

## **Tools and Resources for Helping More Victims through Awareness on the Link Between Domestic Violence and Animal Abuse**

Liz Murphy, Esq. Native America Humane Society  
Diana Webster, Esq. Native America Humane Society  
Laurel Meleski, RedRover

## **AGENDA**

- INTRODUCTIONS
- HOW DID WE GET HERE
- WHAT'S GOING ON WITH ANIMALS IN OUR COMMUNITIES NOW
- UNDERSTANDING THE LINK & RESOURCES NEEDED
- TOOLS & RESOURCES FOR HELPING VICTIMS



## Funding Opportunities for Your Pet-Friendly Housing Program

#petsarefamily

RedRover.org

### Objectives:

- Who is RedRover?
- RedRover's Safe Housing grants
- Additional funding resources
- What you can do right now



RedRover.org

2

## Bringing animals from crisis to care



RedRover Responders



RedRover Readers



RedRover Relief

RedRover.org

3

## RedRover Relief Domestic Violence programs:

- Safe Housing grants
- SafePlaceForPets.org

[RedRover.org/Domestic](http://RedRover.org/Domestic)



RedRover.org

4

## Safe Housing On-site Grants

- Start-up funds to enable a DV to house pets on-site (co-sheltering)
- Grants up to \$20,000
- Ready to build within 6 months of applying

### Highlights:

73 Safe Housing grant recipients for over \$477,500 since 2012

## Additional Safe Housing Grant Opportunities

## Safe Housing Off-site Grants

- Partner with a animal shelter or rescue to build housing specifically for the pets of survivors
- Grants up to \$20,000
- Ready to build within 6 months of applying
- <https://redrover.org/relief/safe-housing-off-site-grants/>

## Safe Housing Startup Grants

- DV shelters create their own program
- One-time grant
- Great way to build relationships and possible stepping stone
- Ready to start program within 3 months of applying
- <https://redrover.org/relief/safe-housing-startup-grants/>

<https://redrover.org/relief/safe-housing-grants/>

Domestic Violence Safe Housing: On-Site

Are there any legal issues to consider?

Will we need additional insurance?

How do we fund our Safe Housing program?

What is the cost of set up and maintenance?

What if a resident abandons their pet?

Why is it important to partner with a veterinarian?

Why is it important to partner with a local animal protection agency?

Do we need to partner with any other agencies?

### Project Preparation Checklist

Please be sure all of these items are complete before submitting the grant application. You attach the following documents to this application prior to submission: photo of area in which housed, project budget, timeline, first page of IRS letter of determination, copy of MOU with estimate from your partner veterinarian if requesting funds to cover veterinary care.

Have you obtained and read a copy of the Sheltering Animals and Families Together (SAFT) manual?  Yes  No

Have you obtained a written Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with a local animal rescue group(s)?\*  Yes  No

\* For assistance in housing larger animals, aggressive/frightened animals, or animals when and placement of abandoned animals.

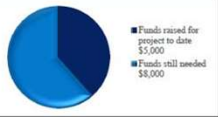
Have you identified a veterinary clinic or veterinarian to partner with you?  Yes  No

Have you ensured that the project meets all relevant animal Ordinances and Laws and spoken with your insurance company to ensure that pets will be allowed under your policy?  Yes  No

#### Safe Housing Project Budget (example)

Project Description: Add two outdoor stainless kennels to use back use our emergency shelter, add use to two pet designated rooms in the shelter and add accessible doors (doggy doors) from the designated rooms to the outside kennels.

FINANCIAL STATUS	
Total project budget	\$13,000
Minimum funding needed to begin	\$12,000
Funds raised for project to date	\$5,000
Funds still needed	\$8,000
RedRover Safe Housing grant funds requested	\$8,000



Detailed Project Budget (Please add additional lines as necessary.)			
Item	Quantity	Amount	
8x10 Dog Kennel w/ insulated dog box and chain link run area	2	\$6,030.00	
Pes Gravel	30	\$270.00	
White Vinyl Fencing	88	\$3,868.20	
Kennel labour and installation	-	\$500.00	
Dog Mate Medium Dog Door	2	\$70.40	
Linoleum	-	\$1,304.88	
Room labour and installation	-	\$500.00	
Dog Bed	2	\$80.00	
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$12,623.48</b>	

## Safe Housing Grant Applications

Apply online:  
[RedRover.org/SafeHousing](https://RedRover.org/SafeHousing)

