



# AGENDA

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



*Wednesday, July 23, 2025, at 11:30 a.m.*

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

**Danielle Thomas**  
Chair  
Fourth District

**Elizabeth Cowan**  
Vice Chair  
Fifth District

**Dr. Leslie Malo**  
Committee Member  
First District

**Vacant**  
Committee Member  
Second District

**Kim Kane**  
Committee Member  
Third 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 item(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](mailto: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](http://www.ocpetinfo.com/get-involved/community-outreach-committee)*



# AGENDA

## ANIMAL CARE COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA



*Wednesday, July 23, 2025, 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

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

### III. Minutes

Regular Meeting, April 23, 2025

Recommended Action: Committee approve the minutes of the April 23, 2025, 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.

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. Advisory Committee Comments

## VIII. Adjournment

The next regular meeting will be October 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, April 23, 2025, 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
- Vacant, Committee Member, 2nd District
- Danielle Thomas, Committee Member, 4th District PRESENT
- Elizabeth Cowan, Committee Member, 5th District PRESENT

#### III. Minutes

##### Public Comments

- **Public Speaker #1 Michael M:** Public speaker Michael M requested that a correction be made to the previous meeting minutes. Michael stated that he did not request that Director Monica Schmidt face away from the committee, but that she face the normal way. Michael M requested that the phrase "rather than the committee" be stricken from the minutes.

##### Committee Members Comments

- Approve the Summary of Motion to amend the minutes of the meeting held on October 23, 2024 striking the phrase, "Rather than the committee."
- Motion to approve minutes: Vice Chair Dr. Malo, seconded by Committee Member Danielle Thomas
  - All in Favor: Vote was unanimous

#### IV. Regular Business

##### 1. Public Education Program Report

- a. Public Information Officer Alexa Pratt shared safety tips and educational initiatives that were distributed last quarter which included a post about New Year's safety information for people and pets, rabbit care basics, cold and warm weather safety tips.
- b. Alexa discussed the social media statistics for OCAC this quarter.
  - OCAC added 192 new followers on Facebook and an increase in content interactions by 18 percent.
  - OCAC Instagram added 309 new followers and an increased reach of 12 percent.
- c. Alexa discussed the OCAC Adoption Promotions that occurred this quarter including *New Beginnings Start with Adoption* for January, *Find Your Pawfect Valentine*, for

- February, and *March into Spring with a New Best Friend*, for March, all of which waived fees for dogs 25 lbs.
- d. Alexa described OC Animal Care launched three pilot projects in January, including quarterly adoption events. The first quarterly event was held on January 25, where 10 cats, one rabbit, and 17 dogs were adopted.
  - e. Alexa stated she was working on updates to the website and gave a presentation on changes to come when launched. She stated that despite strict Orange County guidelines, she has made many improvements to make the website more accessible. Alexa described that there have been quick links added to the new website layout, highlighting the most popular pages, such as the Adoptable Pets, Foster, and Volunteer pages. Alexa showed that the hours of the OC Animal Care departments are listed and easy to find. In addition, new sections have been added including: "Meet our Staff," "Director's Corner," "Latest News," and an updated FAQ page. Alexa continued to go over the updated website sections that include information on wildlife resources, vaccines, feral cats, euthanasia, and other educational information. Alexa concluded that the updates were made after listening to feedback from the public and stakeholders, and she hopes the updates make the website more accessible and user-friendly.

#### **Committee Member Comments**

- Committee Member Elizabeth Cowan asked when the website will be live.
  - Alexa said she does not have an exact date, but hopefully in the next month or two.
  - Director Monica Schmidt added that if you click on the language tabs at the top of the website it can be translated into multiple languages.
  - Dr. Leslie Malo asked if one person who works for Orange County translates Spanish for all the county websites.
  - Director Schmidt clarified that it is now done automatically by Google Translate.
  - Committee Member Elizabeth Cowan asked if someone is not on Facebook or Instagram, how do they receive OC Animal Care updates and safety tips.
  - Alexa responded that it is available in the Pet of the Week Newsletter.
  - Committee Member Danielle Thomas added that she receives the newsletter to her email and that it is very informative.
  - Director Schmidt added that the newsletter also goes out to each board office, and that OC Animal Care asks the board offices to help to distribute throughout their contacts. She added that the Community Outreach Team also has flyers that are available at events that reflect the information in the newsletter.
  - Alexa added that all the information in the newsletters are also available as physical flyers.
  - Vice Chair Dr. Leslie Malo asked if someone calls in to OC Animal Care to ask a question, and is then directed to the website, can someone answer their questions over the telephone instead.
  - Alexandra Su answered that there is staff available that can accommodate the preferences of the caller, whether it is in person, through email, or by phone call.
  - Director Monica Schmidt added that there are representatives available who can speak English, Spanish, Vietnamese, and Portuguese, and there are language access services if needed.
- f. Alexandra Su shared a summary of community events and partnerships that took place this quarter. OCAC continued their partnership with Anaheim Mobile Family Resource

