

**Sonoma County Animal Services Partnership  
Spay/Neuter Workgroup – Meeting Notes**

December 12, 2013 – 1:00-2:00pm  
Sonoma Humane Society

**Present:** Jennifer Kirchner (Forgotten Felines), Kiska Icard (Sonoma Humane Society), Debbie Christian (SCACC), Darryl Roberts (SNAP Cats), Andrea Agrella (Sonoma Humane Society), RJ Kamprath (Pet Pop Control Fund), Becky Lunders, facilitator

Topic	Discussion	Action/Decision
<b>Goal of the Workgroup</b>	<p>This workgroup aims to make spay/neuter both accessible and affordable in Sonoma County. The group hopes to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better communicate between organizations</li> <li>• Provide a menu of resources to anyone looking for services, including referrals by vets to the programs</li> <li>• Define qualifications and stipulations specific to different programs</li> </ul>	<p>This is the first meeting of this workgroup.</p>
Current Resources	<p>Jennifer handed out a list of what we know is currently available for Spay/Neuter services in Sonoma County. We will fine-tune the list so it is comprehensive and can be utilized by VIP as well as vet clinics throughout Sonoma County.</p> <p>Communication and collaboration between VIP and service providers may help make services more accessible in a timely manner.</p>	<p><u>Jennifer</u> will research what is currently available in Rohnert Park.</p> <p><u>Kiska</u> will research what is currently available in Petaluma.</p> <p><u>Everyone</u> will confirm details about current clinic offerings so we can compile a comprehensive list.</p> <p><u>Becky</u> will develop a spreadsheet for you to fill in details on your program/organization (attached to email). Details we want to gather: qualifications, in heat or not, appointment needed, where to call, bilingual services, public or private resource.</p>
What's Lacking?	<p>VIP scheduling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We need to make it easy for VIP to fill the slots.</li> <li>• There are a lot of no shows. Consider issuing reminders.</li> <li>• VIP's system only schedules six weeks out. If slots are filled, they are told to call back at another time.</li> <li>• There is no waiting list for cats</li> <li>• We need to advise VIP of other resources so they can send people there when slots are full (i.e. Forgotten Felines has capacity)</li> <li>• By moving cat appointments to Forgotten Felines, that will open up some slots for big, female dog appointments (which are in high demand)</li> <li>• Is it possible to add extra schedule days?</li> <li>• Can they triage each call and create appointments based on priority?</li> <li>• VIP is moving towards online scheduling</li> <li>• Do they have an online calendar and list of community contacts to refer?</li> </ul>	<p><u>Debbie</u> will connect with VIP and ask them to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• start a cat waiting list so we can try and schedule them with other providers)</li> <li>• ask for <u>location first</u> (options close to where they live) when making appointments, and then give options for other locations second</li> </ul>

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	<p>We need pregnancy prevention education to help those who have animals that are not altered reduce the chance of pregnancy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educational piece could be used by VIP for those who can't get an appointment in a timely manner.</li> <li>• County animal shelter could distribute</li> <li>• Local vets could distribute / have conversation</li> </ul>	<p><u>Kiska</u> will explore this and help determine what and how we might best accomplish this.</p>
<b>Marketing Spay/Neuter Services</b>	<p>We need more resources. Right now the clinics are booked, so we can't do much outreach until we build capacity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We need to get private vets and clinics involved.</li> </ul> <p>Special Populations / Special Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a need for a list of resources for people who have special needs animals.</li> <li>• Geographically, we need to make it convenient for those who need the services the most (services in MY community).</li> <li>• We need to market via 211 so they can refer people to services</li> </ul>	<p><u>RJ</u> will contact vets to determine the current rate for spay/neuter in hopes of securing some vets who will do a certain number of appointments for a free or reduced rate to help with the backlog. Once we have a baseline, we will go to Dr. Walters in the ASP about how to best approach the county's vets.</p>
Next Meeting	Meetings are scheduled month to month. This workgroup meets at the Sonoma Humane Society (5345 Hwy 12, Santa Rosa).	Next meeting January 9, 2014 from 11am-Noon.