



The Pet Rescue Foundation

# Maddie's<sup>®</sup> Pet Rescue Project Partners

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## The Partners:



Lead Agency



Spay/Neuter  
Project Partner

## MADDIE'S FUND<sup>®</sup> TO AWARD \$5,000,000 TO ERIE COUNTY, NY COALITION

**Erie County to Receive Award Over Five Years to Save All Healthy and Treatable Cats and Dogs; Project Partners Consist of Animal Welfare Groups, Spay/Neuter Clinic**

Maddie's Fund<sup>®</sup> The Pet Rescue Foundation ([www.maddiesfund.org](http://www.maddiesfund.org)) has announced that it will award a \$501,550 grant beginning October 1, 2009 to support the first year of a multi-year community project targeted at guaranteeing a home for every healthy and treatable dog and cat abandoned in Erie County, NY. An additional \$177,000 will be dedicated to the sterilization of feral cats, and of cats owned by income-qualified residents. As goals are achieved, Maddie's Fund<sup>®</sup> will provide approximately \$5 million over the course of five years to help Erie County project partners continue fulfilling these objectives for the cats and dogs of the community.

Maddie's<sup>®</sup> Pet Rescue Project Partners include Buffalo Humane; the City of Buffalo Animal Shelter; HEART Inc.; Second Chance Sheltering Network, Inc.; Ten Lives Club; and lead agency, the SPCA Serving Erie County. Maddie's<sup>®</sup> Spay/Neuter Project Partners include OperationPETS, the Spay/Neuter Clinic of Western New York Inc., and at the present time eight local veterinary clinics: Akron Animal Hospital, All Creatures Animal Hospital, Aurora Park Animal Clinic, Boston Valley Animal Hospital, City Creatures Animal Hospital, East Aurora Veterinary Hospital, Harris Hill Animal Hospital, and Transit Valley Animal Hospital.

Over the course of the first year, project goals include increasing the number of dogs and cats adopted from participating organizations, maintaining a total of zero healthy dogs and cats euthanized by participating organizations, and decreasing the number of treatable dogs and cats euthanized in Erie County. Sterilization assistance will be provided to income-qualified pet owners and to feral cats.

Erie County, NY is just the ninth county in the country to receive this collaborative community grant.

"Traditionally, the five-year goal of Maddie's<sup>®</sup> Pet Rescue Project is that no healthy dog or cat in a community is euthanized," says SPCA Executive Director Barbara Carr. "Thanks to partner agencies and our community members, we predict that Erie County is less than *one* year away from reaching that goal. Our project partners have pledged

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*\$5,000,000 Community Grant to Erie County Coalition*

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that the customary ten-year goal of the project, that of euthanizing no healthy NOR TREATABLE dog or cat, will be reached in five years. There is no doubt that, with our caring community acting as the eighth project partner, this goal will be reached, earning our community this generous grant.”

Carr adds, “The Maddie’s<sup>®</sup> Pet Rescue Project community grant is revolutionary. It is a testimony to the tremendous work our caring community and our project partners have already completed, and will advance...a testimony to just how much this community loves its animals.”

For updated information, please visit [YourSPCA.org](http://YourSPCA.org), the Web site of the SPCA Serving Erie County.

## **About Maddie's Fund**

Maddie's Fund<sup>®</sup>, The Pet Rescue Foundation, ([www.maddiesfund.org](http://www.maddiesfund.org)) is a family foundation funded by Workday and PeopleSoft Founder Dave Duffield and his wife, Cheryl. Maddie's Fund is helping to create a no-kill nation where all healthy and treatable shelter dogs and cats are guaranteed a loving home.

To achieve this goal, Maddie’s Fund is investing its resources in building community collaborations where animal welfare organizations come together to develop successful models of lifesaving; in veterinary colleges to help shelter medicine become part of the veterinary curriculum; in private practice veterinarians to encourage greater participation in the animal welfare cause; and in the implementation of national strategies to collect and report shelter statistics. Maddie's Fund is named after the family's beloved Miniature Schnauzer who passed away in 1997.