



2026 Community Impact Report

YEAR-TO-DATE • JANUARY-JULY 2026

2,087 animals. Thousands of stories. One community.

United by Community. Connected by Paws.

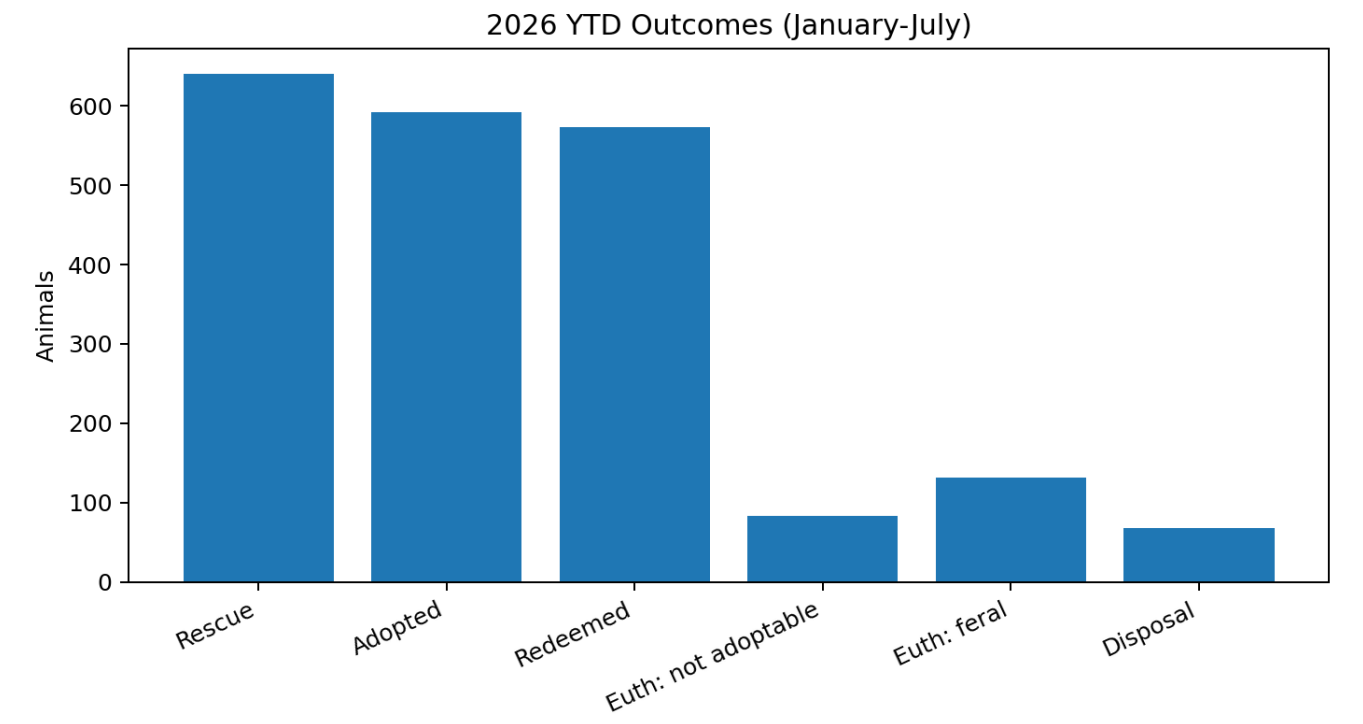
This report reflects data entered through July 2026.

Our Work, By the Numbers

South Utah Valley Animal Shelter (SUVAS) is a municipal, open-admission animal shelter. That means the shelter serves animals brought in by participating communities, animal control agencies, pet owners and members of the public. SUVAS does not select only the easiest or most adoptable animals to accept.

2,087	1,805	640	573
Animals recorded	Adopted, rescued or reunited	Rescue transfers	Pets redeemed

1,805 animals - 86.5% of all recorded outcomes - were adopted, transferred to rescue, or reunited with their owners.



What Success Looks Like at SUVAS

Adoption is an important success, but it is not the only successful outcome in municipal animal services. Success can mean getting a lost dog back to its family, moving an animal to a rescue with specialized resources, helping a sick animal recover, preventing an unnecessary surrender, or making a humane decision when an animal is suffering or poses a serious safety risk.

