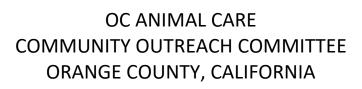


### **AGENDA**





Wednesday, October 23, 2024, at 11:30 a.m.

OC Animal Care
Learning & Training Center, First Floor
1630 Victory Road
Tustin, CA 92782

### Kim Kane Chair Third District

**Dr. Leslie Malo**Vice Chair
First District

Vasila Ahmad
Committee Member
Second District

Danielle Thomas
Committee Member
Fourth District

Elizabeth Cowan
Committee Member
Fifth District

The Orange County Animal Care Community Outreach Committee welcomes you to this meeting. This agenda contains a brief general description of each item to be considered. The Committee encourages your participation. If you wish to speak on an actionable item contained in the agenda, please complete a Speaker Form identifying the items(s) and return the form to the Clerk of the Committee prior to the Item you wish to speak on being called. If you wish to speak on a matter which does not appear on the agenda, you may do so during the Public Comment period. Except as otherwise provided by law, no action shall be taken on any item not appearing on the agenda. When addressing the Committee, please state your name, or a pseudonym if you do not wish to give your name, prior to providing your comments.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodation for this meeting must notify OC Animal Care at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at (714) 796-0212 or COCcomments@occr.ocgov.com.

All supporting documentation is available for public review at OC Animal Care 1630 Victory Road, Tustin, CA 92782 during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday www.ocpetinfo.com/get-involved/community-outreach-committee

### **AGENDA**



## ANIMAL CARE COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA



Wednesday, October 23, at 11:30 a.m.

Learning & Training Center, First Floor
OC Animal Care
1630 Victory Road
Tustin, CA 92782

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call of Members

Kim Kane, Chair, 3<sup>rd</sup> District Dr. Leslie Malo, Vice Chair, 1<sup>st</sup> District Vasila Ahmad, Committee Member, 2<sup>nd</sup> District Danielle Thomas, Committee Member, 4<sup>th</sup> District Elizabeth Cowan, Committee Member, 5<sup>th</sup> District

#### III. Minutes

Regular Meeting, July 24, 2024

Recommended Action: Committee approve the minutes of the July 24, 2024, regular meeting.

#### IV. Regular Business

1. Public Education Program Report

This report summarizes the OC Animal Care Public Education Program, which includes Community Outreach, Public Awareness, Shelter and Community Events and Program Updates.

Recommended Action: Committee receives and files the report.

#### 2. Foster Program Report

This report summarizes the third quarter for OC Animal Care's Foster Program.

Recommended Action: Committee receives and files the report.

#### **AGENDA**

#### 3. Volunteer Program Report

This report summarizes the third quarter activities for OC Animal Care's Volunteer Program.

Recommended Action: Committee receives and files the report.

#### 4. Adoption Partner Program Report

This report summarizes the OC Animal Care Rescue/Adoption Partner program. Through cooperative actions, the Adoption Partner program places injured and un-adoptable animals with organizations that specialize in their rehabilitation and placement. This report also reviews steps being taken to increase and improve adoptions and communication between OC Animal Care and Adoption Partners.

Recommended Action: Committee receives and files the report.

#### V. Director's Comments

#### VI. Public Comment

At this time, members of the public may address the Committee regarding any items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Committee provided that no action will be taken on any items not on the agenda, unless authorized by law. Comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes per person, unless different time limits are set by the Chairperson, subject to the approval of the Committee.

#### VII. Committee Comments

#### VIII. Adjournment

The next regular meeting will be January 22, 2025, at 11:30 a.m., in the Learning & Training Center Room 100 located at 1630 Victory Rd. Tustin CA 92782.



### **SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES**



### ANIMAL CARE COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Wednesday, July 24, 2024, 11:30 a.m. Learning & Training Center Room 100 OC Animal Care 1630 Victory Road, Tustin, CA 92782

I. Call to Order – The meeting of the OC Animal Care Community Outreach Committee called to order at 11:30 a.m. in the Learning and Training Room located at 1630 Victory Road, Tustin, CA 92782.

#### II. Roll Call of Members

- Kim Kane, Chair, 3rd District PRESENT
- Dr. Leslie Malo, Vice Chair,1st District PRESENT
- Vasila Ahmad, Committee Member, 2nd District PRESENT
- Danielle Thomas, Committee Member, 4th District NOT PRESENT
- Elizabeth Cowan, Committee Member, 5th District PRESENT

#### III. Public Comment

- Public Speaker Michael requested to speak before the meeting started. Speaker Michael M said he
  feels the meetings are not accessible and believes the meeting time should be changed and
  electronic comments accepted.
- Director Monica clarified that there is a general email that the community can email concerns, comments, complaints and the email is stated on the OCAC website.

