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Speice

Independent Study and Mentorship 3A

11 October 2018

Connecting Puzzle Pieces

Research Assessment 6

**Date:** 5 October 2018

**Topic:** Veterinary Sciences

**Works Cited:**

Woloshyn, Craig. "5 ways veterinary practices and nonprofits can really collaborate." *Veterinary Economics*, Jan. 2015, p. 32. Academic OneFile, <http://link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/A400038364/AONE?u=j043905010&sid=AONE&xid=9667c120>. Accessed 12 Oct. 2018.

**Assessment:**

One of the hardest aspects of rescue work is connecting with veterinary clinics in order to treat animals at low costs. In order to better understand the connection between veterinarians and nonprofits, research into ways that both can help one another was essential.

Researching nonprofits and their connection to veterinary clinics revealed many ways that having a connection to a veterinary clinic can help a nonprofit. Reading about how connections to veterinary clinics help nonprofits get veterinary care at lower costs through fundraisers and means testing prompted thought into the ramifications of this relationship. Knowing that, with lower veterinary costs, nonprofits could rescue a lot more animals was very

beneficial due to its relation to this year's topic of veterinary sciences and medicine with a focus on rescue. Additionally, with this knowledge of the economic side of a relationship between nonprofits and veterinary clinics, smarter decisions can be made in the future when attempting to connect these two to make a career.

Another aspect of a mutually beneficial relationship between veterinary clinics and nonprofit organizations is the public component involved with both organizations. Seeing how having a connection to a rescue organization could be beneficial to the number of clients a veterinary clinic has is important information for future career path options. Additionally, a connection to a veterinary clinic would be very beneficial for a rescue due to an increased reliability in what they say about medical issues. Being aware of potential benefits related to a connection to a veterinary clinic will be beneficial when talking to professionals and working on things such as an original work and final product throughout the year.

The article also contained important information about shelters and their connections to both nonprofit organizations and veterinary clinics. This is an aspect of a mutually beneficial relationship that had not been previously considered. Reading about this potential relationship opened up many new options and paths to be considered when working on connecting this year's topic to rescue throughout the year in the Independent Study and Mentorship program. Because shelters play such a huge part in nonprofit work, it would be very beneficial to establish a good relationship with shelters in the area. Additionally, as a veterinarian, volunteer veterinary work could be provided to shelter animals who are usually made comfortable but not completely treated for issues they may have when they enter the shelter. Overall, being aware of possible

options to work together that would be beneficial to all parties involved could be very beneficial when speaking to veterinarians who may be considering partnerships with shelters or rescues.

Reading about public education over common veterinary issues involved with rescue also prompted many new trains of thought into possible original work. Public education is a common problem in both the veterinary industry and the rescue community. If the large audience that nonprofits offer were combined with the reliability and validation that comes with backing from a veterinary clinic, many people may take public education over important issues such as spaying and neutering and heartworm prevention more seriously. This would be a huge step in the right direction for Texas' heartworm problem and canine overpopulation issue. Using this knowledge and previous knowledge over the issues mentioned previously, many ideas can be formed for potential original work projects.

The overall benefits of a strong relationship between nonprofits and veterinary clinics are overwhelming and further support the focus on rescue's involvement with veterinary work as a topic of study this year in the Independent Study and Mentorship program. Utilizing this information will not only be helpful when talking to professionals, but also when working on things such as an original work and final product.