

### **What is Spay & Save?**

Spay & Save is a Portland/Vancouver Metro Area program that assists low income families and their cats by offering affordable spay & neuter surgeries for those who qualify at five different surgery locations: Humane Society for Southwest Washington, Cat Adoption Team, Multnomah County Animal Services, Oregon Humane Society and the Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon.

Spay & Save is organized and managed by the Animal Shelter Alliance of Portland (ASAP), a partnership of local animal shelters, county animal services agencies, and professional veterinary associations. Spay & Save aims to keep struggling families and their pets together and reduce the number of cats and kittens that are coming into our community's shelters every year. Since February 2010, the program has altered more than 55,000 cats.

### **Who does it serve?**

Spay & Save is specifically aimed at helping low income families who are not able to afford a spay or neuter surgery for their cat through a private veterinarian, as well as community members feeding un-owned cats in the neighborhood.

### **Why must I qualify?**

In addition to addressing the most immediate need for spay/neuter assistance in our community, we comply with guidelines set by our grant funders regarding who is eligible for our services, and we also respect private veterinarians in our community who offer spay/neuter services.

### **How do I qualify for this program?**

For individuals receiving one or more forms of qualifying government assistance, surgeries through quarterly specials like Kitty & Kaboodle are FREE. Throughout the year, the cost per cat is only \$10. For those who do not receive government assistance but qualify under the program's low income guidelines, costs are \$20 for a neuter and \$25 for a spay.

Anyone looking for spay & neuter services for their cats can call the appointment hotline at 1-800-345-SPAY. We can answer questions and provide additional resources as needed. The program currently serves the greater Portland/Vancouver metro area served by the ASAP coalition, including Clackamas, Clark, Multnomah and Washington counties.

### **Why cats only?**

When we started this program, ASAP shelters looked at who needed our help the most and it was definitely the cats in our community. Cat overpopulation is the number one contributor to high euthanasia rates among cats in our area. With limited shelter capacity and resources, we will never be able to adopt ourselves out of this problem. Making spay & neuter accessible and affordable was the answer. Spay & Save was designed to reduce feline shelter intake community-wide. The success of the program to date can be seen through our statistics –

since the program began in 2010, cat intake to our shelters from the public has dropped by almost 40%.

**What about areas outside of Portland and other types of pets, like dogs?**

HERE is a comprehensive list of spay/neuter services throughout Oregon and Washington, including coupons, discounts and funding options. You can also use the resources and tools found HERE to search for additional low-cost options.

<http://www.oregonhumane.org/services/spay-neuter-assistance/>

All cats and dogs adopted through the Oregon Humane Society and partner shelters are spayed/neutered before going home.

**Who pays to offset the cost of the spay & neuter surgeries through the Spay & Save program? (In other words, how can people donate money to support the program?)**

Surgeries are funded through grant monies and private donations from generous donors. Every donation, no matter the amount, helps a cat in our community and the family caring for it. We need all the help we can get to make this program succeed and finally end cat overpopulation in our community. Beyond co-pays, Spay & Save needs to raise an additional \$37 in donations for each cat we serve. Donations can be made online [at asapmetro.org](http://asapmetro.org).

**What is the ASAP Coalition and why does it exist?**

The Animal Shelter Alliance of Portland (ASAP) was formed in 2006 when leaders of the Portland/Vancouver Area's largest animal welfare organizations and the veterinary community agreed that many of the issues we were addressing individually could benefit from a collaborative and regional approach.

ASAP's mission is to end the euthanasia of social, healthy, and treatable cats and dogs in our local shelters by collaborating on spay/neuter programs, educational, and outreach efforts, and the promotion of humane alternatives for feral cats. ASAP is a coalition of local animal shelters, county animal services agencies, and professional veterinary associations.

In the past 7 years, ASAP has reduced euthanasia in Portland's shelters by 87% and now saves 93% of cats and dogs – making our community one of the safest for pets in the nation!