



After Action Report

Harris County Public Health & Environmental Services
Veterinary Public Health

Targeted Pit Bull Spay & Neuter Voucher Project
09/22/10



Pit Bull Free Spay & Neuter Voucher Project

Table of Contents

Topic	Page
1. Recipient Organization	4
2. Project Description	5
3. Project Activity	9
4. Project Impact	14
5. Grant Budget Expenditures	18
6. Appendix	20

Appendix Table of Contents

Topic	Page
1. Marketing Materials Design	20
2. Educational Materials	22
2. Reinforcement Materials	24
3. Community Acknowledgement	28
4. Ledger Items Greater Than \$100	32
5. Original Grant Request Budget	37
6. Collaborative Team	38

Pit Bull Free Spay & Neuter Voucher Project

Illustrations

Figure	Description	Page
1	Photo of HCPHES VPH Facility	4
2	HCPHES VPH Logo	4
3	Project Fit with 4 R's	5
4	Aldine, Harris County, TX	6
5	U.S. Census Bureau 2000 Data	6
6	Responsible Pit Bull Ownership Campaign Under P.E.T Project	7
7	P.E.T. Project & PETCO Foundation Spay-Neuter Voucher Project	8
8	“Off the Chain-On the Leash” Design	9
9	Bi-Lingual Responsible Pit Bull Owner Brochure	10
10	Community Outreach	11
11	North East Community Center	12
12	Aldine Community Health Center	12
13	Aldine Y.O.U.T.H.	12
14	Voucher Design	13
15	Comparison Bar Chart of Project Period Versus Previous Year	14
16	Comparison Numerical Chart of Project Period Versus Previous Year	15
17	Bar Chart Pit Bull Impounds	15
18	Families Waiting for Free Spay or Neuter Surgeries	16
19	Breakdown of the Pit Bull Dogs Receiving Spay-Neuter Surgery	16
20	Pit Bull Dog Recovering from Spay-Neuter Surgery	16
21	Unlikely Candidates	17
22	Mix of S-N Recipients	17
23	Funding Allocation	18
24	Project Expenditures	19
25	Marketing Materials Design - English	20
26	Marketing Materials Design - Spanish	21
27	Front Page of Responsible Pit Bull Owner Brochure (English)	22
28	Front Page of Responsible Pit Bull Owner Brochure (Spanish)	23
29	T-Shirt Design	24
30	Leash & Pencils	25
31	Book Cover/Poster	26
32	Dog Bandana	27
33	Marley Sporting the Bandana	27
34	Strategic Partner Award	28
35	Original Grant Request Budget	37

PETCO Foundation After Action Report

Recipient Organization

Recipient Organization Name

Harris County Public Health & Environmental Services, Veterinary Public Health (HCPHES VPH)

Name of Executive Director

Dawn D. Blackmar, D.V.M.

Organization Address

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City, State, ZIP

Houston Texas 77076

Website Address

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Grant Contact Person

Name Fiona Cunningham

Title Resource Development Specialist

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Fax 281-847-1911

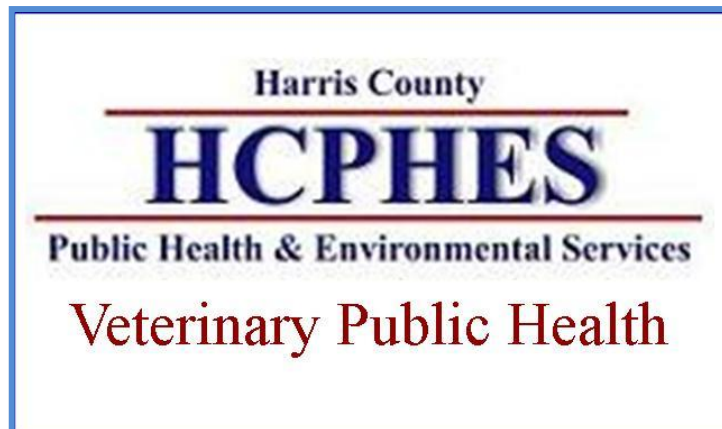
E-mail

fcunningham@hcphe.org



Figure 1 HCPHES VPH Facility

Figure 2 HCPHES VPH Logo



Project Description

Project Name

“Targeted Pit Bull Spay-Neuter Voucher Project”

Purpose

To **reduce** intentional and unintentional injuries, transference of infectious diseases, and neighborhood nuisances caused by dangerous pit bull terrier type dogs (pit bull dogs) in ZIP codes 77093 & and 77039.

Short-term Goals

Educate at least 1,800 residents on responsible pit bull ownership and bite prevention and **spay-neuter at least 55 - 60 pit bull dogs** within Houston ZIP codes 77093 and 77039.

Long-term Goals

Encourage, support and **rehabilitate** a community’s intolerance for free roaming and mishandled dangerous pit bull dogs and reduce the number of pit bull dog related incidents, (stray, owner surrender, bites, free roaming) in ZIP codes 77093 & 77039.

Grant Amount Requested \$8,472

Grant Amount Received \$8,500

Grant Category

Project support of the PETCO Foundation’s “4 R’s of **Reduce, Rescue, Rehabilitate & Rejoice**”.

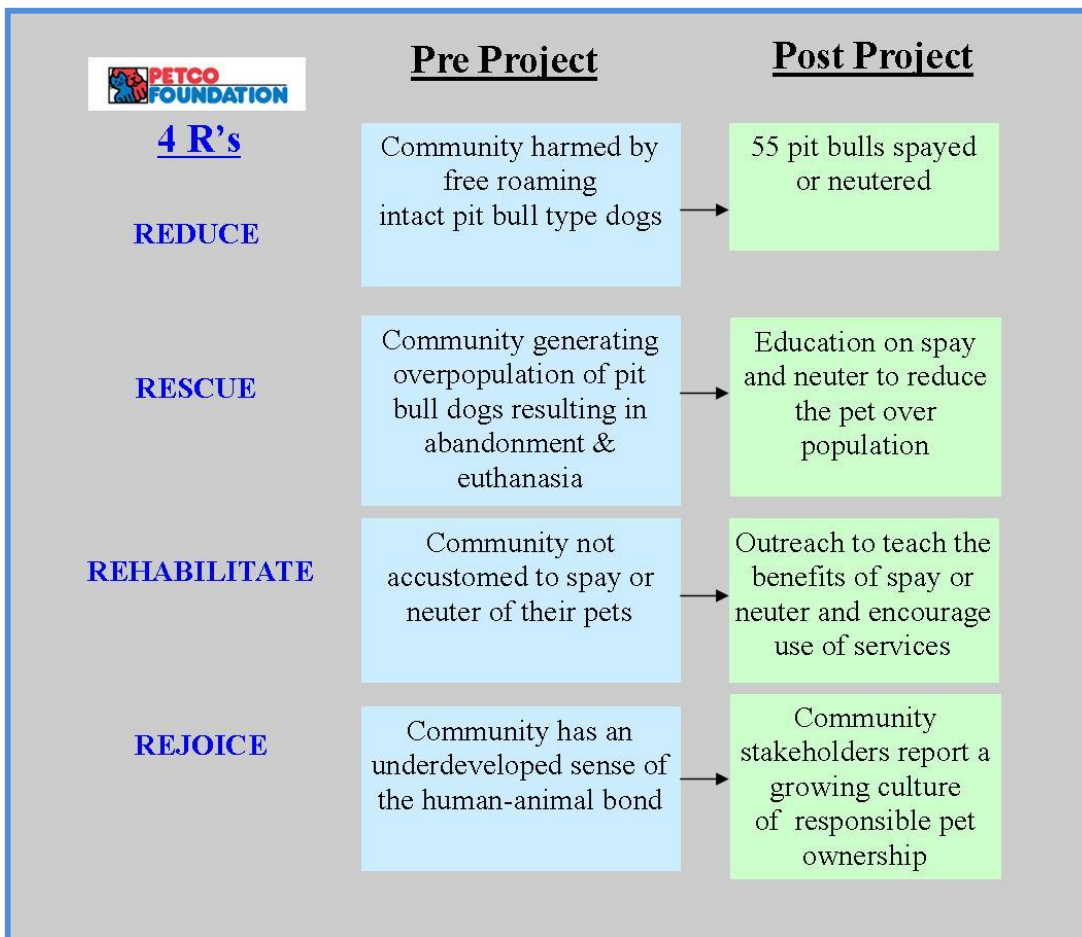
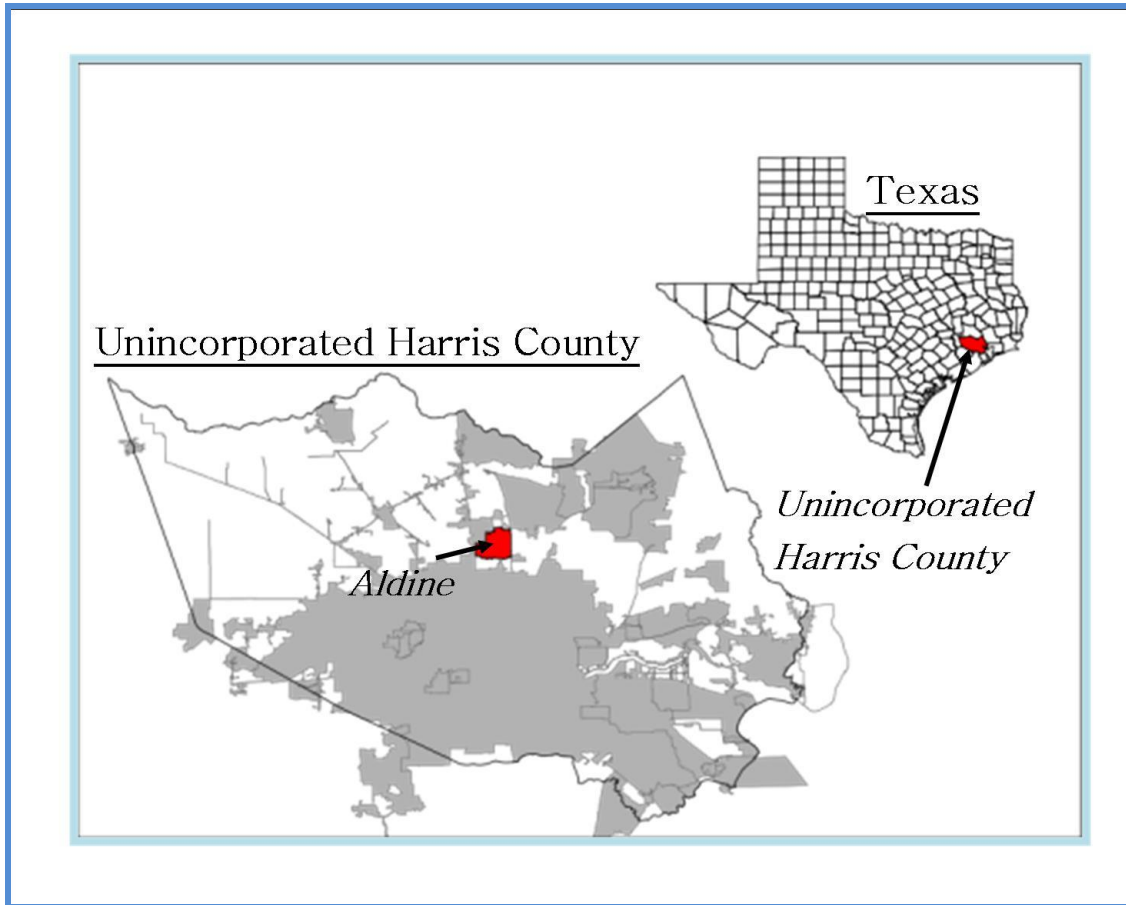