Due May 15th and October 15th  
 each year



## Additional Funding Resources

- **The Jackson Galaxy Project:** <http://www.thejacksongalaxyproject.org/About-Us/Programs/Safe-Haven>
- **AKC Humane Fund:** [http://www.akchumanefund.org/forms/womens\\_shelters\\_grant](http://www.akchumanefund.org/forms/womens_shelters_grant)
- **Mary Kay Foundation:** <https://www.marykayfoundation.org/causes>
- **Banfield Foundation:** <https://www.banfield.com/banfield-foundation/programs>
- **Additional information:** <https://redrover.org/resource/domestic-violence-and-pets/>


## SafePlaceForPets.org:

Search   or

[Home](#) [Resources](#) [Survivor Stories](#) [About](#) [Get Involved](#) [Contact](#)

On-site housing, Off-site Housing, and Community Programs for people and pets who need a safe escape from domestic violence.

Search



View List by State or Province

## What you can do now

- Inquire about pets at intake

1. Are there pets at home?
2. How does each family member treat them?
3. Do you worry about something bad happening to them?
4. Is there somewhere safe they can stay?

- Include pets in safety planning (gather medical records and licenses - proof of ownership)

- Provide pet friendly resources

## Resources:

### **RedRover:**

[www.RedRover.org/domestic-violence-and-pets](http://www.RedRover.org/domestic-violence-and-pets)

### **National Link Coalition:**

[www.NationalLinkCoalition.org](http://www.NationalLinkCoalition.org)

### **Allie Phillips:**

[www.AlliePhillips.com](http://www.AlliePhillips.com)

### **DomesticShelters.org:**

[www.DomesticShelters.org/domestic-violence-articles-information/planning-for-pets-safety](http://www.DomesticShelters.org/domestic-violence-articles-information/planning-for-pets-safety)



Katie Campbell

Outreach Manager

[kcampbell@redrover.org](mailto:kcampbell@redrover.org)

(916) 247-2239



## About the Native America Humane Society

The Native America Humane Society works with communities to help them resolve their animal issues. We help people understand that when animals are healthy and well-cared for, the community will flourish. We facilitate long-term plans that are sustainable and locally driven. And we use animal issues as opportunities to develop the next generation of tribal leaders.



## Programs and Strategic Goals

The NAHS works in three main areas, all which contribute to our vision of a rekindled relationship with animals among tribal nations.



## Bridge to Animal Care

Hundreds of tribal nations face a critical gap in the availability of animal care services in their communities.

Our strategies:

- Collaborative partnerships for animal veterinary care services and sheltering of unwanted tribal pets.
- Public, searchable database of animal care service providers for tribal governments.
- Templates for tribal agreements with outside animal care service providers



## Community Engagement & Empowerment

The NAHS provides adaptable tools for humane and effective community governance that are responsive to tribal sovereignty.

Our strategies:

- Offer suite of best practices, examples, and choices for drafting or updating animal laws to better meet the needs of tribal communities
- Empower tribes by facilitating Humane Community Development process



## Leadership and Healing through Animals

We create opportunities for community members, especially tribal youth, to enrich their lives through careers, businesses, and activities involving animals. We also develop culturally appropriate programs that provide social benefits through animals.

Our strategies:

- Provide opportunities for tribal members especially youth to develop and pursue their interests (whether in veterinary medicine or in related fields)
- Build the Tribal Link Network to share tools and resources for human and animal victims of violence



## Available Resources

- Donated pet food and supplies (as available) from Rescue Bank
- Veterinary care clinics with NAHS partners
- Information on grant funding for animal programs
- Training on link between domestic (family) violence and animal abuse for tribal leadership, law enforcement, and social services
- Tribal youth externships
- Humane Community Development Workshop
  - Community-led framework for developing sustainable and humane animal population management programs
- Model animal regulations and codes
- Humane education materials
- Disaster preparation for animals

## HOW DID WE GET HERE

### HISTORY OF ANIMALS IN TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

- Each tribe had their own values, traditions, and stories regarding animals
- General Tenets:
  - Creation Stories
  - Clan/Affinity Identities
  - Laws/Customs

## AFFECTS OF COLONIZATION OF TRIBAL COMMUNITIES' RELATIONSHIPS TO ANIMALS

- Colonization altered both human-human AND human-animal relationships
- European cultures and values centered on patriarchy
  - Violence and abuse tolerated against women and children
    - Clash with tribal cultures

