



Hi XXXX,

We are so excited to share that Austin Pets Alive! is turning 70 this month...in pet years! As some of you may know, APA! began as an advocacy group in 1998, and we're so grateful for the work this team did, paving the ground for APA! to exist in its current form as a rescue organization! Throughout September we're celebrating 10 "human years" of APA! as an animal rescue organization - and the over 60,000 lives saved since we began bringing shelter animals into our care.

Over these past ten years, we've seen amazing growth not only in the number of lives we are able to save year after year, but in our APA! community as well. What started as a small group of individuals bringing animals directly into their homes to save their lives has transformed into a network of volunteers, fosters, and donors that have helped Austin become the largest No Kill city in the country for seven years running.

With the help of around 2,000 active volunteers at any given time and 1,000 fosters - plus the countless donors, legislators and supporters of this mission - we've developed innovative, truly pioneering programs to save the animals most at risk of death in shelters. Because of these programs, many of which are first of their kind in the nation, and with the support of the whole APA! community both near and far, APA! has grown from saving 798 lives in 2008 to over 12,000 in 2017.

So many cats and dogs have been saved by our collective effort. Pets like Tiny Tim, who suffered horribly at the hands of humans and who now, multiple surgeries later, has found his perfect family and is loved beyond belief. Pets like Lightning and her three siblings, who after being caught in a brush fire suffered grave burn wounds but received emergency medical care in our APA! Clinic, giving them the chance to survive, thrive and find their own forever homes. And pets like the over 5,000 that we were able to help before, during and through the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey this past year.

It has truly been an incredible decade together. The animals we've seen come through these doors have all been saved because of this undeniable community effort. Together, we've cared for the sick and the vulnerable; the injured and the scared; the ones who have simply run out of time. Together, we've saved over 60,000 these past ten years - and that's something to be deeply proud of. I am honored to be part of this movement with you.

The work doesn't stop here, though. In order to ensure that we can maintain No Kill in Austin and continue this important lifesaving work for another decade to come, please consider donating today in honor of APA!'s birthday. We are so grateful for your support - and please know this work couldn't be done without you.

With gratitude and thanks,

Dr. Ellen Jefferson, DVM  
Austin Pets Alive! Executive Director

Enclosed is my check made payable to Austin Pets Alive!.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Or visit [austinpetsalive.org/apabirthday](http://austinpetsalive.org/apabirthday) to donate online!



APA! is turning 70 (...in pet years!)