Figure 3 Fit with the 4 R's

Location

The community targeted for the Targeted Pit Bull Spay-Neuter Voucher Project was ZIP codes 77093 & 77039, an area of Houston known as Aldine.

Figure 4 Aldine, Harris County, Texas



Location Description

Aldine is located within unincorporated central Harris County. According to the U.S. Census Bureau 2000 national population estimates, the population in the targeted area is 73,626. Twenty-three percent of families live below the U.S. Census Bureau’s poverty level. In comparison, the US average of families living below the poverty level is 9 percent. Also, 61 percent of the population is Hispanic or Latino by origin, as compared to the U.S. national estimate of 12.5 percent. Forty-seven percent speak Spanish in the home, as compared to a national estimate of 12 percent. Fifteen percent speak only Spanish as compared to the national estimate of 1 %.

Figure 5 U.S. Census Bureau 2000 Data

	Targeted Area	USA
Population	73,626	281,421,906
Families Below Poverty Level	23 %	9 %
Population Hispanic/Latino Origin	61 %	12.5 %
Speak Spanish in the Home	47 %	12 %
Speak only Spanish	15 %	1 %

Project Start Date June 24, 2009

Project End Date June 17, 2010

Project within the P.E.T. Project

During the first half of 2009, HCPHES Veterinary Public Health (in conjunction with community partners/leaders and local animal welfare organizations) embarked upon an intervention project aimed at creating a community of responsible pet owners in the Aldine area (zip codes 77093 and 77039). This intervention project was called the P.E.T. project (Protect, Educate, & Train). The goal of the P.E.T. project was to encourage, support, enforce, and develop a community intolerance of free roaming and mishandled dogs and cats.

Collaboration of data and activity history from HCPHES VPH and community partners revealed that certain isolated areas (designated by ZIP codes) and adjacent communities suffered from significantly higher incidents of:

- Dog bites
- Free roaming and stray dogs and cats
- Owner surrender of their cats and dogs

This data also revealed that these specific areas suffered from and are terrorized by significantly higher incidents of pit bull terrier type dog

- Bites
- Free roaming and stray dogs
- HCSO request for assistance with dangerous pit bull dogs.

One of these isolated areas was identified as ZIP codes 77093 and 77039.

The P.E.T. project executed a phased approach:

Phase 1: **Community Education**

(Teach the community what responsible pet ownership is)

Phase 2: **Community Services**

(Ensure services are available to be a responsible pet owner)

Phase 3: **Community Enforcement**

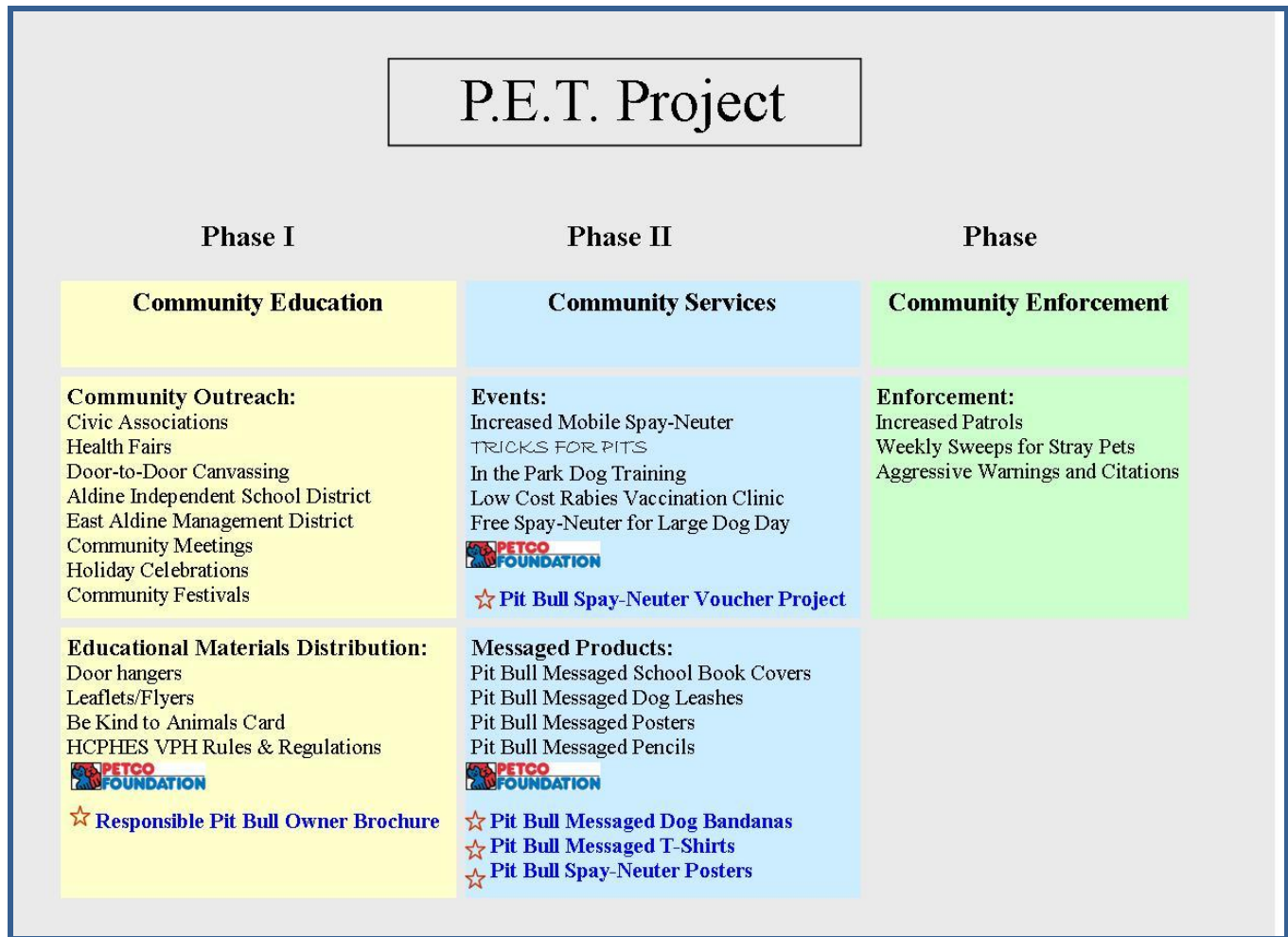
(Aggressively enforce animal control laws and collection of stray cats and dogs)



Figure 6 Responsible Pit Bull Ownership Education under the Umbrella of the P.E.T. Project

The following chart illustrates the phases of the P.E.T. Project and where the PETCO Foundation pit bull spay-neuter voucher project and grant expenditures were utilized to encourage targeted responsible pet and pit bull type dog ownership.