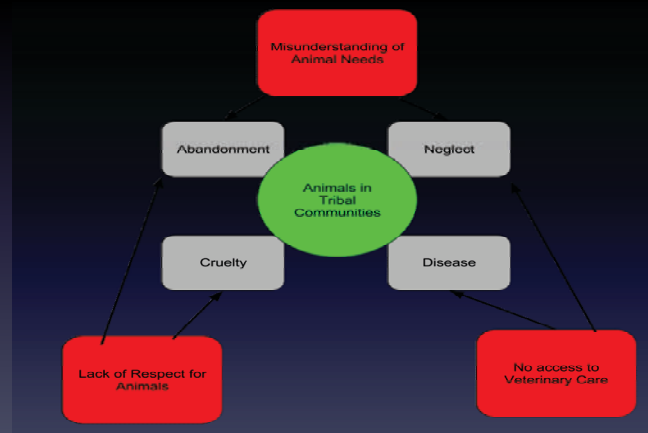
## Current Snapshot

- Native women face the highest rates of sexual and domestic violence
- Native children disproportionately removed from the home
- Highest incarceration rate per population
- Tribal communities face some of the highest rates of:
  - Crime & violence, homelessness, substance use, suicide, mental health and physical health issues, pollution, unemployment

- Animal abuse has become common, including interspecies sexual assault (bestiality)
  - Sexual Violence against animals used to threaten and control human victims
- Direct link to bestiality and crimes against humans: crimes against children (including child sexual assault), domestic violence, the making of child or animal pornography
- 38 States have anti-bestiality laws
  - Nearly half of the states require those who were convicted of bestiality to register as sex offenders

- Many tribal codes have also prohibited bestiality (often found in the sex abuse/crimes sections)
  - Ex: Yankton Sioux Tribe Criminal & Juvenile Code
  - Ex: Tulalip Tribal Code
  - Ex: Quilete Tribal Code

## WHAT'S GOING ON WITH ANIMALS IN OUR COMMUNITIES NOW



## Current Status of Animals in Tribal Communities

- Most prevalent issues:
  - Animal abuse
  - Overpopulation
  - Feral/wild
  - Pack animals (increased maulings and disease)
- Altered relationship to animals
  - Less adherence to traditional values regarding animals



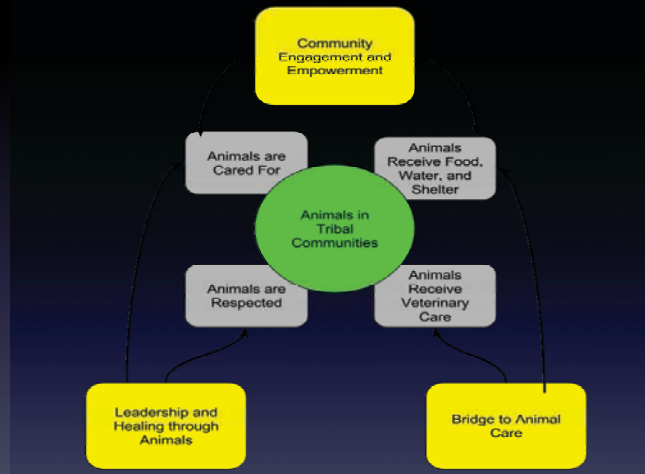
## Abuse and Mistreatment

- Big Issues: neglect, domestic violence including companion animals, dog fighting
- Many tribes already have animal abuse codes and DNR codes, but most of them do not address tribal cultural values
  - Many tribal codes do not protect animals as DV victims
    - One of the biggest obstacles preventing the improvement of these laws is difficulty developing priorities due to lack of information
- Typically low-level misdemeanors

## Overpopulation

- Overpopulation primarily due to two factors:
  - (1) allowing or unable to control reproduction among companion animals;
  - (2) companion animals that are relinquished by their owners
- Many tribal communities lack access to spay and neuter services.

# NAHS VISION



## UNDERSTANDING THE LINK

- THE LINK: studies have repeatedly shown that there is a link between domestic violence and animal abuse
  - Domestic abusers often target pets/companion animals to control and threaten human victims
    - Victims will often delay leaving their abusers for fear of their animal's safety or lack of resources to bring their animal with them.
      - Approximately 48%

- 2015 NAHS Study confirmed that the Link is prevalent in tribal communities as well
  - (1) animals belonging to victims are frequently abused to control victims; and
  - (2) tribal domestic violence shelters currently lack resources to keep victims and their companion animals together.

