



Animal Shelter of Sullivan County

First Year as a No Kill Shelter Statement



In 2019, 751 animals lost their lives in the county shelter. Of these deaths, 93% occurred prior to the management transition (Aug 2019) and implementation of new policies/ programs (Sept 2019). The Animal Shelter of Sullivan County management transition occurred in August of 2019, with a thirty-day plan to implement a new no kill policy along with managed intake and enhanced shelter medicine program. This goal was achieved through the hard work and dedication of our team.

In 2020, to the month of October, we have had 3 deaths in our care. Two occurred at the veterinary facility with prompt care and one occurred 24 hours post veterinary treatment at the shelter. To date in 2020, we have had a total of 40 medically necessary/ veterinary recommended euthanasia for the entire year. Of these there were 13 cats, 5 kittens, 20 dogs, and 2 puppies. Our facility has operated as ***no-kill*** for over a year, and as a result, over 700 lives have been saved thanks to our amazing team, community partners, rescue partners, community cat program, and enhanced shelter medicine program. This represents a 97.4% reduction in lives lost.

The importance of the community cat program cannot be understated. Of the 751 animals whose lives were lost in 2019, 693 (92.3%) of them were cats - Adult cats (50.4%) and kittens (49.6%). By implementing the Community Cat TNR program, not only have we reduced the number of deaths, but the number of unwanted cats and kittens flooding into the shelter. This results in not only lives saved, but ultimately a cost savings as well. We will continue to push focus in this area to ethically reduce the over population of felines in our county.

While cats have been a massive part of our transition to no kill, our “Canine Crosswalk Program” has been immensely successful in not only saving canine lives but reducing their length of stay at the shelter to under a week with most staying between 3-5 days. This has allowed us to focus attention on the canines that need us the most while fast tracking those ready for their new lives quickly out of the shelter. To date in 2020 we have seen a 60% reduction in canine euthanasia/ deaths over 2019. Most of our canine euthanasia have been a result of being hit by a car or having other advanced medical problems beyond veterinarian ability to rehabilitate. Additionally, every single shelter team member is Fear Free Certified! This has allowed us to reduce fear while in the shelter and helped to more quickly transition dogs into a home (foster or adoption) or rescue due to less canine stress and the dogs are more well balanced than when they initially arrived at the shelter. By removing barriers to “Home” we have substantially shortened length of stay for dogs allowing us to focus more attention on the individual canine and outreach within our community to help families stay together.

We want to thank our community for their continued support as we maintain ***our “No Kill” organization’s*** commitment and focus on the animals within our care as well as implementing programs such as our low cost monthly vaccine clinic, PASS program, Canine Crosswalk, Don’t Breed a Bully, and Community Cat programs to help our citizens and their pets. We are grateful for the community we serve and look forward to offering even more outreach services in the coming years. You will find the supporting transition numbers and current 2020 numbers on the following page as well as in Shelter Animals County.

Together We Can do great things for the animals of Sullivan County

Sincerely,

Cindy Holmes

Executive Director ,

Animal Shelter of Sullivan County, Inc.
Proudly No Kill since September 2019



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First Year Numbers as a No Kill Shelter



Transition/ Remainder of 2019

<u>Month</u>	<u>Euthanasia</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Percentage reduction to prior month/ notes</u>
July 2019 (former mgmt.)	129	19	
August 2019	87	7	- 36.5% Transition to new management
September 2019	18	8	-72.3% 30 day goal to no kill met
October 2019	14	0	-46.2%
November 2019	7	2	-35.7%
December 2019	1	0	-88.8%

2020 Numbers

<u>Month</u>	<u>Euthanasia</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Live Out (Adoption/ Rescue/ reclaimed)/ notes</u>
January 2020	6	0	124
February 2020	5	0	123
March 2020	6	1	95
April 2020	1	1	31 ("Pandemic Emergency" only intake/ empty shelter)
May 2020	2	0	67
June 2020	4	0	102
July 2020	4	0	91
August 2020	8	0	138
September 2020	2	1	119
October 2020	2	0	152