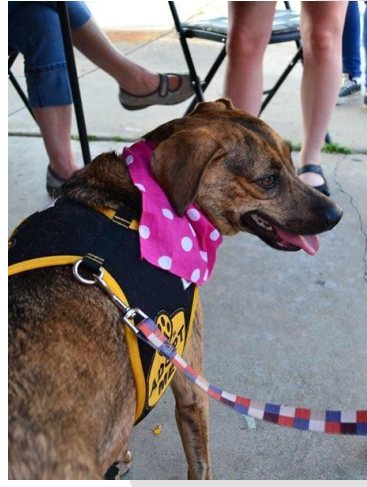


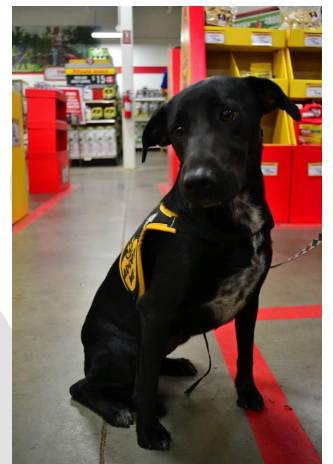
# NO KILL: THE RIGHT SOLUTION FOR RUSSELLVILLE



*"We are so in love with this sweet girl and she is so in love with us!!! She is the perfect fit for our little family!!! We are so thankful for her and for those volunteers that saw how amazing she was and worked so hard to find her a loving forever family!!!"*



No Kill Russellville is a grassroots organization committed to increasing lifesaving efforts in Russellville and eliminating the unneeded killing of companion animals.



## What does no kill mean?



- All healthy and treatable animals should be saved
- Humane euthanasia is appropriate in cases of severe illness/injury and true aggression
- No killing for convenience

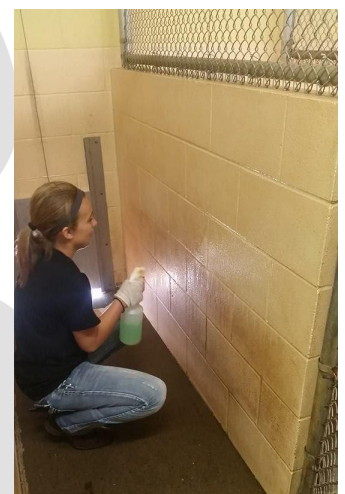
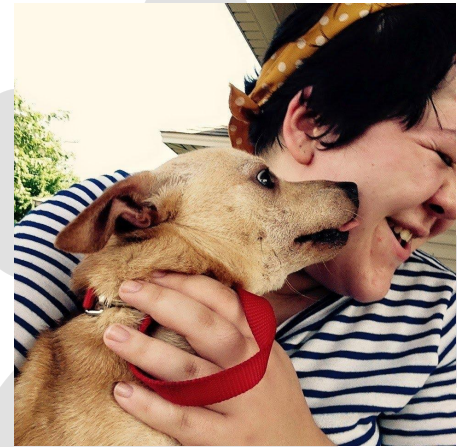


**We believe Russellville is ready for no kill!**



## 2013 Russellville Animal Shelter Statistics

	Dogs	Cats
Total intake	727	437
Adoptions	331	169
Return to owner	41	0
Euthanized	241	334
% Live outcome	51%	38%





## No Kill Russellville Programs

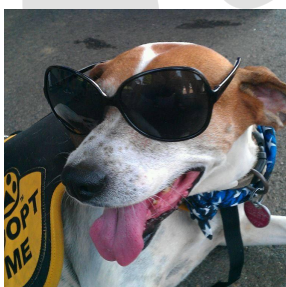


- Adoption Events
- Shelter Work Days
- Microchipping
- Donation Drives
- Spay/Neuter Clinic
- Community Outreach



## Needed City Programs

- Prevention Programs
  - Education Initiatives
  - Spay/Neuter Programs
  - Trap, Neuter, Release



## Needed City Programs, Cont'd.



- Adoption Programs
  - Offsite Adoption Events
  - Record Keeping
  - Transport
  - Petsmart
  - Coordination with Rescue Groups
  - Foster Home Networks
  - Online Networking

