Return to Home Challenge – Participation Report

Please note, this is a sample application for reference only, and questions are subject to change. If you have any questions about this application or the Return to Home Challenge, please contact the Maddie's Fund Grants Team at 925.310.5450 or grants@maddiesfund.org. We experience a very high call and email volume during application cycles, so our response time may be as long as 48 hours.

Thank you for participating in the Return to Home Challenge. We're looking forward to hearing about your experience.

This Participation Report must be filled out completely to be considered for an award from the Challenge. This report is due to Maddie's Fund by 5:00pm Pacific Time on Monday, November 14, 2022.

Additionally, if you are selected as an award winner from this Challenge, there will be a final report, via Zoom Huddle, in early- to mid April 2023. You can find sample questions on our website.

If you have any questions as you're completing this Participation Report, please contact us at 925.310.5450 or grants@maddiesfund.org. Any final reports that are not submitted by 5:00pm Pacific Time on Monday, November 14, 2022, at will not be reviewed or considered for an award. Any report that remains in the "Scheduled" status wasn't submitted and won't be reviewed.

The questions below marked with a red asterisk (*) are required.

Return to Home Data
1. * Please provide your Return to Home numbers for the Challenge Period (October 1 – 31, 2022) for both owned animals and those that are part of your Shelter-Neuter-Release/Return-to-Field (SNR/RTF) program:
    a. October 2022 Return to Home SNR/RTF Dogs:
    b. October 2022 Return to Home Owned Dogs:
    c. October 2022 Return to Home SNR/RTF Cats
    d. October 2022 Return to Home Owned Cats:
2. * Do the numbers above include animals returned in field? Yes/No?
    If no, please provide these numbers:
    a. October 2022 SNR/RTF Dogs returned in field:
    b. October 2022 Owned Dogs returned in field:
    c. October 2022 SNR/RTF Cats returned in field:
    d. October 2022 Owned Cats returned in field:
3. * Please provide your Return to Home rate for the Challenge Period (October 1 – 31, 2022). To find your rate, use the formula: number of animals returned to owner/community divided by number of stray animals in. For example, if you are using the Basic Data Matrix, it would be (Return to Field + Returned to Owner) divided by Stray/At Large.
    a. October 2022 Return to Home Rate Dogs:
    b. October 2022 Return to Home Rate Cats:
4. * Please upload a list of animals returned home during the Challenge period of March 1 – 31, 2021. (This list should include animal name/ID#/description, species, intake date, return date and Return to Home method (optional).) Feel free to use your shelter software to produce this report, or you can download and use the template on our website.

Narrative Questions

5. * Which of the following practices did you implement or expand during the Challenge Period? Check all that apply.
    a. All animals in the community have identification
    b. Animals are returned in the field rather than at the shelter
    c. Return to Home policies and lost/found techniques are marketed to the community
    d. Organization embraces a culture of Return to Home
    e. Organization works with community to help facilitate Return to Home
    f. Technology is used to help reunite pets and owners
    g. Regulations and laws encourage Return to Home
    h. Other (please describe below)
        i. If Other, please explain:
6. * Please describe what practice(s) you implemented or expanded and how your Return to Home program was impacted.
7. * What was an "Aha! Moment(s)" as a result of this Challenge?
8. * What obstacles did you encounter?
9. * Do you plan to continue with these new or expanded practices? Yes/No?
10. Please share a brief favorite story from this Challenge period. If you'd like to share a video, please include a link.
11. If you have a photo to accompany your story from above, or any additional items about this grant that you'd like to share with us, you can upload them here

Thank you for completing this report. The questions marked with red asterisks (*) are required.

Completion and submission of this report to Maddie's Fund by 5:00pm Pacific Time on Monday, November 14, 2022, at, is required for your organization to be considered for an award from the Return to Home Challenge. Once you submit this, you'll receive an automated email from us confirming your report was submitted. If you do not receive this email, please contact the Maddie's Fund Grants Team immediately at 925.310.5450 or grants@maddiesfund.org as your report may not have been submitted. Any report that remains in the "Scheduled" status wasn't submitted and won't be reviewed.

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