

NEWSLETTER - Issue 1: June 2024 (Inaugural Issue)

STATISTICS

(Feb – May 2024)

Pet Food Pantry – Animals Fed: 1022

Spay and Neuter Program – Animals Sterilized: 50.

Trap-Neuter-Release Program: 40 cats trapped at 2 locations. Sterilized and returned.

WE'VE ONLY JUST BEGUN

Our organization was the brainchild of two women who met each other while volunteering in the community. Karen Kirsch wanted to form a Pet Pantry and Amanda Castile wanted to form a Spay/Neuter Program. They decided to join forces and create both programs under one non-profit. Spayed and Aid of Kentucky was formed January 2024 as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. The organization provides services to residents of Logan County, Kentucky. Programs began in February 2024

OUR MISSION

Many people are forced to give up their pets due to economic pressures. Our mission is to keep pets with their families by providing <u>Free Pet Food</u> and <u>Free Spay/Neuter Services</u> to those experiencing financial hardship. By keeping pets with their families, we hope to reduce the number of animals in the animal shelter.

SURGERIES

Our program initially began with surgeries being handled exclusively by Jenny Brown, DVM at Brown Animal Hospital in Russellville, KY. A month into the program Ellie Gripshover, DVM at Nashville Road Animal Hospital in Russellville, KY agreed to sponsor 5 cat surgeries per month. We appreciate both of these veterinarians so very much.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<u>June 19</u>

Volunteer Information Meeting, Logan County Library, Russellville. 5 pm.

December 7

Photos with Santa and the Grinch, Caldwell House, Russellville. 11 am – 2 pm.

Website:

spayedandaid.org

PET FOOD PANTRY

We started our Free Pet Food Pantry in February through an initial county-wide donation drive which collected 1100 pounds of food. At the end of the month we distributed that food and helped 144 pets. We've kept the pantry growing through generous contributions from individuals and businesses thorughout the county and have successfully distributed food to more than 1,000 pets in Logan County as of May 31, 2024.

February 2024 Distribution Day General Distribution 144 Pets Helped

March 2024 Distribution Day Seniors and Veterans Only 243 Pets Helped

April 2024 Distribution Day General Distribution 316 Pets Helped

May 2024 Distribution Day General Distribution 319 Pets Helped

Our initial goal was to hold four Distribution Days per year. We have now held four so far this year and hope to be able to continue to hold them monthly, provided donations continue at current levels.

Thank you to our May Pet Pantry Volunteers: David Smith, Rebecca Ramsey, Bailey Pfistner, McKenzie Summers, and Karen Kirsch. If you are interested in helping at a future Distribution Day, please contact us at <u>spayedandaid@gmail.com</u>.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

We received this note and have permission to share it. This is why we formed the non-profit.

"I just wanted to thank you all again. I am a senior, fixed income, paid the 3rd of each month. Near the end of each month I start running low on everything – especially pet food. I went to the grocery store hoping to spend \$165 but ended up spending \$208 (stupid grocery prices!) which is about what I had left. I'm raising my grandsons and rescued more than a few feral cats off the streets. I am a rescuer of people and critters. Caregiving is just something I have been drawn to all of my life. I am so grateful to have that bag of Cat Chow from you. And so are the cats! I would have been borrowing against my next payday to get them food had it not been for your help. So we (the animals and I) thank you very much" (Shared with permission.)

TRAP-NEUTER-RELEASE



In April we announced a new program offered at no charge to all residents of Logan County. Trap, Neuter and Release (TNR) is a humane method of controlling stray and feral cat populations.

Neutering or spaying cats ensures they cannot reproduce, which is essential for long-term population management. TNR reduces overpopulation and also prevents certain feline diseases that are transmitted through breeding.

TNR programs are aimed at cat colonies. A colony is considered any feline population of 10 or more feral cats.

Our TNR program is available only to residents of Logan County, Kentucky.

EDUCATION MINUTE - DO DOGS REALLY SEE BLACK AND WHITE

Author: Nancy Dreschel

Dogs definitely see the world differently than people do, but it's a myth that their view is just black, white and grim shades of gray.

While most people see a full spectrum of colors from red to violet, dogs lack some of the light receptors in their eyes that allow human beings to see certain colors, particularly in the red and green range. But canines can still see yellow and blue. Read the full article on *The Conversation* at this link. <u>https://theconversation.com/do-dogs-really-see-in-just-black-and-white-131438</u>

WHERE DOES YOUR FUNDING COME FROM



Spayed and Aid of Kentucky runs <u>ENTIRELY</u> off donations and sponsorships. Please consider a donation of any size. Checks made payable to Spayed and Aid of KY may be sent to PO Box 1694, Russellville, KY 42276.

Donations may be made via credit card through Paypal at the QR code to the left. Anonymous in-kind donations may be made to the SAA Account at Brown Animal Hospital, 153 South Summer Street, Russellville, KY 42276.

Thank you to our sponsors: First Southern National Bank, Brown Animal Hospital and Nashville Road Animal Hospital. Sponsorships available. Contact us at <u>spayedandaid@gmail.com</u> for more information.

PET FOOD PANTRY FEBRUARY 2024





Photos: Mandy Moore







Thank you to our February Volunteers: Amanda Castile, Lee Castile, Pat Harmon, and Karen Kirsch.

PET FOOD PANTRY MARCH 2024



Photos: Ellen Holloway (except group photo)







Thank you to our March Volunteers: Boy Scouts Troop #1303 and Cub Scout Pack #1303, Ellen Holloway, Amanda Castile, Lee Castile and Karen Kirsch. (Note – Group photo taken by participant, not the photographer.)

PET FOOD PANTRY APRIL 2024



Thank you to our April Volunteers: Amanda Castile, Colleen Castile, Lee Castile, Rebecca Ramsey, Christy French, Kayla French, Cassandra French, Jennifer Eply and Nylah Eply.