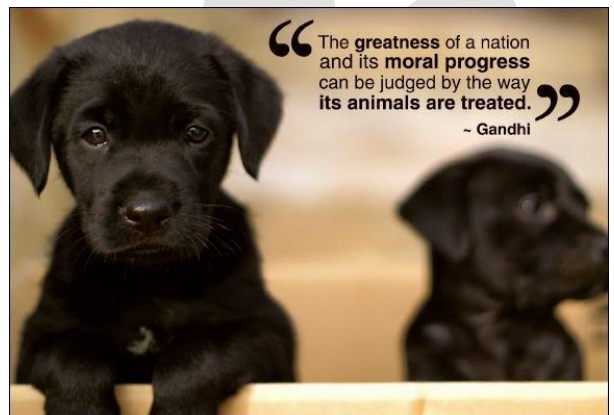


- Rogers, AR — 83% save rate
- Fayetteville, AR — 96% (dogs) and 81% (cats) save rate
- Clarksville, AR (Needy Paws) — 86% save rate



- West Memphis, AR (pop. 26,000) — 1,200+ intake, 91% save rate
- Southaven, MS (pop. 50,000) — 1,600+ intake, 90% save rate
- Collierville, TN (pop. 44,000) — 1,600+ intake, 80% save rate
- Hernando, MS & Tunica, MS — 90% save rate

## You can be an advocate!



My name is Whitney Snipes, and I am vice-president of the board of directors at No Kill Russellville. I'm going to tell you a little bit about our organization today, but first, I'm going to tell you a little story about a girl, a dog, and love at first sight.

In June, No Kill Russellville took adoptable dogs from the Russellville Animal Shelter to Art Walk. One of those dogs, who we called Susie Q, was very shy and not interested in interacting with the art walk patrons, until suddenly a tiara-wearing girl walked by. Susie Q immediately perked up and approached the girl. There was an instant, visible connection between the girl and the dog.

The girl, Aleigh, begged her mother to let her take Susie Q home. Unfortunately, although the mother was not against having a dog, they were getting ready to close on their new house in a month but could not have pets where they were at. Eventually, it was decided if the family adopted Susie Q, a board member would foster her until they settled in to their new home.

The adoption went through, and after a few weeks with one of our volunteers, Aleigh and her family took Susie Q home, renamed her Sadie, and made her a part of their family. Aleigh's mom sent us an update and told us how Sadie was doing in her new home: "We are so in love with this sweet girl and she is so in love with us!!! She is the perfect fit for our little family!!! We are so thankful for her and for those volunteers that saw how amazing she was and worked so hard to find her a loving forever family!!"

Stories like Sadie and Aleigh's are the reason our organization exists. We want all the companion animals from the Russellville animal shelter to find their way into loving homes, just like Sadie did. And the benefits aren't just for the dogs.

Studies have shown the emotional benefits of pet ownership can be equal to that of a human friendship. Pet ownership can help ward off allergy development in children, can help reduce stress, anxiety, and depression. Walking and playing with your dog is also a great way to keep active.

So, with that being said, No Kill Russellville is a grassroots organization operated entirely by volunteers (we have no paid staff) committed to increasing lifesaving efforts in Russellville and eliminating the unneeded killing of companion animals. We are not a shelter ourselves, but we aim to help build the will to make the transition to no kill and to build the sustained support that will make the Russellville Animal Shelter a successful no kill shelter.

No Kill is the idea that all healthy and treatable animals should be saved. No Kill advocates believe there are instances where true humane euthanasia is appropriate, in the cases of severe illness or injury, or true aggression. What we don't believe in is killing for convenience.

Through the implementation of targeted programs, services and education initiatives, a No Kill solution is possible in our city.

At No Kill Russellville, we believe the people of Russellville are ready for a no kill solution in our city. Russellville boasts diverse industry, a rapidly growing four-year university, and a vibrant tourism

economy. We have been working to brand ourselves as a progressive community that is open for business and poised for growth.

Russellville residents are compassionate and generous. We want to be a model in our region, to be contemporary with significant changes sweeping our nation and region relative to the care and sheltering of our animals.

We want a shelter that reflects our values, not thwarts them.

In 2013, the Russellville Animal Shelter reported an intake of 727 dogs, with 331 adoptions, 41 dogs returned to their owners. Those numbers indicate a 51 percent LIVE OUTCOME for the dogs taken into the Russellville Animal Shelter. For cats, the numbers are worse. The shelter reported an intake of 437 cats and 169 adoptions, with none returned to owner. That's only a 38 percent LIVE OUTCOME for cats.

Altogether, the Russellville Animal Shelter euthanized 241 dogs and 334 cats in 2013.

To reduce this number, No Kill Russellville implements a variety of programs throughout the year. We have a major focus on adoption events. These are events typically conducted on a Saturday at a chosen location out in the community. Many of our events have been at Tractor Supply Co. and Azzore Veterinary Specialists.

The purpose of these adoption events is to take the animals to the people. There are many people who do not know where the Russellville Animal Shelter is located, or who find it too traumatizing to go to the shelter.

