

**April 10, 2020**

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**Palm Valley Animal Society Announces 89.4%  
 Save Rate for First Quarter of 2020**

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Edinburg, Texas* – Palm Valley Animal Society’s intake is one of the highest in the country, but ongoing efforts at improving outcomes, supported by local community and national partners, continue to increase save rates at the agency. PVAS saw significant progress in their journey to no-kill in the first quarter of 2020, saving 1,246 more animals than in the first quarter of 2019.

	<u>Q1: 2019</u>	<u>Q1: 2020</u>	
Adoption	1,062	1,702	+60%
Spay/Neuter/Return-to-Field	0	740	N/A
Euthanized	1,632	428	-73%
Spay/Neuter Surgeries	1233	6,644	+54%

The organization’s save rate in 2019 was 72.3%. Their save rate for the first quarter of 2020 is 89.4%

PVAS is grateful for the support of local and national lifesaving partners in working to save lives in the Rio Grande Valley. Best Friends Animal Society ([bestfriends.org](http://bestfriends.org)) has had a team on-site since July 2018, providing support for operations, as well as funding for supplies, equipment, vehicles, and programs, including PVAS’ [Community Cats Program](#). Maddie’s<sup>®</sup> Shelter Embed Project in the Rio Grande Valley ([maddiesfund.org](http://maddiesfund.org)) provides funding for Best Friend’s work and is the primary resource for PVAS’ efforts since July 2019. Petco Foundation ([petcofoundation.org](http://petcofoundation.org)) provided a grant of \$1M (\$500k/year in 2018-2019) in 2018 that jumpstarted PVAS’ initial efforts toward achieving no-kill.

Donna Casamento, Executive Director, writes: “We’re grateful for the help of our supporters, volunteers, and staff in creating positive lifesaving change in our community. 89.4% is the highest cumulative save rate PVAS has ever achieved, but there’s more work to be done. The entire organization is fully committed to reaching the day when every animal that can be saved is saved in the Rio Grande Valley.”

*Palm Valley Animal Society is the shelter of record for Edinburg, Hidalgo, Hidalgo County, La Joya, McAllen, Palmhurst, and Palmview, serving approximately 770,000 residents and 30,000 animals annually. Information on PVAS programs, services, and impact can be found online at [pvastx.org](http://pvastx.org).*

Image Attached



# 2020 LIFESAVING IMPACT:

## FIRST QUARTER: JANUARY - MARCH

Working with our lifesaving partners and the communities we serve, Palm Valley Animal Society continues to save lives every day on our way to reaching no-kill.

### OUR PARTNERS:

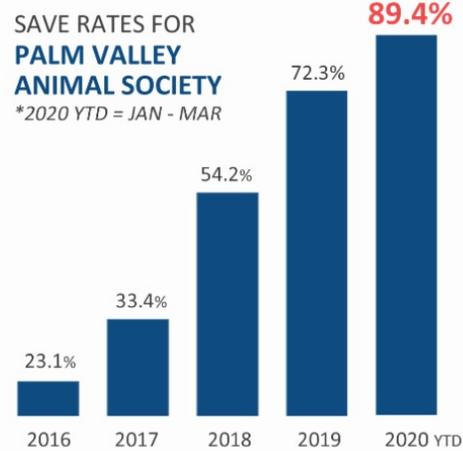


### OUR PROGRESS:

Palm Valley Animal Society (PVAS) continues our committed effort to lead the way as a lifesaving pioneer in the Rio Grande Valley while engaging the communities we serve as partners.

As of **March 31, 2020**, Palm Valley Animal Society's lifesaving impact continues to grow at one of the highest rates of any shelter in the United States.<sup>1</sup>

	Q1: 2019	Q1: 2020
ADOPTION	1062	1702
RESCUE/TRANSFER	1637	1269
SPAY/NEUTER/RETURN-TO-FIELD	0	740
RETURN TO OWNER	509	393
EUTHANIZED	1632	428
SPAY/NEUTER SURGERIES	1233	1903



Comparison of 1st quarter of 2019 and 2020: **adoptions increased by 60%**, **euthanasia reduced by 73%**, and **spay/neuter surgeries increased by 54%**. Year-over-year PVAS has saved a total of **1246 more animals than the year before.**<sup>2</sup>

### OUR 2020 GOAL FOR THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY:

## “SAVE EVERY ANIMAL THAT CAN BE SAVED”

We've targeted return-to-owner and rescue transfer for improvement in 2020. We've also set ambitious goals for continued reduction of euthanasia and accompanying increases in adoption and spay/neuter surgeries. With your help we've made progress, but we know there's more work to be done. Working together we're confident we can become one of the largest shelters in America to reach no-kill, creating a legacy of compassion that sets a lifesaving gold standard for the communities we serve, the Rio Grande Valley, and the entire United States. We hope you'll join us!



## PALM VALLEY ANIMAL SOCIETY

2501 W TRENTON RD EDINBURG, TX 78539 (956) 686-1141 PVASTX.ORG  
SERVING EDINBURG, HIDALGO, HIDALGO COUNTY, LA JOYA, McALLEN, PALMHURST, AND PALMVIEW

1: Information compiled by Best Friends Animal Society and PVAS comparing lifesaving progress using data ranging from 2016-2020 calendar years, including data from more than 3,200 shelters across the U.S. 2: The gap to achieving a 90% save-rate in FY2019 Q1 was 1268 compared to the gap in FY2020 Q1 which is 22, representing 1246 additional lives saved.