



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LANSING

JAMIE CLOVER ADAMS
DIRECTOR

October 2, 2014

Dear Animal Shelter Organization:

It is that time of the year again to apply for an Animal Welfare Grant. The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD), Animal Industry Division (AID), is offering grants pursuant to Public Act 132 of 2007, the Animal Welfare Fund Act.

This act establishes the animal welfare fund, created to provide funds to:

- promote sterilization and adoption of dogs and cats,
- improve knowledge of the proper care of animals to comply with state animal anticruelty laws by educating the public and training personnel authorized by law to enforce state animal anticruelty laws,
- support and enhance programs that provide for the care and protection of animals in accordance with state anticruelty laws, and
- allow the purchase of equipment and supplies for programs that receive grants under this act.

So far, Michigan taxpayers have annually increased that monies they *voluntarily* contribute to help Michigan's animals. The Animal Welfare Fund is a tremendous opportunity made possible by their voluntary contributions via Michigan Income Tax form 4642: Michigan Voluntary Contributions Schedule.

This year we focused on streamlining the application process in the hopes of getting even more shelters to apply for grants. If you are a protection shelter that services county/city animals because your county/city no longer has its own shelter, you may also apply for training for those animal control officers/personnel and law enforcement personnel that enforce animal anticruelty laws.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me or our Animal Welfare Grant Administrator, Debbie Mulvaney. Her contact information is on the application. You may reach me at (517) 284-5682 or via email: kapalap@michigan.gov or the program email: animalshelters@michigan.gov. There have been some great successes from the grant funds awarded to date. I would love to see even more of our registered shelters and their animal control/law enforcement partners be recipients in 2015.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads 'Pollyanne McKillop'.

Pollyanne McKillop
Animal Shelter Regulatory Program Manager
Animal Industry Division