

# **INCLUDING ANIMALS IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

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# **THE PROBLEM**

# PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION

**Stray animals-** according to data from the Camden County Animal Shelter, over 8,000 companion animals are abandoned or surrendered in Camden Co per year

**Lack of training and employment-** above national average

**Connection between animal cruelty and violence-** research shows that cruelty to animals is a precursor to domestic violence and violence against children in the home, which later transfers to violence outside the home

**Dog Fighting-** people engaging in dog fighting are more likely to engage in other criminal activities

# WHY SHOULD WE CARE?

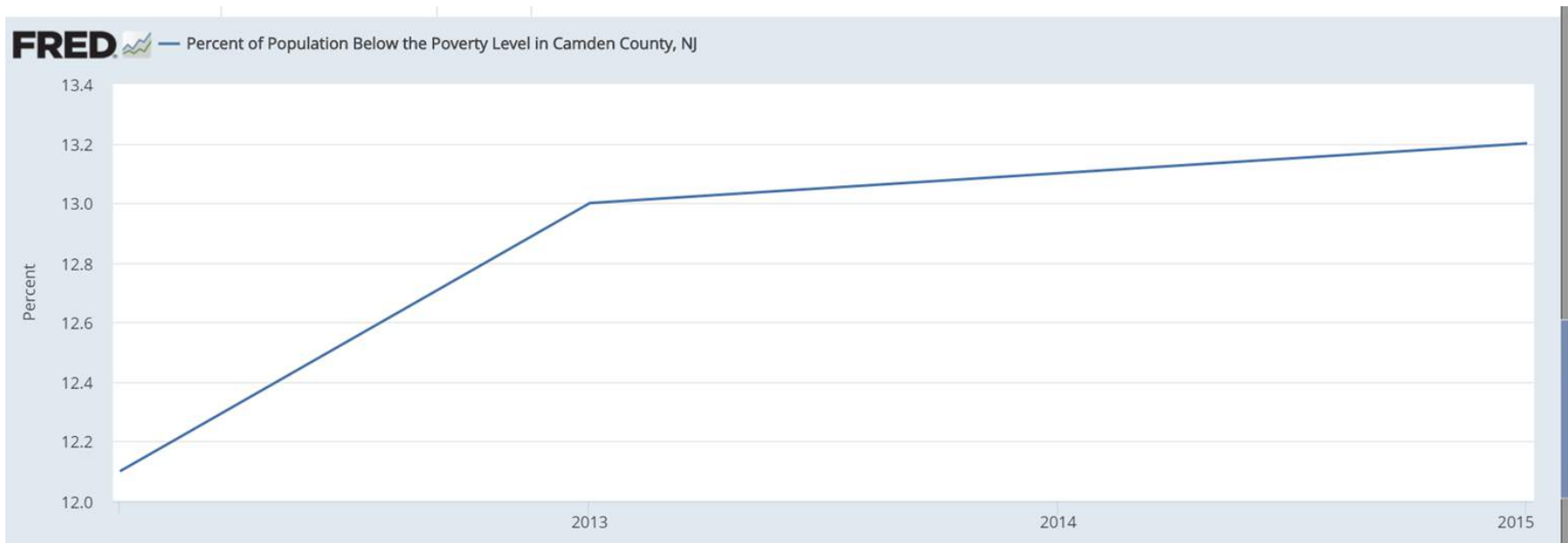
Some of the main issues faced in community development are connected to economic development. The lack of resources affect all members of the community, including animals. Though historically, community development has focused on how to improve the lives of people, seldom have animals been taken into account. This research looks at the connection between community and economic development and animals as members of communities.

