



GETTING 2 ZERO

Getting to Zero Australia program gets new Coordinator

Getting to Zero Australia (www.g2z.com.au) launches its Saving Lives Advisory Service for pounds and shelters, with the appointment of a dedicated G2Z Coordinator, Nell Thompson.

The advisory service aims to prevent the killing of thousands of unwanted pets each year by providing successful strategies and guidance to those involved in animal management and welfare.

"Ms Thompson has a vast amount of experience initiating new programs to reduce euthanasia rates in shelters and developing effective working relationships between shelters and Council pounds. She has keenly participated in four National Summits to End Companion Animal Overpopulation since 2006, which have presented international and national best practice strategies, and has a strong commitment to helping communities to save more lives," said Ms Verrinder, Strategic Development Officer of AWLQ, the organisation which initiated the program.

Getting to Zero is a model that is relevant to state governments, local government Councillors and animal management departments, pounds, shelters, rescue groups, breed organisations, breeders, pet shops, animal trainers, groomers, wildlife organisations, veterinarians, and all community members who are concerned about better management and welfare of cats and dogs.

The G2Z model consist of 4 elements – a community vet clinic, a shelter vet clinic, a rehoming centre, and community education, legislation and support – and 40 strategies, which have proven successful in substantially reducing euthanasia rates of cats and dogs in one of the largest cities in Australia. The goal is to save all healthy and treatable animals i.e. at least 90% of incoming animals to pounds and shelters in each community in Australia.

G2Z Coordinator, Nell Thompson, says that Getting to Zero Australia provides a comprehensive website (www.g2z.com.au) as a resource. It includes a self-audit checklist that can be used as the first step on the road to saving lives. This checklist is then assessed by G2Z with recommendations, information and ongoing guidance provided to organisations free of charge.

"G2Z provides a wonderful opportunity for governments and organisations large and small to work together to save more lives. We are looking forward to assisting the animal welfare and management communities to get to zero euthanasia of healthy and treatable pets and encourage people to contact us via the website www.g2z.com.au to get started."

G2Z is a national program. For more information Nell Thompson can be contacted at info@g2z.com.au or 0427 981 759.

Ends.