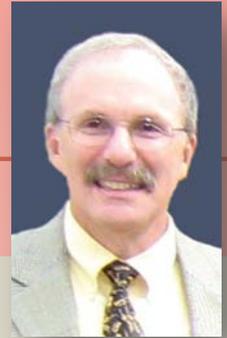


Two Years of Significant Progress: Biennial Report 2012 - 2014



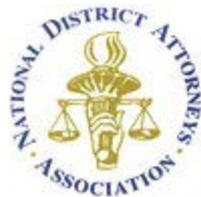
Phil Arkow,
Coordinator



NATIONAL LINK COALITION

*Working together to stop violence
against people and animals*

2014 Summit ● Oct. 7, 2014
Mesa, Ariz. – Hilton Mesa/Phoenix



NATIONAL DISTRICT ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION

TO BE THE VOICE OF AMERICA'S PROSECUTORS AND TO SUPPORT
THEIR EFFORTS TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS AND SAFETY OF THE PEOPLE



Signs of Progress...

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



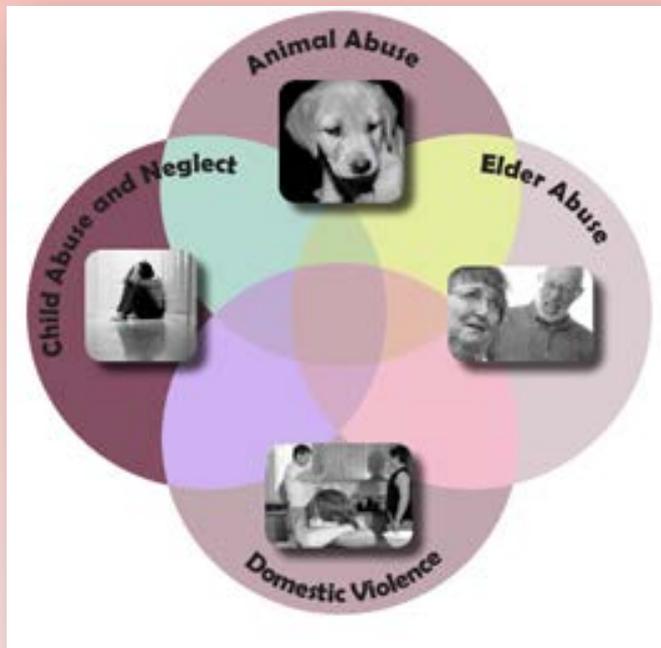
OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

Innovation • Partnerships • Safer Neighborhoods

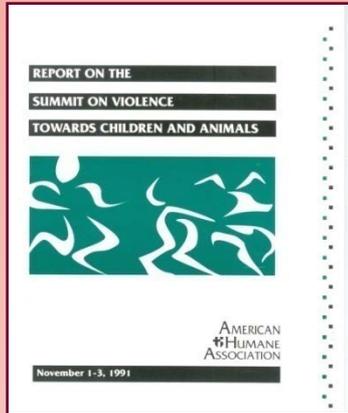
“The topic of animal cruelty may seem unimportant in the face of events like the Boston bombing, school shootings, and other recent tragedies, but we know there’s a history of animal cruelty in the backgrounds of many perpetrators of violent acts.

“Understanding this link between animal cruelty and interpersonal violence is critical to the Department.”

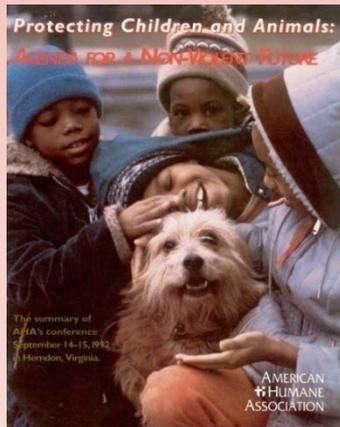
-- Mary Leary, Acting Assistant Attorney General,
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs
*in establishing the US DOJ Working Group
on Animal Cruelty Apr. 30, 2013*



Historical Background



American Humane Association
Nov. 1-3, 1991
Englewood, Colo.
30 national leaders in 4 working groups



American Humane Association
Sept. 14-15, 1992
Herndon, Va.
17 national speakers set an agenda for a non-violent future

Goals of the 2008 National Town Meeting – June 8-9, 2008 Portland, Maine

111 participants – 22 states, Canada and UK

1. Strengthen community responses to human violence.
2. Determine how research, public policy, and coalition-building will impact Link programming.
3. Advance Link public policy by prioritizing legislative and program initiatives.
4. Develop models for successful coalition program development, implementation of activities, and sustainability.
5. Create a multidisciplinary, national network.



Objectives of the 2008 Experts' Summit – June 10, 2008



1. Develop a common vision to move The Link agenda forward.
2. Identify critical issues facing The Link agenda.
3. Create strategies and action plans for the coming year.
4. Make organizational and individual commitments.
5. Establish mechanisms to sustain this effort.

5 Strategic Goal Areas

1. Build public awareness:
Marketing, Messaging, Communications.
2. Overcome the fragmentation of systems through network-building.
3. Education & training for professionals.
4. Addressing the root cause:
Prevention, Intervention, and Prosecution.
5. Engaging academics for research and data collection.



Vision Statement



NATIONAL LINK COALITION

*Working together to stop violence
against people and animals*

National Link Coalition Vision Statement

It is understood that there is a link between violence against humans and violence against animals. Through the recognition and integration of this understanding into policies and practices nationwide, people and animals are measurably safer.

National Link Coalition Steering Committee (The Original “G-10”)

Phil Arkow – *American Humane/Latham Foundation*

Lesley Ashworth – *American Humane/Ohio Domestic Violence Network*

Maya Gupta – *Ahimsa House/American Psychological Association*

Jane Hunt – *Partners for Violence Prevention*

Linda Jariz – *The Linkage Project*

Mark Kumpf – *National Animal Control Association*

Randall Lockwood – *ASPCA*

Marie McCabe – *American Humane*

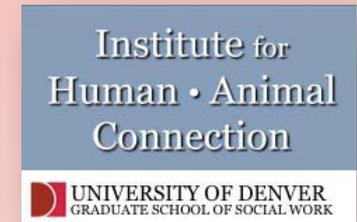
Monica McLaughlin – *National Network to End Domestic Violence*

Hugh Tebault III – *Latham Foundation*

Goals of the 2010 Roundtable – June 10-12, 2010 Denver, Colo.

40 participants – 14 states, Canada and Spain

- Reviewed lessons learned, obstacles encountered and best practices from coalitions (NM, ME, MN, CO)
 - Explored how NLC can help
- Saw international Link programs
- “Bring & Brag” about Link work in many fields (domestic violence, animal fighting, prosecution, task forces, research, animal abuse & sex offenders, media response, veterinary response, article repository, assessment and diversion programs for youth)
- Facilitated strategic planning for future
 - *Keep NLC loose, informal, unincorporated*
 - *Clearinghouse, resource for field, support local coalitions*
 - *Independent, not part of any specific organization*



Goals of the 2012 Roundtable – July 26, 2012 Denver, Colo.



Sponsors

Objectives:

- Review progress since 2008
- Examine opportunities and new developments in all disciplines
- Consider strategic plans to direct activities for next 1 – 2 years



Identified Issues and Opportunities

PROSECUTORS

- Animal Law curricula in 145 law schools
- Animal Law committees in state bar associations
- NDAA and APA webinars and trainings
- ASPCA dogfighting toolkit
- ALDF support
- 79 jurisdictions with targeted DAs



Allie Phillips

NEEDS: Court Watch to monitor animal abuse cases

Include prosecutors in protocols for treating offenders

Goals of the 2012 Roundtable

July 26, 2012 – Denver, Colo.

Identified Issues and Opportunities

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- Reauthorization of VAWA
- Seeking evidence-based practices
- Make programs accessible
- Systemic problems with child custody cases
- No standardized inclusion of pet info in intakes
- Recognize intersections of all aspects of survivors lives
- Opposition to PPO laws from DV groups not wanting to open any cans of worms



Anna Melbin



*Maria Luisa
O'Neill*



Maya Gupta

NEEDS: Include animal abuse training in DV police officers' roll calls

Goals of the 2012 Roundtable

July 26, 2012 – Denver, Colo.

Identified Issues and Opportunities

ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL

- More training opportunities available
- Opposition to make ACOs mandated reporters of child abuse
- Refocusing humane education on Link addresses dog bites, bullying

NEEDS: Prioritize animal cruelty for prosecutors and judges
Include Link in NACA basic core competency training
Include Link in state animal control training academies



Joe Stafford

RESEARCH

- Research often simplistic, focuses only on graduation hypothesis

NEEDS: More research on hoarding
More open-access journals for greater multidisciplinary accessibility
Evaluation of effectiveness of animal cruelty treatment programs
Research on human-animal interactions in communities of color, especially Native American



*Chris
Riskey-Curtiss*

Goals of the 2012 Roundtable

July 26, 2012 – Denver, Colo.

Identified Issues and Opportunities

ELDER ABUSE

NEEDS: Agencies and AARP to include animal abuse systemically
Train Meals on Wheels to screen for animal abuse
Train ACOs to screen for elder abuse
Alert APS to low-cost pet care services
Foster care for pets while owners in hospital



Bonnie Brandl

CHILD WELFARE

- Recognizing families as ecosystems, but animals not yet included
- Emphasis on evidence-based practices
- Animal abuse not identified in ACEs study
- Affordable Care Act → opportunities for caseworkers to observe animals

NEEDS: Train social workers in fundamentals of animal behavior
Train animal behaviorists in social services issues

Barb Shaffer

Goals of the 2012 Roundtable

July 26, 2012 – Denver, Colo.

Identified Issues and Opportunities

VETERINARY MEDICINE

- Human-animal bond too conceptual for scientifically-trained scientists
- Animal welfare a contentious issue, esp. in agricultural interests
- Model animal welfare curricula in vet schools
- Veterinary forensics an opportunity
- Collaborations important: AVMA hosted IAHAIO
- Negative tenor of The Link is a barrier: message should be positive (e.g., “Pets are good for you”)
- New AVMA web info on human-animal interactions (with ASPCA support)



*Emily
Patterson-Kane*

Emerging issues:

- Pets and human health
- Pets in workplace
- Abandonment

Strategic Goals from 2012

1. Building public awareness: marketing, messaging, & communications.

✓ Migrate website to self-edited content management system (CMS)

✓ Video of Link training program on the website.

~ Add Facebook and Twitter accounts to LinkedIn.

~ Single, unified portal for info on domestic violence pet safekeeping

Interactive map linking to local Link coalitions.

Explore the possibilities of assessing public awareness of The Link.

Clarify the message for accuracy and avoid sensationalism.

Talking points and fact sheets for Link spokespersons.

Standardize messaging.

Promote positive Link examples rather than just “horror stories.”