# THE PROCESS: BLUMER

- 1- Identify the problem
- 2- Legitimization of problem
- 3- Mobilization of action to be solved
- 4- Formulation of a plan
- 5- Implementation of a plan
- 6 - Evaluation

# COMMUNITY SETTING

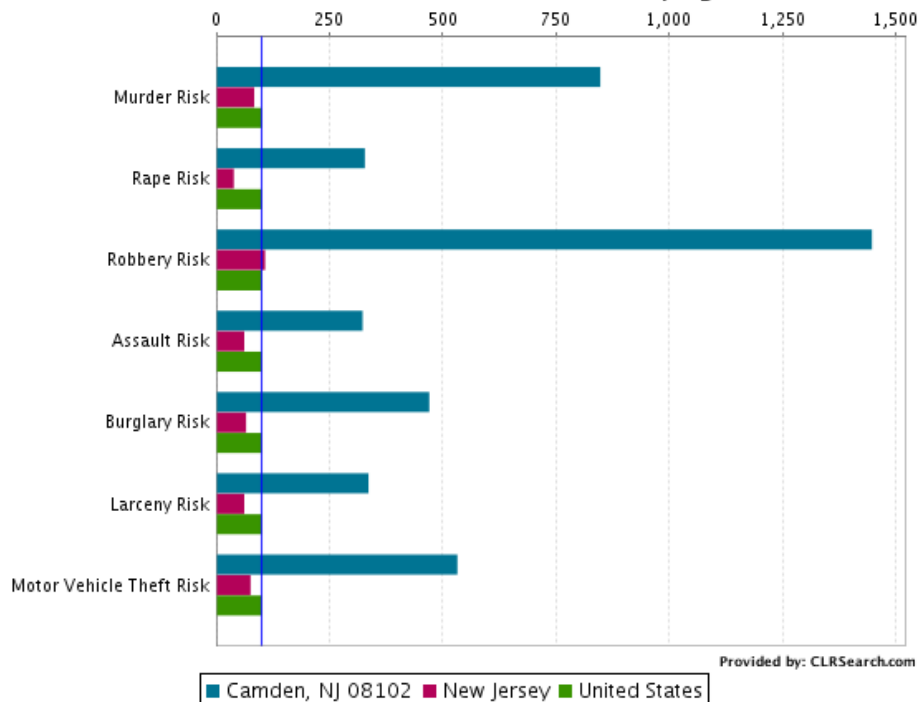
## Poverty



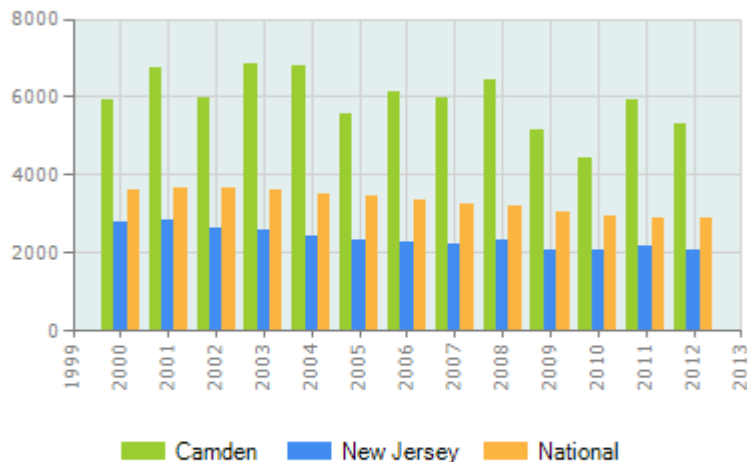
# COMMUNITY SETTING

## Crime

2010 Crime Rate Indexes for Camden, NJ 08102



Camden Property Crime Index



Crime Index corresponds to incidents per 100,000 inhabitants

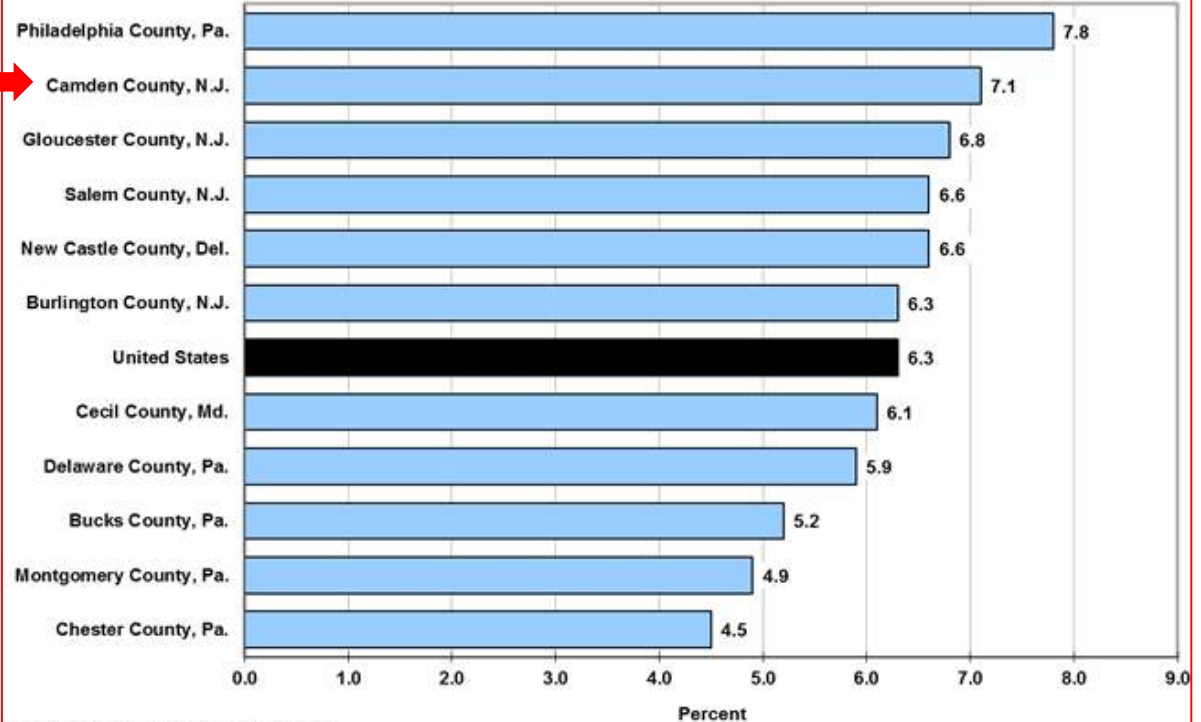
© 2017 CityRating.com - <http://www.cityrating.com/crime-statistics/>



# COMMUNITY SETTING

## Unemployment

Chart 1. Unemployment rates for the United States and counties in the Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, Pa.-N.J.-Del.-Md. Metropolitan Statistical Area, June 2014, not seasonally adjusted