Four themes emerged in survey: Overpopulation, Lack of tribal community resources, lack of code enforcement, and lack of awareness

## Understanding the Link in Indian Country

- **Native America Humane Society, Tribal Link**
  - [www.nativeamericahumane.org/triballink.html](http://www.nativeamericahumane.org/triballink.html)
- **Sarah Deer & Liz Murphy, “Animals May Take Pity on Us: Using Traditional Tribal Beliefs to Address Animal Abuse and Family Violence Within Tribal Nations” (2017)**
  - [open.mitchellhamline.edu/mhlr/vol43/iss4/1/](http://open.mitchellhamline.edu/mhlr/vol43/iss4/1/)

## Requires Multi-Prong Approach

- Awareness and education
- Population management including spay/neuter
- Good pet guardianship through wellness clinics
- Youth programming and community leadership
- Facilitating partnerships with outside providers
- Advocating for reformed animal laws

## Resources Needed

- Shelters that accommodate pets
  - Red Rover Program (to be discussed further)
  - Grants to provide shelter assistance
- Temporary Foster Homes
  - Individual foster homes
  - Veterinary Hospitals as fosters
  - Reduced costs

- Spay/Neuter Services & other veterinary needs
  - Alliances with local veterinarians
  - Alliances with local veterinary college(s)
    - Example: University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine
- Travel Resources
  - Agreements with local transportation services
  - Geographic barriers in Indian Country

## Necessary to Help Native Victims

- Understand challenges unique to tribal communities and Native peoples
  - Historical Trauma
  - Geographic barriers
  - Economic barriers, poverty
  - Political and jurisdictional barriers
- Trauma Informed Response + Cultural Competence
  - Understand Historical Trauma
  - Cultural Competency: makes victims/survivors feel more accepted and comfortable

# TOOLS & RESOURCES

## Shelters that Accommodate Pets

- Shelters that accommodate pets and their humans can be hard to find!
  - Becoming more common, but as of July 2018, only an estimated 3% of shelters accommodate pets
- A lot of factors for a shelter to consider:
  - Funding (food, medical costs, supplies, fencing), allergies of other residents, cleaning, and liability

- **Safe Havens Mapping Project**
  - <https://awionline.org/safe-havens>
  - Interactive map in which you can search by state, zip code and distance by miles
    - » List managed by Animal Welfare Institute
- **A Safe Place for Pets**
  - [www.safeplaceforpets.org](http://www.safeplaceforpets.org)
  - Managed by RedRover
  - Search by state, county, “map it”, & phone numbers
- **Sheltering Animals and Families Together**
  - [www.alliephillips.com/saf-tprogram/saf-t-shelters](http://www.alliephillips.com/saf-tprogram/saf-t-shelters)

- Funding is the biggest barrier for shelters in providing accommodations for pets.
- Consider contacting your Congressperson and encourage them to support the PAWS Act of 2017 (Bi-partisan)
  - Among other items, it directs the Department of Agriculture to award grants for shelter and housing assistance and support services for domestic violence victims with pets
    - More info: [petsandwomensafety.com](http://petsandwomensafety.com)

## RedRover Program

- As presented by RedRover representative
  - “Funding Opportunities for Your Pet Friendly Housing Programs”
- Discussing Safety Planning

## Additional Resources for Shelters Seeking Grants (General)

- **Rural Health Information Hub**
  - [www.ruralhealthinfo.org/topics/violence-and-abuse/funding](http://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/topics/violence-and-abuse/funding)
- **Federal Funding (grants)**
  - Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)
  - Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)
    - Services for Rural Victims, Transitional Housing
  - Family Violence Prevention & Services Act (FVPSA)



## Additional Safety Planning for Pets

- **National Link Coalition, Safety Planning (2013)**
  - 18 pages of detailed information
    - [www.nationallinkcoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/DV-SafetyPlanningCompilation.pdf](http://www.nationallinkcoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/DV-SafetyPlanningCompilation.pdf)
- **Allie Phillips, Safety Planning Brochure (2018)**
  - [www.alliephillips.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Safety-Planning-Brochure-2018-4.jpeg?x10201](http://www.alliephillips.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Safety-Planning-Brochure-2018-4.jpeg?x10201)

## Animal Welfare Institute Resources for Shelters, Victims & Workers

- [www.awionline.org/content/companion-animals](http://www.awionline.org/content/companion-animals)
  - Safety Planning
  - Intake Questions
  - Signs of Animal Abuse for Child Protection Workers
  - Including Pets in Protection Orders

## Information for Organizations Looking to Establish Safe Havens for Pets

- **Humane Society of the United States, Starting a Safe Havens for Animals Program**
  - 23 pages
    - [www.humanesociety.org/sites/default/files/docs/2004-safe-havens-animal-program.pdf](http://www.humanesociety.org/sites/default/files/docs/2004-safe-havens-animal-program.pdf)
- **Sheltering Families and Animals Together Program**
  - 58 pages
    - [www.alliephillips.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/SAF-T-Start-Up-Manual-2015.pdf?x10201](http://www.alliephillips.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/SAF-T-Start-Up-Manual-2015.pdf?x10201)

