



Civil society commitment to evidence based DPM programmes

Alexandra Hammond-Seaman
(RSPCA)

4th Regional workshop on DPM for West Eurasia countries
Tbilisi 26-28 September 2023



ICAM



- ICAM Coalition formed in 2006
 - Discuss, share and learn
 - Mission: to support the development and use of humane and effective companion animal population management worldwide
- Publish shared learning in guidance and blogs
- Convene conferences to widen learning and encourage DPM science
- Develop tools

ICAM
INTERNATIONAL COMPANION ANIMAL MANAGEMENT COALITION

HUMANE DOG POPULATION MANAGEMENT

ICAM

World Organisation for Animal Health
Terrestrial Code Online Access

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Our course platform, TalentLMS, also offers a mobile App - available for iOS and Android devices. If you have difficulty engaging with the ICAM modules online, the ability to continue learning while not connected to the internet is one of the biggest benefits of using the TalentLMS mobile app. You can download any course and study while disconnected. Then, when you're back online, your progress will automatically get synchronized with the TalentLMS cloud servers. Search your iOS or Android device app store for "TalentLMS" to get started.

Welcome to the eLearning portal of ICAM

The International Companion Animal Management Coalition

Featured courses

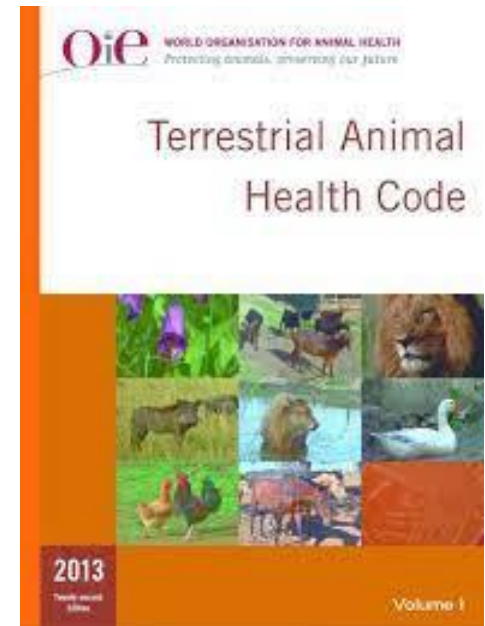
Click each thumbnail below to learn more and access the course!

- Implementing DPM
- DPM for Policymakers
- Humane Community Development



7.7 WHAT HAS CHANGED

- This chapter originally in 2009 as ‘Stray dog population control’.
- This 2022 update presented to the 89th Annual General Session involved a significant text overhaul.
- Chapter title change from ‘stray dog population control’ to ‘dog population management’, and the introduction of the acronym DPM – this gives emphasis to a really important point – that DPM needs to take a **systems approach** that addresses the whole dog population, importantly addressing sources of future free-roaming dogs.



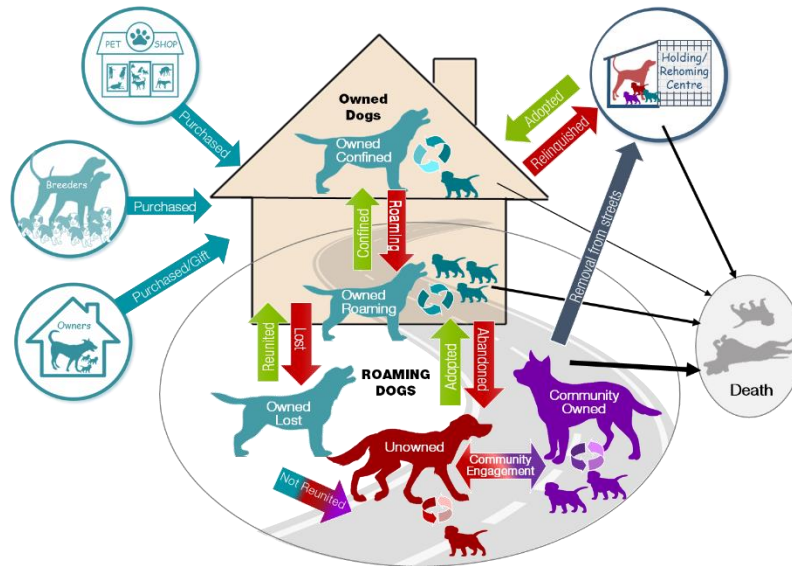
6 principles of DPM

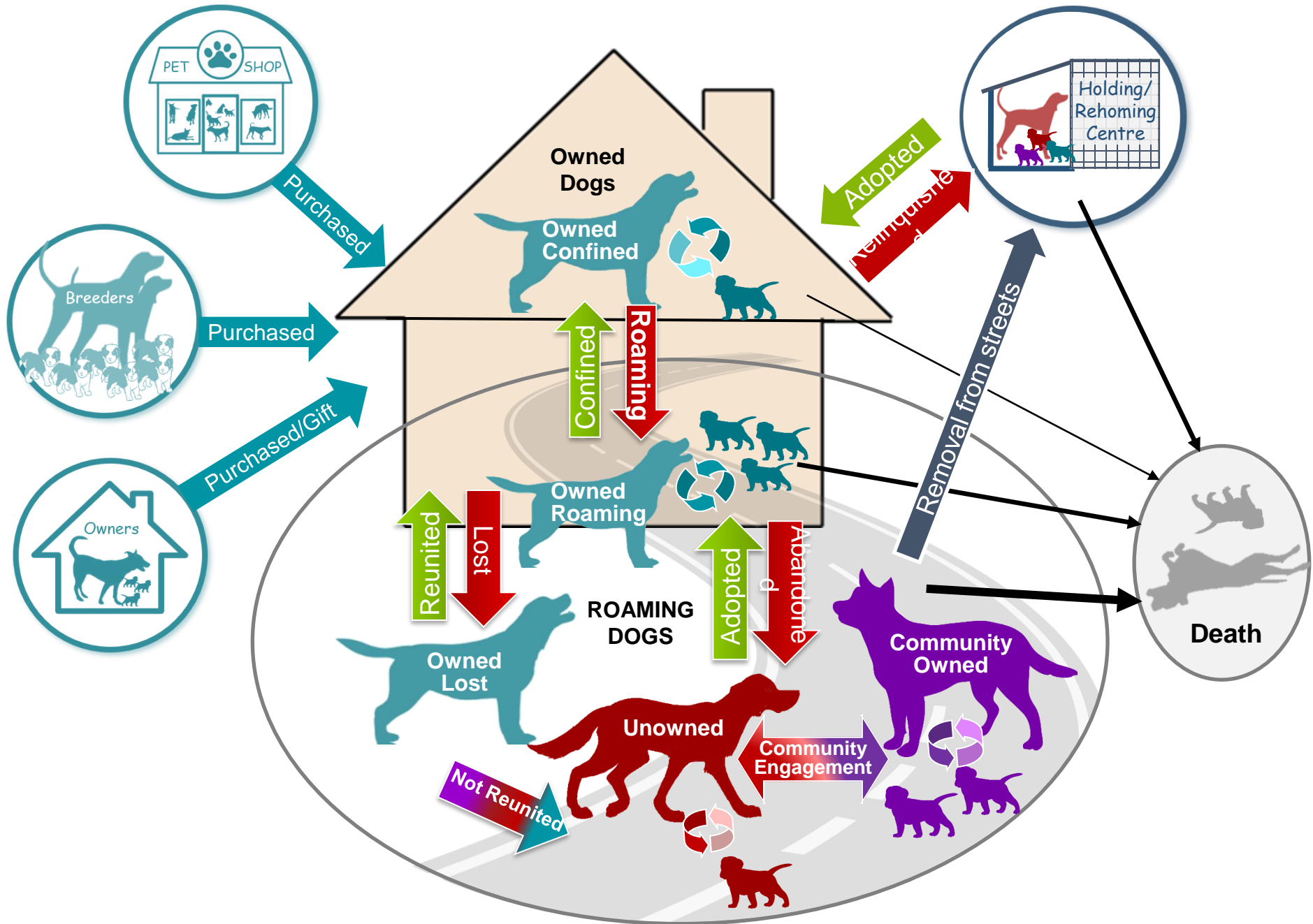
1. Humane and ethical
2. Adapted to local dog population dynamics (no 'one size fits all')
3. Sustained and adaptive
4. Evidence-based design, monitoring and evaluation
5. Focus on root causes
6. Central role of human behaviour

5. Focus on root causes

- ‘Stray control’
 - Focuses only on the ‘symptom’ of the current free-roaming dogs
 - Includes reliance on culling or shelters to ‘clear the streets’ of free-roaming animals
- ‘Population management’
 - Recognises the complexity of dog population dynamics and takes a systems approach
 - Intervenes on ‘causes’; the sources of future unwanted and roaming animals

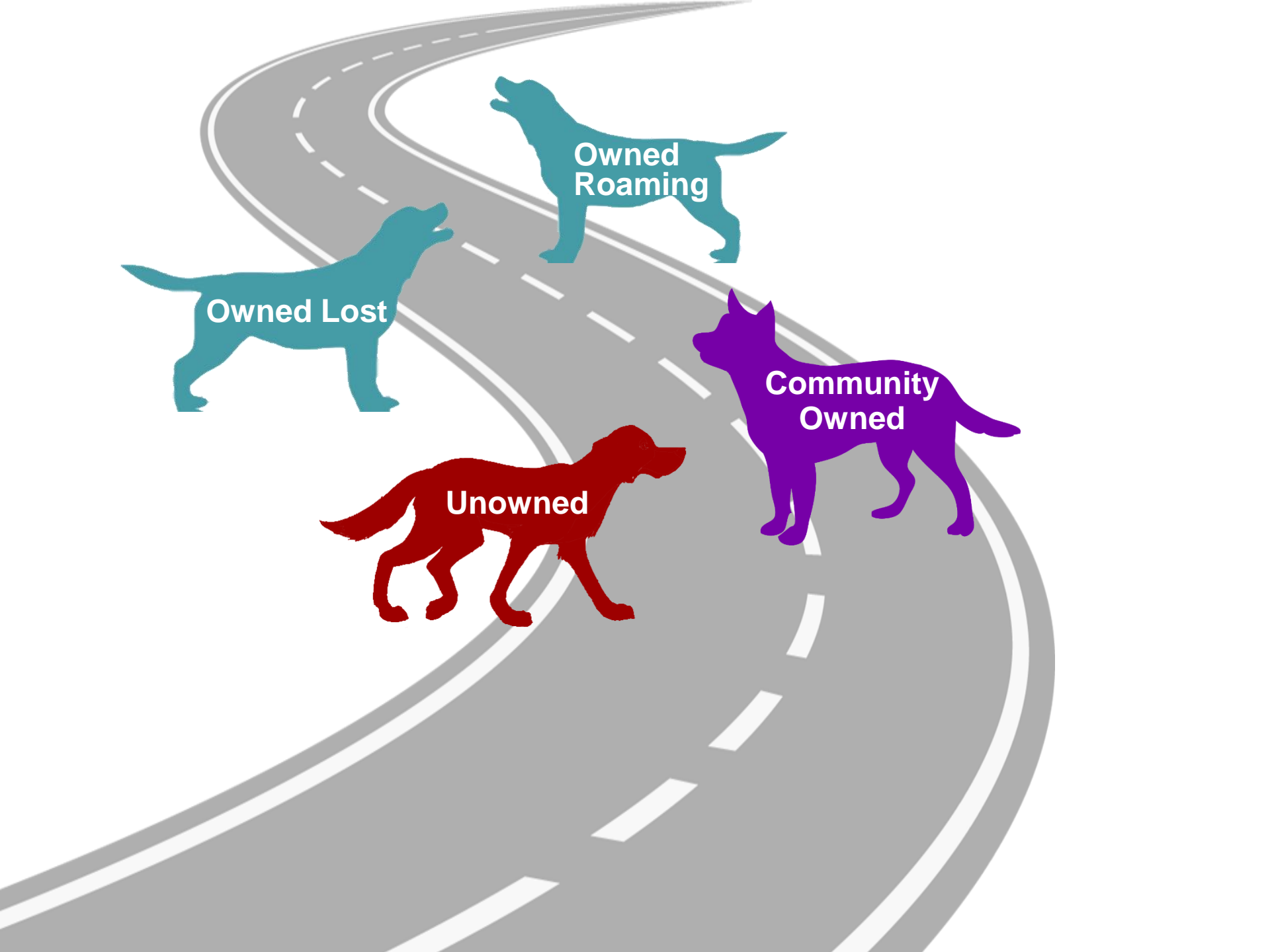
Step 1 – Understand *your* dog population dynamics