Figure 7 PETCO Foundation Targeted Pit Bull Spay Neuter Project within the P.E.T. Project



☆ = funded through PETCO Foundation grant.

Community Partnering and Involvement

HCPHES VPH proudly collaborated and partnered with:

- Spay-Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Aldine Y.O.U.T.H.
- YMCA – Greater Houston
- Green Forest Civic Association
- Aldine Grandparents Raising Grandchildren
- East Aldine Management District

A descriptive list of collaborative partners is included in the appendix on pages 38 – 39.

Project Activities

Educational Campaign:

The goal of the educational campaign was to integrate the outreach activities of HCPHES VPH and create a feeling of trust and familiarity. Over time it was hoped that with visibility and educational campaigns, the responsible pet ownership message, and in particular, a responsible pit bull type dog ownership message, would be part of this community's behavior and culture.

The Aldine community, which is predominantly (61 percent) of Hispanic and Latino origin, received community education in Spanish and English.

HCPHES VPH used the **Appreciative Inquiry**¹ and **PRECEDE**² Community Health Education Models to execute the educational campaign. The rationale was to focus on the positive aspects of the elements requiring behavior change. HCPHES VPH used colorful brochures/flyers, verbal interaction, and tangible reinforcements, such as t-shirts, leashes, pencils, book covers, and posters utilizing the youth inspired tag line of "Off the Chain - On the Leash" & "Train-Don't Chain".

Figure 8 "Off the Chain-On the Leash" Reinforcement Give-Aways.



¹ Appreciative Inquiry (AI) is a health education process or philosophy that engages individuals within a community to view renewal, change and focused performance. AI is based on the assumption that communities change in the way they inquire and the claim that a community which inquires into problems or difficult situations will keep finding more of the same, but a community which tries to appreciate what is best in itself will find/discover more and more of what is good.

² PRECEDE (*P*redisposing, *R*einforcing, and *E*nabling Constructs in *E*ducational *D*iagnosis and *E*valuation) outlines a diagnostic planning process to assist in the development of targeted and focused public health programs.

The educational campaign identified the positive attributes of the pit bull dog, which require additional care, commitment, time and training.

Figure 9 Bi-Lingual English and Spanish Community Educational Brochure



The brochures are included in the appendix on pages 22-23 and highlight:

- Pit bull dogs have a negative reputation as “mean, vicious, and a public nuisance”. Each pit bull type dog owner has a chance to change that reputation
- Pit bull dogs are incredible escape artists who will use their strength, agility and terrier instinct to escape from their home confinement. Enclosed fences must be adequately strong and high to keep the pit bull dog from free roaming. Also, pit bull dogs should be kept in crates when left alone inside the home
- Make sure the pit bull type dog always has identification, license, and rabies vaccination tags on its collar at all times
- Even if a pit bull dog generally gets along with children and animals, they are known for aggression and should never be left alone with children or other animals
- Pit bull dogs have a high prey drive which means their urge to chase is inherent in their breed. When taking a pit bull dog away from their home, they must always be on a leash as it is hard to predict when a pit bull will chase after a child, bicycle, squirrel, or cat
- Spay or neuter pit bull dogs. They live longer, healthier and happier lives. They are easier to raise and train when not triggered by sexual hormones
- Pit bull dogs are naturally susceptible to parvo, hip, joint, skin disorders, and cataracts. Annual health examinations and vaccinations are very important³

³ According to research from the World Small Animal Veterinary Association, Dobermans, American Pit Bull Terriers, Rottweilers and English Springer Spaniels appear to be the most at risk to the canine parvo virus. The association believes this is due weakened immune

- Pit bull dogs are natural athletes and just like human athletes they require a balanced diet, fresh water, and regular exercise
- Learn how to read pit bull signals. Pit bulls often have subtle signals of aggression. If the dog appears to be aggressive, seek immediate help from a professional dog trainer

Educational Campaign Activities

A community wide educational campaign on responsible pit bull ownership including:

- 885 brochures in Spanish and English distributed to community centers, libraries, and civic associations within the targeted area
- Distribution of 500 school book covers, posters, pencils, and dog leashes depicting the pit bull message and design of “Off the Chain – On the Leash / Train – Don’t Chain” (illustrations included in appendix on pages 25 - 27)
- Distribution 150 T-Shirts depicting the pit bull message and design of “Off the Chain – On the Leash / Train – Don’t Chain” ” (illustrations included in appendix on page 24)
- Attendance at community and civic meetings, festivals, holiday celebrations, and health fairs
- Door-to-door canvassing of 2000 homes
- On-going canvassing at local parks, playgrounds, and recreational facilities
- Multiple meetings with Harris County Juvenile Probation Department , East Aldine Management District, Aldine Independent School District, and local Civic Associations to assess appropriate methodologies to disseminate the responsible pit bull message
- Distribution of 3000 “PETCO Foundation free pit bull spay or neuter” door hangers specific to targeted area ZIP codes in English and Spanish (illustrations included in appendix on pages 20 -21)
- Placement of 24 “ X 36 “PETCO Foundation free pit bull spay or neuter” color posters in strategic locations throughout targeted area in English and Spanish (illustrations included in appendix on pages 20 - 21)
- Distribution of 5000 “Be Kind to Animals” leaflets depicting a pit bull dog in English and Spanish

Figure 10 HCPHES VPH outreach personnel reviewing the benefits of responsible pet ownership and spay-neuter with community residents



The community educational campaign was conducted throughout the 12 month project period at the following Aldine events and locations:

- Health Fairs
- East Aldine District meetings
- Civic association meetings
- Law enforcement activities and festivals
- Door-to-door - apartment complexes and local housing
- Harris County Juvenile Probation Department
- Car club meetings
- Spay-neuter events
- Rabies vaccination clinics
- Opening of community soccer field
- Christmas and holiday community events
- Aldine Independent School District
- Local parks and recreational facilities
- Community centers
- Grand Parents Raising Grandchildren events

Figure 11 North East Community Center



Figure 13 Aldine Y.O.U.T.H.



Figure 12 Aldine Community Health Center



Spay-Neuter of Pit Bull Type Dogs from Targeted Area

As the community was educated on responsible pet ownership, seriously interested owners of pit bull terrier type dogs who resided within the targeted area were offered spay-neuter vouchers.

Figure 14 Free Spay-Neuter Voucher Design

Vale Número: 00176
Fecha de vale: 05/17/10

Esterilización-castración para perros pitbull GRATIS



Este vale le permite a Samantha Rosier obtener esterilización-castración **GRATIS** y vacuna contra la rabia **GRATIS** para un perro de raza pitbull o mezcla de pitbull.

Este vale se puede canjear a través de una cita en la Clínica SNAP Houston o Clínica Móvil del SNAP por orden de llegada (los primeros que lleguen serán los primeros en ser atendidos).

Este vale solo es válido 14 días y expirará el 06/17/10
 Para hacer una cita favor de llamar al 713-863-0010 o visite la página de Internet: www.snapus.org

Firma: *Fiona Cunningham* Fecha: 05/17/10

Fiona Cunningham, Salud Pública Veterinaria del HCPHES

Sin valor monetario. Redimible solo en SNAP. No es válido si es alterado, copiado, venido o transferido. No es válido después de la fecha de expiración.



Auspiciado por:





Stop The Cycle.

Voucher Number: 00176
Voucher Date: 05/17/10

FREE Spay & Neuter for Pit Bull Dog



This voucher entitles Samantha Rosier to **FREE** spay-neuter surgery and **FREE** rabies vaccination for one pit bull or pit bull type dog.

Voucher may be redeemed by appointment at the SNAP Houston Surgery Clinic or on a first come, first served basis on the SNAP Mobile Clinic.

This voucher is valid for only 14 days and will expire on 06/17/10
 For appointment call 713-863-0010 or go to website www.snapus.org

Signed: *Fiona Cunningham* Date: 05/17/10

Fiona Cunningham, HCPHES Veterinary Public Health

No cash value. Redeemable only at SNAP. Void if altered, copied, sold, or transferred. Not valid past expiration date.



Sponsored by the





Stop The Cycle.

