



## KEEPING ANIMALS OUT OF SHELTERS & POUNDS

Dr Ann Enright

BVMS, Grad Cert & Fellowship, Shelter Medicine

## SOLUTIONS ORIENTED APPROACHES

*The traditional world of animal sheltering is changing. Covid 19 required every industry to rethink its operations, highlighting the need for adaptability and creativity. New ideas and methods regarding how we deal with homeless animals are starting to emerge with the focus moving away from traditional style shelters and towards a community, foster centric based system. Learn how rescue, foster and Not for Profit groups can improve their potential life-saving operations.*

Put 2-3 dot points in comments section -

- What you feel you need to 'keep animals out of the shelters'
- Include in Rescue/Foster Manual/Toolkit

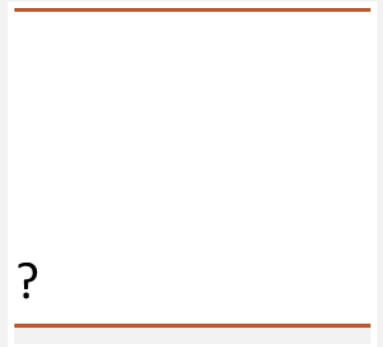
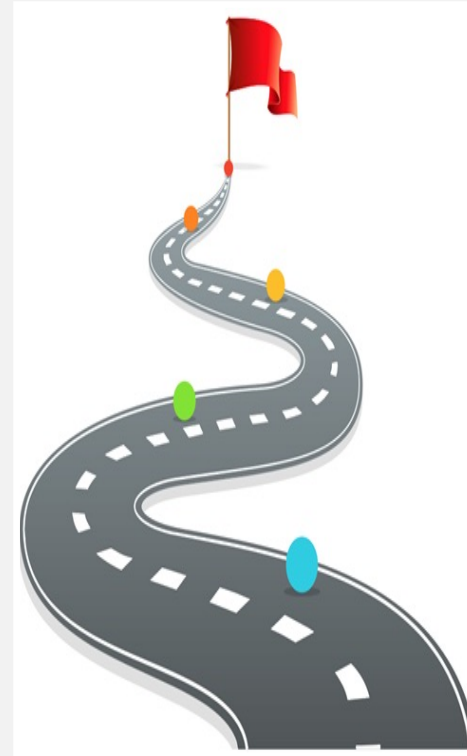
- Why choose to listen today?

THINK ABOUT

- What are your goals?



- Road Map?



# ANIMAL SHELTER BEGINNINGS

Varied & checkered history

Municipal, Private, Public, Rescue, No Kill

- RSPCA, Vic est 1871
- Lost Dogs' Home, Vic, est 1910
- Cat Haven, WA, est 1961
- Battersea, London UK, est 1860
- Animal Rescue League, Boston Mass, US est 1899
- Mayhew, London UK, est 1886



**BATTERSEA**

MOVE TO  
COMMUNITY  
FOCUS

## Lessons from Covid 19

### Animal:

- Negative cycle – people losing pets & pets losing homes
- Communities want to help – increase their involvement
- Shelters = last resort

### Human Health Care:

- Reactionary
- 4 Rs

***Opportunity for change in animal  
sheltering***

# IMPORTANCE OF RESCUE, FOSTER & NFP GROUPS

Invaluable resource

Save 100s & 1000s of animals a year

Deal with the coal face

Take 'resource demanding' animals

## **BUT**

Easily overwhelmed

Need access - resources & advice



## 2 STAGED APPROACH

Short Term



Long Term

### **NOW:**

#### **Do:**

- Assess current ability to provide humane care (C4C)
- Track data & numbers
- Use \$200 govt grant strategically
- Approach Council for 'targeted desexing'
- Investigate *Assisted Rehoming* – Pet Rescue
- Continue Fundraising