#### IV. Minutes

- Approve the Summary of Minutes of the meeting held on April 24, 2024.
- Motion to approve minutes: Leslie Malo
- Motion was seconded: Elizabeth Cowan
- All in favor: Vote was unanimous.

#### V. Regular Business

#### 1. Public Education Program Report

- a) Public Information Officer Alexa Pratt shared a few safety tips through the Let's Paws informational campaigns from April to June such as importance of microchipping, Memorial Day safety tips in May, and pet safety tips due to the hot weather.
- b) Discussed the social media statistics for OCAC for this quarter.
  - OCAC Facebook added 235 new followers and 97 link clicks, which is an increase of 6.6% from last quarter.
  - OCAC Instagram added 774 new followers and content interactions have increased 17.8% from last quarter.

- c) Discussed OCAC Adoption Promotions that occurred from April to June which included extending to waive adoption fees for dogs that weighed 25 pounds and over and adopting 2 cats for the fee of 1 cat.
- d) Hosted an information booth on May 8, 2024, for National Disaster Awareness Day to spread awareness and provide information to pet owners on how to prepare themselves and their pets during a disaster.
- e) Hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> free microchip event for dogs and cats on May 18, 2024, that was sponsored by Nobel Friends Foundation and a total of 12 cats and 34 dogs were microchipped and registered.
- f) OCAC and over 150 shelters participated in the first California Adopt-A-Pet-Day on June 1, 2024, that was sponsored by ASPCA, SFSPCA, and Cal Animals where all adoption fees were waived and 85 cats/kittens, 37 dogs, 3 rabbits, and 1 guinea pig were adopted.
- g) OCAC launched its pilot program of the Foster-to-Adopt where it offers a unique opportunity for families to take select dogs home for up to two weeks, where they can get to know the dog, make the dog comfortable, at which point they can decide to keep and adopt the dog or bring the dog back to the shelter if the relationship is not meant to be.

#### **Committee Member Comments:**

- Vice Chair Malo asked what the percentage of pets that are being adopted out are being returned from the event. Director Schmidt informed that there is an increase of returns after large events and OCAC tracks where the animal was adopted from and the reason why they are returning the pet.
- Vice Chair Malo asked if there was a significant increase in adoptions if a third-party covered the adoptions fees? Director Monica advised there was an increase of adoptions and Cal Animals provided statistics of their state-wide advertisement budget as well as that over 40% of surveyed adopters from various shelters across the state shared it was their first time adopting from a shelter. Cal Animals states the virtual advertisement was able to reach a wide range of people.
- Committee Member Ahmad asked if the Foster-To-Adopt program was OCAC first ever foster program OCAC had. Director Schmidt advised that there is a regular foster program but what makes Foster-To-Adopt program unique is the intention of the fosters wanting to adopt their foster dogs and made it clear this program is not to rival the traditional foster program but to provide an alternate option to potential adopters.
- Committee Member Ahmad asked what the statistics have been this past month for the Foster-To-Adopt program, Manager Alex Su informed that she will provide the information during the Foster Program Report.
- h) Alex Su informed that OCAC continued to participate in the Anaheim Mobile Family & Resource Center and multiple events that occurred in April such as a vegan pop-up event in San Clemente where OCAC were able to feature OCAC foster dogs for adoption, the Leash of Lake Forest campaign and the South County Pet Expo in Lake Forest where 2 dogs were adopted out.

- i) Hosted 4 Katy Cares seminars with an average 50 to 75 attendees where there are Heroes in Animal Care presentations, numerous school projects and outreach activities to teach young adults responsible pet ownership while interacting with therapy dogs.
- j) In this quarter, OCAC participated in 50 community events which was an increase of 28% attendance from last quarter. These events ranged from different cities in Orange County and different types of events such as the OC Reptile Fair, Resource Fair, etc.
- k) Alex advised the monthly Pet Food Pantry had 122 volunteers that assisted the community by handing out 47,420 pounds of food to approximately 2,795 animals that are in need and the pantry's donors ranged from Petco (Tustin location), San Diego Humane Society, a law firm and Centinela Feed.

#### **Committee Member Comments**

- Committee Member Cowan expressed what a wonderful program the monthly food pantry is and asked if they noticed any repeat members that come to the pantry every month. Alex informed there are repeating members that come to the pantry every month and they are always grateful. OCAC does not take down these repeating member's contact information but only the general information such as what animal these members are picking up the food for.
- Committee Member Cowan asked what the statistics or information of the public is obtained at the Pet-Food Pantry? Director Schmidt advised that there are no qualifiers so anyone outside of the county can come to pick up the food and we had a few people come from Los Angeles, San Diego and Ontario. OCAC does not want to create a barrier with the public so we will not take down personal information. OCAC does gather general information including which city/county they are coming from, number and type of animals in their household, and the total amount of vehicles that came to the pantry.
- Committee Member Cowan asked what OCAC would like for the organizers at the California Adopt-a-Pet Day to implement for next year? From a media standpoint, Alexa stated it would have been helpful if there was a combined press release and a press media toolkit where it provided consistent information to the shelters. Alexa also stated if there was a thought box after the event was over for the shelters to place their feedback such as Monica wanting the event to happen more than once a year.
- It was moved by Chair Kane, seconded by Vice Chair Malo.
  - a. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion passed.

