# Pet Care

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# Issues

# Community issue:

Pet welfare

# Focus issues:

- Pet owners going through challenging times
- Lack of accessible or affordable pet food



# Goal

Our goal is to make pet care resources easily accessible and affordable, by creating a pet care clinic that encompasses all pet care needs.



### Facts



- In 2020, US pet food and treat spending reached almost \$42 billion.
- Feline and canine pet owners typically have minimum expenses ranging from \$254 to \$287 annually for basic pet food and may pay an extra \$72 to \$81 for treats.
- Millions of pets lack the basic sustenance required to live healthy and fulfilling lives. This can lead to pet parents having to make heartbreaking decisions to forego nutrition for themselves, or other necessities, in order to feed their pets.
- PetSmart Charities has been at the forefront of bringing attention to the issue of pet hunger.
- Our dedication to providing food and resources to pets in need has touched the lives of countless animals and their loving families, but we can't end pet hunger alone.

## Facts

- An estimated 29 million cats and dogs in the U.S. live with families in poverty or at risk of poverty. However, there is a noticeable lack of research exploring how socioeconomic status impacts companion animal guardianship.
- Research on human food insecurity has found that people who cannot afford to feed themselves often turn to food pantries and government assistance programs like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), although SNAP benefits exclude food for companion animals.
- When we separate a pet's need for food and their family's need for food, we're creating accessibility barriers.
- Now, a person has to go to two places to meet their family's needs. If we didn't create this division, we would eliminate a barrier.

# How to Help

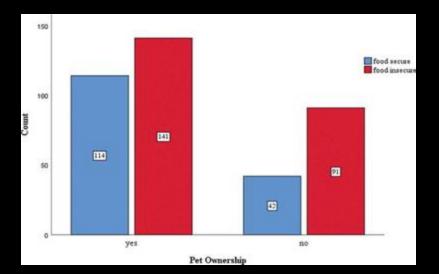
#### **Tactics:**

- Organize pet food drives
- Construct pet food banks
- Partner with stores and businesses for donations
- Make a petition with signatures from concerned citizens in order to get funding for the mobile clinic



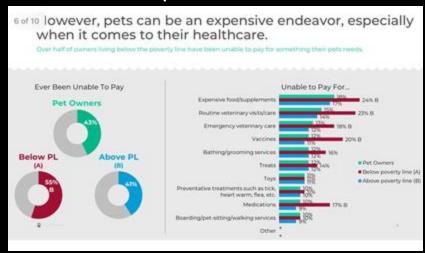
# Data

- This graph shows how many pet owners are food insecure
- According to Mary Rauktis most pet owners are food insecure along with their pets
- A solution to this would be the SNAP program



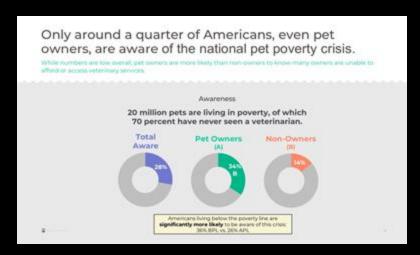
## Data

- This graph shows that 43% of pet owners are unable to pay for vet visits
- 55% of all pet owners live under the poverty line
- As you can see on the graph most pet owners can't afford the basic necessities to care for there pet



## Data

- As you can see on the graph that 20 million pets are living in poverty
- 70 percent have never seen a veterinarian
- Meaning that 14,000,000 million of those pets never got the proper care or vaccinations they needed.



## What We Learned

Ben: I learned teamwork as well as collaboration.

Timothy: I learned that listening to your partner's ideas is the key to success.

Yasury: I learned how to work together as one group and come to a consensus.

Maryam: I learned how to better protect the animals in my community.

## Citations

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# Thank you!!!!

