



Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the team at Spay Neuter Network, I am pleased to share with you our 2021 Annual Impact Report.

For the organization, 2021 was a year of transition. When our founder Bonnie Hill stepped down, she left big shoes to fill. She had built this nonprofit from a mobile clinic operating two days a week and serving



about 2,000 pets in Kaufman County, Texas, to an organization with three brick and mortar clinics, a surgical transport program, several mobile clinics, and a lifesaving Pet Support and Resource Center, all of which helped SNN serve more than 46,000 dogs and cats in North Texas in 2021.

Bonnie's enthusiasm for this work is what got me excited about joining the SNN team. After 12 years of working in the field of animal sheltering in Austin and Dallas, I decided to get involved on the mission side of this work. I wanted to help make a greater impact on keeping the human and animal bond intact by bringing essential services to communities in need and reducing the stress on our local shelters, letting them be the safety net for pets most at risk.

When I arrived, I discovered an amazing board of directors highly committed to the mission, a caring staff whose hearts beat loudly for the well-being of pets, and an enthusiastic donor community who supports our services and programs to make North Texas a better place for people and their pets.

Of course, on my first day on the job I came face to face with the new challenge suddenly affecting everyone in the animal welfare field: staffing. While staffing was still being impacted by COVID in 2021, we, like every other veterinary clinic and shelter across the country, were suddenly facing a serious vet shortage. For the first time in the organization's history, we couldn't find a veterinarian to work full-time at a few of our clinics, and supply shortages and price increases only compounded our challenges to continue our work and bring services to support our communities.

Still ongoing (and it may be ongoing until vet schools open up their programs to more students), our team's creativity and quick thinking helped us meet this moment. They turned a vet shortage into an opportunity to find vets in North Texas who care about our mission as deeply as we do and who were willing to work for us a few days a month in addition to their own careers so that we could be more flexible with scheduling and still keep pace with the growing demand for services.

Despite these challenges, we knew we could always count on your generosity and support. You've enabled us to provide continuous care for pets and their families in North Texas through the ups and downs of the last few years.

Even as we reflect on 2021, we're already looking ahead to 2022. Our new strategic plan calls for SNN to become the primary resource for bringing access to affordable veterinary care to every dog and cat throughout Texas by 2030. It's the next step in saving pets' lives, and one that I am excited for us to embark on.

Thank you for all your support in helping to create communities free of homeless pets.

Sincerely,

Jordan Craig Executive Director



**MISSION:** Spay Neuter Network's mission is to eliminate pet overpopulation through spay/neuter, while empowering communities to care responsibly for dogs and cats.

VISION: Our vision is to create compassionate communities free of homeless pets.

Our new Strategic Plan calls for us to become the primary resource for bringing access to affordable veterinary care to every dog and cat throughout Texas by 2030. Our goal, at every turn, is to keep pets with the families that love them.

Founded in 2004, Spay Neuter Network (SNN) is a nonprofit organization that operates a regional spay/neuter clinic in Crandall, Texas, two clinics in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex, a mobile program, and a fleet of four surgical transport vehicles that pick up dogs and cats from all over town and transports them to and from our clinics for their free and affordable spay/neuter surgeries and basic wellness services.

Our clients are lower-income pet owners who don't often have the resources to pay for spay/neuter and basic wellness services for their pets. We intentionally locate our clinics in lower-income neighborhoods and offer free and affordable services and programs to ensure every pet owner - regardless of their ability to pay - has access to quality pet care.

Currently, we serve 6.5 million residents in North Texas, including pet owners in Dallas, Fort Worth, and the 15 counties and 35 cities around the DFW Metroplex.

Because of you, we've sterilized more than **300,000** pets and administered more than **400,000** vaccinations since 2004.



# Our Programs & Services

2,880

calls for help through the **Pet Support & Resource Center**  25,628

total dogs and cats spayed or neutered

7,304 were free surgeries

(thanks to local grant support)

40,519 vaccines given

6,993 dogs and cats transported for surgery

community cats spayed/neutered

8,015 heartworm, FeLV/FIV and fecal tests completed

14,216 microchips provided

> Because of you, we brought more services and resources to dogs and cats across Texas.



