

Pets can have a profound impact on our health and well-being. They offer comfort and companionship, provide a healthy distraction, encourage exercise, and increase social interaction. Walking, grooming, feeding, and playing with a pet are enjoyable activities for all ages. They help people slow down from their hectic lives, providing a relaxing outlet. Some pets are also used as emotional support animals for those struggling with issues like anxiety and depression.

Many who have pets often take it for granted that they can afford everything involved with caring for their furry friend. However, there are numerous pet owners in Palm Beach County who struggle to pay these expenses, especially if the animal needs medical attention. Fortunately, Tri-County Animal Rescue in Boca Raton is available to help.

Tri-County Animal Rescue is a 100% No Kill 501(C) 3 non-profit animal shelter with a 4-Star Rating from Charity Navigator. Since it was founded in 1996 by Suzi Goldsmith, the organization has saved over 88,000 animals from being euthanized, placing them in homes through the adoption center. They have also reunited over 9,000 lost animals with their families. Additionally, Tri-County works with several organizations, businesses, and local schools to educate the community about animal awareness. Tri-County Animal Rescue believes that every cat and dog—regardless of breed, gender, or age—deserves to live a happy and healthy life. Their mission is to shelter and provide a comfortable home for all animals placed in the facility.

Tri-County recently expanded to add a very important pet clinic to its 14-acre campus. In June 2019, the Lois Pope Pet Clinic, a 10,000 square foot animal hospital, opened to serve the entire community, not just animals adopted at Tri-County. The goal of this full-service animal clinic is to provide premium medical care to animals whose families are in financial need. The Lois Pope Pet Clinic offers veterinary services including, but not limited to, spay and neuter, microchip implant, annual vaccinations, dental cleanings/extractions, and other surgeries.

Impact 100 has played a crucial role in helping to support and expand the clinic. In 2021, Tri-County was awarded an Impact 100 grant for their Fur-Ever Program. This initiative offers a free food bank and low-cost veterinary services, enabling low-income families and their pets to stay together and reducing the number of pets euthanized. Services provided included spay and neutering, vaccinations, dental care, microchipping, flea and tick prevention, heartworm medications, and emergency surgeries for pets of low-income families in South Palm Beach County.

The grant funds have been used entirely for medical and lab supplies, disease prevention medicine, and pharmacy expenses for pets of low-income families. The money also supports the two veterinarians and five veterinarian technicians that staff the facility, which is open six days a week. This project is transformational because it has helped thousands of low-income families keep their beloved four-legged family members.

"I want to thank **Impact 100 PBC** and every woman involved with the organization because they helped us save so many pet lives."

Suzi Goldsmith - Founder and Executive Director of Tri-County Animal Rescue.

She indicated that the grant helped the clinic take care of hundreds more animals than they would have been able to if they did not have the financial gift. "This really helped us tremendously to support the community. We have been able to help so many animals stay in their homes. This grant made a lot of families and children happy because they were able to keep the pets they love."

Impact 100 PBC members were thrilled to support Tri-County Animal Rescue by providing the \$100,000 grant to support this program. Impact's Grand Awards Celebration, where the next multiple \$100,000 grants will be awarded, takes place on April 18th at Boca West.

"The Impact 100 PBC grant allowed us to do many surgeries. This avoided pet owners from having to either surrender their pets or put them down because it is very expensive to go to a vet, especially in an emergency situation."

To learn more and to join Impact 100 PBC, visit:

www.impact100pbc.org