



Back Where They Belong

***Focusing on RTO/RTH at the Shelter to Get
More Animals Back Where They Belong***

Shyanne Schull, Director
Washoe County Regional Animal Services



**REGIONAL
ANIMAL SERVICES**

Maddie's® Million Pet Challenge
UC Davis Koret Shelter Medicine Program





Traditional Services Expected

- Capture
- Shelter
- Adopt
- Treat
- Population control
- Bite reporting
- Welfare investigations

Where Is Return to Owner/Return to Home in the Priority of the Services? What About Prevention??

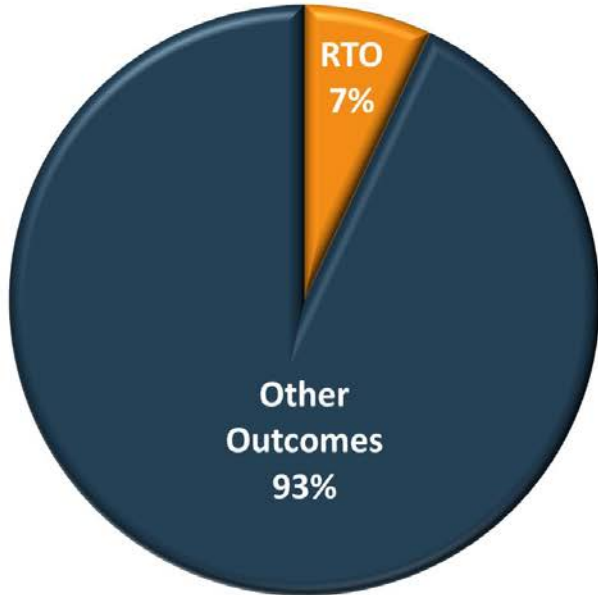


Washoe County Data - 5 Year Period (2018-2022)

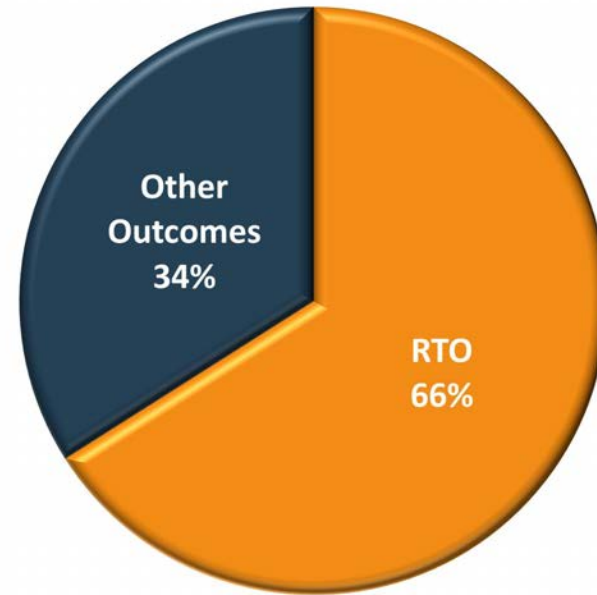


Return to Owner Metrics to Know - **Cats/Dogs**

Stray Cat Return to Owner (RTO)

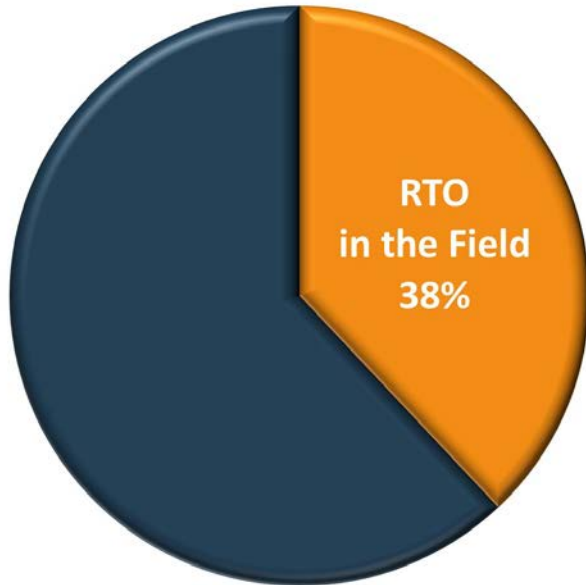


Stray Dog Return to Owner (RTO)