### Pet Support & Resource Center



### Cat finds forever care at sanctuary In partnership with Purrfect Treasures Rescue

When Charlie's "Manx syndrome," a mutation that shortens the tail and can lead to health issues like incontinence and weakness in the hind legs, began to advance, his owners said they could no longer care for him. They called 311 to surrender him to the city shelter and reached our Pet Support and Resource Center. We kept Charlie out of the city shelter by placing him with Purrfect Treasures, a cat sanctuary that cares for felines with special needs. Charlie can now live out his life under their loving care.

#### Keeping pets and their families together

Our Pet Support and Resource Center provides a safety net for families who want to keep their pets but may need a little help to do so. In partnership with other rescue groups, we may provide free spay/neuter surgeries, vaccinations, preventative care, pet food, or basic medical care. We also partner with rescue groups to assist pet owners with minor fence repairs so a dog can't escape his yard or provide a kennel to ensure an outside dog's protection from the elements. We want to do whatever we can to keep pets safe and with their families.

If people still can't keep their pets with these additional resources, then we offer pet owners alternatives to surrendering their pets to the city shelter to reduce the chances they might be euthanized if a home can't be found. We provide tips for rehoming their pets themselves as well as offer to place their pets in foster care with one of our rescue partners so these pets have the time they need to be rehomed. We operate the Pet Support and Resource Center in partnership with the City of Dallas, Dallas Animal Services, and nearly two dozen rescue groups

In 2021, we received **2,880** calls from people wanting to surrender their pets and kept **26%** of these pets from entering the city animal shelter



#### Dog run helps Cane remain with his new family In partnership with Duck Team 6 and SPCA of Texas

Sonia had recently adopted Cane from the city animal shelter. Cane was a very sweet dog, but he was a jumper and didn't think much about staying in his fenced yard. Sonia couldn't handle Cane's routine escapes and decided to surrender him back to the city shelter. Through our Pet Support and Resource Center, however, we collaborated with Duck Team 6 and SPCA of Texas to purchase and set up a dog run in her yard. It's collaborations and fixes like this that are helping to keep more pets in their homes.

Special thanks to The Rees Jones Foundation, The Meadows Foundation, Petco Love and The Joe M. and Doris R. Dealey Family Foundation for funding our Pet Support and Resource Center and helping us create more happily-ever-after stories every day.



#### Reducing the loose dog population in Southern Dallas through collaborative partnerships

For the past five years, the Save Dallas Coalition has been a collaboration between animal welfare organizations and local funders to reduce the loose dog population in Southern Dallas. Through this partnership, we operate a clinic in Southern



Dallas that provides free spay/neuter surgeries, vaccinations, and microchips for dogs living in 23 targeted ZIP codes. These ZIP codes have been identified as areas with the most loose dogs, most loose dog bites, and most owner-surrenders of dogs in the city. In 2021, we sterilized 1,876 dogs through the Save Dallas Initiative and 26,871 dogs since the program launch in 2017.

While the Southern Dallas clinic was initially launched to help dog owners in these targeted neighborhoods, the clinic is now open to every dog and cat in the Dallas area.

During fiscal year 2021 (October 2020 – September 2021), Dallas Animal Services reported an 8% drop in loose dog and loose dog bites; a 6% drop in external service requests (people calling to complain about animals); a 69% drop in euthanasia, and a 20% jump in Live Release Rates (LRR) since 2017.

We sterilized **9,611** cats & dogs at the Dallas clinic in 2021

Free neuter helped keep Chulo in his home In partnership with the Save Dallas Initiative

Chulo's owner called Dallas' 311 and our Pet Support and Resource Center to schedule a surrender appointment for him because he kept jumping the fence. She worried about what might happen while Chulo was out and didn't want to get in trouble with the city. During our conversation, we discovered Chulo had never been neutered, and that there was a female dog living up the street. No wonder Chulo was eager to get out of his yard! Because Chulo and his owner live in one of the Save Dallas free ZIP codes, we arranged for him to get neutered, vaccinated, and microchipped for free. Chulo's owner said he hasn't tried to escape from his yard since.

Special thanks to the funders in the Save Dallas Coalition for helping us create a safer, more humane community in Southern Dallas.



#### Bringing free and affordable services to low-income pet owners in Fort Worth

One of our biggest challenges in 2021 was how to handle a sudden and ongoing shortage of veterinarians. While the entire nation is experiencing the same problem, locally, there is not a shortage of people lining up to get their pets sterilized, vaccinated, and microchipped. In fact, in Fort Worth, we often have a waiting list of pet owners who desperately need these services. To that end, our operation team works daily to find veterinarians who share in our mission and can work a few days a month to cover our surgery needs.

