

## AHA Launches Campaign to Eventually End Euthanasia

**The American Humane Association hopes to eliminate the need to euthanize healthy cats and dogs.**

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In conjunction with its annual conference, the American Humane Association announced the launch of its new campaign: "Getting to Zero: Ending Euthanasia of Healthy and Treatable Animals." The new program is designed to end euthanasia of companion animals in the United States.

The campaign will gather the best practices in animal care and adoption programs from animal shelters and adoption agencies from across the country to share information to help end euthanasia. AHA is seeking innovative ideas in spay and neuter programs, adoption, training, foster care and animal transfers from overcrowded facilities to other shelters.

"It is unconscionable that, in America, millions of cats, dogs and other companion animals are euthanized every year, animals that enjoy life and which could bring joy to so many people's lives," said Marie Belew Wheatley, president and CEO of AHA. "This situation is morally unacceptable, and the time for a solution is now. American Humane's Getting to Zero initiative is taking the steps and the actions necessary to achieve our vision, shared by so many, of a compassionate society."

AHA has completed the first phase of the campaign: accepting nominations for the best practices from successful animal welfare organizations. Phase two started this week at the AHA's National Leadership Forum, where successful animal care professionals were invited to act as mentors and consultants. Phase three will secure funding from corporate and foundation sponsors, with the goal of implementing the best practices in shelters across the United States.

For more information about AHA's "Getting to Zero" campaign, visit the organization's website at [www.americanhumane.org](http://www.americanhumane.org).