



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

JAMIE CLOVER ADAMS
DIRECTOR

September 23, 2015

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. The application and other resources may be found at www.michigan.gov/animalshelters. The application is due in our office November 2, 2015.

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,
- cost share for the care and housing care for animals being held for violations of Chapter IX, sections 49-70 of the Michigan Penal Code, where sentencing does not provide for all or part of the costs as provided for in section 50(8), and
- allow the purchase of equipment and supplies for programs that receive grants under this act.



Michigan taxpayers have enabled the grants via 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 have added the cost share program selection under *Care and Protection – Anticruelty*. We have heard the concerns from shelters and law enforcement regarding court hold animal expenses. We continue to lean out the application process, and collaborate to share this information in the hopes that more applications are received each year and more grants can be awarded. As a reminder, protection shelters that service county/municipal animals because the county/municipality no longer has a shelter, may also apply for a training grant for animal control officers/personnel and law enforcement personnel that enforce animal anticruelty laws.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to our Animal Welfare Grant Administrator, Debbie Mulvaney (her contact information is on the application) or I. You may reach me at (517) 284-5682 or via email: kapalap@michigan.gov or the program email: animalshelters@michigan.gov. There have been great ideas and successes from the grants awarded to date. We would love to see even more grants awarded for 2016.

Sincerely,

Pollyanne McKillop
Animal Shelter Regulatory Program Manager
Animal Industry Division

Enclosures
PM/pm