- Center to engage with the community and provide free pet tags that were sponsored by Noble Friends. Alexandra explained that events are great opportunities to spread the word about responsible pet ownership and recruit fosters and volunteers.
- g. Alexandra described the Pet Supply Warehouse adoption event, held on January 18, 2025, where foster caretakers were present to promote adoptable pets. Alexandra described hosting five Katy Cares seminars and Heroes in Animal Care presentations this quarter which helps to inform the younger generation about adoption and responsible pet ownership.
  - h. Alexandra stated that there was a total of 30 community events attended this quarter.
  - i. Alexandra explained there was 125 volunteers present for the Pet Food Pantry donations this quarter. Volunteers helped to prep, stage, control traffic, and hand out food. This number also included work groups and clubs within the community. Alexandra stated that OC Animal Care handed out over 65,993 pounds of food for 3,428 animals in need this quarter. Pet Food Pantry donors included Boeing, PetSmart, Tesla, Petco, Toyota, and Irvine Animal Care Center.
  - j. Director Monica Schmidt added that 100 percent of the food for the Pet Food Pantry is from donations, and that Noble Friends and other community groups have been very supportive. Director Schmidt stated that if businesses are looking for a way to give back, or if anyone asks the Committee Members how they can help, the Pet Food Pantry is a great way to donate for people who are unable to volunteer or foster.

### **Committee Member Comments**

- Committee Member Elizabeth Cowan asked how many Community Outreach Team members there are.
- Alexandra Su responded that there are two Public Education Officers, one is assigned to the Volunteer Program, and one is assigned to community events. Alexandra added that volunteers also attend events and assist where they are needed, and the number of volunteers at each event varies.
- Committee Member Elizabeth Cowan asked if the number of volunteers listed previously in the Pet Pantry report reflected the Katy Cares and Anaheim Mobile Resource events.
- Alexandra responded that the volunteer numbers for other events will be elaborated further next in the Volunteer Report.
- It was moved by Committee Member Elizabeth Cowan, seconded by Vice Chair Dr. Malo.
  - a. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion passed.

### **2. Foster Program Report**

- a. Alexandra Su reported that 244 animals were placed in the OCAC Foster Programs this quarter, supported by 270 foster homes. Alexandra explained that the reason why the number of homes is higher than the number of fosters is because some foster pets are cared for by more than one home.
- b. Alexandra gave a brief overview of the Foster-to-Adopt Program and described 77 dogs were placed in Foster-to-Adopt, supported by 83 homes, and 70 percent of the dogs that participated were adopted. Alexandra elaborated that the reason there are more homes than dogs listed, is because one dog might have to go to two foster homes, depending on the foster's availability.

- c. Alexandra highlighted the story of Norman, a husky who arrived at OC Animal Care as a stray in December 2024. Norman was placed in the Foster-to-Adopt program and was adopted by his foster family within 14 days.
- d. Alexandra went on to speak about the Large Dog Foster Program, which differs from the Foster-to-Adopt Program, because the fosters do not always intend to adopt after fostering. Alexandra highlighted the success story of Hubbard, who was adopted at one of OC Animal Care's Quarterly Adoption Events, after being in foster care for 10 months. Alexandra stated that Hubbard benefited from being in a foster home after experiencing kennel stress at the shelter, and once he was in a foster home acted like a completely different dog.
- e. Alexandra went on to speak about the Annual Foster Appreciation Event held this quarter, which was attended by 70 fosters and their families. Alexandra said this is a great way to show appreciation for the fosters and for them to connect with each other and feel like they are part of a community.

#### **Committee Member Comments**

- Committee Member Danielle Thomas commented on how she loved this program, and asked how many dogs participated and how many were adopted.
- Alexandra responded she could get back to Committee Member Danielle Thomas with the exact number, but it generally ranges from 10-15 dogs, and this quarter it was only Hubbard who was adopted.
- Committee Member Danielle Thomas said that she was just wondering how bigger dogs fare in this program.
- It was moved by Committee Member Elizabeth Cowan, seconded by Vice Chair Dr. Leslie Malo.

a. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion passed.

#### **Public Comments**

- **Public Speaker #1 Michael M:** Michael M stated that after checking the OC Animal Care website, it stated that volunteers had contributed over 100,000 hours a year, which he said is not possible, based on the reported numbers for this quarter. Michael M suggested it would be useful to know how many volunteers out of the total number are meeting the minimum requirement for hours this quarter.