Unowned

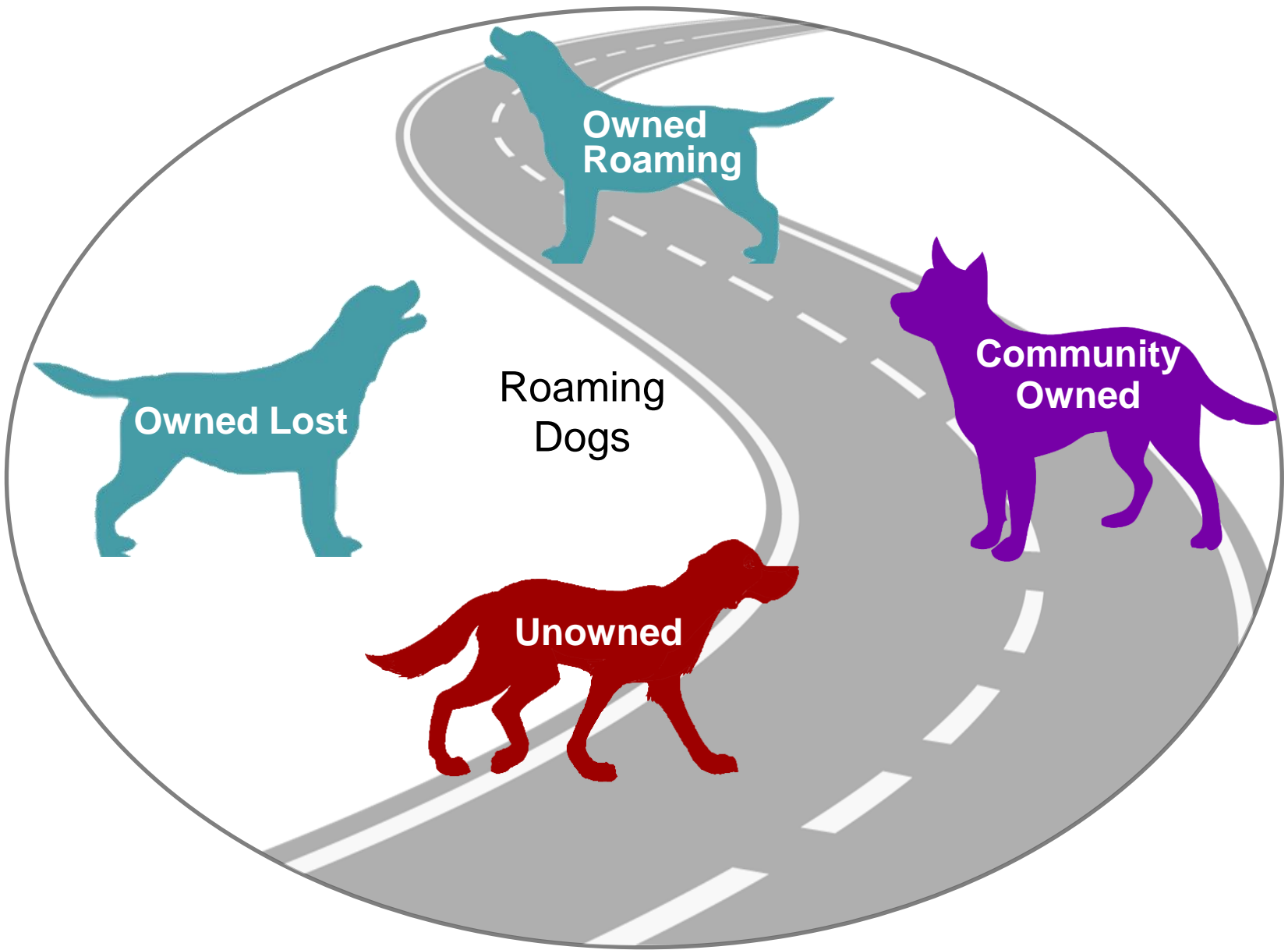


**Owned
Roaming**

Owned Lost

Unowned

**Community
Owned**



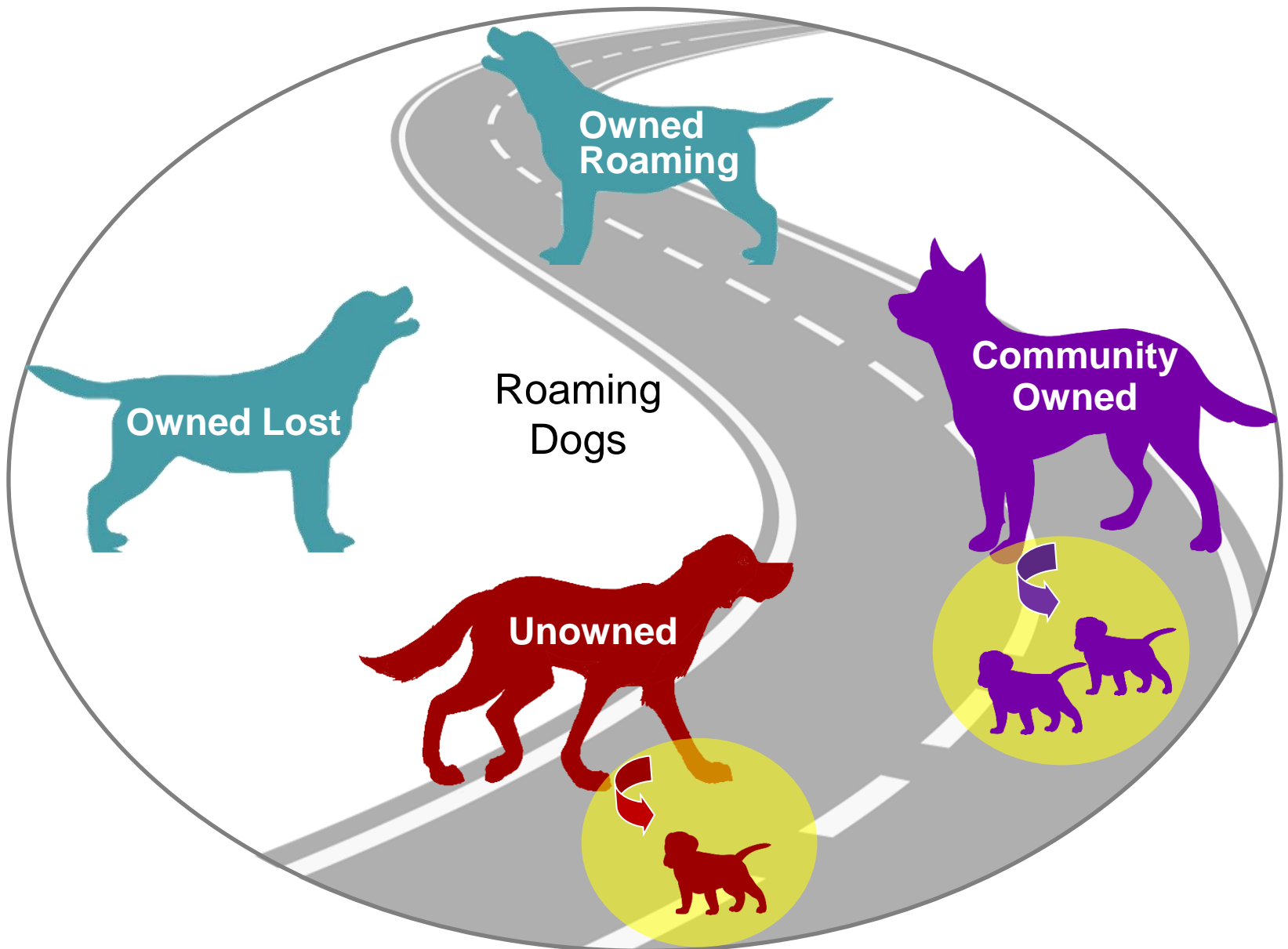
**Owned
Roaming**

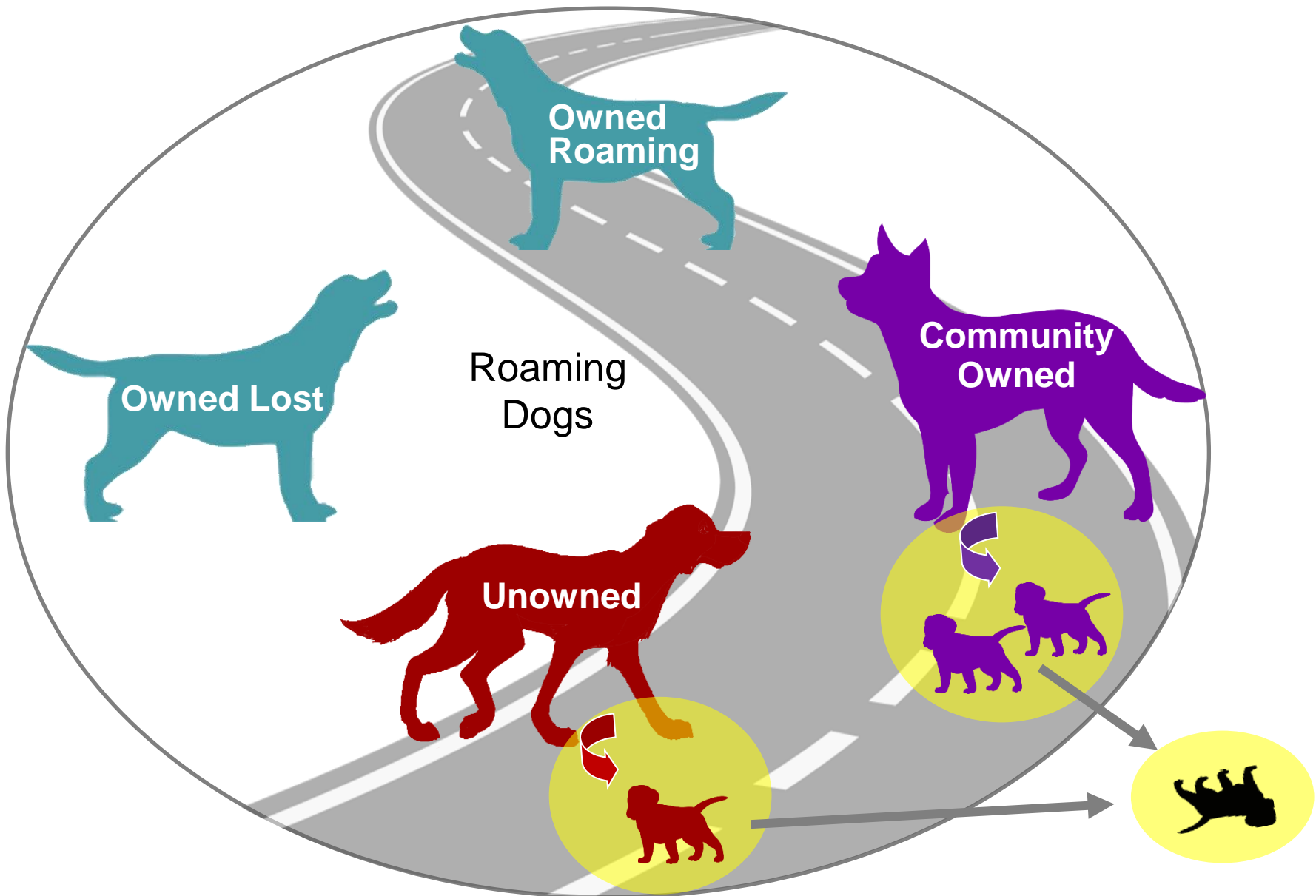
**Owned
Lost**

