## Providing Safety to Victims and Their Pets

## Animals. Advocacy.




## The status of pets has changed

$62 \%$ of Americans have pets
$73 \%$ of households with children have pets.
$95 \%$ say they consider their pet to be a member of their family.
$45 \%$ bought birthday presents for their pet
$31 \%$ cook for their pets
$66 \%$ say they have dressed their pet in some type of clothing
$81 \%$ of cat owners and $73 \%$ of dog owners sleep in bed with their pets

Pet owners were just as close to key people in their lives as to their animals.
-Allen R. McConnell, PhD, of Miami University in Ohio 2011

To the young child, there is no gap between his soul and that of animal's

- G. Stanley Hall, 1904


## Goal

Remove impediments to leaving abusers by providing animal housing for the pets of domestic violence victims.


## Animals. Advocacy.

Adoption.


The Mohawk Hudson Humane Society will accept any domestic house pet from a domestic violence victim entering Unity House or Equinox's programs.

The Society will hold the animal as long as the victim is in the DV Program.

## Our Program

Referral Only -<br>Safety Planning<br>Our Agreement wth Pet Owners<br>Transportation<br>Ownership<br>After Hours<br>Veterinary Care (spay/neuter)<br>Species<br>Owner's Responsibility<br>Inter-agency communication<br>Return to Owner

## Co-Housing



Animals. Advocacy. Adoption.
MOHAWK HUDSON HUMANE SOCIETY

## Who Are We Protecting?

Children who had increased empathy scores because of their relationship with their pets also showed greater empathy toward people (Ascione \& Weber 1996)

One of the most dangerous things that can happen to a child is to kill or torture an animal and get away with it.

Margaret Mead
Cultural Factors in the Cause and Prevention of Pathological Homicide-1964

A child of even two or three is capable of some degree of appreciation of the suffering of animals.
C.F. Hodge, 1899

## Include Animals in the Conversation

Ask questions about care and treatment of animals.

Are animal abuse, threats of animal abuse and dangerous animals in the home factors in custody decisions?

## Pet Friendly Shelter Resource

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## University at Buffalo

The State University of New York
http://web2.law.buffalo.edu/pet_shelters/

## Search for domestic violence related resources by County

Choose a New York county:
Albany
Search for domestic violence related resources by Name
Domestic Violence Organizations that provide services for clients pets
$\checkmark$ Select

## Was this

information helpful?
Please help us improve our Database by filling out the following survey:

Database Results
Survey

Animal Organizations with services for domestic violence victims
Mohawk and Hudson River Humane Society $\qquad$

"I am sometimes asked 'Why do you spend so much of your time and money talking about kindness to animals when there is so much cruelty to men?' I answer: 'I am working at the roots.'"

