



**UF** Maddie's® Shelter  
Medicine Program  
*College of Veterinary Medicine*  
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

Annual Report  
2010-2011

# Maddie's<sup>®</sup> Shelter Medicine Program at the University of Florida

## Our Mission

To enhance the health and welfare  
of homeless animals through education,  
innovation, and advancement of the  
life-saving goals of sheltering programs

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# From the Director

Another whirlwind year has passed: another season of summer adoption promotions; a new class of veterinary students joining the world as licensed DVMs. At Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Program at the University of Florida, we have been hard at work over the past year—helping homeless animals and advancing a future where every animal leads a comfortable and enriched life.

This year we helped shelters across the country and in our own backyard to deal with challenges of all types, from infectious disease outbreaks to operational overhauls. We've learned that shelter management is frequently ill-equipped to respond to the medical and behavioral needs of sheltered animals, and that veterinarians need further training and empowerment to become effective practitioners and advocates in the shelter environment. We strive to give those veterinarians the tools they need to fill that role, and through our advanced training program we are cultivating experts—those who will be tomorrow's leaders in Shelter Medicine.

Our veterinary students, filled with enthusiasm and compassion, are a source of inspiration and a key focus of our efforts. Through courses, clinical experiences, and our new Certificate in Shelter Medicine, we are equipping our students to become trusted leaders in the shelters they'll serve. Meanwhile, we continue to explore infectious disease and welfare challenges through our research program, uncovering important evidence to guide decisions that will impact millions of animals' lives.

Three years ago we began our Shelter Medicine Program with ambitious dreams for changing the landscape for sheltered animals. We believed that there was an essential role for us to play—one where we brought together the science of veterinary medicine with the compassionate mission of animal sheltering and adoption. I'm proud of how far our program has come and excited by the opportunities ahead. Our nation is changing the way we care for homeless animals, and Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Program is honored to contribute to a new future for these pets.

Our work this year would not have been possible without the support of our donors and our underwriter, Maddie's Fund®. I want to thank them for their faith in our program and our efforts for animals. We dedicate our work to the countless cats, dogs, and other pets who've touched our lives, and we will continue to pay forward our debt by helping create better lives for their fellow creatures.



Julie Levy  
DVM, PhD, DACVIM  
Program Director  
Maddie's® Professor  
of Shelter Medicine

Handwritten signature of Julie Levy in black ink.

Dr. Julie Levy  
Program Director

# Helping Animals in Shelters

## Helping shelters do their best for the animals is at the heart of our work.

This year we continued to provide disease surveillance and assist with response to life-threatening outbreaks for shelters throughout Florida. Agencies from across the country called on Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Program's consultation service to advise their veterinarians and managers on ways to improve health, welfare, and positive outcomes for their shelters' animals.

Whether on the phone or in a detailed onsite visit, through the consultation process our veterinarians were able to identify areas for improvement and provide best practices for managers and veterinarians to implement. Our commitment to ongoing communication with shelter leadership ensures that they have the ear and expertise of a Shelter Medicine specialist as they make changes that will improve the lives of shelter pets.

As the nation moves to a culture where humanely saving the lives of shelter pets becomes paramount, the input of veterinarians trained in the art and science of Shelter Medicine is increasingly important to ensuring the efficacy of sheltering programs and the well-being of the animals.



*We work with diverse agencies to improve animal health, welfare, and outcomes; from the smallest single-pet foster home to some of the region's largest shelters, caring for more than 30,000 animals each year.*

## By the Numbers

Disease surveillance and outbreak response assistance

- 6 traditional shelters
- 4 adoption guarantee agencies
- 2 emergency shelter operations

Number of animals cared for annually at these agencies:

**52,000**

Onsite shelter consultations

- 3 targeted, addressing specific shelter issues
- 3 full, covering virtually all aspects of shelter animal care and welfare

Number of animals cared for annually at these agencies:

**58,000**

## Solving sheltering problems

While each shelter and each shelter health consultation is different, the ultimate goal is the same: to improve health and welfare of the animals while optimizing the shelter's ability to save lives. Consultations we provided this year ran the full spectrum. We helped a small pit bull rescue agency redesign part of their animal housing facility; provided staff training in ringworm screening, diagnosis, and treatment to a cat adoption agency; and performed a comprehensive shelter health assessment for a mid-size agency just beginning to team up with veterinarians in their community.