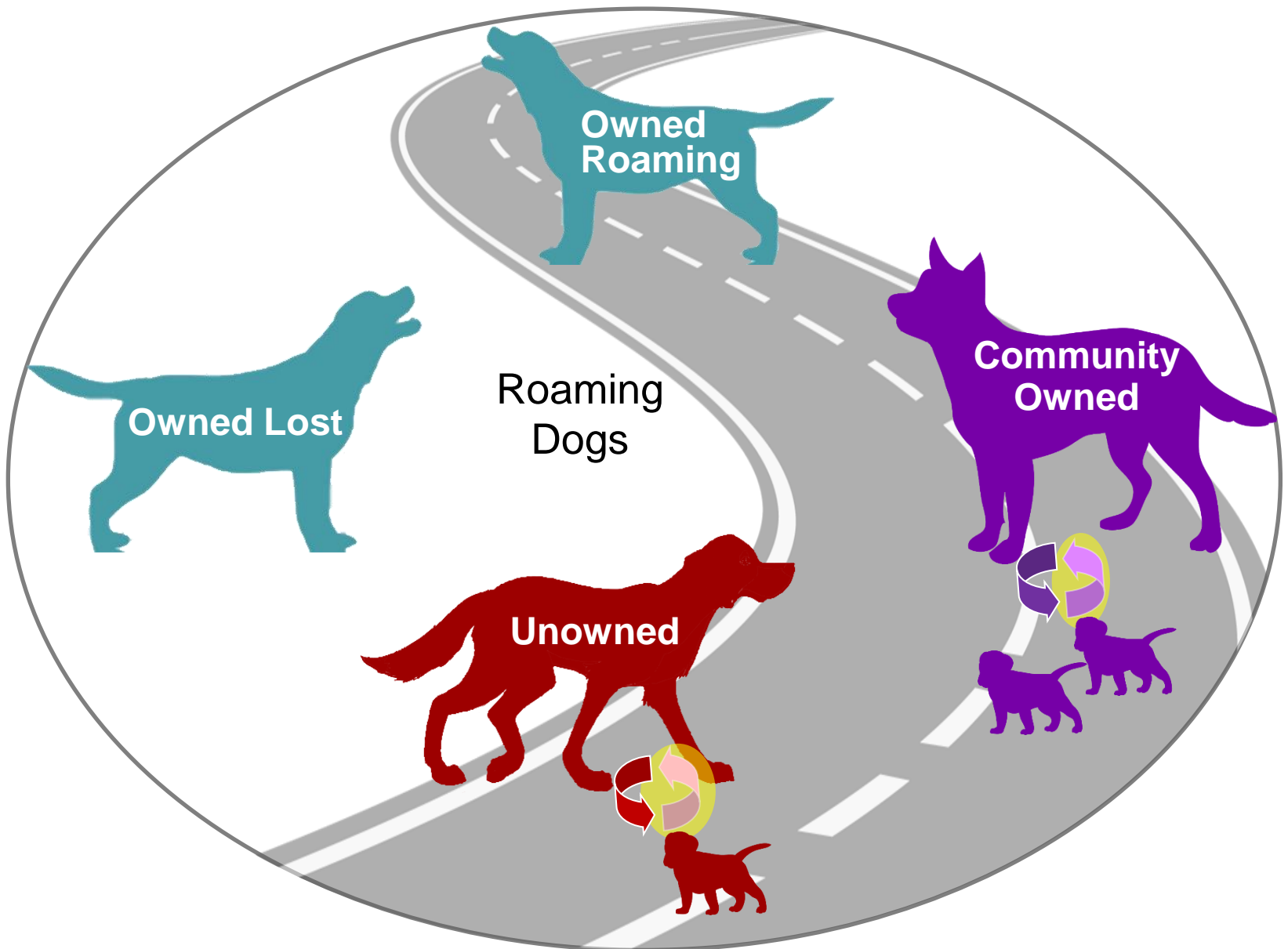
**Roaming
Dogs**

Unowned

**Community
Owned**







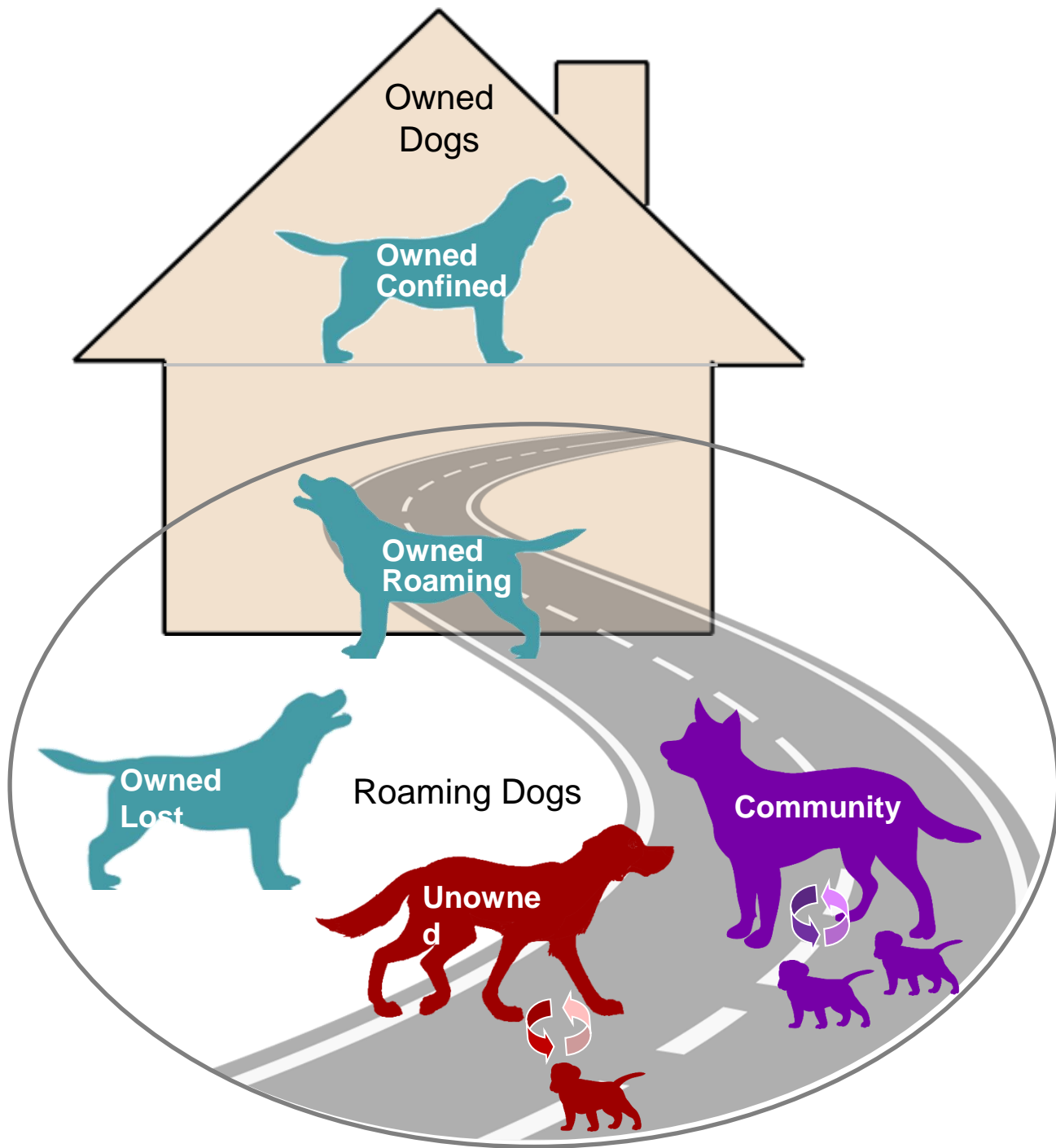
**Owned
Roaming**

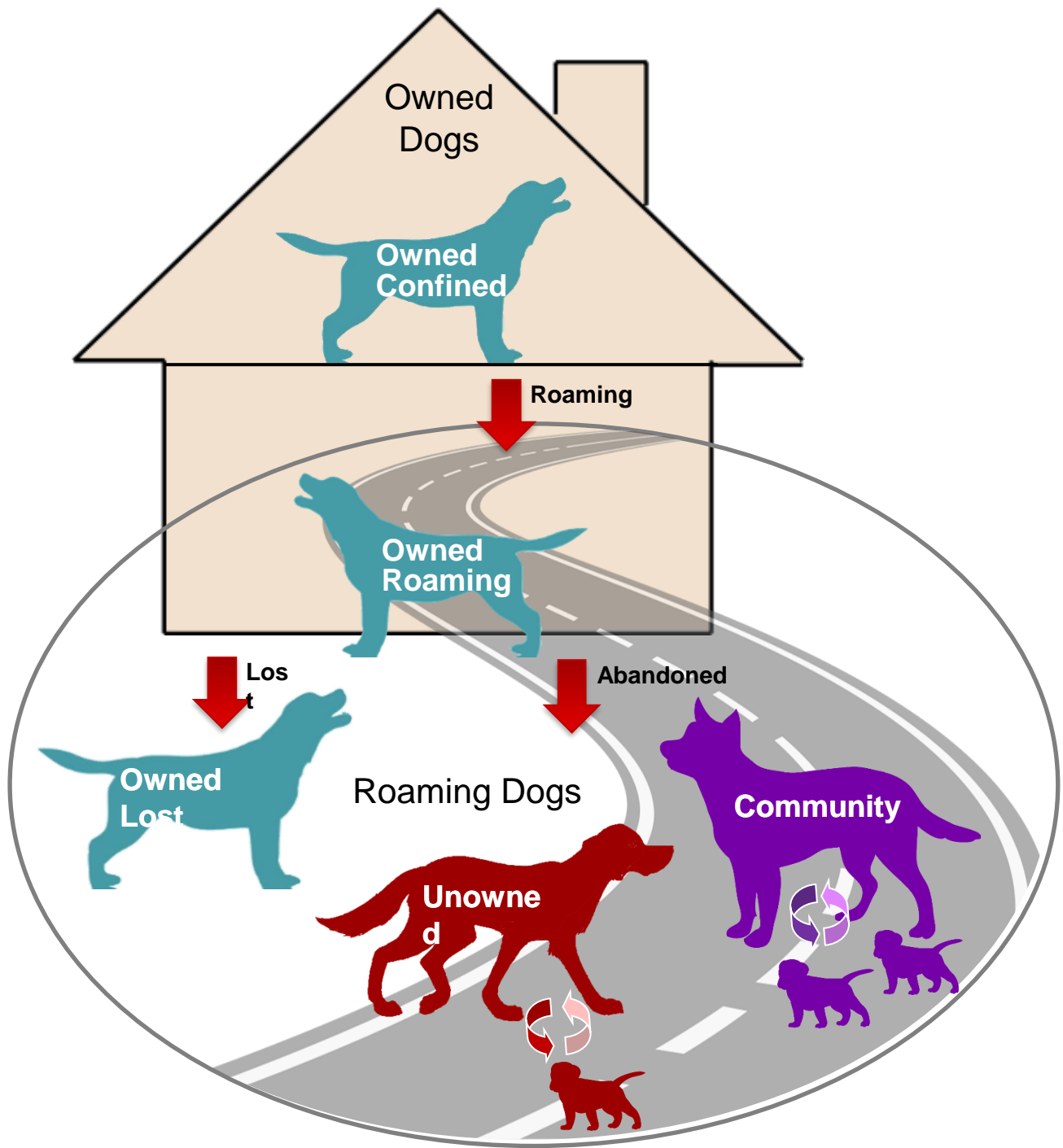
**Owned
Lost**

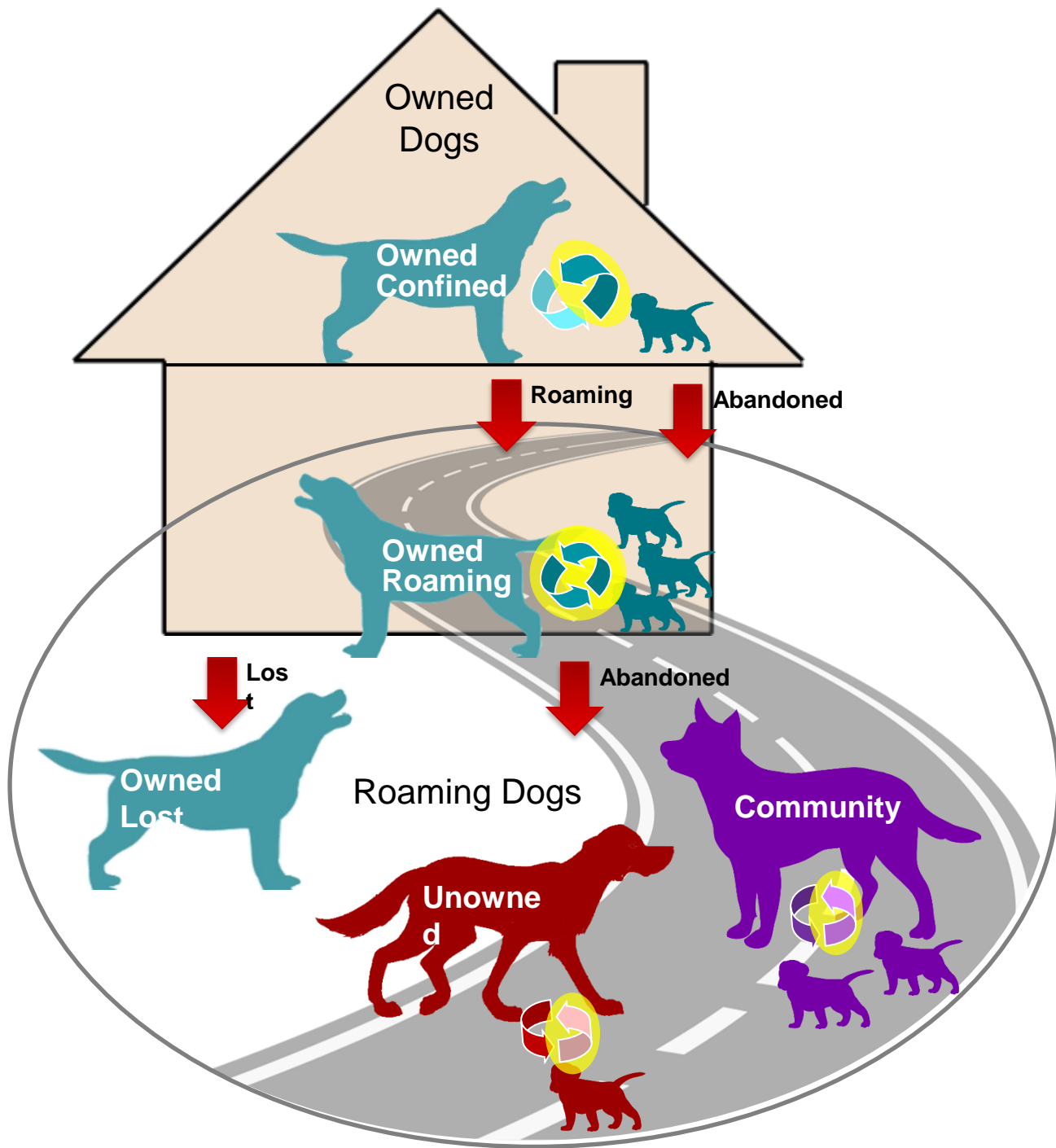
