They Just Need a Ride

Saving Lives through Animal Relocation
Session Goals:

• What is animal relocation?
• Why relocate animals?
• Benefits/Challenges
• How to get it started
• How to do it right
• How to pay for it
• How to find partners!!!
  • ASPCA MAP
• Summit in the Smokies
Do you CURRENTLY have an Animal Relocation Program?

Raise your hand if you....
What is Animal Relocation?

The transfer of animals
FROM areas of oversupply
TO areas where there are few,
if any, similar pets
available in shelters for adoption.

“They just need a ride.”
– Ed Sayres
What is Animal Relocation?
Relocation can be NEAR or FAR!

Transport
Transfer
Rescue
Adopt

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Why Relocate Animals?

• 3 million dogs enter shelters each year
• 1.5 million dogs are euthanized

Using logistics, and proven theories of supply and demand, relocation can be key in ending the needless euthanasia of dogs for space.
Only 20% of people go to a shelter to adopt a pet.

People want… what they want.  
*If they don’t find it at the shelter, most will go elsewhere.*

Transferring-in adoptable animals will keep the community coming in!
Benefits

**Source Shelters**
- Less euthanasia
- More resources available for proactive efforts (spay/neuter)
- Relief and hope to staff

**Destination Shelters**
- No more Empty cages
- Maintain the market share by responding to the communities needs for animals.


**Challenges**

**Disease issues**
- The increased stress on transported animals may cause illness.
- If transported animals are NOT healthy....they can spread disease at the Destination shelter.

**Root causes**
- Relocation is only PART of a communities solution.
- **Spay/Neuter has to be part of the solution too!**
How to get a relocation program off the ground.

Step #1. Get Everyone on Board!

- Board of Directors
- County/City Govt.
- Staff
- Volunteers
- Community

It’s going to be a LOT more work for everyone!!
And Next...

*Step #2. Find Destination Shelters*

Not Yet!!

You need to **PREPARE** before you contact Destination Shelters.
Step #2. Prepare

Just like applying for a job…you need to “sell” your program.

- Give your program CREDIBILITY!
- YOUR organization will stand out!
There are more Source Shelters than Destinations!

Many Destination Shelters have groups LINED UP waiting for them to take their animals!
Healthy Animals are a MUST!

“Our Animals are Healthy”
Give your guarantee that the animals will be healthy or you’ll take them back.

“Our Animals have been Quarantined”
Quarantine animals for 7-10 days before transport if possible.
HIGHLY Adoptable Animals

“We’ll give you’re the Cream-of-the-Crop”

“Our animals come GROOMED!”

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Get them VETTED!

“Our Animals are fully Vaccinated!”

List the all of the vaccines AND…when they were given!

Diseases in YOUR area may be different!

What’s Erlichia?
Crossing State Lines

Rabies Vaccinated!

“Our Animals come with a Health Certificate!

A must when transporting across state lines!
Worms!

Roundworms = Zoonotic!

Test for Heartworm, Parvo, Etc.
Spay/Neuter

Fix em’ if you can!

S/N’d animals will be adopted quicker at the Destination shelter!
Evaluate Behavior

“Our dogs are BEHAVIOR EVALUATED!”

A little about…SAFER® Assessment:
Safety Assessment For Evaluating Rehoming

• The SAFER Assessment is designed to assess the probability of future aggression in dogs age six months and older.
• The assessment does not measure the dog’s temperament or internal character.
• The assessment uses researched items that elicit responses that are predictive of future behavior.
• It is intended to be one tool used to help identify the risk of future aggression AND the individual behavioral support needed before adoption for each dog in a shelter.

Become SAFER® Certified

A SAFER® certified assessor has demonstrated the ability to accurately and objectively observe and identify behavior. A certified assessor also has the ability to conduct SAFER assessments in a manner that produces accurate and replicatable results.
SAFER® Glossary

Arousal
Attempt, or Try to Bite
Body Slam
Body, Loose and Wiggly
Body, Stiff (Stiffening)
Ear Posture: Ears Back
Ear Posture: Ears Forward
Eyes
Fearful
Freeze
Huffing (Laughing)
Lip Length
Lip Lick
Mouth Position: Closed M...
Mouth Position: Open Mo...
Play Bow
Running, Body Movements

Body Slam
Dog firmly jumps with two or four feet on Assessor with a stiff/tense body and then turns away from Assessor.