#### 2. Foster Program Report

- a) Alex Su reported that the Foster Program fostered close to 800 animals this quarter and that included underage animals, animals that are recovering from medical surgery, the larger dogs that participated in the traditional foster program and dogs that participated in the new pilot Foster-To-Adopt program (adds a new toolkit for the Adoptions Department).
- b) Foster-to-Adopt program launched its pilot program on June 6, 2024, where OCAC has a selection of larger dogs that have been at the shelter for more than 30 days for the community to take home for the next 14 days and foster the dog with the intention of

- adopting. OCAC provides the fosters the essential resources and usually by the tenth day of the trial, the foster will know if the dog is a good fit or not. Within the program and quarter, 9 dogs have participated and 2 have been adopted.
- c) On May 4, 2024, Foster held their annual Kitten Shower which included recruitment for kitten fosters. At the Kitten Shower, a seasoned foster shared her 10-years' worth of experience with the foster program and a foster staff member demonstrated how to bottle feed kittens to show the 21 attendees how easy it is which created confidence for the new fosters; a new foster family took home a litter of kittens to foster that same day.
- d) During the peak season, Foster provided education such as refresher training sessions for the OCAC animal control officers. The animal control officers are out in the field handling the kittens and with the refreshed knowledge, the officers can confidently demonstrate to the public on how to take care of underage kittens and provide foster kitten kits to the public if they are interested in fostering these underage kittens.
- e) In early May, Foster program transitioned from using Microsoft Outlook to using a new communication platform called GovDelivery. GovDelivery is used to advise the fosters via text/email of the animals who are in need to foster care. GovDelivery also provides reports about engagement received from recipients such as how many fosters opened the message. GovDelivery provides the same mission OCAC Foster Program strives for but with a new look.
- f) Sittin' with Kittens is back by popular demand and occurs every Saturday at OCAC from 1:00 to 3:00 PM where foster caretakers sit alongside with the kittens they fostered and answer any questions to potential adopters to find the right home.

#### **Committee Members Comments**

- Committee Member Cowan expressed her concern of the new Foster-To-Adopt program and asked how OCAC is measuring the success rate and what's considered a success. Additionally, what changes will OCAC apply to the program moving forward? Alex responded since this is a brand-new program, OCAC is open to making changes to make the program work. Working alongside with the fosters and receiving their feedback and with OCAC internal IT members, IT will be able to provide statistics to Fosters. After the 4-to-6-month trial period, Foster will be evaluating the total amount of dogs that participated in the program and how many were adopted out and how many were returned within the 30-day window and that will provide a gauge on where the program is at and what changes need to apply to pivot the program to reach its fullest potential. Director Monica informed that they will also be measuring the success by evaluating staff time since most of the work is through an automated system.
- Committee Member Cowan asked what the difference is between the selection of dogs that are part of the Foster-To-Adopt program and the traditional foster program? Alex informs that all the Foster-To-Adopt animals would qualify for the traditional foster program but wanted to focus and give more opportunity to the larger dogs since smaller dogs gets adopted faster.
- Chair Kane emphasized that even though only 2 dogs were adopted from the launch of the program it is still a great improvement. Committee Member Cowan explained

that she thinks the program is a great idea but wants to know how it will be measured on its success.

#### **Public Comments**

- Public Speaker Michael expressed concerns stating that an adopter will work harder to keep the pet work out versus a foster. He offered his help on how to create a program to monitor and pull data to see if the Foster-To-Adopt program had more adoptions or not.
- o It was moved by Vice Chair Malo, seconded by Committee Member Ahmad.
  - a. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion passed.

#### 3. Volunteer Program Report

- a) Alex Su reports this quarter OCAC had 394 volunteers contributing their time and energy around the shelter such as exercising, grooming, handling, training, socializing, providing enrichment to the animals, cleaning, doing laundry, and assisting us at events. Volunteers meet monthly and this provides a voice to the volunteers, and they can communicate and connect with the management team such as Sam Blankenship and Dr. Jones.
- b) The quarterly Volunteer Round Table was held with the volunteers and Director Schmidt, Manager Link, Manager Su, Manager Blankenship to continue sharing news and connect with the volunteer team.
- c) This past April was the annual Volunteer Appreciation Event where OCAC was able to show their gratitude to the volunteers by providing catered food and refreshments, raffle prizes, and awards were handed out.
- d) Highlighted the "Volunteer of the Month" in this quarter which included Alex for the month of April, Elizabeth for the month of May, and Lorianne for the month of June and these volunteers were recognized for going above and beyond and going the extra mile and dedication, time, effort the volunteers bring to make the shelter a more positive environment.

