

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ'S)

### Have any other shelters used the Mod Squad program?

Yes. Fox Valley Humane Association, Appleton WI, started their program in June, 2011. Iowa County Humane Society, Dodgeville, WI, started their program in February, 2013.

### What results have they had?

Over 200 dogs at the Fox Valley Humane Association have graduated from the program and found new homes since June of 2011.

### Is there an age limit for dogs in the program?

No, however, dogs under the age of 6 months are enrolled in Pup Squad, which is designed to accommodate the needs of puppies.

### How much time will HAWs be spending with us?

Two eight-hour assessment and implementation on-site visits with two HAWS staff, one of which is the HAWS Behavior Department Manager. Additionally, two four-hour on-site follow up visits with two HAWS staff, including the Behavior Department Manager. Follow up visits may be condensed dependent on travel distance.

### What will it cost our shelter to start this program?

Pedigree Foundation has provided partial funding to assist in training costs. If possible, we ask your organization to contribute a nominal amount to further defer costs. The minimum contribution we would like is \$250. The maximum contribution is \$500.

### Does HAWS provide any materials or documentation?

Yes. We provide a complete Program Guide, as well as Handbooks for volunteers. Your shelter will receive two Program Guides and ten Handbooks. You may purchase additional if you wish, for nominal cost.

### What if we don't have a Behavior Department?

It's not necessary for your shelter to have a Behavior Department. You do, however, need one staff person to oversee the program.

### What happens if we need help after the site visits?

We provide two, four-hour on-site follow up visits with two HAWS staff, including the Behavior Department Manager. Follow up visits may be condensed dependent on travel distance. Ongoing phone support is available, and you may arrange for additional site visits at your expense.

### **What makes this program different from other in-shelter behavior modification programs?**

It is staffed by trained volunteers, and it has been statistically analyzed and evaluated for effectiveness.

### **How many dogs has HAWS rehabilitated with this program?**

As of February, 2013, 715 dogs have been enrolled in the program, with 649 rehabilitate and adopted.

### **How long has HAWS been using this program?**

Slightly more than 3 years. The program started in December, 2009.

### **What is the adoption rate for dogs in this program?**

90.7%.

### **How has using this program affected HAWS' euthanasia rate?**

The euthanasia rate for Mod Squad™ program dogs for the period December, 2009, through January, 2011, was significantly lower than the rate for our overall shelter population. HAWS total euthanasia rate dropped by 35% from 2004 to 2012. The most significant drop has been since the Mod Squad's inception, comparing 2010 to 2012. Mod Squad began in December of 2009.

### **We're a no-kill shelter. Why do we need this program?**

Return rate for the period December, 2009, through January, 2011, decreased from 2.4% to 1.3% (46%), measured against the previous 14 month period (October, 2008, to December, 2009).

### **We don't do behavior evaluations or temperament tests. Is this important?**

Yes. These tests are the foundation for a Mod Squad program in your shelter. We can help you establish these programs, preliminary to starting a Mod Squad. Behavior evaluations are used to decide on the behavior modification program for the dogs, rather than be used to determine the euthanasia list. The evaluation lets people know which behaviors to target.

### **How can our shelter apply for funding?**

Review the information in the linked pdf's. Then click on ~ [Download Application](#)  
We look forward to hearing from you!