



ANNUAL REPORT 2010

Our Mission

- To provide temporary shelter to abandoned and surrendered animals for the purpose of finding permanent suitable homes.
- To provide assistance and information to others whose purposes are consistent with the purpose of Second Chance Animals Shelter, Inc.
- To provide assistance and financial aid to prevent overpopulation through spaying and neutering programs.

Named

"Outstanding Shelter" by SPCA International 2008

*Worcester University Partnership Award 2007 for College Students' Community Engagement"

"Winner of the 2007 Pedigree Best Rescue Story Award"

"Top MA shelter in the 2009 national Zootoo.com contest"

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Second Chance Animal Shelter (hereafter "SCAS) is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization. A five (5) member Board of Directors governs SCAS. The shelter employs a staff of nine (9). As of this report, two (2) are full time and seven (7) are part-time. It is anticipated in the upcoming months that 3 of the part-time employees will become full time as the new Wellness & Education Center begins to function 5 days per week. In addition SCAS also has 4 veterinarians that are affiliated with the shelter. There is a volunteer base of 250.

SCAS operates in two locations. The Adoption Center, located in East Brookfield, MA and the Wellness & Education Center, opened in Oct of 2010 and located in North Brookfield, MA.

The Adoption Center is in it's 11th year of operation, taking in surrendered, stray and abandoned animals as well as working with such organizations as HSUS (The Emergency Services Placement Partner Program) and MAC (The Pilot Program) for re-homing animals from Animal Control. SCAS is a MA Emergency Shelter for pets.

SCAS is a no-kill shelter and does not euthanize pets to create space. There is no time limit on the how long a pet is cared for until adoption.

The "10,000 Tails" initiative launched in 2008 came to fruition in 2010 as funds were available to begin the long awaited and much needed renovation of the Adoption Center. Larger kennel areas, and the expansion of quarantine rooms, cat rooms and visitor rooms were added. The new dog kennels are a state of the art modular product that allows for easy cleaning and maintenance, as well as providing a more comfortable living space for the dogs. In addition to that there it has created needed space for the volunteers to perform their tasks of caring for the animals.

2010 saw the creation of The Wellness & Education Center, located in North Brookfield, MA. The Center officially opened on Nov. 13, 2010. SCAS is proud to have been selected for membership in the Humane Alliance, an organization located in Ashville, NC. The Alliance begun in 1994, has been training its members in cutting

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edge techniques of Spay/Neuter surgery. The Center offers not only high quality, low cost spay/neuter services for the community, but also provides Vaccination Clinics on a bi-weekly basis for pets. Grants from various organizations and donors, allows the Clinic to provide these services at prices that are affordable for families. The service is open to all pet owners as well as to other rescue organizations and animal control officers throughout MA. It is the goal of the new Center to S/N 8,000 animals in the upcoming year. With a ratio of 5:1, birth to surgery, this represents a potential 40,000 animals that will not be put into a rescue system that is unable to accept them.

The Wellness & Education Center allows SCAS to expand the educational outreach program that has been offered for the past several years. The effort provides in-school as well as in-shelter programs for schools and youth groups.

The Feline Express Program continues to help additional cats and kittens by providing a way to get pets from overcrowded shelters and/or from being euthanized and acts as the intermediary to locate shelters with available space. Second Chance facilitates these transfers and also provides spay/neuter during this transition.

The Food Pantry provided food to more pantries in 2010 than in prior years. The program expanded this initiative, which provides pet food to local pantries and residents in need. As of the end of 2010, we now provide pet food to 6 pantries as well as the Catholic charities, which encompasses multiple sites of distribution in Central MA.

In early 2011 the plans call for the Center to begin offering a full range of training classes and seminars to pet owners and potential pet owners which will provide these families with the needed knowledge to effectively modify behaviors that many times lead to animal surrenders. It is the combination of S/N, Wellness and education of pet owners that SCAS has adopted as its strategy to make in-roads into pet overpopulation and suffering.