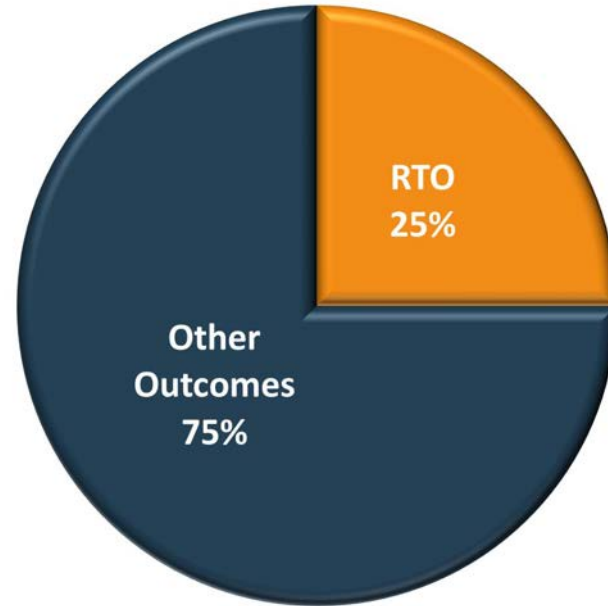


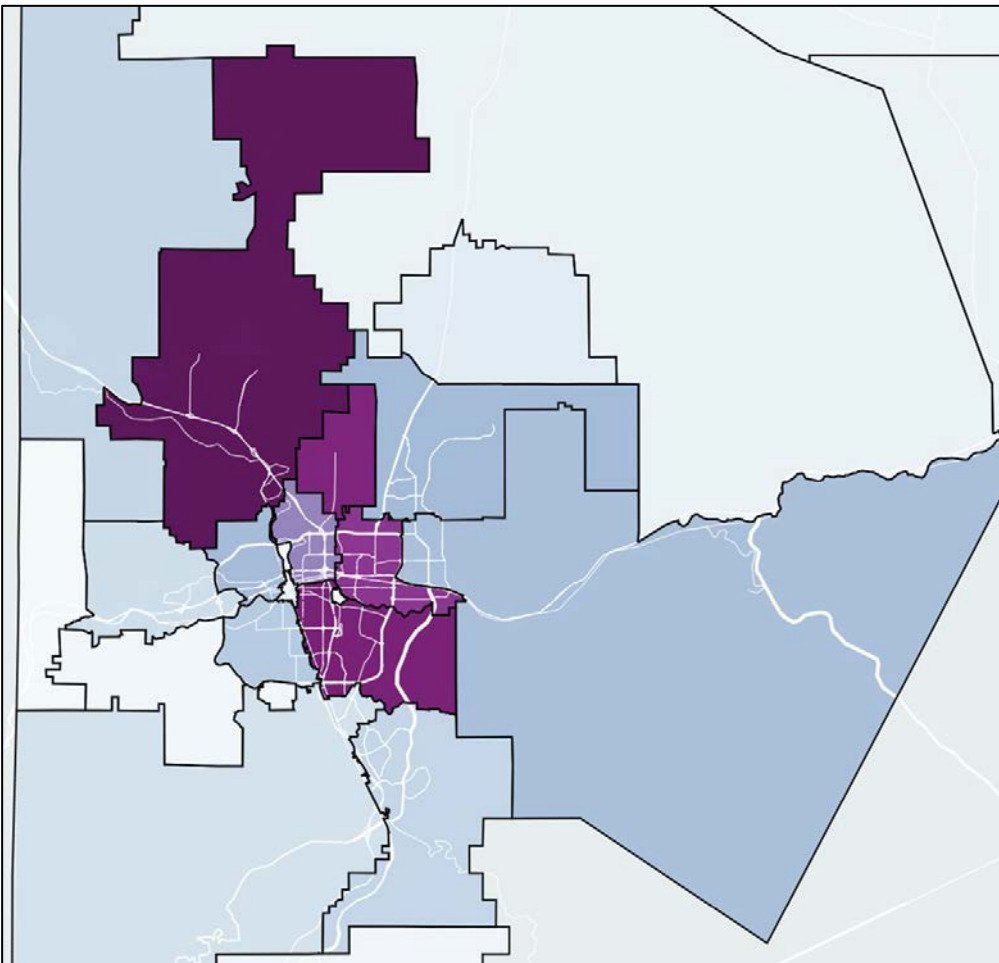
Return to Owner Metrics to Know - **Field or Shelter**

Field Impounds RTO'ed in the Field



Shelter Impounds RTO'ed





Data to Consider

- 22,990 Stray dogs
- Across 19 zip codes
- 5 Zip codes responsible for 59% of stray dogs (13,594)

FREE Microchips

- 37,432 Microchips administered since 2012
- Free & Automatic Registration

FREE Collar & Pet ID Tag

- > 1,000 Collars and ID Tags Since 2022

Smart License Tag

- Online Profiles
- 24/7 Reunification Service

Microchip Scanning Stations

- 11 Locations
- Empowering the Community

Education & Community Rapport

How Do We Support Keeping Animals With Their Family?



