

# Local Animal Organization Participates in Global Initiative

Bastrop County Animal Shelter Helpers is participating in the global #GivingTuesdayNOW Initiative to raise funding for free spay & neuter services to essential employees

A local non-profit 501(c)3 organization, Bastrop County Animal Shelter Helpers has joined the #GivingTuesdayNOW initiative. #GivingTuesdayNOW is a global generosity movement unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform their community and the world.

Bastrop County Animal Shelter Helpers has an ongoing effort to provide low-income residents with free or subsidized spay/neuter surgeries through certificates they can use with discounted surgery providers such as Save An Angel or Emancipet. They are seeking the support of the Bastrop County community for their campaign at [BCAS Helpers GivingTuesdayNow Initiative](#) in order to raise even more money through matching fund challenges. The Nicholas Juried Family Foundation will match up to \$5000 in donations for this campaign.

Their #GivingTuesdayNOW campaign will provide free/subsidized surgeries for pets of Bastrop County residents, with first priority to low income, essential workers dealing with the public during the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes, among others, pet owners who work for:

- Food and grocery providers (HEB, Wal-Mart, convenience stores, fast food, et al);
- Other essential retail employees (hardware stores, feed stores, auto parts stores);
- And others who qualify as low-income.
- Essential service providers (repairs, agricultural workers, farriers, transportation, delivery, construction);
- First responders from the military, police, volunteer fire department;

“Our campaign is aimed at reducing the number of animals entering the Bastrop County Animal Shelter by getting as many dogs and cats spayed or neutered as possible.” Said Erika McDonald, Vice President of BCAS Helpers. The organization's application process will open after this campaign for all low-income residents, with funds from this campaign designated initially for these workers who put their lives on the line during the pandemic.

The Organization's mission is also to continue providing what county funds cannot for animals in need such as lifesaving diagnostics & surgery, improved shelter living conditions, transportation funds & education about responsible pet ownership.