## Additional Resources for Victims

- **STARelief & Pet Assistance**
  - SafePlace for Pets (free and temporary foster care), Food pantry, funding for routine & emergency medical care
  - Based in Stamford, CT
    - [www.starelief.org](http://www.starelief.org)
- **Pets of the Homeless**
  - Search for homeless shelters allowing pets, free clinics, emergency veterinary care
    - Can search by city and state
    - [www.petsofthehomeless.org](http://www.petsofthehomeless.org)

- **People with Pets**
  - National directory/search database for pet friendly apartments, homes & hotels
    - [www.peoplewithpets.com](http://www.peoplewithpets.com)
- **Pets Welcome**
  - National directory/search database for pet friendly hotel lodging
    - [www.petswelcome.com](http://www.petswelcome.com)
- **National Center Against Domestic Violence**
  - List of organizations helping victims & hotlines
    - [www.ncadv.org/resources](http://www.ncadv.org/resources)
- **National Indigenous Women's Resource Center**
  - [www.niwrc.org](http://www.niwrc.org)

## Assistance in Finding Foster Homes

- **PACT for Animals**
  - Assistance for finding temporary foster homes
    - [www.pactforanimals.org](http://www.pactforanimals.org)
- **Displaced Paws**
  - Matching service site to help those seeking foster homes and those wanting to foster
    - [www.displacedpaws.org](http://www.displacedpaws.org)

## Legal

- **Animal Legal Defense Fund**
  - Advocacy, litigation, legislation
    - [www.aldf.org](http://www.aldf.org)
- **Animal Legal and Historical Center**
  - Codes/statutes, proposed legislation, law reviews
    - [www.animallaw.info](http://www.animallaw.info)
- **Animal Welfare Institute**
  - Tailored to Wisconsin
    - [www.awionline.org/sites/default/files/uploads/documents/AWI-CA-WI-PPO-Manual-012015.pdf](http://www.awionline.org/sites/default/files/uploads/documents/AWI-CA-WI-PPO-Manual-012015.pdf)

- **Rob Roy Smith, “At a Complex Crossroads: Animal Law in Indian Country” (2007)**
  - [www.animallaw.info/sites/default/files/lralvol14\\_1\\_109.pdf](http://www.animallaw.info/sites/default/files/lralvol14_1_109.pdf)

# Veterinary Services

- **Best Friends**
  - Maintains comprehensive list of financial assistance for veterinary care
  - Can search by state
    - [www.bestfriends.org/resources/financial-aid-pets](http://www.bestfriends.org/resources/financial-aid-pets)
- **Brown Dog Foundation**
  - Assistance in medications
    - <http://www.browndogfoundation.org/>

- **The Mosby Foundation**
  - Assists critically injured, abused or neglected dogs
    - [www.themosbyfoundation.org](http://www.themosbyfoundation.org)
- **Onyx and Breezy Foundation**
  - Spay and neuter, food, medicine and supplies assistance
    - [www.onyxandbreezy.org](http://www.onyxandbreezy.org)
- **Humane Society of the United States**
  - Comprehensive list of non-profit organizations by state that help provide veterinary services/financial assistance
    - [www.humanesociety.org/resources/are-you-having-trouble-affording-your-pet](http://www.humanesociety.org/resources/are-you-having-trouble-affording-your-pet)

- **VCA Pet Food Pantry**
  - 32 locations (18 states)
    - [www.vcacharities.org/programs/pet-food-pantry](http://www.vcacharities.org/programs/pet-food-pantry)

## Traveling Resources

- **The Milligan Foundation**
  - Assistance in purchasing bus, train and plane tickets for victims of domestic violence
    - [www.themilliganfoundation.org](http://www.themilliganfoundation.org)
- **Angel Flight West**
  - Non-profit that arranges free, non-emergency transportation within the 13 Western States for adults and children with serious medical issues/compelling needs, including domestic violence relocation
    - [www.angelflightwest.org](http://www.angelflightwest.org)

## Questions?

- NAHS
  - [info@nativeamericahumane.org](mailto:info@nativeamericahumane.org)
  - Facebook: [www.facebook.com/nativeamericahumane](http://www.facebook.com/nativeamericahumane)
- RedRover
  - [info@redrover.org](mailto:info@redrover.org)
  - (916) 429-2457