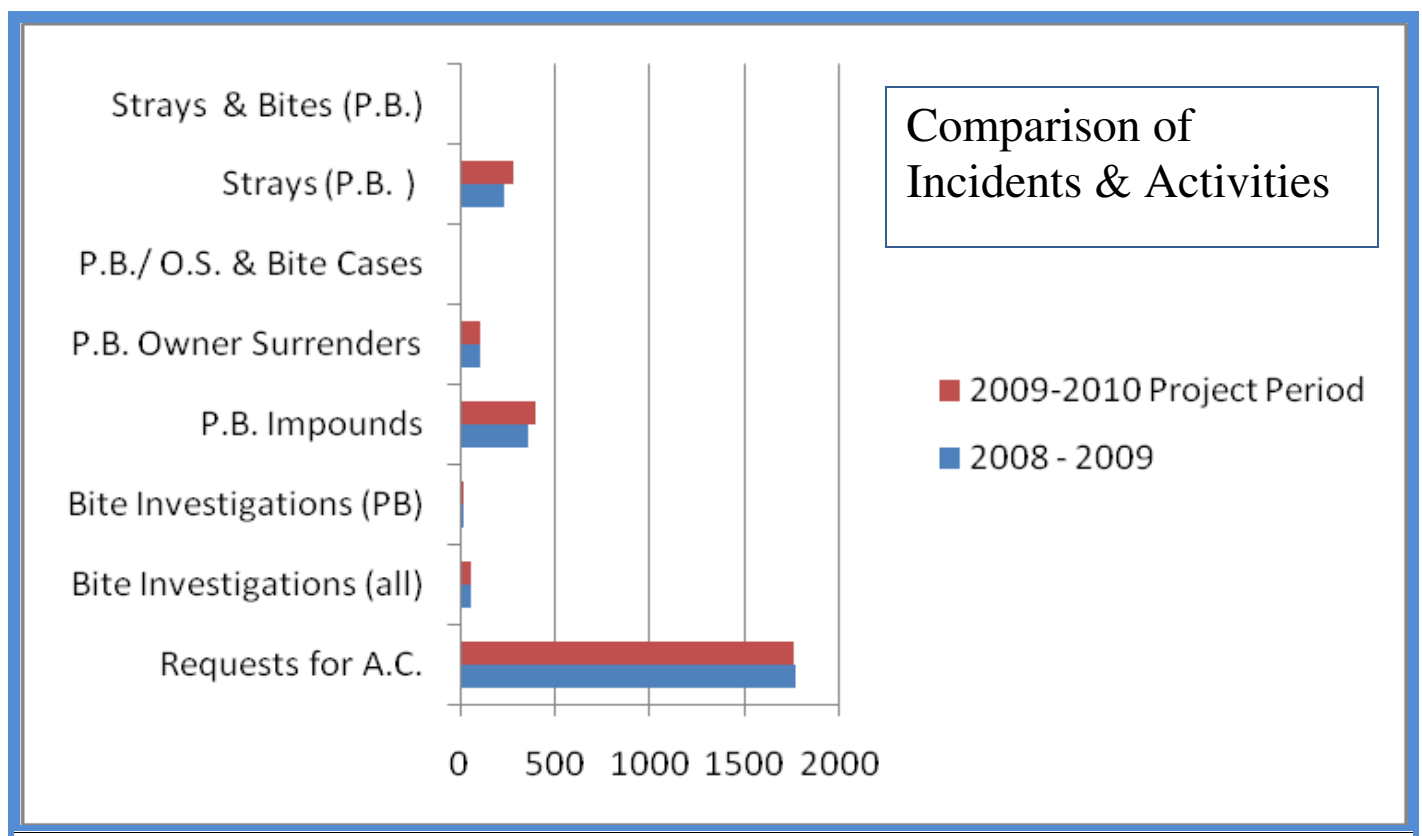
Project Impact

The following measures were tracked to determine project impact on the targeted community:

- Number of request for animal control assistance
- Total number of pit bull dogs impounded at HCPHES VPH shelter
- Number of pit bull dogs surrendered to the HCPHES VPH shelter by their owners
- Number of pit bull dogs surrendered to the HCPHES VPH shelter by their owners after being attributed to biting a person
- Number of free roaming pit bull dogs picked up by animal control and impounded as strays; and
- Number of stray pit bull dogs picked up by animal control and impounded after being attributed to biting a person

As indicated by the following charts, the actual change in animal bite investigation and requests for animal control services between the time period of the PETCO Foundation pit bull terrier type dog spay-neuter voucher project in ZIP codes 77039 & 77093 (June 24, 2009 – June 17, 2010) and the preceding year is negligible or statistically insignificant.

Figure 15 Comparisons - Project Period and Previous Year for ZIP Codes 77093 & 77039



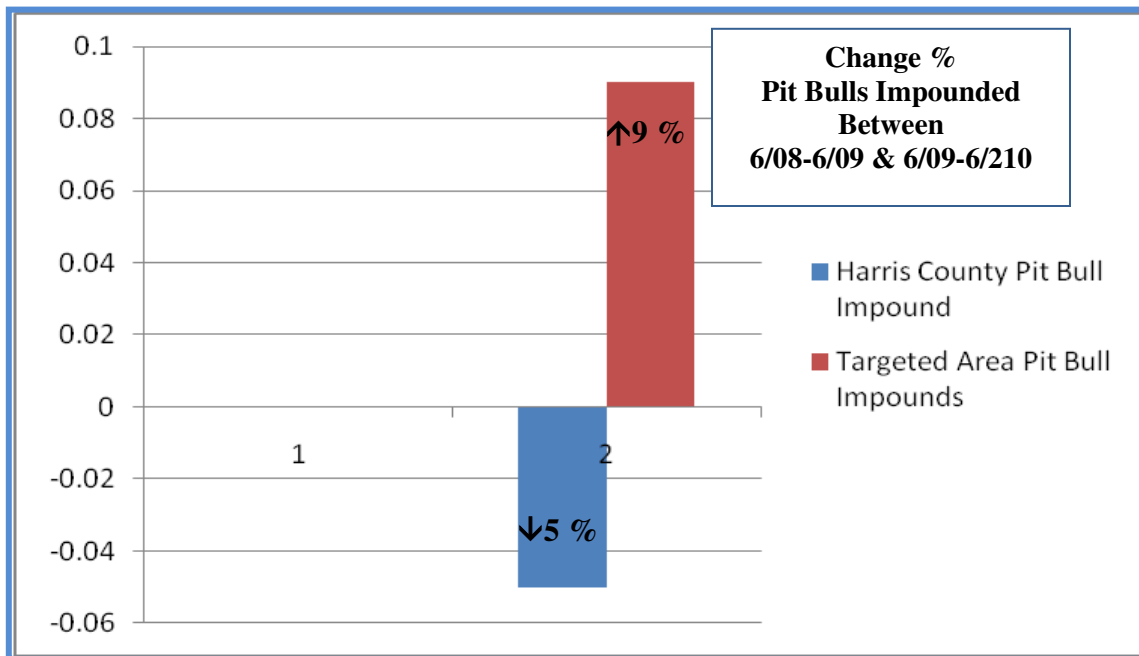
P.B. = Pit Bull Terrier Type Dog
 O.S. = Owner Surrender
 A.C. = Animal Control Service

Figure 16 Comparisons - Project Period and Previous Year for ZIP Codes 77093 & 77039

Description	2008 - 2009	Project Period 2009-2010	Change
Requests for Animal Control Patrol	1,768	1,764	↓ 4 or 0.3 %
Bite Investigations (all)	51	52	↑ 1 or 2 %
Bite Investigations (pit bull dogs)	14	12	↓ 2 or 14 %
Pit Bull Impounded to Shelter	355	393	↑ 38 or 9 %
Pit Bull Dogs Surrendered by Their Owners	108	100	↓ 7 or 7 %
Pit Bull Dogs Surrendered by Their Owners After Biting Someone	7	5	↓ 2 or 29 %
Stray Pit Bull Dogs Picked Up by Animal Control and Impounded	230	283	↑52 or 19 %
Stray Pit Bull Dogs Picked Up by Animal Control and Impounded After Biting Someone	5	5	No change

A notable exception to the change in project measurement data, is the 9 percent increase of stray and owner surrendered pit bull terrier type dogs entering the shelter during the project period. In comparison, the overall number of pit bull terrier type dogs impounded to the shelter for the same time periods, from unincorporated Harris County, decreased by 5 percent⁴. HCPHES VPH presupposes that the increase in pit bull type dogs from the targeted area entering the HCPHES VPH shelter is due to increased community visibility of HCPHES VPH and the development of a community’s intolerance for stray and dangerous dogs.

Figure 17 Pit Bull Impound - % Change



⁴ Pit bull terrier type dogs impounded to the HCPHES VPH shelter from unincorporated Harris County from June 24, 2008 – June 17, 2009 = 3,447; whereas, the same period from 2009 -2010 = 3,261.

The P.E.T. Project and outreach components under the umbrella of the P.E.T. project were considered to be a success by the leaders and stakeholders of the Aldine community (please see community acknowledgements on page 28 in the appendix). However, HCPHES VPH recognizes that for significant change to occur and be sustained, a plan must be developed and executed to ensure the community continues to develop a culture of responsible pet ownership. HCPHES VPH is in the process of developing a responsible pet ownership sustainability plan for the Aldine area. It is anticipated that this plan will include additional educational and spay-neuter/vaccination services.

