

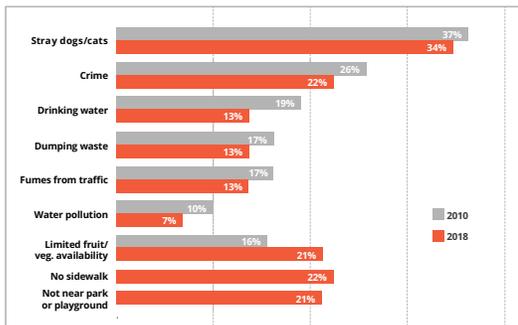


# HOUSTON, WE HAVE A PROBLEM.

Houstonians say that stray animals outrank concerns of crime, drinking water, dumping waste, water pollution and fumes from traffic.

2018 Health of Houston Survey, UTHealth

**Impact on Quality of Life**  
Health of Houston Survey (2010 & 2018)



Percentage of residents identifying the most significant problem in their neighborhood.

**Greater Houston's homeless animal crisis clearly impacts residents' quality of life and overall sense of safety. This poses a threat to the area's image and creates challenges in expanding a thriving economy.**

It is estimated that hundreds of thousands of homeless animals are living on the streets of Greater Houston, struggling to survive. In addition to the unimaginable suffering these animals endure, the costs to the community are staggering. The four largest area municipal shelters—BARC, Harris County Pets, Montgomery County Animal Shelter and Fort Bend County Animal Services—spend more than \$24 million per year on operating costs. In addition, Houston PetSet grantees and partners spend an additional \$68 million, totaling approximately \$92 million per year.



**“If the business community is serious about wanting to attract the talent that will grow the economy in the twenty-first century, Houston simply has to address the homeless animal issue. It's that important.”**

Dr. Stephen Klineberg, Founding Director, Kinder Institute for Urban Research and Professor Emeritus of Sociology, Rice University

**“I hear it all the time, customers can't get to the bus stop because of dogs...it affects our ridership.”**

Nicole Adler, METRO Account Executive

The costs are not only monetary. Thousands of volunteers spend countless hours to rescue, feed, foster and transport these animals, and at times they put their physical and mental health at risk.

Even with the staggering funds and efforts being applied to the problem, the stray population is growing. This continues to be a **quality of life problem impacting the public safety and public health** of the Greater Houston area. Although many shelters are reporting Live Release Rates near 90 percent, thousands of healthy, adoptable animals are still euthanized every year. Furthermore, this percentage does not account for the estimated hundreds of thousands of animals that remain on the street.

# A CALL TO ACTION

## Houston PetSet. Systemic Change. Data-Driven Approach.

The causes of animal homelessness are preventable. Now is the time key stakeholders must come together to make this a priority in Greater Houston. That's why Houston PetSet is focused on improving quality of life for residents and saving the lives of animals by finding long-term solutions to animal overpopulation.

### The Solution. Collaboration Works.

With targeted partnerships and increased financial resources, Houston PetSet's strategic plan will make the problem of animal homelessness in the Greater Houston area a manageable one.

To implement the solution, Houston PetSet will work with partners to develop a collaborative infrastructure to allow for efficiencies amongst key stakeholders, including government entities, local animal shelters, community and quality of life organizations and animal welfare nonprofits.

### Six Impact Areas

Rescue, Adopt & Transport	Spay & Neuter	Community Service & Education	Cruelty Prevention	Research	Advocacy
Improve capacity amongst rescue, foster, adoption and transport organizations	Increase the number of accessible and high volume spay and neuter programs	Implement and support outreach efforts to inform the public of proper treatment of animals	Decrease animal cruelty and fund agencies that protect neglected and abused animals	Build and leverage our collection of qualitative and quantitative data to inform lasting solutions	Increase engagement to influence public policy and affect legislation at local and state levels
Target: * <b>25,000 additional</b> animals transported annually	Target: * <b>22,500 additional spay/neuter</b> surgeries annually	Target: * <b>75,000 students</b> reached annually * <b>500,000 citizens</b> reached annually	Target: * <b>Support creation of a center</b> to house and rehabilitate victims of animal cruelty	Target: * <b>Commission study</b> to more accurately estimate stray dog and cat populations	Target: * <b>Pass ordinances and/or laws</b> to protect animals

### Key Accomplishments



Through 2019  
 • Provided **\$3M** in grants  
 • Supported **100+** organizations



- Transported **3,000 homeless pets** to adopters to date
- Supported **partner transport programs**



- Supported **free spay/neuter mobile unit** and MASH- style events
- Funded free spay/neuter **voucher programs**
- Supported **low-cost clinics** in veterinary deserts



- Founding partner **Harris County Animal Cruelty Taskforce**
- Funded **2 full-time officers**
- Collaborated **on ordinances** to improve pets' lives

**"As far as I know, Houston PetSet is the only organization doing what they do and they are an absolutely invaluable asset to our community."**

Rania Mankarious, MA., JD., CEO at Crime Stoppers of Houston

**Mission:** To end homelessness and suffering of companion animals and elevate their status in society.

**Vision:** A world where companion animals do not suffer and are valued by society.



HOUSTON  
**PETSET**  
 FOR THE ANIMALS

**HOUSTONPETSET.ORG**