Shelters face many challenges as they work to save lives, but during this year our veterinarians were repeatedly called on to assist in cases of infectious disease outbreaks. Diseases not often seen in private practice wreak havoc in a shelter, especially where hundreds of stressed animals living in cramped conditions are cared for by overwhelmed staff. At times even the most dedicated staff and



Medicine in the animal shelter is quite unlike private practice - diseases commonly believed to be conquered are a constant threat to sheltered animals and infection can be devastating in a shelter. One of the most common diseases we helped shelters address is canine distemper, which wreaks havoc for dogs in shelters across the Southeast.

experienced shelter veterinarians can still find themselves and their shelter pets faced with devastating diseases like canine distemper and *Streptococcus zooepidemicus*. This year they called on our team dozens of times for outbreak assistance through diagnostic testing and advice on management strategies that would save lives. From a 120-dog temporary shelter to a municipal agency caring for more than 35,000 animals each year, we were there to lend a hand.

### Assisting shelter partners

Sheltering and law enforcement agencies are increasingly stepping up to intervene when large numbers of animal victims are discovered in a community. In these cases, the animals often number in the hundreds and the only way to effectively and humanely intervene is with a collaborative interagency effort.

Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Program (MSMP) is proud to have worked with Lee County Animal Services and the ASPCA this year, providing veterinary forensic examination of the avian victims of one of the largest cockfighting cases in Florida history. And when a hoarding investigation got underway in a town not far from UF, our veterinarians, helmed by Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Resident Dr. Cate McManus, led the veterinary triage team. With more than 700 feline patients, our team worked with Alachua County Animal Services, the HSUS, and volunteers from across the country, providing medical protocols and forensic documentation. As the sheltering operation stretched into the summer, we were there for the cats, and continued to advise on their care and rehabilitation.



*Thank you for the thorough and welcomed consultation notes and resources!*

*We have already implemented many new protocols and are working on more.*

*Every member of our staff has benefited from your efforts and are grateful.*

*Of course, the cats are the biggest winners! Thank you so very much.*

*Keep up the great work – and thank you again, for sharing your expertise with Cat Depot.*

*Shelley Thayer  
Executive Director  
Cat Depot  
Sarasota, Florida*



## Working Together to Save Lives

When more than 200 dogs and puppies that had been imported from Puerto Rico into the United States in September 2010 for adoption began to show signs of distemper virus and parvovirus infection, what was originally to be a short layover in Florida turned into a months-long mass sheltering disease management situation.



In what came to be known in disaster management terms as "The Bushnell Incident," MSMP veterinarians served as incident commanders, supervising the scene and utilizing diagnostic and screening tests to manage the outbreak without resorting to depopulation.

Using science to identify risks and care for the dogs, our team and volunteers from Sumter County DART, the ASPCA, and UF VETS refused to give up. Despite the odds, more than half of the dogs were saved and are now safely and happily in new homes.



Our veterinarians and volunteer partners fought and saved the lives of these puppies so that a Florida rescue agency could place them in forever homes.

# Empowering Shelter Practitioners

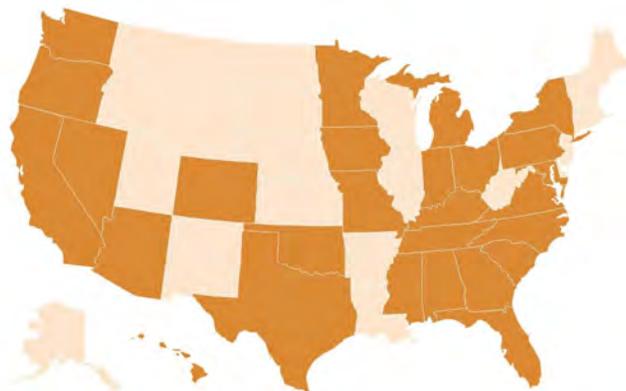
## Shelter pets are protected when shelter veterinarians are empowered.

