Beaufort County News Release

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH SECTION | COMMUNICATIONS AND ACCOUNTABILITY DEPARTMENT

Contact: Tallulah Trice Animal Services Director 843-255-5010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 29, 2016



Beaufort County Animal Services Department Receives ASPCA Grant

The Beaufort County Animal Services Department recently received \$40,000 from the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) for its campaign "REDUCE", which is designed to decrease shelter intake and euthanasia rates. The department will have one year to utilize the grant money.

According to Tallulah Trice, Director of the Animal Services Department, more than 350 stray animals from Saint Helena Island alone were received at the County's Animal Shelter in 2015. Given the high rate of strays in this area, the department will utilize \$25,000 of the grant money to conduct target spay and neutering here. The animals will also receive vaccines and a locator microchip.

The Animal Shelter has also been coping with owners giving up their pet. Last year the County received approximately 560 owner-surrendered pets due to military deployments, confinement concerns, and pet care affordability issues. Consequently, Trice said \$15,000 of the grant will be utilized to assist owners wanting to surrender a pet.

"The County's Animal Services Department can assist owners at the time of potential relinquishment," said Phil Foot, Assistant County Administrator for Public Safety. "By utilizing this grant money, the County can help provide pet housing, food, medical intervention, and much more. This will really help us to keep pets at home and out of the shelter."

<u>The Beaufort County Animal Services Department</u> provides a humane environment for the County's homeless cats and dogs, seeks to place them into loving, permanent homes, and helps to enforce the animal control laws of Beaufort County. To help the "REDUCE" campaign or to learn more about adopting a pet and volunteer or donation opportunities, call 843-255-5010, visit the County's Animal Shelter at 23 Shelter Church Road in Beaufort, or click <u>here</u>.

Administration Building | 100 Ribaut Road | Post Office Drawer 1228 | Beaufort, South Carolina 29901 www.bcgov.net | communications@bcgov.net

REDUCE AGGRESSION

DECREASE OVER-POPULATION

LOWER RISK OF CANCER

REDUCE ROAMING

INCREASE LIFE SPAN 3-5 YEARS



^{photo} by Tangerine House of Design