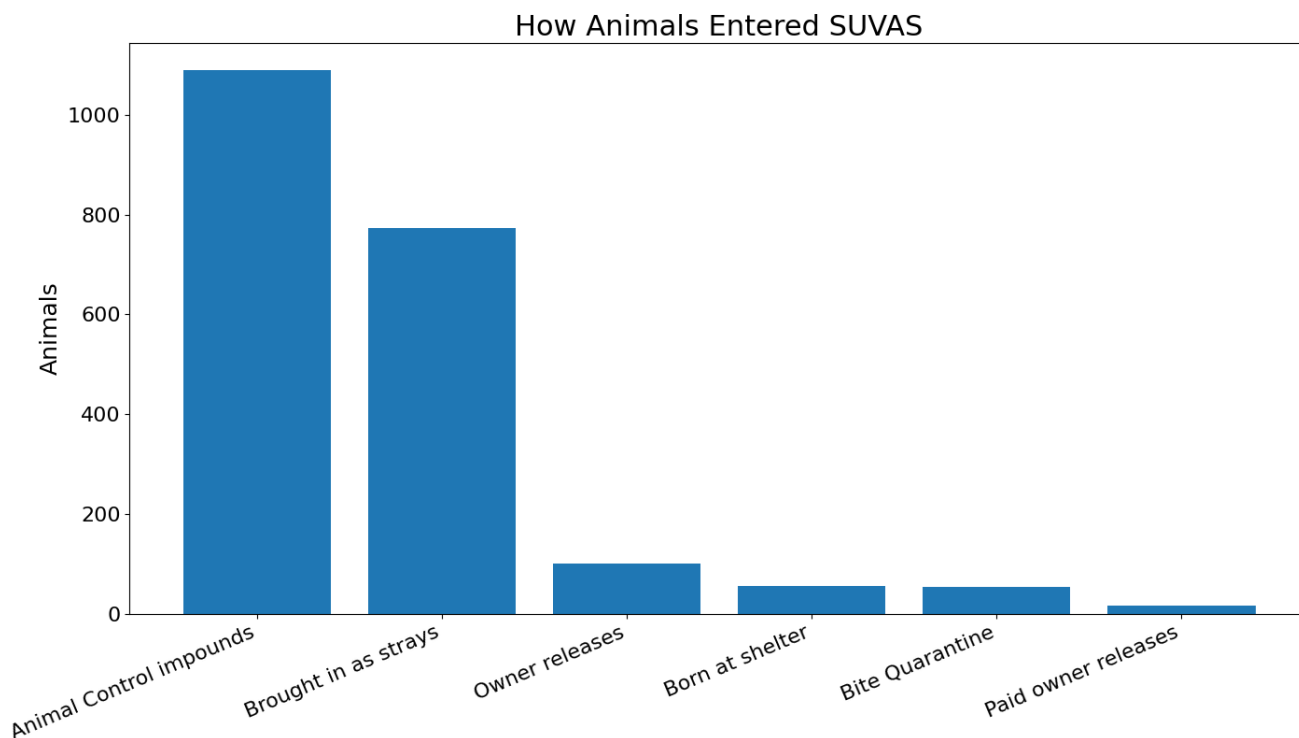
573 pets reunited with their owners — Reunification keeps families together and reduces the number of animals that need new homes.

592 adoptions — Animals found new homes directly through SUVAS.

640 rescue transfers — Rescue partners provided additional placement opportunities and specialized pathways for animals.

55 animals born at the shelter — Newborn animals add intensive care, disease-prevention and placement needs to shelter operations.

How Animals Came to SUVAS



More than half of recorded intake came through animal-control impounds. Another 773 animals were brought in as strays. These numbers illustrate a basic reality of open-admission sheltering: SUVAS responds to the animals the community and public agencies bring through its doors.

Understanding Euthanasia at SUVAS

The 2026 YTD data records 0 animals in the “Euth - Adoptable” category.

Through July, 214 of 2087 recorded outcomes (10.3%) were euthanasia outcomes. Of those, 131 were recorded in the feral category and 83 were recorded as not adoptable.