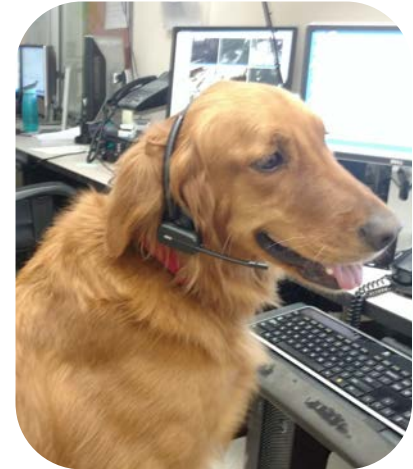
Efforts to Support Reunification After Shelter Impound



Research Microchip
Cross Reference L/F



Web/Social Media



Email, Call
Text Message, Letter

Identify Barriers to RTH

- Lack of Animal ID
- Language Barriers
- Inaccurate L&F Reports
- Fees/Fines
- Lack of Reunification Efforts/Staffing
- Lost/Found Process
- ***Lack of Community Investment***



Celebrate the Wins and Tell the Story!





Takeaways

1. RTH must be in the top 5 priorities of the agency
- 2. Prevention!**
3. Let it be easy
4. Affordable or Free
5. Empower and engage the community to help

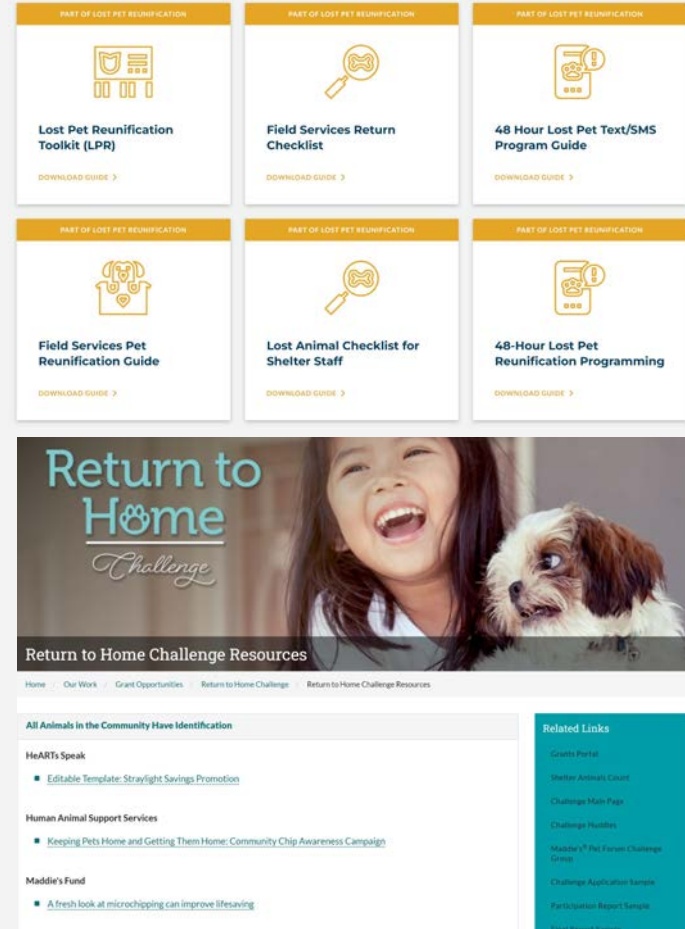


Resources

- Human Animal Support Services Lost Pet Reunification Toolkit
- Maddie's Fund Return to Home Challenge



<http://tinyurl.com/D2B1Resources>



The screenshot displays a webpage titled "Return to Home Challenge Resources". At the top, there are six orange-bordered boxes, each containing an icon and a title for a resource, with a "DOWNLOAD GUIDE" link below each. The resources are:

- Lost Pet Reunification Toolkit (LPR)
- Field Services Return Checklist
- 48 Hour Lost Pet Text/SMS Program Guide
- Field Services Pet Reunification Guide
- Lost Animal Checklist for Shelter Staff
- 48-Hour Lost Pet Reunification Programming

Below these boxes is a large banner image of a smiling young girl with a small dog. Underneath the banner, the page has a navigation bar with links: Home, Our Work, Grant Opportunities, Return to Home Challenge, and Return to Home Challenge Resources. The main content area is divided into sections:

- All Animals in the Community Have Identification**
 - HeARTs Speak
 - Editable Template: Straylight Savings Promotion
- Human Animal Support Services**
 - Keeping Pets Home and Getting Them Home: Community Chip Awareness Campaign
- Maddie's Fund**
 - A fresh look at microchipping can improve lifesaving

On the right side, there is a teal sidebar titled "Related Links" with the following items:

- Grants Profile
- Waiver Animals Count
- Challenges Main Page
- Challenge Hublin
- Member of Pet Project Challenge Group
- Challenge Application Form
- Participant Report Sample
- Local Animal Services



Thank You!

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