

Michelson Found Animals



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Human-Animal Connection

Measuring the Broader Socioeconomic Impacts of Animal Welfare Policies

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UNIVERSITY *of*
DENVER

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
Institute for Human-Animal Connection

Institute for Human-Animal Connection (IHAC)

- Integrating social work expertise into HAI
 - Animals in clinical interventions
 - Animal welfare as a social justice issue
- Ethical framework for HAI
 - Teaching, practice, research and advocacy
- ~500 MSW students have received an Animal-Assisted Social Work certificate



Social Science-Informed Animal Welfare (SSIAW)

- SSIAW as a framework for IHAC
 - **Enhancing animal welfare by emphasizing the role of human behavior**
 - Focus on the human change mechanisms at the individual, organizational, and global level to achieve sustainable outcomes for all animals



- Therapeutic Human-Animal Interactions
 - Youth residential setting (Green Chimneys, NY)
 - Prison dog training programs (WA, CO, Israel)
 - Families in crisis (CO)
- Animals in Communities
 - Shelter operations (CO, TX)
 - HSUS Pets for Life as a One Health intervention (national)
 - Economic impacts of animal welfare policies (national)



Why economic impact studies?



Economic Impact Studies of Animal Welfare Policies

- Multidisciplinary team
 - Economists, MBAs, Social Workers, Lawyers
 - Strong research backgrounds
- Social-environmental-economic impact methodology
 - Dr. Frank Vanclay (University of Groningen)
 - International Association of Impact Assessment (IAIA)
- Standard microeconomic and macroeconomic analyses
 - IMPLAN and other modeling



Socioeconomic Impacts

Systems approach to economic impact modelling

Inputs

What does the policy cost?

D/I Outputs

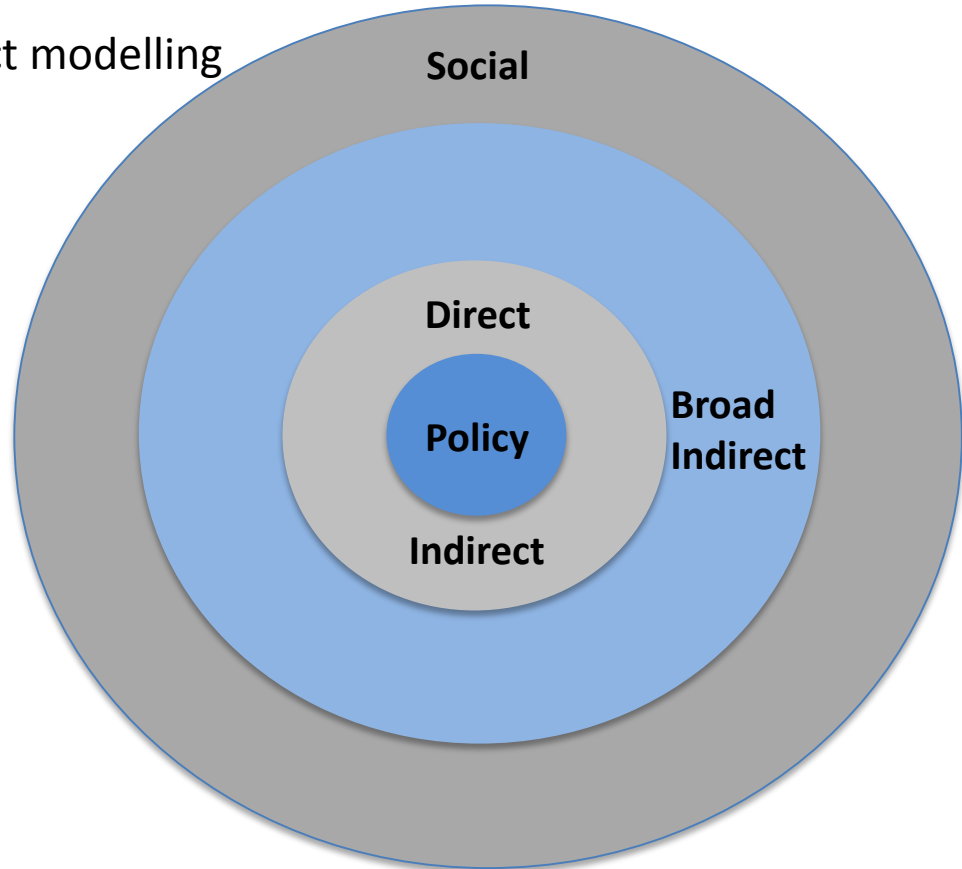
Direct purchasing

Indirect purchasing

Induced purchasing

Broader Indirect Effects

Social and Public Health Effects



Example 1: OK Humane's Compassion Center

- New shelter concept funded by OK Humane
- Downtown Oklahoma City as part of “Core to Shore”
- Integrate humane activities into the urban core
 - Lunch hour dog walking
 - Humane education programs
 - Pet-centric amenities