During the first part of 2021, we provided free surgeries, rabies vaccines, and microchips to every pet in the City of Fort Worth as part of our three-year clinic launch. In the fall of 2021, we shifted our strategy to concentrate on free services for lower-income communities. We identified 15 ZIP codes as lower-income areas of town where loose dog bites, loose dogs, and owner-surrenders of pets to the city animal shelter are the highest. By focusing free services on where it's needed most, we're ensuring that every pet in Fort Worth has equal access to vet care.

### In 2021, we sterilized **5,637** dogs and cats at our Fort Worth clinic



#### **Helping pet owners with basic services**

Jose and his two-year-old dog Mama Elsie are constant companions. He takes her to festivals, the food bank, and with him on errands around town. Jose told us he had always wanted to get Mama Elsie fixed, but never could afford to do so. Fortunately, he lived in one of the 15 ZIP codes in Fort Worth where he could get a free spay surgery, free rabies vaccine, and free microchip, thanks to grant funding. Jose was grateful to receive this level of care for his beloved canine companion.

#### **Working with groups, like Saving Hope Rescue**

Every day, we work with rescue groups that are dedicated to fostering and finding homes for homeless pets in the community - groups like Saving Hope Rescue. In Fort Worth, Saving Hope Rescue takes in hundreds of dogs and cats every month and gets them ready for their new homes. Part of that adoption preparation includes getting the pet spayed or neutered, vaccinated, and microchipped at our Fort Worth clinic, which is covered for free through grant support. Working in partnership with these groups enables us to build a healthier community for pets and their people.



Special thanks to Saving Hope Foundation for helping us bring spay/neuter and other essential pet services to Fort Worth pet owners, so that people can take better care of their pets.



# Community Outreach and Transport Program

#### Improving every pet owner's access to vet care to ensure the well-being of pets in our community

People who need free and low-cost pet care services most often live in "veterinary deserts." These are usually lowerincome areas of town where there is little to no access to veterinary care. Many of these same pet owners also have unreliable transportation or no transportation at all. As a result, these pet owners are less likely to get their pets fixed, vaccinated, microchipped, and more likely to surrender their pets to the city shelter due to a preventative illness or nuisance behavior.

Spay Neuter Network is often the only pet care resource these communities can count on for help.

That's why we intentionally locate our clinics in these veterinary deserts and offer free and low-cost services to ensure pets can get the care they deserve. Our fleet of Surgical Transport Vehicles helps pet owners with transportation issues by picking pets up from designated locations around town and bringing them to one of our clinics for their spay/neuter surgeries. We return these pets to their owners at the end of the day at the same pick-up locations.

Because of you, we can bring services directly into neighborhoods that need it most.



Our Neighborhood Community Outreach Coordinators visit food banks and attend community events in the Dallas-Fort Worth area to let pet owners know about our clinics and free and low-cost services available to them.

#### **Humane Education**

SNN believes strongly in educating the next generation of pet owners. As a result, we created a robust humane education program that reached nearly 14,000 elementary school students in the Fort Worth area over the last few years. Due to the pandemic, however, these Humane Education programs have been on hiatus. With funding, we hope to resume our humane education program in the upcoming school year.





## Community Cat Program



#### Helping felines and changing community attitudes

Through no fault of their own, community cats are simply domestic cats that have been abandoned by their owner or are the offspring of one of those cats. Because they can have up to three litters a year and up to four kittens per litter, their populations can explode if the community does not help to ensure they are fixed and vaccinated.

Whenever the City of Dallas receives a request about loose cats from the public, they enlist the resident's help and refer them to one of our clinics for their spay-neuter surgeries, vaccinations, microchip, and eartip. (The eartip is the universal symbol for letting residents know that the cat is fixed and vaccinated and won't be contributing to the community cat population anymore.) Afterward, the resident returns these cats to their respective neighborhoods to live out the remainder of their lives.

We use every opportunity to educate people about TNR (Trap-Neuter-Return) and how it not only prevents future births but reduces the nuisance behaviors that are often related to neighborhood conflicts.



### Volunteer shows passion and commitment in helping community cats

Claudia does what she can to help the community cats. She traps kittens born in her neighborhood, socializes them, and finds them homes. But it took two years for her to finally catch the mama cat having all these litters and bring her to Spay Neuter Network for a free fix, rabies vaccine, microchip, and eartip, thanks to grant support. People, like Claudia, are key to reducing the community cat population.