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

# COMMUNITY SETTING

## What is Animal Cruelty?

Animal cruelty is when someone hurts an animal or does not care for an animal responsibly, ex. not giving a dog or cat food and water. It is against the law to be cruel to or harm animals, even your own pets. It's also called animal abuse, or neglect.

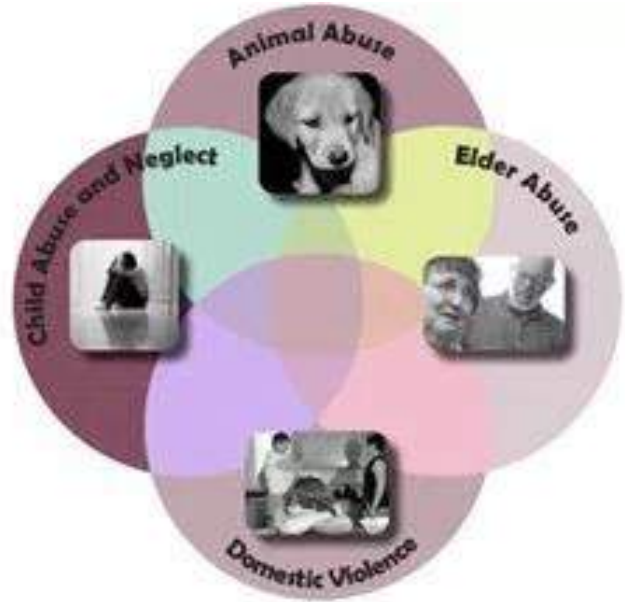


# COMMUNITY SETTING

## Animal Cruelty and Violence

Animal abusers are five times more likely to commit violent crimes against people and four times more likely to commit property crimes than individuals without a history of animal abuse