#### **Committee Members Comments**

- Committee Member Cowan expressed her gratitude towards the volunteers.
- o It was moved by Vice Chair Malo, seconded by Chair Kane.
- Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion passed.

#### 4. Adoption Partner Program Report

- a) Tammy Osborn discussed the two out-of-state transports that occurred. In June, OCAC worked with multiple groups to have 88 kittens and 7 dogs flown to Oregon and the private plane was funded by Greater Good Charities which OCAC continues to strive to keep a good relationship with. In July, OCAC transported 35 dogs and 4 hamster/guinea pigs to Idaho. Majority of the animals that were transported have been adopted out.
- b) Discussed the lengthy process of setting up the transportation trips such as prepping the animals for the transport, having staff to drive the vehicles, and states that it is rewarding work knowing the animals have another chance of being adopted to their forever home.
- c) Discussed the unique opportunity that is sponsored by Noble Friends that involves a grant to provide monetary incentive and support to the rescue partners that pull the long-term

- cats that are being overlooked. 14 cats were adopted out through the program and the rescue partners appreciate the support to give the cats a second chance.
- d) In this quarter, over 1,000 animals were placed with non-profits, local vet clinics, other animal humane organizations. Sent out over 120 posting to our rescue partners asking for assistance for special needs pets and 5 pets went through the Medical Foster Program.

#### **Committee Members Comments**

- o It was moved by Vice Chair Malo, seconded by Committee Member Ahmad.
- Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion passed.

#### VI. Director's Comments

- Director Schmidt discussed trends happening nationwide throughout the animal industry and stated
  this is the hardest time in animal welfare throughout the nation. Other shelters in different counties
  across the state are having the same issues where it is taking longer for pets to be adopted out and
  that is linked to the economy, higher cost of living, and being unable to find affordable vet care.
- Discussed the new additional mobile affordable vaccination partner with VetCare, who will be coming to OCAC monthly on Sunday mornings. The community expressed wanting both a weekend and weekday option available.
- The next free microchip event will occur on August 17, 2024.
- Public Works completed installation of 3 shade structures funded by donation.
- Discussed the new animal care attendant recruitments and noticed when the job posting was posted on OCAC social media, there was positive response with an increase of applicants. HR is in the offer stage with multiple candidates.
- Discussed the different campus safety modules such as heat safety with humans and animals during the heat wave and implementing new personal alarm devices called Birdies for the volunteers to wear while they walk dogs and use of airhorns and whistles.
- Another part of the campus safety modules, Manager Sam Blankenship created the Dogs 101
  program and discussed what the program entails. The program creates an environment for
  consistent safe animal handling by implementing an easy (blue), medium (orange), hard (green)
  level for each dog. The program encourages a more balanced life for the dogs at the shelter by
  implementing different enrichment options such as allowing the dogs to sniff more (Nose "Sniffari")
  which has had a positive outcome.

#### **Committee Member Comments**

- Committee Member Cowan asked about the recruitment and when they will hear back from HR. Director Schmidt informed that she has been contacting HR nearly every day and HR is working as fast as possible with their limited staff. There are multiple different animal career positions that are being filled, one of the new positions is the Animal Adoptability Assessment Specialist.
- Vice Chair Malo inquired about any possible internships that OCAC works with. Director Schmidt states OC Animal Care has internship programs with multiple colleges such as Platt and Stanbridge. Vice Chair Malo suggested reaching out to Garden Grove Community College for possibly another internship opportunity.

 Committee Member Cowan inquired about the rumors of the animals not being kept clean and fed. Manager Blankenship informed that he does not know where these rumors started because as an animal care attendant, feeding the animals and cleaning their kennels is the top priority of the daily job duties.

#### VII. Public Comments

#### 1. Public Speaker #1 Janella Simpson

- a) Janella commented the OCAC website is not user friendly and requests changes be made to the website such as making the adoption page more easily accessible and to have current events easier to find.
- b) Vice Chair Malo asked who oversees making changes onto the OC Animal Care website? Director Schmidt states we have a staff member at OC Animal Care that can make updates; however, to make changes to design, it goes through Orange County IT.

