

**Safe Harbor Animal Shelter – South Baldwin County, AL
Statement of Need – Spay & Neuter Surgical Suite Equipment**

2/12/2020



Who Are We?

Established in late 2019, Safe Harbor Animal Coalition (SHAC) is a new 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of animals and people in South Baldwin County, AL. SHAC is currently an all-volunteer group focused on getting homeless animals adopted into loving, forever homes and establishing a robust Trap, Neuter, Release (TNR) Program in South Baldwin County. Through TNR, fostering and sheltering adoptable pets and pet adoption activities, SHAC provides humane solutions to animal overpopulation and potential conflicts between animals and the community. SHAC is a resource for dedicated animal caregivers, advocates, other nonprofit groups and volunteers driving change and accelerating protections for animals in coastal Alabama.

Officially, SHAC is a new nonprofit organization. But, we have actually emerged from three separate but aligned Animal Care and Control Programs. The Orange Beach Animal Care and Control Program (OBACCP) was formed in June 2017. Between June 2017 and November 2019, OBACCP TNR'd 500 cats, as well as facilitated the adoption of 225 fully vetted cats and 6 fully vetted dogs. The Gulf Shores Animal Care and Control Program (GSACCP) was formed in August 2018 with support from the OBACCP. Between June 2017 and November 2019, GSAPP TNR'd 300 cats. The Foley Animal Care and Control Program (FACCP) was formed in August 2019. Between August and November 2019, FACCP TNR'd 150 cats, facilitated the adoption of 30 fully vetted cats and reunited 4 dogs with their families.

All three groups were 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations operated completely by volunteers and funded completely by private donations. In November 2019, the three groups joined to form SHAC for a variety of reasons:

- The homeless companion animal needs in all cities are aligned.
- Mission, vision and core values between all groups is aligned.
- All three groups had already established a collaborative relationship.
- Combining forces allows for the efficient, effective use of limited resources: funding, volunteers, veterinarian and vet tech support.
- The formation of one program promoted support from all three city governments, as well as from the smaller municipal entities.
- The collaboration will allow unincorporated areas surrounding the three cities to be supported.

ECONOMY OF FORCE: The principle of employing all available resources in the most effective way possible, in an attempt to allocate a minimum of essential labor and funds to any secondary efforts. It is the judicious employment and distribution of resources towards the primary objective of solving problems and addressing challenges.

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***Mission:** SHAC is an animal welfare organization dedicated to the humane care of homeless and abandoned dogs and cats in South Baldwin county while promoting lifesaving programs in partnership with local and national animal welfare groups across the country.*

***Vision:** SHAC is dedicated to operating companion animal programs and facilities for the purpose of improving the quality of life for each cat and dog we serve, encouraging a community of responsible companion animal guardians, eliminating the community's need to euthanize cats as a means of population control and promoting a society where companion animals become more valued.*

What Problems Are We Trying to Solve?

Baldwin County is experiencing rapid growth in both resident populations in coastal communities and in tourism. According to the 2018 United States Census Bureau report, the population of the County grew by over 20%, making it the 5th most populated county in the state. Likewise, tourism has increased drastically over the past twenty years. Local and county governments understand the need for infrastructure capacity and capability to keep pace with this growth.

Right now, the animal rescue community is overloaded with the number of homeless cats and dogs in South Baldwin County. Government-sponsored animal sheltering does not exist in South Baldwin County. The nearest County-sponsored shelter is in Summerdale, AL. There are no city-sponsored shelters in Orange Beach, Gulf Shores or Foley or any of the smaller towns in the surrounding area. Simply put, there is no infrastructure to provide care and treatment to animals needing protection, attempt to find homes for homeless animals and reunite lost pets with their families.

South Baldwin County is home to caring and compassionate people...citizens who agonize over the plight of homeless companion animals. The animal rescue community has been heroically responding to homeless animals through volunteer-based trap-neuter-return (TNR) programs, foster sheltering and adoption programs. The foster-based rescue programs have also been supported to some extent by privately funded shelter programs in Fairhope. But, the citizens of South Baldwin County understand the community has the financial capacity and moral obligation to do better. Citizens noticing homeless cats and dogs on the streets of our towns want to be able to contact someone who can help those animals. Visitors, often under the false impression that every city has an animal shelter with people dedicated to take care of the homeless animal population, are often surprised and disappointed to learn South Baldwin County has not dedicated resources to this problem.

Many cats were discarded by thoughtless owners to fend for themselves when the owner was moving. Many of these cats have not been spayed or neutered, so they reproduce. Their offspring become feral (wild) and not used to human contact. These kittens can be trapped with humane traps and socialized as long as they are under 8 weeks old. The mothers should also be trapped and spayed and placed somewhere. But where? And who will do this immense task? And when they catch these mothers and kittens, then what?

