



# EMBRACING “SOLUTIONS - NOT EXCUSES” DURING A PANDEMIC

How KC Pet Project Responded to COVID-19  
and What’s Next for Our Organization

The KC Pet Project team has become so adept at flexing during emergencies, and embracing our motto of “solutions, not excuses,” so we jumped into action early on to create new processes and utilize technology in a whole new way so we could all stay safe and seamlessly continue saving lives during this time.

Following national recommendations during the pandemic, our shelter remained opened as an essential city service. We worked with our Animal Control officials to limit the intake of animals into our shelter to only sick and injured pets, cruelty cases, dogs that posed a public safety threat, emergencies, and stray animals who were otherwise in immediate danger. We launched telemedicine and curbside veterinary services to support our foster families and recent adopters. We focused on remote services and virtual adoptions, implementing new technologies to support these programs and reduce traffic to the campus. We scheduled adoptions by appointments to continue to adopt out pets to loving families.

We could have discontinued services or shut our doors, but we had lives to save and animals to find loving homes for. Our community embraced us during a pandemic and allowed us to continue our work, all while adhering to national health recommendations and keeping our front-line team members safe. I’m so proud of the work that KC Pet Project does in our community and forever grateful to you, our community, for your incredible support and for all that you’ll do in the future.

**Teresa Johnson** CEO/President and Chief Lifesaving Officer

# YOUR GIFT WILL GO TWICE AS FAR

For eight years, you’ve come to know KC Pet Project as a leader in progressive, lifesaving programs – helping Kansas City to become a No Kill community. We need your support now as we continue to help tens of thousands of animals in our community who still need us and thousands of families that will need our help more than ever in the coming months after this crisis.

From now until June 30th, your gift will be doubled up to **\$10,000** thanks to the Petco Foundation.

Make your donation go twice as far and give today at

**[KCPetProject.org/CovidResponse](https://KCPetProject.org/CovidResponse)**.



## WHAT’S NEXT FOR KC PET PROJECT?

In the coming months, thousands of people in our community will experience housing insecurity, food insecurity, and income insecurity. No one should have to give up a beloved pet simply because they’ve lost their jobs, have to move, or don’t have transportation to get their pet to a veterinarian for basic vaccinations, medical care, or for spay/neuter services. KC Pet Project’s new program, **Keep ‘Em Together, KC**, will offer urgently needed resources to our community’s most underserved residents – helping to keep more pets at home with the people who love them. We know the need exists, but we can’t do it without your help.



**KEEP ‘EM  
TOGETHER, KC**

**[KCPetProject.org/TogetherKC](https://KCPetProject.org/TogetherKC)**

## FOSTERING IS THE FUTURE

We put out a plea in March for fosters to help us care for our pets outside of the shelter, and nearly 900 families and individuals responded saying they could help. Our foster families often didn't meet n' greets with adopters by Zoom or FaceTime, and with virtual adoptions, many pets never had to come back to the shelter once they left for foster homes. These processes resulted in an increase in adoptions during this time and better, more efficient customer services. Fostering is the future of our organization, and you can still get involved!

**Sign Up: [KCPetProject.org/Foster](https://KCPetProject.org/Foster)**



“

***Her companionship brought constant joy and distraction as the world outside our home seemed to get crazier by the day.”***

“Fostering was a dream come true. Barbara Jean could not have come at a better time. Her companionship brought constant joy and distraction as the world outside our home seemed to get crazier by the day. She provided routine when it was hard to have a normal life. She provided laughs when it would have normally been quiet. She provided stories to share with friends and family when we all seemed to not have anything to share. She encouraged safe exploration of the city when the couch was so inviting. It is weird when you credit a dog for making you a better human, but it feels like she did.”

- Chris Wengert and Jacque Kasner | KC Pet Project Fosters

## OUR RESPONSE TO COVID-19 SINCE MARCH 16, 2020

**838 PETS ADOPTED**

**577** of those pets were adopted directly from foster homes

**515**   
DOGS FOSTERED

**397**   
CATS FOSTERED

**188**     
PETS REUNITED  
WITH THEIR FAMILIES



**ADOPTIONS  
PROCESSED  
VIRTUALLY**

  
**ADHERED  
TO ALL NATIONAL  
OPERATIONAL  
RECOMMENDATIONS**