



www.secondchanceanimals.org

We couldn't do what we do without you, they wouldn't get a Second Chance without us. It takes all of us to save all of them. Thank you for being a part of our Second Chance family!



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ANNUAL REPORT - 2014



Second Chance Animal Shelter, Inc.

ADOPTION CENTER:

111 Young Rd., P.O. Box 136

East Brookfield, MA 01515

Tel. (508) 867-5525 Fax. (508) 637-1417



WELLNESS AND EDUCATION CENTER:

372 North Main St.

North Brookfield, MA 01535

Tel. (508) 637-1333 Fax. (508) 637-1417

Email: info@secondchanceanimals.org

Website: www.secondchanceanimals.org

AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Gold level on Guidestar.org since 2013

“Purina Chosen MA shelter for “Building Better Lives” in 2012, 2013, and 2014

1 of the top 73 animal welfare non-profits in the world 2012 by greatnonprofits.org

Chosen as the one MA shelter for funding by the MuttNation Foundation 2014 (Miranda Lambert)

HSUS Emergency Placement Partner as of 2010 and named 1 of the top 10 Partners in the Country in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014

ASPCA Emergency Placement Partner since 2013

Voted top MA shelter in the animal rescue site challenge, June 2011 and have placed in top 3 in several subsequent challenges

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

Named "Outstanding Shelter" by SPCA International 2008

“Featured on the Fox Mike and Juliet Morning Show in 2008”

Winner of the 2007 Pedigree Best Rescue Story Award”

“One of the top 20 shelters in the national 2007 Zootoo.com contest”

ABOUT SECOND CHANCE

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 financial aid to prevent overpopulation through spaying and neutering programs.

TO support a healthy pet community and responsible animal husbandry by providing reasonably cost general veterinary services, as well as low/no cost general veterinary services to those unable to afford care for their pets.

TO provide low/no cost general veterinary services to animal control agencies, animal shelters and rescues.

TO establish cross-referral networks with local "for profit" veterinary doctors and clinics.

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

OUR VISION

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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

2014 IN REVIEW



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 twenty five (25). As of this report, seventeen (17) are full time and seven (8) are part-time. Seven of the staff are veterinarians working to help the shelter animals as well as provide veterinary care at our Wellness Center. The volunteer base is 275. SCAS is a no-kill shelter and does not euthanize pets to create space. There is no time limit on how long a pet is cared for until adoption.

SCAS operates in three locations. The Adoption Center, East Brookfield, MA and the Wellness and Education Center, North Brookfield, MA. As of December 2013, Second Chance also operates an adoption center for adults cats located in the Framingham PetSmart location. We also work with 3 Petco locations to provide community outreach and adoption information to the public.

In addition, SCAS also operates two satellite vaccine clinic sites. One in Webster MA and one in Douglas MA.

SCAS helps over 16,000 pets a year through adoption, spay/neuter, vaccine clinics, veterinary care including subsidized care to those in need as well as veterinary services to over 55 other rescues and shelters. We also provide training, educational outreach, and a pet food pantry.

The Adoption Center is in its 16th year of operation, taking in surrendered, stray and abandoned animals from the public as well as

working with such organizations as HSUS (The Emergency Services Placement Partner Program) and MAC (The AniMatch Program), ASPCA, Best Friends, and others to re-home animals from Animal Control, disasters, large scale hoarding and animal cruelty cases. SCAS is a MA Emergency Shelter for pets and was named one of the top ten Emergency Placement Partners of HSUS for the fourth consecutive year.

The Wellness & Education Center, located in North Brookfield, MA., opened on Nov. 13, 2010, providing low cost spay/neuter to approximately 5,000 pets. 2014 was the second year of operation for the full service veterinary clinic, open to the public, and provides subsidized care for those that qualify. These services are also available to other rescues/animal control/shelters.

