In Class Exercise
In the Arms of an Angel

Overview

The Austin Animal Shelter has collected data on animal intakes and outcomes, but does not have the expertise to make sense of it. They have decided they want to take a data-driven approach to their business, and thus need your help. You will need to learn about their business and mission and then figure out how you can use their data to help them. There is some information below, but feel free to visit their site to find additional information about their business!

Suggested guide for the Exercise

1. **Get acclimated with the three datasets** (estimated time 4:30-4:45)
2. **Complete any necessary cleaning of the dataset** (estimated time 4:45-5:00)
3. **Explore and try to find insights to help the Animal Shelter** (estimated time 5:00-6:15)
   a. *Some example questions can be found below*
      i. How can the data inform how the Austin Animal Shelter is achieving/not achieving their mission?
      ii. What animals are most at-risk of adoption failure?
      iii. What opportunities exist to improve adoption rates for certain animals?
4. **Create Business Deliverable –** (estimated time 6:15-6:50)
   a. ***One person*** should submit their deliverable and code to the ASSN_04 slot
5. **Class Wrap-up and Reflections** (estimated time 6:50-7:00)

Teams

See Groups Spreadsheet

Austin Animal Shelter Mission Statement

Austin Animal Center is the municipal shelter for the City of Austin and unincorporated Travis County, providing shelter to thousands of animals annually as well as providing animal protection and pet resource services. We accept stray and owned animals regardless of age, health, species or breed.

Our goal is to place all adoptable animals in forever homes through adoption, foster care, or rescue partner groups.

Animal Services has numerous programs and partnerships designed to help pets in the shelter, in the community, and in your home.

Mission Statement

To provide public service and a safety net for lost and homeless animals in the community by providing necessary food, water, shelter and standard municipal veterinary care for animals in need.

To provide placement services that will assist lost, homeless or sheltered animals to their homes or find new homes when necessary, to provide live outcomes for at least 95% of sheltered animals.

To enforce animal regulations and assist the public with animal-related concerns, including impoundment, quarantine and other rabies control services in order to protect citizens and animals in our community.

To provide animal services to the public in order to educate and prevent animal homelessness and promote humane, compassionate treatment of animals and responsible pet ownership.