



Myles Chadwick

Vice President
Emancipet New School

Myles has been passionate about serving people and animals his entire adult life, and since 2012 he has had the honor of doing so with Emancipet, a non-profit building a national affordable veterinary care system to serve the underserved.

Myles oversees and delivers leadership and program development training to animal welfare professionals interested in increasing their own impact and creating social change within their communities. Emancipet has opened seven low-cost pet health clinics in five cities - Austin, Pflugerville, Killeen, and Houston, Texas and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and launched a national social change training program. Emancipet's low-cost clinics provide care to over 100,000 pets living in underserved areas every year, keeping those pets healthy, happy, and safe with their families. Emancipet and its services are an integral part of the success story of Austin, Texas, being one of the three entities (including not for profit Austin Pets Alive! and the Government run Austin Animal Centre) that has driven the results seen today.

Prior to working with Emancipet, Myles was with the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals working with the National Spay/Neuter Project, and Berg Memorial Animal Hospital.

Abstract

Workshop - Responsible Pet Ownership in Action: Transforming Communities Through Social Change

We all dream of a future in which animal homelessness and suffering are rare, and where all pets are healthy, happy, and cared for by their families. When most of our time is spent focused on helping animals who are already homeless or suffering, it can feel like nothing is ever going to change for the better. But what if change – big change – really is possible? What if we could change the world for animals and build a more humane future? We believe that change has to start with us. It requires a new set of strategies and a new approach to working with pet owners, all rooted in the science of “social change.”

Social change work is designed to permanently transform the behavior of whole groups of people in significant ways. If we design our programs and services as social change initiatives, we can permanently and effectively transform the behavior of pet owners in our communities in ways that benefit animals. In this interactive workshop, we'll learn what social change is, how to build social change programs, and how to have conversations with people that actually change their hearts, minds, and behavior. We'll also cover how animal welfare organizations and government animal management departments can develop new initiatives that keep pets at home with their people, and out of the shelter system, and how to fundraise for these new kinds of initiatives.