

K-9 ANGELS RESCUE

HOUSTON, TX

End of Year Message from RD Kissling, K-9AR Board President December 21, 2019

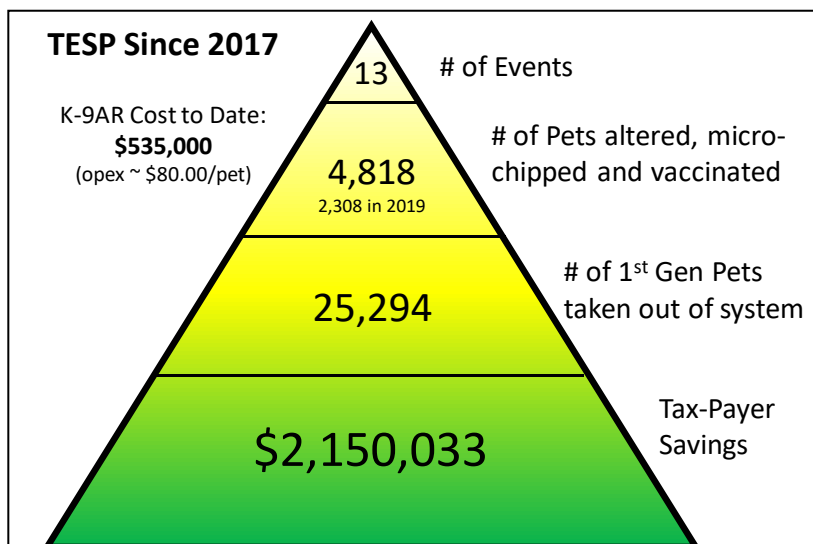


Happy Holidays to all K-9AR Volunteers, Fosters, Donors, Adopters and Followers! I am proud to say that in 2019, K-9AR continued to grow its impact on Animal Welfare in Houston, Harris County and surrounding areas. Our Rescue operations continue to show growth, but it appears that we have reached capacity for traditional local rescue and re-homing. We did grow our transport activities significantly this year however, moving nearly 350 dogs out of Texas to homes in Minnesota, Colorado, Indiana and Illinois. We also rescued and rehomed 205 cats which is a pretty impressive side-business. Overall another solid year for Rescue, which is very hard work requiring



long hours each week for many of our volunteers. **By year end we will pass 7000 total dogs rescued!** K-9AR will spend over \$300,000 in 2019 for adoption related operating expenses including veterinary care of the animals in our rescue program. This includes basic Spay/Neuter, microchipping, and vaccinations as well as advanced care for the many sick and injured dogs that we take into our program. **Ume for example, a black and white Shitzu who spent 3 months at the vet with heartworm and is now in her furever home. Or Macho – a pit mix puppy who was adopted and broke with Parvo months later even after receiving his three puppy shots. Even though he had been adopted, K-9AR had him treated with a plasma transfusion at an emergency vet clinic which saved his life. K-9AR spent over \$10,000 on these two pets alone.**

The Empty Shelter Project had a record year.



TESP puts on mass MASH-style spay and neuter events at local community centers in at-need areas of Houston and Harris County. **We did 5 one day events in 2019 spaying/neutering, microchipping and vaccinating 2,308 dogs and cats – all for free! We had two events where we did over 500 animals during the day!** The pyramid chart shows the dramatic impact TESP is having on Houston's pet overpopulation problem. K-9AR has incurred over \$500,000 in expenses for this program.

Each event costs ~\$40,000. We are excited to carry this program into 2020. We are looking to build partnerships with other animal welfare organizations as well as find sponsorships in the communities we operate in so that we can sustain this effort. In 2020 we will learn how to do some “mini” ESP events where we can take a handful of vets, vet techs and volunteers out to smaller and more far flung facilities and spay/neuter 100-150 dogs and cats with same day set up, event and breakdown.

The 1220 Clinic got fully up and running. This is the third major program under K-9AR. It is a high volume spay/neuter and wellness clinic located just blocks away from our Adoption Center in the Heights. The 1220 Clinic provides much needed additional spay neuter resource into Houston and Harris County. The Clinic was equipped using funds from a **PetSmart Charity** grant and generous donations from many veterinarians. All of this helps us monetize this amazing facility that is the storage and logistical hub for The Empty Shelter Project. An unforeseen side benefit is that it has become a hub for animal transport for several groups, providing health certificates, overnight lodging and vehicle loading assistance. **The 1220 clinic has spayed/neutered 1750 dogs and cats in 2019, including a few hundred spay/neuters that K-9AR comped for the public.**



Running a vibrant and growing non-profit requires constant fundraising efforts and our Fundraising Committee and Grant Writing Team once again did a fantastic job. Our Spring Fling returned to the **Karbach Brewery** where we had a large turnout and a lot of fun while raising some serious money. For the fifth straight year we partnered with **Best Friends Animal Society** for their national Strut Your Mutt campaign. **K-9AR's team raised \$152,000 which was third place nationally for this event!** I would like to recognize the participants in our **K-9 Angels Guardian** program for their continued support. **This program delivered \$30,000 in 2019** through recurring donations (a 25% increase from last year)! **K-9AR has also benefitted from a couple of significant grants.**

I end this letter with mostly the same words year to year because they are so true and so foundational to our success... **These accomplishments are enabled solely because of our dedicated and passionate K-9AR Volunteers, Fosters, Donors, Adopters and Followers! On behalf of the Board of K-9 Angels Rescue, I want to thank you all.**

RD Kissling
Board President

