



2018

Dear Community Member,

All the proceeds from our Eighth Annual Bone-e-Fit will go to fund spay/neuter projects in Anderson County. Our ultimate goal is to make Anderson a no-kill county and we are making real progress towards achieving this goal. Shelter intakes drive the euthanasia rate and a community's pet sterilization rate determines its shelter intake numbers. Our first steps in trying to increase our sterilization rate began at the end of 2008 and we are seeing the positive effects that our increased spay/neuter rates have had on the county shelter intakes. To date, almost 40,000 pets, that otherwise would not have been fixed, have been sterilized through our combined efforts. As a result the Anderson County Shelter intake has decreased by 50% since the peak in 2008. At that time, intake was 14,698 animals and in 2016, it was 7,311 animals. In 2017, we expect that the numbers decreased even further. Euthanasia rates remained under 40% for the second consecutive year.

We are very grateful that our county council continues to make funds available to assist county residents with household incomes under \$30,000 per year in getting their pets fixed at the Anderson County Humane Society's Low Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic. This is a great help, but there are still many people who fall outside the county guidelines that we need to help through the ACHS Fix-A-Pet Fund.

Anderson Voices for Animals (AVFA) continues to take steps in controlling the feral and stray cat population through their Trap, Neuter and Return program. Funds have been used to purchase additional TNR traps and people who feed and care for feral and stray cats are able to borrow humane traps for spay and neuter. They are taught how to safely use them to bring the cats in for spay/neuter surgery and vaccinations. Since 2008, AVFA has TNR'd over 2800 cats!

We have made a very good beginning and we can't let up now because the pet population numbers would rebound very quickly to even higher numbers than we have already seen. Your support is crucial as we move forward with this grassroots spay/neuter movement for Anderson County.

Please be a sponsor for the 2018 Bone-e-Fit. With your help we can have another successful fund raiser.

Together we can stop the insanity of beautiful, healthy puppies and kittens being born only to die.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this appeal.

The Bone-e-Fit Team