

Attachment D



Home Is Where Your Pets Are

Resources can help keep families together.

Our pets are our family

95% of pet parents agree. Despite this deep bond, more than 1 million households are forced to give up their dog or cat each year. It gets worse: An estimated 7 million pets enter shelters and approximately 2.7 million are euthanized annually.

But, when pet parents are equipped with information and resources in times of need, they have a better chance of keeping their pets at home- and their families together.

When Times Get Tough

OWNERS ARE FORCED TO FIND
NEW HOMES FOR THEIR PETS.

What are the top reasons pet owners give up their
furry companions?

Pet-related reasons,
such as health or
behavior issues



Family-related
reasons, such as
health troubles and
allergies



26%

of pet owners who re-homed
an animal due to a
pet-related issue could not
afford to treat their pet's
medical condition.



Housing is a primary
reason renters re-home
their pets.

43%
Landlord issues

39%
Space Issues

18%
Other housing-
related issues

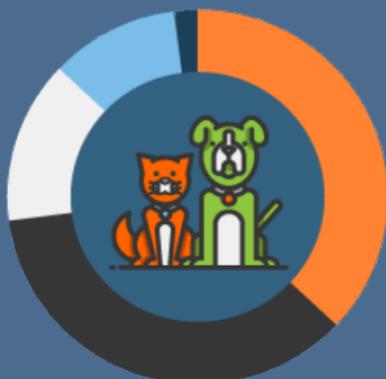
THE PET PARENT'S LAST RESORT

Where do re-homed pets go?

11%
Someone not
previously known

14%
Veterinarian

36%
Shelter



1%
Other

37%
Friend or
family member

Low Income Pet Owners Struggle the Most

Without the proper resources, some pet owners are left with no other choice but to re-home their pets. But many would keep their cat or dog if they could.



Pet owners with annual salaries less than \$50K are more likely to re-home their pets due to cost- and housing-related issues.

WHAT RESOURCES COULD HAVE HELPED THESE FAMILIES?

Challenges	Resources Needed	% of pet owners who would have kept their pets if they had access to resources
 VET BILLS	Free or low-cost veterinary care	40%
	Free or low-cost spay-neuter services	30%
 BEHAVIOR ISSUES	Free or low-cost pet training or behavior classes	33%
 BASIC NEEDS	Free or low-cost pet food	30%
 PET CARE	Free or low-cost temporary pet care or boarding	30%
 FINANCIAL	Assistance (e.g., pet deposits)	17%

Communities Can Help

Communities are beginning to establish programs for pet owners in need.



KEEPING PETS IN HOMES SAVES LIVES AND MONEY: DO THE MATH



Cost to Shelter a Pet for 1 month
MINIMUM \$300



One-Time Medical Fee
APPROX. \$200

AFFORDABLE VETERINARY SERVICE FOR UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES

1,300 pets in Los Angeles county received medical services since 2014, thanks to a safety net program launched in partnership with the Department of Animal Care and Control, and the Animal Care Foundation.



PET-FRIENDLY REAL ESTATE AGENTS AND HOUSING RESOURCES

Animal welfare organizations are urging housing authorities in cities like Washington D.C. to create more pet-friendly housing options.



FREE OR LOW-COST, HIGH QUALITY SPAY/NEUTER PROGRAMS

The Humane Alliance in Ashville, NC. helps clinics in underserved communities across the country offer more accessible spay/neuter services.



Help keep pets and their people together

During difficult times, pet parents should have access to alternatives. Encourage your community to set up a safety net program to assist those in need. To learn more about how the ASPCA is involved in these safety programs and others across the country, visit www.aspc.org/safetynet.



SOURCES

"Pets are Members of the Family," 2015, The Harris Poll #41
"Goodbye to a Good Friend," 2015, Open Journal of Sciences

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