Strategic Goals from 2012

2. Overcoming the fragmentation of systems by building networks.

- ✓ Reach out to elder abuse to gain their interest and involvement.
- ✓ Secure an interested and committed delegate from a national adult protection group to serve on the G-10.
- ✓ Emphasize cultural competency and diversity across all Link issues. Ensure that Link materials represent a diversity of ages (including elders) and ethnicities.

Identify and reach out to groups that conduct home visits where multiple forms of family violence might be observed, such as visiting nurses, home health aides, Prevent Child Abuse, and cable installers.

Identify and utilize conduits to communicate with relevant groups affected by The Link.

Strategic Goals from 2012

3. Providing education and training for professionals.

Create an inventory of available Link programs and speakers.

Expand the speakers' bureau of Link experts through train-the-trainer programs and quality control over messaging and presentations.

Demonstrate the viability of animal-based careers in social work to help encourage schools of social work to include animal issues in their curricula.

4. Supporting the development of effective prevention, assessment, intervention, and prosecution programs.

Define what the National Link Coalition means as “best practices” and identify and promote them.

Collect and share with the field an inventory of Link forms utilized by agencies for intakes, assessments, cross-reporting, and other interagency programs.

Strategic Goals from 2012

5. Engaging academics to conduct research and data collection.

Conduct mapping to identify gaps in the knowledge base of research in various disciplines.

Encourage research into the effectiveness of animal-assisted interventions with at-risk populations.

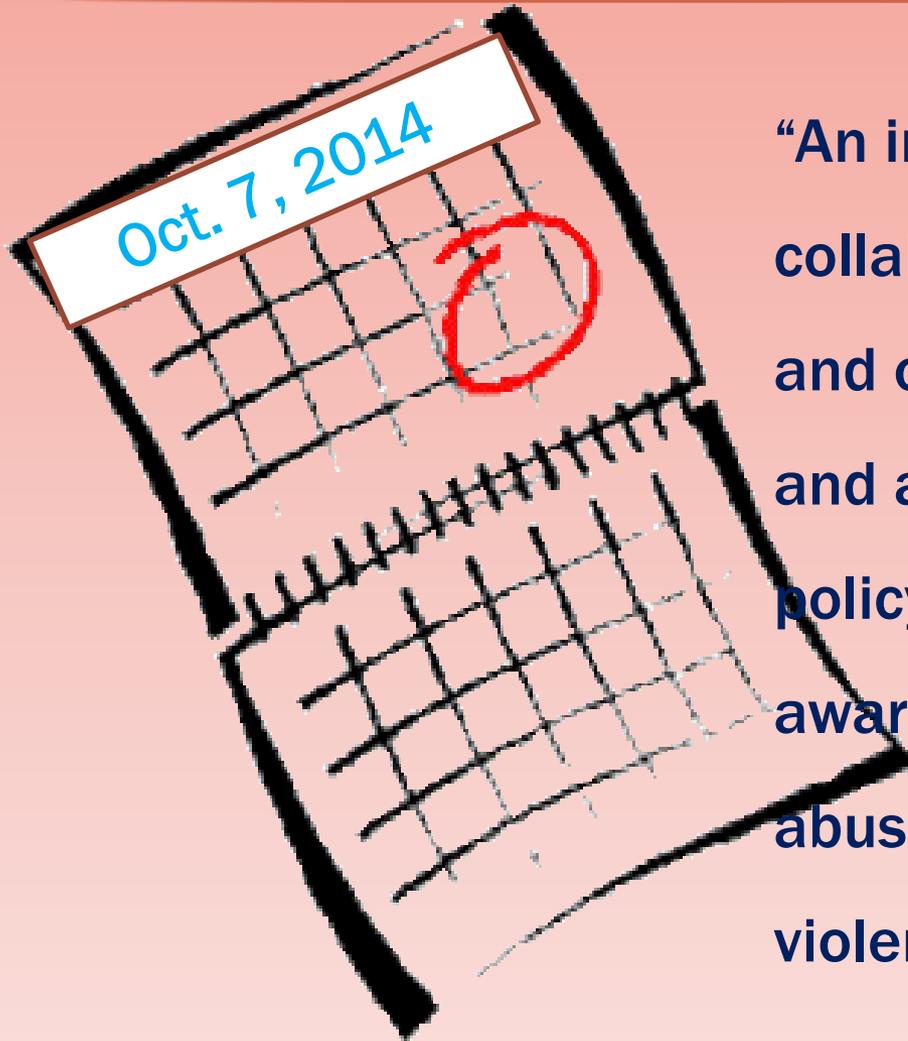
Promote avenues for open-source public access to scholarly research.

Create annotated bibliographies with one-paragraph summaries of key Link literature.

Encourage research into the Link between animal abuse and elder abuse.

Make Link research more useful, and help bridge the gaps between academics and practitioners, by supporting practice-informed research and research-informed practice.

So where are we today?



“An informal, multidisciplinary, collaborative network of individuals and organizations in human services and animal welfare addressing public policy, research, programming and awareness at the areas where animal abuse, child maltreatment, domestic violence, and elder abuse intersect.”

Accomplishments 2012 – 2014: Organizational

1. Monthly G-10 conference calls (Expanded to 18)

Phil Arkow

ASPCA; Latham Foundation, Stratford, N.J.

Lesley Ashworth

American Veterinary Charitable Fund; Ohio DV Network, Worthington, Ohio

Diane Balkin, J.D.

Animal Legal Defense Fund, Denver, Colo.

Barbara W. Boat, Ph.D.

Univ. of Cincinnati College of Medicine; Cincinnati Children's Hospital, Ohio

Maya Gupta, Ph.D.

Animals & Society Institute, Atlanta, Ga.

Jane A. Hunt

Larimer County Health Dept., Ft. Collins, Colo.

Mark Kumpf, CAWA

Montgomery Co. Animal Resource Center, Dayton, Ohio

Randall Lockwood, Ph.D.

Forensic Sciences and Anti-Cruelty Projects, ASPCA, Falls Church, Va.

Anna Melbin, MSW, MPP

Full Frame Initiative; Catalyst Consulting & Training, Yarmouth, Maine

Paul Needham

Nat'l Adult Protective Services Assn., OK DHS, Normal, Okla.

Maria Luisa O'Neill

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Denver, Colo.

Emily Patterson-Kane, Ph.D.

American Veterinary Medical Association, Schaumburg, Ill.

Allie Phillips, J.D.

National District Attorneys Association, Alexandria, Va.

Chris Risley-Curtiss, MSSW, Ph.D.

School of Social Work, Arizona State University, Phoenix, AZ

Michele Robinson

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, Reno, Nev.

Barbara Shaffer, MSW, LCSW

Prevent Child Abuse America, Breckenridge, Colo.

Hugh Tebault III

Latham Foundation, Alameda, Calif.

John Thompson

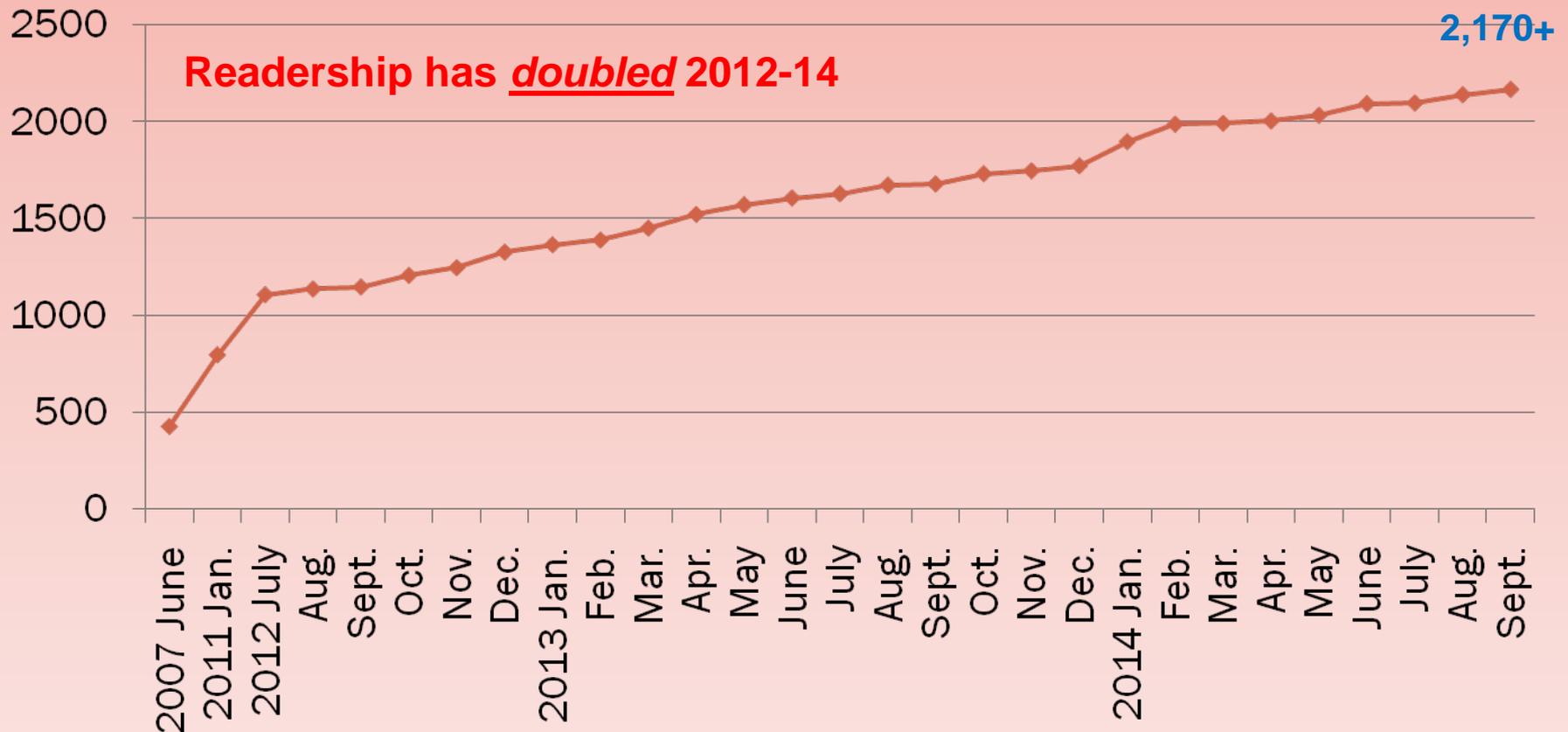
National Sheriffs Association, Alexandria, Va.