Socioeconomic Impacts in Oklahoma City, OK

Inputs

Construction	(\$20m)
Operations	(\$4.5m/y)
5 Year total	(\$42.5m)

D/I Outputs

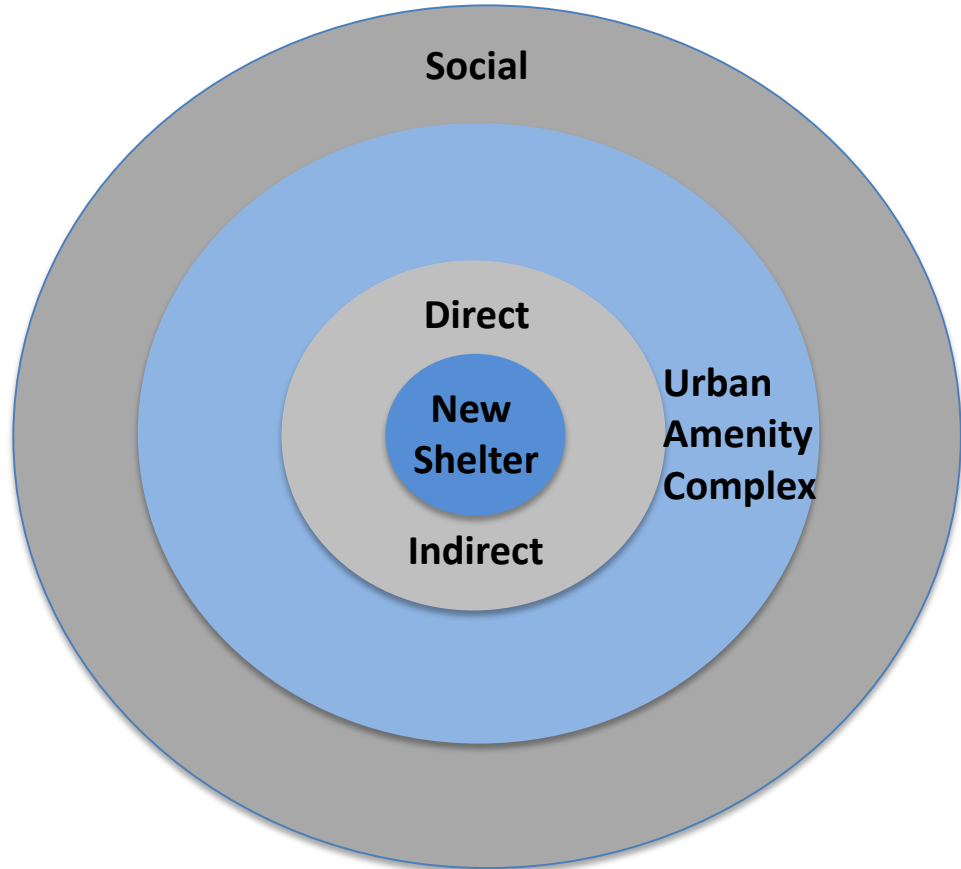
Construction	\$35m
Operations	\$16.7m/y
5 Year total	\$118.5m

Urban Amenity Complex

“Core to Shore” strategic plan

Social

Physical health
Workplace productivity
Mental health



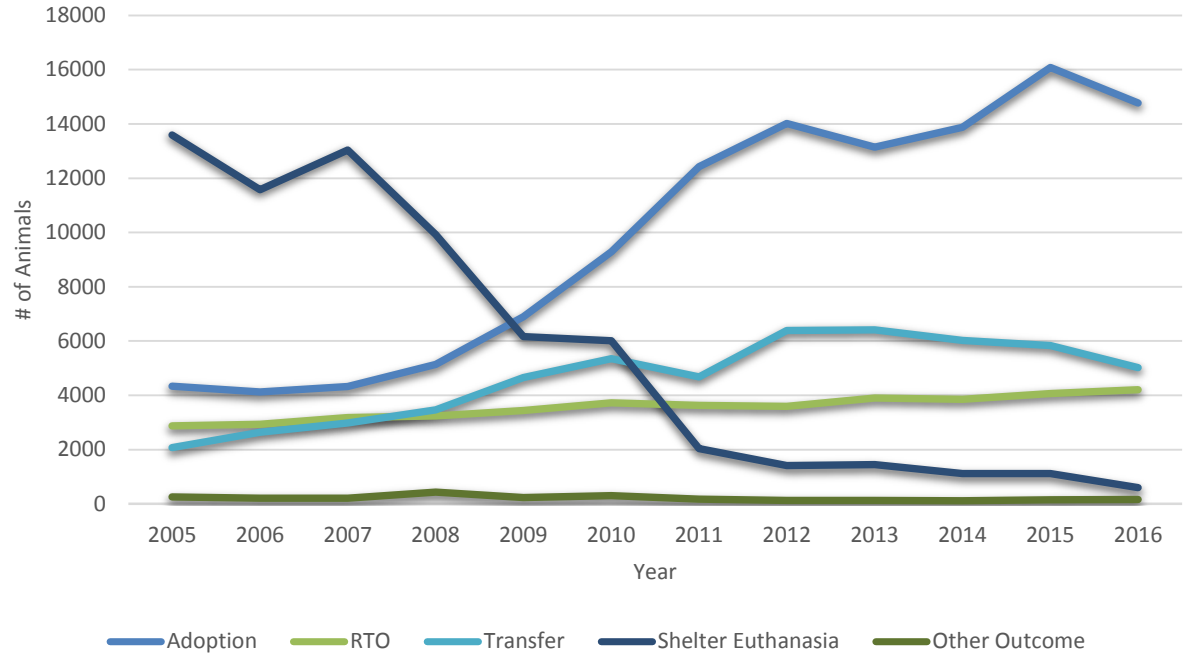
Example 2: Austin's "No Kill" Resolution

