

By supporting No Kill shelters like PAWS Chicago, you are directing your resources to life saving and helping to end the “cage-and-kill” status quo that existed for generations.

How to Tell if a Shelter is No Kill

Every Pet Counts

We are often asked by people in other states how they can best find No Kill animal organizations like PAWS Chicago in their community so that they can help end the killing of homeless pets. Animal advocates tell us that they have trouble discerning who is really No Kill and deserving of their support. Below are three key indicators that we advise all animal welfare donors consider when planning their charitable giving:

1 Organizations that are committed to lifesaving are proud to not only call themselves No Kill but also embrace the No Kill movement. Look to see if the organization refers to No Kill in their materials. For the most part, when organizations say “we are like a No Kill, but don’t like the terminology,” they are not committed to No Kill. If you dig deeper, you will likely see they do not have the programs to treat every animal in their care. Because No Kill means saving all treatable animals, most traditional shelters need to reformulate their operations, and, in most cases, their physical facility, to make the transition.

2 Leading No Kill organizations embrace transparency and publish their statistics visibly and comprehensively. Every organization worthy of support will be proud to show you the results of their efforts. When you calculate the Save Rate, ensure that the organization is saving more than 90% of their animals, the baseline rule

of thumb to determine No Kill. In the No Kill movement, numbers matter. Every number is important because every life counts. The Save Rate is a ratio that takes all “Live Outcomes” (typically adoptions, transfers out to No Kill shelters, redemptions by owners) and divides it by “Total Outcomes” (Live Outcomes plus deaths in shelter and euthanasia). To give you context, PAWS Chicago had a 96.88% Save Rate in 2013.

3 Do your diligence to see whether the shelter seems to be a good steward of resources and utilizes volunteers throughout the organization. Charity Navigator and other charity watchdogs are good resources to determine fiscal responsibility. The presence of an engaged volunteer force shows programmatic depth and effective use of funds. Alternatively, shelters that prohibit volunteers from certain areas or limit their role within the organization are giving warning signs.

PAWS CHICAGO SHELTER DATA

ADOPTION PROGRAM	2013 DOG	2013 CAT	2013 TOTAL	2012 DOG	2012 CAT	2012 TOTAL	2011 DOG	2011 CAT	2011 TOTAL
PET ADMISSIONS	2,574	3,402	5,976	2,711	3,017	5,728	2,182	2,226	4,408
Owner Surrender to PAWS Chicago	525	1,021	1,546	581	1,031	1,612	489	703	1,192
Transfers from Organizations within Chicago	1,251	2,113	3,364	1,143	1,830	2,973	1,322	1,422	2,744
Incoming Transfers from Organizations outside Chicago	798	268	1,066	987	156	1,143	371	101	472
ADOPTIONS	2,516	3,356	5,872	2,675	2,931	5,606	2,140	2,128	4,268
OUTGOING TRANSFERS	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
*DOGS & CATS EUTHANIZED	65	68	133	47	54	101	44	76	120
Percent of Outcomes	2.52% <small>(16 Medical, 49 Behavior)</small>	2.11% <small>(68 Medical)</small>	2.29% <small>(84 Medical, 49 Behavior)</small>	1.76% <small>(6 Medical, 41 Behavior)</small>	1.84% <small>(54 Medical)</small>	1.80% <small>(60 Medical, 41 Behavior)</small>	2.06% <small>(11 Medical, 33 Behavior)</small>	3.57% <small>(76 Medical)</small>	2.81% <small>(87 Medical, 33 Behavior)</small>
**DIED WHILE IN SHELTER	10	46	56	8	33	41	6	41	47
Percent of Outcomes	.39%	1.43%	.97%	.30%	1.13%	.73%	.28%	1.93%	1.10%
SAVE RATE	97.11%	96.71%	96.88%	97.99%	97.12%	97.53%	97.72%	94.79%	96.23%

***EUTHANASIA POLICY**

Every homeless pet at PAWS Chicago is treated with complete medical care and is guaranteed life. Euthanasia is reserved only for dangerous dogs who pose a threat to the public or those cats and dogs that are irremediably suffering, in which medical treatment cannot alleviate their conditions.

