



ANIMAL CARE SERVICES

FY 2012 ANNUAL REPORT



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Mission Statement: *Animal Care Services' mission is to encourage responsible pet ownership by promoting and protecting the health, safety and welfare of the residents and animals of Bexar County through education, enforcement, and community partnership.*

Message from the Director

This has been a landmark year in Animal Care Services' (ACS) growth and development. The changes implemented in the 2012 ACS Strategic Plan have not only saved thousands of animals in our care, but provided a model for other cities and communities to follow.

In FY 2011 the department's Live Release rate was 32%. ACS received funding to increase that number to 38% with the goal of reaching 70% by FY 2015. However, through the joint efforts of the City and our community partners, ACS's Live Release rate increased to 62%. In addition, the department ended the fiscal year on a high, recording a 72% Live Release rate for the month of September. For the first time in the department's 60 year history, more animals left the shelter alive than were euthanized.

What makes our Live Release Rate even more remarkable, is the fact that we've significantly increased the number of pets impounded. In FY 2012, nearly 35,000 pets were impounded; a 21% increase from the prior year. Our Enforcement Team is committed to resolving the problems with stray, loose pets and our statistics illustrate our focused dedication.

As an animal care and control organization, it has been a remarkable year of change, filled with many successes but our work is far from done. With a renewed commitment from the City, our partners, and through the revision of some of our strategies, the goal in FY 2013 is to reach the 70% Live Release rate 2 years ahead of schedule. To support this initiative the City has increased the department's funding for FY 2013; and the continued funding of the High Volume Pet Placement (HVPP) program and Rescue Partner Incentive Program (RPIP); increased spay/neuter surgeries; and expand our kennel capacity. In addition, the new Brackenridge adoption facility is scheduled to open this year which will further increase our live release rate and visibility within the community.

Lastly, I would like to personally thank our energetic, hardworking and committed staff, volunteers and community partners. Without you, the success of the previous year would not have been possible.

Thank you,



“With a renewed commitment from the City, our partners, and revising some of our strategies, the goal in FY 2013 is to reach the 70% Live Release rate two years ahead of schedule”.



Director: Kathy Davis

Key Initiatives of ACS - Update

High Volume Pet Partner (HVPP):

In an effort to increase the City's Live Release, ACS developed two (2) innovative programs to engage the animal rescue community in partnership to save lives. These programs are the High Volume Pet Partner (HVPP) program and the Rescue Partner Incentive Program (RPIP). These initiatives involving nine (9) local partner organizations are projected to facilitate 6,000 rescues annually. These programs have been hugely successful as evident with more than 7,927 animals being rescued in FY 2012. In light of this success, ACS will seek approval from City Council to renew the contracts for FY 2013 in late November 2012.



Alternative Stray Hold Housing:

In June, ACS entered into agreements with San Antonio Humane Society (SAHS) and Animal Defense League (ADL) for a three (3) month pilot program for housing stray pets and increasing kennel capacity at ACS. During the 3 month pilot program, SAHS and ADL were able to rescue 223 pets during their stray hold period. By doing so, the department was able to increase its kennel capacity by over 160 pets during the three (3) month trial period. As a result, ACS will continue this initiative through FY 2013 to ensure the department maintains its projected annual intake capacity of 31,000 pets.