Based upon the data presented thus far, HCPHES VPH presupposes that the lack of significant variation from the project period to the same period in the previous year is due to:

- a) Insufficient time has passed for significant change to be demonstrated through the success measurement utilized for this project; and
- b) This area requires additional educational and outreach/veterinary services to achieve long-term and sustained behavior change.



Figure 18 Families waiting for pit bull neuter surgery

Fifty-five pit bull type dogs from the targeted area received spay or neutered surgery, pain medication and a rabies vaccination. The chart below illustrates that all of the dogs receiving spay or neuter services were from the targeted area and were pit bull terrier type dogs. The majority (73 percent) were females.

Figure 19 Breakdown of pit bull terrier type dogs receiving spay or neuter surgeries funded by the PETCO Foundation grant

Description	Quantity	Percent
Pit Bull Terrier Type Dog	55	100 %
Female Dogs	40	73 %
Male Dogs	15	17 %
Resides in 77039	30	55 %
Resides in 77093	25	45 %
Owned by At-Risk Youth	32	58 %



Figure 20 Pit bull dog recovering from free spay surgery

Unlikely Candidates

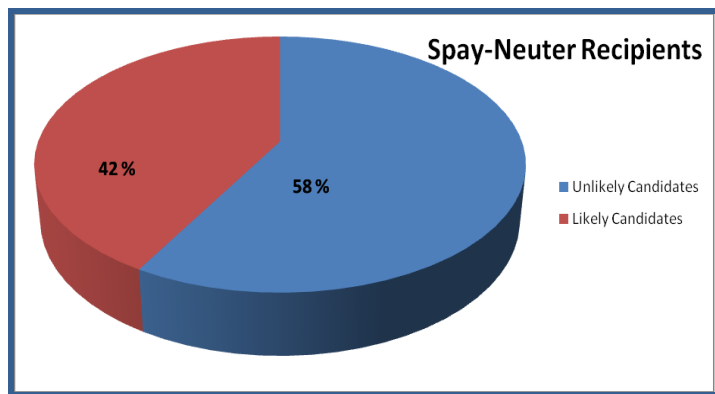
Spay and neuter surgery of at least 32 dogs (58 percent) from the targeted area received spay or neuter surgery were owned by at-risk youth participants of a HCPHES VPH youth/pit bull dog obedience and health maintenance program called *TRICKS FOR PITS*. Due to the on-going education/training and word of mouth amongst the community’s youth regarding the benefits of spay-neutering, these dogs were spayed or neutered by choice of their youth owners. The youth owners reported to HCPHES VPH that they chose to have their dogs spayed or neutered only because of the information and services provided. Prior to the project, they informed HCPHES VPH personnel that they believed it was healthier and kinder to allow their dogs to mate and reproduce, and, in all probability, would not have chosen to take advantage of the free spay-neuter surgery.

Below are pictures of some of the 32 dogs whose youth owners reported that they would not have spayed or neutered their pit bull terrier type dogs, were it not for generosity of the PETCO Foundation and educational efforts of HCPHES VPH and its collaborating partners.

Figure 21 Unlikely Candidates



Figure 22 Mix of S-N Recipients



Grant Budget Expenditures

The total project cost, excluding use of volunteers was calculated at **\$15,674**. The PETCO Foundation grant supported 53 percent (\$8,241.45) and HCPHES VPH provided the balance of 47 percent (\$7,432.55).

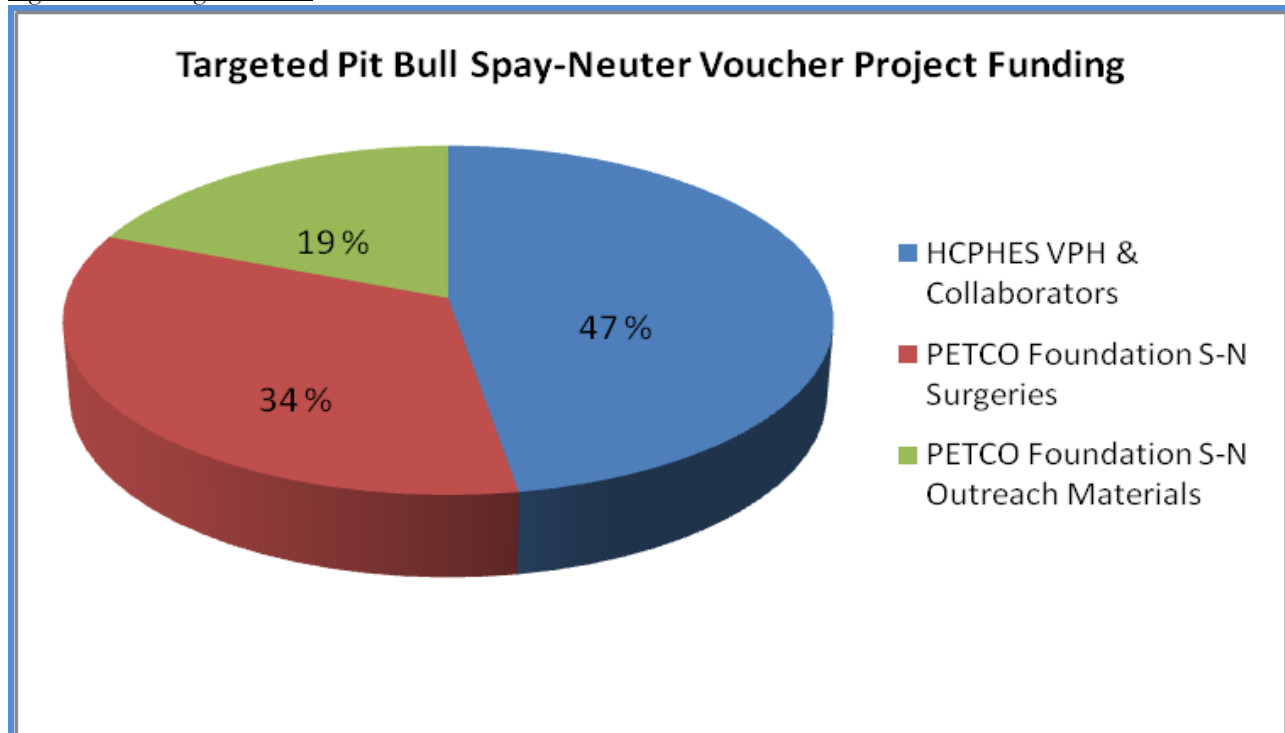
The PETCO Foundation funds were utilized for spay-neuter surgical services and community educational materials.

- **\$5,273.00** (or 64 percent of PETCO Foundation grant funds) was utilized to pay for spay-neuter services, pain medications, and rabies vaccinations.
- **\$2,968.45** (or 36 percent of PETCO Foundation grant funds) was utilized to pay for educational materials development and printing.

Project and operations management was provided by HCPHES VPH and SNAP as an in kind donation. Advertising and public awareness was achieved through face-to-face discussions, distribution of flyers and educational brochures, posting of signs in key locations, and collaborating participant website event notifications. Volunteers from SNAP, Aldine Y.O.U.T.H., East Aldine Management District, Aldine Independent School District, Green Forest Civic Association, Aldine Grand Parents Raising Grandchildren, and HCPHES VPH worked in collaboration to provide public awareness and educational activities. However, HCPHES VPH employed its Animal Control Officers, and Educators to aggressively educate Aldine residents on a face-to-face (door to door) basis and at community events.

Therefore HCPHES VPH and collaborating partners funded the balance of **\$7,432.55** to provide additional educational materials, personnel for community outreach/education and project management.

Figure 23 Funding allocation



PETCO Foundation Grant Expenditures:

Figure 24 Expenditure against Grant Donation

PETCO Foundation Expenditures Against Grant Donation of \$8,500			
Expenditures	Vendor	\$258.55 Balance	Invoice Amount
6/25/2009	A to Z Specialities (Bandanas)	P160101	\$ 306.40
8/31/2009	SNAP mobile	P160456	\$ 103.00
6/29/2009	A to Z Specialities (posters)	P160367	\$ 336.00
10/27/2009	A to Z Specialities (T-shirts)	R308784	\$ 676.75
11/3/2009	A to Z brochures	R309280	\$ 885.00
6/15/2009	A to Z Specialities(Tshirts)	P159576	\$ 764.30
2/1/2010	SNAP mobile	P160456	\$ 4,180.00
3/15/2010	SNAP mobile	P160456	\$ 990.00
Total			\$ 8,241.45

Copies of ledger amounts over \$100 in value are included in the appendix on pages 32 – 36.

Project Management to Plan

Execution of the PETCO Foundation Targeted Pit Bull Spay-Neuter Voucher Project was managed within 4 percent or \$664 less than the total budget forecast provided in the original grant request (included in appendix on page 38).

