



BIG FIX HOUSTON

Together we can end animal overpopulation

Big Fix Houston is a project of Unity for a Solution, a collaboration of animal welfare groups, civic associations and businesses with over 40 partners. Since 2013, Unity has worked to help Houston's animals by providing hundreds of free spay neuter surgeries to pets in neighborhoods hardest hit by animal overpopulation.



BIG FIX
H O U S T O N

**SPAY,
NEUTER,
MICROCHIP.**
Let's Stop Overpopulation.

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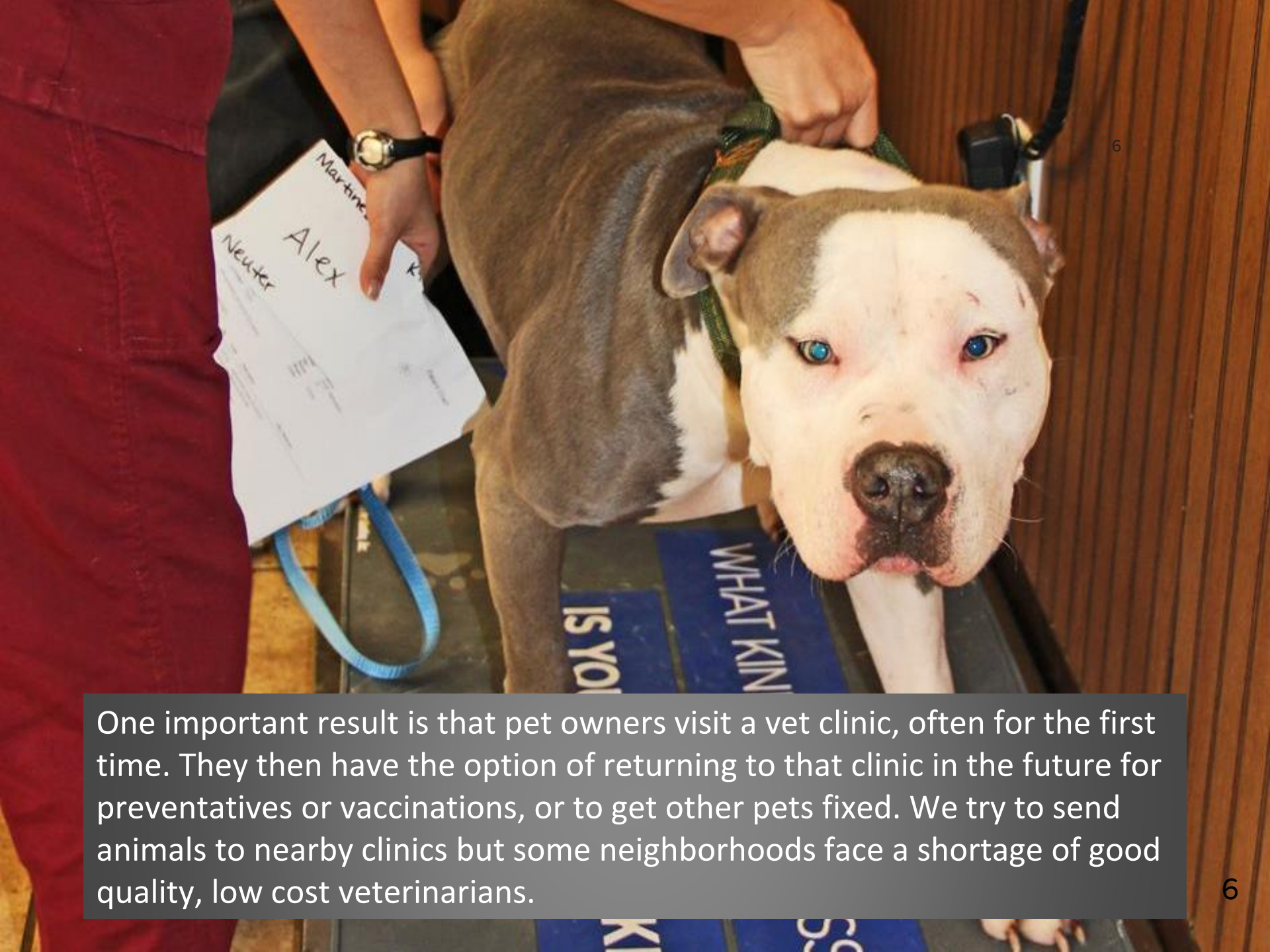
We also have worked to raise awareness about Houston's animal welfare issues through outreach events and billboard campaigns. Clear Channel Outdoor has generously supported our work over the years.

Our latest project is Big Fix Houston, an annual, large scale, one-day event where we sign up pets for free spay or neuter, vaccinations and microchips at different sites around the city. Since 2017, we've targeted the Third Ward, Fifth Ward, Near Northside, North Hobby, Sunnyside, South Park, East End, Manchester, Denver Harbor, Acres Homes and Independence Heights.



Each site is staffed by volunteers who live or work in the area. On sign up day, the response from pet owners is often overwhelming. After sign ups, surgeries are scheduled and performed at private vet clinics and at BARC, Emancipet and the Houston Humane Society. This year, Citizens for Animal Protection (CAP) on I-10 will also perform surgeries.





One important result is that pet owners visit a vet clinic, often for the first time. They then have the option of returning to that clinic in the future for preventatives or vaccinations, or to get other pets fixed. We try to send animals to nearby clinics but some neighborhoods face a shortage of good quality, low cost veterinarians.

During the past two years, Big Fix Houston has signed up 1846 pets. The average completion rate for surgeries is 53%. We are concerned about the completion rate and have reached out to owners who elected not to participate to find out why.

District	Council Member	Signed Up
A	Stardig	27
B	Davis	309
C	Cohen	25
D	Boykins	241
E	Martin	14
F	Le	1
H	Cisneros	589
I	Gallegos	379
J	Laster	9
K	Green	33
N/A	Outside City	90
N/A	Unidentified	129
	TOTAL	1846



The reasons vary and include owners who changed their minds, gave the animal away, needed transportation to the vet clinic or had interference from work or school.

This year, we plan to call each owner who didn't show up and work to get them in. When possible, we will provide transportation or other direct assistance.



The average annual cost for Big Fix Houston is \$100,000. CM Cisneros and CM Gallegos have each donated \$10,000 every year. We raise the rest through private donations and fundraising events like our kick off party and silent auction.



Our next sign up date is February 9, 2019. We will be at Eastex Jensen, Independence Heights, Acres Homes, Manchester, Magnolia Park, North Hobby, East End, and Fifth Ward. We will also have a site at CAP.

Many thanks to CM Gallegos and CM Cisneros for their ongoing support of Big Fix Houston. This year, we are also looking forward to participating in CM Cisneros' Love Your Pet series of events, also in February.



To learn more, go to
www.unityforasolution.org
www.bigfixhouston.org