Second Chance is a proud member of the Humane Alliance, an organization located in Asheville, NC. The Wellness Center offers high quality, low cost spay/neuter services, weekly vaccine clinics, a full array of veterinary services, and pet training. Grants from various organizations and donors allow us to provide these services at affordable prices. The goals of the Center is to perform 4-6,000 spay/neuter surgeries, 250-500 specialty surgeries and a multitude of other veterinary related services to keep pets in homes and out of shelters each year. With a ratio of 5:1, birth to spay/neuter surgery, this represents a potential 40,000 animals that will not be put into rescue systems which have no ability to accept them. The addition of veterinary services gets to the root cause of animal suffering and surrender by helping countless pets from surrender to shelters simply because the owners cannot afford medical services forcing them to give them up. This also saves shelters the significant financial costs of housing and providing the needed medicals services to these pets. Second Chance is committed to surrender prevention.

The Wellness & Education Center has allowed 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.

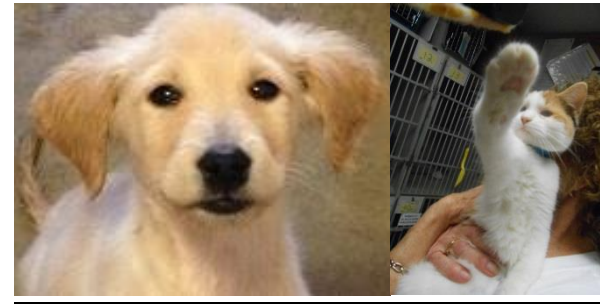
Training and education programs increased in 2014 with the completion of the new training and education room. The Wellness Center is also the hub of our Pet Food Pantry, providing assistance to more than 9 food pantries across Central MA helping residents in need feed their pets while they work through difficult financial times. Once again keeping pets in their homes and preventing surrender to shelters simply because owners cannot afford to feed their pets.

The organization believes that the path to ending animal suffering, abuse and overpopulation requires the addressing of root causes and not just symptoms. We do not believe that animal suffering and abuse can be eradicated by adoption and spay/neuter only, although these are certainly two (2) critical components of our strategy. We have pioneered the first “Subsidized Veterinary Clinic” run by an animal welfare group in our state of Massachusetts, focusing our effort on providing affordable medical care (including wellness exams, vaccine clinics, surgery, dental care and nutritional guidance) for the underserved populations of our communities. Our first Clinic, begun in Aug of 2013, has grown exponentially over its brief existence. Plans for our second subsidized clinic to be located in Springfield, MA have been assembled and will be executed by the spring of 2015. A city that has an extremely large underserved population that needs our programs.

Through the generosity and vision of PetSmart Charities, we were advised in December that we would be awarded a grant in early Jan of 2015 to purchase a 26 ft. mobile surgery/veterinary and adoption vehicle. This unit will allow us to reach into the neediest of neighborhoods where companion animal owners do not have the ability to travel to our brick and mortar Veterinary Clinics. We will be able to provide consistent vaccine clinics which will address the issues of Parvo and other critical diseases that plague many urban areas.

ADOPTION CENTER

“Every Pet Deserves A Second Chance”



2014 Adoption Statistics:

| | |
|--------------|---------------|
| Dogs - 288 | Cats - 174 |
| Puppies - 66 | Kittens - 293 |
| TOTAL - 821 | |

2014 saw a 14.8% increase in adoptions over last year, and was the best year for adoptions in the shelter’s history. The adoption statistics represent all pets taken into our Adoption Center. These numbers do not include those that were able to stay in their homes due to SCAS intervention, which is one of the most important measures of success. Additionally, whenever space allows, Second Chance also takes in pets from other shelters, rescues, and animal control to prevent unnecessary euthanasia.

Senior staff continues to be involved in expanding the reach of SCAS rescues by our involvement in national rescue missions and extending a helping hand to other shelters, rescues and animal control in an ever broadening area. In 2014, there was one mission of particular note. We were deployed to assist HSUS in a puppy mill seizure in Tennessee. There were many pets with medical needs, and all in need of new homes. While on site, the release of these dogs was secured and SCAS took 10 of these dogs back to Massachusetts for adoption.

