DEFERRING PUPPIES, SAVING LIVES

Benefits of deferred and direct puppy intake on incidence of canine parvovirus infection and survival: a community case report

METHODS

An open-admission, rural shelter in southern Ohio asked community members to maintain possession of unwanted or stray puppies in their own homes until capacity was available to move them to a limited admission shelter with access to full veterinary care.

RURAL SHELTER HOUSED

47%

CPV INCIDENCE

INCIDENCE

RURAL COMMUNITY HOUSED

9%

CPV INCIDENCE

13X

Puppies housed within the source shelter at any point were 13 times more likely to develop CPV than puppies who remained in a community member's home until the time of transport.

RURAL SHELTER/ COMMUNITY BREAK

33%

CPV SURVIVAL

SURVIVAL

RECEIVING SHELTER BREAK

100%

CPV SURVIVAL

* TAKE HOME POINTS *

Organizations managing intake of dogs from rural community shelters or those without direct access to veterinary care may benefit from similar programs that reduce the time puppies spend within shelter walls.

Keeping puppies out of high-risk housing reduces their risk of contracting CPV

Early identification and prompt treatment for CPV infected puppies → **SURVIVAL**