

## What is M\*A\*S\*H?

**M\*A\*S\*H** refers to clinics in which equipment is brought to a public building, such as a gymnasium or armory, and set up in order to hold spay neuter clinics in a remote or underserved community.

M\*A\*S\*H programs enable services to be provided in a location in which it would be cost prohibitive, or simply impossible, to establish a permanent clinic and in which flexible services, such as multiple veterinarians, may be needed.

By relying on a building which is “borrowed,” local volunteers, and volunteers’ vans or pick-up trucks for transport if needed, M\*A\*S\*H clinics are absolutely the most cost effective model there is. **M\*A\*S\*H is also very labor intensive.**

The number of surgeries depends on the surgeon (or surgeons) and the volunteers who monitor recovery tables, wash instruments, etc. Any program which brings temporary services to a community must have a way to provide aftercare if post surgical complications arise. Aftercare is typically handled by a contract with a local veterinarian.

However, because M\*A\*S\*H requires a temporary space and several volunteers, there are limitations; it may be impossible to expand the number of days or the overall program as needed.

If more services are needed, it may be time to partner with others to develop a more comprehensive, permanent or widespread service.

