



For Immediate Release

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BY THE NUMBERS – DUBUQUE REGIONAL HUMANE SOCIETY (DRHS)

DUBUQUE, IOWA January 20, 2016 – The Dubuque Regional Humane Society had a record breaking year with a 89% save rate which is a 28% increase over the previous year. The DRHS saved 2,320 animals with 78% being adoptions, 10% of the animals were returned to their owner and 1% were transfers to rescues or other shelters. In 2015, DRHS' adoption center was open 318 days, adoptions totaled 1,815 which equates to 5.7 animals found homes per day. “We made significant changes in 2015 to increase adoptions and reduce illness and euthanasia. Policy changes and lower cat adoption fees have made a huge impact, but the credit needs to go to the Tri-State community who chooses to adopt a shelter pet when adding to their families,” states Maria Benham, President and CEO of the DRHS.

One hundred percent of all healthy & treatable animals are adopted, transferred or returned to owners. DRHS has an open admission philosophy which means we accept every animal that is surrendered to us regardless of health, age, breed or temperament. Our euthanasia rates have dropped considerably with cat euthanasia down 82% and dog rates dropped 63% compared to the prior year. Euthanasia of 288 animals happened because of animals that were ill, injured or posed a threat to the community.

Open admission is essential to providing shelter and care to thousands of animals that would otherwise have no safe refuge. We continue to operate under an open admission philosophy to ensure that the people and animals in our community can rely on us no matter the circumstance.

The DRHS is committed to placing only healthy, treatable and safe animals into the community. Every animal in our care receives a medical and behavioral evaluation upon admission. Many animals can be placed in our adoption program immediately, but we provide behavior modification, medical treatment and foster care to many others, ensuring that even the most difficult-to-place animals have a chance at adoption. There is no time limit placed on animals in our adoption center.

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