**Roaming
Dogs**

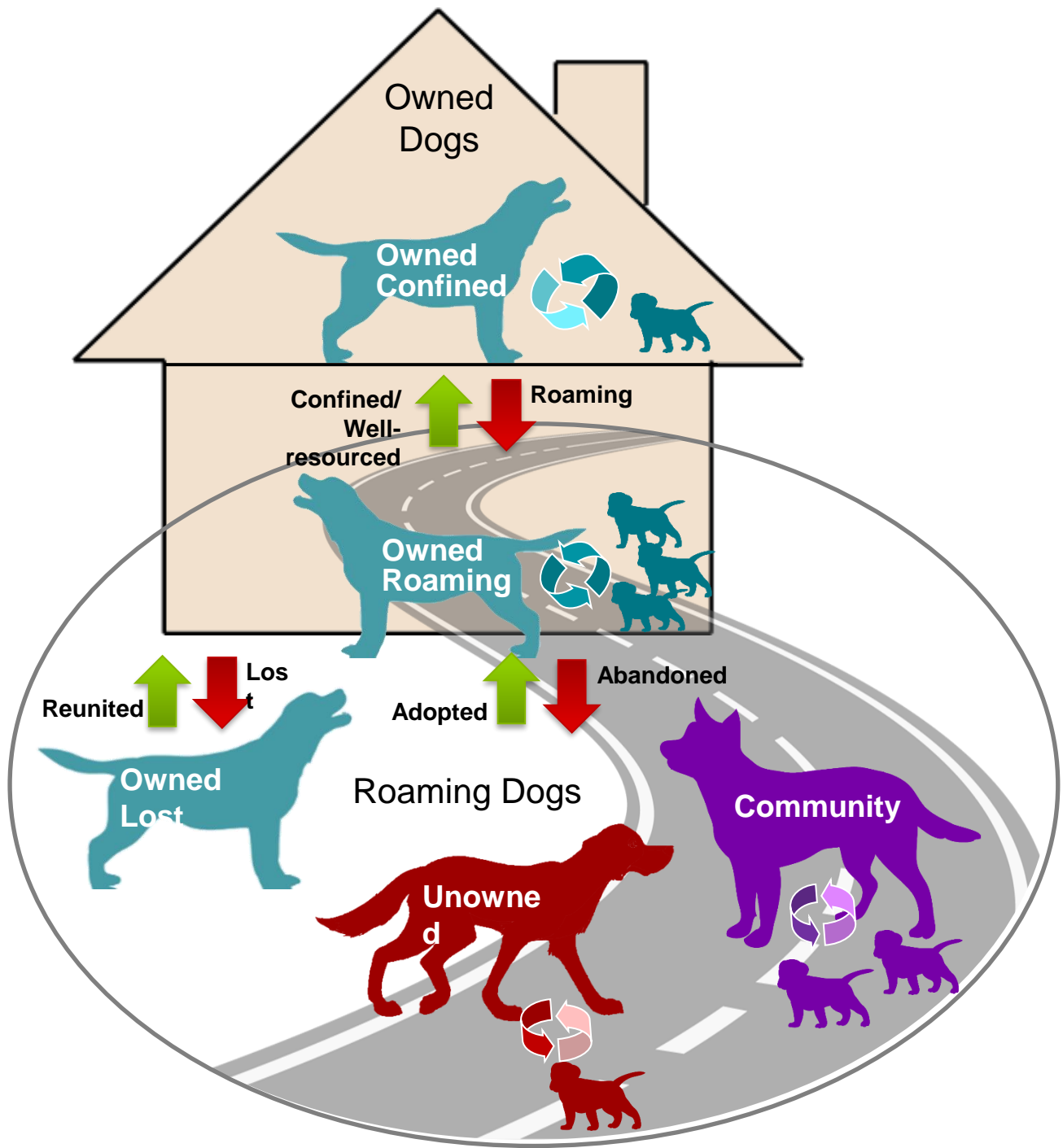
**Community
Owned**

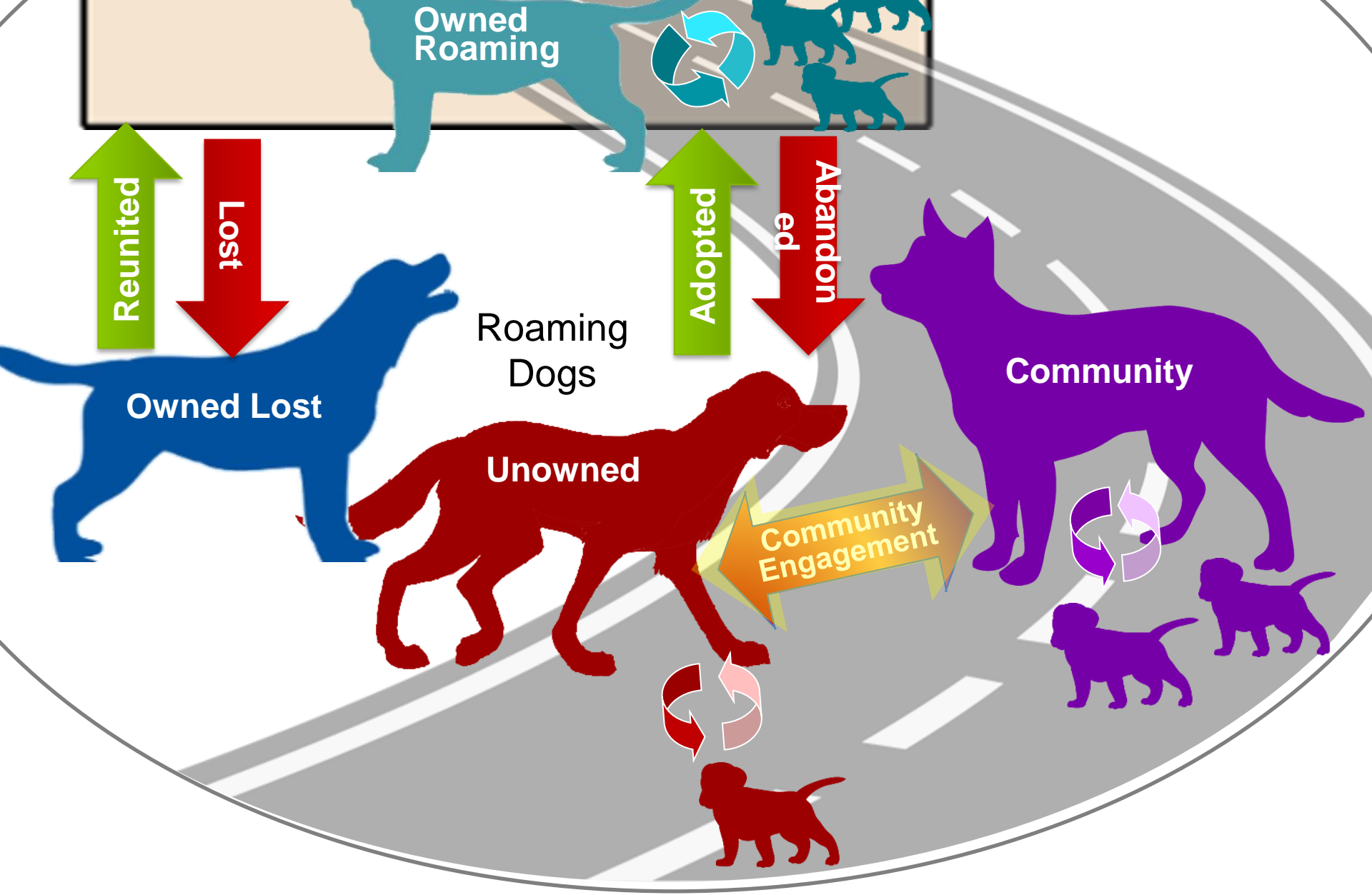
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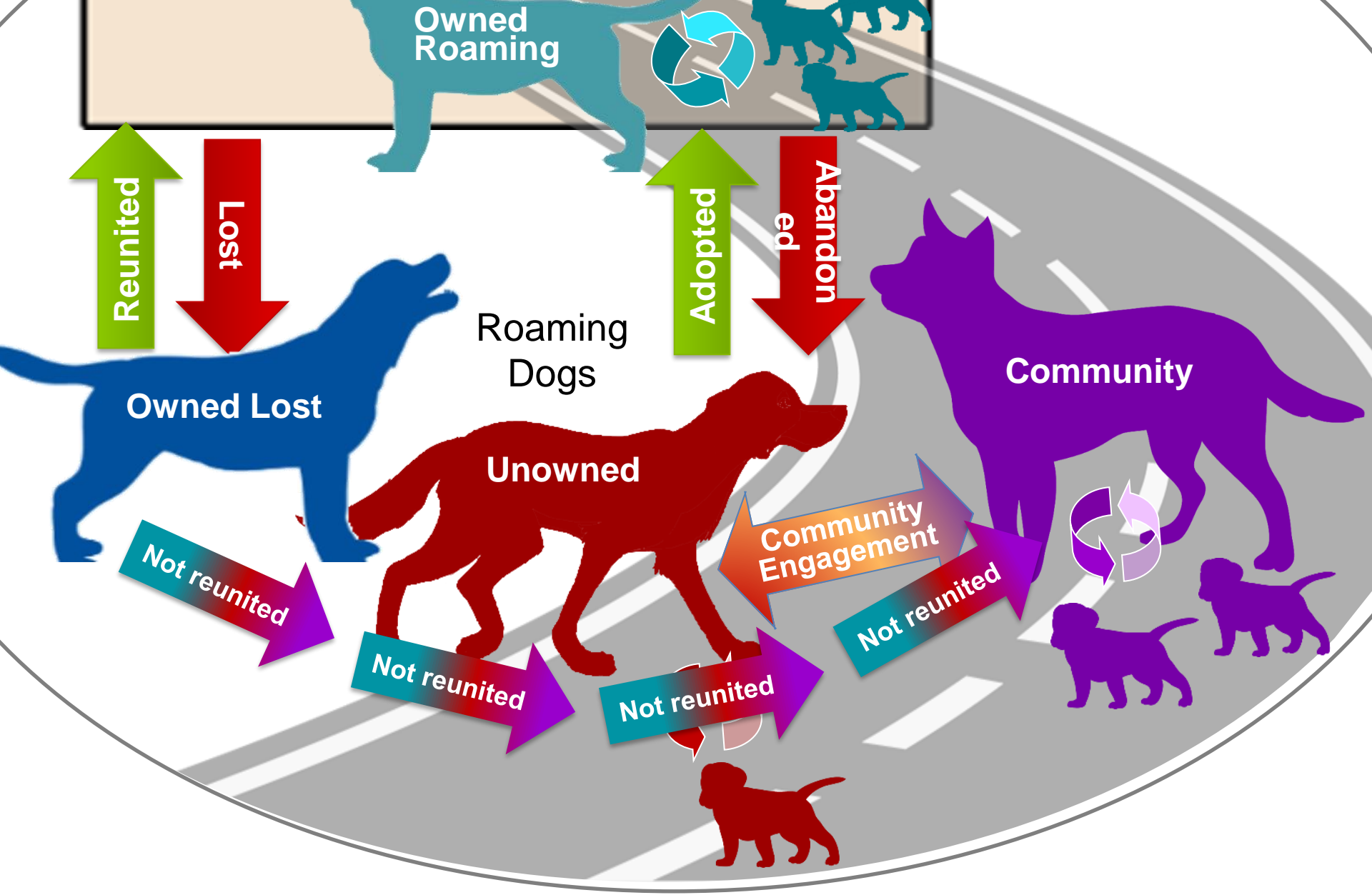