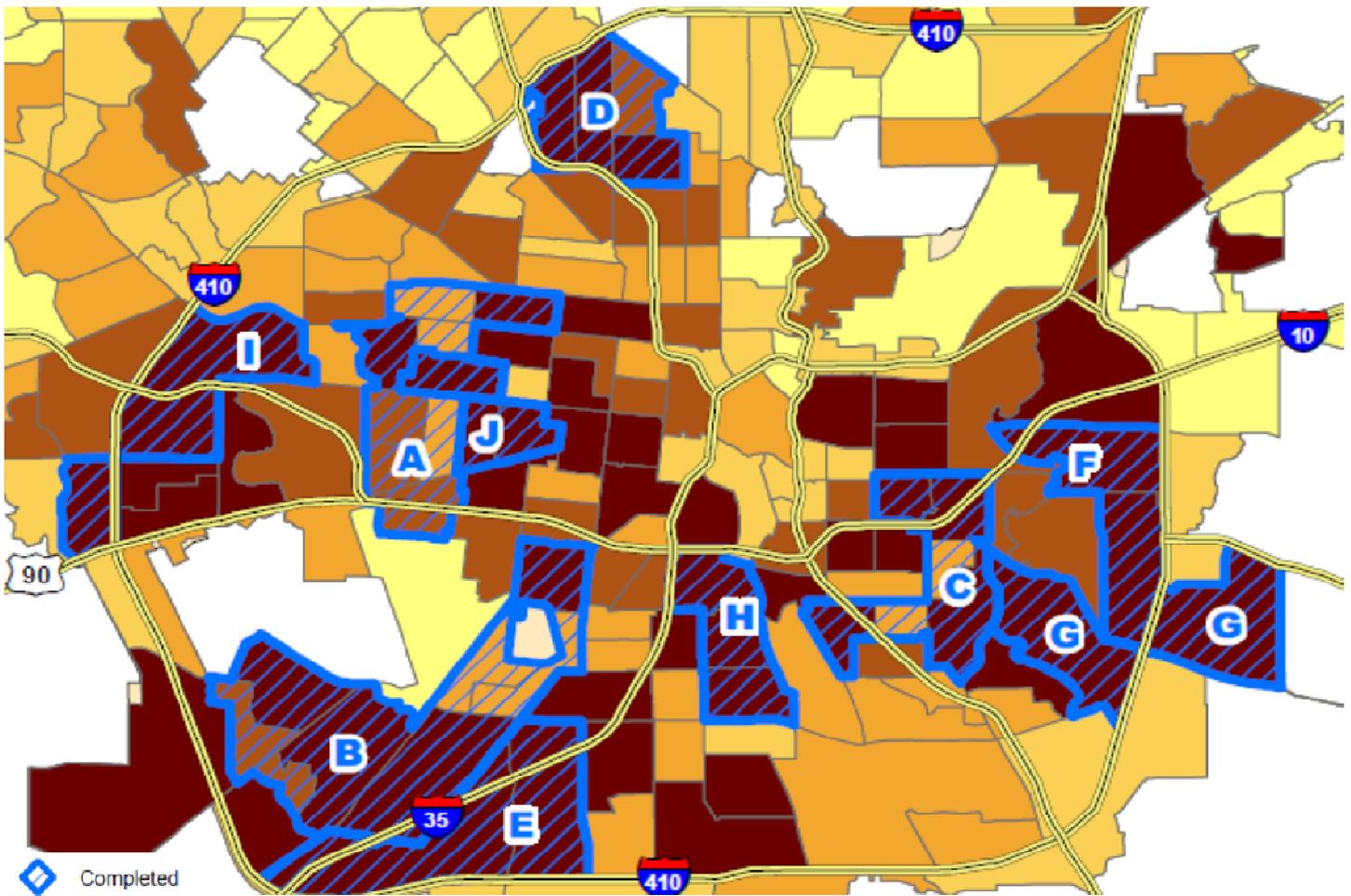
TNR Update:

In April, ACS embraced Best Friends Animal Society's Trap-Neuter-Release (TNR) Community Cat Program. The program humanly manages populations of free-roaming stray or abandoned house, barn, alley, and neighborhood cats, with the goal of humanely reducing these populations. This program has assisted many communities across the country in dealing with their cat overpopulation challenges. As part of the program, any feral or community cats brought into the shelter as stray will be spayed or neutered, vaccinated, ear tipped and returned to their original location provided they are healthy and old enough for surgery. In FY 2012, 945 cats have been successfully placed into the TNR program.



Comprehensive Neighborhood Sweeps Initiative (CNSI)

In October 2011, the Comprehensive Neighborhood Sweeps Initiative (CNSI) was implemented to educate the public regarding responsible pet ownership and to reduce the number of stray and roaming animals in high concentration 311 call areas. These target areas were identified as those with the highest call-for-service requests and bite cases. The department budgeted \$70,000 to support neighborhood block walks, enforcement sweeps, low-cost spay/neuter clinics, outreach, and vaccination events. In FY 2012, CNSI covered ten (10) target areas visiting 25,350 homes. Below is a summary of the results from all the FY 2012 CNSI areas.



