

AAF SECOND DATA TASK FORCE NOTES  
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Attended by:

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Kevin reviewed the data that he has derived from the PACFA statistics, the Metro Denver Shelter Alliance data and the Colorado Federation of Animal Welfare Agencies Data. Throughout Colorado, there have been 104 shelters that have consistently reported over the past 7 years. In Metro Denver (Metro Denver Shelter Alliance) 4 shelters have consistently reported for 18 years.

The notes represent comments and questions from the discussion following presentation of the data.

Comments on shelter intake:

Transfers impact the shelter numbers

The question was asked which line on cat intake fits with anecdotal evidence.

Dog euthanasia dipped in 2004 on the Front Range

There are fewer enforcement mandates and resources for cats in rural areas

In rural communities that do measure cats, something good was happening for a while

Cat adoption in the metro area showed an increase followed by a decrease if that measure was used as opposed to the median line

Are funders making decisions based on the number of animals handled by shelters?

Metro Denver Shelter Alliance started in 1999/2000

Conduct analyses of other shelters in addition to La Junta to determine deviations from the norm

Dog Intake:

The national average is 1.7 dogs per household?

72 million dogs see veterinarians

TMAC has shown a 22% decrease in impounds since the entire Jefferson County instituted dog licensing last year; Dogs are RTO'd in the field. Unincorporated Jeffco has had dog licensing since 1994 and their compliance rate is 30% while Denver's is 12%.

How can funding incentives be developed to help the animals, similar to the new shelter for Table Mountain encouraging licensing in Jeffco?

Other factors impacting intake:

Humane Education

Behavioral Education especially through veterinarians

Differential fee structures for dog licenses based on spay/neuter

Spay/neuter

Rabies vaccinations/tags to trace owners. Calhan recently implemented a rabies requirement. There is still a difference between requirements for dogs and cats.

Shelters are receiving fewer adoptable dogs

#### Cat Intake:

There are few cat laws prohibiting running at large

The raw data shows a 36% increase in intake while the data per 1000 population shows a 20% increase

More facilities are handling cats

There is less tolerance of cats RAL

The Audubon program has been discouraging cats running loose. They are also working with humane groups for eco-system balance. This could be an opportunity for cross-sector funding.

Managed feral colonies (TNR)

Transfer of ferals to other programs such as Rocky Mountain Alley Cat Alliance

#### Dog Outcomes

Rural areas show a decrease. This is now borne out statistically

Holding dogs for adoption much longer

New organizations coming into existence

Transfer rates from other states will be captured on the new PACFA form

Metro shelters apply more resources

Behavior assessment programs may increase euthanasia as dogs that fail the test are euthanized

Behavior counseling is keeping pets in homes

Where is the funding for new programs coming from?

More animals are being treated for health issues

Cultural differences change to potential for finding adoptive homes

Are there a maximum number of potential adopters in communities?

Aging population

Economics

The % of unadoptable animals should be removed from the data

The PACFA form has been expanded to capture more data.

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