



Over the past two years, the Dubuque Regional Humane Society has achieved new heights in animal lifesaving. With an evolving philosophy and procedural best practices, our organization has decreased the euthanasia of cats and dogs by 87%.

As of the end of 2016, our annual placement rate of live companion animals was 92%. This means that 92% of all animals admitted to our shelter were adopted, returned to their owners or transferred to another rescue. At the DRHS, humane euthanasia is reserved solely to end the suffering of an animal whose illness or injury leaves no chance of recovery or an acceptable quality of life, or those animals whose behavior prevents them from having a successful adoption. Although these decisions are difficult to make, they are truly the most compassionate outcomes we provide.

The DRHS has met the industry standard of a no-kill shelter, placing into homes 100% of our healthy animals and those with treatable illness or behavior. This means a second chance for homeless animals and thousands of human lives each year that are completed with the love of a furry family member.

The credit for this lifesaving work; however, is not because of the care and compassion provided by our staff. The credit goes to all of you and the commitment of our regional community to animals in need. This community has held the DRHS accountable for the animals in our care and has partnered with us to make this a truly humane community. The lives in our facility are saved through the kindness of adopters, donors, volunteers, and advocates. Simply put – you have saved these lives.

To celebrate the commitment the community has made to the animals of the DRHS, and thereby, the DRHS itself, I am pleased to announce our commitment to the community:

From today forward, the Dubuque Regional Humane Society will operate as a no-kill open admission humane society. We will provide each animal in our care the best opportunity to be placed into a safe, loving home. We will never euthanize a healthy, treatable animal for lack of space, length of time, or any other reason that is not in the best interest of the animal. We will continue to partner with residents to affirm the Tri-State region is a compassionate, humane, no-kill community.