

Animal Issues Task Force
Partnership Committee Recommendations

- 1.) Animal Welfare should establish and maintain contact with the local AVMA or other veterinary association to foster dialogue and relationships with a wider source of Veterinarians in the county. We should develop and offer opportunities for Vets to volunteer at the shelter, as well as for vaccination and spay/neuter services. We could also establish an intern program with nearby veterinary schools for both DVM's and Techs (UGA, Gwinnett Tech, Athens Tech.). We should also encourage the use of bulletin boards in veterinary offices to notify the public of any programs Animal Welfare may be putting on.
- 2.) Animal Welfare should foster strong and ongoing relationships with as many Rescue groups as possible. Placement of animals, especially strays and turn ins without vaccination records should be the number one priority before considering euthanasia. No fees for rescues to take animals for adoption unless to recover spay or vaccine fees.
- 3.) Animal Welfare should partner with Gwinnett County Schools to let the public know about the services offered at the Animal Welfare Center. We should also provide education materials and services so that children learn the responsible way to be pet owners. We could ask for a small section in any newsletters to advertise.
<http://www.animalhumanesociety.org/services/schools/classroomvisits>
- 4.) Animal Welfare should partner with Gwinnett TV and develop either an ad or show offering the animals currently up for adoption. We could also broadcast any education seminars we offer.
- 5.) Animal Welfare should explore partnerships with local advertisers. Many may offer PSA as space to promote our services. We may be able to approach billboard companies and have a small message included on any "your ad here" space.
- 6.) Animal Welfare should explore partnerships with local HOAs. We may be able to get space in newsletters for pet of the month or education articles.
- 7.) Animal Welfare should definitely partner with Human Services in the County. This would be a good way to identify candidates for low or no cost vaccination and spay/neuter services. Vets may be more willing to back a low cost program if it is limited to those in true need. Perhaps a card included with any statements given to their clients offering our services or a small panel ad reminding them that there is help for their pet too. Also cruelty to animals can be an indicator of other cruelty in homes. <http://www.onehealthinitiative.com/publications/One%20Health%20-%20description%20of%20NLC2.pdf>
- 8.) Animal Welfare should partner with Meals on Wheels. This partnership can identify both people in need of assistance with their animals and potential adoptors for animals in the shelter. Volunteers for Meals on Wheels can locate people who may need assistance with food or veterinary services and animal welfare can then direct them to low or no cost providers in the area. There are also instances where people are giving their food to their animals. Animal Welfare could then direct them to low of no cost assistance. Meals on Wheels might even be able to deliver the animal food too.

<http://www.myfoxtampabay.com/dpp/news/local/hillsborough/meals-on-wheels-pets-112111>