We get the dogs out into the community to increase their visibility and facilitate adoptions. Since April, we have adopted out 25 dogs at our events.

This past Saturday, we hosted our first shelter work day. With dozens of volunteers, we cleaned 24 dog kennels and bathed and walked 50 dogs in just one morning. We took pictures of the dogs from the shelter as well as the cats and kittens to post online and help promote adoptions. We also had some students from Arkansas Tech's visual arts club stop by to make some great new paintings to hang in the shelter's lobby.

Last year, we did a free microchip event at Fall Fest, where we microchipped 50 dogs from the Russellville area. Microchips are small chips, about the size of a grain of rice, that are implanted under the dogs skin between its shoulder blades. The process only takes a few seconds, and then the dog can be scanned with a universal scanner used by veterinarians and animal shelters across the country. Once the chip is scanned, it gives the owners name and contact information, providing a valuable tool in reuniting lost dogs with their owners. We will host another microchip event at this year's Fall Fest event.

We have also participated in several donation drives. Soul2Sole fitness studio has hosted two Glow Yoga events to benefit No Kill Russellville. The donations received from those events have been used both to help us execute our programs as well as to benefit the Russellville Animal Shelter.

Next spring, we are preparing to host our first ever low-cost spay and neuter event. This will be in partnership with Needy Paws Animal Shelter in Clarksville and will provide an opportunity for low-income pet owners in our community to spay and neuter their pets. Spay and neuter clinics help reduce the number of pets in our community that are reproducing and are a necessary step in alleviating pet overpopulation.

Other places you will see No Kill Russellville are at the Art Walk in Downtown Russellville, online as we connect with the community via social media and offer information resources, and throughout the community as we recruit volunteers and act as a liaison to reach out to Arkansas Tech students and help get them involved as volunteers at the shelter.

Since our founding in June 2013, we have become a recognized nonprofit with the state of Arkansas, and are currently working toward achieving federal 501(c)3 status.

However, our programs alone will not stop the killing of adoptable dogs and cats. Part of our mission is to work with the city to help them implement a number of necessary programs that will drastically increase adoption rates and reduce the number of dogs and cats euthanized at the Russellville Animal Shelter.

Some of these efforts will be geared toward preventing animals from ending up in shelters in the first place. These prevention programs include education programs, spay/neuter clinics, and what are called Trap/Neuter/Release programs, where feral cat populations are controlled by trapping the cats, spaying or neutering them, and then returning them to live out their lives.

There are also a number of programs that can drastically increase adoptions. These include regular off-site adoptions to get the dogs visible to citizens outside of the shelter environment; solid record-keeping to better track dogs and cats going in and out of the shelter; transport programs to take adoptable dogs to reputable rescues in New England states where pet overpopulation is not a problem; placing our adoptable cats in Petsmart's cat adoption area, which currently hosts cats from rescues in Clarksville, Conway and even Little Rock; increased coordination with local and national rescue groups; increased foster networks; and increased online networking and promotion of animals.

These programs will have an overall effect of drastically reducing the euthanasia rates in our local shelter. We know this is possible because other rescues in Arkansas and in our region have implemented these programs and had great success in saving the animals in their care.

In 2013, Needy Paws Animal Shelter in Clarksville took in 823 dogs and cats and saved 86 percent of them. That's a total of 705 dogs and cats either adopted or reunited with their owners. Russellville only adopted or returned 540 dogs and cats in 2013, or less than 47 percent of the 1,164 animals taken into its care.

Other cities are showing success as well. Rogers, Arkansas has a 83 percent save rate. Fayetteville has a 96 percent save rate for dogs and 81 percent for cats.

West Memphis, Ark. (pop. 26,000) animal shelter has an annual intake of 1200 dogs and cats. They achieve a 91% save rate. Southaven, MS (pop. 50,000) intakes 1600 animals and achieves a save rate of over 90%. Collierville, TN (pop. 44,000) with intake of 1600 animals saves over 80%. Hernando, MS and Tunica, MS save over 90%.

We believe that with hard work and dedication, as well as the support of the Russellville community, the Russellville Animal Shelter can become on par with its peers and become a part of our community that we can truly be proud of.

What we ask of you today is for you to become an advocate on behalf of the companion animals in our community. Volunteer, either with No Kill Russellville or with the shelter directly. Speak to your city council member and urge the city to implement the programs needed to make our shelter successful. Hundreds of dogs and cats are dying each year in our shelter, and for each one there is a missed opportunity both for the animal and for the families whose lives might have been touched.

Gandhi once said, "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated."

We live in a beautiful city and have a lot to brag about. Let's make our animal shelter one of those things.