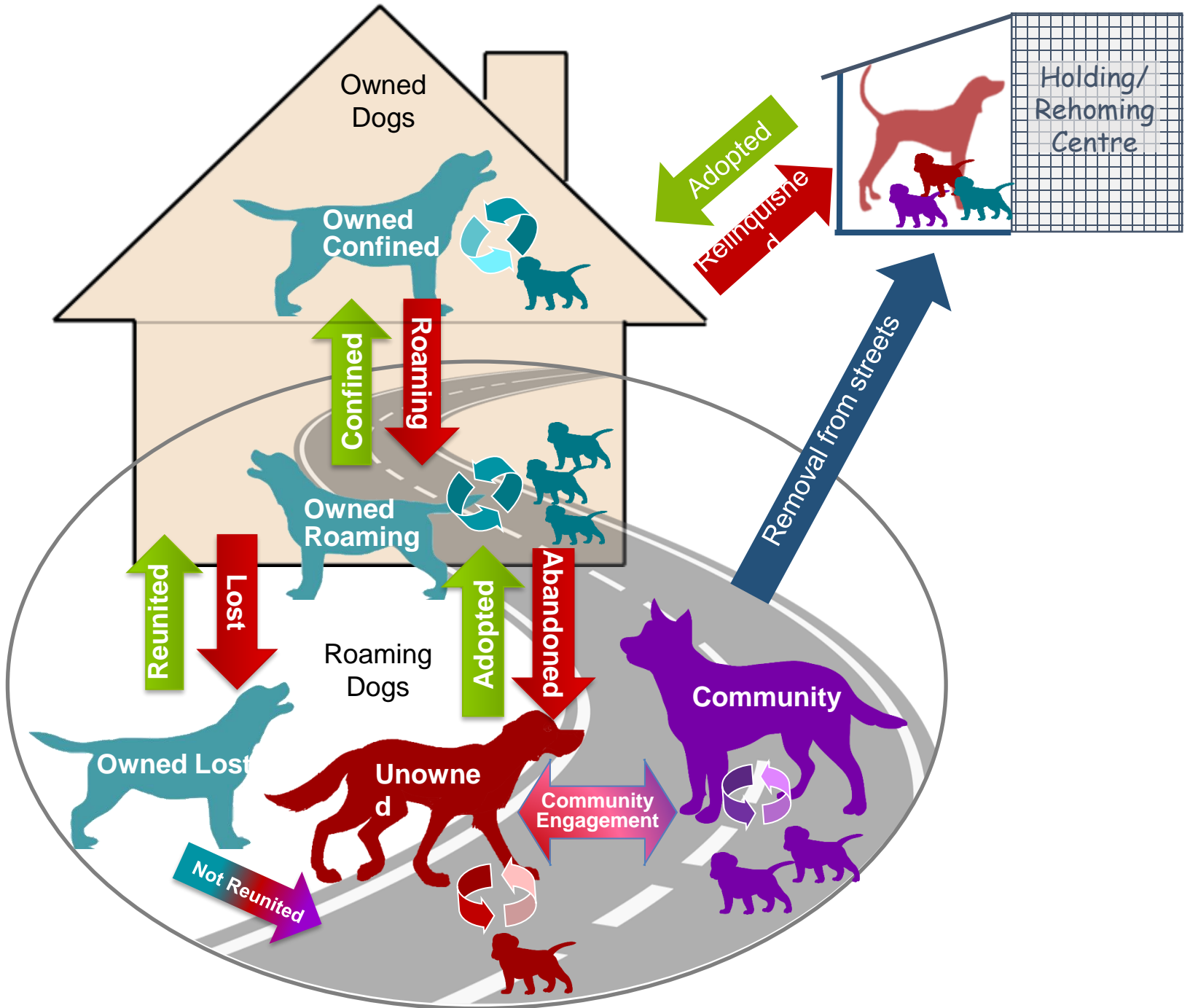


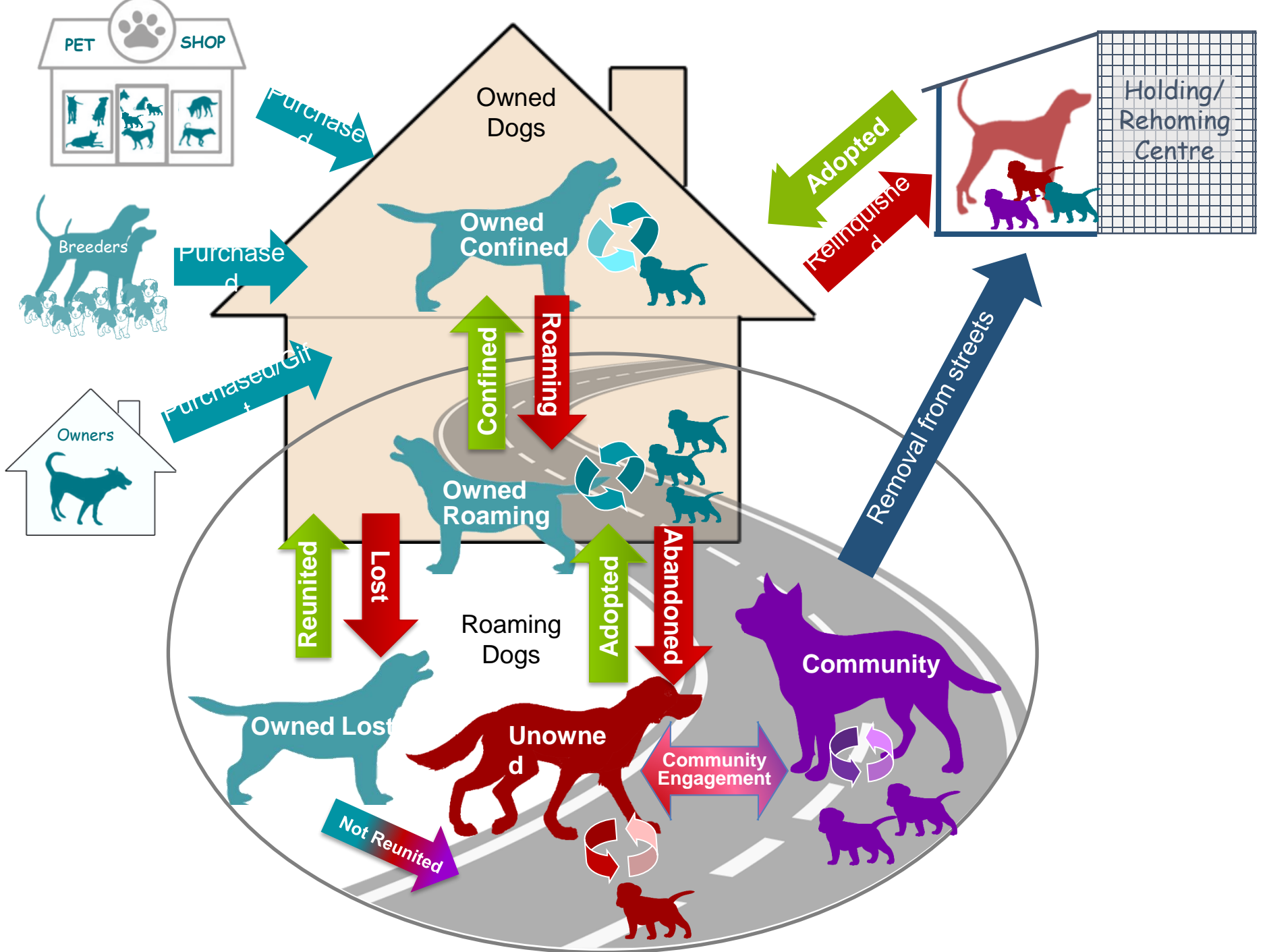


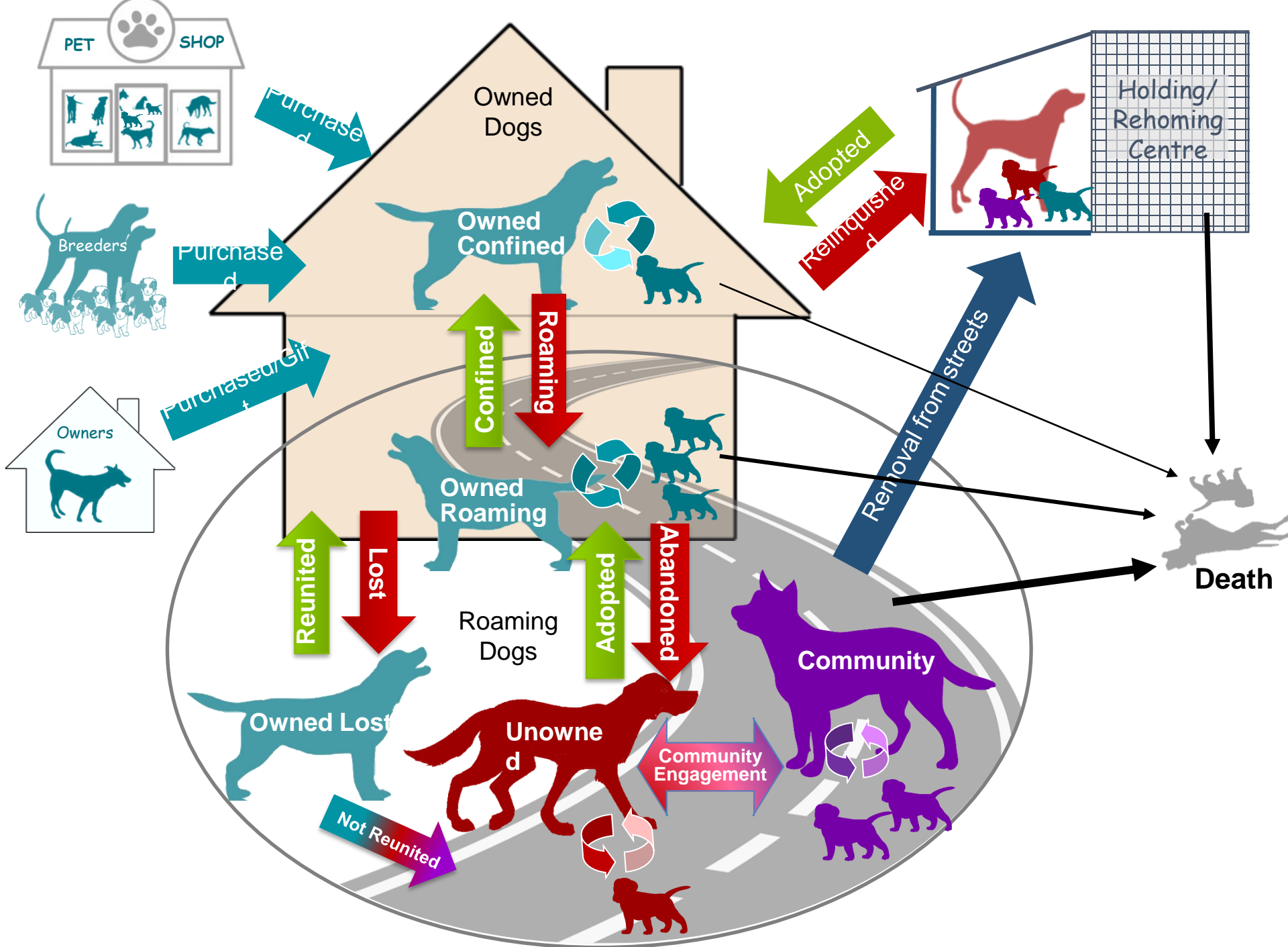






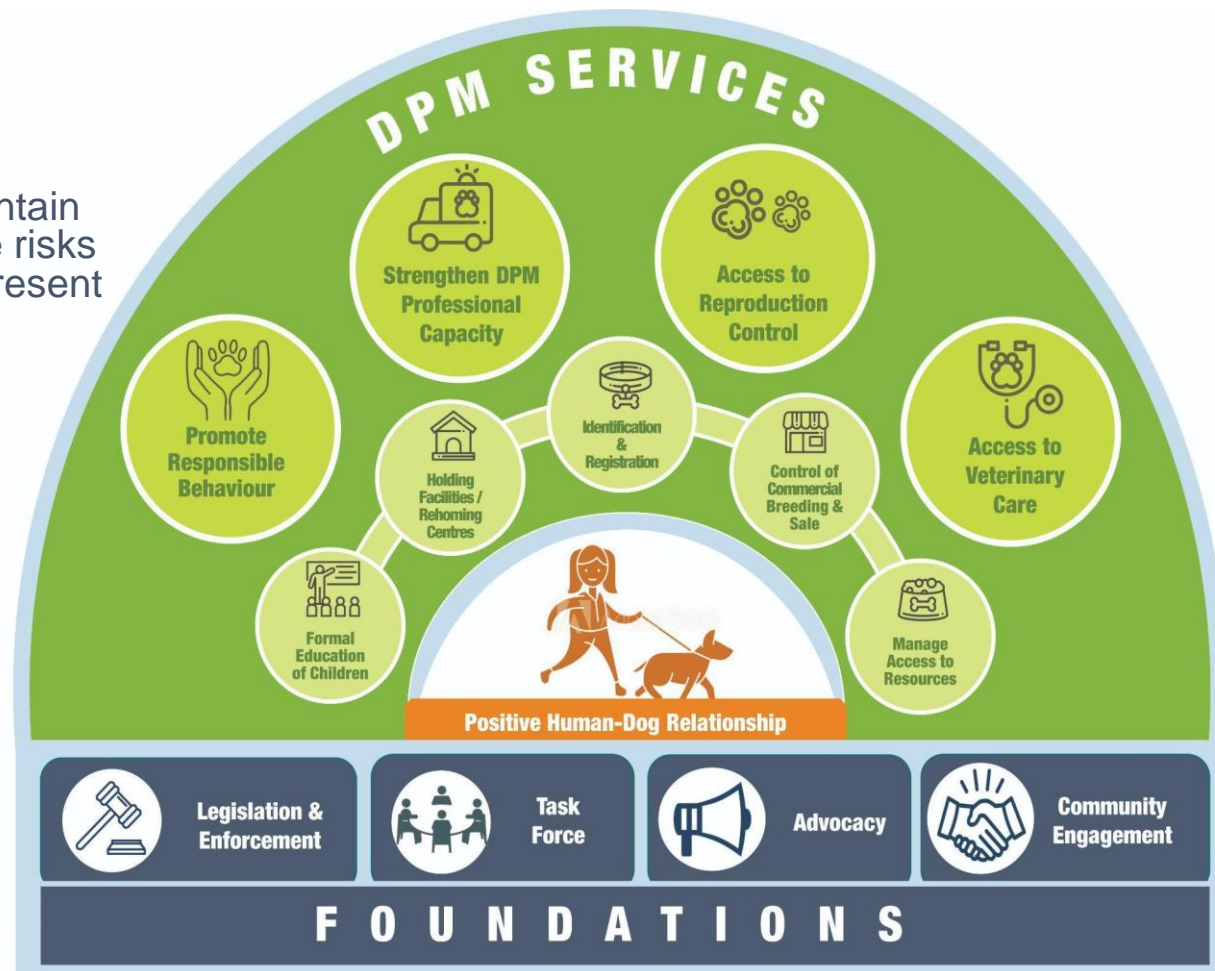






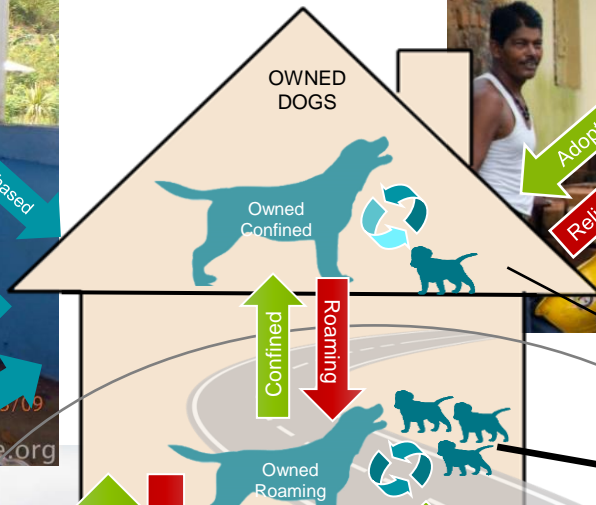
3. Sustained and adapted

- Population management *system*
 - Foundations
 - Services
- Permanent and adapted over time
- Striving towards positive relationship:
 - Responsible behaviour of owners and carers to maintain good welfare and mitigate risks that dogs and cats may present to other animals, the environment and people.



Tackling the current roaming dogs

- 2 relevant services, can be used in combination:
 - Holding facilities/rehoming centres or ‘shelters’ for relinquished pets and unowned dogs removed from the streets for reuniting or rehoming.
 - Reproduction control and veterinary care provided to unowned dogs using catch, neuter, vaccinate and return (CNVR) leading to management of unowned dogs *in situ* on the streets (same service can be applied to cats).
- Considerations for each, including the local context and the characteristics of the individual animal



DPM must address what people do with their dogs – **human behaviour** is the key driver of dynamic processes in dog population



6. Focus on humane behaviour change

- It is as much about people as it is about dogs. Dog ecology is linked with human activities.
- Promotion of RPO can significantly reduce the numbers of stray dogs and incidence of zoonotic disease.
- Successful DPM intervention has to be accompanied by a change in human behavior.
- Overpopulation and overproduction of dogs is linked to human activity and is therefore a societal problem which needs to be addressed as a complex and multifaceted issue.



Roles and responsibilities of national government

- Chapter 7.7 Article 7.7.6:
 - “As a cross-sectoral subject, DPM requires a high level of engagement and collaboration among Competent Authorities responsible for animal health and welfare, food safety, public health and environment, in line with the **One Health** approach.”
- Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group