Our transport traveled to Washington DC to meet the transport from Tennessee and pick up the pets and get them back here for care. Our outstanding veterinary staff was able to address all of the dog's medical issues and our adoption staff worked tirelessly to prepare them for new homes. Many of these dogs had never seen grass, or been on leash. It took weeks of patience and love to get these dogs used to their new life. They embraced their new found freedom and each was successfully adopted.

In 2014, Second Chance became the ONLY shelter in Massachusetts to be a part of the PetSmart Charities Rescue Waggin. This meant that whenever there were no local dogs in need, and space was available, we were able to help animals from other shelters nationally that ran out of space to house these animals and did not have enough adopters. This is an exciting program for Second Chance and we are very proud to be given the distinction of being the only shelter in Mass. chosen by PetSmart to be approved for this life saving program.

We helped with several hoarding cases in 2014, providing care and new homes for the cats in these bad situations. We were happy to bring cases under control and give these pets the medical care they so desperately needed as well as new homes to call their own.

Second Chance was once again honored to be named one of the top ten Emergency Placement Partners of HSUS in 2014. The fourth year in a row we were given this award. Our trained team stands at the ready to assist HSUS anywhere in the country the need arises.



ADOPTION POLICIES

The Second Chance goal of our Adoption Center is to prepare and 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 to 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 day for us to process an application, but if we have multiple applications for a particular dog or cat, it may take longer. Walk-ins are welcome to visit our temporary residents 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.

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 pets with treatable medical conditions. Our trained staff performs a behavioral evaluation for each pet prior to admission to our shelter to ensure that the pet is adoptable. Second Chance Animal Shelter adoption fees are currently set at the following rates and are subject to change without prior notice:

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.

| Animal | Fee | ADOPTION FEES Fee Includes |
|--------|--------|---|
| Cats | \$100. | Cats are felines 6 months and older. They have been spayed/neutered, felv/fiv tested, wormed, flea treated, |

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|---|
| | | vaccinated, and microchipped. |
| Kittens | \$125- \$150 | Kittens are felines under 6 months old. They have been spayed/neutered, felv/fiv tested, wormed, flea treated, vaccinated, and microchipped. Kittens 12 weeks and under are \$150. and kittens over 12 weeks and under 6 months of age are \$125. |
| Dogs | \$195. | Dogs are canines over 6 months to 7 years. They have been spayed/neutered, heartworm/lyme/ec/an tested, wormed, flea treated, vaccinated, and microchipped. |
| Puppies | \$295. | 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. |
| Senior Feline Companion Program | \$50. | 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. |

| Animal | SURRENDER FEES |
|---------|---|
| Cats | \$40 - \$50., fee waived for animal control |
| Kittens | The surrender fee will be waived for kittens when the owner agrees to spay the mother cat (if the cat is not being surrendered with her kittens). Low cost spay/neuter assistance is available. |
| Dogs | \$25 - \$100 is the suggested donation. 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 mother dog (if the dog is not being surrendered with her puppies). Low cost spay/neuter assistance is available. |

WELLNESS CENTER

"Furever Together - Keeping Pets and Their Families Together"



2014 LOW COST AND FREE SPAY/NEUTER ASSISTANCE

A total of 4,721 pets were spayed/neutered through our Wellness Center. This included low-income owned pets, shelter and other animal control and rescue pets. This was our eleventh full year of offering this service.

2014 was the fourth full year of operations at the Pet Wellness & Education Center in North Brookfield, as well as the ninth full year of operation of the SPOT (Stop Pet Overpopulation Today!) spay/neuter program.

2014 was the second year of operation of the full service veterinary clinic which includes subsidized care for pets whose owners are in need of financial assistance. SCAS continues to position itself as a model and a leader in moving toward the solution of pet overpopulation and suffering. Our innovative approach of focusing on surrender prevention helps over 16,000 pets a year to stay in their homes and with their families, instead of surrender to shelters.

Helping Hands Outreach Program For Other Groups

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 now assists over 55 other groups in providing low cost spay/neuter, vaccines, and medical care to pets in their care.