The PETCO Foundation donated **\$8,500** toward this project. Actual expenditures against the grant sum equaled **\$8,241.45**, realizing a balance of **\$258.55**.

Therefore, HCPHES VPH respectfully requests that the balance amount of **\$258.55 be utilized against future community outreach spay-neuter projects.**

APPENDIX

Marketing Materials

Design of poster, flyers, and door hangers in English

Figure 25 Marketing Design- English

Free
Spay & Neuter
 for
Pit Bulls
 in zip codes
77093 or 77039

- Dog must be a pit bull or pit bull mix
- Dog must reside in zip codes 77093 or 77039
- Voucher may be redeemed for spay-neuter at the SNAP Houston surgery clinic or mobile clinic
- Government assistance not required

For vouchers and appointments
 contact
 HCPHES Veterinary Public Health
 281-999-4714 or email
 fcunningham@hcphe.org

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Design of poster, flyers, and door hangers in Spanish

Figure 26 Marketing Design - Spanish


Gratis


Esterilización-castración para perros pitbulls en los códigos postales



- Debe ser un perro pitbull o mezcla de pitbull
- El perro debe residir en los códigos postales 77093 o 77039
- Los vales pueden ser canjeados por esterilización-castración en la clínica de cirugía SNAP Houston y clínica móvil
- No se requiere ayuda del gobierno

Para vales y citas comuníquese con
Salud Pública Veterinaria de HCPHES
281-999-4714 o al correo electrónico
fcunningham@hcphe.org

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www.hcphe.org



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Educational Materials

“So you own a Pit Bull in Harris County?”:
(English)


Figure 27 Front Page of Responsible Pit Bull Owner Brochure

**So you own a
Pit Bull in
Harris County!**



*Guide to keeping you and
your Pit Bull
safe and healthy*

Harris County
HCPHES
Public Health & Environmental Services
VETERINARY PUBLIC HEALTH



612 Canino Road
Houston, Texas 77076

Phone: 281-999-3191
Fax: 281-847-1911
www.countypets.com

“So you own a Pit Bull in Harris County?”:
(Spanish)

Figure 28 Front Page of Responsible Pit Bull Owner Brochure

**Así que usted es dueño de un
Pit Bull
en el Condado de Harris!**



*Guía para el mantenimiento
de usted y su
Pit Bull
seguro y saludable*

Harris County
HCPHES
Public Health & Environmental Services
VETERINARY PUBLIC HEALTH

COUNTY
PETS.COM

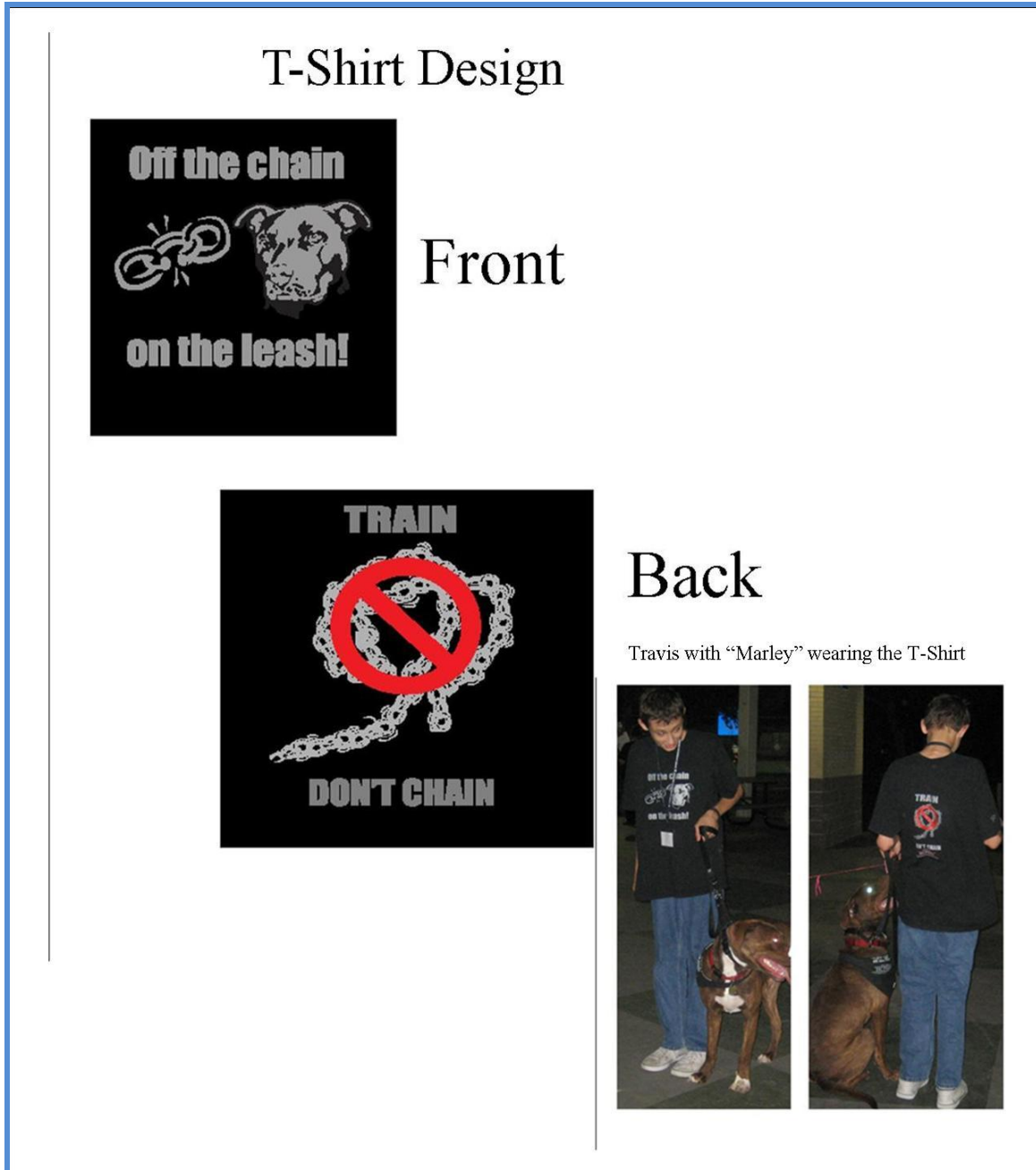
612 Canino Road
Houston, Texas

Phone: 281-999-3191
Fax: 281-847-1911
www.countypets.com

Reinforcement Materials

T-Shirt:

Figure 29 T-Shirt design



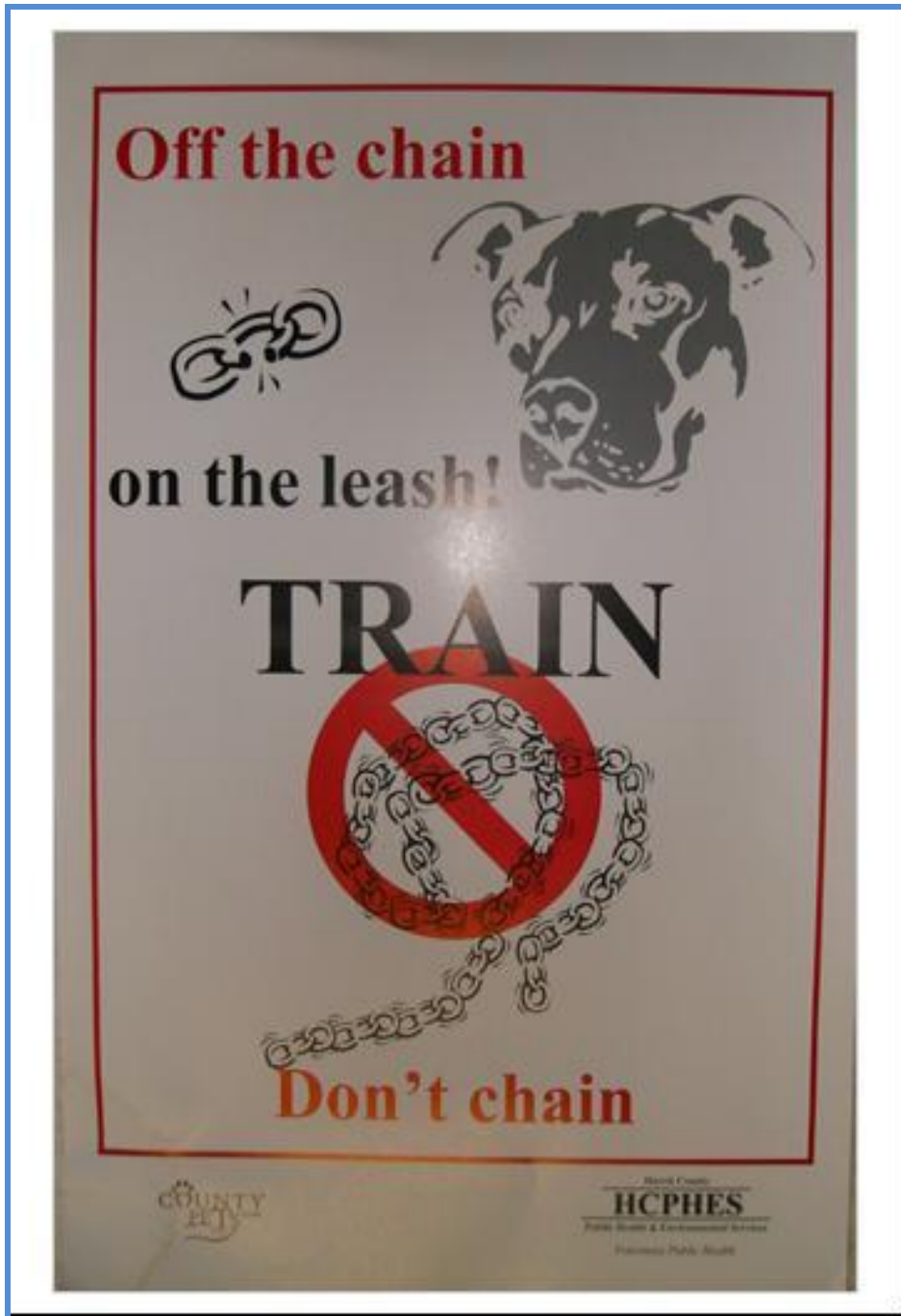
Leash & Pencils:

