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## Thank you for an awesome 2024!

Dear Supporters,

We hope you all had a wonderful holiday and a happy New Year! We want to take a moment to thank you all for your continued support. TLC raised over \$30,000 in December to further our life-saving efforts in our community! We could not accomplish the things we do without your support!

2024 was a busy year for TLC. We spayed and neutered 27,023 cats and dog in 2024 which brings us to a grand total of 129,350 since we opened in February of 2013. We helped dozens of families keep their pets instead of surrendering them to a shelter.

As you all know, we strive to get to the root cause of a problem and work on the cause rather than be in constant damage control. Our biggest project is still in process. We sponsored 4 veterinarians from Mexico to combat the veterinary shortage here in Houston. We are waiting on testing and licensing. We will hopefully have big news on this in February. Stay tuned!

We recently upgraded our clinic software and we appreciate your patience while we learned the new software and made adjustments to workflows. It was a little rocky at first but we have sped up check in significantly so people can make it to work. We know there is more work to do. We are constantly working on improving processes. Your feedback is critical to our success.

We hired a call center to help answer our phones in a more timely manner. We have grown so much, we just cannot keep up! We have also added other avenues



of communication like text messaging to help you get your questions answered quickly.

We increased our efforts with our Help Me Keep My Pet Shelter Intervention program. Please take a minute and read about our latest happy ending story...

We hope we continue to exceed your expectations as an organization and we thank you for all of the support! We hope you all have a wonderful 2025!



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## A Christmas Miracle for Ebony and Her Family

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At Texas Litter Control, we understand that pets are more than just animals—they're family. This belief lies at the heart of our *Help Me Keep My Pet* (HMKMP) Shelter Intervention Program, which is dedicated to supporting families and ensuring they stay together through challenging times. As we move into the new year, we are proud to share the story of Ebony, a single mother who faced unimaginable hardship but, with the help of our team and the generosity of the community, was able to keep her beloved pets and start anew in 2025.

In mid-October, Ebony, a dedicated mother to her teen daughter, two dogs, and cat, found herself in a dire situation. After a serious spinal injury, Ebony had lost her job, then her car, and now she was losing their home—along with most of their belongings. With no family to support her and no place to turn, Ebony was on the brink of breaking down.

Sadly, this all-too-common challenge of being unhoused was compounded by the heartbreaking reality that no human shelters in the Houston Metro area accept pets. So, while Ebony and her daughter were able to find temporary shelter, their pets had nowhere to go. Ebony and her daughter were devastated. They had already given up so much—they absolutely couldn't bear losing their furry family members too. Fortunately, Ebony reached out to *Help Me Keep My Pet*, and our team sprang into action.

On the night before the eviction, to avoid the pets being taken by animal control, the HMKMP team coordinated emergency transportation for the animals and secured temporary foster care, allowing Ebony the breathing room she desperately needed. Soon after, our team connected Ebony with another organization offering crisis boarding until the family could move into an apartment a few weeks later as planned. Ebony accepted their help, and the animals were moved to boarding.

However, despite her best efforts, Ebony was unable to secure employment or the necessary funds before their move-in date, and she lost the apartment she had lined up for her family. With a bachelor's degree and teaching license as well as an offer for a remote job, Ebony had fully believed she'd be able to quickly get back on her feet. Instead, she found herself struggling with the logistics of daily life. Long bus rides escorting her daughter to and from school on public transportation consumed more than half of her day. But she refused to give up.

As the maximum-allowed boarding period came to an end and Ebony's housing and employment situation still had not stabilized, she reached out to the HMKMP team again. This time, it was the day before the pets were scheduled to be returned to their family or relinquished, and we knew we had to act quickly. Once more, we were able to secure temporary foster care while we worked toward a longer-term solution.

With the animals safe, the team brainstormed with Ebony, exploring available resources and various housing, employment, and fundraising opportunities. Eventually, Ebony located a complex offering lower rent with utilities included, no deposit, and a lenient approval process. She applied and was approved but still needed \$700 to move in.

Thanks to the HMKMP team's legwork and the outpouring of support from our compassionate community, Ebony was able to gather the funds she needed. Through offers of small jobs, donations, and advice from caring individuals, Ebony and her family's Christmas miracle came true. She and her daughter were able to move into their new home and be reunited with their pets on December 10th, just in time for Christmas!

But our work didn't stop there. In addition to providing much-needed pet supplies, we collected and delivered donated household items, furniture, and clothing to help Ebony and her daughter start fresh. They had lost nearly everything, but the HMKMP team and our wonderful community went above and beyond to provide the essentials needed for this family to rebuild.

Thanks to *Help Me Keep My Pet* and the dedication of our team, Ebony and her family were able to stay together this holiday season. But we couldn't have done it without you—our incredible supporters.





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## You Can Help Us Make More Miracles Happen!

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Today, the mission of *Help Me Keep My Pet* is more important than ever. So many families like Ebony's are facing tough times, and TLC is here to assist them in navigating their challenges. But we need your help to continue our vital work.

### Get Involved Today:

**Donate:** Every dollar helps us provide life-saving support to families in need.

**Volunteer:** Your time and skills can make a real difference in the lives of these families. Ask us how you can help.

**Share:** Spread the word about *Help Me Keep My Pet* so more families know we are here for them.

Join us in giving families like Ebony's the gift of togetherness in this new year. Together, we can keep pets out of the shelters, off the streets, and in their homes with their families—where they belong.

Thank you for your continued support of Texas Litter Control and *Help Me Keep My Pet*.

Visit [TexasLitterControl.org](https://TexasLitterControl.org) and [HelpMeKeepMyPet.com](https://HelpMeKeepMyPet.com) to learn more and get involved.

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## You Can Help Us Make More Miracles Happen

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