	Area A	Area B	Area C	Area D	Area E	Area F	Area G	Area H	Area I	Area J	Totals
Block Walk Month	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Mar	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	FY 12
Volunteers	75	103	57	108	37	17	65	53	41	54	610
Homes Visited	2,000	2,650	1,404	2,535	2,400	2,444	2,835	2,909	2,492	3,681	25,350
Rabies Vaccines Provided	115	275	141	197	0	136	183	246	228	170	1,691
Licenses Issued	115	275	141	197	0	136	183	246	228	170	1,691
Citations/Warnings Issued	13	14	11	21	67	3	20	29	34	In progress	*212
Returns to Owner (Field)	4	3	2	5	7	4	14	5	17	In progress	*61
Animals Impounded	109	115	79	13	62	52	24	53	62	In progress	*569

* Results pending

Enforcement Indicators

Animal Care Services' (ACS) first strategic priority is to enhance the department's enforcement efforts. The department is responsible for protecting the health and safety of citizens and their pets in San Antonio and unincorporated portions of Bexar County. In FY 2012, ACS received 84,987 calls-for-service, impounded 34,946 animals, and issued 5,681 citations and warnings. In each category the department saw an increase from FY 2011; calls-for-service increased 4,216 (5%), impoundments by 6,551(19%) and citations and warning by 41 (1%).

