

COMMUNITY CAT DIVERSION PROGRAM

Definition: Spay/neuter/ear tip/vaccinate any outdoor cat that is big enough for surgery and otherwise healthy brought to the shelter and return to their outside home the day following surgery

Facts:

- cats are 7-10 times more likely to find their way home from the street versus a shelter and in most shelters across the country, less than 2% are reunited with their owners from shelters
- many cat owners allow their cats outside and it is common for Good Samaritans to mistake them for stray or lost and take cats to shelters so their owners can find them

A Community Cat Diversion Program will:

- decrease the number of overall free roaming cats
- eliminate nuisance behaviors associated with intact cats such as roaming, yowling, fighting and spraying
- decrease volume of intestinal parasites shed; therefore decrease public health risk
- increase community immunity of rabies
- decrease the number of complaint calls regarding intact cats
- save the shelter money over time
- decrease the number of cats entering the shelter and therefore being euthanized

A Florida Model: Jacksonville Animal Care and Protective Services (Population 843,000)

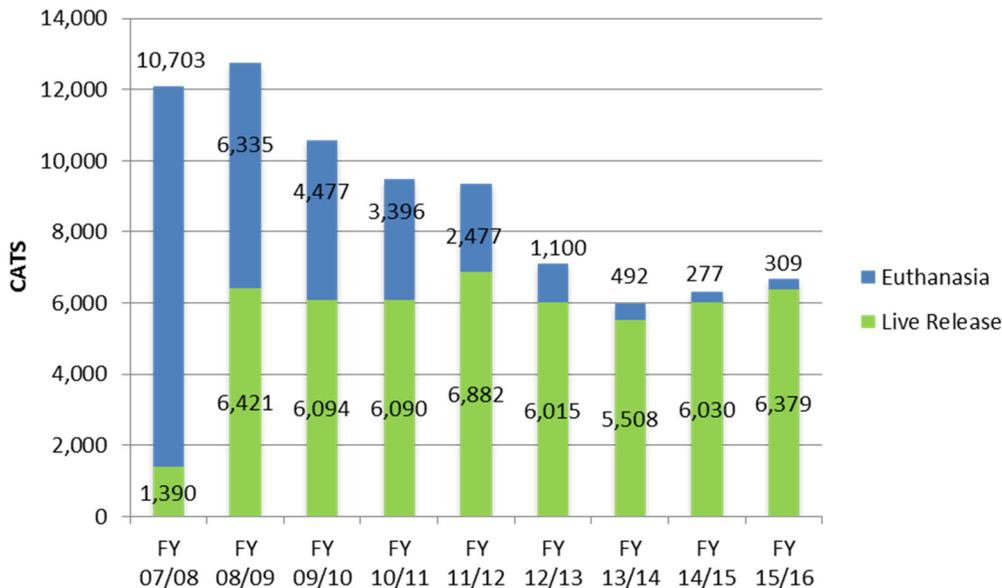


Figure 1: Shows the decrease of cat intake and euthanasia numbers after the Feral Freedom (Community Cat) program was implemented in August 2008.

To learn more, please visit target-zero.org or contact:

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An Alabama Model: Huntsville Animal Services (Population 346,892)