Wellness Center Transportation Services

Second Chance began transportation services at the end of 2011 and continues to see exponential growth. Two transport vans provide pet transportation to our Wellness and Education for shelters, rescues, animal control officers and pet owners. This program operates 5 days a week. These vehicles were made possible thanks to grants from the ASPCA and the Petco Foundation, these vehicles



Feral Cat Spay/Neuter – FAST (Feline Alliance Sterilization Team)

Second Chance provides trap/neuter/release weekly through our clinics at the Wellness & Education Center. We offer the loan of humane traps to assist caregivers in trapping the feral cats in order to transport them to the clinic. This program is 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 Vaccines
- Treatment of Fleas and Ear mites
- Ear tipping to Mark "Graduates"

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 when a cat is spayed/neutered, they are less likely to fight, spray urine, and will not breed - but they will still control rodents!

Pet Wellness Clinics

2014 was the eighth year of offering pet wellness clinics to the growing list of assistance for pet owners. At the new facility, SCAS offers weekly clinics for routine vaccines, testing, and microchipping. These clinics are not meant to replace regular veterinary care but to assist owners that simply cannot afford this basic routine care.

2014 was the first full year the Wellness Center was expanded to provide full service veterinary services to the general public. This include subsidized care for those that qualify. In addition, this subsidized care is available to other shelters, rescues, and animal control officers to help pets in need. Second Chance is the only subsidized full service vet clinic operated by an animal welfare organization in the state of MA.

Outward Bound Express Program

The increasing success of our vet clinic and our spay/neuter program as well as the shelter's other programs has led to the decline of the number of local pets being surrendered to shelters. We are able to offer pet owners alternatives when they think surrender is their only option. The availability of affordable veterinary services, assistance with behavioral and medical issues, and ongoing support has helped to keep more pets in their homes. Therefore, Second Chance is widening it's assistance to more areas of Massachusetts and beyond. When there are kennels/cages available and no local pets are in need, SCAS contacts other groups within Massachusetts and outside of Massachusetts to provide assistance and prevent euthanasia simply because they have run out of room in their respective facilities. Our

focus continues to be on surrender prevention. **We cannot adopt our way out of the problem.**

Our two transport vehicles are on the road 5 days a week, or more, providing transport services to our spay/neuter program, or from other shelters, rescues, animal control, disasters and other large scale cases to pets in need of placement through our adoption center. Our vehicles have made trips to other parts of our country such as Michigan, Ohio, Tennessee, Vermont, New York and others to bring animals back to our shelter for adoption.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES



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 allowing for hands-on education with dogs such as Harley and other former Second Chance dogs.

Home Bound to the Rescue

Begun in 2010, this program was initiated as an adjunct to our “Food for Pets” Pantry which provides pet food to nine local human food pantries. We found that in addition to the need for pet food, the elderly need assistance with basic pet care during these tough economic times. Many of them cannot afford to provide basic medical care for their pets and/or don’t have transportation available to get their pets to a veterinarian. Home Bound to the Rescue assists pet owners by providing the services right at their doorstep at no cost to them. By going to elderly and low income housing complexes, we assist with keeping their pets healthy and up to date on vaccines. This prevents our seniors from having to choose between their pets needs and putting food on their table. Thanks to a grant from the Banfield Charitable Trust, this program was able to provide care in 2014.

Party for Pets Children’s Program

Begun in 2008, the “Party for Pets” program completed its sixth year as part of the educational outreach program. The program is an extension of the school program that promotes the involvement of children with the plight of homeless pets, but with an individual theme. It allows children to be part of helping homeless pets by thinking of them on their own birthdays. The children host parties and request gifts for the animals instead of themselves. The program evolved from the growing list of children who voluntarily donated their birthday gifts to the shelters animals. In return the shelter provides the children with a gift of a t-shirt and lapel pin and animal related party favors for their guests. This program is designed to increase youth awareness to the plight of shelter pet and instill a profound respect for animals which will lead to a generation that abhors animal abuse and neglect.

Pet Food Pantry

The Pet Food Pantry, established in 2009, continued in 2014 providing cat and dog food to area human food pantries. The program continues to grow and expand, now providing assistance to more than 9 food pantries throughout the state. This program assists pet owners to keep their pets with them during difficult financial times when they cannot afford the cost of food on their own. It is an integral part of our “Surrender Prevention” focus.