From health and wellness to behavior and enrichment, the field continues to grow — with ever-increasing knowledge and tools available to help make the most of our limited resources to help animals. As we at Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Program explore sheltering issues through research and consultation, we are sure to connect with those on the front lines to make sure new insights and important conclusions are in the hands and minds of the people who spend every day working for shelter pets. This year we hosted three conferences and reached thousands of practitioners through lectures and seminars.

In addition to informing and educating current practitioners, MSMP provided advanced training for Shelter Medicine residents, veterinarians who spend an intensive three years of study with our program, delving into shelter health topics from infectious disease to veterinary forensics to spay/neuter surgery. These veterinarians will help fill the desperate shortage of experts in the field.



*Hands-on workshops have become an integral part of training at Maddie's® Veterinary Forensics Conference. This year, behavior evaluations were performed for volunteer dogs, to simulate the process for assessing victims of dogfighting. Understanding each individual dog's behavior can help a shelter make informed decisions about placement options.*



*Our conferences have drawn attendees from across the United States and from such international locations as Canada, Brazil, and Ecuador.*

## Training those on the front lines

Veterinarians, technicians, and shelter managers are clamoring for more training in shelter medicine. Their hunger for new knowledge is outweighed only by their fervent desire to make a difference in the lives of shelter pets. Our annual two-day event, Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Conference, now in its third year, was sold out in our Orlando, Florida location. Participants enthusiastically enjoyed sessions on heartworm management in shelters, managing distemper outbreaks to save lives, and real-life strategies for improving shelter management. A special three-part series of lectures on feline health, stress, and management in the shelter had attendees on their feet to participate in an exercise exploring the benefits and importance of moving pets to adoption quickly.

Animal abuse takes many forms, and at March's Maddie's® Veterinary Forensics Conference the focus was on Confronting Cruelty: Bloodsport Investigations. Partnering with experts from the ASPCA, we explored this disturbing and

heartbreaking subculture. ASPCA investigators who worked undercover to shut down a ring of dogfighters in the Midwest exposed the abuses inflicted on pit bulls and other dogs bred for fighting, while other speakers highlighted features of planning investigation operations involving hundreds of animal victims. In an effort to better understand the behavior, assessment, and placement of former fighting dogs, a special behavior workshop on day two presented an opportunity for attendees to identify behavioral cues and needs for rehabilitation in dogs. Not only did veterinarians and technicians join this conference, but animal control and law enforcement officers also came to learn about their role in addressing these large-scale abuses.



*At our sold-out annual Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Conference, attendees absorbed every detail, excitedly taking advantage of breaks to plan changes at their shelters to improve the health of the animals.*

In addition to our own conferences, MSMP faculty, staff, and residents traveled across the country to provide continuing education seminars on such topics as community cat management, animal disasters, canine influenza, population management, and infection control.

## By the Numbers

- 26** lectures presented to **2,200** veterinarians and shelter practitioners at conferences and seminars across the US
- Lectured at **5** national/international veterinary and animal welfare continuing education meetings
- 8** lectures presented to **400** attendees at veterinary medical associations and colleges of veterinary medicine
- 10** shelter technician seminars presented to **1,400** attendees
- 330** attendees at Maddie's® Shelter Medicine and Veterinary Forensics Conferences

## Developing the leaders of tomorrow

The many facets of Shelter Medicine seem nearly impossible to cover in a mere three years, but our residency training program does just that in order to equip tomorrow's leaders in the field.

The first of our advanced trainees, Sweetbay Shelter Medicine Resident Dr. Brian DiGangi, completed his residency program in July of 2010 and has gone on to teach the next generation of shelter veterinarians here at our own College of Veterinary Medicine's Merial Shelter Medicine Clerkship.