Accomplishments 2012 – 2014: Organizational

2. The LINK-Letter (Originated as AHA e-mail April 2007 – Oct. 2010;

Published by NLC Jan. 2011 → present; 45 issues

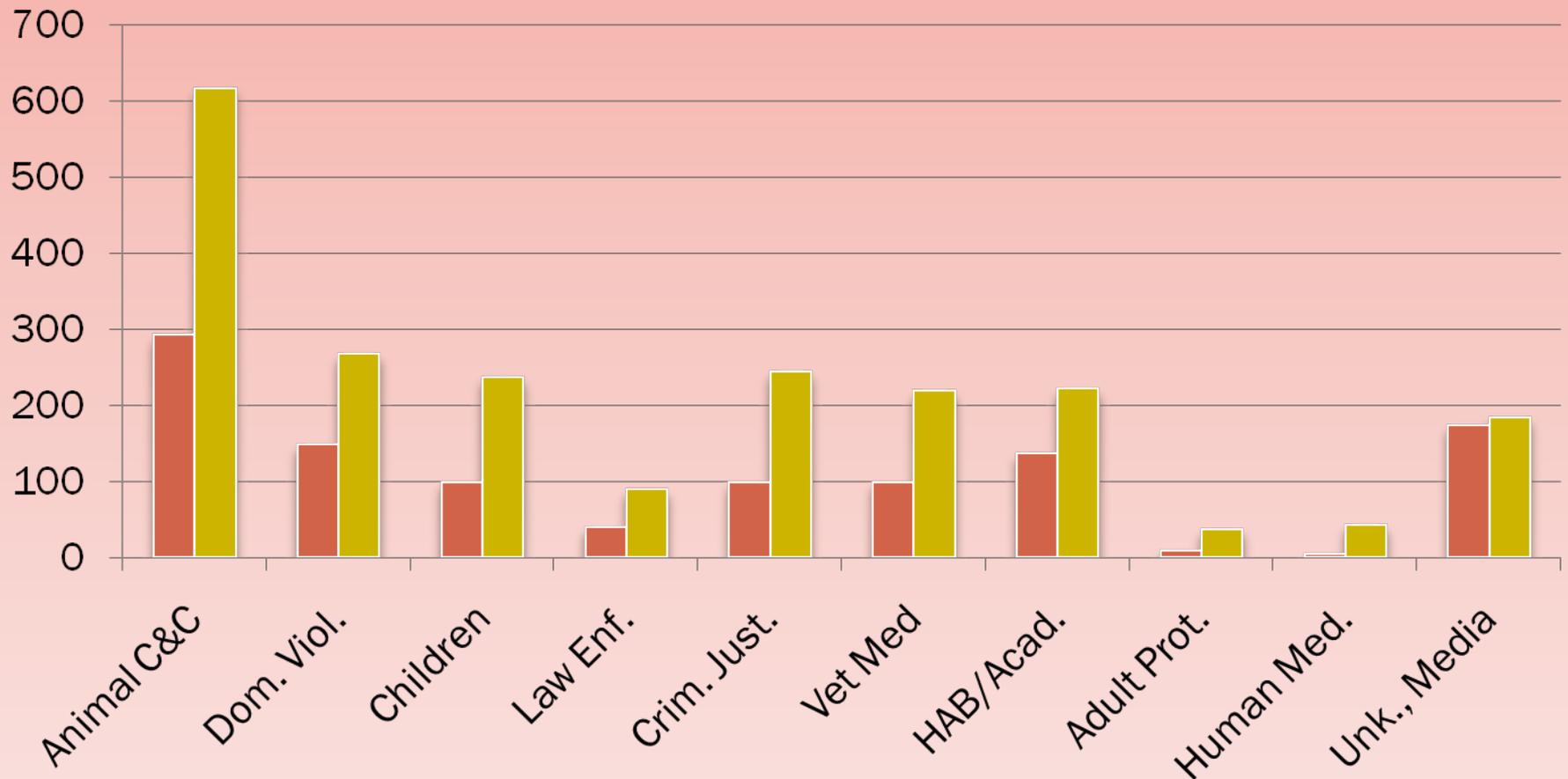
LINK-Letter Circulation



Accomplishments 2012 - 2014: Organizational

2. The LINK-Letter: Readership segmentation (absolute #s)

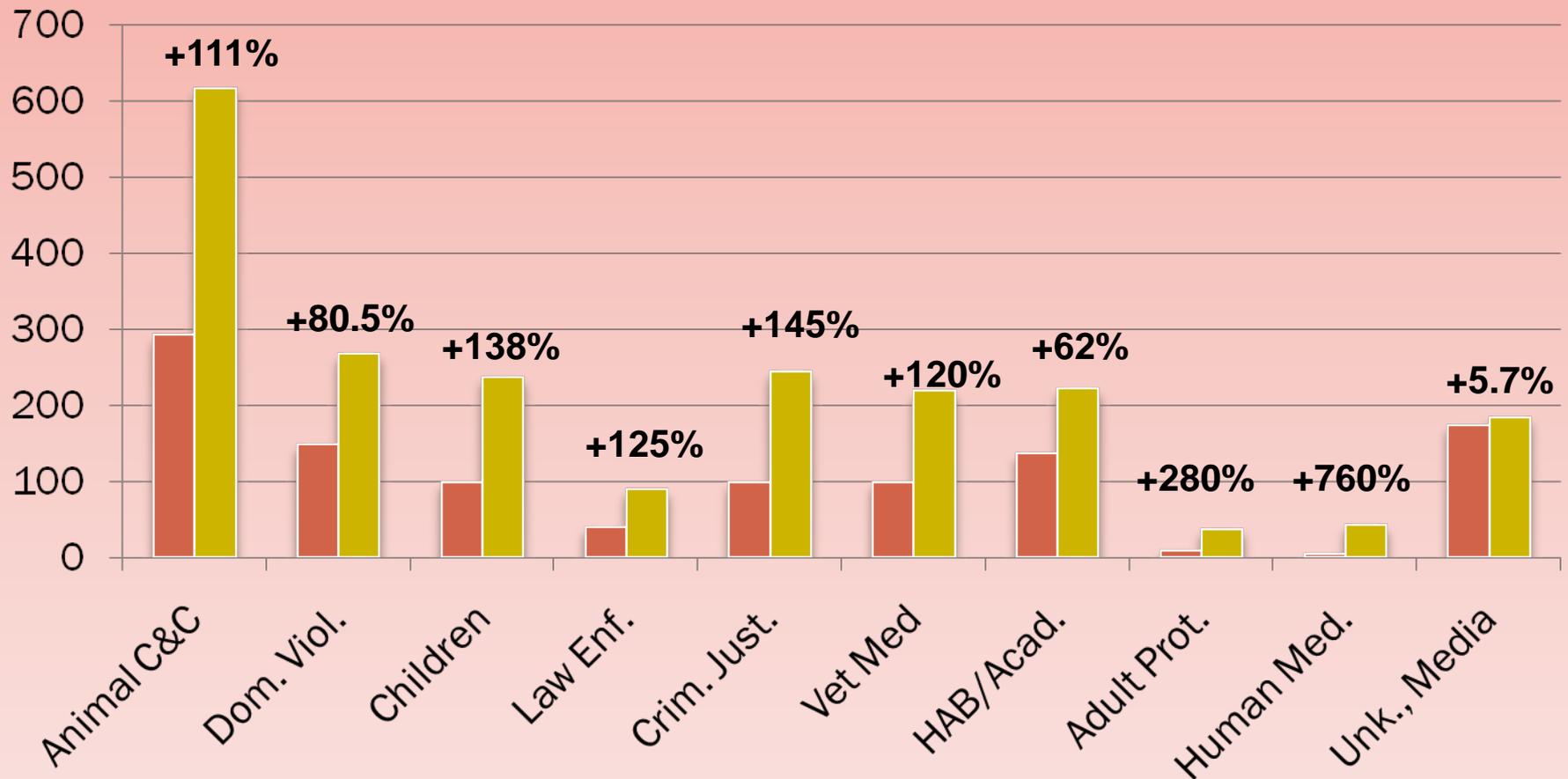
2012 2014



Accomplishments 2012 - 2014: Organizational

2. The LINK-Letter: Readership segmentation (relative growth)

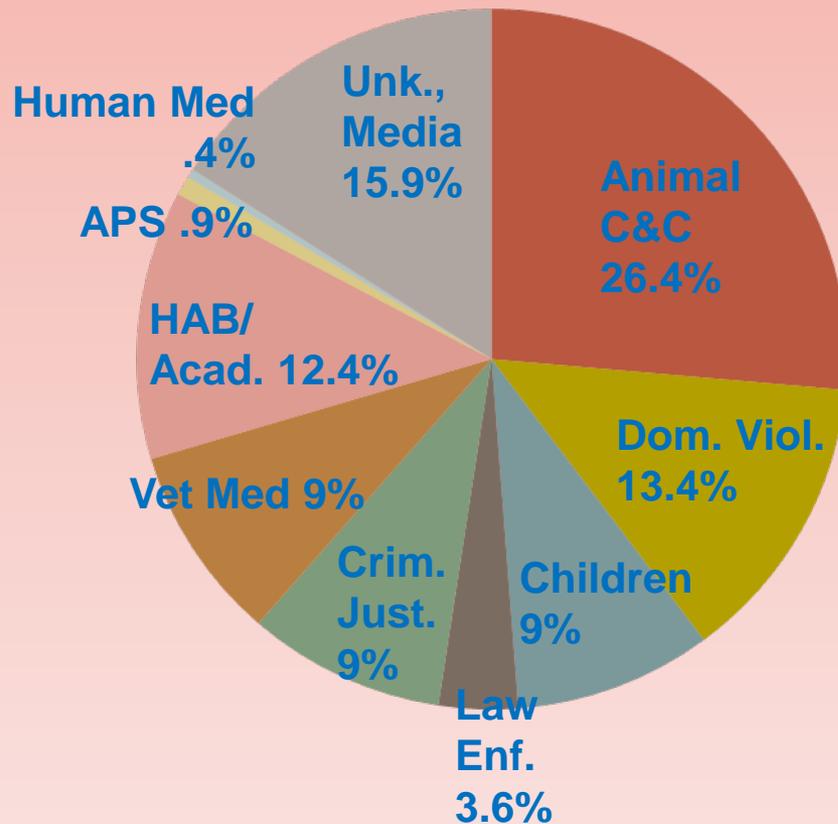
2012 2014



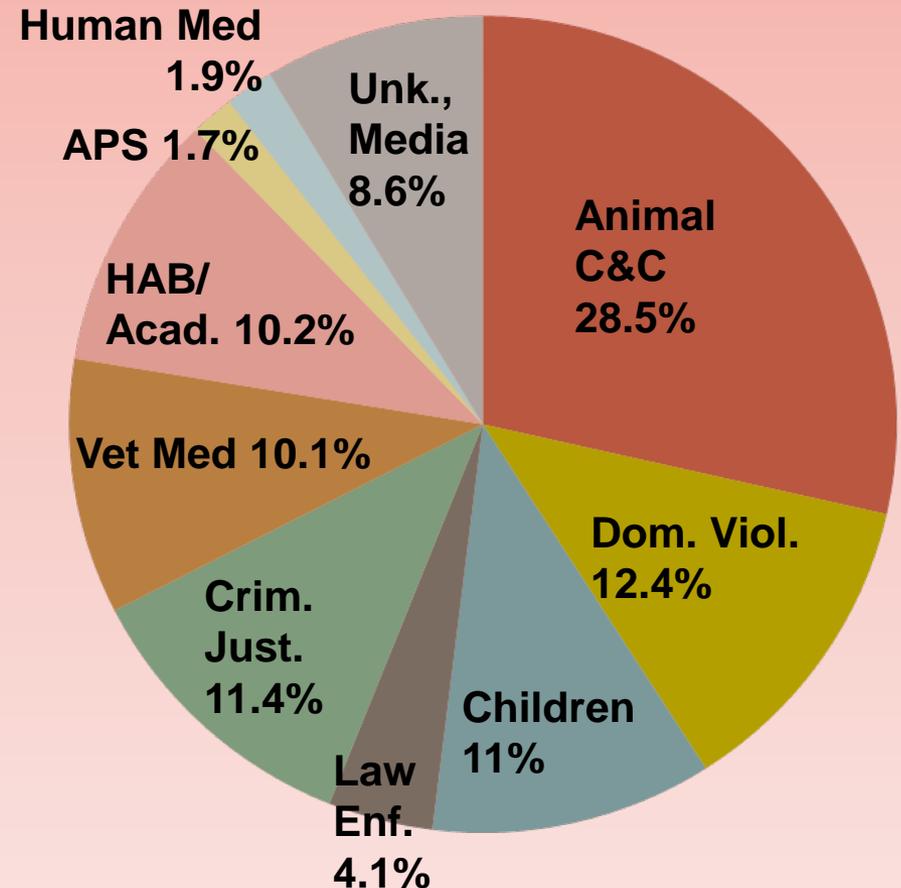
Accomplishments 2012 – 2014: Organizational

2. The LINK-Letter: Readership segmentation (relative #s)

Readership by % -- 2012



Readership by % -- 2014



Accomplishments 2012 - 2014: Organizational

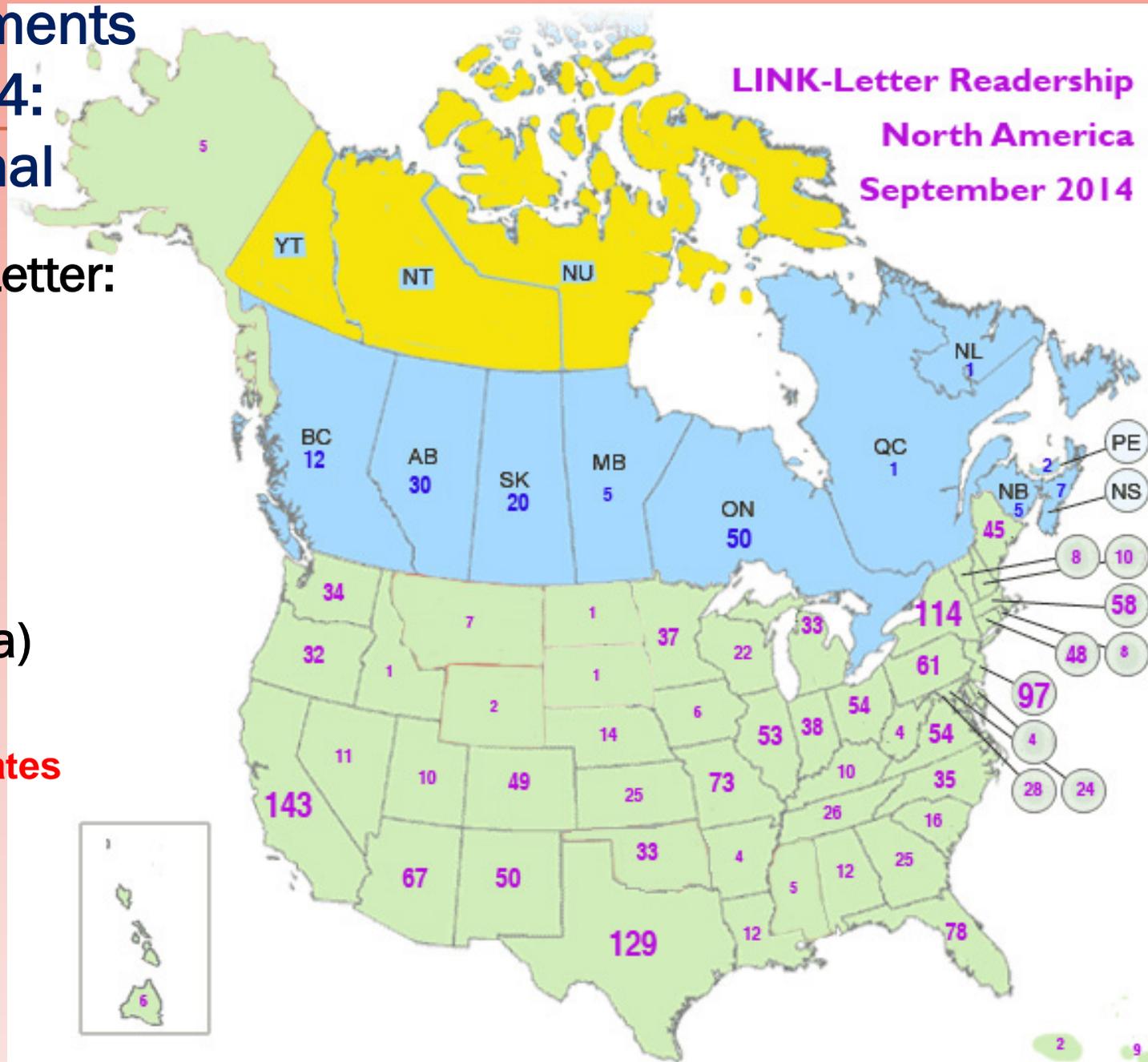
2. The LINK-Letter:

Readership
distribution

(North America)

2012: In 47 states

2014: In all 50 states



Accomplishments 2010 – 2012: Organizational

2. The LINK-Letter:

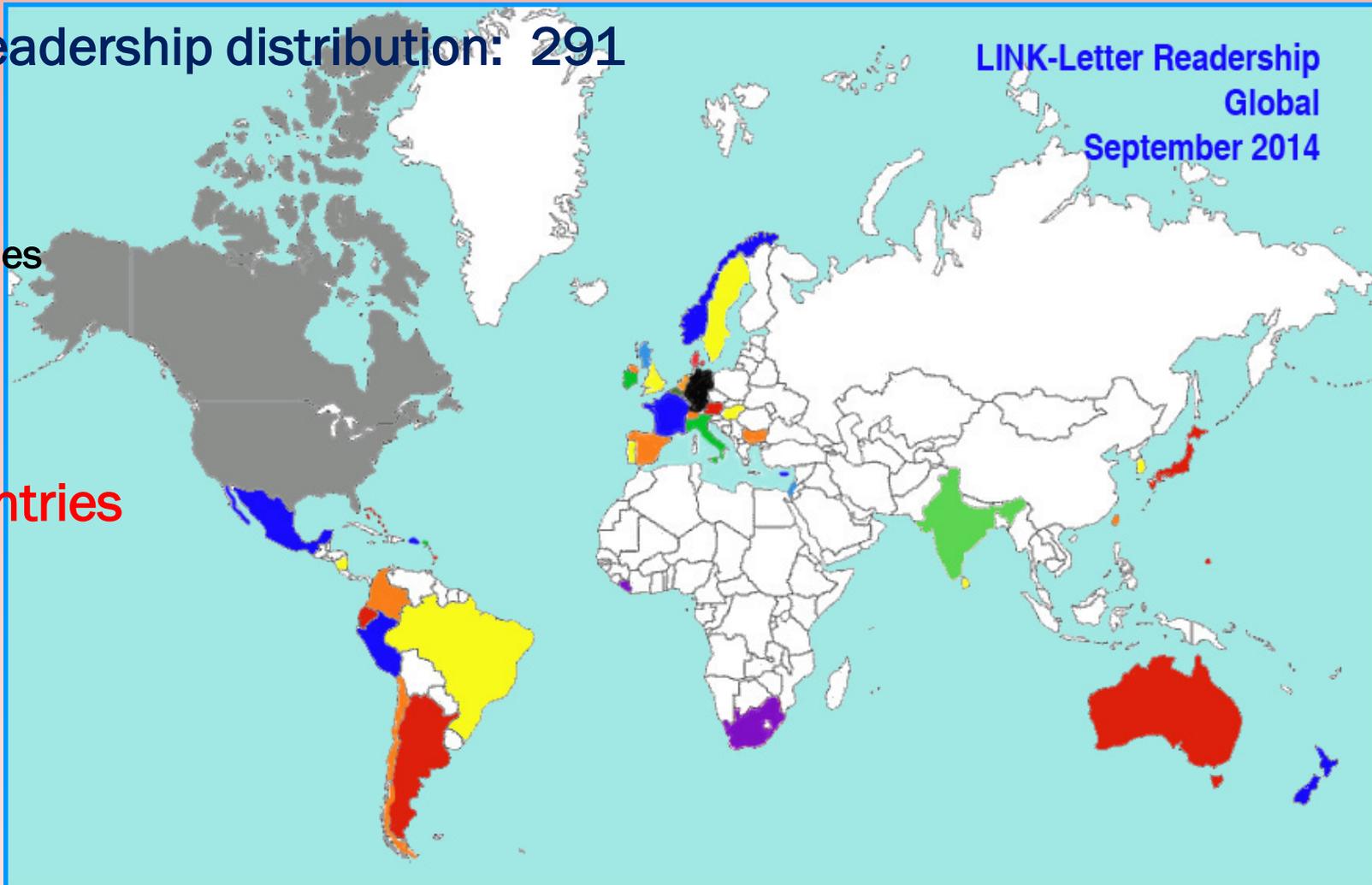
Global readership distribution: 291

2012:

25 countries

2014:

40 countries



Accomplishments 2012 – 2014: Organizational

3. Website: nationallinkcoalition.org

National Resource Center on The Link between Animal Abuse and Human Violence

Statistics June 1 – Sept. 1, 2014

- # of visits: 2,556
- # of unique visitors: 2,089
- # of pages viewed: 4,748
- Average time spent on site: 1:48
- % of new visitors: 81.3%
- Origin of visitors: 66% U.S.; Searches in 56 languages
- How they found us:
 - **Direct search** (“national link coalition”, “children who abuse animals”, “animal abuse linked to domestic violence”, “how to start a coalition”, etc.): 1,404 (55%)
 - **Landed** on specific internal page: 667 (26%)
 - **Referral** from other website (ASPCA, AHA, NDAA, NCALL, etc.): 400 (15%)
 - **Social media** (Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter): 73 (2.8%)

Accomplishments 2012 – 2014: Organizational

3. Website: nationallinkcoalition.org

New development: Increase in foreign-language translations of Link materials



Spanish



Dutch



Portuguese



French



Swedish



Bulgarian

Accomplishments 2012 – 2014: Organizational

3. Website: nationallinkcoalition.org

New Resources Include:

- **Audio/video podcasts**
- **Link Fact Sheet for Law Enforcement**
- **Policy briefing for social workers**

Accomplishments 2012 – 2014: Organizational

4. Public awareness

Facebook/LinkedIn

- Limited usage
- Infrequent updates

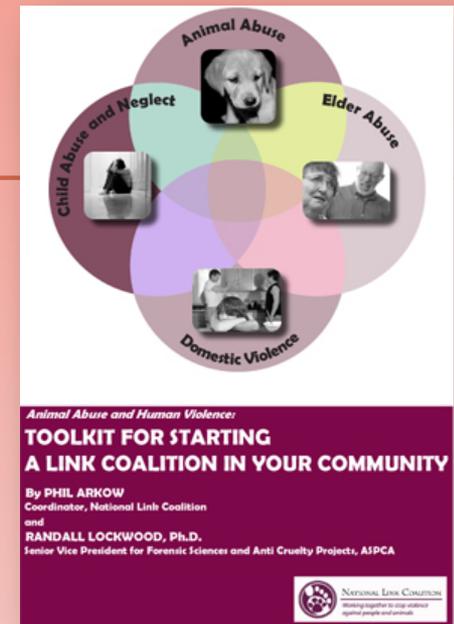


Accomplishments 2012 – 2014:

5. Coalition Building

Ongoing issues: sustainability, capacity-building

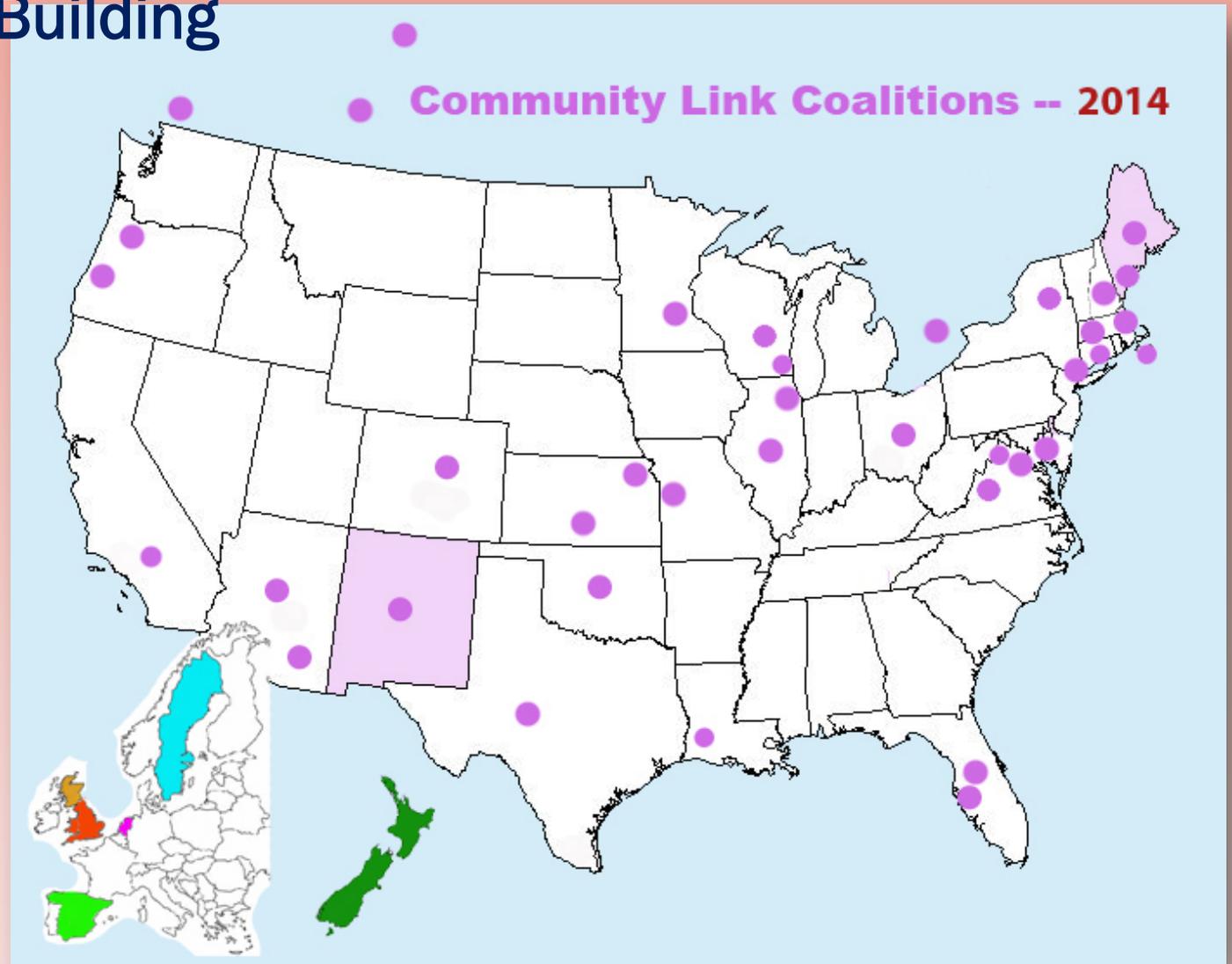
- Inactive: New Hampshire, Manasota, San Antonio, Leavenworth, Denver CACP, Bloomfield CT
- NEW COALITIONS: Oklahoma, Connecticut, Milwaukee
- No consistent model:
 - Wichita – Police Dept.
 - Oklahoma City: APS
 - Denver, Phoenix: SSW
 - Connecticut: DCF
 - Klamath Falls: Child protection
 - Berkshire, Ottawa: DVM
 - San Bernardino, Milwaukee, Hillsboro Co. OR: Prosecutors
 - Kansas City: National animal welfare with foundation \$\$
 - Edmonton: SPCA
 - Kitchener/Waterloo: DV
- Growth area: Animal cruelty task forces



**Viewers of Toolkit
web page
6/1-9/1/2014:
61**

Accomplishments 2012 - 2014:

5. Coalition Building



Accomplishments 2012 – 2014:

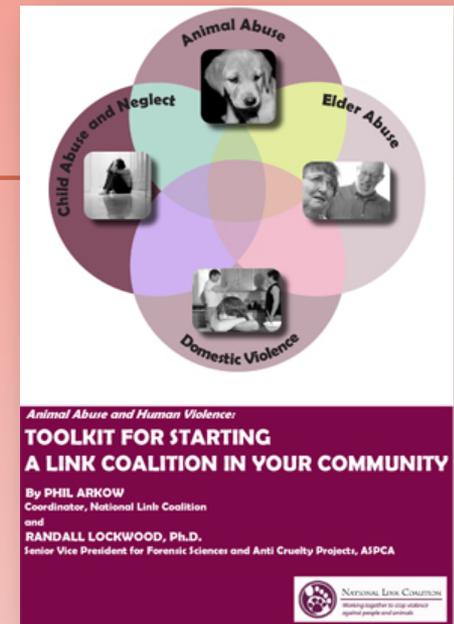
5. Coalition Building

New Coalitions Formed

- Essex County, NY – Animal cruelty task force
- Milwaukee – Spotabuse.org campaign
- Loudoun Co., Va. – S.A.V.E.
- Oklahoma City – Link coalition
- San Bernardino – Animal Cruelty Task Force
- York County, ME – Launched Linkage Project
- Kitchener-Waterloo, Ont. – Human-Animal Vulnerability Coalition

Other Developments

- Albuquerque – Revitalized conference
- Chicago – SNAAP became Safe Haven Network
- Denver – Colo. Link Project offered web resources
- Phoenix – Humane Link expanded A.P.A.C.T
- Washington Co., OR – Won award as best regional community collaboration
- Washington DC – Offered pet crisis line training
- Edmonton, Alta. – Hired part-time coordinator



Accomplishments 2012 - 2014:

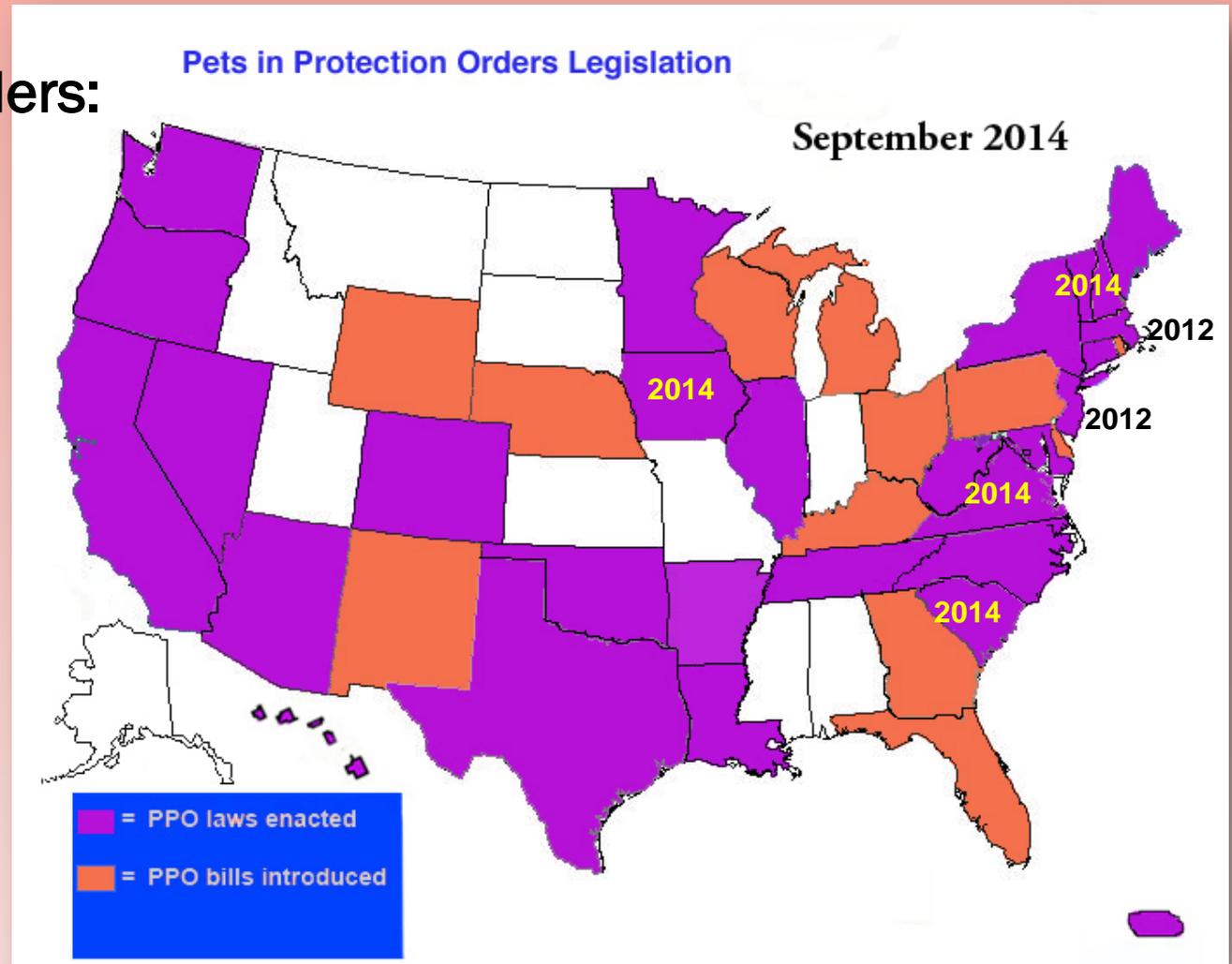
6. Legislation

Pet Protection Orders:

27 states

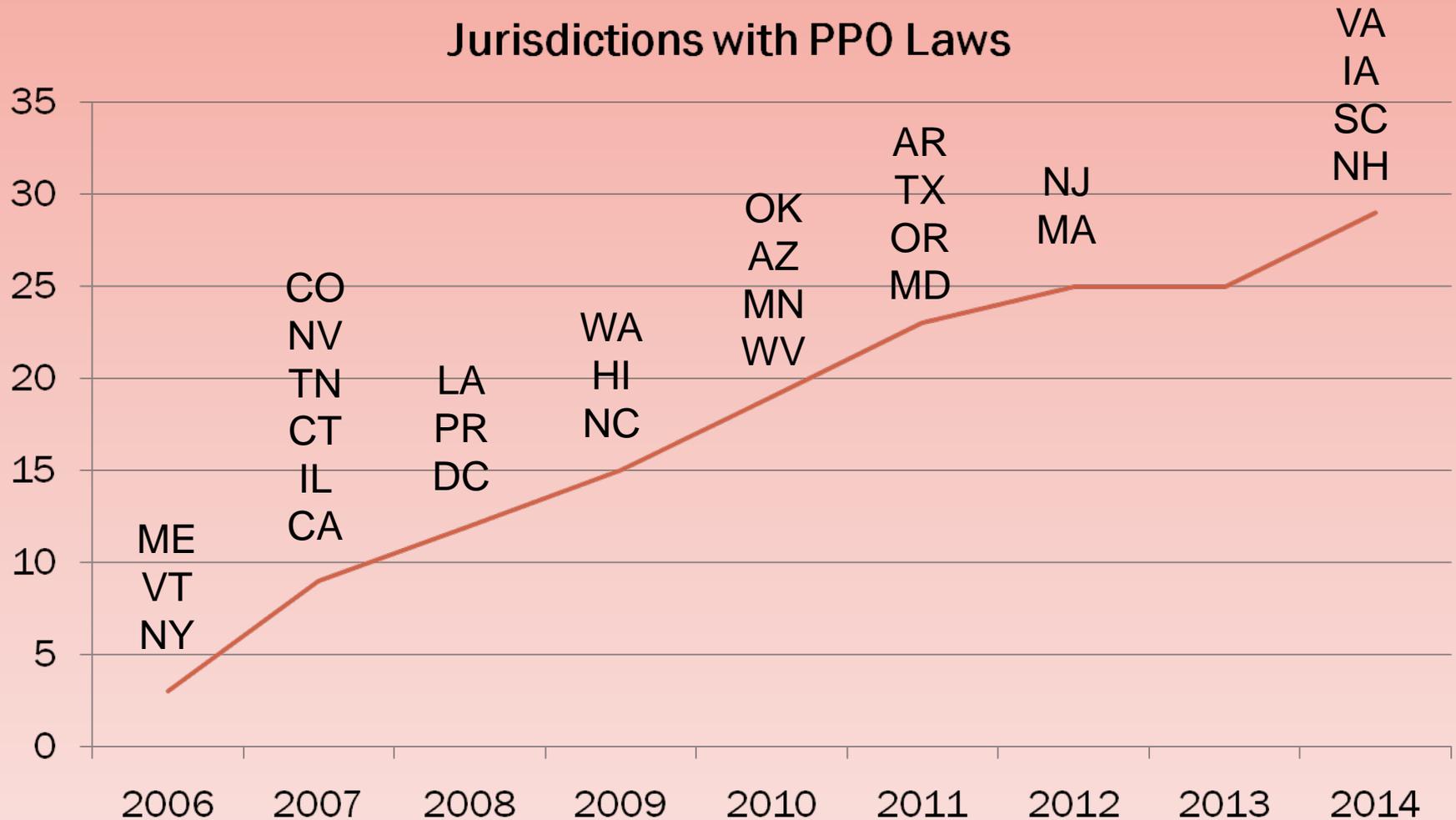
DC

Puerto Rico



Accomplishments 2012 - 2014:

6. PPO Chronology



Accomplishments 2012 – 2014:

6. PPO Pending Legislation

FEDERAL: H.R. 5267, The PAWS Act (Pets And Women's Safety)

- Expands federal DV protection to include pets
- Prohibits interstate stalking or harm to DV pets
- Provides federal \$\$ for housing of DV pets
- Adds veterinary care to survivors' recoverable costs
- Expresses will of Congress that states should consider PPOs

NLC has endorsed

STATE BILLS PENDING

- Michigan: HB 5658, SB 285
- NJ: AB 494
- Ohio: HB 243, SB 177



Rep. Katherine Clark
D-Mass., 5th Dist.:
(W. suburbs of Boston)



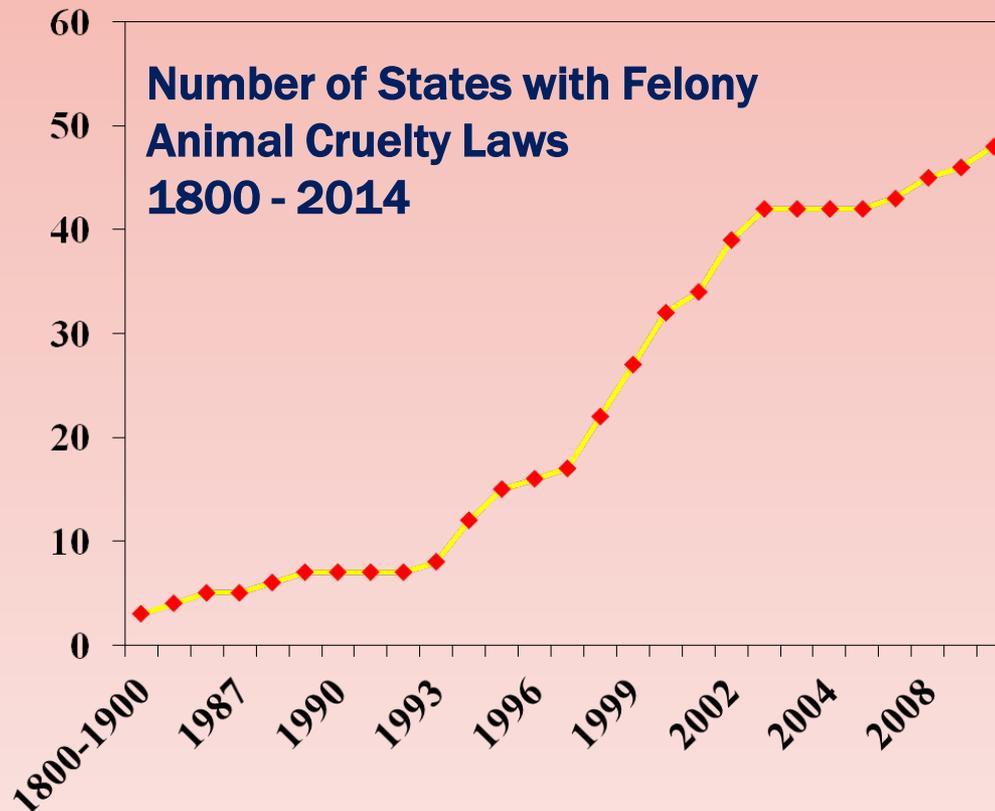
Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen
(R-Fla., 27th Dist.:
(Miami))

Accomplishments 2012 – 2014: Legislation

Felony Cruelty to Animals

- All 50 states now have felony-level punishments (N. Dakota, S. Dakota*)

* Link cited as rationale



Accomplishments 2012 – 2014: Legislation

Federal

- Felony to attend or bring child to animal fight

Cross-Reporting

- DVMs mandated to report animal abuse (AL, KS, MA, WA, ND)
- DCF may report animal abuse w/o confidentiality/liability issues (MA)
- DVM reporting of child abuse: provisions amended (CA)
- ACO mandated reporting of child abuse: 72 → 24 hrs (VA)
 - VA ACOs get standardized training incl. 4 hrs on recognizing child abuse
- (Still only 3 full 2-way cross-reporting: Connecticut, Illinois, W. VA)

Accomplishments 2012 – 2014: Legislation

Significant Court Rulings

- OR: Animals can be considered “victims”

Other New Statutes

- Animal fighting = racketeering (IL, MI)
- Increased penalty for animal abuse in presence of child (OR)
- Courtroom dogs allowed for disabled (FL)
- PPOs added for temporary, as well as permanent, PFAs (ME)
- AAT training for DCF and mental health (CT)

Key Failed Efforts

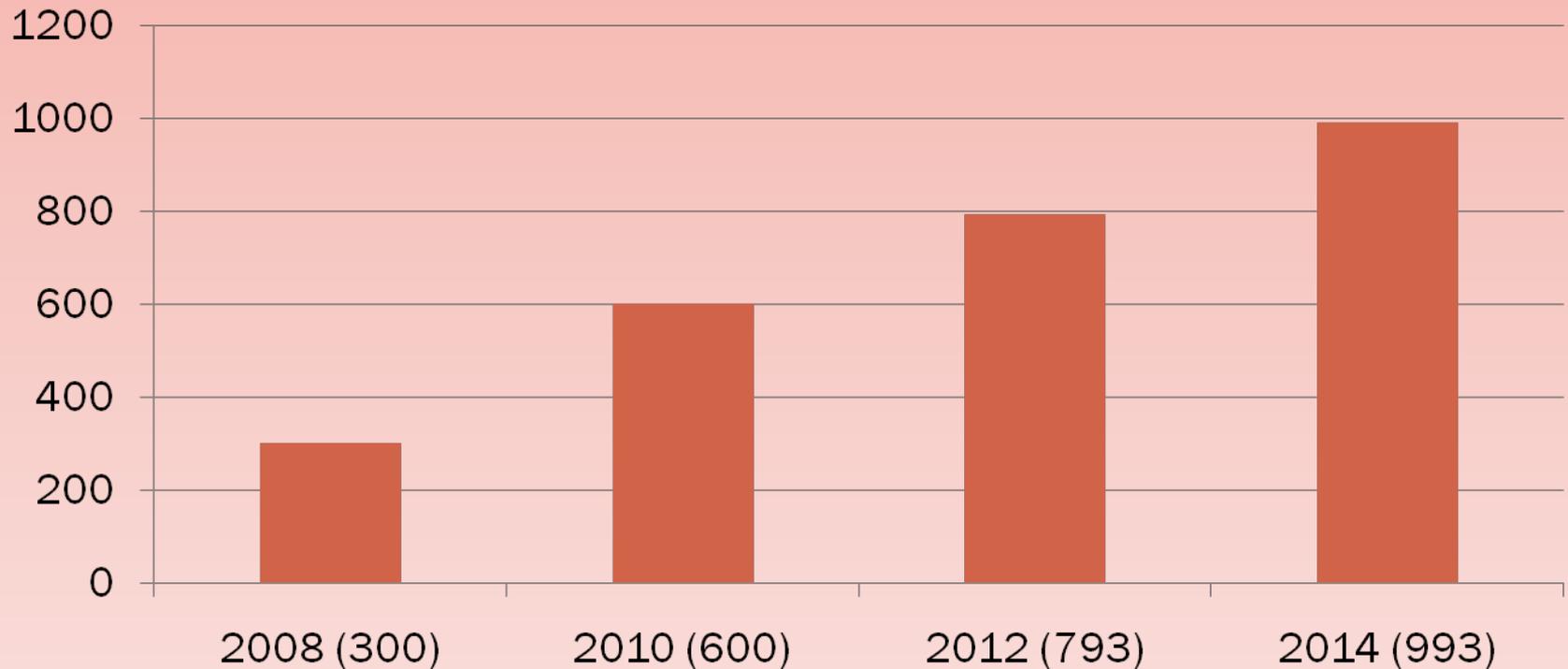
- Cross reporting (Link cited as rationale) – AL
- Intimidating animal abuse = domestic violence (NM)
- CASA for animals (CT)