SAFER CERTIFICATION PREPARATORY COURSE

SAFER® is a tool for assessing the probability of human severe aggression. SAFER® has helped thousands of caregivers and pet parents all over the country, save dogs and puppies from lethal exposure to the booklet. SAFER®Certified Pet Caregivers Will Learn:

- How to accurately assess the SAFER® measurement and when additional steps are needed to ensure SAFER® certified Pet Caregivers Will Learn:
  - How SAFER® certified caregivers can use this booklet to help identify and address learned behaviors.
  - How SAFER® certified professionals can better communicate with other caregivers about what to do when a dog is not acting as you expect.

2010 SAFER® CERTIFICATION PREPARATORY COURSE SCHEDULE

Sessions: Week #52. To register, email education@aspca.org.

Note: All sessions are limited to 15 participants per session. The ASPCA is not responsible for the behavior of the dogs in any of the sessions described. The ASPCA is not responsible for the activities of the participants of the sessions. The ASPCA is not responsible for the dogs in any of the sessions. The ASPCA is not responsible for the behavior of the dogs in any of the sessions.
List the Available Dogs (and ID them).

Use your shelter program to print a list or create a “Transfer Manifest”

Ask your partner shelter what type of shelter program they use. Some programs communicate!!
If you’re going to do it, DO IT RIGHT!

Best Practices & Standards

- Association of Shelter Veterinarians
- National Federation for Humane Societies
- Dept. of Agriculture

SAFE, HUMANE, EFFICIENT
NFHS – The Tiered Approach

TIER ONE – Basic (Minimum)

• Rabies Vaccine
• Visual Exam
• 48 hour recovery time after s/n
• Health certificate
• Puppies 8 weeks or older unless with mom
• Minimum behavior requirements
• Identification on animal and containment
• Paper records with animals
• S/N prior to adoption
NFHS – The Tiered Approach

TIER TWO – Moderate

• All requirements of tier one, plus
• Heartworm test
• Bordetella, Parvo, Distemper
• Further behavior evaluation and provide form
• Animal history and photos
• Destination tracks and shares outcome statistics for each dog
NFHS – The Tiered Approach

TIER THREE – Advanced

• All requirements of tier one and two, plus
• Fecal exam and de-worming
• Flea/tick preventative
• Parvovirus titer
• Microchip
• Extensive behavior evaluation
• Destination conducts adoption follow ups
Step #3. How will animals be Transported?

Options:

- Volunteer drivers with their own vehicle.
- Your shelter vehicle.
- Be Creative…Enterprise “Miles that Matter”

Follow Best Practices!

- Association of Shelter Vets
- National Federation of HS
Primary Focus Must Always be on Safety and Reduction in Stress

**Containment**
- Species
- Cohousing
- Secure

**Environmental Conditions**
- Temperature extremes
- Ventilation

**Animal Needs**
- Food and water?
- Medical
- Signs of stress
- On-board Handler

**Infectious Disease**
- Disinfection
- Container placement
- High risk animals

**Transit Time**
- Less is more
- Supervision
- Walks
- Sanitation
Step #4. Raise money for transports

Options:
- Social Media
- Paypal
- E-commerce
- Grants

Tell the story...why transport is important!

Propose that after a trial period, they consider sending a portion of their adoption income BACK to you for S/N programs.
The Carroll Petrie Foundation
Dog Rescue Project

$1 Million program to save 16,600 dogs by paying a $50 subsidy for every additional dog relocated out of the shelter.

