The Frederick County Esther Boyd Animal Shelter was established and designed to accept and house stray and unwanted dogs and cats of Frederick County. The shelter achieved its state certification in July of 1995. The operation of the shelter is overseen by the director of public works. The goals of the shelter are to provide humane care for the dogs and cats at the shelter, reunite lost pets with their owners, place dogs and cats in new homes, and to educate the public on responsible pet ownership.