Found Pet Report
April 2020
KC Pet Project Found Pets

- We received 52 found pet reports during the month of April through our website
- Our staff called and emailed all reportees to find out the outcome of their case
- We received 27 responses as of May 8th to the survey
Was the pet reunited with its owner?

- Yes, 44%
- No, 41%
- Unsure, 15%
Was the pet rehomed to a new family or did you keep it?

- I rehomed the pet: 23%
- I kept the pet: 18%
- Other: 59%

“Other” reasons cited:
- Animal control picked up the dog
- Believes it to be an outdoor cat
- Kittens their neighbor is caring for
- Cat got away from them
What resources did you use to try and get the pet back home?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Microchip</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pet had a collar/tag</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facebook</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NextDoor</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craigslist</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lost/Found Pet Flyers</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Took the pet to the shelter/ACO</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vet Clinic</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other resources: Pawboost, The Rescue Project, Reddit</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Other resources included:** Pawboost, The Rescue Project, Reddit
What resource ultimately helped the pet get back home?

Other resources included: Pawboost, walked neighborhood with animal, didn’t locate owner
Where did you get the pet scanned for a microchip?

- 3 people said volunteers came over to scan animal
- 5 people said various veterinary hospitals
What resources could have been offered to help you with your found pet?

“Other” resources cited:
- Vet exam
- Vaccines
- Animal control assistance
And finally, we asked what other information people would like to share:

- People appreciated the simple process
- Some would have liked additional follow up or resources
- Several realized that they were outdoor cats and decided to not follow up trying to find a family
- One person said the dog got loose
311 Data

What we have discovered since March is that calls for animal-related services to the city’s 311 line are significantly down. When we pulled reports for the month of April, here is what we discovered:

- **311 Cases assigned to Animal Health & Safety:**
  - April 2019 = 745 cases
  - April 2020 = 258 cases

- **New Animal Control Cases in PetPoint (our animal data software):**
  - April 2019 = 1,458 cases
  - April 2020 = 544 cases
That means calls for service are down 63% over the same period last year.

While we don’t have concrete answers as to why this is, there could be a number of reasons:

- **People are home:**
  - With families at home, people can keep a close eye on their pets, whether they live indoors or outdoors.

- **Stray pets are being reunited in the community:**
  - One of the biggest increases we’ve seen during the time of Covid-19 is an increase in social media posts related to lost pets. Thanks to Lost/Found pet posts on platforms like Facebook, Craigslist, and NextDoor, lost and found pets are finding their way back to their original homes much faster. Data collected from other cities suggest that pets tend to wander within just a few blocks of their home. This activity of helping pets get back home is something that we would love to see continue after this crisis passes and that taking a lost pet to a shelter won’t be the first thing that people do. See our website for more information and resources for if you’ve found a stray pet.

- **No one out in the community:**
  - The other factor could be with so many people at home and not driving the streets of the city that stray pets roaming are not being seen therefore not being reported. Though, even with people at home, we feel that calls would still be coming in regardless.
We are talking with other city animal shelters almost daily, and what we’re hearing is that our community is not alone with this drop of activity in calls. Everyone is working to analyze what this means for their cities and we hope to learn what we can from their data.
Summary

- KC Pet Project asked for our community’s support to prioritize emergency intakes only during Covid-19 and our community responded.
- With calls for service to 311 significantly down and fewer animals coming into our shelter, our community is helping stray pets find homes.
- KC Pet Project will be developing programs to help finders of stray pets be able to reunite pets without them having to come to the shelter.
- We hope that this trend continues beyond this period of time, and our organization wants to be a resource that helps stray pets get returned to their families, without having to come to the shelter.