Meanwhile, Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Residents Drs. Cate McManus and Laura Andersen spent their second year developing their expertise through participation in all aspects of Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Program. These highly motivated and dedicated trainees worked under the mentorship of Maddie's® Shelter Medicine faculty, presenting at conferences, conducting research, leading disaster events, consulting for shelters, and training veterinary students. Their specialized in-depth curriculum is preparing these veterinarians to be leaders and advocates for shelter animals.



*Shelter Medicine residents participate in all aspects of the program, from shelter consultations to student training, in order to develop a deep understanding of Shelter Medicine issues.*

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... I realized again how much of a need there is for shelter medicine experts...

*We must be in the field, because articles and webinars are not penetrating the traditional institution of animal sheltering.*

Cate McManus, VMD, MPH, DACVPM  
Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Resident

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# Educating Future Veterinarians

## Today's veterinary students will be the humane leaders of tomorrow.

Our program is dedicated to introducing veterinary students to critical issues in animal sheltering and providing the knowledge they will need to be effective practitioner-advocates for shelter pets. Through required lectures, all students graduate with exposure to Shelter Medicine. This year we provided two new electives so those who have a special interest in the field can explore numerous topics, from solving behavior problems to breed controversies. Maddie's® Certificate in Shelter Medicine, unique to UF, recognizes the achievement of a dedicated group of students whose education has included intensive study, research, and practical training in Shelter Medicine.

The veterinary students we teach through Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Program amaze and inspire us. They arrive at veterinary school energized to help animals, and through each year of their education we cultivate that energy and sense of altruism, preparing them to be leaders in shelters and their communities. With the heartfelt enthusiasm they bring and the education we are honored to provide, we know our graduates will hit the ground running and will truly be able to make a difference for shelter pets.



*Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Program provides a unique opportunity for future veterinarians. In fact, one in three veterinary schools in the US still offer no formal training option for sheltering-minded students.*



*This year we taught two new Shelter Medicine courses to veterinary students, who now can include as many as five Shelter Medicine elective courses in their education. UF students graduate inspired and empowered to help homeless pets.*

## Providing core knowledge

Veterinary students bring their passion into the classroom, and this year we met them with two new courses in shelter medicine: Shelter Animal Behavior & Welfare and a special projects course, Challenges and Controversies Facing Bully Breeds in Animal Shelters. These courses opened up new insights for our students in important aspects of shelter medicine.

Health is both physical and mental, and the Behavior & Welfare course provided these future veterinarians with the knowledge to maintain behavioral and emotional health for shelter pets. These animals have often been through tremendous trauma and now find themselves in a new and frightening environment. Students who completed this course are able to recognize and begin to address the behavioral needs of animals in shelters, helping keep them healthy and happy in preparation for new homes.

The course focusing on Bully Breed challenges and controversies proved inspirational for enrolled students. Through readings, webinars, shelter visits, and a capstone presentation to the college, the students gained in-depth knowledge of the policies and prejudices that pitbull-type dogs often face in communities. They also explored innovative programs in Florida that are helping bring greater compassion, understanding, and solutions for these commonly-sheltered pets.

With these two new courses, the roster of shelter medicine classroom curriculum at UF now includes five elective courses, covering many issues essential for shelter veterinarians.

### Recognizing intensive study

This year also marked the arrival of Maddie's® Certificate in Shelter Medicine, a program designed to encourage and distinguish rigorous shelter medicine training during a veterinary student's education. In further proof that UF's students are engaged and excited about Shelter Medicine,



The UF CVM Class of 2011 included the first two graduates to receive Maddie's® Certificate in Shelter Medicine, attesting to their intensive study and achievement during their DVM training. Our Shelter Medicine Certificate program is the only one of its kind in the world.

the Certificate is already the most popular such program at the College of Veterinary Medicine. Students are recognized for completing requirements in classroom and clinical training, research, hands-on externships at shelters and spay/neuter clinics, and for becoming part of the shelter veterinarian community.

