

Iowa County Humane Society Animal Adoptability Policy—updated March 2014

Animal Status Review Process

Petition for evaluation of an animal,
signed by 3 people

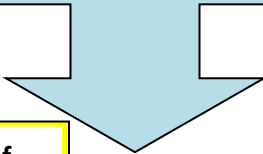


ICHS Board of Directors
assigns to reviewers within 72 hours



Animal Welfare Reviewer
Animal Advocate Reviewer

Within 7 days, Reviewers finish and refer
information to the Board to act on
animal care concern
or
to the Euthanasia Committee.



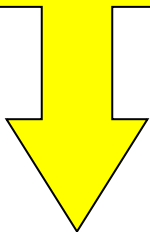
**ICHS Board of
Directors**

Within 72 hours,
Board affirms EC
decision, overturns
EC decision
(requires stated
reasons) or issues
animal care
directive.
Majority vote.



**Euthanasia
Committee**

Within 7 days, EC
reviews and makes
recommendation
to Board with
rationale. Majority
vote.



**Recommended action taken within 72
hours (treatment, euthanasia etc.)**

- * Any 3 people can request review of an animal's status regarding health, behavior, or the care they are receiving.
- * The Animal Welfare and Animal Advocate Reviewers review the animal's records and verify that ICHS policies and procedures have been followed and that ICHS has done what it should for the animal within the resources available.
- * The Euthanasia Committee is composed of 5 people who may include a veterinarian, shelter staff, animal behaviorists, volunteers, members at large, and a maximum of 1 Board member.
- * This process places the decision for action on animal care and euthanasia in the hands of more than 1 person; involves the membership and local community.
- * It helps to ensure that ICHS follows its own care guidelines for animals, and avoids warehousing animals in a poor quality of life.
- * It sets timelines for required action.
- * It gives every animal the benefit of the same evaluation.

Our Goals Are To:

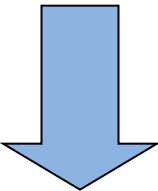
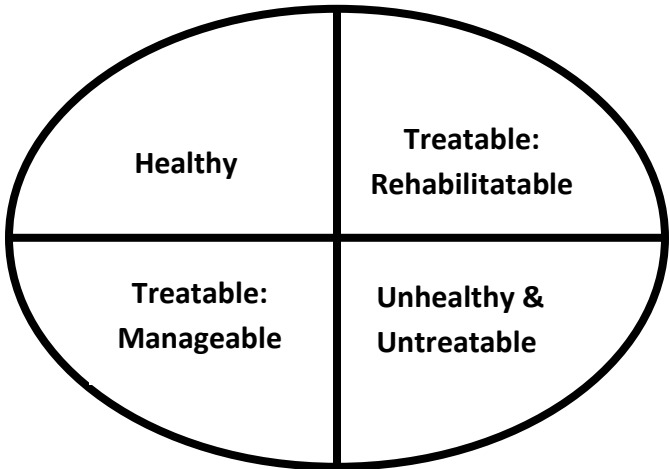
- * Get adoptable animals adopted!
- * Focus on quality of life for animals
- * Keep people & animals safe

Animal Evaluation

When admitted to the shelter (and periodically thereafter) all animals receive:

- ✓ **Physical/medical exam**
- ✓ **Behavioral evaluation**

The animal is then classified into 1 of 4 groups



Used to decide care given to animals based on ICHS resources

- * **Healthy:** No behavioral, temperament, or health concerns, >8 weeks of age, ready for adoption!
- * **Treatable: Rehabilitatable:** Not currently healthy, likely to become healthy.
- * **Treatable: Manageable:** Not currently healthy, unlikely to become healthy, but health or behavior issues are manageable, likely to enjoy a good quality of life.
- * **Unhealthy & Untreatable:** Not likely to become healthy or treatable even with the best care ICHS can give. May be due to behavior or temperament, disease injury, or inherited condition, <8 weeks old (unless thriving with mother or in foster care).
- * Animals can change from one classification to another.
- * Classification depends on responsiveness to treatment in a reasonable time frame.
- * **Quality of Life is Key**
- * What can be done for the animals is based on ICHS resources and contributions/fostering available.