#### **Don't:**

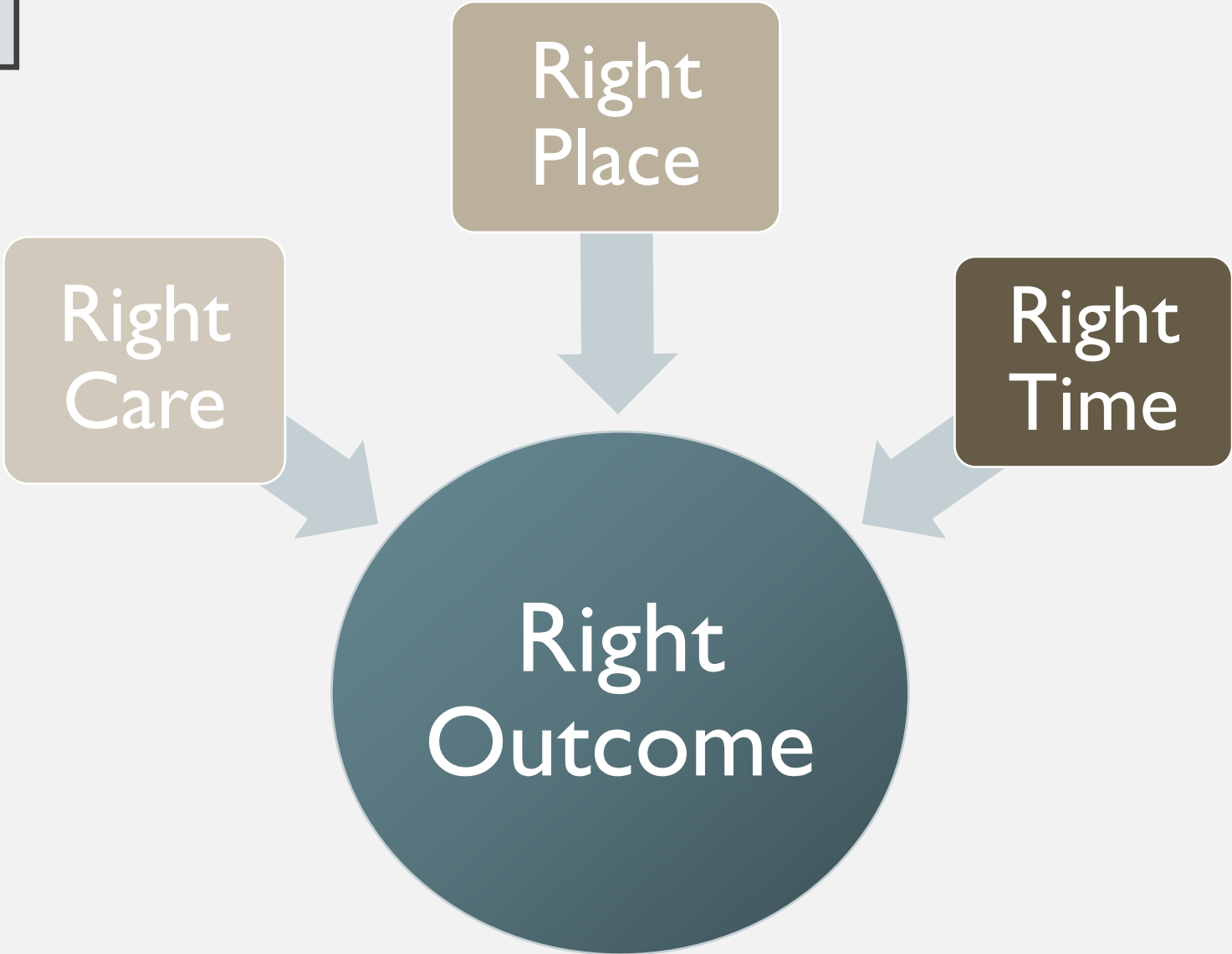
- Try & save 'everything' immediately
- Overload



≠ HUMANE HOUSING



4 RS



## ATTITUDE SHIFTS – STOP & LISTEN

Shelters & Pounds – last resort

Situations = multi layered

Surrendering ≠ bad owner

Know audience:

language, culture, income, education, family/single/women ?????