## By the Numbers

Instructed <b>231</b> students in <b>5</b> Shelter Medicine Courses	Awarded <b>2</b> Maddie's® Certificates in Shelter Medicine to graduating seniors
<b>40</b> Introduction to Shelter Medicine	<b>22</b> students enrolled in Maddie's® Certificate Program
<b>50</b> Veterinary Forensic Medicine	Supported <b>8</b> students in Maddie's® Externships
<b>93</b> Introduction to Veterinary Disaster Response	Trained <b>146</b> students in spay/ neuter through Operation Catnip
<b>16</b> Shelter Animal Behavior & Welfare	
<b>32</b> Challenges and Controversies Facing Bully Breeds in Animal Shelters	

### Supporting hands-on experience

No education in shelter medicine would be truly complete without the experience of working and training in an actual shelter. Through Maddie's® Externships, we provided stipend support to veterinary students who each spent a total of four weeks at an adoption guarantee shelter and a traditional shelter.

Under the guidance of the shelter veterinarian, the students learned what shelter medicine is like for a practitioner. While no two days in a shelter are the same, they performed daily rounds, developed treatment plans, examined cruelty victims, and even assisted with adoptions.

These immersive experiences help students understand the critical role played by the veterinarian in an animal shelter. The rewards for the students are plentiful, and they return with heads swimming with new ideas and hearts full from the pets they have helped. Externships provide both education and inspiration for these future leaders.



We work with veterinary students to provide well-rounded Shelter Medicine training: classroom education, clinical experiences, and service learning through Operation Catnip and Maddie's® Externships.

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*There is no better sense of satisfaction than caring for an animal that would otherwise be helpless...*

*With my education and my extra experiences at different shelters I hope to make a difference in the lives of homeless and abused animals.*

*...We can continue to try to put an end to an overpopulation crisis.*

*And we can help the animals that contribute so much to our lives to live full, healthy and happy lives of their own.*

*Marianne Janosco, DVM  
Class of 2011 Recipient  
of Maddie's® Certificate  
in Shelter Medicine*

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# Developing New Knowledge

## Research is the key to unlocking humane solutions to sheltering's problems.

At the heart of Maddie's® Research Program is the need to understand the issues affecting animals in shelters. A real understanding of important challenges, backed by solid research, will help our field develop evidence-based lifesaving approaches.

Research in our program is led by Maddie's® faculty members, who also mentor research projects conducted by advanced trainees and veterinary students. Each project brings us one small step closer to a nation whose homeless animals are protected, both inside and outside the shelter. Meanwhile, students and trainees gain valuable experience in conducting research and helping shelters help animals.

Whether collaborating with investigators across the country or collecting data in shelters next door, we combine the highest scientific rigor with our desire to develop effective solutions to sheltering challenges. When a research project is completed, we prioritize the presentation and publication of our results so the knowledge we gain can be shared for the good of animals across the country.



*Faculty, advanced trainees, and veterinary students all contribute to research efforts at Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Program. The diverse interests and expertise of numerous investigators enable our program to investigate a wide range of Shelter Medicine questions.*

*When Hurricane Katrina devastated communities along the Gulf coast, rescue organizations from across the country stepped in to support displaced companion animals. But our research testing nearly 500 cats and dogs revealed infectious disease concerns in animals that were transported nationwide.*



## Investigating infectious diseases

When a pet enters a shelter, the physical and emotional stress can be tremendous. A new environment, high numbers of animals and rapid turnover can challenge an animal's immune system. Our research program is keen to explore these shelter health challenges.

This year's published research included the documentation of the prevalence of infectious diseases in cats and dogs rescued following Hurricane Katrina. In projects focusing on canine health, we evaluated a test for canine influenza diagnosis and explored how long it took for vaccination to protect dogs against canine distemper virus and canine parvovirus. We also compared screening tests to understand the most effective ways to detect distemper virus and parvovirus antibodies, two diseases that can ravage the well-being of a shelter's dogs if intervention isn't timely.