What “Not Adoptable” means

For purposes of this report, animals recorded as “Euth - Not Adoptable” are animals that are not appropriate for adoption because of serious circumstances such as:

- Severe illness or disease, including animals whose condition causes significant suffering or has a grave prognosis.
- Serious injury where humane euthanasia is determined to be the most appropriate welfare decision.
- Dangerous or severe behavioral concerns that create an unacceptable risk to staff, adopters, other animals or the public.

These cases should not be confused with healthy, adoptable animals simply being euthanized because they have not yet found a home. The shelter's YTD statistics record zero animals in the separate “Euth - Adoptable” category.

What “Disposal” means

“Disposal” records animals that died while in shelter care from causes other than euthanasia, such as severe injury or illness, neonatal complications, underlying medical conditions, or unexpected medical decline. This category is separate from euthanasia and helps accurately account for animals that pass away while in our custody.

Feral animals

The feral category is tracked separately from the not-adoptable category. Feral and community-cat cases present different legal, welfare, disease-control and placement considerations than socialized pet cats. Separating these outcomes helps the public understand that one euthanasia total can represent very different circumstances.

Why context matters: A single euthanasia percentage cannot explain whether an animal was suffering from catastrophic illness, had a serious injury, presented a dangerous behavioral risk, or was handled under a separate feral/community-cat process. Transparent categories provide a more accurate picture of shelter decision-making.

Reunification & Rescue: Two Major Pathways Home

573 pets redeemed

When a lost animal is reunited with its owner, that is one of the best possible outcomes: the pet returns to the family it already knows, and shelter space becomes available for another animal in need.

640 rescue transfers

Rescue partnerships are not a small part of SUVAS operations. Rescue transfer was the largest single recorded outcome category through July 2026. These partnerships expand placement options and can connect animals with foster networks, breed-specific resources, medical support or adopters outside the shelter's immediate reach.

Together, reunifications and rescue transfers account for 1,213 animals - 58.1% of all recorded outcomes.

This is why shelter performance cannot be measured by adoption numbers alone. A municipal shelter's responsibility includes returning animals home, protecting public safety, supporting rescue placement, controlling disease, providing humane care and finding appropriate outcomes for animals with very different needs.

Serving South Utah County Communities

SUVAS serves multiple communities with different population sizes, animal-control activity and intake patterns. The figures below show recorded 2026 YTD animal totals by jurisdiction/category.

Jurisdiction / Category	Animals
Provo	542
Spanish Fork	390
Payson	363
Springville	259
Utah County	141
Santaquin	117
Salem	90
Mapleton	89
Woodland Hills	26
Goshen	24
Elk Ridge	23
Genola	15
Out of District	7
Other	1

These totals are useful for understanding service demand, but they should not be treated as a simple ranking of communities. Intake can be influenced by population, animal-control practices, stray reporting, owner behavior, seasonal kitten populations and other local factors.

More Than a Place for Animals to Stay

Animal sheltering is only one part of animal services. SUVAS's broader work is designed to reunite pets, create safe placements, support responsible pet ownership and reduce future shelter intake.

Lost-pet reunification — Shelter intake, identification and licensing systems help connect lost pets with their owners.

Adoption & foster placement — Animals are matched with permanent homes and foster opportunities when appropriate.

Rescue partnerships — Registered and partner rescues provide additional placement pathways.

Vaccination & licensing clinics — SUVAS provides low-cost vaccination and licensing clinics that make it easier for community members to keep pets vaccinated, licensed and connected to their owners.

Medical care & humane decision-making — Shelter staff respond to illness and injury within available resources and make welfare decisions when suffering cannot reasonably be relieved.

Public safety — Behavioral assessment and animal-control coordination help address animals that may pose a serious safety risk.

Licensing & owner tools — Licensing supports identification, renewal reminders and tools that can help lost pets get home.

Community partnerships — Cities, animal-control agencies, veterinarians, rescues, fosters, volunteers and residents all contribute to outcomes.

A New Website & Licensing System

In 2026, SUVAS updated its website and launched a brand-new pet licensing system designed to make licensing easier and strengthen lost-pet reunification.