## We sterilized **3,182** community cats in 2021 & more than **20,000** since 2004

#### Why do we call them community cats, not feral cats?

The term "feral cats" conjures up images of wild cats that are somehow different from domestic house cats, and it is not fully encompassing of the cats that are living in our neighborhoods. Community cats are domestic animals that live outdoors and whose homes are within our communities. Many may have been a house cat or the offspring of a prior house cat. Some of these cats are social and visit multiple households and businesses for resources and shelter, while others are fearful and benefit from their more gregarious family members when seeking food. These cats need community support to ensure they stay happy and healthy. As such, we believe referring to them as community cats better reflects where they came from and the collective responsibility we all share in looking out for their well-being.



# How You Support Spay Neuter Network

We are so thankful for our supporters and the many ways they contribute to our mission. Some of our supporters host Facebook fundraisers, drop off items from our wish list, or donate through one of our three special fundraising campaigns throughout the year.



#### **Spay it Forward Campaign**

Our clients may receive free or low-cost services, but they often repay that kindness by donating a few dollars to our Spay It Forward campaign. These donations help pet owners, just like them, who may need a little help getting essential services for their pets.

#### **North Texas Giving Day**

North Texas Giving Day, our biggest fundraiser of the year, is an 18-hour online giving event created by the Communities Foundation of Texas to encourage people to give back to their communities by supporting their favorite local nonprofits.

#### **Easter Bone Hunt**

The Bone Hunt is our Spring fundraiser that usually features over 1,000 pet treats and toys scattered at a local park for leashed dogs to find as well as nearly a dozen games for pets and pet owners. Because of the pandemic, we held a semi-virtual event in 2021, in which treats, toys, and goodies provided by our event sponsors were packed into Easter Bone Hunt boxes for pet owners of both cats and dogs to buy and enjoy with their pets safely at home.

#### **Grants and Corporate Support**

We couldn't provide any low-cost or free services to the public without generous support from the following foundations and corporations.

#### **FOUNDATIONS**

Best Friends Animal Society
Byrne Family Foundation Trust
Communities Foundation of Texas
The Dallas Foundation
The Meadows Foundation
North Texas Communities Foundation
Petco Love
Saving Hope Foundation
The Rees-Jones Foundation
The Helen D. and R.E. Wallace Foundation
Fund at North Texas Community Foundation
The Joe M. & Doris R. Dealey Family Fdn

#### **CORPORATE SUPPORTERS**

Alpha Paw LLC
American National Bank of Texas
AmerisourceBergen
Brutus Broth
Crunchy Rollers, LLC
Handley Feed Store
HistoryMaker Homes at Heartland
Hollywood Feed
JP Morgan Chase
Kroger
Legacy Consulting Group

MedAssets
MWI Animal Health
Naturally Fresh
Pet Love Mobile Grooming
Simply Kind Hearted
Smart Dog Dallas
Suitical International BV
Suzie's Pet Treats
Teddy the Dog
Ten Bells Tavern
USAA
Wiki Wags



## **OUR Financials**

Where your contributions go:



Funding sources:



<sup>\*</sup>Figures based on the most recent audited financial statements available, for 2020. Contributions, gifts and grants include \$424,874 in restricted funds used for services in 2021.

### Thank you for your support

and generosity in helping Spay Neuter Network in its mission to create communities free of homeless pets.

Because of you, we are making the community a better place for pets and their families.

#### **Spay Neuter Network Board of Directors 2021**

Jennifer Lavender, DVM, President
Mark Rogers, PMP, Treasurer
David Deresz, DVM, Secretary
Annette Copeland, Esq.
Ursula Evering
Ben Lee
Todd McElfresh, PWC
Zach Pace, CPA
Natalie Race
Lisa Ramos
Trina Roffino
Bonnie Hill, Founder and Emeritus

#### **Leadership Team**

Jordan Craig, Executive Director
Tamin Erario, Director of Operations
Jacob Carty, Director of Communications and Marketing
Monica Rodriguez, Director of Finance

#### **Locations**

Headquarters: Crandall Spay/Neuter and Wellness Clinic 102 E Trunk Street, Crandall, TX 75114

Dallas Spay/Neuter and Wellness Clinic 2223 S Buckner Blvd, Suite 203, Dallas, TX 75227

Fort Worth Spay/Neuter and Wellness Clinic 3117 E Seminary Dr, Fort Worth, TX 76119

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