Call-for-Service Requests



Impoundments



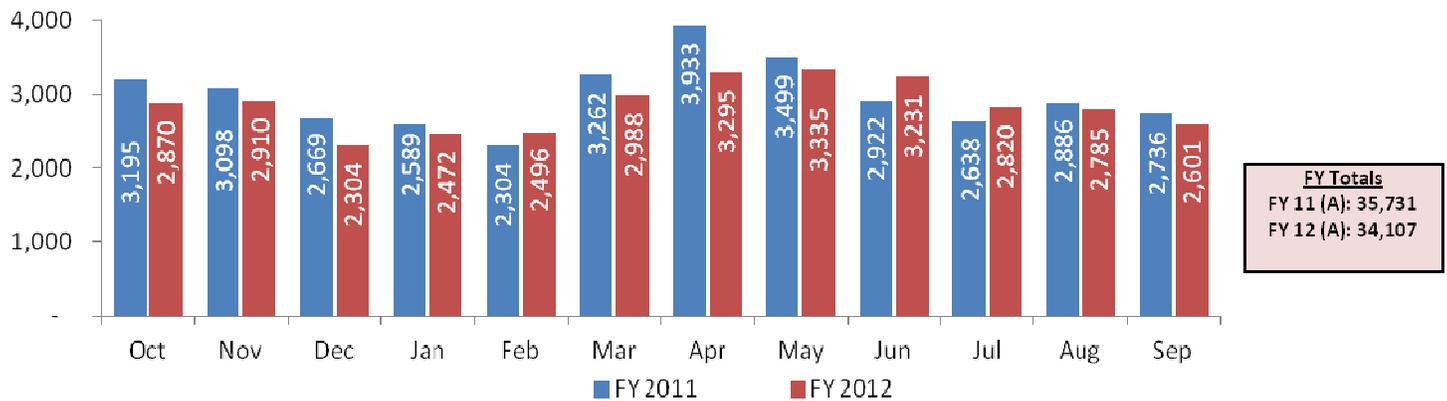
Citations and Warnings



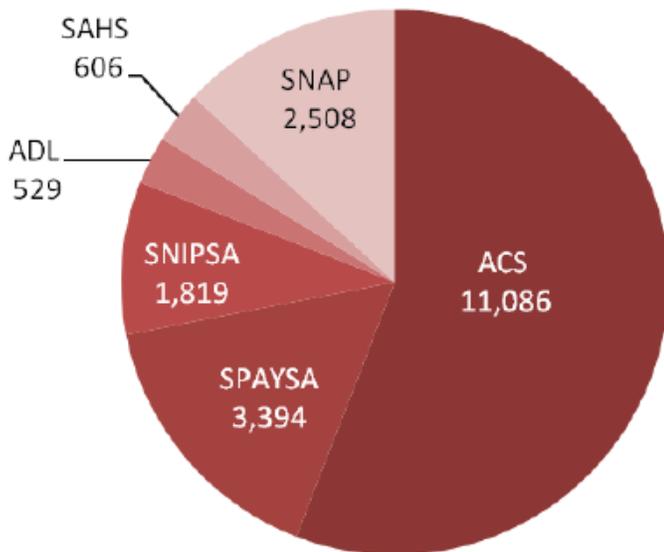
Control Indicators

The second strategic priority of ACS is to improve the control of the stray animal population. Through continued efforts such as increased spay/neuter surgeries and improved licensing; the City should see a reduction in roaming pets as well as lower pet intake. In FY 2012, ACS completed 11,086 in-house surgeries which is an increase of 2,291 (21%) from FY 2011. Our partners added to that number by performing 8,856 additional surgeries funded by ACS. In addition, the department saw a decrease of 4,867 (6%) in the number of deceased pets picked up by the Solid Waste Management Department.

