

PROJECT ANAPRA



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Anapra, a large suburb of Ciudad Juarez, is located just a stone's throw from downtown El Paso. Despite its close proximity to the US, this impoverished Mexican community represents an entirely different world than its affluent neighbor to the North. The residents of Anapra, amongst Juarez's poorest, live in abject, third world poverty.



With an average wage of less than \$8.00 daily, most families of Anapra struggle daily for survival. Alongside these families live thousands of companion animals, made up of pets or "community animals" watched over by the neighborhood and hundreds of strays and unwanted dogs and cats.

Life for the animals is difficult. Living outdoors, without any protection from the elements, the dogs and cats of Anapra are continually subjected to harsh weather extremes, dust, rain, heat, and wind. They are malnourished, unvaccinated, riddled with parasites and struggling to survive. Many die of treatable disease or hunger and. While they often have families who try to care for them, these animals are severely neglected due to a sheer lack of resources, knowledge, and availability of food, medical care, and treatment.

Project Anapra is a comprehensive approach to helping the animals of this community through spay/neuter, vaccination, basic health care, humane education, and provisions of food and shelter.



GOALS OF THE PROJECT



1.To decrease the population of unwanted animals via free sterilization.

2.To improve the health of the animals through vaccination, flea/tick prevention and control, and basic wellness services.

3.To provide the families of Anapra with a steady supply of free food and flea/tick control for their pets.



4.To provide shelter for the animals of Anapra by donating dog houses to the area's families.

5.To promote the humane treatment of animals and improve their health and well being via humane education and a responsible pet ownership campaign.



FREE STERILIZATION

Sterilization is key to controlling the number of unwanted animals roaming the streets of Anapra. Unfortunately, with the average cost of spay/neuter equating to nearly a month's wages, it is a procedure that is out of reach for these families.

Our vision includes an intensive free sterilization program consisting of a transport van that will bring dogs and to and from the stationary sterilization clinic we run in Juarez. The van will pick up 25 animals, two days out of every week, and bring them to the clinic for sterilization and vaccination – enabling over 3,000 animals to be sterilized in just one year.



IMPROVING ANIMAL HEALTH



The overall health of the animals in Anapra is very poor. Most of the animals are emaciated, many suffer from heavy parasite infestations, nearly all are covered in ticks and mange. A crucial component of Project Anapra is to provide basic wellness services for these animals. We envision holding a wellness clinic one day each month that would be run by volunteer local veterinary students and a staff veterinarian.

FOOD AND ECTOPARASITE CONTROL

Food for dogs and cats, as well as flea/tick medications, and basic dewormers would be made available free of charge to the area's residents via a local "Pet Pantry" that will be open 2 hours a day, five days a week. The Pet Pantry would be placed in a central location so that it would be readily accessible to all the area's residents. This invaluable resource would prevent the animals in the area from dying from starvation and treatable disease and improve their quality of life by controlling their parasite loads.

SHELTER FOR THE ANIMALS



We would like to provide the families of Anapra with some form of basic shelter for their animals, such as a wooden dog house or dog igloo. We would work with local schools and church organizations to distribute the houses and to allow the children of the families to personalize them for their pets. We would use the dog-house project as an opportunity to promote humane education with the children and teach them about the basic principles of pet care.

HUMANE EDUCATION

The residents of Anapra are lacking very basic knowledge about responsible pet ownership and the humane treatment of animals. This campaign would allow us to work in conjunction with the local public health department to go door to door, bringing educational materials to the residents and teaching them about the basics of pet care. Additionally, we will work with the area's youth and reach out to them via a variety of school-based humane education programs, educational coloring and comic books, and other educational activities promoting the welfare and humane treatment of animals.



We would also make educational billboards and posters to be displayed in prominent areas throughout the area.