<http://www.ocfl.net/portals/o/library/animals-pets/docs/animalcruelty nationalstatistics.pdf>



[nationallinkcoalition.org](http://nationallinkcoalition.org)

# WHY DO PEOPLE ABUSE ANIMALS?

**Mental Health Issues**– Animal cruelty is a predictor of mental health issues and personality disorders. Specifically, animal cruelty has a positive correlation with psychopathy and is part of the MacDonald Triad.

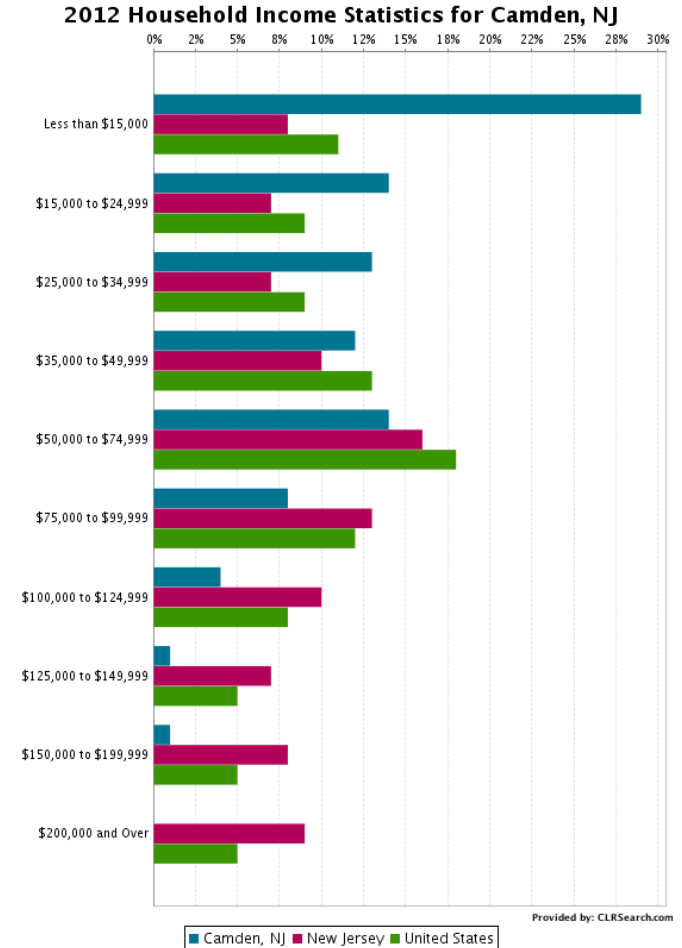
**Previous Abuse**– Studies that look at self-reported data from incarcerated individuals found that a significant majority had abused animals as a result of their own experience with abuse.

(Flynn, 2001)

# THE DEMOGRAPHICS

- Men
- African-Americans
- Native-Americans/Asians
- Native-born Americans
- **Persons with lower levels of income**
- Persons with lower levels of education

(Vaughn et al, 2010)



# CONNECTION TO CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

## Dog fighting

- Social disorganization leads to animal neglect
- Animal cruelty is connected to individuals
- Connected to drugs, weapons, illegal trafficking

(Levinthal, 2010)

(Lam, 2017)

## RICO Law in New Jersey

(Lamb, 2017)

<http://nj1015.com/13-pit-bulls-were-being-trained-to-fight-owner-arrested-police-say/>

[http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2017/02/2\\_indicted\\_for\\_interstate\\_dog-fighting\\_network.html](http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2017/02/2_indicted_for_interstate_dog-fighting_network.html)

[http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2017/08/4\\_men\\_admit\\_guilt\\_in\\_multi-state\\_dogfighting\\_ring.html](http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2017/08/4_men_admit_guilt_in_multi-state_dogfighting_ring.html)

<https://patch.com/new-jersey/brick/major-new-jersey-dog-fighting-bust-involving-9-people-66-dogs-revealed-o>