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SECOND CHANCE ANIMAL SHELTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Sheryl Blancato
Vice President Joe Blancato Sr.
Secretary Rebecca Austin
Treasurer Curtis Schoen
Member Robert White, Esq.

2010 Adoption Statistics:

Dogs - 151	Cats - 119
Puppies - 31	Kittens - 323
Other - 0	Transfers - 0
TOTAL - 624	

A number of significant events took place in 2010. Senior staff became heavily involved in National Rescue Missions. In Oct. of 2009, at the request of HSUS, Second Chance was asked to assist with one of the largest Dog Fighting Ring Busts in the history of our country. HSUS and the Federal Government conducted a simultaneous 8 state raid saving 400 pit bulls from horrific, inhumane conditions. They were relocated to a temporary shelter in St. Louis, MO. SCAS spent one week working with HSUS and the Humane Society of MO caring for and evaluating the animals. While at this shelter, 150 puppies were born, bringing the total number of dogs needing placement up to 550. Nine of the dogs were chosen to be transported to East Brookfield. Although it took a considerable amount of time to find those dogs homes which ties up kennels and affects the statistical average days stay. The rescue of these 9 animals, who were at risk to be euthanized, far outweighed the altering of the adoption rate. This year also saw a significant increase of dogs requiring extraordinary medical attention, such as HeartWorm positive issues and special surgeries requiring extensive recovery time. We feel strongly these needs far outweigh the rate of adoptions.

Cat adoptions also saw a decline based on the fact that Cat kennels were removed to accommodate the S/N program until it's relocation in Oct. This lowered the number of cats that could be housed and subsequently adopted.

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2010 SPOT (Low Income) SPAY/NEUTER ASSISTANCE

A total of 2,095 pets were spayed/neutered through the various clinics and voucher program at SCAS. This included low-income owned pets, shelter, and other animal control and rescue pets. This is down from the 2009 number of 2,269. The decrease is attributable to the fact that surgeries were suspended during the transition of the Clinic from East Brookfield to the North Brookfield. There were also no surgeries during the time the Vet team was in NC training with the Humane Alliance. 2010 was the sixth full year of offering the Spay/Neuter program.

The opening of the new Wellness & Education Center brings with it a new goal for the program. The entire staff attended a week long training session with the Humane Alliance in their Ashland, NC facility. Subsequent to the off site training, staff members of the Alliance spent an added two weeks at the N. Brookfield facility with our Vet Team. The Center is now tasked with achieving the targeted Goal 35 surgeries per day, 5 days per week, 48 weeks per year. This translates to 8,000 Spay/Neuters/year. SCAS is positioned to be a model and a leader in moving toward the solution of pet overpopulation and suffering.

MISSION STATEMENT

TO provide temporary shelter to stray, abandoned, and surrendered animals for the purpose of finding permanent suitable new homes.

TO provide assistance and information to others whose purposes are consistent with the purpose of Second Chance Animal Shelter, Inc.

TO provide assistance and financial aid to prevent overpopulation through spaying and neutering programs.

OUR VISION

Second Chance will be the model shelter, addressing the issue of pet over-population by providing solutions through services and

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prevention through education. We will be the exemplary shelter for Central Massachusetts by executing exceptional business and service practices and providing a revolutionary model for the pet and shelter industry.

ADOPTION POLICIES

Second Chance's goal is to place our animals in their forever homes. To do this we need to ensure that the dog or cat and the potential adopting family are well matched. Our application process is a vital component of the process in achieving this goal. There are many variables that go into making placement decisions. We review each application on a case-by-case basis. It usually takes only a few days to process an application, but if we have multiple applications for a particular dog or cat, it can take longer. Our staff/volunteers will respond to applications, via emails and phone calls as quickly as possible.

- Walk-ins are welcome during our hours of operation.
- We do not do same day adoptions unless there is an approved application on file. An adoption application is required to be approved before an adoption can be completed..
- In addition to the pets housed at the Adoption Center, we also have an extensive foster care system.
- SCAS reserves the right to refuse to adopt to anyone for any reason.