Cat health was the focus of two extensive projects led by advanced trainees. Our residents are examining the prevalence of upper respiratory and gastrointestinal diseases across different cat management models. This research is identifying which diseases are found in cats who are managed through trap-neuter-return, sanctuaries, in foster homes, and in traditional shelters. What are the risks in each model? What are the benefits? Only with these kinds of projects will we begin to understand how the health and well-being of cats is best served in sheltering systems.

### Understanding shelter and welfare issues

Research papers that were published during this year explored shelter-related issues that hadn't yet been addressed elsewhere. In a pair of surveys of shelters across the Southeast, researchers queried shelters in order to understand the current state of affairs in the management of heartworm in shelter dogs and cats. Both projects were recognized for excellence by the American Heartworm Association.

In another publication, a collaborative effort with researchers across the country, we examined the behavior of cats and their owners and learned that, in fact, cats can successfully wear collars. The research supported the recommendation that all cats should wear identification collars, and that microchip identification is an important backup. The best way to help a lost cat is to reunite cat and owner as soon as possible. The research was



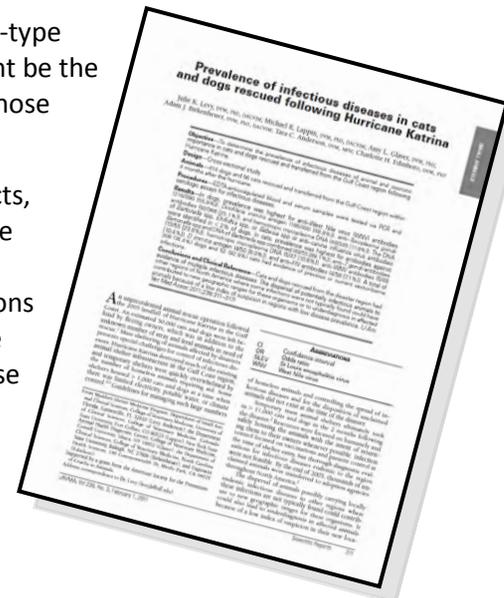
Our research projects address numerous issues of importance to shelter veterinarians and the animals they care for, from infectious disease to welfare concerns. In one study, we're examining how consistent and accurate shelter staffers are in identifying the breeds of sheltered dogs.

published in the Journal of American Veterinary Medical Association, one of the field's most widely read journals.

Meanwhile, the new projects we began this year are examining long-held beliefs about common sheltering practices. Does the amount an adopter pays to take home a pet bear a relationship to the

success of the adoption? Through surveys and calls to adopters across the country, our students are exploring whether a happy pet-owner bond requires a high pricetag. In another project, we're investigating the troublesome issue of dog breed identification in shelters. Can staff and veterinarians accurately identify dogs of different breeds, especially pit-bull-type dogs? What might be the implications for those pets?

Like all our projects, we'll tease out the answers to these important questions as we analyze the data. In every case we learn something novel and uncover new questions to ask.



“My summer spent as Maddie's® Research Fellow was invaluable.

In a few short weeks, I was able to learn a great deal about collecting and analyzing data, drafting a manuscript, and working with a journal for editing and publication.

I am beyond excited to see my work in print, and know that this experience will help me in my future career.

Lauren Gray  
DVM Candidate,  
Class of 2013  
Maddie's® Research  
Fellow

## By the Numbers

Presented **4** research abstracts at the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine Forum

Published **7** research articles in veterinary journals

Initiated **3** new shelter health research projects

# About Our Program



Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Program at the University of Florida is dedicated to enhancing the health and welfare of homeless animals through education, innovation, and advancement of the life-saving goals of sheltering programs.

Founded in 2008 by Dr. Julie Levy and Dr. Cynda Crawford and underwritten by Maddie's Fund®, the Pet Rescue Foundation, MSMP is becoming one of the country's most comprehensive Shelter Medicine programs. From shelter assistance to veterinary student instruction, veterinary

continuing education to specialist training, we work with the sheltering and veterinary medical communities to improve quality of life and outcomes for cats and dogs in shelters.