Deceased Pet Pick-up

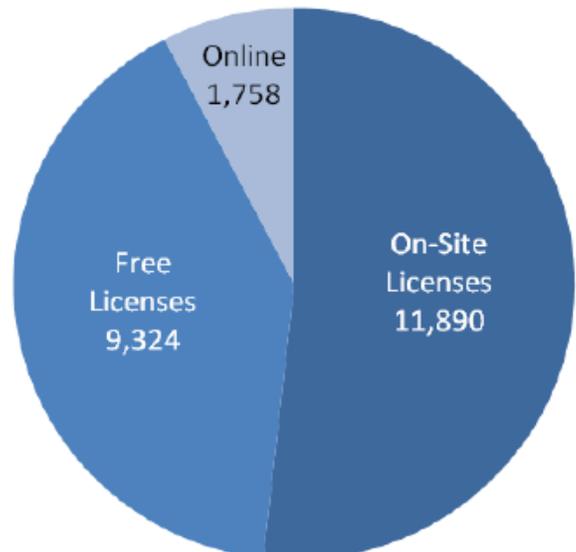


FY 2012 Surgeries



FY 2012 Surgeries
Total Surgeries: 19,846
Planned Amount: 16,366

FY 2012 Licenses



FY 2012 Licenses
Total Licenses Issued: 22,972
Planned Amount: 25,000

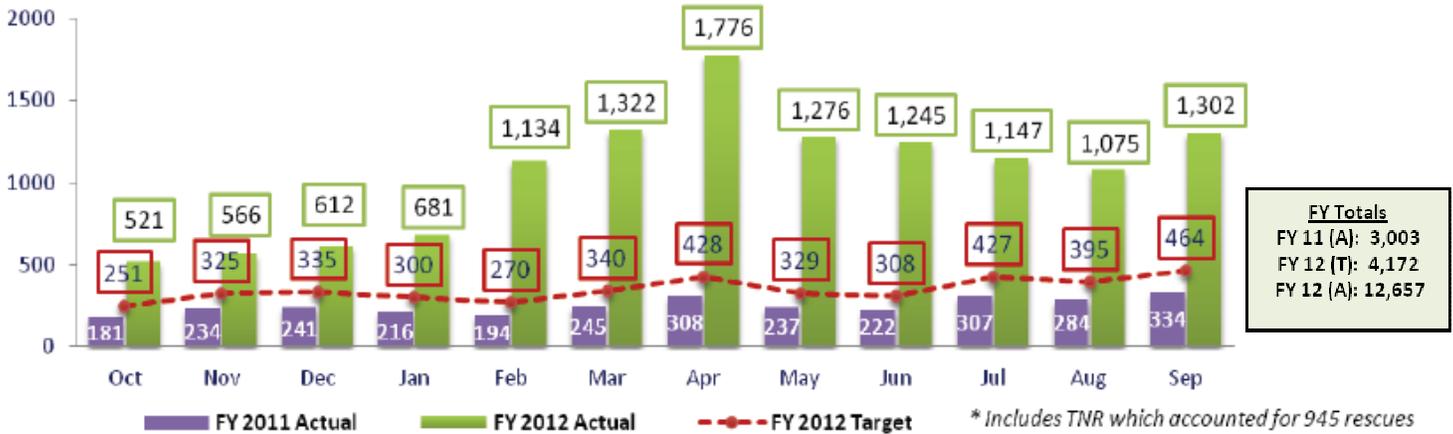
Live Release Indicators

The third strategic priority of ACS is to increase its “Live Release” rate. Live Release rates are calculated as the percentage of Adoptions + Rescues + Return-to-Owner (RTO) out of the total number of pets released. In FY 2012, ACS sustained a 61% percent live release rate the highest in the departments 60 year history. In addition, the department was able to send 12,657 pets to rescue which is an increase 9654 (76%) from FY 2011 and was able to adopt out 6,101 pets a 1,756 (29%) increase.

