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Narrative Description of Activities of Animal Welfare Organization

Overview

Furry Fix was started by Toni & Robert Metzger in late 2021. After many years of feeling defeated and overwhelmed with the number of domestic animals on the streets that are homeless, abandoned, born wild and lost – we decided it was time to make a difference.

The only true and lasting way to lower the population of dogs and cats is through spay & neuter. The number of pets coming into the already overwhelmed animal shelters and rescue organizations across the country is growing at an alarming rate. Everyone is overwhelmed with the current population and we are at an epidemic level.

These cats and dogs are lost, abandoned, homeless, cold, hungry and terrified. A fertile cat can produce an average of three litters in one year. The average number of kittens in a feline litter is four to six. Up to 4,948 kittens can be born from one un-spayed female cat and her offspring in seven years.

Spay and Neuter Program

(100% of our time and resources are allocated to this program)

Sterilizing cats and dogs will prevent the birth of unwanted puppies and kittens. Spaying and neutering prevents unwanted litters, helps to protect against some serious health problems and reduces behavioral problems associated with the mating instinct.

Unfortunately, the cost to spay & neuter can be out of reach for many pet owners especially if there are multiple pets. Many families will spay and neuter their inside pet(s) but they have an

explosion of pets being born in barns, farm areas, porches, in town, etc. - on and around their property. The cost to spay / neuter all of them would be simply out of their reach.

Furry Fix Inc. will raise funds, apply for grants and host fundraisers to assist in the cost of spay /neuter surgeries. Furry Fix does not perform spay or neuter surgeries – we raise funds from the general public to help with the cost of spay / neuter.

There are two divisions of Furry Fix:

Feral Furry Fix is a no charge service and handled by designated trap-neuter-return representatives in our area.

Furry Fix has designated Representatives that go into the community and do TNR (trap – neuter – return) and then return the cat(s) to the feral colony. We have formed a group on social media to list and discuss the feral cat colonies in our area so we can focus on reducing the number of cats by spay / neuter. Most of this will be done in the spring, summer and fall – as the weather permits.

These volunteers use a live trap and then transport these cats to be sterilized, vaccinated and ear tipped. Ear-tipping is the universally accepted way to tell whether a community cat has been neutered or spayed. This is typically performed as part of a TNR (trap-neuter-release) program.

We will enlist more volunteers as we grow. TNR with community support is the most cost-effective means to end the over population of domestic pets on the streets.

Another part of the Furry Fix program is letting the public know about other spay / neuter services they might qualify for and might be interested in. We reach out to other spay/neuter programs to relay the information back to the public in our area. For example, if a mobile spay / neuter service day will be in our area? We plan on scheduling mobile spay / neuter units in our region in the future as well, as they are available.

We are also contacting local and regional Veterinarians to see if they will participate in the Pet Friendly Services snap program which would help some of the population in our area get a spay / neuter certificate for \$25. We will assist them in completing their application if needed.

Friendly Furry Fix is for any friendly cat – barn, homeless, abandoned, etc. that are friendly and can be handled. The surgeries are offered at a significant discount of 50% or more thru the Furry Fix program.

The long-term goal and mission of Furry Fix is to raise enough funds to build a regional facility for spay/neuter surgeries serving North Central Indiana. This will involve working with Veterinarians around the state to volunteer once per month to spay/neuter. Once the building is completed and we have Veterinarians in place, we will offer low cost spay/neuter to residents all

over North Central Indiana and free neuter and spay for stray, abandoned, home, barn, feral cats as well as dogs.

How Furry Fix works

We seek and partner with local area Veterinarian practices to secure spay /neuter days procedure dates. We discuss and work out costs of services, dates, how many, etc.

Please Note: These veterinarians are not in any way associated with our organization, we have no relationship with them through family, business or otherwise - they are selected based on the cost and availability.

Step two is the scheduling of the appointments. We have set up a website and cart/checkout system to register the cat(s) for spay/neuter with local Veterinarians who participate in the Furry Fix program. Anyone can register to fix a cat that is feral, homeless, barn, outside, community cat (any cat that can mate). They sign up for a designated date and they take the cat(s) to our partner Veterinarian's practice on that date.

As the appointments are filled and sold out – we communicate via phone, email, text and social media any upcoming dates, etc.

Average cost in our area of spay neuter per cat is:

- \$80 per female
- \$55 per male

All works performed by our board members and volunteers are FREE of charge and 100% of every dollar goes to our programs to further our exempt purpose.

Multimedia and Outreach

It is our goal to bring awareness from every medium possible and this does not exclude documentaries and photos of our activities, projects, programs and expeditions. By documenting and reporting our efforts we intend to broaden our outreach. These multimedia features will be recorded by our volunteers during the aforementioned activities and will be available to the public.

Furry Fix will also maintain a Facebook page to share other low cost spay / neuter programs in Indiana as well as resources that are available.

More information on Furry Fix can be found at:

<https://www.facebook.com/furryfix> and www.furryfix.net