



# About the Human Animal Bond Research Institute (HABRI)

The Human Animal Bond Research Institute (HABRI) is a not-for-profit organization that funds innovative research projects to scientifically document the health benefits of companion animals and informs the public about human-animal bond research and the beneficial role of companion animals in society. Our mission is to advance, through science, education and advocacy, the vital role of the human-animal bond in the health and well-being of people, pets, cultures and communities.

## ADVANCING HUMAN-ANIMAL BOND SCIENCE

HABRI-funded research has contributed to knowledge about the health benefits of the human-animal bond. HABRI has funded over \$3 million in scientific research investigating the health benefits of the human-animal bond around the world. HABRI has funded 57 innovative research projects and has seen over 40 academic publications result from this research.

Results of HABRI-funded research include:

- The presence of classroom pets for children can improve social skills and reading competence for children, and decrease select problem behaviors in the classroom.
- When paired with a service dog, veterans with PTSD can experience lower overall PTSD symptom severity, including reduced anxiety, decreased depression and higher quality of life.
- Shelter cats can be beneficial for children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), by helping improve empathy and social skills and reducing problem behaviors.
- Ninety-seven percent of doctors agree that their patients benefit from pet ownership, and more than one in five people have had a doctor or therapist recommend a pet for improved health.
- Knowledge of human-animal bond science can improve animal welfare. With more information about the scientific research on the health benefits of pets, 91% of pet owners say they would be more likely to maintain their pet's health, including regular check-ups with their veterinarian.

## GET INVOLVED WITH HABRI

Founded by the American Pet Products Association, Zoetis, and Petco in 2010, HABRI has been advancing the science of the human-animal bond for more than a decade. HABRI now serves as a convener of the pet care community, working together to support and strengthen the human-animal bond.

The scientific evidence that demonstrates the health benefits of the human-animal bond can be relied upon to support common-sense policies that improve the health and wellbeing of people, pets and the communities where they live.

Help HABRI share the message that the human-animal bond is essential to our health and wellness!

### Follow HABRI on Social Media



HABRI shares the latest information on the science behind the human-animal bond, and engaging content about the important role of companion animals in our lives.

### Sign up for the HABRI Newsletter

HABRI issues a weekly e-newsletter that provides timely updates on HABRI's research, policy initiatives and more. Visit <https://habri.org/get-involved/stay-informed/>

For more information about HABRI and the research supporting the health benefits of the human-animal bond, please visit [www.habri.org](http://www.habri.org).