#### 2. Public Speaker #2 April Josephson

a) April commented on the positive response to the free microchip event and the Pet Food Pantry to which she wants the public to collaborate more by donating food as well. April is trying to find collaboration for low cost spay and neuter in other regions and asked if anyone is interested to contact her directly. April asks for OC Animal Care to allow a way for the community to see the dogs inside the kennel buildings especially during the heat wave where the dogs are more inclined to staying inside in air-conditioned building.

#### 3. Public Speaker #3 Michael M

a) Michael commented that OC Animal Care does not have enough staffing to follow the professional standard per the 2017 JVR report of having 26 animal care attendants to maintain the care of the animals and asks why OC Animal Care is lowering its standards and allowing this to happen.

#### VIII. Advisory Committee Comments

- Community Member Cowan informed that she has not gone onto the OC Animal Care website and
  would navigate the website after the meeting. She states she understands the situation OC Animal
  Care is in and she understands the difficulties of working within a large municipal agency such as the
  County and expressed her gratitude to Director Schmidt.
- 2. Vice Chair Malo had no comments.
- 3. Chair Kane expressed that we cannot adopt our way out of the current state OC Animal Care is in and wants the public to take responsibility of their own animals by influencing the community to participate in the Foster program before adopting, to make sure they are able to provide the necessary care for a pet.

#### IX. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned.





### **Community Outreach Committee Report**

October 23, 2024



### **Staff Report Summary:**

Highlights and Updates for following:

- Public Education Program
- Foster Program
- Volunteer Program
- Adoption Partner Program





#### **Public Education Program**

Our Public Education Program is about building strong connections with the community we serve. Through sharing valuable information on disaster preparedness, proper pet care, and responsible ownership, we aim to empower our community members. We're committed to providing essential resources, attending events, and keeping our community informed through our website, digital media and traditional media. From shelter announcements and education to adoption, community outreach, and animal safety, we're here to make a positive impact together.







#### <u>Social Media Statistics (July - September)</u>

#### **Facebook**

- Added 402 new followers
- 31.5K followers
- Increased content interactions 45.1% (13.8K)
- Link clicks increased 56.7% (152)

#### Instagram

- Added 1.375 new followers
- 19.2K followers
- Increased reach 152.4% (245.2K)
- Increased content interactions 57.1% (43.1K)

#### **Adoption Promotions**

From July through September, the adoption promotion was extended to waive fees for dogs 25+ pounds and 2 for 1 adoption fees for all cats and kittens sponsored by donations. From August 10 through September 10, OC Animal Care participated in the month-long Clear the Shelters nation-wide adoption campaign with NBCUniversal. In September, OC Animal Care launched \$50 Feline Fridays.







In July 2024, OC Animal Care began partnering with Vet Care Pet Clinic, in addition to H.E.A.R.T to bring monthly, affordable, low-cost vaccine clinics. Vet Care is on-site once a month on Sunday morning, and H.E.A.R.T has expanded to be on-site twice a month on Monday and Tuesday evenings.



On Tuesday, August 13, 2024, OC Animal Care was featured on NBC4 for the Clear the Shetlers campaign. Interim Shelter Programs Manager, Alex Su, gave NBC4 Reporter, Hetty Chang, a tour of OC Animal Care and featured a number of animals available for adoption.







On Saturday, August 17, 2024, OC Animal Care hosted the second Free Microchip Clinic for dogs and cats. Thanks to sponsorship by the Nobel Friends Foundation for OC Animal Care, 12 cats and 30 dogs were microchipped free of charge, which included the registration of owner information during the event.



In September 2024, OC Animal Care responded to the Airport Fire. OC Animal Care was an evacuation center for dogs, cats, and small pets for service area residents under mandatory evacuation orders. A total of 4 dogs and 1 cat were housed during the emergency. Staff also coordinated large animal evacuation centers throughout the County, including the Orange County Fairgrounds, Los Alamitos Race Couse, and Nohl Ranch Saddle Club. In addition, staff worked around the clock at the shelter, staging area, and incident command to ensure proper incident response.







### **Community Events and Partnerships**

This quarter, we continued our partnership with the Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center. We attended events where the City of Anaheim's Community Service Department partners with various organizations to provide resources to underserved communities. During the Mobile Family Resources events, we provided free pet tags sponsored by Noble Friends, and resources for pet owners.







Anaheim Mobile Family Resource events continued throughout the quarter, making a positive impact in the communities most in need.

We also had the opportunity to participate in several community events to help spread the word about responsible pet ownership, shelter programming, volunteer and foster opportunities, and provide resources to pet owners. We also brought many of our adoptable dogs!







We showcased 5 dogs at Pet Palooza on July 27 at Laguna Niguel Regional Park in Laguna Niguel. All of the dogs that attended were in foster care, and it gave our foster caretakers a chance to show them off to potential adopters.











We attended Vice Chairman Chaffee's Fourth District Kids Fishing Derby on September 7, in Brea. We were able to connect with community members of all ages, showcase our Animal Control Vehicle, and share educational resources.