****PUPPIES AND KITTENS ARE THE MOST VULNERABLE**

Due to underdeveloped immune systems, they are at the greatest risk of contracting illness in shelters and often struggle with recovery.

- Of the 56 pets who died at PAWS Chicago, 51 were less than a year old. 39 of those were under eight weeks of age.
- Of the 84 pets euthanized for medical reasons, 44 were less than one-year-old. 25 of those were under eight weeks of age.



In 2013, we were able to save
96.88% OF PETS.

PAWS CHICAGO'S NO KILL COMMITMENT

Dedicated to the highest standard of No Kill, PAWS Chicago invests significant resources in treating and rehabilitating animals in our care. In 2013, we saved 5,872 pets and achieved a remarkable 96.88 percent save rate.

DEDICATED TO TRANSPARENCY

In support of our No Kill model of sheltering, PAWS Chicago believes in 100 percent transparency of all shelter data that accounts for every animal that comes into the shelter. This data report publicly states the outcome of every healthy, treatable, unhealthy and untreatable animal that came through our doors in 2013.

>> View detailed statistics at pawschicago.org/annual-reports-and-shelter-data

PAWS CHICAGO BY THE NUMBERS

SPAY/NEUTER	2013	2012	2011
TOTAL SURGERIES	17,765	18,130	17,699
Lurie Spay/Neuter Clinic	17,249	17,519	17,235
Gus Spay/Neuter Mobile	516	611	464
Free Health Checks	23,234	23,299	22,626
Free or Subsidized Vaccines, Microchips & Bloodtests	31,162	38,093	37,403
COMMUNITY OUTREACH			
Presentations/Events (Targeted)	95	77	50
Total People Reached	10,558	6,402	10,120
TRAP-NEUTER-RETURN PROGRAM			
Number of Sponsored Colonies / Cats	345/2,446	259/2,295	206/1,859
TNR Educational & Resource Support	2,000 Ind.	1,983 Ind.	1,200 Ind.
PET FOOD BANK			
Number of Cats & Dogs	613	648	601
Pounds of Food Distributed	51,250	52,070	53,690
VOLUNTEER PROGRAM			
Total Volunteer Hours	98,001	94,116	92,100
Active Volunteers	3,615	3,650	3,332
Core Volunteers	465	450	425
New Volunteers (Via Orientation)	3,442	3,142	2,466
Foster Families	125	111	91

SPAY/NEUTER

Chicago's largest provider of free and low-cost spay/neuter services to neighborhoods challenged with pet overpopulation.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Community Outreach team goes directly into targeted communities where the majority of stray and unwanted pets originate, educating about the importance of spay/neuter and responsible pet care at schools, community events and festivals.

TRAP-NEUTER-RETURN PROGRAM

The Trap-Neuter-Return program is critical to making Chicago a No Kill city by proactively spaying and neutering and managing the feral cat colonies in our community. As one of six sponsoring Trap-Neuter-Release (TNR) organizations in Cook County, PAWS Chicago supports feral-neighborhood cat caregivers with basic resources, spay/neuter and medical assistance, greatly reducing the litters of kittens that flood the city pound during kitten season.

PET FOOD BANK

Provides emergency assistance and resources, such as pet food and supplies, to families facing a crisis situation that would otherwise force them to give up their pets.



In 2013, volunteers were the equivalent of
47 Full Time Employees

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

As one of the pillars of the No Kill Model, volunteers play an indispensable role in PAWS Chicago's life-saving programs. They work in intake, socialization and training, animal care, dog walking, adoption counseling, follow-up calls, site managing, fundraising, fostering homeless pets in need, event support, humane education and community outreach and in every other capacity to help the animals. Without these caring, dedicated individuals, PAWS Chicago would not be possible.