Figure 30 Leash & Pencils



Book Cover/Poster:

Figure 31 Book Cover/Poster



Dog Bandana:

Figure 32 Dog Bandana

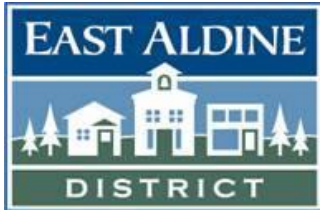


Figure 33 Marley sporting his dog bandana



Community Acknowledgement

East Aldine Management District:



The East Aldine Management District presented HCPHES VPH with the award pictured left and acknowledgement for its contributions for the Responsible Pet Ownership Intervention Project (P.E.T.) and the Tricks for Pits program.

*“ The Strategic Partner Awards
Given to individuals and organizations who provide outstanding service in support of district programs and initiatives.*

Categories:

Governmental

Education

Public Safety

Public Health

Community and Youth Services

Business

HCPHES, you, and your team won for your outstanding service through educational services and for training to our youth with their pets. The Tricks for Pits Program was outstanding. Your commitment to teaching responsibility and proper ownership and treatment of pets can only lead to our youths understanding so many other necessary social skills that will make them better community members and perhaps one day even community leaders. The East Aldine District Board recognized this initiative as a part of the comprehensive quality of life issue that we cannot address alone and for which community partners such as HCPHES are invaluable in support of our mission.

Thank you again for everything you do. See you soon.

Best Regards,

Gretchen Larson”

Economic Development Director

East Aldine District 5202 Aldine Mail Rt.

Houston, TX 77039 www.aldinedistrict.org



Figure 34 Strategic Partner Award

State Representative – Armando Walle:



ARMANDO L. WALLE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
HOUSE DISTRICT 140

December 16, 2009

Dr. Dawn Blackmar D.V.M.
Director, Animal Control Division
HCPHES-Veterinary Public Health
612 Canino Road
Houston, Texas 77076

Dear Dr. Blackmar,

I am writing to congratulate you on the recent success of the Responsible Pet Ownership intervention program conducted in the Aldine area.

As you know, the Aldine community has seen an increase of stray dogs, particularly stray pit bulls. I commend the Harris County Public Health Environmental Services-- Veterinary Public Health for instituting the "Tricks for Pits" program in an effort to encourage responsible pet ownership and to cut down on the dangers posed by stray pit bulls. The program has increased the awareness of stray pit bulls, educated pit bull owners on pet responsibilities and provided other valuable services. I hope this program will be continued in our community.

Thank you for instituting this program in the Aldine community. Please feel free to contact me if I can ever be of service to you, either by phone at (713) 694-8620 or by e-mail at Armando.Walle@house.state.tx.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Armando Walle".

Armando Walle
State Representative

CC:

Ms. Fiona Cunningham-HCPHES Resource Development

Aldine Y.O.U.T.H.:



ALDINE
Y.O.U.T.H

Youth Organization United To Help
4700 Aldine Mall Rte • P.O. Box 11044 • Houston, Tx 77293-1044
Phone: 281-449-4828 • Fax: 281-449-4886
An Incorporated Non-profit Organization
"Community Empowerment Making a Positive Difference"

August 26, 2009

Harris County Veterinary
612 Canino Rd.
Houston, Texas

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this to let you know what we have observed in the participation of the Aldine Y.O.U.T.H. with the Harris County Veterinary Public Health project, Responsible Pet Ownership program.

The number one concern expressed in our community's town hall meeting was safety. One of the examples given was the presence of stray dogs and the criminal activities associated with the pit bull type dog.

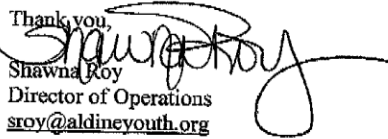
After identifying this concern, steps were taken by Veterinary Public Health to provide remedies through activities that educated the residents on pet laws/safety, provided services (spay and neuter) and offered incentives such as free dog training, free leashes, and reduced priced vaccinations.

The Health Department staff was very supportive of our youth through classes that exposed them to the media (they helped design a logo t-shirt), and served as a focus group during a visit to the shelter. This was a valuable opportunity for them to see first hand what happens to unwanted animals and also to be exposed to animal related career opportunities.

We have noticed that pet owners in our community have begun to keep their dogs on leashes when they are out with them and there also appears to be fewer strays in the neighborhood. As a community, we must continue to maintain and support these positive changes.

Thank you for allowing Aldine Y.O.U.T.H. the opportunity to take ownership of our pets and our community.

Thank you,


Shawna Roy
Director of Operations
sroy@aldineyouth.org

Grandparents Raising Granchildren:



Shirley Reed
4835 Otterbury Drive
Houston, Texas 7703

Harris County Veterinary
612 Canino Rd.
Houston, Texas

Dear Dr. Blackmar:

For the past year, I have been aware of the presence of the Responsible Pet Ownership Program in the Aldine community, 77039 and 77093.

The Harris County Health Department's Veterinary department worked very hard to pick up loose dogs and give information to us. We have noticed more people using leashes and there appears to be fewer stray dogs in our neighborhood.

The two main persons working with the animal control officers, Janis Jefferson and Fiona Jones, were a constant face at our civic club meetings, community group functions, festivals and most of all, worked with Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, of which I am the president, and president of the Green Forest Civic Club.

I love my community and am very thankful that so much attention was given to improving it. We want this kind of service to continue and will keep working to keep our neighborhood safe and healthy.

This program was good for our neighborhood and has certainly given us information that will be useful in the future.

Sincerely yours,

Shirley Reed

Ledger Items Over \$100

“Off the Chain-On the Leash T-Shirts”

GL Ledger: HC
 Report Date: 09/08/2010
Harris County Production
Open Encumbrance Transactions by Reference (PO #)

Type	Org	Key	Object	Description	Post Date	PE ID	EN Amount	PD Amount
EN	23727501		610700	Black Tshirts adult size mediu	10/27/2009	450358200	132.75	0.00
EN	23727501		610700	Black Tshirts adult size small	10/27/2009	450358200	132.75	0.00
EN	23727501		610700	Black Pit Bull Tshirts adult s	10/27/2009	450358200	177.00	0.00
EN	23727501		610700	Black Pit Bull Tshirts adult s	10/27/2009	450358200	101.50	0.00
EN	23727501		610700	Black Tshirts adult size XLarg	10/27/2009	450358200	132.75	0.00
DE	23727501		610700	* Closing DE Entry *	10/30/2009	450358200	0.00	0.00
Encumbered Balance:							0.00	0.00
Grand Total Encumbered Balance:							0.00	0.00

User: ASWAN
 Report: EN_TRNS2_SO_HC_EN - Open Encumbrance Transactions by PO Numbr

Swan, April
 Page: 1
 Current Date: 09/08/2010
 Time: 13:44:50

Responsible Pit Bull Owner Brochures

GL Ledger: HC
 Report Date: 09/08/2010
Harris County Production
Open Encumbrance Transactions by Reference (PO #)

Type	Org Key	Object	Description	Post Date	PE ID	EN Amount	PD Amount
EN	23727501	610100	so you own a pit bull in Harri	11/03/2009	450358200	885.00	0.00
EN	23727501	610100	So you own a pit bull in Harri	11/03/2009	450358200	885.00	0.00
DE	23727501	610100	* Closing DE Entry *	11/06/2009	450358200	0.00	0.00
Encumbered Balance:						0.00	0.00
Grand Total Encumbered Balance:						0.00	0.00

