



## **ANIMAL FRIENDS CONNECTION**

*Promoting Compassion Toward All Creatures*  
Humane Education & Adoption Referrals  
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November 24, 2003

Maddie's Pet Project in Lodi year three report,

The third year of our collaborative project with Maddie's Fund has had many new challenges. While each year we have had fewer misgivings we often wondered whether or not we would achieve our shelter pull goals. In year two we went over by two shelter pulls, year three was down by ten. We had inadvertently pulled too many treatables over the course of the year and by doing that had to keep the cats in quarantine up to three and four weeks. This created a tremendous workload for us and we were not able to pull animals from the shelter as often. We will not make that same mistake this year.

Lynn Biglow leaving us in the middle of the year contributed to us trying to figure out where we were and what was still needed to accomplish our shelter pull goals. We were in a position where someone new had to come in and be trained to do a rather difficult job. We were excited that our choice of new employees was able to continue keeping the lines of communication open with the shelter staff. We are also continuing to try putting more emphasis on dogs since that is where most of the adoptable deaths are occurring. This year we are working on new ways to stop those deaths and help the shelter get homes for all those animals.

Since we had planned on using five years of vouchers in three years we felt we needed tight controls in the last months. We underestimated the usage and fell short of using them all up by 113. This left us with \$3,399 to finish the voucher program out. The voucher program has been one of our greatest achievements.

We continue to believe that we will achieve in all area's success even though our adoption goals have been more difficult then expected. Our adoption schedule remains on course, as we have continued mobile adoptions in all our locations on Saturdays. We continue to hold adoptions at least two Sundays a month and sponsor special adoption festivals throughout the year. As with last year we participated in even more school and church carnivals (taking animals for adoption and information about us). We still have the one pet food store that allows us to keep four large cat cages in their store for shelter pulls. Our web site adoptions are continuing to grow; as have our adoptions from the sanctuary. We are working on new adoption strategies to improve our web site.

The adoption event we held at the Stockton Honda dealership was a success; we continue to work on more events such as that one. The trend so far this year

appears that our adoptions are increasing, that is exciting and we are hopeful it will continue. Foster homes are still a challenge although we still have our good long-term foster families. The mass emails to key volunteers that work in large offices such as humane services or other large companies continue to prove successful in recruiting new fosters.

Our partnership with the California Teachers Association and the Lodi Education Association has helped us in recruiting more volunteers. The Animal Friends of Tokay High School completed its first year and is a club that will grow more each year in ways to help AFC. (Adoption's, fundraising and volunteers). A new partnership was formed this year with our local zoo; when the kiosk is complete we will be allowed to put our brochures, photographs of our animals and flyers inside it at the zoo. We continue to help the department of aging and mental health with situations where people are no longer able to keep their pets.

Donations were again down this year; however with our new strategic planning committee we are certain that will improve. We now have a newsletter committee that will get newsletters out more frequently. Our Jog a Dog; again made a small profit and our expectation is that it will grow. Our third annual Garden Tour fell short of making what it did in previous years, however as with previous years we have gardens pre-lined up and waiting for the next event. All who attended the pet fair enjoyed it, and we have very high expectations for the continued success of the Bowl for Pets. One of the employees from Social services who is also an AFC volunteer has been working on our ink cartridge donation program. For the last year she has had Social Services save them for AFC and she has brought them to us. The donations generate at least \$200.00 a month. Recently she got someone in upper management on board and they sent an email out to all of the Human Services departments to save them for AFC. One person has been put in charge of collecting them from each department's building.

All in all we are pleased with the success of the project's third year and feel ready to accept challenges during the fourth year. With animal services and AFC working together on the shared goal of establishing Lodi as a city in which every adoptable pet gets a home we are already a success.

Sincerely,

Patricia Sherman, President  
Animal Friends Connection

**MADDIE'S FUND**  
**ANNUAL STATISTICS for YEAR 3**  
**Baseline targets and overall goals**

**AFC ADOPTIONS**

- 1999 baseline Annual adoptions were 618
- Actual adoptions for the 2002-03 Annual reporting period were 940
- AFC is 14 adoptions short of our goal for Year 3 of 954

**SHELTER TRANSFERS TO AFC**

- 1999 baseline Annual releases to AFC were 112
- Actual transfers to AFC for the 2002-03 reporting period were 326
- 336 transfers were needed this period to achieve the target goal
- AFC did not achieve our goal for the third year 2002-2003. We were 10 short of our transfer goal.

**ANIMALS EUTHANIZED BY AFC AND THE LODI ANIMAL SHELTER**

**AFC**

- 1999 Annual baseline totals - 9
- 2002-2003 Annual totals – 3 cats were euthanized

There were 17 animals that died in kennels.

**SHELTER**

- 1999 Annual baseline totals – 1455 all euthanasia; 559 adoptable deaths
- In Year 3, the number of adoptable animals that were euthanized was 191
- Annual deaths are down by 368 animals from 1999 baseline.

Euthanized adoptable animals for Year 2 was 131 – this means an increase of 30 in Year 3 from the previous year.

AFCHS expects to work diligently with Lodi Animal Shelter to decrease that number in Year 4. Many strategies are currently being put into place to decrease the number of adoptable deaths to 0.

**SPAY AND NEUTER**

- The total of vouchers used in Year 3 was **1219**. AFCHS was allocated a total of 1332. We have a remaining balance of **113** vouchers.
- Shelter – Lodi Animal Control spayed or neutered 153 dogs and 116 cats for the reporting period for a total of 269
- AFC – Animal Friends Connection spayed or neutered 167 dogs and 290 cats for the reporting period for a total of 457
- The reporting Vet total is **5142** surgeries, which includes the spays and neuters with and without vouchers.