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Baltimore Animal Rescue & Care Shelter Reports
Major Increase in Animals Saved, Major Decrease in Euthanasia

Baltimore, MD (October 12, 2006) – City Council President Sheila Dixon, City Health Commissioner Dr. Joshua M. Sharfstein and Baltimore Animal Rescue & Care Shelter (BARCS) Executive Director Jennifer Mead held a joint press conference today to announce major strides in saving animals and reducing euthanasia in Baltimore City.

Data Released:

- From fiscal year 2004 to fiscal year 2006, animal adoptions have increased from 90 to 943.
- The number of animal rescues has increased from about 100 in July 2005 to between 300 and 400 per month currently.
- Overall, the number of animals saved (through rescues, adoptions and reunions) increased 88% from fiscal year 2005 to fiscal year 2006.
- The euthanasia rate for animals has dropped 28% in one year – and continues a steady decline.

“BARCS has brought years of happiness into the lives of hundreds of families and individuals in Baltimore City,” said City Council President Sheila Dixon. “With its new extended hours, BARCS is even more accessible – citizens should consider adopting an animal today.”

“We will be tracking future progress in finding loving homes for animals through the Citistat process,” said Dr. Joshua M. Sharfstein, Commissioner of Health and BARCS Board Chair. “Our goal is to continue this remarkable advance.”

“This progress is the result of our strong volunteer program, our partnerships with rescue groups, and our engaged and active board,” said Jennifer Mead, BARCS Executive Director. “Here at BARCS, we enjoy providing an important service to city animals and to city families.”

This year, don't miss your chance to support the work of BARCs at BARCStoberfest on Saturday, October 21 from 11 am to 6 pm at Patterson Park. The rain date is Sunday, October 22.

The Baltimore Animal Rescue and Care Shelter, Inc. (BARCS), is a non-profit organization created in 2004. We work in conjunction with the Baltimore City Bureau of Animal Control. Together our mission is to protect animals from neglect, abuse and exploitation, to advocate their interests and welfare, and to inspire awareness and compassion for all living things. www.baltimoreanimalshelter.org

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