



## Operation Kindness Helps Spay/Neuter 1,222 Dogs in Puerto Rico

The animal welfare organization partnered with the Bissell Pet Foundation as a part of Operation SATO in Gurabo, Puerto Rico.

CARROLLTON, TEXAS (November 13, 2023) – [Operation Kindness'](#) Community Initiatives team responded to the call for animal welfare aid in Puerto Rico. The Texas-based animal welfare organization sent one surgeon and three vet techs to Gurabo, Puerto Rico, to assist in the spay and neutering, vaccination and microchipping of 1,222 dogs as part of [Bissell Pet Foundation's Operation SATO event](#) from November 1-6.

The streets of Puerto Rico are home to approximately 500,000 stray dogs, or "satos," according to Bissell Pet Foundation. One pair of dogs can be responsible for 67,000 puppies over six years. Recognizing that spay/neuter is the only way to stop unwanted litters, Bissell Pet Foundation created the Operation SATO event, putting out the call for high-quality and high-volume vets and vet techs. Operation Kindness' surgeon, Dr. Kimberly Heinefield, and vet techs Bryce Harper, Brandy Gospodarek and Ally Thompson, traveled Gurabo to participate in the event.

"Any time we deploy our highly-skilled team, it is our goal to help pets in the greatest need," said Ed Jamison, CEO of Operation Kindness. "We're committed to helping reduce pet overpopulation through high-volume spay/neuter events that have a significant impact on the number of homeless pets. I'm happy to hear our team was of great service to the pets and people in Puerto Rico."

All services performed at Operation SATO were free to the community.

*Interviews are available by Zoom, phone or in-person. Photos are available [here](#).*

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### **About Operation Kindness**

Operation Kindness, a 501(c)(3) non-profit animal welfare organization, operates a lifesaving animal shelter and programs to assist people and pets. Founded in 1976, Operation Kindness is a pioneer in Texas for assisting animals in need of veterinary care companionship, and most of all, a home.

In addition to pet adoptions and lifesaving medical care, Operation Kindness' programs provide foster care for vulnerable animals, behavior and training support for pet parents, affordable veterinary services for community pets, a pet food pantry and volunteer opportunities. To learn more about Operation Kindness, please visit their website at [www.operationkindness.org](http://www.operationkindness.org).

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