Making the Move to Adoption Guarantee

Susanne Kogut

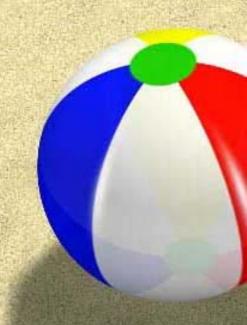
Executive Director





Getting Stakeholders on Board

- **G** Board
- **C** Staff
- C Volunteers
- Customers -- adopters, others
- **C** Donors
- CAnimal Control Officers
- Community veterinarians
- Government officials
- C Others????



The Most Important Stakeholder

Executive Director



Leadership

- •Believing is achieving
- Confidence and commitment
- Stay strong
- G Focus on the positive
- Keep it movin'
- Set audacious goals
- Determination
- G Just do it!
 Apply proven programs: foster,
 customer service, adoption
 marketing, operational
 efficiencies



Creating a No Kill Community

- The role we played as the SPCA No Kill organization = No Kill Community
- The only facility in the City/County
- Contracted to serve as the pound
- ← 5,000 Animals per year
- Previously killed over 50% of cats



Leadership - getting things done within a diffuse power structure

- Constituents: Board, staff, volunteers, customers, donors and others
- Board fear of what others will say; is it the right thing
- Volunteers for but do it their way
- Staff No Kill is impossible
- ACO's No Kill is stupid; naïve
- Donors No Kill is good, but thought already No Kill
- Others various views

QuickTime[™] and a TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor are needed to see this picture.

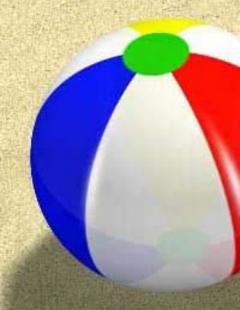
Overcoming the Naysayers

- Inhumane to put animals in crates
- Staff inhumane because not doing enough to socialize feral cats
- Treating sick animals inhumane should euthanize
- Too many animals, not enough homes
- Giving away animals to anyone
- Cares about animals but inhumane to people
- C Letter to Board -- ED should be fired due to deaths of SPCA animals

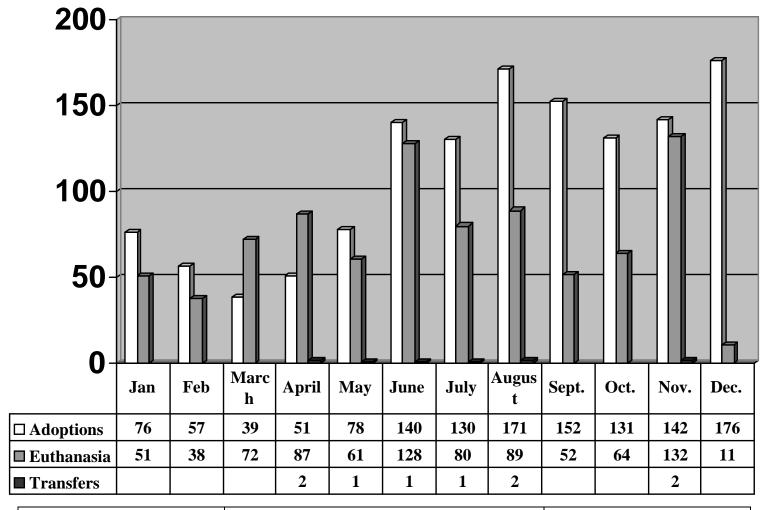


Board

- **G**Just Do It
 - •Stats -- keep advised
 - Get involved in events
 - **C**Constant updates
 - Customer service improvements
 - Messaging followed action
 - G Board began to embrace the message

