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!
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 Animal Shelter will be a model shelter for Animal Welfare, addressing the issues of pet over-population, suffering, abuse and euthanasia of healthy adoptable animals locally, state wide, nationally and internationally, by providing services and programs that focus on the correction of the root causes of these issues. We will be the exemplary animal welfare organization, executing exceptional business practices, offering cutting edge veterinary care, services and community based programs that establish Second Chance as the model to revolutionize animal welfare.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President/CEO  Sheryl Blancato (founder)
Vice President  Joe Blancato Sr.
Secretary  Rebecca Austin
Treasurer  Curtis Schoen
Member  Robert White, Esq
Member  Sara Gasparrini
Member  Heather Logrippo
2017 IN REVIEW

Founded in 1999, Second Chance Animal Services, Inc. is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization. A seven (7) member Board of Directors governs SCAS. The shelter employs a staff of fifty four (54), (thirty nine (39) full time and fifteen (15) part-time). Nine (9) of the staff are veterinarians working to help our shelter animals and provide veterinary care at our three Community Veterinary Hospitals. The volunteer base is 350. 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.

The transformation of our organization into something much “more than just a shelter”, led our Board of Directors to implement a name change to Second Chance Animal Services which more accurately describes what we do. We continue to bring our message to the animal welfare community that the changing paradigm requires a physical move out of the confines of our brick and mortar facilities and bringing a presence directly to the underserved communities that need help the most. With 23 million animals living in poverty, expanding our services from the traditional adoption and spay/neuter model, to community outreach and a focus on fostering the human/animal bond is imperative.

SCAS operates in seven (7) locations. The Adoption Center, East Brookfield, MA, a Community Veterinary Hospital, North Brookfield, MA, the Almost Home facility, North Brookfield, MA, the Community Veterinary Hospital, Springfield, MA. and the Framingham PetSmart adoption center for cats. In Aug of 2017 we opened the Community Veterinary Hospital in Worcester, MA as well as the Northborough PetSmart adoption centers for adult cats. All of our Vet Hospitals offer subsidized pricing to those who qualify.

SCAS helped over 34,000 pets in 2017 through adoption, spay/neuter, vaccine clinics, veterinary care, including subsidized care to those in need, as well as veterinary services to over 65 other rescues and shelters throughout the state. We also provide training, educational outreach, and a pet food pantry.

The organization believes the path to ending animal suffering, abuse and overpopulation requires addressing the root causes and not just symptoms. The mission cannot be achieved by adoption and spay/neuter alone, although these are certainly two (2) critical components of our strategy. SCAS has pioneered the first “Subsidized Veterinary Clinics” run by an animal welfare group in our state of Massachusetts, focusing our efforts on providing affordable medical care to the underserved populations of Massachusetts.
2017 saw a 57% increase in adoptions over prior year number of 1,083, setting another record year for the shelter. The adoption statistics represent pets that entered our Adoption Center and were rehomed. They 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 our success. The adoption of 1,700 animals represents 5% of the 34,000 animals that were helped. The balance of 32,300 or 95% were helped by our medical programs and our community outreach. By addressing the root causes of surrender and abandonment, we hope to keep more and more animals in loving homes rather than enduring the emotional upheaval of being separated from their loving family due to a lack of financial ability to provide medical and/or behavioral care. The need to provide temporary sheltering for a companion animal will never go away, but we strive to minimize the emotional trauma faced by animals, as well as the families, who are forced into surrender as an only option.

Additionally, whenever space allows, Second Chance takes in pets from other shelters, rescues, and animal control to prevent unnecessary euthanasia.

In 2017, we were able to provide help to 120 animals impacted by the natural disasters that took place in Florida, Texas and Puerto Rico. We also provided large donations of food, medical supplies and other needed materials to these locations.
COMMUNITY VETERINARY HOSPITALS

“Fur-ever” Together – Keeping Pets and Their Families Together

Spay/Neuter Clinic

A total of 4,766 pets were spayed/neutered at our Community Veterinary Hospitals in 2017, allowing us to reach our 40,000 surgery in April of 2017. The Second Chance Animal Services medical team is trained in the cutting edge surgical techniques taught by the Humane Alliance. The protocol allows the animals to be under anesthesia in a routine s/n for less time, reducing the potential risks of anesthesia. The surgical unit is equipped with state of the art equipment including heated surgical tables, pulse/ox monitors, and other critical monitoring equipment. Incisions are extremely small as well which lowers the risk for infection as well as a faster healing time.