<http://www.thedailyjournal.com/story/news/crime/2016/06/01/vineland-millville-residents-charged-dogfighting-network/85246388/>

# STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS



# STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS

## Camden County Animal Shelter

Over 8,000 companion animals per year are stray or surrendered

Cost to the public is over \$10M

Majority of these animals are found in bad health

## Vorhees Animal Orphanage

Educational programs have shown a significant increase in spay and neuter

Children are most interested in learning about animals

## Animal Adoption Center of Lindenwold

Abandoned pitbulls

Not able to offer education due to lack of resources



**SUCCESSFUL  
MODELS IN  
THE UNITED  
STATES**

# TRAINING PROGRAMS WITH INMATES IN FLORIDA

DAWGS in Prison  
The FIDO Project  
PAWS on Parole





# **PITS FOR PATRIOTS**

**Teaching people  
about animal welfare  
and issues**

**Helping veterans  
become a part of  
their communities  
and get jobs**

# CASE STUDIES

- CUBA
- IFAW

# CUBA CASE

- Lack of resources is main issues for Cuban pet owners so many end up letting their pets go on the streets
- Pets go without being neutered and spayed which results in many animals roaming the streets
- Zoonosis- dog catchers - collect street dogs and leave them unfed for 5 days and if no one claims them they lace their food with poison

# ANIPLANT

- Aniplant- ANIPLANT is the only animal protection organization legally permitted to function in Cuba since only one organization in each field is allowed to be active
- ANIPLANT seeks to eliminate the suffering of Cuban animals through
  - mass sterilization campaigns
  - public education
  - the promotion of animal health care
  - assistance to animal refuges
  - hands-on intervention in cases of animal suffering

# ANIPLANT INTERVENES

Nora Garcia president of Aniplant, presents two radio shows and 1 tv show - education, notices of weekend spay-neuter clinics, health information for dogs and cats, and information about public events related to animals.

The Cuban people respond well to the organization and Nora is constantly stopped on the streets by individuals who have questions about pet care. Her tv show and radio presence has a following and is widely accepted.

ANIPLANT relies on limited resources but when possible outside partners and vets will bring in supplies to Aniplant



**REUSE MEDICAL SUPPLIES**





**ANIPLANT DEWORMING CAMPAIGN**

# INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR ANIMAL WELFARE CASE (IFAW)

**Mission—to rescue and protect animals around the world**

- IFAW shares its expertise and resources with individuals organizations, communities and governments and they have created tools to help communities create humane plans for the issues in their particular community. These tools and strategies can be adopted by different types of communities.
- Guidance to community
  - IFAW's Humane Community Development Program helps communities find ways to manage their dog populations humanely and sustainably.



# IFAW IN CHINA

There are a lot of worldwide projects that have developed through IFAW - this one stands out

IFAW cultivates compassion and teaches responsible pet care in China

- There is no animal welfare legislation in China and number of pet owners in China is going up so it is important to cultivate a culture of animal compassion in China

## Issues in China

- Not enough info or guidance on animal care (vaccinating, leashing, cleaning up after pets)
- Lack of spaying and neutering practices
- Pet owner vs non pet owner conflict
- Solutions taken by municipalities is to kill dogs or cats by the masses called “culling”