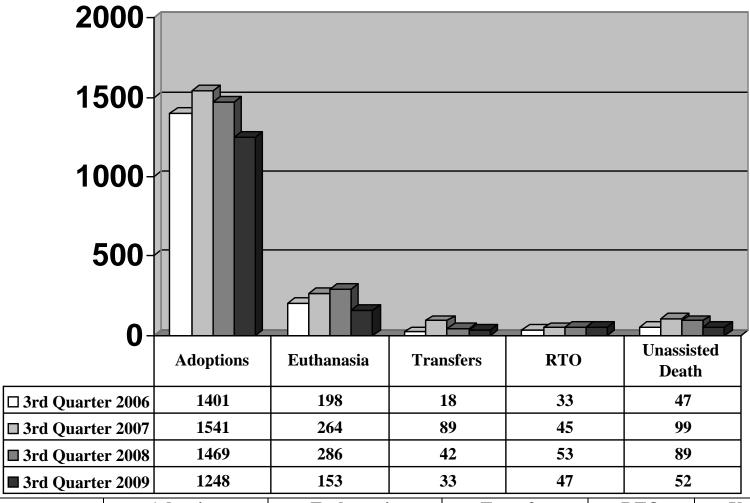


Board stats



	2005 Total 2005 Percentage			
Adoptions	1343	51.5%		
Euthanasia	865	32%		
Transfers	9	.3%		

Third Quarter 2006 - 2009



	Adoption	Euthanasia	Transfer	RTO	Unassisted
	Percentage	Percentage	Percentage	Percentage	Death Percentage
3 rd Quarter 2006	58.1%	8.2%	.7%	1.4%	1.9%
3 rd Quarter 2007	55.9%	9.6%	3.2%	1.6%	3.6%
3 rd Quarter 2008	56.8%	11.1%	1.6%	2%	3.4%
3 rd Quarter 2009	60.1%	7.4%	1.6%	2.3%	2.5%

Staff

- C Initial Strategy based on Assumptions
- Get down and dirty
 - © Develop respect/trust
 - Learn the talk first hand
 - See the commitment
 - Meet and listen
- Challenge and encourage
- Evaluate how to bring together

QuickTimeTM and a TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor are needed to see this picture.

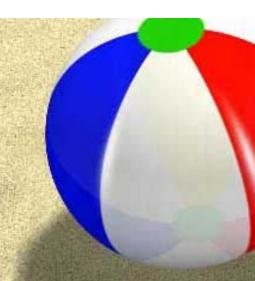
Staff reality

- Failed to gain respect
- Open door policy failed
 - Talk focused on gossip and on negative
 - And less willing to listen
- Not excited about change
- Passionate about saving lives?
 - Being right versus doing what is right
- Determined, but about what???
- Challenge -- not if it meant possibly working harder
- C Little desire to find common ground with volunteers
- At the end, I was still the outsider



Who's the Boss?

- Focus on the future
- Stay positive
- No gossip/everyone has clear slate
- No complaining without suggesting solution
- C Elimination of words from vocabulary
 - Can't because
 - Will not work
- ED job was open to anyone



Volunteers

- Initially the most helpful
- C Energetic wanted change
- Willing to give time
- GJust needed to remind them of the Who's the Boss rules

Chipper: One of the meanest dogs we have placed.

QuickTime™ and a TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor are needed to see this picture.

Entering a new era







Who will be on your bus



Get the right people on

- Good to great: key factor is not how much you pay, but who you have on the bus
- Great companies focus on getting and keeping the right people... "those who are productively neurotic, self-motivated, self-disciplined... who wake up every day compulsively driven to do the best they can simply because it is part of their DNA."*
- Courage, the ability to face danger, difficulty, uncertainty, or pain without being overcome by fear or being deflected from a chosen course of action

• Get the wrong people off

- Oiscourage: 1) to tend to prevent something from happening by making it more difficult or unpleasant; 2) to try to stop somebody from doing something; and 3) to make somebody feel less motivated, confident, or optimistic
- In the right seat

^{*} Good to Great and the Social Sectors, A Monograph to Accompany Good to Great, Jim Collins

Leadership

"True leadership only exists if people follow when they have the freedom not to."



Others

- **C** Animal Control Officers
- Community Veterinarians
- **C** Customers
- **G** Government Officials
- **C** Donors

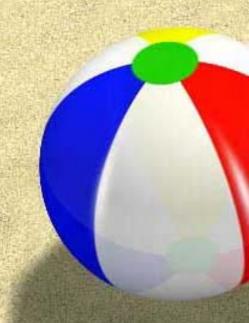




No Kill programs

- Customer Service/Adoptions:
 - Non-judgmental
 - Solution Oriented
- **C** Marketing
- Foster Homes
- C Stellar cleaning and vaccination programs
- Efficient operations
- Medical Care

QuickTime™ and a TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor are needed to see this picture.



Replace this quote

- Too many animals and not enough homes
- Over 60 million households own animals
 - Cats 18% adopt from shelters
 - © Dogs 10% adopt from shelters
- Merely need to capture an additional 5-7% and all shelters animals would have a new home

There are absolutely enough homes, let's go find them!

With another quote ...

Greatness is not a function of circumstance. Greatness, it turns out, is largely a matter of conscious choice and discipline.

Jim Collins.