We attended the Summer Pet Adoption Fair on September 7, at William R. Mason Regional Park in Irvine. We showcased over 20 adoptable dogs and cats and were able to place 4 dogs and 5 cats into their new forever homes. We also provided 26 free pet tags, sponsored by Irvine City Councilmember Tammy Kim.





We attended the Veteran Stand Down Event on September 13, in Tustin and the Active Older Adult Appreciation Event in Anaheim sponsored by Council Member Carlos Leon, on September 28. We were able to connect with veterans and seniors on responsible pet ownership and low-cost resources, providing 111 free pet tags sponsored by Noble Friends Foundation.





OC Animal Care hosted 1 Katy Cares and Heroes in Animal Care presentation in addition to numerous school projects, fundraisers, and outreach activities. These events host anywhere from 50 to 75 attendees, teaching young people about responsible pet ownership while interacting with amazing therapy dogs.







We participated in approximately 40 community events this quarter:

<u>Date</u> <u>Event</u>		<u>Location</u>
07/03/24 Mobile Tag Clinic with A	Anaheim Fire and Rescue	Anaheim
07/04/24 Yankee Doodle Dog Co	ostume Contest	Anaheim
07/10/24 Puppachino Cheers wit	h Anaheim Fire	Anaheim
and Rescue		
07/11/24 Fountain Valley Concer	ts in the Park	Fountain Valley
07/13/24 Pet Food Pantry		OC Animal Care
07/16/24 Anaheim Mobile Family	Resource Center	Anaheim
07/18/24 Fountain Valley Concer	rts in the Park	Fountain Valley
07/19/24 OC Parks Sunset Cinem	а	Anaheim
07/25/24 Fountain Valley Concer	rts in the Park	Fountain Valley
07/26/24 OC Parks Sunset Cinem	а	Anaheim
07/27/24 Pet Palooza		Laguna Niguel
07/27/24 Lake Forest Summer Co	ncert Series	Lake Forest
07/29/24 Katy Cares Presentation	n	Santa Ana
07/30/24 Anaheim Mobile Family	Resource Center	Anaheim
08/02/24 OC Parks Sunset Cinem	а	Orange
08/06/24 National Night Out		Fullerton
08/06/24 National Night Out		Anaheim
08/06/24 National Night Out		Placentia
08/06/24 National Night Out		Lake Forest
08/06/24 National Night Out		Villa Park
08/07/24 National Night Out		Yorba Linda
08/10/24 Pet Food Pantry		OC Animal Care





<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
08/13/24	Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center	Anaheim
08/16/24	OC Parks Sunset Cinema	Laguna Niguel
08/17/24	Free Microchip Clinic	OC Animal Care
08/22/24	Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center	Anaheim
08/24/24	Lake Forest Summer Concert Series	Lake Forest
09/07/24	Summer Pet Adoption Fair	Irvine
09/07/24	Tustin PD Open House	Tustin
09/07/24	Vice Chairman Chaffee's Fourth District	Brea
	Kids Fishing Derby	
09/10/24	Fullerton College Fall Community Resource Fair	Fullerton
09/12/24	OCEA Health Fair	Santa Ana
09/13/24	Veteran Stand Down and Resource Event	Tustin
09/14/24	Pet Food Pantry	OC Animal Care
09/18/24	EQUUS Community Resource Fair	Anaheim
09/19/24	Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center	Anaheim
09/21/24	Emergency Preparedness Fair	Huntington Beach
09/25/24	Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center	Anaheim
09/28/24	Active Older Adult Appreciation	Anaheim





#### Pet Food Pantry

The success of the Family Fur-st Pet Food Pantry not only lies in providing essential resources to pet owners in need, but also in fostering a great sense of community.

#### Community Volunteer Groups:

July: G2G Service Organization, Pimco, LBA Realty, MMA Insurance

August: LBA Realty, MMA Insurance, Chase Bank, UCI Circle K Club

September: MMA Insurance, Gray West Construction, Pimco, USIM

Community volunteer groups contributed more than 372 hours to staging, directing traffic, taking stats, offering educational opportunities, connecting people with resources in the community, and handing out over 47,415 pounds of

food to approximately 2,544 animals in need.

#### Pet Food Dispensed:

July: 17,415 lbs. to help feed 866 animals

August: 14,525 lbs. to help feed 811 animals

September: 15,475 lbs. to help feed 867 animals

### Pet Food Pantry Donors:

Irvine Animal Care Center

Noble Friends Foundation

**Business Council** 

Petco Costa Mesa



sepetinfo.

Pet Pantry recipients, hard-working staff, volunteers, and our sponsors, make this program possible.