Veterinary Hospitals

Second Chance employees a staff of 9 fully licensed Veterinarians and 25 Veterinary Technicians who provide the highest level of quality care that uses the most advanced equipment available. The hospitals are equipped with full in-house blood analysis, digital diagnostic x-ray, digital dental x-ray, ultrasound, urine analysis as well as state of art clinic management software that is interfaced with each location allowing access to patient records regardless of which location our clients have been using. This, coupled with our capabilities to perform not only spay/neuter surgery but also a full array of elective surgeries including mass removal, orthopedic procedures, dental surgery, and much more, provides full service veterinary care. The North Brookfield facility also houses the recently completed critical care unit for cases that require intensive care.


PROGRAMS

Project Good Dog

Second Chance Animal Services is committed to providing services that address fostering of the bond between humans and animals. Our organization is passionate about providing services and helping to create better platforms to encourage and foster this bond. SCAS focuses on providing programs that assist families to keep their animals in their homes and not be forced to surrender or in the worst cases abandon their pets due to lack of help. Our Project Good Dog is another program that enhances the bond between humans and animals. This program, launched in 2015 and quickly gaining national attention, matches up dogs with inmates in local correctional institutions: the Worcester County Correctional facility, the NCCI Gardner Correctional facility and the Hampden County Sheriff’s Department which was added in 2017. Inmates are in pre-release buildings at these facilities and the dogs get to be with them 24/7 in the housing unit. The inmates work with these dogs to help them with behavioral issues so that they can be adopted. In addition, this program also helps with dogs that need longer stays at our shelter while recovering from medical conditions. They receive 24/7 attention and do not have to stay in the shelter while they are recovering. This helps to keep our limited foster homes open for shorter stay pets and helps to increase adoptions and the success of dogs with behavioral and medical issues prior to adoption. The training the dogs receive while in the program helps them to be more adoptable, increasing their chances for new loving homes.

Not only does it provide benefits to the dogs, it also enriches the lives of the inmates, bringing about positive results for the handlers who learn patience, compassion and responsibility. The handlers have embraced the program and are grateful for the opportunity to bond with our animals during their stay. One said "while I feel like I was able to help my assigned dog get better, it was him that helped me get better. All those hours spent with him have softened that part of me that had become calloused after so many years in prison, and reminded me that caring about and helping others is an important part of being a member of humanity."

If you would like to help sponsor “Project Good Dog” please email: Development@secondchanceanimals.org

Helping Hands Outreach Program For Other Groups

The “Helping Hands” program provides low cost spay/neuter and veterinary care to rescues, shelters, and municipal facilities assisting about 65 such groups.

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

Second Chance provides trap/neuter/release (TNR) weekly each of our hospitals. We offer the loan of humane traps to assist caregivers and groups in trapping feral cats in order to transport them to the clinic. This program is for feral (wild cats, not house pets) and barn cats. In 2017, The feral cat program “Spay Worcester” was added to the TNR program. Spay Worcester has focused on the issue of feral cats in the City of Worcester, and is now part of our total feral cat services.
PROGRAMS (Continued)

Home Bound to the Rescue

Home Bound to the Rescue uses the ability of our Mobile Units to bring services right to the doorstep of pet owners. By going to elderly and low income housing complexes, we can help to keep 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 the program continued to provide care in 2017.

Party for Pets Children’s Program

Since its inception in 2008, the “Party for Pets” program has been an integral part of our educational outreach. The program is an extension of the school programs that promote the involvement of children with the plight of homeless pets, but adds an individual theme. Children can 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. 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. Designed to increase youth awareness to the plight of shelter pets and instill a profound respect for all animals, it will lead to a generation that abhors animal abuse and neglect and has a profound love of animals.

Educational Outreach Program

Second Chance provides tours of our facilities to local school and youth groups. We also provide guest speakers at local schools to promote responsible pet ownership. The schools use this program to assist them with their own community service programs, holding fundraisers or other similar projects to benefit the shelter pets. Second Chance utilizes therapy dogs to assist with this program allowing the children a hands-on experience with our trained dogs and their handlers.

