



ANIMAL SERVICES

FRANKLIN COUNTY
OCTOBER 2023

TOPICS

- Primary Animal Services Functions
- Responses to Requests
- Volunteer Programs Update



PRIMARY ANIMAL SERVICES FUNCTIONS

RABIES
CONTROL

DANGEROUS
DOGS

ANIMAL
CRUELTY

STRAY
ANIMALS

SHELTER
MANAGEMENT

RABIES CONTROL

- Under the authority of the Local Health Director
- Enforce rabies vaccination and tag requirements
- Host vaccination clinics (1 per year required)
- Rabies observation quarantines
- Have animals suspected of rabies tested for rabies
- Notify communities of confirmed rabies cases.

Related Cases	
2018	137
2019	178
2020	154
2021	157
2022	174
2023 (thru Sept)	147

* Requests for Animal Services Officer response

DANGEROUS DOGS

- Investigate incidents involving aggressive dog(s) and determine if the dog(s) should be considered dangerous.
- Determine dogs to be dangerous, provide notice and information to dog owners these dogs.
- Inspect and approve secure enclosures.
- Arrange and hold appeal hearings.
- Perform random inspection visits to dangerous dogs in the county to check for compliance of dangerous dog requirements.

ANIMAL CRUELTY

- Investigate reports on animal cruelty and animal welfare violations
- These investigations often take multiple visits to gather evidence and build the case.
- Civil and criminal remedies. Felony animal cruelty charged by FC Sheriff's office or municipal law enforcement with Animal Services support.
- Minor violations are often corrected by educating the animal owner.
- Community Outreach efforts, including donated items, are used to provide better conditions for the animals such as better shelter, bedding, appropriate collars, buckets, food dishes, food etc. to keep them with their less fortunate owners.

RELATED CASES	
2018	249
2019	202
2020	234
2021	218
2022	233
2023 (thru Sept)	150

* Requests for Animal Services Officer response

STRAY ANIMALS

- Pick up or restrain stray/at large animals
- If owner identification tags or the animal has a microchip, efforts are made to contact the owner and return the animal to the owner.
- Warnings and citations may be issued.
- No ID or unable to make contact with the owner animals are impounded into the animal shelter.

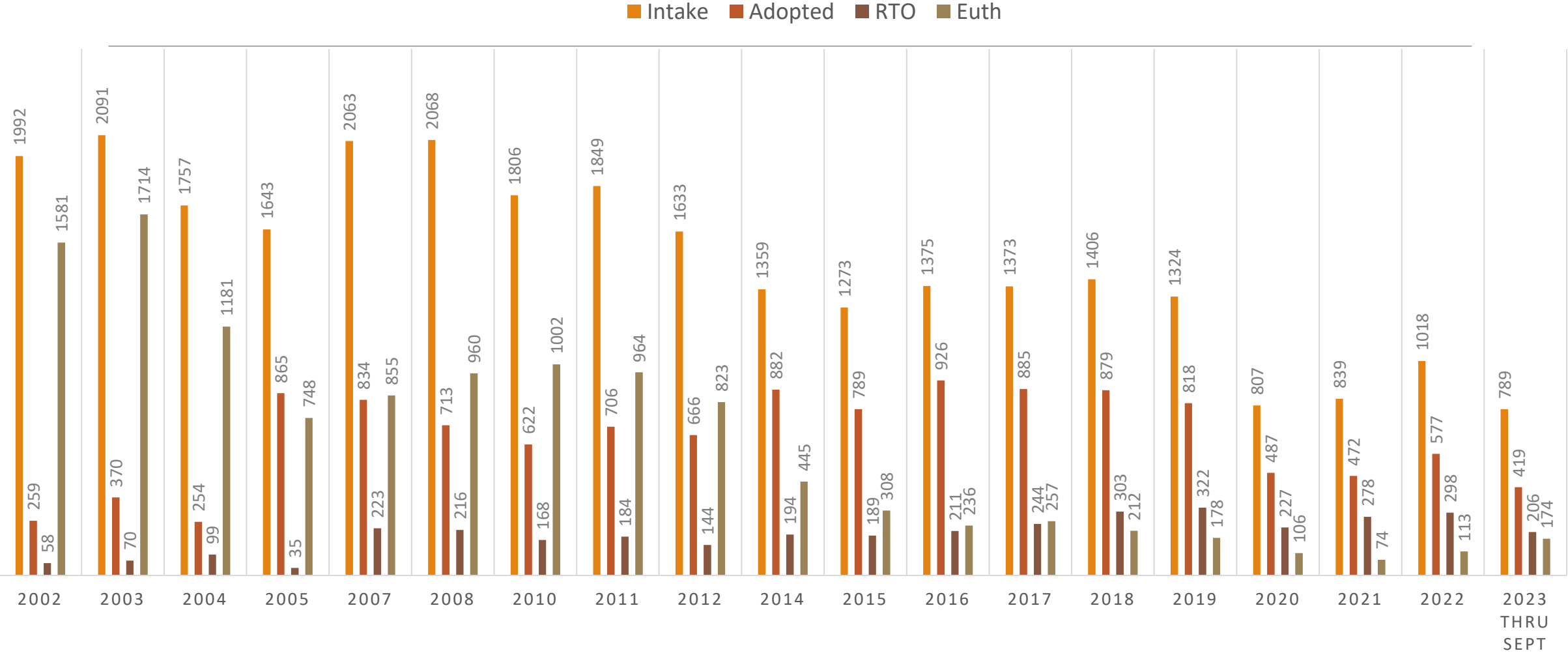
RELATED CASES	
2018	1699
2019	1470
2020	1471
2021	1401
2022	1465
2023 (thru Sept)	1054