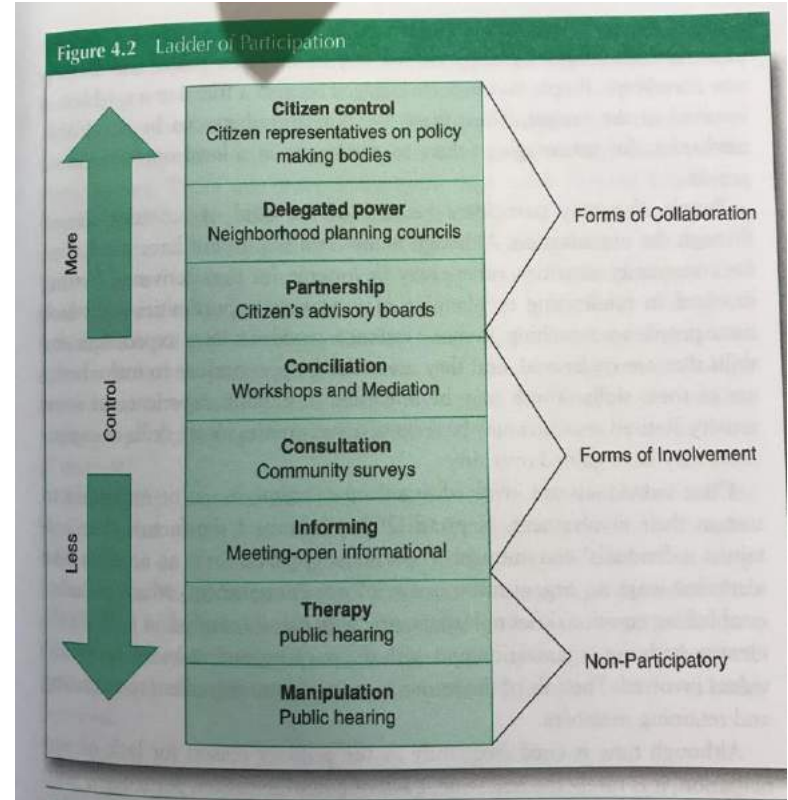
# IFAW IN CHINA CONT..

## How IFAW Helps

- Since 1993, IFAW has been supporting local rescue groups, educators, and veterinarians in over 20 provinces with technical material and financial support.
- Spay/ neutering projects with local vets and municipal authorities
- Rescuing animals in natural disasters like earthquakes and preventing “culls”
- Public education and awareness on animal care
- Campaigns to change China laws
  - National level by advocating for animal welfare legislation ( abuse, neglect, etc)
  - Local level by advising local municipalities to adopt regulation surrounding rabies and overpopulation prevention

# REFLECTION FROM CASES

- Community involvement means long term results
- Important to identify source of problem and using local knowledge to address the issues
- “Arnstein argues that power and control over decisions are necessary ingredients to “real public participation”(Greene, Haines p. 82)
- Community conflict- conflict necessary (pet owner vs non pet owner)
- Importance of creating social capital
  - Collaboration - community, local governments, organizations



# **CRAFTING INTERVENTIONS**

## 4 prevalent areas,

- Safety
- Belonging
- Participation
- Values-led living





# SOCIAL CAPITAL

- Involvement in civic activities
- Compassion
- Overall happiness

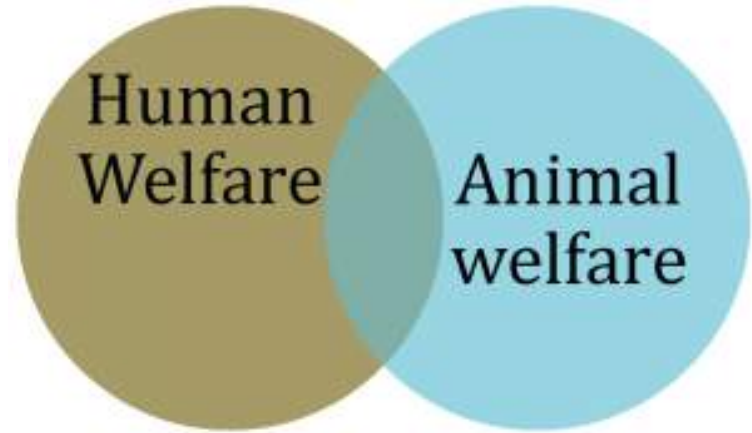


# "THE PET CONNECTION: PETS AS A CONDUIT FOR SOCIAL CAPITAL?"

1. facilitate social contact and interaction
2. As motivators for walking and using public spaces (dog parks) – also creates health benefits
3. Community participation in activities that revolve around pets
4. As a protective factor for mental health, which in turn may influence attitudes towards, and participation in, the local community and relationships with people in the community. (Wood et al. 2005).

