



August 1, 2013

Position Statement on the No Kill Equation

Adopted by the Sonoma Humane Society Board of Directors

The Sonoma Humane Society (SHS) supports, promotes and strives to be the foremost advocate for the best policies, procedures, and practices as they apply to the animals of Sonoma County and beyond. Towards the accomplishment of these goals, the SHS Board of Directors adopts the following:

In concert with the Sonoma Humane Society’s mission statement, we embrace the 11-article “No Kill Equation” as an important means of achieving and maintaining No Kill status.¹

The “No Kill Equation²,” provides a shelter model by which an organization can best use its resources to maintain the highest live release rate possible. This model provides 11 programs and initiatives which offer guidance and assistance to a shelter or a community which will enable the organization to achieve “No Kill” designation.

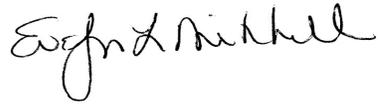
- The Sonoma Humane Society’s mission statement is to ensure that *“every animal receives protection, compassion, love and care.”*
- The decision to end an animal’s life is extremely serious, and should always be treated as such. Each and every animal is an individual, and each deserves individual consideration.
- Along with a commitment to the No Kill Equation is the need for accountability, which requires clear guidelines for Shelter staff, a lifesaving plan for the animals in the our care, and protocols and procedures oriented toward preserving life.

The Sonoma Humane Society adopts, endorses, and promotes the 11-article No Kill Equation as its process for achieving the highest live release rate possible.

¹ “No Kill status”, as defined by Maddies Fund, “What Is No Kill?”, 2000

² The “No Kill Equation” is developed by the No Kill Advocacy Center, and published in “No Kill 101: A Primer on No Kill Animal Control Sheltering for Public Officials”

We adopt this position today, **August 1, 2013**, and declare it to be in accordance with the Sonoma Humane Society mission statement: *Ensuring every animal receives protection, compassion, love and care.*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Evelyn Mitchell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Evelyn Mitchell, President
Sonoma Humane Society Board of Directors

Attachment: The "No Kill Equation"

No Kill Equation

The No Kill Equation—developed by the No Kill Advocacy Center—is a humane, sustainable, cost-effective shelter model that works hand-in-hand with public health and safety, while fulfilling a fiscal responsibility to taxpayers. The success of this approach across the country proves the viability of this model. If every shelter in the country comprehensively implemented the ten programs and services of the No Kill Equation, we could end the killing of 3-4 million sheltered animals right now. There is a better way!

For a description of the programs of the No Kill Equation and how shelters should implement them, please visit www.nokilladvocacycenter.org

The mandatory programs and services of the No Kill Equation include:

I. Feral Cat Trap/Neuter/Release (TNR) Program

II. High-Volume, Low-Cost Spay/Neuter

III. Rescue Groups Transfers

IV. Foster Care

V. Comprehensive Adoption Programs (including off-site adoptions)

VI. Pet Retention Programs

VII. Medical and Behavior Prevention/Rehabilitation Programs

VIII. Public Relations/Community Involvement

IX. Volunteers

X. Proactive Redemptions

XI. A Compassionate Director