* Requests for Animal Services Officer response

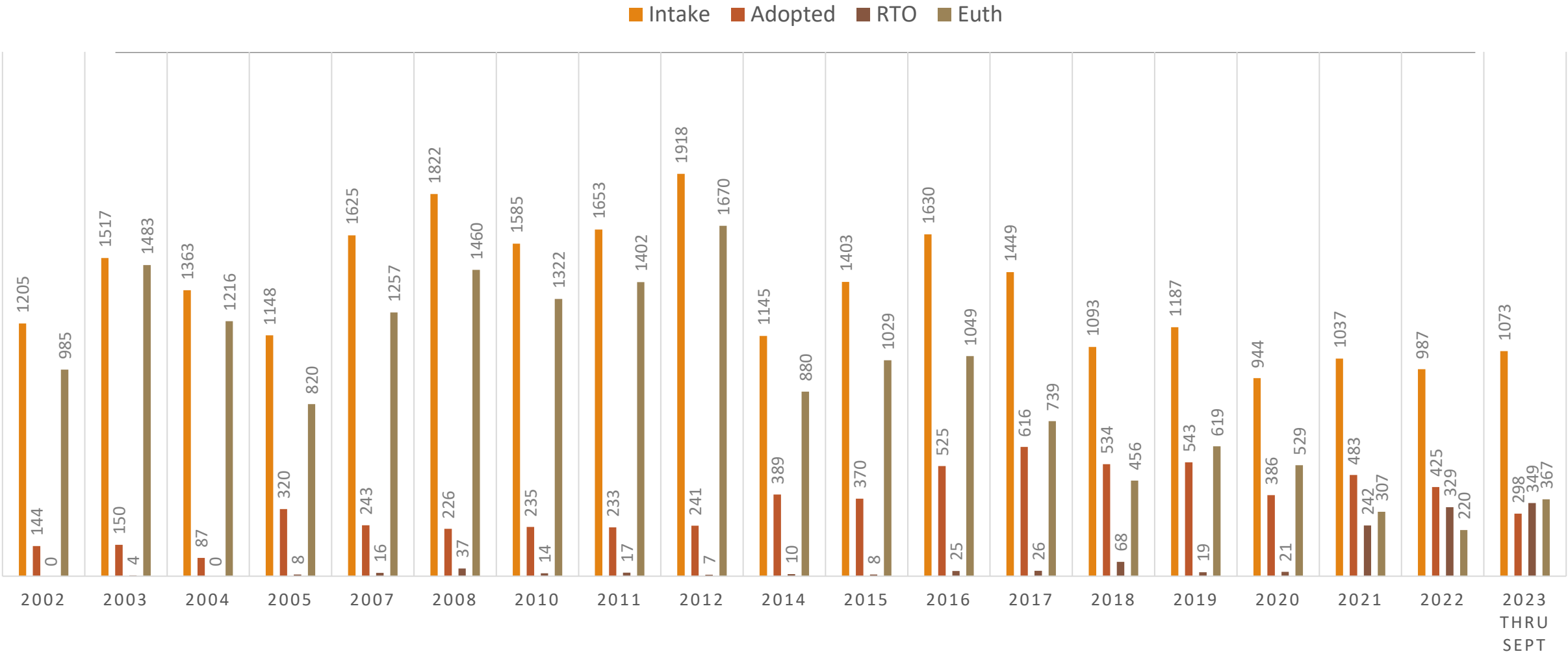
SHELTER MANAGEMENT

- Local governments are not required to own or operate an animal shelter.
- Animal Shelters must comply with the state's Animal Welfare Act enforce by the Animal Welfare Section of the Veterinary division of the Dept of Agriculture.
- The law addresses the physical condition of shelters, minimum holding periods for animals, public inspection of animals, animal care, euthanasia practices, and training of euthanasia technicians.