The veterinary medical perspective is an essential part of successful animal sheltering. Shelter veterinarians make sure healthy animals stay healthy, and help treatable animals recover and move out of the shelter into permanent homes. At MSMP, we strive to train current and future veterinarians in the special problems and challenges facing animals in shelters, while undertaking vital research and identifying innovative solutions.

## With Gratitude to our Supporters and Partners



*The Pet Rescue Foundation*

*Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Program is underwritten by a grant from Maddie's Fund®, the Pet Rescue Foundation ([www.maddiesfund.org](http://www.maddiesfund.org)), helping to fund the creation of a no-kill nation.*

### **Maddie's Fund®**

**The Sweetbay Foundation**

**The ASPCA**

**PetSmart Charities**

**The Humane Society  
of the United States**

**IDEXX Laboratories**

American Humane Red Star  
Animal Emergency Services  
CATalyst Council  
Crijio Pet Products  
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Operation Catnip of Gainesville  
Pethealth, Inc.  
Synbiotics Corporation  
Tomahawk Trap Company  
UF Veterinary Emergency  
Treatment Service  
UF Shelter Animal Medicine Clerkship

# Our Team



## Faculty

**Julie Levy, DVM, PhD, DACVIM**  
Program Director  
Maddie's® Professor of Shelter Medicine

**Cynda Crawford, DVM, PhD**  
Maddie's® Clinical Assistant Professor  
of Shelter Medicine

**Brenda Griffin, DVM, MS, DACVIM**  
Adjunct Associate Professor of Shelter Medicine

## Staff

**Rachel Michaud, BA, CAWA**  
Maddie's® Program Coordinator

**Sylvia Tucker, BS**  
Biological Scientist

## Residents

**Laura Andersen, DVM**  
Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Resident

**Catherine McManus, VMD, MPH, DACVPM**  
Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Resident

## Veterinary Student Scholars

**Niora Fabian, Class of 2014**  
Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Research Fellow

**Lauren Gray, Class of 2013**  
Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Research Fellow

**Kim Olson, Class of 2014**  
Merial Veterinary Scholar

**Sara Salomon, Class of 2013**  
Merial Veterinary Scholar

**Jaime Willson, Class of 2014**  
Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Research Fellow

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*To build a bright future for shelter animals, we have to invest in understanding the challenges shelters face and sharing that knowledge with those on the front lines.*

*Our program here at UF is doing just that, with the generosity of Maddie's Fund® and our other supporters, as well as the collaboration of our shelter partners.*

*I'm honored to be able to work every day with an incredible group of people who are dedicated to saving and improving animals' lives.*

*Rachel Michaud, CAWA  
Maddie's® Program  
Coordinator*

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## Thanks to Maddie

Maddie was a beloved Miniature Schnauzer whose unconditional love, devotion, loyalty and spirit inspired her guardians to start a charitable foundation, Maddie's Fund®, the Pet Rescue Foundation, in her name.

Dave and Cheryl Duffield fell in love with Maddie when she was only ten days old. “We held her in our arms, and loved her immediately,” says Dave. “Maddie melted our hearts from the first second we saw her,” adds Cheryl. “We loved her sweet ways, her stubbornness, her independence, her intelligence, her spirit, and her devotion.”

The love Dave and Cheryl shared with Maddie inspired them to give generously to help save homeless, abandoned pets in desperate need of love and care. Thanks to Maddie, the dog with the indomitable spirit, shelter pets are afforded new opportunities to find loving homes in which they, too, may share in the joy, love and companionship that Dave and Cheryl enjoyed with Maddie.

On behalf of all sheltered dogs and cats, we give thanks to Maddie, whose spirit lives on through the lives her memorable gift has touched.





*The Pet Rescue Foundation*

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[www.UFShelterMedicine.com](http://www.UFShelterMedicine.com)