Accomplishments 2012 - 2014:

7. Research

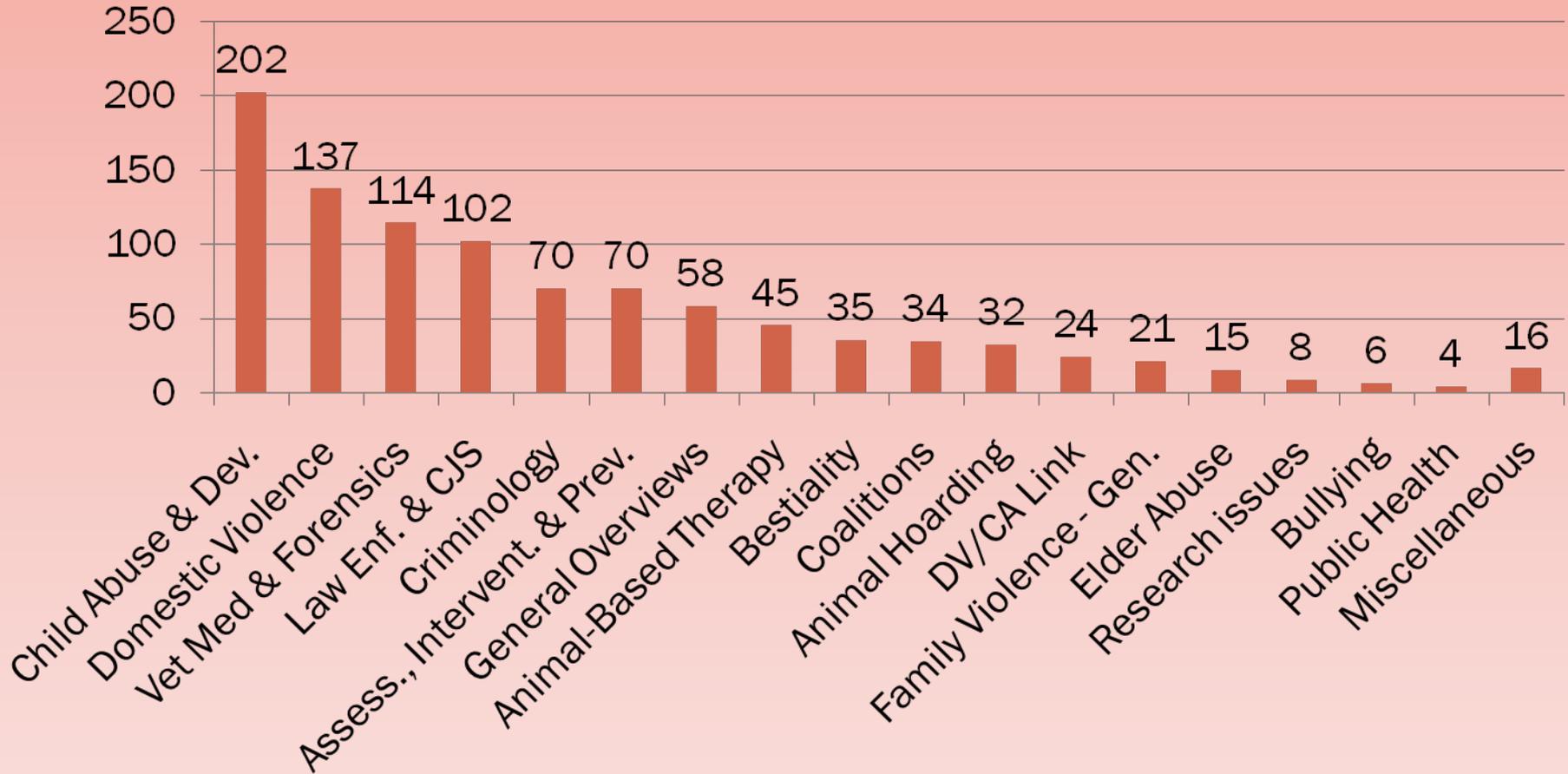
Link bibliography: www.animaltherapy.net

Number of Citations



Accomplishments 2012 – 2014: Research

Primary Field of Research



Total No. of References: 993

Accomplishments 2012 – 2014:

Research

Domestic Violence

Prevalence of animal abuse among batterers (4)
Roles of pets in DV households
Guide for TX legislators on Link
Survey of 150 DV pet programs
Intergenerational cycle of DV/AA violence
Animal abuse as “emotional blackmail”
Survey of Alberta programs
1st study of Dutch DV Link
The DV Link in Brazil
The DV Link in Spain
Latin American shelters’ engagement in The Link
Lack of Link awareness in Italy

Children

Expanding child welfare practice to include animals
Barriers to adolescents’ stopping animal abuse
Spanking linked to animal abuse
Social workers & therapy dogs with abused British children
Psychologists’ lack of attention to children’s animal cruelty
Impact of community cross-reporting
Impact of animal abuse on children
Animal cruelty as a market for child’s physical abuse

Animals

Impact of geography & demographics on animal cruelty
Identifying early stages of animal hoarding
Social workers’ attachments to pets
NASW article on Veterinary Social Work
Radiographic evidence of NAI
Animal abuse & human crimes Links in Brazil
Link as rationale for British animal abuser registry
Animal hoarders in Australia

Public Health & Safety

Animal abuse histories in
21% of fatal dog attacks
Animal abuse histories in
43% of school shooters
Animal abuse as signal crime for
juvenile justice officers
A “One Health” look at animal abuse
& domestic violence
Animal abuse as a public health concern
Animal abuse’s impact on social capital
& community health

Accomplishments 2012 - 2014:

8. Training



Accomplishments 2012 – 2014:

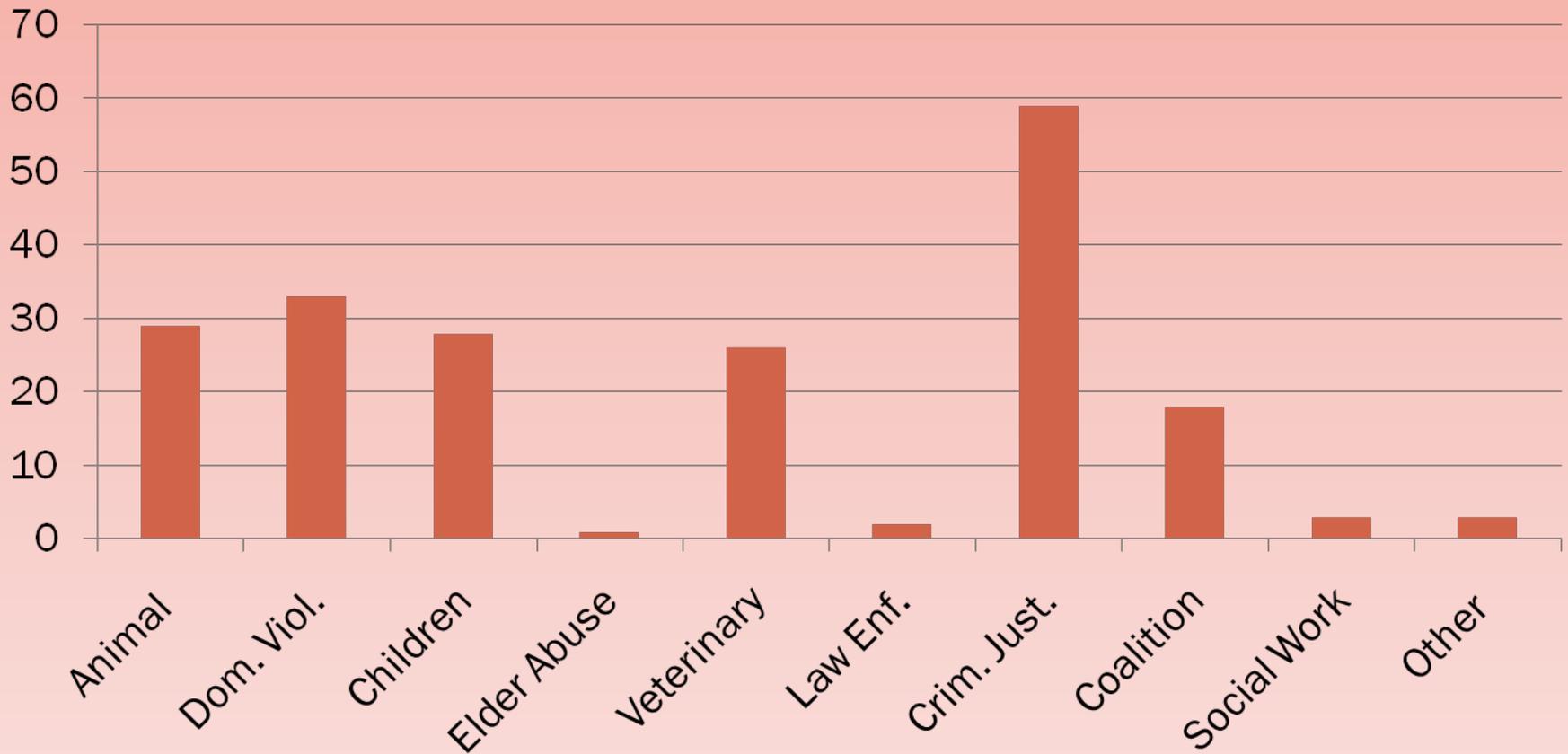
8. Training



Accomplishments 2012 – 2014:

8. Training

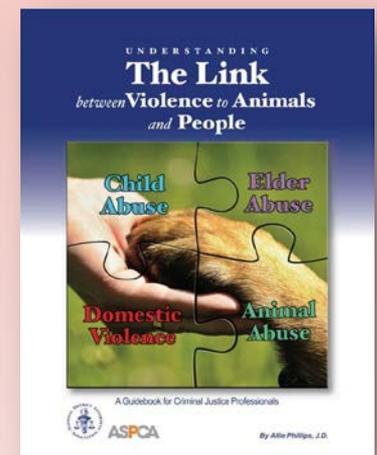
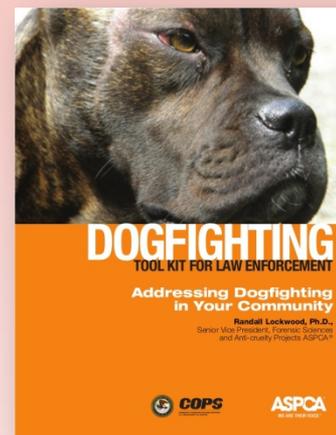
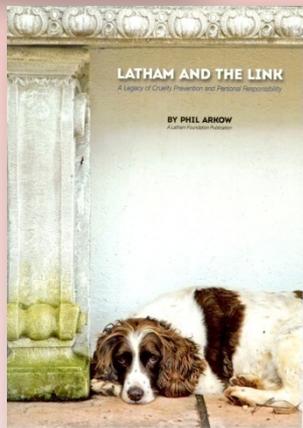
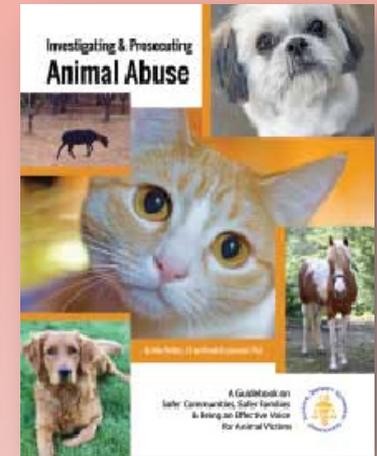
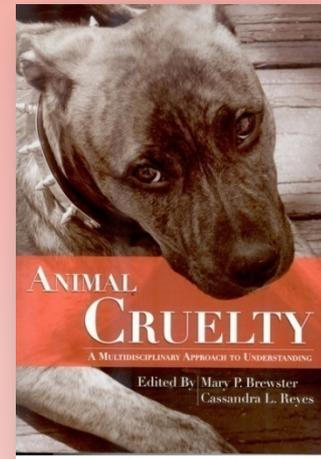
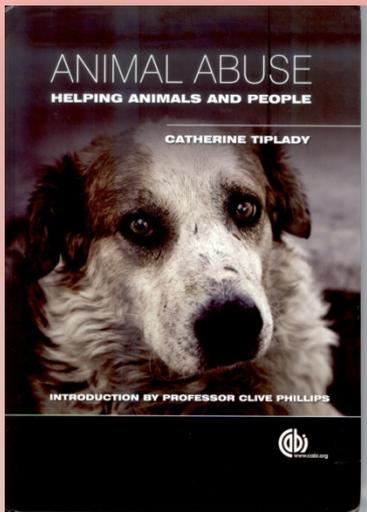
Link Trainings By Discipline



Accomplishments 2012 - 2014:

9. Increased Public & Professional Awareness

Major Link Publications 2012 - 2014



Accomplishments 2012 – 2014:

9. Increased Public & Professional Awareness

- **ALDF: Created Link resources**
- **Veterinary Social Work: 10 Link workshops at conference**
- **NAPSA: Link in assessment briefs**
- **NOVA: Webinars for military victim advocates**
- **Connecticut 6-part radio series**
- **Link as rationale in Uvalde, TX humane education curriculum**
- **Link incorporated in WSPA university curriculum**

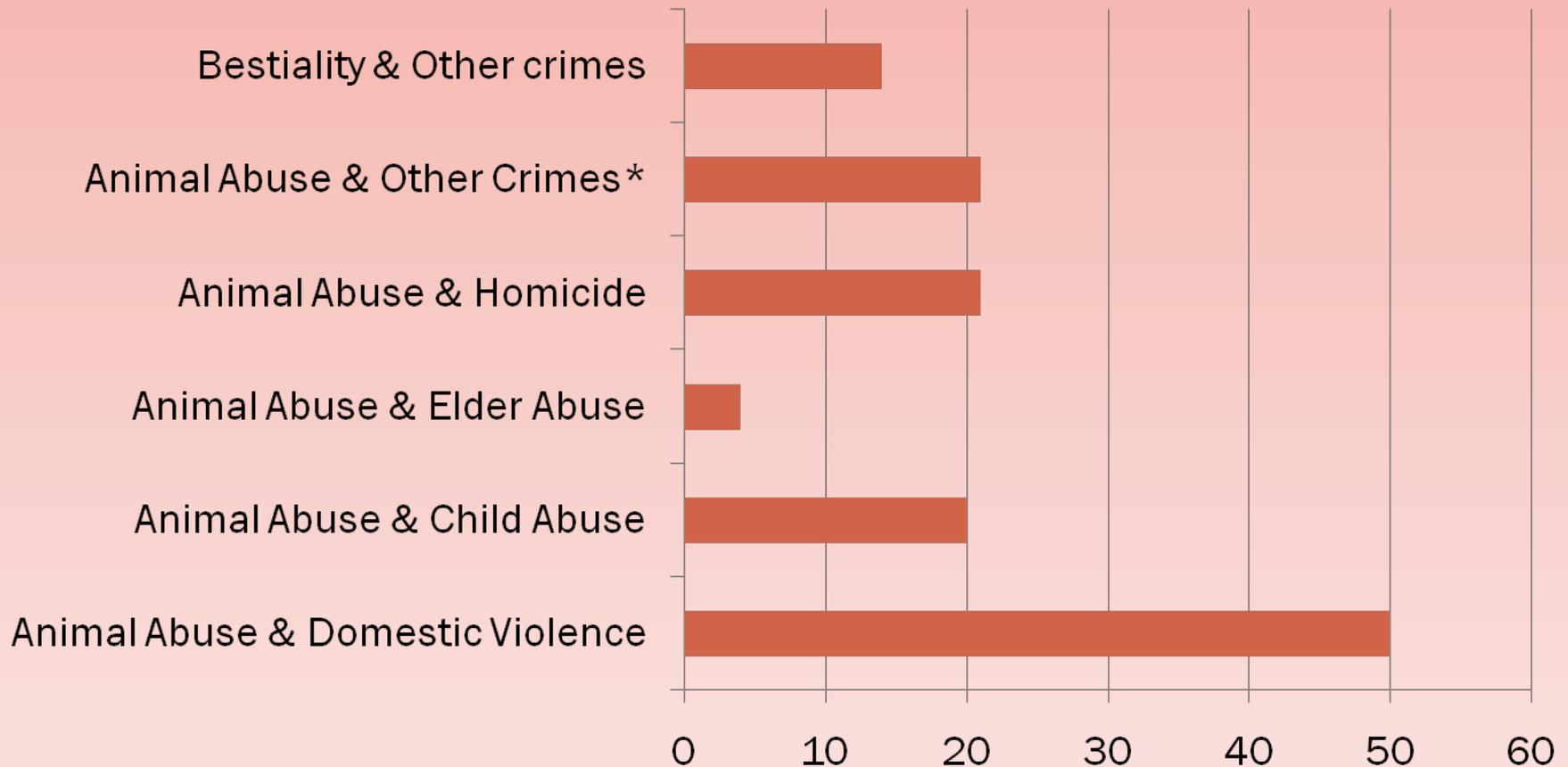
Accomplishments 2012 - 2014:

9. Increased Public & Professional Awareness

of News Media

Link Cases Followed: 130

of articles



2012 – 2014: Signs of significant Progress

Veterinary Medicine

National Veterinary Associations

- AVMA: Recognized shelter medicine as specialty practice
- British Vet. Assn.: Endorsed reporting child, elder, domestic abuse too
- British Link Guidance published
- NZ Vet Association: Published 2 animal welfare toolkits

Local Programs

- Mississippi State CVM partnership with DV shelter
- TAMU vet students intern at Houston SPCA
- 50 Connecticut vets shelter DV pets

Veterinary Forensics

- IVFSA
- Link course in University of Florida curriculum



2012 – 2014: Signs of Significant Progress

Domestic Violence

- Online pet safehousing portals: RedRover, AWI, SAF-T, NCADV
- SAF-T
 - 86 pet-friendly shelters in U.S., Australia (*only 8 in 2008!*)
 - New programs: NYC, Kansas City, Tulsa, Orlando, Nassau Co. FL
 - 5 National SAF-T Days
- Grants for pet safehousing:
 - RedRover, Mary Kay Foundation, AKC
- Ohio DV survey confirmed animal abuse risk
- Minnesota published PPO statistics
- Link included in GA DV fatality reviews
- Protocol developed for service animals in WA shelters
- American Overseas DV Crisis Center: grants to ship pets to US
- 1st DV pet program in Spain
- Amsterdam spends €20,000 on DV pet shelter pilot project

2012 – 2014: Signs of Significant Progress

Law Enforcement/Criminal Justice

- **U.S. Department of Justice**
 - FBI approved proposal to add animal cruelty to NIBRS UCRs
 - Animal Cruelty Working Group created
 - “Listening session”
 - Animal cruelty blog
 - OJJDP child/animal abuse webinar
 - 4-year grant funded Ahimsa House victim advocate
- **National District Attorneys Association**
 - National Center for Prosecution of Animal Abuse: Link at NCPA conference
 - Monthly webinars
- **ASPCA**
 - Turned enforcement over to 34,000 NYPD

2012 – 2014: Signs of Significant Progress

Law Enforcement/Criminal Justice

- **Association of Prosecuting Attorneys**
 - Position paper encouraging prosecutors to give animal cruelty cases greater priority
- **National Sheriffs Association**
 - Dedicated magazine to Link
 - Launched National Council on Violence Against Animals
 - Launched National Law Enforcement Center on Animal Abuse
- **Police/prosecutors Animal Cruelty Task Forces**
 - Albany - Dallas - St. Louis - San Bernardino - Syracuse - Arapahoe Co., Colo. - Cobb Co., GA – Manatee/Sarasota Cos., FL – Nassau Co., NY
- Link as rationale in NH law enforcement training manual
- Kobe, Japan: Police start animal abuse hotline

2012 – 2014

Changing Paradigms

“Measures to prevent, prosecute and punish animal cruelty are just as beneficial to Man as they are to Man’s Best Friend.”



*-- Abigail Perdue
Wake Forest Univ. School of Law*

Two Years of Significant Progress: Biennial Report 2012 - 2014



NATIONAL LINK COALITION

*Working together to stop violence
against people and animals*