Wood, Lisa, Billie Giles-Corti, and Max Bulsara. "The pet connection: Pets as a conduit for social capital?." *Social science & medicine* 61.6 (2005): 1159-1173.

# SYSTEMS THEORY



*THE COLORADO LINK PROJECT*



**SYMBOLIC INTERACTIONISM**



# CONFLICT THEORY

## Human needs vs Animal Needs

- Food
- Shelter

## Power structure

Humans have control over animals and animals depend on humans

## Limited resources

In low income communities, care for animals is not a priority

**ANIMAL  
IMMERSION  
INITIATIVE**

# EDUCATION

**Mission-** To help students in grades K-12 in Camden County develop an understanding of the importance of having compassion for animals

**Vision-** To create a program that will start in Pre-K and will evolve as the student grows in their personal identity and their relationship with the community

# TRAINING

**Mission-** To provide adults in Camden County with skills that may help them improve their economic conditions

**Vision-** To connect residents of Camden County with volunteer opportunities that will provide them with the necessary training to learn how to work with companion animals and work with them to help them create an economic improvement plan through the use of said skills



# ADDRESSING THE PROBLEMS

**Stray animals**-by providing shelters with more volunteers from the community, they will have the staff to take care of animals

**Lack of training and employment**- Adults participating in the program will gain skills in communication, animal training, team work,

**Connection between animal cruelty and violence**- by teaching children how to have compassion for animals, we can stop the violence

**Dog Fighting**-compassion and training

# WHERE DO WE BEGIN?

**Stray animals**-by providing shelters with more volunteers from the community, they will have the staff to take care of animals

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**Dog Fighting**-compassion and training

# SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

**Stray animals**-by providing shelters with more volunteers from the community, they will have the staff to take care of animals

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**Connection between animal cruelty and violence**- by teaching children how to have compassion for animals, we can stop the violence

**Dog Fighting**-compassion and training

# GIS AS A TOOL FOR COMMUNITY PET OWNERS

- Lack of information on resources by community members might lead them to abandon pets.
- William J. Wilson wrote on “social isolation”- “Today, urban neighborhoods with large concentrations of poor people are places where relatively few people are connected to the mainstream societal institutions” (Tigges, et. al 1998).
- How do we connect community pet owners to information on pet care, free vaccines, pet food pantries, vet services, temporary pet refuges etc.?

# GIS AS A TOOL FOR COMMUNITY PET OWNERS

- GIS- connects geography with data
- GIS is no longer a technology of the techs & science junkies, more and more nonprofits use to map out services
- “GIS presents alternative methods of geographical targeting aimed at improving the living standards of the poor, and carefully evaluates their effect on social welfare and their implications for public resource allocations” (Bigman & Fofack 2000)
- For a city like Camden this might be a useful tool
- GIS takes time and is costly- help of universities
  1. Find a team at a university who will provide GIS skill
  2. Identify all potential organizations
  3. Map the organizations
  4. Provide a link to the organizations websites or information

# GIS AS A TOOL FOR COMMUNITY PET OWNERS

Advantages:

1. Based on your location you can find closest results
2. GIS holds data on where searches are being made from- good for information gathering and evaluation
  - Data on which communities are utilizing this tool and which communities might be under utilizing

Knowledge of this system can be incorporated into the education programs and adult training program.

**EVALUATION**

# BENCHMARKS AND INDICATORS

# of Animals surrendered, abused, neglected

# of volunteers in partner shelters

# of schools joining the program

# of participants in training program

# of job placements



# QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT

What are adult participants learning?