PO Reference PR Reference Vendor Name
 R309280 R309280 A TO Z SPECIALTIES

User: ASWAN Swan, April Page: 1
 Report: EN_TRNS2_SO_HC EN - Open Encumbrance Transactions by PO Number
 Current Date: 09/08/2010
 Time: 13:45:21

Vouchers and Bandanas

GL Ledger: HC
 Report Date: 09/08/2010
Harris County Production
Open Encumbrance Transactions by Reference (PO #)

PO Reference: P160101
 PR Reference: R299865
 Vendor Name: A TO Z SPECIALTIES

Type	Org. Key	Object	Description	Post Date	PE ID	EN Amount	PD Amount
EN	23727501	620300	triangle cotton dog bandana bl	06/26/2009	450358200	169.20	0.00
EN	23727501	620300	Vouchers 7x3 1/2 color printed	06/26/2009	450358200	97.20	0.00
EN	23727501	620300	Shipping and handling	06/26/2009	450358200	40.00	0.00
FP	23727501	620300	triangle cotton dog bandana b	08/12/2009	450358200	0.00	169.20
FP	23727501	620300	1.215 each Vouchers 7x3 1/2 c	08/12/2009	450358200	0.00	97.20
FP	23727501	620300	Shipping and handling	08/12/2009	450358200	0.00	40.00
Encumbered Balance:						0.00	0.00
Grand Total Encumbered Balance:						0.00	0.00

User: ASWAN
 Report: EN_TRNS2_SO_HC_EN - Open Encumbrance Transactions by PO Number

Page: 1
 Current Date: 09/08/2010
 Time: 13:43:36

Free Spay Neuter Posters

GL Ledger: HC
 Report Date: 09/08/2010
Harris County Production
Open Encumbrance Transactions by Reference (PO #)

Type	Org Key	Object	Description	Post Date	PE ID	EN Amount	PD Amount
EN	23727501	633400	Posters (36 x 24) with high qu	07/01/2009	450358200	168.00	0.00
EN	23727501	633400	Posters (36 x 24) with high qu	07/01/2009	450358200	168.00	0.00
PP	23727501	633400	Posters (36 x 24) with high q	07/16/2009	450358200	0.00	168.00
PP	23727501	633400	Posters (36 x 24) with high q	07/16/2009	450358200	0.00	168.00
DE	23727501	633400	Disencumber via POMADE	08/19/2009	450358200	0.00	0.00
Encumbered Balance:						0.00	0.00
Grand Total Encumbered Balance:						0.00	0.00

User: ASWAN
 Report: EN_TRNS2_SO_HC EN - Open Encumbrance Transactions by PO Number
 Page: 1
 Current Date: 09/08/2010
 Time: 13:42:47

Spay-Neuter Surgery

GI Ledger: HC
 Report Date: 09/08/2010
Harris County Production
Open Encumbrance Transactions by Reference (PO #)

Type	Org. Key	Object	Description	Post Date	PE ID	EN Amount	PD Amount
EN	23727501	630900	BLANKET PO FOR SPAY AND NEUTER	07/02/2009	760608925	6,200.00	0.00
PP	23727501	630900	BLANKET PO FOR SPAY AND NEUTER	08/31/2009	760608925	0.00	103.00
PP	23727501	630900	BLANKET PO FOR SPAY AND NEUTER	02/09/2010	760608925	0.00	2,500.00
PP	23727501	630900	BLANKET PO FOR SPAY AND NEUTER	03/18/2010	760608925	0.00	990.00
PP	23727501	630900	BLANKET PO FOR SPAY AND NEUTER	06/04/2010	760608925	0.00	330.00
PP	23727501	630900	BLANKET PO FOR SPAY AND NEUTER	06/22/2010	760608925	0.00	550.00
DE	23727501	630900	Discumber via POMADE	07/21/2010	760608925	0.00	0.00
Encumbered Balance:						0.00	0.00
Grand Total Encumbered Balance:						0.00	0.00

User: ASWAN
 Report: EN_TRNS2_SO_HC_EN - Open Encumbrance Transactions by PO Number

Page: 1
 Current Date: 09/08/2010
 Time: 13:37:39

Original Grant Request - Budget Forecast/Plan

	PETCO	HCPHES	SNAP	Community Partners	
	Foundation	Donation	Donation	Donation	
	Request	In-Kind	In-Kind	In-Kind	Total
Personnel					
Materials Distribution		** \$860	** \$136	**	\$996
Community Education		** \$1,440	**	**	\$1,440
Project Management		\$3,280	\$540	\$810	\$4,630
<i>Subtotal:</i>		\$5,580	\$676	\$810	\$7,066
Printing					
Materials Design		\$350			\$350
Educational brochures	\$887				\$887
Door Hangers	\$290				\$290
Signs	\$400				\$400
Event Flyers		\$290			\$290
T-Shirts	\$395				\$395
Vouchers	\$300				\$300
<i>Subtotal:</i>	\$2,272	\$640			\$2,912
Contractual					
Mobile Clinic/Vet. Svcs.	\$6,200				\$6,200
<i>Subtotal:</i>	\$6,200				\$6,200
Electronic Media					
Web Blast & Alerts		\$20	\$20	\$120	\$160
<i>Subtotal:</i>		\$20	\$20	\$120	\$160
Total	\$8,472	\$6240	\$696	\$930	\$16,338

Please note: In-kind personnel expenditures applied only against employed personnel. ** Donates use of volunteer base
Figure 35 Original Grant Request Budget

Collaborative Team

The collaboration of animal health, public health, environmental health, law enforcement, and community leaders provided an approach to instigate a change in the behavior and tolerance of residents for zip code 77093 and 77039 and adjacent communities for dangerous dog incidents and their behavior toward these dogs.

HCPHES Veterinary Public Health is a division of HCPHES and has worked with community stakeholders to protect people and companion animals in Harris County, Texas for almost eighty years. Harris County is the nation's third most populous county and has more inhabitants than 13 of our country's states. HCPHES VPH serves approximately 1.9 million people living in the 1,007 square miles of unincorporated Harris County.

HCPHES has more than fifty years of experience implementing successful public health projects with state and federal grant funding. As of January 2007, HCPHES is currently managing almost \$40 million in state, federal and private foundation grant funding.

Spay-Neuter Assistance Program

Spay-Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP) will be the lead organization in the management of pit bull spay-neuter veterinary services. SNAP is a 501c3 non profit organization. Its mission is to prevent the suffering and death of cats and dogs due to overpopulation, especially in low-income areas.

SNAP's Houston mobile clinic was the very first spay-neuter clinic on wheels developed in the U.S. back in 1993 and has been successfully sterilizing over 4,000 animals annually, four days a week, forty-eight to fifty weeks a year since then. SNAP's flagship mobile clinic delivers high-quality spay and neuter services for cats and dogs in low-income neighborhoods where cost, transportation and the lack of veterinary services are obstacles to obtaining animal healthcare. All surgeries and rabies vaccinations on the mobile clinic are free to the indigent (defined by participation in one of a number of need-based public assistance programs). This project, however, would be free to the general public in order to target the working poor.

Aldine Y.O.U.T.H.

As a grassroots organization, Aldine Y.O.U.T.H. has established itself as a foundation for community restoration. By offering consistent, high-quality supportive and restorative social service programs, the agency works to ensure the development of youth and families into healthy, productive and self-sufficient members of society; and, empower the community to take collaborative responsibility in making positive changes

YMCA – Greater Houston

For any organization to stand the test of time it must be able to keep up with the world around it. Through its 120 year history, the YMCA of the Greater Houston Area has been a place where people can find hope, fellowship and healing. The YMCA has always stayed true to its mission, values and purpose of helping persons grow in spirit, mind and body. With 38 centers and over 300 program locations serving eleven counties, the YMCA of the Greater Houston Area is helping to build strong kids, strong families and strong communities.

Green Forest Civic Association

The purpose of Green Forest Civic Association is to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs, strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships and send a message to criminals letting them know that Aldine neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Aldine Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Fifty-seven percent of grandparents raising their grandchildren are still in the work force and 17% are living in poverty. Grandparents or other relative (kinship) parents, have had limited, if any, mental, emotional, or financial preparation in raising children. This task is often overwhelming. The Aldine Chapter of Grandparents Raising Grandchildren offers a local resource for grandparents and kinship parents to in their efforts to raise and educate these children and to find needed resources for the children as well as themselves.

Aldine Independent School District

Teamwork and leadership are words that best describe the cooperation and roles in raising academic achievement for all students. The seven-member school board establishes the overall policies that govern the school district, and the superintendent and her staff set goals and implement the procedures necessary to carry out these policies in classrooms on a daily basis. Moreover, board members (trustees) and administrators work together to provide the leadership crucial to overcoming the challenges faced by Aldine ISD, which enjoyed six consecutive years as a Recognized school district.

East Aldine Management District

East Aldine Management District, is a conduit organization to enable the Aldine business community to fund improvements and services that bring value to the entire community.