Lifesaving Through Collaboration

Heather Cammisa, CAWA
Pres/CEO St. Hubert’s Animal Welfare Center
Books, Resources, Colleagues

Coalition Building for Animal-Care Organizations
Katherine A. McGowan

Change of Heart
What Psychology Can Teach Us About Spreading Social Change
Nick Cooney

St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center
St. Hubert’s is dedicated to the humane treatment of animals. The organization believes in and provides services that support the human-animal bond and seeks to foster an environment in which people respect all living creatures.
Direct Animal Care

- 24 / 7 Work on Locations & In Community
- All animals
- Accessible to Public Weekends, Holidays, Nights
Direct Care

Each animal every day:

 WHO are you?

 HOW are you?

 WHAT may we do for you today?

Dr. Phil Bushby, MSU Vet School
St. Hubert’s Numbers

- 3 locations & 4th on way
- 10 fixed offsite adoption venues
- ~5,000 animals direct care
- 3,333 graduates / yr in training programs
- 90 employees
- 900 active volunteers
Professional Engagement

- National, regional & state boards
- Lend voice to legislation and policy
A SECOND CHANCE FOR FEARFUL DOGS
KRISTEN COLLINS, MS, ACAAB
Director, Anti-Cruelty Behavior Rehabilitation
ASPCA Behavioral Rehabilitation Center at St. Hubert’s
Wednesday, May 21, 10:30-2:00
Community Room, 575 Woodland Avenue
$10 registration includes lunch

Kristen will explore and explain problematic behaviors commonly seen in fearful, severely undersocialized dogs and how to recognize and implement the behavior modification protocols appropriate for individuals. She will share the treatment programs and research underway at the ASPCA® Behavioral Rehabilitation Center and discuss some of the Center’s discoveries that can benefit these neediest of homeless dogs. To register email Nora at nparker@sthuberts.org.
Advocacy
Teaching Kindness
“Critter Camp I will never Forget You”
Press & Awareness

St. Hubert’s welcomes 19 dogs

St. Hubert’s shelters take in 17 Chihuahuas
Community Outreach

- Cat Behavior
- Dog Behavior
- Lost / Found Animal Assistance & Coaching
- Accessible Spay/Neuter
- Low Cost Vaccinations
- Food & Supply Assistance
- Supplies in Store
Community Outreach

42,836 dog and cat meals provided to families in need
Since we’re talking about People

- Outreach
- Intake
- Returns
- Other Orgs

When you judge another, you do not define them, you define yourself.
Up Next:

- Trends in Animal Welfare
- Culture & Our Experience around Lifesaving Partnerships
Trends – 1970s begins change

Euthanasia per ,000

~20 Million Animals

3.4 Million Animals

U.S. Trends Impacting Field

- Spay Neuter
  - First S/N Clinic 1970s
  - Very different today
  - Pediatric Spay/Neuter

- Depth of Welfare Field
  - 3,500 shelters & 10,000 (?) rescue groups

- Public Attitudes & Awareness, Laws

- Trap Neuter Return


- Cat vs Dog dynamic
Trends

What percentage of dogs and cats in a community can be reasonably estimated to enter a shelter in a year?

4 – 6%
Social desirability

- PetSmart Charities 2014 U.S. Shelter Pet Report
  - 2011: 58% of people considering a pet said they would adopt
  - 2014: 66%

- Adoption Percentage of acquisition is rising
Momentum!
New Tools, Recognition

https://www.animalsheltering.org/page/rescue-group-best-practices-guide
Humane Discourse and Conduct within Animal Welfare Pledge

Commit to promoting compassion and respect, not just for animals but also for the people who work tirelessly on their behalf.
New Jersey

Number of Animals

Year


Euthanasia

It’s TRUE.
It’s TRUE
Still areas of tremendous need
Collaboration: Make it a Priority

Becky Burton
Vice President of Direct Care & Lifesaving Partnerships
Collaboration: Respect, Trust
2015 Non ACO/Shelter Intake

- Other NJ Shelters & Rescues: 41
- Distance Shelters & Rescues: 38
- Animals: 1,852
We Need to Support One Another
Be Right Inside
Collaboration - Emergency

- ASPCA Placement Partner – Rehab Center, too.
- HSUS Emergency Placement Partner
Collaboration

Local & Distance
Collaboration - Sister Shelter

- Routine Transfer
- “Give Back”
- Enrichment Kits
- Scholarships
- Other Help
- MOU

Out of State:
Aiken, SC
Tupelo, MS
Parkersburg, WV
& Others
Collaboration
Hands Up

Jennifer and I had a wonderful time at the conference and we have so many new ideas! The best part was meeting you and your team. You are all fantastic people and we feel so incredibly lucky to have a partnership with you! Please know that we are grateful for all that you do for FOTAS and for our dogs and puppies. You make a huge difference and we all appreciate it! We are looking forward to sending you more dogs and pups next week! Jennifer and I will be working on new promotions, new ideas and incorporating new software that we learned about at Expo. Thank you!
-Kathy

Animal Care EXPO, May 12, 2016
Together, Mobilizing
Mobilizing for Felines

- Picking up cats from all over NJ
- Expending resources to get them well and ready
- Transporting to New England
- Staff sponsored NE conference
- PETCO

ASK US ABOUT OUR Feline Pipeline

www.sthuberts.org
Celebrating Collaboration

"Several Animal Welfare Agencies Work Together To Provide Needed Assistance"

"We truly appreciate the coordination of these groups to allow the affected shelter in need"

"This is a collaborative effort and all of our hearts go out to the Tornado victims…We are all glad to help these animals and to help provide time for people to reunite……"
Invite or Attend Others’ Events

- Invite others to your events
- Attend others’ events
- OK to differ on policies, adoption fees
- Offer to help
- Even go to fundraisers
Elbow Grease
When People Know & Can Trust
New Center Offers Help for Dogs Consumed by Fear

By SUE MANNING Associated Press
LOS ANGELES March 12, 2013 (AP)

People want their dog to be a friend, not afraid.

