# Executive Summary

# As a 501(c)3 organization, the mission of the Spartanburg Humane Society will always foremost be to shelter and provide quality care for animals in need, but to succeed in the mission requires raising awareness about the systemic causes of pet displacement, and educating our community about every aspect of their furry friends. So it is with great pride that the Humane Society currently has one of the most successful Humane Education programs in the United States, presently reaching nearly 8000 young people, and with your help the Spartanburg Humane Society will serve larger quantities of individuals with a higher quality educational experience in the years to come.

# Young people are in dire need of exciting and engaging programming to keep them involved in the classroom, and enthusiastic about continuing their education beyond high school, especially in the ever-growing field of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) careers. The Humane Society believes the perfect catalyst to inspire these enriching learning experiences: animals! Every day the Spartanburg Humane Society’s educational program, Humane Education on Wheels, ferries animals from our shelter to classrooms across Spartanburg County to get young people involved in the fascinating field of veterinary science. However with your financial assistance in the form of a grant in the amount of $10,000, it is our aim to facilitate lessons in a wider array of settings and provide lessons that cover a broader scope of topics that are guaranteed to captivate young people of all ages with the use of the following equipment: portable ultrasound, digital microscope with carrying case, 6 compound microscopes, internal parasite slides, 30 stethoscopes, a digital otoscope and ophthalmoscope, and general project supplies.

# This equipment will allow students to examine the internal organs as well as bone and joint conditions of animals, examine the parasite that affect our pet’s health, listen to the heartbeat and respiratory sounds of both healthy and unwell animals. Each student we come in contact with is counted and recorded in the classroom files the Humane Society keeps for each classroom visited. Animals’ interactions with students are also recorded and kept on file. The Spartanburg Humane Society also keeps records of how many animals arrive to our shelters vaccinated and spayed/neutered, with increases in the numbers indicating how our educational programs are impacting the community. As the program continues to grow we would strive to facilitate lessons for homeschool students, private schools, after school programs, and even college classes, as we already have contact with two professors at USC Upstate. In quantifiable statistics, it is our aim to increase our education program’s participants by over 20% to reach over 10,000 students.

# After your input of $10,000 to purchase the equipment the program will be self-sustaining for a feasibly lengthy amount of time, as the Spartanburg Humane Society has the staff and animals to facilitate the program as long as the equipment is still viable. This contribution will make a lifelong impact on Spartanburg County and its residents, and with your assistance the numbers we can reach will only grow.