

Public Private Partnerships

ublic Private Partnerships, whether with a business or nonprofit entity, can greatly assist municipalities with expanding their services to the community while minimizing the management and resources needed to provide those services. While each entity has a primary mission whether it be public safety or the prevention of cruelty to animals, those missions intersect with more commonalities than differences. Through partnership, service delivery success becomes a shared burden. At their best, these partnerships are based on a shared commitment to agreed-upon goals, leveraging the assets and resources of all parties. The parameters of such partnership are negotiated through a mutually acceptable contract.

An example of successful public private partnerships in animal sheltering is Washoe County Regional Animal Services maddiesfund.org/assets/documents/Institute/Creating%20 and the nonprofit Nevada Humane Society (NHS) in Washoe County, Nevada. After passing a voter referendum funding the construction of an animal services facility, the county entered a formal partnership whereby both agencies share a county facility. Animal Services focuses on health, safety,

and reuniting lost pets while NHS provides services for pet owners including a help desk as well as pet adoptions.

When faced with a budget crisis and seeking to improve outcomes for impounded animals, Oklahoma City developed a similar successful partnership with the Central Oklahoma Humane Society. These partnerships, when tied to saving animal lives, indicate to the community, nonprofits, and philanthropists that a municipality is concerned with the wellbeing of animals in their care. In the case of Oklahoma City this brought attention and investment from both local and national organizations into their programs.

These partnerships can be broad-based or program specific. In the City of Log Angeles, public spay and neuter services are considered a priority and veterinary clinics exist in city facilities to achieve this goal. The City however sublets those spaces to nonprofit entities that manage those clinics, deliver services, and hit pre-agreed upon benchmarks in lieu of rent. The complexities of delivering this specialized service are shifted to the sublessees allowing the City to concentrate on its public safety and animal care responsibilities.

Any service or program should be considered an opportunity for partnership. Social service organizations that focus on humans are often overlooked but can provide unique and supportive partnerships to help enhance programs and expand resources. Some common partnership opportunities include:

- Veterinary services such as vaccinations or spay and neuter surgeries
- Adoption programs
- Animal care
- Community cat programs
 - Pet retention or pet help desks either at a facility or virtually
- Legal aid and housing assistance
- Behavior and training
- Pet food banks
- Volunteer clubs (Boys/Girls Clubs, YMCAs, etc.)
- · Domestic violence shelters and other social service organizations

Additional reading/references

-Saving Fido: A Case in the Privatization of Local Animal Control Services http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/down-<u>load?doi=10.1.1.436.9635&rep=rep1&type=pdf</u>

-Public/Private Partnerships Case Study, Best Friends https://s3fs.bestfriends.org/s3fs-public/Appendix%20S_ Public%20Private%20Partnerships%20Case%20Study. pdf?JWrgBUyv8ueQlESUyM1fmCtGB x0nqUht

-21st Century Animal Control, Maddie's Fund https://www. a%20Win- Win%20by%20Mitch%20Schneider.pdf

-Non-Profit Partnerships for Animal Shelters Grow, Reason Foundation https://reason.org/commentary/apr-2013animal-shelters/