



Dear Neighbor,

We are writing to ask you to please consider taking down your Pegge Adams sign.

GRACE, is made up of concerned citizens from Genesee County and the surrounding areas. Our mission to end the killing of adoptable and treatable animals at the Genesee County Animal Control (GCAC). In 2013, the GCAC took in 2,831 dogs and puppies. 1,554 (55%) were killed. They also took in 2,337 cats and kittens. 1,692 (72%) were killed.

Our goals include steadily increasing the number of adoptable and treatable animals that leave GCAC alive, establishing GCAC as a state and national leader in its field, and aiding GCAC's evolution to become an animal shelter that is a safe haven for animals and a source of pride for our community.

We have been working hard at this goal for nearly three years. In that time, we have organized the public to build a much bigger volunteer base, reached out to the local colleges to promote volunteering and adopting from GCAC, worked with volunteers to secure donation funding for additional exercise areas for dogs, built relationships with dozens of local rescue groups and several other shelter facilities across the state, and attended dozens of County Commissioner meetings asking them to work with us to improve the conditions and outcomes for the animals at GCAC. None of these things cost the taxpayer a single dime.

However, in the past year, Pegge Adams has been the biggest hurdle to our progress. In this time, Pegge Adams has:

- Ignored several excellent shelter director candidates including one who had a proven track record for turning shelter performance around and instead directed the Board of Commissioners to hire a director who held the very same job at GCAC years ago and failed miserably at that time, just like she is failing now
- Publicly denied claims by several volunteers, including the Volunteer Coordinator, that shelter employees routinely clean cages with high pressure hoses without removing the dogs first (illegal, spreads disease, terrifies the dogs, obvious when the dogs are all soaking wet and covered in feces), and then privately told people that sometimes this practice is necessary
- Condoned that stray dogs are held in their small cages 24 hours per day for 7 days (or in several documented cases much longer) without any exercise or even the ability to walk a few steps in any direction – they are then evaluated for temperament (still in their small cages) at the end of this period. After this ordeal, it is not surprising that the majority of dogs are found to be not adoptable
- Condoned the shelter's practice of not allowing volunteers to circulate pictures of stray dogs in an attempt to find their families
- Condoned the shelter's practice of keeping the majority of the dogs behind locked doors where the public cannot see them or possibly claim a lost dog

- Told at least one concerned citizen that she was “just one vote”, and her concerns and opinions “did not matter”
- Told a GRACE member that meeting minutes released to the public from an Animal Control Sub Committee meeting were “sanitized” so as to avoid making the shelter staff look bad
- Condoned filthy conditions in the shelter even after several deadly disease outbreaks
- Ignored outreach from two role model shelters who offered help (Humane Society of Midland County and Humane Society of Huron Valley)
- Ignored offers to send shelter staff to conferences designed to improve shelter practices with all costs being paid for by GRACE
- Instructed Community Service Workers that they cannot carry cell phones (thus no picture taking) in the shelter after a CSW complained about the conditions and high pressure hose spraying of dogs
- Banned a long term volunteer from GCAC because she took an unauthorized picture of a dog
- Suggested that Flint residents who were upset by finding several dead dogs in garbage bags abandoned on the streets should resolve the problem by leaving the carcasses out for garbage pick-up – did not suggest that an investigation into this obvious illegal activity be launched and that the dead dogs may in fact be needed for evidence
- Ignored repeated offers from media professionals in the public to highlight GCAC pets on radio and television spots.

There are many role model shelters that are doing great work with fewer resources than we have in Genesee right here in our state (Macomb Co, Ingham Co, Livingston Co, and many more). Positive change at Genesee County Animal Control can be swift and powerful if we elect the right County Commissioners on August 5th. It doesn't take more money or more employees; it just takes compassion and good leadership.

It is imperative that Pegge Adams not be reelected. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please contact us at info@gracetheevolution.com.

On behalf of the thousands of dogs and cats who will enter GCAC next year, we implore you; please take down your Pegge Adams sign and do NOT vote her back into office.

Thank you for your consideration,

Genesee Residents for Animal Control Evolution