#### Foster Program

Animals are placed into foster homes for various reasons. They may be too young or too sick for adoption, receiving treatment, in need of additional socialization, or a break from the shelter as they wait for their forever home. OC Animal Care's foster caretakers offer sanctuary for these animals in their homes, and provide around the clock care, comfort, and socialization until the pet is ready for adoption. The animals placed into foster are specially selected by our veterinary staff for their health and temperament.

The foster caretakers are a vital piece of the OC Animal Care family. This quarter, a total of 767 animals were placed in foster care. Our foster caretakers are saving lives!













#### <u>Foster-to-Adopt Program</u>

The Dog Foster-to-Adopt Pilot Program launched on June 6, 2024. This program offers potential adopters the opportunity to take select dogs home for two weeks before deciding if the relationship is meant to be. Participants receive essential supplies as well as guidance and support from the Foster Team to ensure the fostering process results in a meaningful and successful adoption match.

The shelter dogs benefit from this program as they get to decompress from the shelter environment and show off their unique quirks and personalities, giving the fosters an opportunity to learn if the dog will be a good fit for the family. If the match is not right and the shelter pet returns, we are still able to gather invaluable information about how the dog so we can pass along the information to future adopters. During this quarter, 80 dogs participated in the Foster-to-Adopt Pilot Program and 43 dogs were adopted through the program.

As part of the program, staff gather and review statistics such as number of participants, reasons for not adopting, return rate of those adopted. As with any programming, analysis is based on quantitative as well as qualitative information.





Simon (A1879409) found his forever family by participating in the Foster-to-Adopt Pilot Program. Simon was welcomed into our care in July of 2024 after being found roaming the streets. Simon began his journey in Foster-to-Adopt on August 14, 2024 and was adopted after 14 days.

Simon is now affectionately named Luka and his parents could not be more thrilled about Luka and the Foster-to-Adopt Pilot Program.







#### From "Luka's" new family:

"Luka (previously known as Simon A1879409) has been nothing short of the greatest and sweetest pup ever. We knew immediately after we had initially made a visit with him that he was going to be a special dog; and through the foster to adopt program, we were truly able to understand and experience that even more. He is the most friendly, social, and playful pup who wants nothing more than someone to play with him, give him cuddles, and lots and lots of treats always - which we are more than happy doing! The best thing about Luka are 2 things: 1. When he smiles and his entire face lights up - it melts our hearts every single time! and 2. When he tries to be a lap dog and sit on our laps, when he might be a little too big to do so; but we embrace and welcome it all the time!"

It is crazy to think how in a quick span of time, we have come to love this pupper so much and we are so so excited and honored we get to be part of Luka's life now and be his pawrents furrever!

Thank you to the OC Animal Care team as well! We would not have met our pup if it wasn't for your amazing team. With all our heart - thank you!" -Luka's Parents



### Foster Engagement



Sittin' with Kittens was back this summer by popular demand. This adoption event occurs every Saturday from 1-3PM in the Learning and Training Center, where former foster kittens are featured for adoption. Foster caretakers sit alongside their kittens to share about the kitten's unique personality and quirks to potential adopters. Our fosters have the best input for potential adopters.

**Recommended Action:** The Committee receives and files the report.





### **Volunteer Program**

This report summarizes OC Animal Care's Volunteer Program throughout this quarter, and includes contribution hours, program enhancements/opportunities, and volunteer participation. Volunteers contributed to exercising, grooming, handling, training, socializing, and enriching available animals, as well as cleaning, laundry, socializing kittens in the nursery, and volunteering at our monthly Pet Food Pantry. Volunteers are also responsible for showing dogs and cats/kittens at our numerous off-site adoption and educational events. Volunteers participate in care and feeding shifts for our cats/kittens at Petco, and bottle-feeding shifts for foster kittens awaiting placement at the shelter.

Volunteer Contribution Hours (July – September): 8,464

Total Volunteers with Service: 230

Volunteer Hours: 8,092

Pet Pantry Hours: 372

This is an extraordinary number of hours, and we are so proud of our dedicated volunteer team.

#### Volunteer Coffee/Roundtable

Our volunteer coffee event is a great way for volunteers and department managers to connect to discuss program and shelter wide updates, hear from the volunteers, and give our volunteers an insightful peek into the many roles here at the shelter. This quarter's special guest was Sam Blankenship, Shelter Services Manager. Sam provided hands-on demos in the kennels to help build safe handling skills. The quarterly volunteer roundtable was attended by a variety of staff including Director Monica Schmidt, Operations Manager Jamie Link, Field Services Manager Daniel Ettinger, and Assistant Shelter Manager Frank Foran.