SHELTER STATISTICS - DOGS



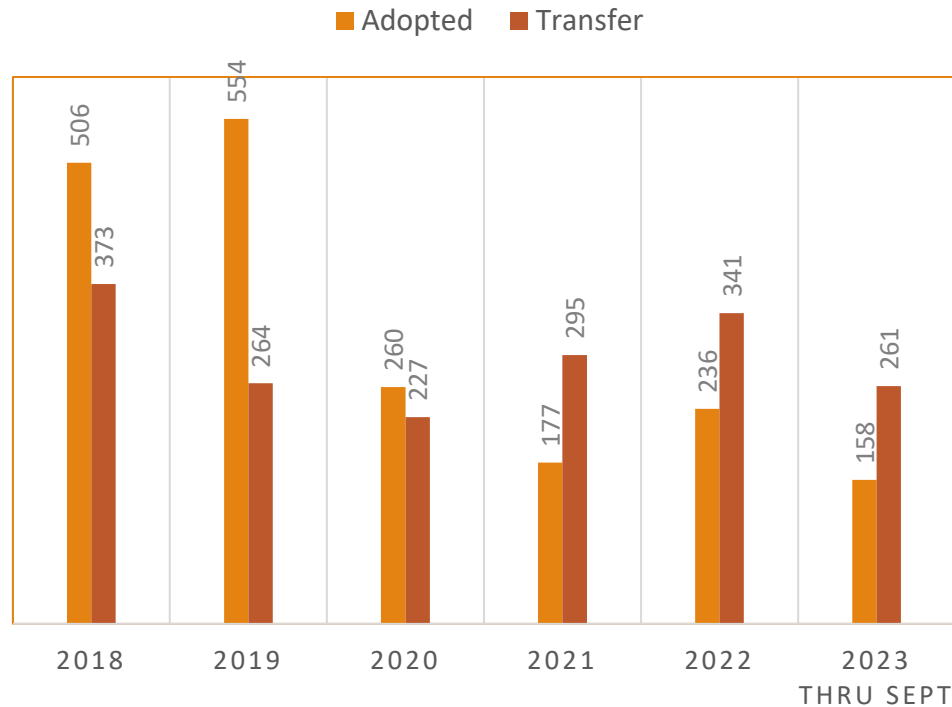
SHELTER STATISTICS - CATS



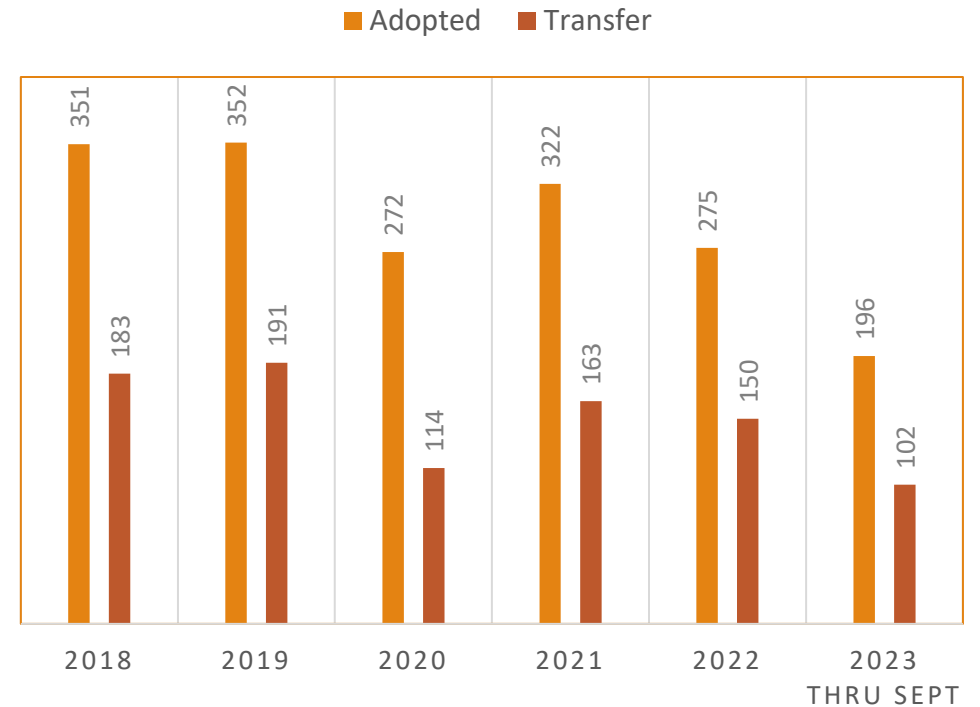
Shelter Statistics- Adoption / Transfer

NCDOA-AWS statistics include transferred animals with “Adopted” animals

DOGS



CATS



Transfer includes Rescued by 501C3 non-profit Animal Rescue and transfer to another Animal Shelter

Spay Neuter Surgeries

All spay neuter surgeries for animals in the shelter are paid for with grants and donated funds

	DOGS	CATS
2016	17	161
2017	18	259
2018	22	329
2019	16	260
2020	0	58
2021	26	345
2022	29	472
2023 thru October	39	471

RESPONSES TO RECENT CONCERNS

RESPONSES TO RECENT CONCERNS

• Increase Transparency	Website improvements implemented and additional initiatives are being explored.
• Increase communication with Rescues and more timely responses	In Process- BOC have approved additional resources and future resource needs are continuously being evaluated.
• Implement a Volunteer Program	Update coming in later agenda item
• “Friends of” Facebook page run by volunteers.	Under Review
• Easier Rescue pull process	Several initiatives to address this have been implemented, are being developed, or under review with input from Rescues.
• Provide heartworm test, spay/neuter, various health and behavioral assessments	Some aspects are occurring, and other steps are under review for implementation
• Remove black posterboard covering plexiglass from front counter	Complete- along with other lobby improvements.
• Extend adoption hours	To be implemented November 4, 2023

RESPONSES TO RECENT CONCERNS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow access to kennels by rescues and potential adopters during adoption hours 	Complete- effective October 25, 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post all animals to website/social media with exception of court-involved seizures, even if deemed feral, including euthanized animals and reasons for euthanasia except severe medical/disturbing images 	Website updates; further review
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Off-site adoption events 	Under review for future implementation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reinstate Facebook Albums 	Under technical review
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flexible Adoption Fees 	On BOC agenda for 11/6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicate shelter needs for funding 	Complete- on website and through flyers. Additional pet introduction areas and capital improvements are under review by County Management
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low cost/no cost clinics at the Shelter 	Low-cost vaccine/microchip clinics held monthly. Spay/neuter clinics under review

RESPONSES TO RECENT CONCERNS

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Map data to identify areas to target services and education programs where needs exists.	Under review. Some steps taken to gather data.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Low-income pet owner spay/neuter clinics and seek reimbursement from Dept of Ag	Under review
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spay/Neuter campaign with social media and traditional media ads and outreach – create incentives / prizes, raffles	Under review
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remove Animal Services Manager	Over the AS Manager's tenure, life saving initiatives have overall increased, euthanasia rates have decreased, and intakes have decreased. The shelter is operated in accordance with all statutes and administrative code requirements.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

FRANKLIN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