- City of Austin Resolution passed in 2009
- Mandates a 90% Live Release Rate
- Formal partnership with Austin Pets Alive!
- Substantial community engagement
- 2015 audit
- Component of Austin as a Humane City



Sheltering Impacts

Trends in Austin Shelter Outcomes



Socioeconomic Impacts in Austin, TX

Inputs (2010-2016)

Premium (\$30.4m)

D/I Outputs (2010-2016)

Operations \$40.9m

Vet/Pet Care \$49.3m

Pet Retail \$25.3m

Brand Equity \$72m

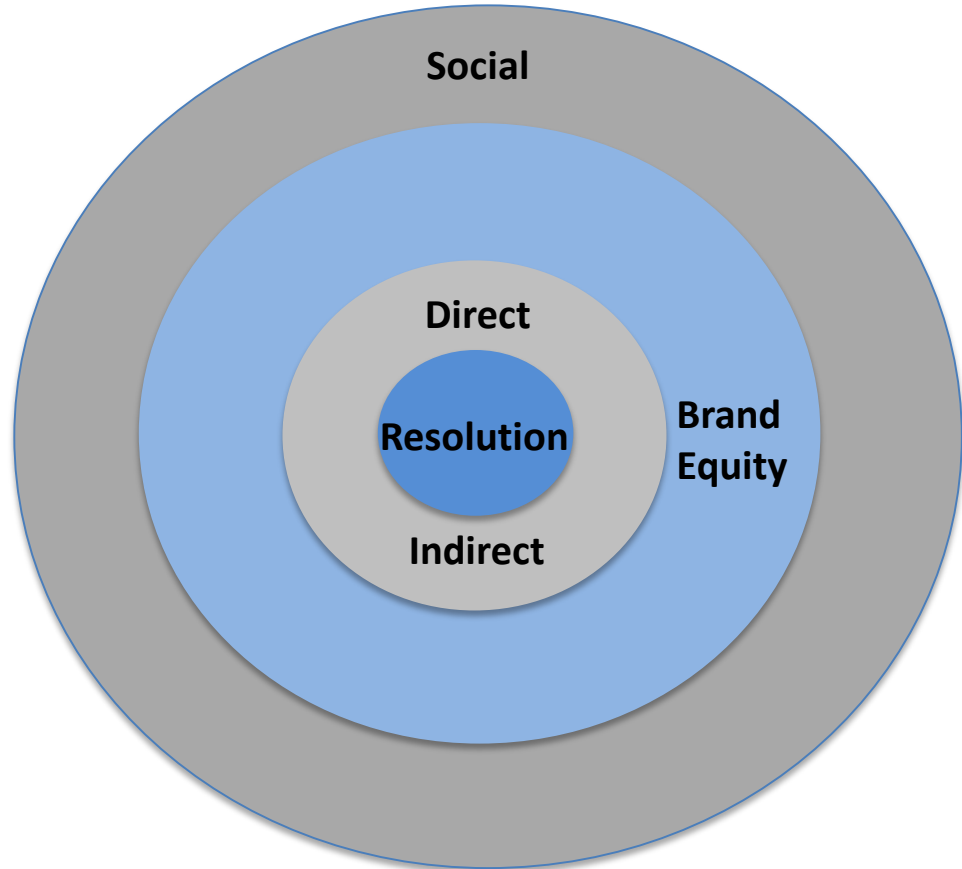
6-Year Total Output \$157.5m

Social

Public health

Social capital

Community engagement



Future Studies

- Breed-specific legislation in Denver
- Community-based animal sheltering
- Pet policies in rental housing
- Low cost veterinary clinics
- Equine rescue operations



Conclusions

- Animal welfare policies have broad economic and social impacts that need to be factored into animal welfare policy making
- Need to ramp up sustainable resources for smooth implementation
- Need to engage community support for sustainability



Collaborators

- Sloane Hawes, MSW
- Devrim Ikizler, PhD
- Russell Evans, PhD
- Katy Loughney, MBA
- Phil Tedeschi, MSSW