- National action plan to provide the details of actions and coordinate with other action plans, such as dog-related zoonoses
- Funding of national action plans and DPM programmes
- Training of the DPM profession, including veterinarians, and also ensuring they have access to appropriate veterinary medication products
- Minimise population management problems caused by owned animals
 - Education and enforcement of legislation and regulations that demand responsible owner behaviour.

7.7 WHAT IS NEW-ROLE OF NGOs

- There is one change that now includes **NGOs within the definition of *veterinary services*** which “means the governmental and non-governmental organisations that implement animal health and welfare measures and other standards and recommendations in the Terrestrial Code and the WOAHA Aquatic Animal Health Code in the territory” (from [the glossary](#) of the Terrestrial Code).
- NGOs are also mentioned as relevant stakeholders within Advisory groups supporting the development of DPM programmes and national action plans.

5. Evidence-based design, monitoring and evaluation

- DPM guide process
 - Assessment to understand population dynamics
 - Design to address sources and the current free-roaming dogs
 - Monitor, evaluate and adapt to keep improving your impact

ARE WE MAKING A DIFFERENCE?

Methods of Measurement: Street Surveys

Street surveys are an efficient method of collecting data relating to a range of indicators. Their efficiency makes them particularly suitable for monitoring and evaluation because they can be repeated several times over the course of an intervention. The data collected is only related to roaming dogs seen on public property (i.e. not those behind fences or within compounds) and the ownership status of these dogs may not be clear (although a good state of welfare and wearing collars are potential signs of ownership): these roaming dogs may be owned roaming, community owned dogs or entirely unowned dogs either born unowned or abandoned/lost by their former owners. This means that confined dogs will not be accessed through street surveys; this could be a disadvantage but as confined dogs are commonly not a priority target this may be a minor concern for some interventions.