SURRENDER POLICIES

Surrendering an animal can be a difficult and heartbreaking decision for owners. Accepting surrendered animals and working to place them in new, loving homes is an important part of our mission.

We accept all breeds of pets. We accept any age pet and we do accept pets with treatable medical conditions. We do evaluate each pet prior to admission to our shelter to ensure that the pet being surrendered is adoptable.



We have a lifetime return policy on all of our adopted pets. Therefore, SCAS pets can be returned to the shelter at any time in their lifetime.

Second Chance Animal Shelter adoption fees are currently set at the following rates and are subject to change without prior notice:

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Animal	Fee	Fee Includes
Cats	\$75	Cats are felines 6 months and older. They have been spayed/neutered, felv/fiv tested, wormed, flea treated, vaccinated, and microchipped.
Kittens	\$100	Kittens are felines under 6 months old. They have been spayed/neutered, felv/fiv tested, wormed, flea treated, vaccinated, and microchipped.
Dogs	\$150	Dogs are canines over 6 months to 7 years. They have been spayed/neutered, heartworm/lyme/ecan tested, wormed, flea treated, vaccinated, and microchipped.
Puppies	\$250	Puppies are canines 6 months and under. They have been spayed/neutered, heartworm/lyme/ec/an tested (if old enough), wormed, flea treated, vaccinated, and microchipped.
Sr. Canine Companion Program	\$100	Dogs ages 8 and over qualify for our Senior Canine Companion Program. They have been spayed/neutered, heartworm/lyme/ec/an tested, wormed, flea treated, vaccinated, and microchipped. Cats ages 8 and over qualify for our Senior Feline Companion Program. They have been spayed/neutered, heartworm/lyme/ec/an tested, wormed, flea treated, vaccinated, and microchipped.
Senior Feline Companion Program	\$50	
		Adoption Fee also includes: a complimentary office exam at a participating veterinarian, coupon for one free Reiki session, coupon booklet of savings, free training DVD, discount on pet training classes, coupon for free Canine Good Citizenship testing from a shelter evaluator, as well as many other valuable resources and coupons.

CHANCE ANIMAL SHELTER SURRENDER FEES	
Animal	Fee
Cats	\$40
Kittens	The surrender fee will be waived on kittens when the owner agrees to spay the cat (if the cat is not being surrendered with her kittens). Low cost spay/neuter assistance is available.
Dogs	\$25 - \$100 Fees are waived for those that cannot afford them.
Puppies	The surrender fee will be waived on puppies when the owner agrees to spay the dog (if the dog is not being surrendered with her puppies). Low cost spay/neuter assistance is available.

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PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Low Cost and Free Spay/Neuter Programs

2010 was the sixth full year of operation for the SPOT program. A total of 2,095 pets were spayed/neutered through the listed programs. The S/N Clinic that was located at the Adoption Center was relocated to the new Wellness & Education Center in Nov. 2010. Second Chance continues to operate the "Helping Hands" program to assist rescue, shelters, and animal control by providing low cost spay/neuter services.

Second Chance's S.P.O.T. program (Stop Pet Overpopulation Today!)

Second Chance has two low-income spay/neuter alternatives through the SPOT program.

1) The S.P.O.T. voucher program - designed to assist low-income pet owners afford the cost of spaying or neutering their pet. These vouchers are accepted at participating veterinarians. Currently there are 2 participating veterinary clinics.

2) The S.P.O.T. clinics that are conducted at the North Brookfield Wellness & Education Center. These clinics run on a daily basis.

Feral Cat Spay/Neuter

Second Chance holds weekly Clinics at the Wellness & Education Ctr. We also offer the loan of humane traps to assist folks in trapping the ferals to transport to the Clinic. This is a S/N and release program for feral (wild cats, not house pets) and barn cats.

The Cost of this service is \$30.00 and includes:

- Spay or Neuter Surgery
- Rabies and Distemper Shots
- Treatment of Fleas and Earmites
- Eartipping to Mark "Graduates"



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The client must provide

- A safe place for the cats to continue to live. All cats in this program must return to their original location to live. No follow-up care is required after surgery.

