The fundamental goal of a Socially Conscious Community is to create best outcomes for all animals. The responsibilities of Socially Conscious Shelters include:

- Ensuring every unwanted or homeless pet has a safe place to go for shelter and care
- Placing every healthy and safe animal
- Assessing the medical and behavioral needs of homeless animals and ensuring these needs are thoughtfully addressed
- Alleviating suffering and making appropriate euthanasia decisions
- Aligning policy with the needs of the community
- Enhancing the human-animal bond through thoughtful placements and post adoption support
- Considering the health and wellness of each animal and each community when transferring animals between communities
- Fostering a culture of transparency, ethical decision making, mutual respect, continual learning and collaboration