Live Release Rate



Rescues



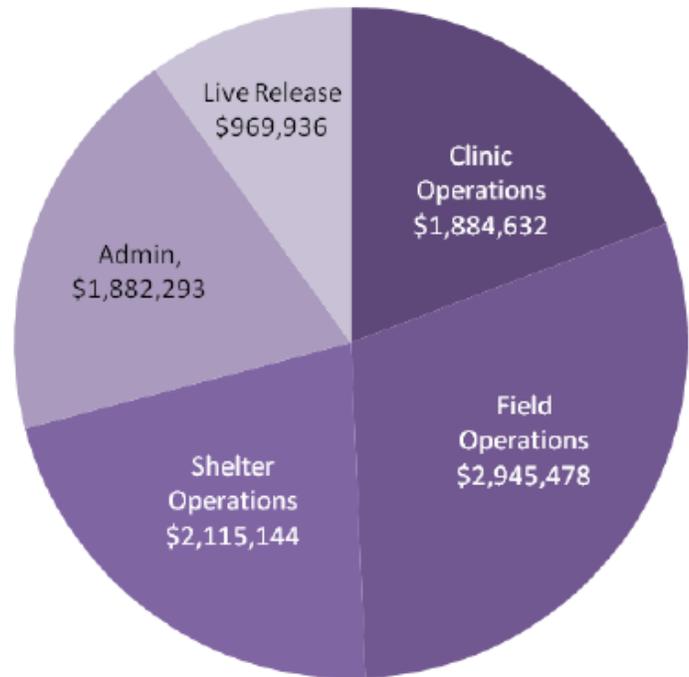
Adoptions



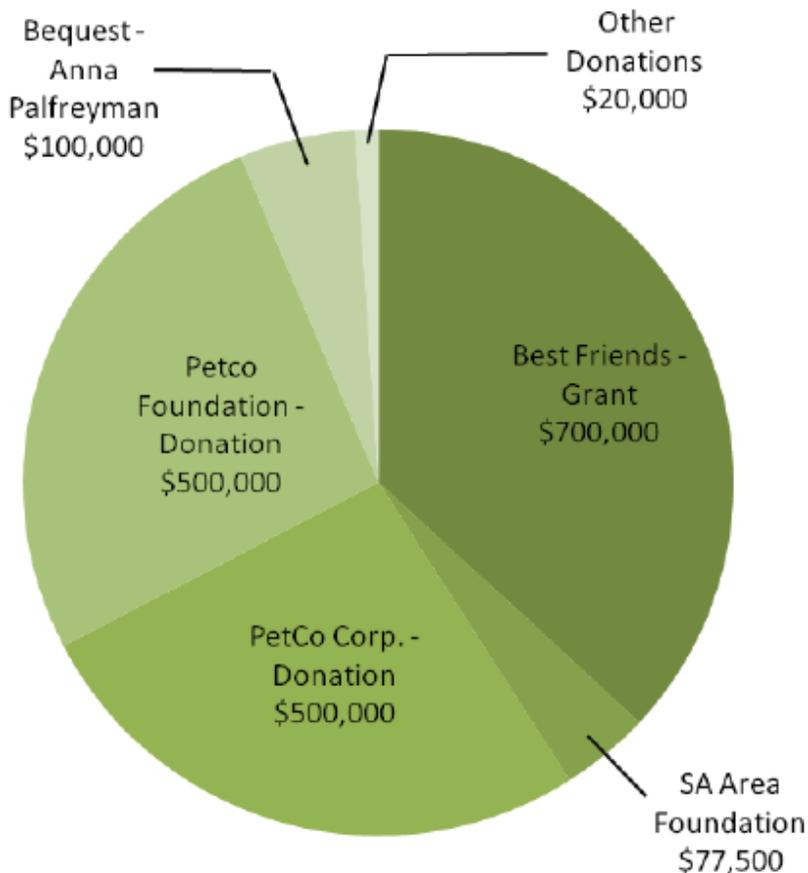
Fiscal Report



The FY 2012 Budget allocated (\$9.44 million) an increase of 6% for FY 2012 for an anticipated 38% live release rate. Due to the department's overwhelming success through the first half of the fiscal year, City Council approved an ordinance adjustment of \$190,000 in May which increased the budget to \$ 9.69 million. With the assistance of City Council and entities who donated additional funds (PETCO and the San Antonio Area Foundation) ACS was able to use donation funds to stay within budget and maintain a 62% Live Release rate for FY 2012.



FY 11 (A): \$8.85 M
FY 12 (T): \$9.69 M
FY 12 (A): \$9.69 M



FY 2012 Grants & Donations



\$2.0 million dollars in grants and donations allowed for the adequate funding of the High Volume Pet Partner (HVPP) program, spay/neuter surgeries, and additional medical supplies. We are grateful for the support these organizations have provided us and our mission.



FY 2013 Expectations

The ACS FY 2013 Budget will include a \$1.46 (15%) million dollar increase to the operating budget. This increase will allow the department to add seven (7) new positions within Clinic (4 Veterinarian Technicians) and Live Release (3 TBD Positions) which will be needed in order to support and maintain a 70% live release rate. Further details of the budgetary increase are provided below:

FY 2013 Budget

ACS General Fund	FY 2012 Adopted Budget	FY 2013 Proposed Budget	Change	% Change
ACS Total Budget	\$9.45	\$10.91	\$1.46	15%
Staffing Levels	129	136	7	5%

Outreach Programs:

In FY 2012, ACS received funding for several initiatives; (1) High Volume Pet Placement (HVPP) program \$250,000; (2) Marketing Campaign & Free Licensing program \$150,000; and (3) Education Awareness program \$70,000. Because of the success achieved by these programs ACS will continue funding these programs in FY 2013.



Spay/Neuter Funding:

The current budget maintains \$500,000 for community spay/neuter surgeries, which amounts to 9,434 surgeries. In FY 2012 the Clinic experienced a 22% increase in the number of Spay/Neuter surgeries from FY 2011. The department anticipates even more surgeries in FY 2013; ACS will increase the Clinic's budget with an additional \$323,000 to support the current Live Release rate increase.

Construction Initiatives:

On October 3, 2012, ACS formally broke ground on the Brackenridge Adoption Facility; construction is scheduled to be completed in late 2013. ACS is exploring options to outsource the operation of this new facility to a strategic partner. In addition, the 2012-17 Bond Project will allocate \$2.2 million dollars to increase the ACS' kennel capacity by approximately 3,000 pets annually. Final recommendations for use of the funds will be evaluated and presented to the Quality of Life Committee and City Council in March of 2013.



FY 2013 CNSI Plan

Due to the overwhelming success of the FY 2012 CNSI campaign, ACS will continue the program in FY 2013. The strategy will be comparable to the FY 2012 strategy but with a focus on issuing warnings and citations to repeat offenders. Based on data collected from 311 calls-for-service of high bite and stray animal calls, ACS has identified the first five (5) areas of the 2013 CNSI campaign and is labeled A – E on the map below.