“If not us, then who? If not now, then when?” – John E. Lewis

In response to this community need, SHAC has established a small shelter facility that can shelter adoptable cats and kittens and provide a space for basic veterinary care, as well as spay

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and neuter surgeries. SHAC will also rely heavily on foster-based sheltering. Our goal is to be able to TNR at least 30 cats each month by the end of 2021.

What Are We Doing?

Through generous donations from community business and individual residents, SHAC has established a long term lease agreement for a facility (see Attachment 1). Additionally, a local construction firm and other local businesses have supplied the labor and materials to build the facility out to accommodate four rooms for sheltering adoptable cats, a surgical suite to accomplish surgical sterilization procedures and vaccinations of both community cats and abandoned adoptable cats and dogs, a recovery area to shelter animals as they recover from sterilization procedures and other areas designed to facilitate adoptions.

The veterinary community in Lower Alabama already supports SHAC by providing low cost care in their own clinics. Those same veterinarians and vet technicians are excited to be able to provide their services in our new facility. One local veterinarian has agreed to be our primary veterinarian, ensuring our facility and operational procedures are maintained to State of Alabama standards. In addition, SHAC has initiated partnerships with the Auburn University Veterinarian Program and the Coastal Alabama Community College Vet Tech Program. Both programs will be incorporating service to SHAC into their mandatory practical rotations. A local hotel has pledged to provide the visiting students and faculty free lodging and meals.

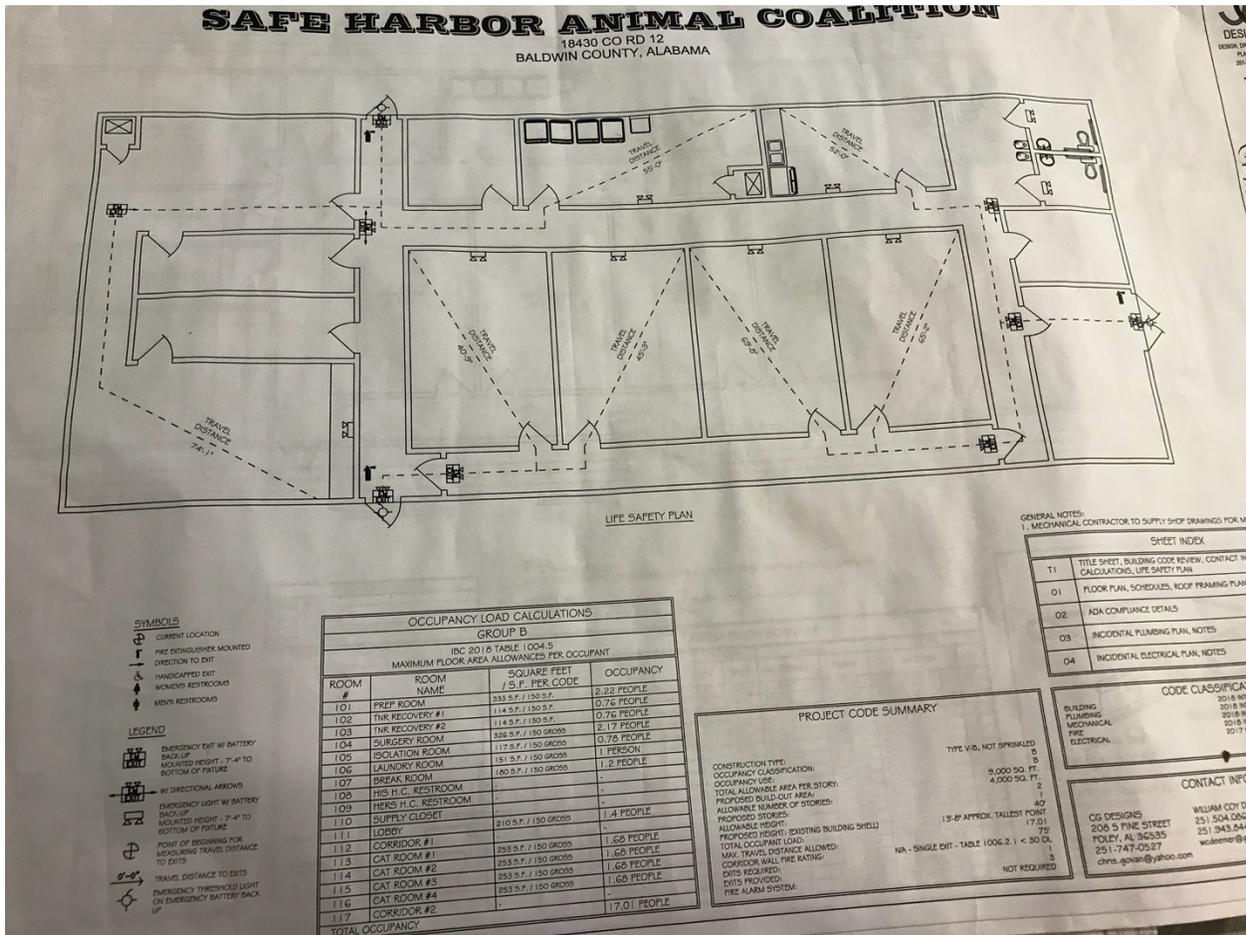
What Do We Still Need?