- Pet owners can update their contact information so current information is available when a pet is found.
- Owners can add and update photos of their pets, creating a more useful identification record.
- If a licensed pet runs away or becomes lost, the owner can mark the pet as missing through the licensing system.
- Missing-pet information posts to the SUVAS website, giving animal control officers, shelter staff and members of the public another way to recognize a lost animal and help reunite it with its family.

This turns pet licensing into more than a legal requirement. It becomes a practical reunification tool that connects owners, officers, shelter staff and the community when a pet goes missing.

Licensing helps pets find their way home.

Community Impact Stories

Tex: From Lost Dog to Search Dog



Tex came to SUVAS as a lost dog. This beautiful black Lab was never claimed by an owner, so he was vaccinated and evaluated by our staff. Tex loved other dogs and had an exceptionally high play drive - exactly the kind of spark that can make a great search dog. SUVAS partners with the Search Dog Foundation to help identify dogs with those special qualities. When one of their volunteers came to screen potential candidates, Tex stood out. He was selected for training and has since become a valuable member of their search dog team. What began as the story of an unclaimed stray became an incredible new purpose for Tex.

Angel: From Severe Injury to a New Home



Angel recovered from severe injuries and is now thriving in her new home.

Angel was a small terrier who came to SUVAS after being caught in a steel snare. She arrived with severe injuries that required immediate surgical intervention. We were able to provide the surgery and follow-up care she needed to make a full recovery. Once healed, Angel was quickly adopted and is now thriving in her new home. Her story is a reminder of the difference timely medical care, dedicated shelter staff, and a loving adopter can make for an animal in need.

Low-Cost Vaccination & Licensing Clinics

SUVAS partners with local veterinary providers and participating cities to offer scheduled low-cost vaccination and licensing clinics throughout the service area. Clinics are first-come, first-served and help make core vaccinations and pet licensing more accessible to local families.

- **March 5, 2026 • 5–7 PM** — South Utah Valley Animal Shelter, Spanish Fork
- **April 4, 2026 • 10 AM–12 PM** — Mapleton Fire Station
- **May 9, 2026 • 10 AM–1 PM** — Santaquin — 309 Summit Ridge Pkwy
- **May 30, 2026 • 10 AM–12 PM** — Salem Fire Station
- **June 13, 2026 • 10 AM–12 PM** — Provo Fire Station One
- **June 27, 2026 • 10 AM–12 PM** — Springville Fire Station

- **September 3, 2026 • 6–8 PM** — South Utah Valley Animal Shelter, Spanish Fork
- **September 12, 2026 • 10 AM–12 PM** — Payson High School

Clinic services include rabies and other core dog and cat vaccinations, with licensing available as part of SUVAS's community outreach.

Upcoming Community Events

SUVAS continues community outreach beyond day-to-day shelter operations through adoption events, vaccination clinics and community fundraisers.

Fall in Love Adoption Event

Thursday, September 24, 2026 • 5–8 PM

South Utah Valley Animal Shelter • 582 W 3000 N, Spanish Fork

A family-friendly community event featuring booths and pick-your-price pet adoptions. Admission is free.

Upcoming Vaccination & Licensing Clinics

- September 3, 2026 • 6–8 PM — South Utah Valley Animal Shelter, Spanish Fork
- September 12, 2026 • 10 AM–12 PM — Payson High School

Event schedules may change. Current information is maintained on the SUVAS website and social media channels.

Where We Go From Here

No shelter is finished improving. SUVAS will continue evaluating programs, outcomes, public communication and opportunities to strengthen animal welfare while meeting its responsibilities as a municipal, open-admission shelter.

What the community can do

- License and keep identification current for pets.
- Microchip pets and keep registration information updated.
- Keep pets vaccinated, licensed and properly identified, and spay or neuter pets through available veterinary resources.
- Adopt or foster when your household is ready.
- Work with reputable rescue organizations and help share animals needing placement.
- Contact the shelter quickly when a pet is lost or found.
- Learn what shelter statistics actually measure before drawing conclusions from a single number.

Every Paw Has a Story. Together, We Help Write What Comes Next.

Data note: This YTD report was prepared from SUVAS's 2026 statistics workbook. Overall totals reconcile to 2,087 animals. Some species-level subtotals in the source workbook do not perfectly reconcile with their corresponding outcome subtotals; therefore, this draft emphasizes verified overall totals.