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Shaun Mulholland
Town of Allenstown
16 School St
Allenstown, NH 03275-1917
UNITED STATES

December 22, 2017

Dear Shaun,

We were delighted to meet so many city and county leaders at the ICMA conference in San Antonio. We were also inspired to hear about some of your progressive animal control and sheltering practices.

Municipalities that make the commitment to progressive animal services departments, not only create safe humane communities for people and pets, but also reap the economic and brand equity benefits for their city or county.

Best Friends Animal Society is partnering with county, city and nonprofit leadership across the nation to implement best practices in animal control and sheltering. There are no fees for our consultative and facilitative services. Our regional and national teams are comprised of animal services experts with entire careers in animal control and animal sheltering and all consulting services are tailored to each community's reality, strengths and challenges.

We love hearing about your successes and celebrating them, and we are always here to support you as you work to create safe and humane communities that incorporate progressive animal sheltering and control practices. One of the tools we have created is a resolution for local governments to pass, as a proverbial "stake in the ground" to achieve a 90% or higher live outcome. A copy of proposed language is enclosed.

Thanks to Shelter Animals Count (www.shelteranimalscount.org), a collaborative initiative formed by a diverse group of stakeholders to create and share a national database of sheltered animal statistics, we know that a number of your communities have already achieved a live outcome rate of 90% or higher. If your community is not already using Shelter Animals Count, we encourage you to sign up and encourage your local shelter and rescue organizations to do the same.

Thank you for your efforts for your community's pets and the residents who love them.

Sincerely,

Holly Sizemore
Chief National Programs Officer
Best Friends Animal Society

Example language for a resolution

WHEREAS, the official goal of *[fill in jurisdiction]* is to save the lives of all of the healthy, adoptable dogs and healthy cats in the possession of the *[fill in name of municipal shelter and/or municipal agency]*; and

WHEREAS the residents of *[fill in jurisdiction]* want to help bring about positive change for the dogs and cats in the care and possession of the *[fill in name of municipal shelter and/or municipal agency]*; and

WHEREAS, there are positive changes that can be made to increase lifesaving at the *[fill in name of municipal shelter and/or municipal agency]* in order to save all of the adoptable and healthy dogs and healthy cats in its care and possession; NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE *[city council or other legislative body]*:

1. That the *[fill in jurisdiction]* saves the lives of all healthy and adoptable dogs and healthy cats at the *[fill in name of municipal shelter and/or municipal agency]* no later than *[December 31, 2025 or earlier]*; and
2. That the *[city/town/county/other manager/administrator/other]* works, in collaboration with individuals and organizations in the area, to develop a comprehensive plan to reach this goal and present that plan to the *[fill in with name of legislative body]* no later than *[fill in date: no more than 90 days after the date of enacting this resolution]*.