Pet Food Pantry

The Pet Food Pantry, established in 2009, continues to provide cat and dog food to area human food pantries. The program has grown to now provide assistance to 10 food pantries through out the state. This allows 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” and community based focus.
EVENTS AND FUNDRAISING

18th ANNUAL DINNER/AUCTION

One of our 4 major fundraisers, this event, held in March at The Leicester Country Club, is our largest annual event attracting 300 attendees who enjoy a night of fun together with other animal lovers who support Second Chance.

5th ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

An 18 hole, scramble format tournament held at Leicester Country Club in July, provides golfers of all skill levels to compete for great prizes while enjoying a great day on the links. A luncheon is provided at the end of the tournament where scorecards can be compared and shot by shot stories can be shared.

17th WALK ‘N WAG FALL EVENT

This September event, was combined with a classic car show this year. The event combines the traditional dog walk with a chance to view some of the finest show cars in Central Massachusetts. A family event that was enjoyed by all.

ADOPTION/EDUCATION DAYS AT PETSMART, PETCO, AND OTHER VENUES

Monthly adoption and education days are held at PetSmart in Framingham, Northborough, Hudson, Hadley, Chicopee, and Millbury, at Petco locations in Holyoke, Shrewsbury, Auburn, Sturbridge and Leominster, as well as PT Pet Supply, Klem’s and Pet Supply Plus. The events promote awareness of our work as well as showcase adoptable pets. Additionally, information is provided to educate owners on the myriad of programs offered to keep their pet healthy and happy.

WELLNESS/VACCINE CLINICS IN THE COMMUNITY

Our mobile vehicles have allowed us to provide medical care directly to communities where pet owners do not have the ability to reach our physical clinics, as well as vaccine clinics throughout the state.
PETS FOR LIFE

In addition to the continuation of our current outreach programs, we are proud to be the only “Pets for Life” mentorship program in the state of Massachusetts thanks to funding provided by PetSmart Charities and the mentorship of The Humane Society of the United States. We provided 500 free spay and neuter surgeries to the underserved residents of Worcester’s zip codes 01608 and 01610 as well as offering other free medical services.

WHAT IS PETS FOR LIFE

Pets for life is a groundbreaking community outreach initiative designed to extend animal welfare resources for pet owners who have never received services or have received services without long lasting impact. This approach is effective because it embraces the human component of the companion animal equation. We meet people where they live, establishing trust and create a ripple effect in the community which translates into a long term impact.

Follow us

@secondchanceanimals @secondchanceas @secondchanceas

Visit us at secondchanceanimals.org
A Letter From Our President & CEO

What started out in 1999 as my passion as an animal control officer to save healthy, adoptable animals from being euthanized for lack of space in overtaxed shelters, has grown into an organization that assisted 34,000 animals last year with adoption, subsidized and medical care, and a myriad of community based services focused on keeping animals in loving homes, preventing surrender and abandonment, and providing assistance to as many of the 23 million animals living with their owners in poverty as we possible can.

The current business model of adoption and spay/neuter was falling short of providing hope to our underserved communities and their companion animals prompting us to expand our services. Our vision for “Revolutionizing Animal Welfare” drives us to focus on bringing our programs to ALL, regardless of financial ability. We are working tirelessly on a local, state and national level to encourage our colleagues to embrace the realization that we need to physically get out of our brick and mortar facilities and bring help directly to those who need us the most. Our strategy of establishing, right-sized, highly-efficient, low-fixed-cost facilities in those communities with the most need has yielded overwhelming success. Animals who have been suffering needlessly from curable medical issues now have the opportunity to become pain free and live an enriched life with their loving families. In 2017 we were able to provide assistance to 34,000 animals, an increase of over 30% from 2016. As the communities learn of our programs, more and more animals are showing up at our doors and our mobile events. Our goal for 2018 is to assist 40,000 animals! We have recognized that the new paradigm for animal welfare must focus not just on our beloved companion animals, but also on the human/animal bond. We are committed to fostering this new vision and are so indebted to all of our supporters who have helped us to make this all reality.

On behalf of all of us at Second Chance Animal Services, I wish to personally thank everyone that has helped to make the SCAS what it is today. Without a community of supporters, we could not do what we do. 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 for 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 Services. “Second Chance – Revolutionizing Animal Welfare”

Sincerely,
Sheryl Blancato
President and CEO
Second Chance Animal Services, Inc.

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