Relevant impacts

Street surveys are most commonly used to measure impacts related to roaming dog density, demography and welfare. Street surveys may also be useful for assessing the coverage of an intervention where the intervention has involved visible marking of dogs, for example collars or paint spray during vaccination campaigns or ear notches during sterilisation. These marks are noted and recorded for every dog observed to assess the proportion of the population that has been reached by the intervention. See the section 'Street surveys and questionnaires for measuring vaccination coverage' for the specific use of this method following vaccination.

Method

The method described here involves counting dogs on a route that runs along streets. It is similar in principle to the 'strip transect' method of wildlife surveys, in that observers move relatively quickly along an extended line to avoid double counting and to collect information on how animal density varies across the area. The difference to strip transects is that there is no intention to extrapolate the counts to an estimate of abundance rather the concept is to repeat these routes in a consistent manner and compare the counts over time (see Annex D on how estimates of abundance can be calculated if necessary). The method thus depends on protocol consistency; using one or more standard routes at a consistent time of day and year and following a standard counting protocol, for example using a constant average speed and mode of transport which will affect the 'search effort', i.e. the chances you will see a roaming dog through your observational skills. Ideal modes of transport include motorbikes carrying a

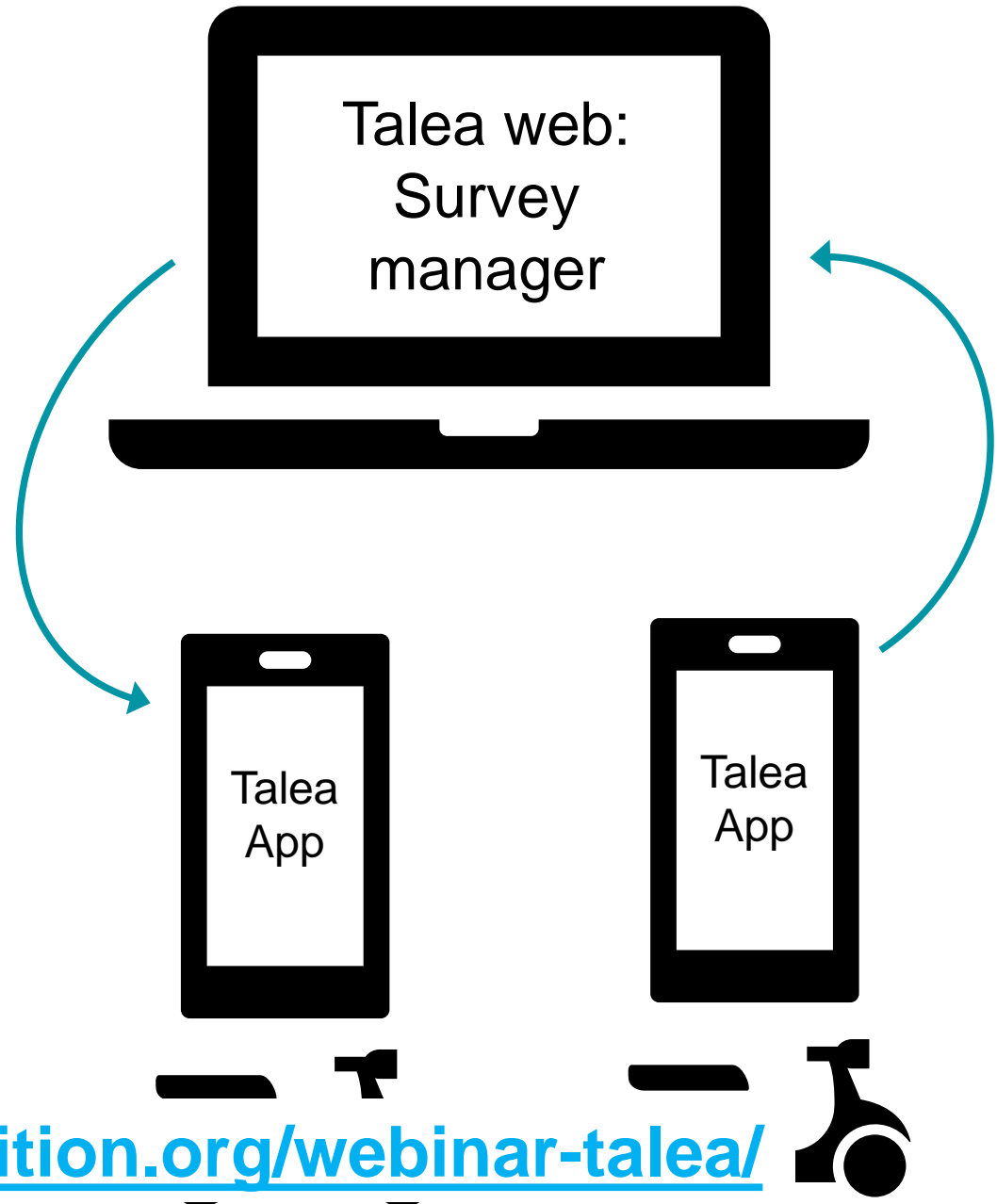
International Companion Animal Management Coalition

- Questionnaire surveys
- Participatory Research
- Street Surveys
- Secondary Sources
- Clinic records
- Behavioural Observation
- Vaccination Coverage

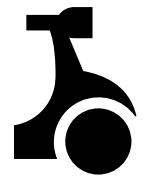
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Talea app

- Website manager sends out 'packages' of surveys to the app and receives the data sent by the app
- App helps you navigate along the route and record observations of roaming dogs



www.icam-coalition.org/webinar-talea/



ICAM DPM resources

1. Guidance



ICAM DPM resources

1. Guidance
2. Conferences and webinars

Virtual Conference

The conference convened June 19–23, 2023

[DOWNLOAD THE AGENDA >](#)



View Speakers & Presentations

- + Monday, June 19: Evolving Population Management
- + Tuesday, June 20: Population Management in One Health
- + **Wednesday, June 21: Government Leadership in Population Management**
- + Thursday, June 22: Human Behaviour & Access to Care
- + Friday, June 23: Rehoming & Other Issues

ICAM DPM resources

1. Guidance
2. Conferences and webinars
3. Courses

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Featured courses

Click each thumbnail below to learn more and access the course!



Implementing DPM



DPM for Policymakers



Humane Community Development

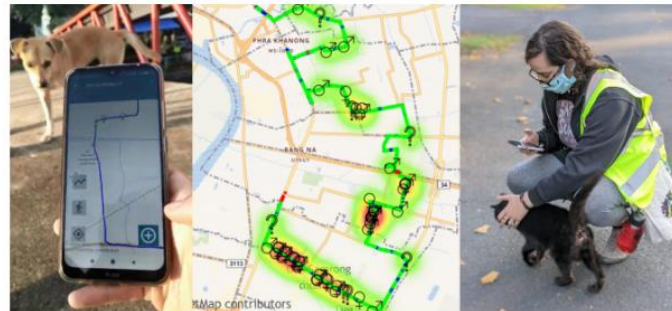
ICAM DPM resources

1. Guidance
2. Conferences and webinars
3. Courses
4. Tools



Webinar Talea

ICAM > Webinar Talea



Talea street survey tool

Ambitions to survey your roaming dog or cat population? (Or any other species for that matter!) But don't know how to get started or record the data? Learn about ICAM's Talea web and app – our FREE survey tool:

This webinar is an introduction to Talea and examples of its use in the field. Please go to the [user guide](#) for more information on how to use Talea.

- Elly Hiby (ICAM) Introduction to the webinar

ICAM Elly Hiby (ICAM): Talea webinar

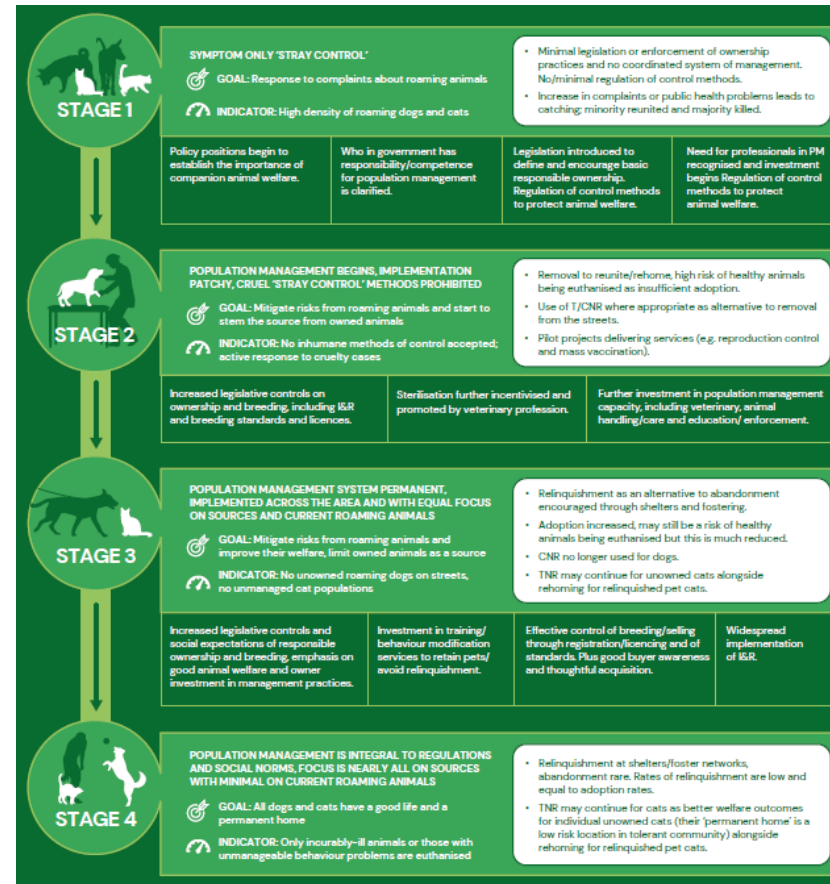
- direct surveys in M&E
 - Setting up Talea
 - What and where to survey
 - Analysing your data
- Talea in the field
 - Joe LeBezon (Audubon Society) Hayden Island, Portland, US
 - Dr. Tunkorn (also known as Dr. Tunkorn) Dog surveys in Bangkok, Thailand
 - Tamara Kartal (Four Paws) Surveying stray dogs and cats in Bulgaria and Maldiva
- Question and Answer session
 - Dr Ala (Sol Dog Foundation)
 - John Filer (Wise Monkey Foundation and Talea developer)

talea@icam-



Stages of population management

- A conceptual journey from stray control through to effective population management
- Integrated into regulations and social norms
- Requires important changes in what people do as well as progress in regulations and the delivery of services