It's important to understand that spayed/neutered cats do not fight, spray urine, or breed - but they will still control rodents!

Pet Wellness Clinics

In 2010 was the fourth year of offering pet wellness clinics to the growing list of assistance to pet owners. At the new facility, Second Chance offers clinics every other week for routine vaccines, testing, and microchipping. These clinics are not meant to replace regular veterinary care but to assist owners that simply cannot afford routine care.

Feline Express Program

2010 marks the third year of the "Feline Express" program. This program targets the need for shelters to come together to ensure that every cat/kitten in need could be helped. The program works to move cats/kittens from overcrowded shelters, where the animals are at risk for euthanasia, as well as those in animal control and serves as the intermediary to move them to shelters that have available cages. Second Chance also provides spay/neuter assistance for these cats during this transition. This helps to get these cats/kittens into their adoptive homes more quickly as well as open up cage space for additional cats/kittens.

Kennel Gate Sponsorship Program

There are 14 dog kennel gates at Second Chance Animal Shelter. Businesses are offered an opportunity to help out the animals and advertise their business by sponsoring a kennel gate. These can also be sponsored in memory of a loved one. The sponsored gates have a plaque on it designating the sponsor.

The kennel gates have a high exposure to the public and the sponsorship fee is \$250.00. This includes the plaque, displaying three lines of text that will be prominently displayed on the gate and visible to the public. These sponsorship plaques will remain on the gates for two year. The sponsorship program will continue after that with a yearly renewable sponsorship fee of \$100.

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Cat Cage Sponsorship Program

There are 22 cat cages available for sponsorship. The sponsorship is for two years and then renewable each year thereafter. Businesses are offered an opportunity to help out the animals and advertise their business by sponsoring a cat cage. These can also be sponsored in memory of a loved one. The sponsored cages have a plaque on it designating the sponsor.

The cat cage sponsorship is \$150.00 per cage. This includes a plaque with three lines of text that is prominently displayed on the cage and visible to the public. The sponsorship program will continue on a yearly renewable sponsorship fee of \$100.

Educational Outreach Program

Second Chance provides tours of the Adoption Center and the Wellness & Education Center to local school and youth groups. We also provide guest speakers at local schools to promote responsible pet ownership. Many schools use this program to assist them with their community service programs. Schools also hold fundraisers or do other similar projects for the shelter pets.

Second Chance utilizes therapy dogs to assist with this program by providing hands-on education with therapy dogs such as Bruno and other former Second Chance dogs that have been trained and certified.

Party for Pets

In 2010 the "Party for Pets" program completed its second year as part of the educational outreach program. This program is an extension of the school program that helps to promote the involvement of children with the plight of homeless pets, but with an individual theme. This program allows children to be part of helping the homeless pets by thinking of them on their birthdays. The children, who hold parties, ask for gifts for the animals instead of themselves. The program was evolved from the growing list of kids that have voluntarily chosen to do this for the shelters animals. In return the shelter provides the children with a gift of a t-shirt and lapel pin for themselves and animal related party favors for their guests. This program is meant to increase awareness among our youth, of the plight of shelter pets.



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Pet Food Pantry

The Pet Food Pantry, established in 2009, continued in 2010 to provide pet food to area food pantries. This program grew rapidly and has expanding to additional area food pantries, helping pet owners to be able to keep their pets during difficult financial times when they can not afford the cost on their own.

Foster Care Program

Foster homes are an important part of SCAS. The number of foster homes varies from day to day. Foster homes are used to care for pets that would not do well in the shelter. These include pregnant and nursing moms, medically needy pets, and those that show signs of kennel stress.

Volunteering Program

SCAS currently has 250 volunteers who perform various tasks at the shelter. These tasks include (but are not limited to):

- Dog Kennel and Cat Cage maintenance/cleaning
- Dog Walkers
- Play and socialize with the animals
- Teaching basic commands to the dogs
- Building skills to assist us with interior improvements.
- Events planning and attendance
- Transportation: To transport supplies and donations or to take animals to and from the vets or other facilities.
- Help with the writing of our tri-annual newsletter.
- **Junior Volunteers:** Youths 16 and under must be accompanied by a parent. Youths 16-18 years old must volunteer when another volunteer or adult is present.

