

# IT'S A GOOD DAY TO SAVE LIVES

BECAUSE OF YOU, PREVENTION IS POSSIBLE!



Clinic Director, Julia Malatesta, DVM, understands for some pets, this may be the only time they receive veterinary care.

The SPCA of Wake County's Saving Lives Spay/Neuter Clinic in the Susan & Randall Ward Center has had a makeover. Though the outside looks the same, on the inside, you'll find new paint, new equipment, and a new veterinary team.

## Meet the Clinic Director

Heading up the new team is Julia Malatesta, DVM. Dr. Malatesta was working toward a career in shelter medicine long before she was hired by the SPCA. She uses the knowledge she received

from her Fear Free Certification and time training with the ASPCA Spay/Neuter Alliance to ensure each animal receives the best care possible

during their visit. Dr. Malatesta and her team are on the front lines of the SPCA's mission to create change through the most effective and humane method around – prevention through spay/neuter.

## Prevention is Possible

The uncontrolled breeding of stray, abandoned, and even owned pets results in more pets than there are adopters. The traditional way of dealing with so many animals is euthanasia. But the SPCA believes that is not a long-term solution to the overwhelming number of pets entering shelters.

The vision of the SPCA is to create a humane community. Achieving that vision begins with ending the euthanasia of all adoptable animals. Since opening in early 2009, more than 55,000 pets have been altered through the Saving Lives Spay/Neuter Clinic. The impact of this effort is profound and can be seen in the dramatic reduction of both shelter pet intake and euthanasia in Wake County over the past decade.

## New and Improved

The reboot of the Saving Lives Clinic comes with a renewed plan of how our community can

succeed in ending shelter pet euthanasia. Therefore, the SPCA is strategically targeting two key audiences.

1. Families in economic need remain a core focus of the clinic service. A recent study found that owned pets living in the South were less likely to be spayed/neutered than those living in other parts of the country. The study also found that pets in households with income below 138% of the federal poverty level were less likely to be spayed or neutered.\*

Providing affordable service through the clinic gives pet-owning families access to basic care, vaccines, and surgery. Clinic services range from \$50-\$125.

2. Regional animal shelters, with little to no access to spay/neuter resources, see the positive impact of the Saving Lives Clinic and the

SPCA's shelter transfer program. The high number of surgery slots makes it possible for the SPCA to take in thousands of pets from nearby shelters who otherwise would not receive this surgery.

## Your Support

The low-cost pricing for families in need is offset by the incoming spay/neuter service revenue. The surgery fees help create a self-sustaining program. Other essential funding needs, including the shelter transfer program, the purchase of new infrastructure equipment and technology, **are all made possible with donor support.**

Your continued generosity will bring about a time where no pet is euthanized simply because they don't have a home.

We are thrilled to have you with us on this journey! Thank you for your support. 🐾

## YOUR GIFT SUPPORTS THIS WORK

Want to know more about the impact of your financial support on the SPCA's regional spay/neuter efforts? Contact:

Mondy Lamb | VP of Philanthropy at 919-532-2086 or email [mlamb@spcawake.org](mailto:mlamb@spcawake.org)



While Dr. Malatesta performs a spay or neuter for one pet, another pet is being prepped for surgery. This maximizes time and efficiency, while continuing compassionate, high-quality care.

