## APPENDIX T

## **The Best Friends Network**



# We can accomplish more when we work together.

We believe that each shelter and the community it serves has its own individual personality, just like each animal in its care. And because of that, each shelter deserves support and resources designed to address its specific lifesaving needs.

Best Friends
Network in 2017:

84 MA

percent\* collective save rate

\*Based on data submitted via Shelter Animals Count



#### A regional approach

Neighbors make great support systems — which is why Best Friends promotes lifesaving partnerships and programs at the community, state and regional levels. Guided by a dedicated Best Friends director and specialist, shelters in each state and region have the opportunity to participate in coalition-building, to learn from shelters in surrounding counties and states, and serve as lifesaving models for others.

#### Maximizing your lifesaving impact

Best Friends is committed to helping shelters save all healthy and treatable animals. We recognize that some animals are suffering from irremediable medical or behavioral conditions with no hope for quality of life, and we understand you must make those tough decisions. But for those we can help, we're here to offer support and resources to save more lives in your community.

network.bestfriends.org

# Resources to help you save more lives

#### Animal control officer training and support

Provide your field officers with effective approaches for engaging with community members, fostering public safety and keeping animals out of your shelter. Best Friends provides hands-on training led by experienced field officers for a wide array of animal-related issues.

#### **Community cat partnerships**

Create and sustain trap-neuter-return programs for cats in your community and reduce the number of animals entering your shelter each year. Best Friends operates more large-scale community cat programs than any other organization in the country.

### Events, grants and promotions

Save lives and raise money through national adoption promotions, major fundraising events and discounted registration for the Best Friends National Conference. You can also take advantage of a number of lifesaving grants reserved exclusively for network partners.

#### **Expert mentorship and resources**

Enjoy access to a variety of professional resources and support, including expert help on a range of topics through our mentorship program. You can also participate in the Best Friends Digital Community, a virtual space where partners can share best practices and connect with one another.

#### Shelter and field assessments

Receive an in-person visit from Best Friends' national shelter outreach team, along with a professional assessment of your shelter's operations, community programs and field operations (as needed). Ongoing support is also provided to ensure recommendations are sustainable and successful.





# The Best Friends Network, comprised of more than 2,400 public and private shelters, rescue groups, spay/neuter organizations and other animal welfare groups across all 50 states, is at the heart of the collaborative spirit that helps define Best Friends.

Just five years ago in Pima County, we were taking in about 25,000 animals, and half of those were dying. Best Friends Animal Society's community cat program coming to Pima Animal Care Center completely changed the game. And this past year, we didn't have to euthanize even one cat for behavioral reasons. That is a giant change for us, and our overall intake has been reduced to just over 16,000 animals now.

Kristen Auerbach, director, Pima Animal Care Center, Pima, Arizona,
 Best Friends Network partner since 2013

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Best Friends Animal Society is a leading national animal welfare organization dedicated to saving the lives of dogs and cats in America's shelters. In addition to running lifesaving programs in partnership with animal welfare groups across the country, Best Friends has regional centers in New York City, Los Angeles, Atlanta and Salt Lake City, and operates the nation's largest no-kill sanctuary for companion animals.

Working collaboratively with you and lifesaving partners across the country, we will achieve no-kill in America and Save Them All by 2025.



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