

The Sterling Animal Shelter is currently open to developing multiple partnerships with other organizations in need – to transport pets from overfull shelters/rescues to our shelter facility in Sterling, MA

What is the Shelters Transport Program? Our transport program is a collaborative effort between ANIMAL SHELTER INC (aka Sterling Shelter) and other potential partner rescues/ animal shelters that are in need with placing overwhelmed organizations who care for canines and felines.

For Participating agencies who are interested in a partnership with our shelter – our shelter has been doing high volume transport programs since 1999 and still continue to work with the same shelter in Virginia, Puerto Rico, Louisiana and additional groups throughout the south as needed.

Once a partner shelter/rescue commits to working with our shelter to transport puppies-dogs-cats or kittens our shelter will help to facilitate a transfer of these pets in need to our shelter located in Sterling, MA.

What are the benefits of participating with our shelter? For ALL pets –our transport program is an option for overfull shelters/rescues that have adoptable dogs/cats who will receive the services they need from a capable agency quickly and efficiently.

MOST IMPORTANTLY - That means faster, better care and more lives saved. We can offer your shelters pets medical care and spay/neuter PRIOR to adoption – thanks to our shelters onsite veterinary clinic.

For POTENTIAL Partner Agencies— This transport program will significantly help your over burdened shelters/rescues with pets in your facility, reduce your euthanasia rates, allow your shelters to open cage/kennel space, and for your organization to dedicate more time, resources and money towards other animals in need and any programs you are in need of for your own rescue's programs. Our shelter is willing and able to do spay/neuter in our on-site vet clinic, micro-chip all animals, and find loving lifelong homes PRIOR to adoption. Our shelter is fortunate to boast a 98-99% placement rate year over year.

When partner agencies agree to work with us on a transport program to send pets to our shelter – each organization must be willing to follow our **shelters protocols and transport requirements** in order to help our shelter serve pets in need while keeping our shelter pets healthy. Most important for OUR SHELTER and the health and well being of animals in our care, we have very specific transport guidelines PRIOR to transport to our shelter. (see additional info for transport protocols below)

Our shelter will provide free of cost to the partner agency any additional necessary medical care post transport - including but not limited to spay/neuter, micro-chipping, updating any medical care/vaccines, parasite prevention (internal/external), fecal test and de-wormings and any other needed treatment will be provided by OUR SHELTER at OUR COST.

For Our Shelter Transport Groups— Our shelter will allow for seamless, efficient communication of needs to a wide group of agencies. Any groups seeking assistance will have one point of contact to get help, rather than calling or emailing multiple agencies. We are currently looking to helping multiple shelters/rescues in need. **We just need to reinforce any potential groups that wish to send pets to our shelter have the ability to meet our pre transport protocols. After doing high volume transports since 1998 we have saved THOUSANDS OF PETS EACH YEAR THROUGH THESE PARTNERSHIPS.**

Simply put, our shelter will be able to help YOU save more lives and further reduce euthanasia.

All pets transferred to our shelter, will have all necessary medical services completed prior to adoption

What are the steps for an agency to participate in our shelters transport program? Interested partner agencies must complete an agency profile questionnaire and agree to upholding our shelters **PRE transport protocols (listed below)**

All partner agencies will sign a memorandum of understanding that outlines parameters for partnership including the following:

- Commitment to providing high quality of life to all animals in care
- Expectation of open, supportive and honest communication on pets being send through the transport program – **WE DO NOT AND CAN NOT ACCEPT AGGRESSIVE ANIMALS/WOUNDS OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN/ANIMALS WITH BITE HISTORIES.**
- Responsibility to honor commitments made within agreed upon timeframes
- Commitment to maintaining confidentiality
- Endorsement of and adherence to our code of conduct from PRE-DURING-POST TRANSPORT for each transport sending shelter utilizes.

Things YOUR group must be willing to do prior to transport and to help us with:

1. Making sure all pets receive all pre-transport required medical care (all listed in TRANSPORT PROTOCOLS)
2. All pets must receive health certificates PRIOR to transport
3. No pets with aggression/are sick/have bite histories
4. No pitbull/mixes or wolf hybrids
5. **MOST IMPORTANTLY – YOUR GROUP MUST BE WILLING TO HELP OR ASSIST IN TRANSPORT – either by having a group transport pets to our shelter in Sterling, MA OR having a driver/s willing to meet at a pre-arranged specific transport location to meet our driver/s.**
6. Ideally your group will be able to send a MINIMUM of 25-40 animals to make this transport financially worthwhile for both our group and yours. We encourage you speak with other local shelters/rescues in your community in hopes you can develop life saving partnerships to send pets to New England. This program is a great opportunity for you to reach out to other local shelter/rescues in your community, and is a wonderful opportunity for your group to create a long standing collaborative partnership to save more animals lives.

Any questions, Best way to contact is email:

Leigh Grady – Executive Director @ the Animal Shelter Inc of Sterling, MA
17 Laurelwood Road – Sterling – MA – 01564

EMAIL leigh13@ix.netcom.com

- We also encourage you to check out our shelters website www.sterlingshelter.org to learn about our many dozen programs offered for pets and people.
- Our clinic website www.sterlingshelterclinic.org
- And some of our social media accounts <https://www.facebook.com/thesterlinganimalshelter/>