#### Corporate Pantry Partner Pet Food Drives

This quarter, we reached out to all our Pet Food Pantry group partners/volunteers and asked for corporate pet food drives. We had huge response from Chase/JP Morgan who donated a substantial amount of pet food and supplies from multiple branches around Orange County. The Iranian Bar Association enjoyed





their Pet Pantry volunteer day so much, that they donated \$500 toward the next month's pantry.

#### Volunteer of the Month

We continue to celebrate our volunteers' contributions by awarding Volunteer of the Month to recognize those who go the extra mile through not just hours, but dedication to our shelter pets and creating a positive influence both at the shelter and in the community. Our Volunteers of the Month for this quarter are:







**Recommended Action:** The Committee receives and files the report.

### **Adoption Partners Program**

Through cooperative actions, the Adoption Partner Program seeks placement for animals in need of rehabilitation or additional support to be successful in their forever home. This report also reviews steps being taken to increase and improve





adoptions and communication between OC Animal Care and Adoption Partners.

#### <u>Transports</u>

This quarter we organized several transports. Our first trip was in August. We sent 30 kittens from our Foster Program that were ready for adoption, to Berkeley Humane. This trip was made possible by one of our dedicated volunteers who makes a yearly trip up the state and is always happy to meet up with our shelter partners. With her assistance, we have made this an annual transport. Berkeley Humane is always happy to take kittens into their program and have great success in finding them amazing homes in their community.



Four staff members in 2 vans drove over night to deliver 21 dogs of all sizes, to their new adoption location in Idaho, where they quickly started finding their new homes. We are so happy to have this successful out-of-state partnership. We were especially excited to see how quickly Wanda and Moose found their forever families!











Transport pets finding their forever homes

In September, the Airport Fire forced some of our residents to evacuate their homes. OC Animal Care became a safehouse for pets that needed a temporary place to stay. Our shelter was at capacity, but still needed to be ready to assist the fire victims with pet housing. The San Francisco SPCA responded to our need and made arrangements to immediately take in some of our great available pets to open up some additional kennel space. They were able to take 42 cats and 11 dogs! We are happy to report that nearly all, aside from a few dogs, have already been adopted into their forever homes. Collaboration is such an important part of the animal sheltering community and we were so thankful for their amazing assistance.



San Francisco SPCA at OC Animal Care during the Airport Fire.





#### <u>Partner updates</u>



This quarter, we continued to use the generous grant offered by Best Friends Animal Society to the Noble Friends Foundation for OC Animal Care. 17 more cats were adopted using this incentive program, bringing the total cats helped up to 38. The cats being helped by this program are our long stay cats, some severe medical cats, and cats from special cases.

### <u>Partner Adoptions</u>

This quarter, almost 1,000 pets were placed with non-profit rescue groups, local veterinarians, or with partner municipal and/or humane organizations. We sent out over 150 postings to our partners and networkers asking for assistance with our special needs pets. We also sent out postings regarding the recent Airport Fire, so our partners would be aware of the situation. Our amazing partners continue to be a big part of our success in placing hard to adopt pets.











We had a special case this quarter involving hundreds of domestic Japanese Coturnix Quail, several dogs, and other small pets. With the help of 2 of our partners that specialize in various birds and farm animals, we were able to find placement for over 400 Coturnix quail. Other rescue partners and shelter partners helped us place the 9 small bully type dogs, 3 canaries, 2 red eared sliders and even an Axolotl, from the same location.









### Shelter Medical Pets Program

We continue to use the Shelter Medical Pets Program to help injured pets that come into OC Animal Care requiring more specialized treatment. We continue to reach out to veterinarians and welcome their interest in participating. This quarter, four pets received outside medical treatment, and the estimated cost for care of those pets was \$7,500.

With the help of the Noble Friends Foundation for OC Animal Care, private donations, and our wonderful participating surgeons who provide generous discounts on surgeries, we have been able to help these pets get the specialized care they needed to ensure they could be adopted into forever homes.

This quarter's medical pet candidates were all young cats. During kitten season we get many kittens who are sick or injured. They are so small and fragile. We are so thankful we can help some of them get surgery so they can recover quickly and find their forever homes.

Benny	fractured leg	\$ 2,000.00
Grayson	leg fracture/traumatic hernia	\$ 2,200.00
Tori	leg fracture/lip avulsion	\$ 2,500.00
Summer	corrective wound surgery	\$ 800.00













#### Success Story

Liberty came into the shelter on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. She had severely matted fur on her face, with infected wounds underneath and large ulcers on her eyes. Our veterinary team provided her with stabilizing care and treatment, but given the severity of her condition, we reached out to our partners for help. Luckily, one of them offered to help Liberty with the prolonged treatment and out of shelter recovery she needed. After many weeks of treatment at a specialty clinic, her wounds healed and her coat is starting to come back. She will soon be ready to find a new loving family.





Liberty, before and after her medical treatment.

**Recommended Action:** The Committee receives and files the report.