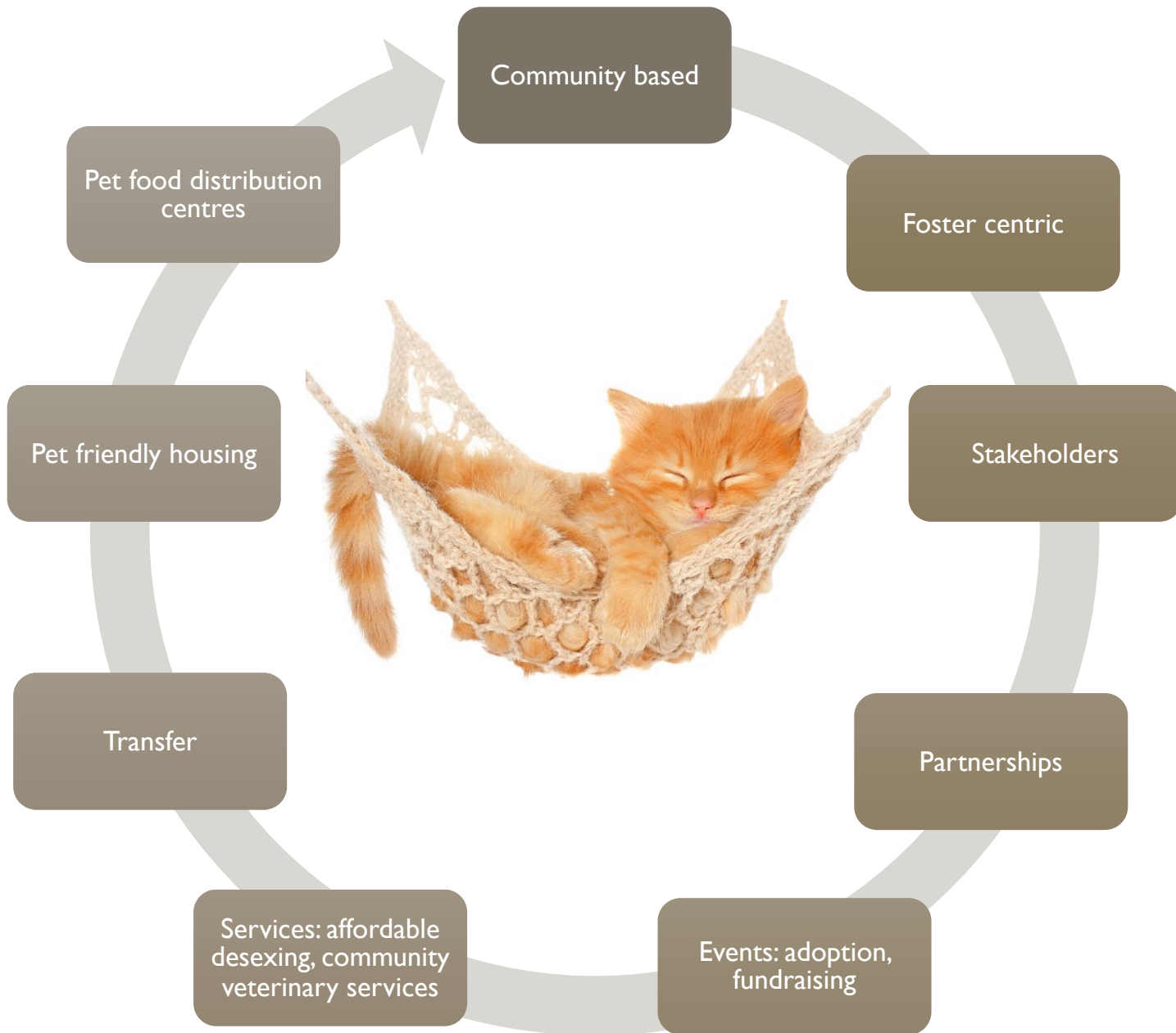
Identify *real* reason giving up pet – understand family & pet needs

Community education still needed– desex the mum

TREND:

↑ Community Involvement





## FUTURE GOALS:

## SAFETY NET PROGRAMMES

# CREATING CHANGE



# INTERNATIONAL COMMENTS

- 100% - Strong TNVR
- Leave fat stray cats, TNVR & collect kittens
- O rehoming programme 'Pets Looking for People' – O needs to post here first before going to shelter (appointment). A lot rehomed before going to shelter. Make appt for desexing, vax, chip if needed <https://support.awanj.org/pets-looking-for-people>
- Change/improve local ordinances
- Develop good positive relationships with AMOs
- PIMA County:
  - Virtual adoptions – online speed dating – foster carers better at adoption matching, no returns  
[pima.gov/government/pima\\_animal\\_care\\_center](http://pima.gov/government/pima_animal_care_center)
- Miami Dade:
  - Milk Man – ACOs - neonatal kits
  - 'Wait till 8'

# WHAT TO DO

Know community  
needs you are  
servicing

Use resources  
strategically –  
form  
collaborations

Complete  
submissions for  
change

Engage Councils –  
offer to help

Fundraise

Monitor others'  
progress

Try new  
programmes

Toolkit  
suggestions

Need help: [aenright7@gmail.com](mailto:aenright7@gmail.com)