



REACHING OUT TO THE *Community*

6TH NATIONAL G2Z SUMMIT & WORKSHOPS
14-19 SEPTEMBER 2015, MANTRA ON VIEW HOTEL, GOLD COAST



Jan McHugh-Smith

CAWA, BSc, BMu
President/CEO
Humane Society of the Pikes Peak Region

Jan McHugh-Smith is the President/CEO of the Humane Society of the Pikes Peak Region, an open-admission organization with two facilities serving 24,000 animals annually throughout Southern Colorado. HSPPR contracts with 10 cities and counties to provide Animal Care and Control services. Jan's animal welfare experience over the past 30 years also includes being President of the San Francisco SPCA, San Francisco CA; CEO of the Humane Society of Boulder Valley, Boulder CO; and Director of Eagle County Animal Control, Eagle CO.

Previously, Jan served on the American Humane Association Advisory Board, HSUS Companion Animal Advisory Committee, participated in developing the Asilomar Accords and is Vice Chair of Shelter Animal's Count, working create a national database for shelter statistics. She is the past Chair of the Society of Animal Welfare Administrators (SAWA), and served as Chair of CATalyst Council which works to raise the level of care and welfare for cats. Jan speaks on animal welfare issues at conferences all over the United States.

She is a Certified Animal Welfare Professional (CAWA), earned her Bachelors in Music at the University of Colorado, Boulder and a Bachelors of Science at Southern Connecticut State University.

Most importantly she shares her life with her husband, son and 4 wonderful shelter dogs.

Abstract

United States National Database for Animal Welfare

Shelter Animals Count is a new, collaborative initiative formed by a diverse group of stakeholders to create and share a national database of sheltered animal statistics, providing facts, and enabling insights that will save lives. By creating standardized reporting and definitions for shelter statistics including intake, adoptions, return-to-owner, transfers, euthanasia and shelter deaths, we will increase live outcomes. The organization is dedicated to furthering more transparency with anonymity through sharing of shelter data to increase lifesaving opportunities to share a national database of sheltered animal statistics, providing facts, and enabling insights that will save lives. Learn what insights we have gleaned so far, where we're heading in the future, and how collecting animal shelter data can help focus resources.



REACHING OUT TO THE Community

6TH NATIONAL G2Z SUMMIT & WORKSHOPS
14-19 SEPTEMBER 2015, MANTRA ON VIEW HOTEL, GOLD COAST

Full Presentation

Background:

Animal Shelters in the USA consists of private nonprofits, government animal control service, and private shelters that provide animal control service for local government, and rescues. Shelters are regulated at the state level for kennel licensing, but there is no national organization that oversees the policies and procedures of operation for sheltering. Because each shelter is run individually, everyone has a different style of keeping statistic records if they keep any statistics at all.

In 2004, a group of national organizations developed the Asilomar Accords which is a uniform method for collecting and reporting shelter data in order to promote keeping statistics, transparency and better assess to the final disposition of animals. Using the Asilomar Accords is voluntary and some Foundations required this reporting to receive grant support, which increased the number of agencies that used the formula. Maddie's Fund developed a website for provide an overview of statistics collected from the shelters that received grants from them.

Asilomar Accords continues to be used in the USA, but not all shelters have the capacity to report in that detail. The National Federation of Humane Societies developed a modified version of the Accords that would simplify record keeping; this document is known as the matrix. The matrix is the statistical collection format being used to capture summary data for the first phase of the SAC data collection.

Shelter Animals Count is funded by founding members of national groups including Best Friends, ASPCA, HSUS, PetSmart Charities, and Maddie's Fund. The Board of Directors includes shelter directors, representatives from the national groups, scientists and other funders.

The Shelter Animals Count database did a test launched in 2015 collecting summary data from a few shelters that volunteered to share statistics. Shelters can choose whether or not their individual data can be seen, but transparency of data is encouraged to allow for better analysis. Visually integrated sheltered data will be available to the public and includes demographic information for the region as well as comparisons over time.

Conclusion:

Shelter Animals Count will provide a wealth of information on national trends in animal welfare. It will provide organizations the ability to view communities with similar demographics and other variables. Data collection can assist shelters with identifying the animals at greatest risk and help to direct resources where they are most needed. Most importantly, it provides a tool to educate the public about the plight of homeless animals and describes what is occurring in the community. As the database continues to evolve, the goal is to provide automatic reporting of individual animal data that will provide more in depth analysis.

Research:

Shelter Animals Count: www.shelteranimalscount.org

Asilomar Accords: www.asilomaraccords.org

National Federation Matrix: <http://aspcapro.org/sites/default/files/nfhs-basic-matrix-fillable.pdf>

Maddie's Fund: <http://www.maddiesfund.org/searchable-database.htm>