Second Chance Dog Park

Thanks to an Eagle Scout project, Second Chance was able to create a Dog Park at the Wellness and Education Center in 2011. Use of the park is free and open to the public. It allows dog owners the use of a large fenced in area in which they can provide needed exercise for their companions and allow for time to form deeper bonds with their dogs. The park has become an integral part of the community and enjoys widespread use. It is so encouraging to see the animals and their owners enjoying the opportunity to play with their animals in a safe and comfortable dog friendly area that allows dogs to romp off leash.



Foster Care Program

Foster homes are an important part of SCAS. The number of foster homes varies from day to day. Fosters are used to care for pets that would not do well in the shelter environment for any number of reasons. These include pregnant and nursing moms, medically needy pets, and those that show signs of kennel stress. Fosters prepare our temporary residents for the day they are placed into their forever home.

Volunteering Program

SCAS currently has 275 volunteers who perform various tasks at the shelter. These include (but are not limited to):

Dog Kennel and Cat Cage maintenance/cleaning

Dog Walkers

Play and socialize with the animals

Bring their 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 under the age of 16 are always welcome into the volunteer program, however they must be accompanied by a parent at all times while at the shelter. Youths 16-18 years old can perform volunteer functions when another volunteer or adult is present.

Website Based Programs

RESOURCE DIRECTORY

Second Chance maintains a resource directory on our website that contains information on breed specific rescues, other shelters and other pet-related links.

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 AND FUNDRAISING



15th ANNUAL DINNER/AUCTION

This fundraiser was held at a new venue in 2014, The Leicester Country Club. The event has grown so much over the years that more space was needed. The March event raised over \$25,000 for the organization. This is our largest annual event and attracted 296 folks who enjoy a night fun together with other animal lovers who support Second Chance.

15th ANNUAL ANIMAL WEEKEND

This event, which began in 2000, has grown from a simple one day “Dog Walk” to what is now a full weekend of fun for pet lovers and supporters of the shelter. Billed as “Paws and Pedals” and the “Run, Walk, Wag” it was held on Sept 14 & 15 at our Wellness Center. On Saturday a Bike Run, featuring a 10 mile and a 25 mile course, sent bike enthusiasts for a fantastic ride through the scenic beauty of central MA. On the same day a 74 mile Poker Run provided motorcycle lovers a chance to enjoy the fall foliage and the crisp air of the Quaboag Valley, while collecting playing cards at the various stops in their effort to compile the best hand. On Sunday the event featured a 5k and 10k run professionally timed road race, as well as a 2 mile family dog walk which provided a day of pet friendly fun for the family. The event raised \$11,000 for the shelter.

2nd ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

For the second year, Second Chance held a golf tournament at the Dunroamin Country Club. This event, which was 9 holes and included a meal, was completely sold out. This tournament raised \$5,000. for the shelter. Due the popularity, it was decided that next year’s event would be moved to the Leicester Country Club, which is 18 holes and can hold double the number of golfers.

ADOPTION/EDUCATION DAYS AT PETCO

Second Chance holds adoption days at Petco in Auburn, Holyoke and Leominster each month. These events are used to promote awareness of the shelter and its’ adoptable pets. Other adoption and information events are held throughout the area every month. Information is also provided to help educate owners on various options to keep their pet healthy and to provide information on various programs available.

ON GOING FUNDRAISING PROGRAMS

Second Chance continues to develop additional ways to provide sustainable funding for our programs. Some of these include our kennel gate sponsorship which provide businesses an opportunity to help out the animals and advertise their business by sponsoring a kennel gate or cat cage. These can also be sponsored in memory of a loved one. The sponsored gates display a plaque designating the sponsor.

Second Chance also has the “Paws for the Cause” program which provides permanent memorial plaques in either facility to honor a loved one, or as a thank you for a generous donation. These plaques are part of beautiful wall displays that also enhances the look of the shelter while honoring shelter supporters.