But sometimes, fear grips dogs so tightly they shake, cower, bite, growl or pee. It can be constant, painful and hard to overcome. Such dread can consume a dog when it's freed from a cage at a puppy mill or hoarder's home because that's the only life the dog has ever known.

Until now, it was up to animal shelters to ease the fears, knowing if they didn't, euthanasia was the likely alternative. But this week, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals opens its Behavioral Rehabilitation Center at St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center in Madison, N.J.

It's a two-year research project being financed by the ASPCA.
Dear Heather,

Thank you so much to you and your wonderful volunteers for taking the time to bring Juan Carlos, Judy, Lila, and Rosie to the Ad Council Board of Directors meeting! They definitely stole the show! We are grateful for the work that you do at St. Hubert’s and were delighted to be able to highlight your wonderful organization.

Thanks again!
Your friends at the Ad Council
Partnerships
On behalf of the City of East Orange, please accept my sincere gratitude for the recently donated items to our municipal animal shelter. All of the items will be put to good use as they are essential for the upkeep and well-being of the animals while under our care. The City of East Orange is also grateful for the positive relationship that has evolved over the recent months which has resulted, and additional, positive, reinforcement of animal husbandry information to our staff. St. Hubert’s Animal Welfare Center has truly been a “friend” to our municipality and our animals. – Rochelle D. Evans, RN MS, Director/Health Officer

Thank you, again, for helping out the North Brunswick Humane Association’s Community Cat Program (CCP) by taking in kittens…Your help this year has made such a tremendous difference and has allowed us to get more kittens than ever off the streets!...You are an amazing shelter, and I know that you don’t achieve what you do without a ton of blood, sweat and tears…Thanks again for all you do and are! – NBHA Community Cat Program

Your presence at the meeting and the information you provided was very influential in this deal, and is setting the framework for the next deal. I can’t thank you enough for taking the time to help out. – Mark Phillips, EASEL Animal Rescue League

CCSPCA Letter
It’s up to us

- The National Groups can’t be everywhere
- It’s up to us to reach out and help one another
- Collaborate with non-animal organizations, they may not reach out to us
Legislation

- Strong voice
- Professional dialogue
- Keep opposition from winning
- Calm our impulsive members
- Keep legislators engaged

Coalition to Keep New Jersey’s Leghold Trap Ban

Re: Support for SCR 175 (Senator Lesniak) — Game Code Regulation Contravenes Existing Animal Welfare Law Prohibiting Inhumane Leghold Traps

Dear Senator:

The undersigned organizations strongly object to the New Jersey Fish and Game Council’s (Council) attempt to circumvent New Jersey’s 1984 law prohibiting steel-jaw leghold animal traps (P.L. 1984 c.17) by authorizing the use of “enveloped” leghold traps. Although the Council and the Division of Fish and Wildlife (Division) claim these traps are different, they operate the same as the myriad other types of steel-jaw leghold traps, all of which were banned more than three decades ago because of the serious injuries and distress they cause to trapped animals.

The Fish and Game Council’s proposal to allow the use of enclosed leghold traps is inconsistent with plain language and legislative intent of New Jersey’s 1984 law banning animal traps of steel-jaw leghold type and should be withdrawn. SCR 175, a resolution introduced by Senator Lesniak, points this out and, if adopted, will enable the Legislature to protect both the statute and its authority and veto this unlawful regulation.

The New Jersey law banning the sale, use, possession, importation and transportation of any type of steel-jaw leghold trap has stood for three decades. The ban has weathered regulatory, legal, and political challenges by the Division, the Council, and the fur-trapping interests. Specifically, in 1985, when the

St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center
It’s a Relationship
Summary - WHY

- It’s the right thing to do
- Stop helping the opposition, “real enemy”
- Helps more animals directly
- Opens opportunities to help more animals broadly
- Opens opportunities for your organization to achieve/succeed on mission
- Someday you may be the one on the receiving end of help
Summary - How

- Working on “Ourselves” as Individuals & Organizations
- Make Collaboration a Priority
- Make it Meaningful
- Celebrate Others
- Build that Culture
- Be Resilient
Final Thoughts

- Much progress has been made in Animal Welfare. There is more to do.
- A lot of groups got us here and a lot of us are needed to get where we want to go.
- The community, legislators, media are confused or offput by a lack of collaboration. The opposition welcomes it.
- Productive approaches, language and partnerships have significantly increased St. Hubert’s lifesaving, opportunities, impact & community engagement.
- Culture is key. Model it. Create frameworks.
Thank you for all that you do!

Heather Cammisa
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