This report represents MISSISSIPPI SPAY AND NEUTER - SPAN's responses to Charting Impact, a joint project of BBB Wise Giving Alliance, GuideStar USA Inc, and Independent Sector. Charting Impact uses five simple yet powerful questions to encourage strategic thinking and help organizations share concise information about their plans and progress toward impact.
Mission:
Mississippi Spay and Neuter works with agencies, organizations, communities, and individuals to humanely reduce pet overpopulation and euthanasia. Our goals are to:
· End pet overpopulation in the state of Mississippi.
· Increase access to low-cost spay and neuter services.
· Increase awareness of pet overpopulation and promote spay and neuter as the most effective means to reduce it.
· Foster caring and respectful attitudes toward animals and their needs.
· Engage and educate the community on the benefits of spay and neuter.
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1. What are we aiming to accomplish?

We believe that by providing access to affordable spay/neuter programs as well as educating the public about the need to prevent unwanted births of puppies and kittens. By making prevention our major goal then we can stop the killing of healthy dogs and cats in local communities as well as reducing the numbers of homeless dogs and cats who are being left to die on streets and highways.

2. What are our strategies for making this happen?

We are actively promoting our three spay and neuter delivery systems as well as looking for new and effective awareness programs like SPAY IT FORWARD and Save a Life Tomorrow. We need to engage the public as well as other animal welfare organizations so that together we can continue to increase and strengthen our existing programs that provide the affordable and humane solution, which is prevention through spay and neuter. Because Mississippi Spay and neuter has only one mission, which is to end the crisis of pet overpopulation, we have been able to work closely with the veterinary community so that we can continue to provide spay/neuter, voucher and referral services to 82% of the population (42 counties out of 82 counties) with our three delivery systems: Big Fix Clinic, targeted voucher and transport programs. Our fourth delivery system is our referral programs that refers pet owners to the other three high-volume spay/neuter clinics as well as to other voucher programs across the state Mississippi. These services are what make MS SPAN such a great asset to Mississippi residents and why we have been able to help more pet owners get their pets fixed through our delivery systems. Plus we are changing the way Mississippians feel about and how they treat their dogs and cats.

3. What are our organization's capabilities for doing this?

Fortunately, we have a local foundation who is committed to helping people get their companion and feral animals fixed. With their financial support, we are able to help every pet owner looking for affordable spay and neuter services through our Big Fix Clinic in Central Mississippi. If their dog or cat does not meet our requirements (over the age of six and has medical issues), we issue them a voucher to a private veterinary clinic that matches our fees at the Big Fix Clinic. For those pet owners outside of commuting distance, we provide a transport services in three counties (Lauderdale, Pike and Warren) and they also receive services based on their ability to pay. Lastly, our voucher program is currently being funded by the Bernice Barbour Foundation, Mississippi's Animal Care Tag and the Natchez Fund, which funding is being raised by local volunteers in Natchez, MS. At this time, we are targeting 19+ communities and our yearly bank balance for this fund runs from $18,000 - $20,000, which is sufficient to meet the demand for spay/neuter vouchers.

4. How will we know if we're making progress?

Big Fix Clinic We track our success by demand for our spay and neuter services and the demand has steadily increased since the Big Fix Clinic opened on October 28, 2008. The numbers are as follows: Oct - Dec 2008 - 383 Jan - Dec 2009 - 3805 Jan - Dec 2010 - 3969 Jan - Dec 2011 - 4047 Jan - Dec 2012 - 4078 Jan - Dec 2013 - 4311 Jan - Dec 2014 - 5305 Jan - Dec 2015 - 5877 Jan - Dec 2016 - 5971 Jan - Dec 2017 - 5858 In 2013, our numbers increased because of our transport program, which has helped to increase our numbers and our targeting of stray and feral cat populations. Currently, we are providing free spay and neuter surgeries for feral cats and the caretaker is responsible for paying for the $10 rabies shot at the Big Fix Clinic only. Voucher Program Again, the demand for MS SPAN vouchers has steadily increased in three targeted counties, which are Lauderdale, Pike and Warren. Rather than continuing to raise more money to issue more vouchers in these communities, we started a transport program to these four targeted counties in 2013. Now pet owners will have access to more affordable services through our high-volume spay neuter clinic, The Big Fix Clinic. Our clinic has the funding mechanisms in place and the ability to accommodate 5,000+ yearly surgeries. Rather than spending all our voucher funding
in these three counties, we can now reach out to more under served areas and help those pet owners who would never be able to afford the fees at their local veterinarians.

5. What have and haven't we accomplished so far?

We have seen the demand for spay/neuter services increase steadily in the last 11 years. And through our yearly conferences, we also know that the other two high volume clinics have made a significant difference in their communities too. In 2007, we brought the Little Fix Rig to Hattiesburg, MS and helped them introduce affordable spay/neuter services for community animals and in 2009 the Hattiesburg Shelter opened up their own successful high-volume spay/neuter clinic. In 2010, we took the Little Fix Rig to Natchez, MS and we ran a monthly spay and neuter clinic in their community. In 2011, they decided to start raising money for a voucher fund to help residents in Natchez, MS and asked MS SPAN to manage the Natchez fund. They have raised over $23,965+ dollars and their fund helped to fix more than 1579+ dogs and cats fixed under this program. So we believe that the Little Fix Rig was initially our ambassador for introducing affordable spay and neuter services into these two under served counties. And we also have helped other groups establish their own non-profit organization so that they can help their own community animals. And now the Big Fix Clinic is helping more than 82% of Mississippi population get access to affordable spay/neuter services.