OTHER EVENTS

We participate in a number of other events at a variety of different venues throughout the year including Petrock, yard sales, and foster our community awareness at the annual July 4th event in East Brookfield. We participate in a myriad of other smaller events and activities.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

All Second Chance financial statements are available on Guidestar.org

PROJECTIONS FOR 2015

ADOPTION CENTER

The Adoption Center will expand our assistance area to pets in need. The anticipation is that this will increase adoptions to over 900 in 2015.

WELLNESS CENTER

Renovations were completed in the main building of the Wellness Center in the spring of 2014. The veterinary clinic, begun in August of 2013, and will expand services and more appointment times will be added to accommodate the need. Renovations on the second building on the property will begin in spring of 2015. This renovation will add needed space for a conference room, offices, more are for our pet food pantry operation as well as additional space for future expansion.

PROGRAMS

Outward Bound to the Rescue

More pets will be assisted through this program from a widening area to help pets in need of rehoming. More pets will also be brought to our Wellness Center for medical services to help keep them in their homes. This will include finding more partnerships with other groups to provide these services to a widening area.

NEW FACILITIES

Our new partnership with PetSmart in Framingham began. Second Chance now operates an adoption center within the building which provides homes for more of our adult cats. Adult cats are the most desperate population in need of placement and this facility provides more opportunities for exposure to the public which leads to more adoptions. In 2015, this partnership will expand to include our mobile adoption vehicle which will bring dogs to this venue twice a month. In addition, a new partnership with the Petsmart in Millbury will mean that these dogs will also be at that location with our mobile adoption vehicle twice a month.

Second Chance also began its quest to locate another location outside of Central Mass. which would provide its wealth of services to more families and their pets. This location will be in Springfield, MA and is expected to open in the spring of 2015. The search will also begin for a location in Worcester, MA as well.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we close our 15th year of existence, we are very pleased with all of the progress we have made in fulfilling our Mission. The start of the first of its kind full-service subsidized veterinary clinic run by an

animal welfare organization in the State of Massachusetts, is a huge step forward in achieving our Mission. It offers a revolutionary way to provide needed medical care to the underserved families of our communities. Our focus is on “Surrender Prevention”, keeping pets out of shelters, rather than building bigger shelters to house more pets.

This strategy enabled us to help over 16,000 pets this year through adoption, spay/neuter, wellness clinics, subsidized veterinary care, training, educational outreach, and our pet food pantry.

Our vision is to continue moving forward and expanding the areas that we can help, bringing our programs to a larger population of pets in need. By expanding our circle of lifesaving work, we are able to help more pets each year by providing a vast array of services at an affordable price. We are relentless in keeping our staffing levels at optimum effective and efficient levels, tight control over overhead and fixed expenses, and a philosophy of stretching every donated dollar to its maximum in an effort to help as many pets as possible. Our strategy includes the operation of multiple, smaller, efficient, low fixed cost facilities that can serve targeted populations in a wider area than just Central MA. These new facilities will have the smallest possible overhead costs and are a far more desirable and effective alternative to large high overhead facilities that tie organizations to one geographical area and population due to the huge expenses of operation and upkeep.

We could not do all of this without grants, donations from loyal supporters, a dedicated staff, and a large group of hard working, passionate volunteers. We have been one of the fastest growing shelters in Massachusetts, ensuring our ability to continue to serve our communities and achieve our mission of ending animal suffering and abuse. We are laser focused on providing affordable care to the underserved who love their companion animals dearly and want the best for them. At the end of 2014, our plans for a second subsidized vet clinic are solidified and we will execute those plans in the first quarter of 2015.

On behalf of all of us here at Second Chance Animal Shelter, I would like to personally thank everyone that has made the shelter what it is today. Without a community of supporters, we could not do what we do every day for the animals. **Every** life that comes to us is important, every pet we can keep out of a shelter and in a loving home is heartwarming, every pet we keep from needlessly suffering from curable medical issues is worth all of our efforts and every pet we can give a second chance to lead a happy, loving life through our adoption program is precious to us. Thank you to everyone that is, and continues to be a part of this passion that is Second Chance Animal Shelter.

Sincerely,

Sheryl Blancato

Sheryl Blancato
President

