

Animal Shelter Alliance of Portland

Guiding Principles and Commitments

March 7, 2008

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to formalize the cooperative relationship between all members of ASAP. In keeping with the ASAP mission, this outlines the expectations and responsibilities for ASAP members in order to facilitate cooperation, collaboration, coordination, and effective communication between all members and with the public.

Guiding Principles and Commitments

1. We recognize that all stakeholders in the animal welfare community have a passion for and are dedicated to the mutual goal of saving animals' lives.
2. We are committed to the belief that no one organization or type of organization can achieve this goal alone, that we need one another, and that the only true solution is to work together.
3. We agree to foster a mutual respect for one another. When discussing differences of policy and opinion, either publicly or within and among our own organizations, we agree to refrain from speaking disrespectfully of one another. We will also encourage those other individuals and organizations in our sphere of influence to do the same.
4. We shall support the ASAP mission, vision, core values, and official positions that have been or shall be adopted.
5. We agree to find common ground, put aside our differences, and work collaboratively to reach the ultimate goal of ending the euthanasia of healthy, social, and treatable companion animals, as well as feral cats, in our community.
6. We agree to maintain cordial, professional relations with colleagues, other individuals, and other groups involved in the care of animals.
7. We agree to report timely and accurate organizational data for the benefit of ASAP projects.
8. We agree to use terminology that is clear, positive in tone, and builds understanding between our organizations and with the public.
9. In the spirit of collaboration, we will also use positive language when communicating with the public or media on ASAP activities or about ASAP organizations.
10. We agree to be represented at all ASAP meetings by the organization's executive director, director, or designee who has the organizational knowledge and authority to make decisions and commit resources on behalf of the organization; to attend a minimum of 75% of the leadership meetings per calendar year, to actively support ASAP activities by serving on committees, to provide in-kind services, and to participate in cooperative events.
11. We agree to hold in confidence all information designated to be confidential.
12. ASAP organizations agree to contribute funds, staff, and resources equitably rather than equally.

In the spirit of collaboration, the undersigned agree to support and abide by the ASAP Guiding Principles and Commitments (signed March 6, 2008).

- ☆ **Alliance for Contraception in Cats & Dogs:** Joyce Briggs, President, CEO
- ☆ **Cat Adoption Team:** Britta Bavaresco, Executive Director
- ☆ **Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon:** Karen Krauss, Executive Director
- ☆ **Humane Society for Southwest Washington:** Chuck Tourtillot, Executive Director
- ☆ **Multnomah County Animal Services:** Mike Oswald, Director
- ☆ **Oregon Humane Society:** Sharon Harmon, Executive Director
- ☆ **Portland Veterinary Medical Association:** Cristina Keef, Executive Director