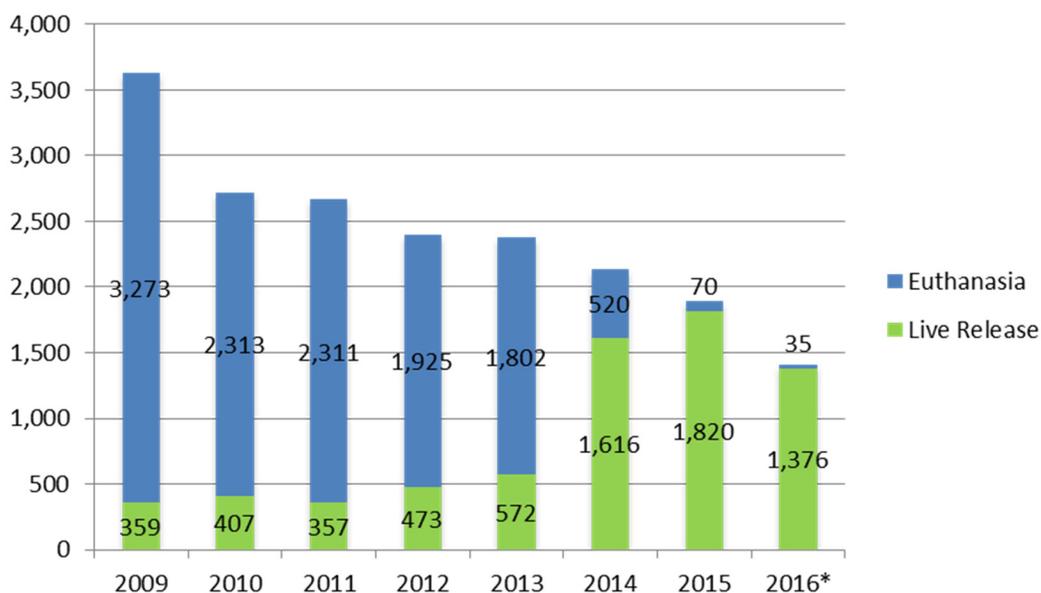


Figure 2: Shows a gradual reduction in cat intake and euthanasia in the City of Huntsville over the past 6½ years with the implementation of targeted low income spay/neuter programs. Euthanasia plummeted in 2014 following the implementation a Community Cat Diversion Program in April 2014. 2016* figures are through September 30, 2016.

A Texas Model: Waco Animal Shelter (Population 243,000)

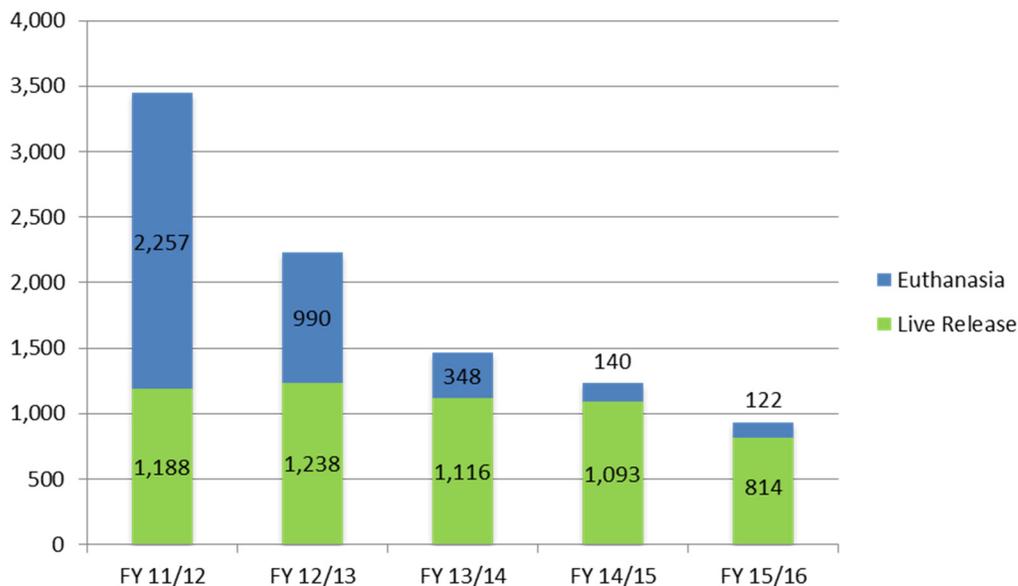


Figure 3: Shows the decrease of cat intake and euthanasia numbers starting in FY 12/13 after targeted low income spay/neuter programs were introduced in Waco. Cat euthanasia plummeted at the shelter once the Community Cat Diversion Program was implemented in the fall of 2013. FY 15/16 data is through September 30, 2016.