Right now, our critical need is funding for or donations of equipment for the surgical suite. To **fully outfit the surgical room for maximum productivity and safety**, SHAC requires \$133,263.00. To minimally outfit the surgical room to begin safely serving our TNR program with a facility meeting State of Alabama standards, SHAC requires at least \$86,430. See Attachment 2 for detailed budget requirements and Attachment 3 for the surgical suite equipment needs. We are conducting fundraising activities, approaching medical companies for equipment donations and applying for grants to achieve our goal.

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AttachmeInt 1: SHAC Facility Plan



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Attachment 2: Detailed SHAC Spay & Neuter Facility Budget

Requirement	Cost-Funded	Cost – Yet to Be Funded	Funding Source
Facility (annual cost x yrs)	\$12,000 per year for 3 years \$36,000	0	Island Air Conditioning & Heating, Inc.
HVAC System (equipment & labor)	\$25,000	0	Island Air Conditioning & Heating, Inc.
Facility Build Out (labor)	\$190,000	0	Jim Brown Builders
Facility Build Out (material)	-	0	Jim Brown Builders
Facility Build Out (design)	-	0	Jim Brown Builders
Facility Build Out (safety/security systems & equipment)	\$2,500	0	Island Air Conditioning & Heating, Inc.
Facility Build Out Flooring, Lockers, Misc.		\$20,000	
Surgical Suite Equipment		\$133,263.00	
Recovery Room Furnishings		\$5,000	
Shelter Area Furnishings		\$18,000	
Vet Services (annual cost x years of lease agreement)		\$100,000 per year vet/\$30,000 vet tech per year	
Other Services Website development/maintenance	\$2,500	\$-0-	Amy and Jeff Schlauder
Misc. Furnishings Appliances Desktop computer/laptop	\$6,450 \$4,500	\$4,500	Anthony Appliance Repair
TNR Equipment & PPE Transfer cages	\$5,000	0	Amy and Jeff Schlauder
Facility Utilities (annual cost x years of lease agreement)	\$4,800 per year \$14,400	0	Island Air Condition & Heating, Inc.
Total	\$250,250	\$310,763	

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Attachment 3: Surgical Suite Requirements

Equipment Necessary For Maximum Capability

Requirement	Cost	Number Required	Total
Anesthesia Machine	\$2,410.00	6	\$14,460
Anesthesia Equip-Vaporizer	\$1,200.00	6	\$7,200
Autoclave	\$5,000	2	\$10,000
Cage Bank	\$9,530	1	\$9,530
Heated Surgery Table	\$3,418.00	4	\$13,672.00
Surgical Instrument Stands	\$190	5	950
Double Surgical Scrub Sink w/Assemblies	\$1,550.00	1	\$1,550.00
Prep Lights w/	\$1,725.00	2	\$3,450.00
Dual Head Surgical Lighting Assemblies	\$6,720.00	4	\$26,880.00
Wet Prep Tables	\$3,137.00	2	\$6,274.00
Misc. Surg. Equip., Surgical Pks. Regulators, Microscope	\$30,000.00	1	\$30,000.00
Estimated Tax/Fees	\$9,297.00		\$9,297.00
Total			\$133,263.00

Minimum Equipment Necessary To Start TNR Surgical Support

Requirement	Cost	Number Required	Total
Anesthesia Machine w/Mounts	\$2,410.00	4	9,640
Anesthesia Equip-Vaporizer	\$1,200.00	4	4,800
Autoclave	\$5,000.00	1	5,000
Cage Bank	\$9,530	1	9,530
Heated Surgery Table	\$3,418.00	2	6,836
Surgical Instrument Stands	\$190	2	380
Double Surgical Scrub Sink w/Assemblies	\$1,550.00	1	1,550
Prep Lights w/extensions	\$1,725.00	2	3,450.00
Dual Head Surgical Lighting Assemblies w/Extensions	\$6,720.00	2	13,440
Wet Prep Tables w/Faucets & Inserts	\$3,137.00	2	6,274
Misc. Surg. Equip. Surgical Pks., Regulators, Microscope	\$20,000.00	1	20,000
Estimated Tax/Assembly Fees	\$6,030		6,030

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Total			\$86,430
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