Website Based Programs

RESOURCE DIRECTORY

Second Chance maintains a resource directory containing information on breed-rescues, shelters, as well as other pet-related links.



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LOST/FOUND

Second Chance maintains a comprehensive list of Massachusetts animal control officers and local shelters. The website also provides a list of recommendations for people who have lost or have found a pet.

EVENTS

ADOPTION/EDUCATION DAYS AT PETCO

Second Chance holds adoption days at Petco on Rt. 12 in Auburn and Holyoke each month. This event is used to promote awareness of the shelter and its adoptable pets. Information is also provided to help educate owners on various options to keep their pet healthy and to provide information on various programs available.

NATIONAL SHELTER APPRECIATION WEEK

This event was held in November. This event raised awareness of what shelters do and several drives were held to collect donations for the shelter.

11th ANNUAL DINNER/AUCTION

This fundraiser was held at the Spencer Country Inn on March 20th. This event raised \$17,300 for the shelter.

11th ANNUAL WALK 'N WAG

This fundraiser was held at the Hamilton Rod and Gun Club in Sturbridge and raised \$6,000. This was the sixth year that vendors were invited to this event. This was the fourth year at the Hamilton Rod and Gun Club and the fourth year that we included a chicken barbecue.

1st Annual Critters Second Chance Poker Run

The first year for Second Chance to include motorcycle enthusiasts in a fundraising event. The event included a poker run for the cyclists and a buffet dinner after the run. The event was a great success and raised \$4,000 for the shelter.

Other events included a variety of venues throughout the year including Petrock, tag sales at the Hubbardston Flea Market, community awareness at the annual 4th of July event in East Brookfield and the town library as well as various other events.

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Financial reports are in process and will be available in the next few weeks.

PROJECTIONS FOR 2011

ADOPTIONS

The completion of the newly renovated Adoption Center will make visiting and interfacing with adoptable pets a more pleasant

experience for families. The addition of an "adoption room" allows families to be able to spend time with an animal even in inclement weather. The added exposure the shelter has enjoyed in 2010, with addition of the new Wellness & Education facility and greater coverage by newspapers and other media will add to the number of animals we will be able to send to their forever homes.

PROGRAMS

- High Quality, low cost Spay and Neuter Services
- Vaccination Clinics
- *Feline Express Program*
- *Educational Outreach*
- Training seminars and sessions for pet owners
- Training sessions and seminars for Animal Welfare Professionals
- After Adoption assistance includes a first visit to one of our participating Veterinarian Clinics as well as training advice for behavioral issues.

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NEW EVENTS for 2011

The Annual Walk n Wag event will be replaced in 2011 with a "Run, Walk n Wag" to be held at the new Wellness & Education Center. It will include a 10k run through the roads of North Brookfield and a Walk course for those who wish to participate but not run. A spaghetti supper will be held on the evening preceding the event.

With the addition of the Wellness Ctr., SCAS will begin to offer volunteer opportunities for Seniors. They will include "Afghan for Animals", Quilting Bees, and other programs that will allow Seniors to be a part of the shelter's efforts as well as enjoy the companionship of friends and our animals.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

While SCAS has does currently have excellent group of committed volunteers, we also recognize that it is important to maintain that volunteer base. We will continue in 2011 to enhance the volunteer training efforts, as well as add more volunteer opportunities as the shelter continues to grow and require assistance in other areas. We hope to promote the importance of volunteering as a crucial part of the shelter. Volunteers are a vital part of ongoing daily needs of the shelter and it's care of the pets.

BUILDING ADDITION

The renovation of the Adoption Center, which began in Nov of 2010, will continue to completion in the upcoming year. It is anticipated that the shelter should be fully done by spring of 2011. 2010 was a pivotal year for SCAS.