey/Beyond the Label’s II:

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Not close</th>
<th>Making progress</th>
<th>On the Verge</th>
<th>Recently Reached</th>
<th>Past this point for some time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State / Province</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>2%</td>
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Shelter Animals Count has collected January-December 2016 shelter data (dogs and cats only) from over 2200 sheltering organizations, using the Basic Data Matrix. The data presented in the dashboards has been self-reported to Shelter Animals Count by organizations opting in to transparency for providing their data to the public and completing full year 2016 data as of 5/3/17. This data has been compiled along with demographic data into a searchable database available to the public, which will be updated twice annually.

Scroll to the bottom of the page to select the dashboard you want to view.
Is the decline real?
IF YOU BUY WE DIE
PLEASE ALWAYS ADOPT
HI, I’M SARAH MCLACHLAN
AND I’M ABOUT TO MAKE YOU CRY.
Transport: From the SAWA Survey both sending and destination shelters agree:

Destination should:

• Assist with the cost of actual transport
• Assist with the cost of getting the animals ready for transport
• Provide funds for SN in the sending community
Louisiana SPCA is the only comprehensive nonprofit animal welfare agency in the state.

- City Contract for municipal field work and sheltering
- Physical open admission shelter
- Robust foster program

TRANSPORTS

- High Volume Spay/Neuter clinic
- Low cost public veterinary clinic; community based pop up clinics
Louisiana Realities

5 high volume SN clinics

About 2 hours to get
To a clinic

Not enough S/N resources
Louisiana nonprofit shelters
Louisiana Realities: not enough data

- Population size 4.68M People
- Municipal shelters
  - ½ of the parishes have shelters
Lots of blue line dogs
Jefferson Parish Animal Shelter – 10 minutes away
Terrebonne Parish Animal Shelter – 30 minutes away
St. Landry Parish Animal Shelter – 3 hours away

LSU E, these puppies were found in their dumpster. Believed to be 11 weeks old. Lab/Shepherd mix. Any info leading to the arrest of the one abandoned them is greatly appreciated. Slpac OPELOUSAS LA 337-948-6184

Delhi and Moondrop, look so lost...please share. In hopes their parents are looking for them.....SLPAC, Opelousas La 337-948-6184. Stray hold is up....
Next 10 years