Desired skills,

**Soft Skills**

**Hard Skills**

Communication  
usage

Computer

Team Work

Animal training

***IMPLEMENTATION***

# PARTNERSHIPS

- Camden County Animal Shelter
- Vorhees Animal Orphanage
- Animal Adoption Center
- LEAP Academy
- Camden School District
- Rutgers University-Camden
- Respond, Inc
- Hopeworks (GIS)

# COST

Tabling at Festivals: \$1,000

Marketing: \$500

Operations,

- Space Reservations: \$1,000
- Food: \$1,000

Educational Materials

- Printing: \$250
- Writing devices: \$100
- Paper: \$250

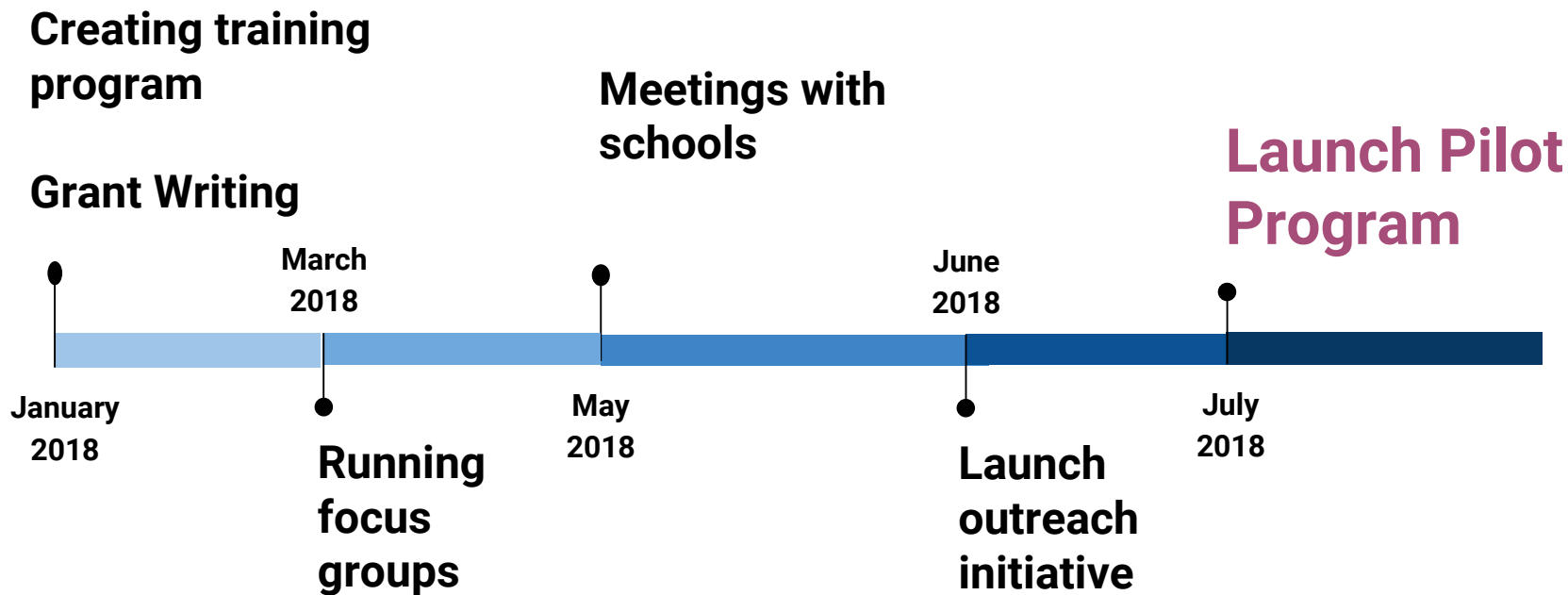
# FUNDING

- Existing Fundraising from Partners: 10% toward new program (up to \$1,500)
- Peer-to-Peer: Race sponsorships
- Grants:
  - Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust (\$1,000)
  - Brian and Amanda Bickell Foundation (\$2,000)
  - Petco Charitable Fund (\$2,500)

# OUTREACH

- Tabling
  - Festivals
  - Pet stores
- City Council Meetings
- Social media: Instagram and Facebook
- Schools
- Veterinary Clinics

# TIMELINE



**QUESTIONS**



It is a mistake to see issues of human and animal exploitation as mutually exclusive. On the contrary, all exploitation is inextricably intertwined. All exploitation is a manifestation of violence. All discrimination is a manifestation of violence. As long as we tolerate violence of any sort, there will be violence of every sort.

~Gary Francione



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