• 50 shelters participated
• Across 21 states plus DC
• The program ran for 13 months
• $940,600 in subsidies awarded

Participating shelters saved 18,812 more animals than the year prior!
Went from *matted* and *scared* at the *City of Abilene Shelter* in TX, to a *beauty* at the *Pawed Squad Pet Rescue*, and then into a *loving home.*
**Step #5.** Find a Destination Partner

With your “resume” in hand...start making calls or....join ASPCA MAP.

- Move shortest distance possible
- Discuss euthanasia decisions, adoptions, emergencies on the road
- Get contact info (after hours)
- Communicate along the way. ETA and if/why you’re running late
- De-brief
ASPCA MAP
(Moving Animals Places)
What is the MAP?

• Web-based tool
• Connect U.S. Source & Destination shelters
• Create Partnerships
• Promote Best Practices
• Provide current picture of surplus & demand

Google Maps \textit{meets} Match.com
Who is the MAP for?

• Non-Profit shelters
• 501(c)3 rescue groups
• Municipal sheltering agencies
Why use the MAP?

• Find partners close to you with
  • Surplus animals (source shelters)
    or
  • Empty cages (destination shelters)

• Comprehensive, real-time information

• Additional resources to improve quality and quantity of transports
Welcome to the ASPCA MAP!
Where organizations connect to help animals and save more lives.

Getting around the MAP is easy!

- To get started, find a transfer partner.
- Make connections with another agency, and keep track of them.
- Stay in touch with agencies by sending and receiving messages.
- Provide feedback and ratings on your recent transports.
- Review and update your member profile.

Your Dashboard
Searching for a Partner

- Change status whenever you want
- Zip code search
- Color coded dots
Sending a Request to Connect

When you send the request...they will THEN see your full profile.

Find a shelter...send a Request to Connect
Accept or Decline a Request

When THEY accept...that's when you can see their full profile.
Sending and Receiving Messages & Arranging a Transport
Rating your Partner & Reporting your Transport Numbers
What’s on the Application?

• Contact Info and Details
  • Primary contact, Organization tax status, staffing, etc.

• Shelter capacity and Prior Year Stats
  • Adoptions, transfers, euthanasia, etc.

• Medical, Spay/Neuter, Behavior
  • Vaccines, quarantine time, health certificates, behavior evals, etc.

• Animal Selection, Documentation
  • Shelter software, lists of available animals, etc.

• Transport Options
  • Can you transport, fees, own/rent vehicles, etc.

• Signed Code of Conduct
Animal Relocation and Transport

The Animal Relocation Initiative focuses on saving lives by helping organizations relocate animals from areas of oversupply to places where there are few, if any, similar pets available in shelters for adoption.

Relocation can be near or far. It can include an animal that is pulled from a shelter by a local rescue group; it can be the transfer of an animal to another regional shelter (i.e., an animal moves from the municipal shelter to an ASPCA or Humane Society); and it can be a long distance transport to a destination shelter out of the source region.

The Animal Relocation Initiative launched in May 2011. In the first 12 months of the program we facilitated the relocation of 966 animals from 25 source shelters in 13 states to 26 destination shelters in 16 states. Some of these animals were in overcrowded shelters where their chances for adoption were slim, while many were

Resource Library
To get on the MAP and start saving more lives, go to:

www.aspcapro.org/map
Animal Relocation Summit in the Smokies

**Coming in Spring 2014**
*Date and Location TBD*

*Working together to increase the efficiency, capacity, and effectiveness of animal relocation in the Smoky Mountain regions of Tennessee and North Carolina*

**Reception (night before Summit)**
Hors d’oeuvres and drinks
Get to know others in your state and region who are interested in animal transport and relocation.

**Summit**
A one day working meeting to discuss animal transport and relocation in Tennessee and North Carolina, share what’s working, discover best practices, and begin creating a state-by-state or regional model to increase animal lives saved.

**Who should attend?**
Directors, Managers, and Decision Makers for organizations transferring animals to increase live outcomes.

*If you would like more information, email us at: relocation@aspca.org*
What are your Questions???

Kristen Limbert
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WE ARE THEIR VOICE.