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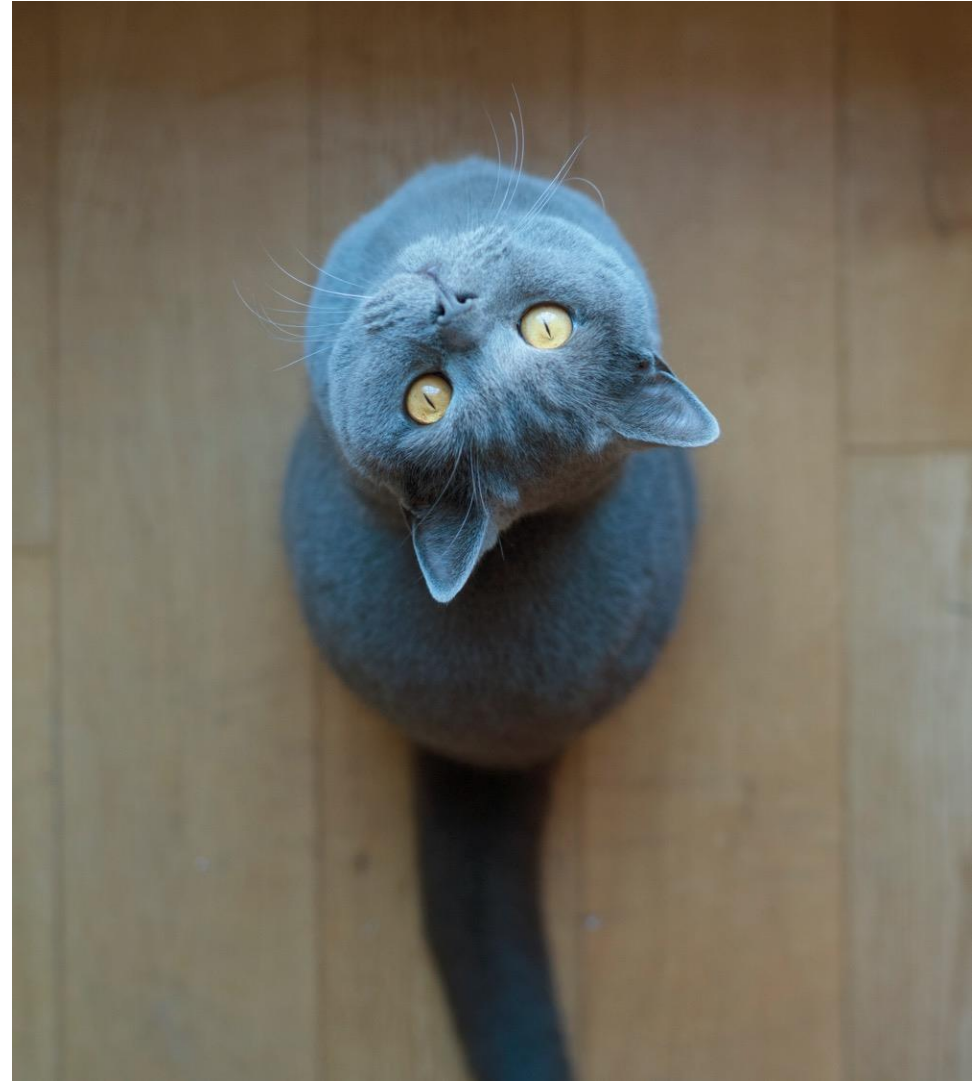
BATTERSEA GLOBAL RESOURCES FOR SHELTERS



BATTERSEA

WHY THE BATTERSEA ACADEMY

- “To enable every rescue to do the best with what they have”
- Provide a central ‘go to’ place for **low or no cost** professional development and training for staff and volunteers working in dog and cat shelters
- Provide best practice, cutting edge, evidence-based expertise in all aspects of shelter management
- Build an open network of rescues to exemplify the strength that comes from working together

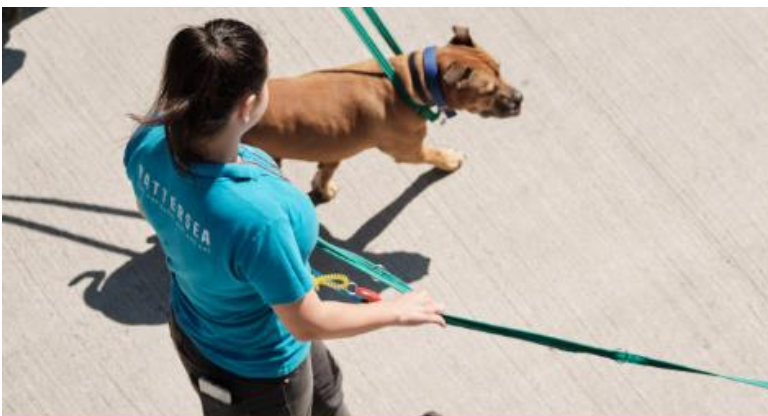


OUR OFFER

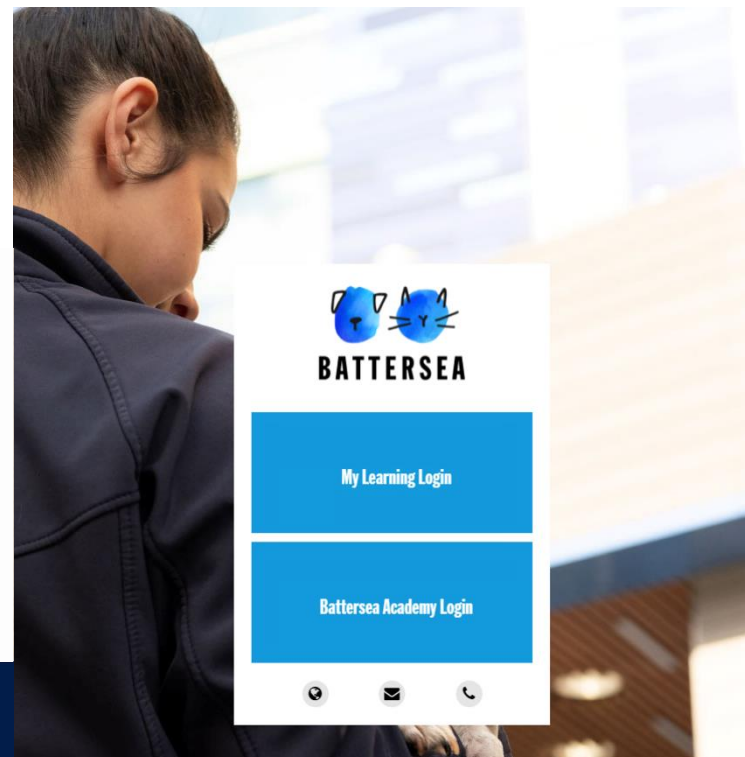
- Professional development for staff and volunteers that work in rescue **anywhere in the world**.
- Courses in animal behaviour and welfare in the dog or cat rescue setting, focusing on shelter management.
- Organisational courses on governance, fundraising, marketing, mental health, safeguarding and others.
- We're shifting as much online as we can to enable people to study in a more flexible way through bite-size modules.
- We aim to provide organisations with a Learning and Development function when they're too small to have their own.
- We help you to map skills gaps in your organisation against our own courses and signposting to other content.
- **FREE** to any organisation with an annual income of less than £5m per year.
- Anyone in any role in a dog or cat rescue can access our training.
- Our prospectus is here:
<https://bdch.org.uk/files/2023%20Academy%20Prospectus.pdf>



ACADEMY ONLINE



WELCOME TO ACADEMY ONLINE



ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR & WELFARE



ORGANISATIONAL & MANAGEMENT



UPCOMING WEBINARS

OUR FUNDS FOR DOG AND CAT SHELTERS

Learning Exchange Programme (any country)

- To advance change by encouraging collaboration and learning globally between rescues, government ministries/municipalities and/or other organisations that have a stake in dog and cat welfare.
- To encourage knowledge sharing and multi-directional learning, as we believe innovative approaches to companion animal welfare can originate from anywhere, including low-resource settings. This programme aims to support diverse and dispersed people working within companion animal welfare to learn from one another and build connections and collaborations that we hope will continue beyond the exchange itself.
- **To fund up to £4,000** towards one or two members of an organisation and/or ministry/municipality to spend a week at a host organisation anywhere in the world.

BATTERSEA GLOBAL PROGRAMMES RESOURCES FOR SHELTERS IN SUMMARY

Provide quality training to those in dog and cat shelters

Help rescues with limited resources cover costs of training

<https://academy.battersea.org.uk/about-academy>

Provide grants that advance change for dogs and cats

Helping dogs and cats that we will never meet directly

<https://www.battersea.org.uk/what-we-do/working-with-other-rescues/battersea-grants>

Shelter Resources



INTERNATIONAL COMPANION
ANIMAL WELFARE CONFERENCE
4 - 6 OCTOBER

Petplan[®] **TECHNIK**

SHARING
LEARNING
INSPIRING
icawc.org



INTERNATIONAL COMPANION
ANIMAL WELFARE CONFERENCE
4 - 6 OCTOBER

Petplan[®] **TECHNIK**

Image Credit: Richard Murgatroyd Photography



Champions Fund (Grants Programme)

- **European Champions Fund and Worldwide Champions Fund**
- **Grants of up to £10,000**
- **To Improve Sheltering and Rehoming:**
 - Improvements to Shelter Infrastructure
 - Enrichment Materials and Equipment
 - Equipment which will improve the running of the shelter and improve the lives of dogs
 - Rehoming/Fostering Projects

European and Worldwide Training Programmes

- **Online Twice A Year (March and September)**
- **European Programme (1 Week); Worldwide Programme (2 Weeks)**
- **What's Covered?**
 - Managing the Rehoming Process; Fostering; Shelter Design and Construction; Establishing Special Operating Procedures for Shelters; Dog Training and Behaviour; and Volunteer Management.

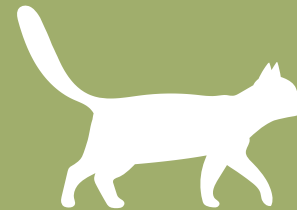
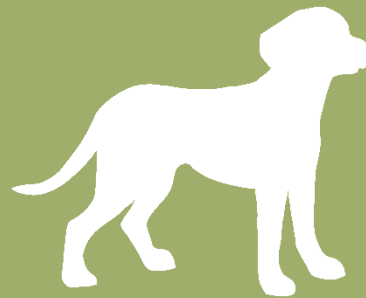
International Companion Animal Welfare Conference

- **Held annually to bring together experts from around the world to discuss companion animal welfare**
- **3 Days of Workshops and Presentations:**
 - Shelter Management and Animal Welfare
 - Organisational Operations
 - Global Perspectives within the Sector
- **Previous Presentation Topics have included:**
 - Fostering and Rehoming; Training and Behaviour; Shelter Enrichment; Tackling Disease; Shelter Design; Lobbying and Legislation; and Volunteer Engagement

Animal Welfare.
Worldwide.



Increasing Shelter Adoption Worldwide



FOUR PAWS believes that shelters should only provide a temporary home for dogs and cats prior to their adoption and should not be used to shelter animals in the long-term. Our aim is to turn shelters into adoption centres with increased adoption rates



- **The Shelter Adoption Academy**
An e-learning course focusing on how to increase shelter adoption launched in November 2022
- **Shelter Adoption Campaigns**
In the future we are looking to develop and deliver Shelter Adoption Campaigns to support shelters
- **Shelter Adoption Training**
We will offer on-site and online training sessions to shelter staff who have taken the e-learning course
- **Other initiatives to follow**



Objectives

- Substantially increase local adoption rates in shelters world-wide
- Train shelter staff in adoption best practices
- Create an adoption culture among local communities and positive attitudes towards shelter animals
- Improve the quality of life for shelter animals (dogs/cats), through improved welfare

A large, green, curly bracket on the left side of the slide, grouping the list of objectives and pointing towards the main title.

Transforming Shelters into Adoption Centres

BECOME A MEMBER OF AN INTERNATIONAL PROFESSIONAL ADOPTION COMMUNITY

- The course is FREE
- Self-paced without strict deadlines
- A total of 10 hours of interactive learning
- Compatible with computer, laptop, phone, tablet
- Available in English, Ukrainian, Bulgarian, Romanian and Thai – more languages to follow
- More modules to follow i.e. Fostering
- New course in 2024 on cats
- Completion = Certificate, Adoption success kit and promotional leaflets



You can find out more

[Shelter Adoption Programme - FOUR PAWS International -
Animal Welfare Organisation \(four-paws.org\)](#)

You can sign up by following the link

[FOUR PAWS Shelter Adoption Academy \(talentlms.com\)](#)



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