### **3. Volunteer Program Report**

- a. Alexandra Su described the benefits of the Volunteer Program including socialization for the animals, enrichment, cleaning, laundry, and events. This quarter, there were 242 volunteers with 6,348 hours logged.
- b. Alexandra added that volunteer coffee events have been held monthly and are a good opportunity for volunteers to get a chance to speak with staff. Staff guests included Arielle Chapman, Supervising Animal Care Attendant, and Daniel Ettinger, Field Services Manager. There was also a Volunteer Roundtable held this quarter, which was attended by Shelter Programs Manager Alexandra Su, Director Monica Schmidt, and Operations Manager Jamie Link. Volunteers were able to hear updates and insights from OC Animal Care Staff.

- c. Alexandra mentioned the Volunteers of the Month from this quarter were Naoko, Alexis Garcia, and Betty Chew. She stated that watching the volunteers form relationships with the shelter animals is very rewarding.
- d. Director Monica Schmidt added that often volunteers who work with dogs and cats are highlighted, but Alexis volunteers on the rabbit team, and it is exciting to highlight her considering OC Animal Care receives a significant number of rabbits and other animals that also benefit from socialization from volunteers.

#### **Committee Members Comments**

- Chair Kim Kane commented that it is Volunteer Appreciation Week.
- Director Monica Schmidt responded that it is this week, as well as the entire month of April.
- It was moved by Committee Member Danielle Thomas, seconded by Vice Chair Dr. Malo.
  - a. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion passed.

#### **4. Adoption Program Report**

- a. Tammy Osborn described animal transports and partner adoptions that occurred this quarter. In January, OC Animal Care worked with Greater Good to transport 15 dogs to Northern California and Oregon. One of the dogs transported was Marty, a grumpy, older chow-lab mix, who had been at OC Animal Care for close to a year.
- b. Tammy stated this quarter she finalized a new version of the partner application, that was sent out to all OC Animal Care partners. Tammy stated that so far, there have been 77 partner renewals.
- c. Tammy stated that there were 570 pets placed with non-profits, local veterinarians, or other shelters, and her team sent over 120 postings to networkers to ask for assistance in placing pets in need.
- d. Tammy stated kittens are starting to come into the shelter for kitten season, and partners have been very helpful so far.
- e. Tammy also stated that sometimes unusual animals can be housed at OC Animal Care. This quarter, there was a peacock that many partners were interested in, but finding a way to transport it was challenging. Ultimately, they were able to safely transport the peacock.
- f. Tammy mentioned there was a clerical error in the Medical Pets portion of the COT report, and there were four pets treated, not three. A Pitbull named Maggie who had a broken leg was the fourth pet. She is available now for adoption and her treatment was \$3500.
- g. Tammy described the success story of the quarter, Rufus, a St. Bernard who was not adjusting to the shelter and was under-socialized. After reaching out to partners to help secure placement, Rufus was rescued, fostered, and then adopted by his foster family.
- h. Director Monica Schmidt added that 77 non-profits have submitted the new application, however a rescue that is a 501(c)(3) does not have to fill out the application to pull an animal from the shelter. Director Schmidt clarified there are rescues that might be interested in rescuing a specific animal, but not necessarily becoming a rescue partner with OC Animal Care.

#### **Committee Members Comments**



- Committee Member Elizabeth Cowan stated that she noticed there was an increase in huskies due to the popular show Game of Thrones, similar to the rise of dalmatians when the movie 101 Dalmatians came out. She asked if there are still many huskies at the shelter.
- Samuel Blankenship answered that there are still many huskies at the shelter, but he believes they are starting to trend downwards. He stated there has been a rise in Belgian Malinois, which have a similar temperament to the German Shephard.
- Director Monica Schmidt asked Samuel Blankenship what the top three dogs that currently need placement.
- Samuel Blankenship answered that the three most popular dogs at the shelter are huskies, German Shephard mixes, and pit-bulls for large dogs, and chihuahua mixes for small dogs.
- It was moved by Vice Chair Dr. Malo, seconded by Committee Member Elizabeth Cowan.
  - Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion passed.

## **V. Director's Comments**

- Director Monica Schmidt started by thanking staff and acknowledging their hard work. Director Schmidt highlighted the staff efforts to recruit and support volunteers and fosters, while working hard to positively place the shelter animals through adoption, Foster-to-Adopt, foster, rescue and through shelter partners. Director Schmidt said that the OC Animal Care team is working to adjust to the new directives from the Orange County Board of Supervisors, while maintaining industry standards in cleaning, safety, and animal welfare. Director Schmidt added that more information regarding the directives would be shared at the next Community Outreach Committee in July.
- Director Schmidt addressed that it is kitten season, and there will be an increase in kitten and wildlife calls. She stated that Alexandra Su and the Foster Team are working hard to recruit new fosters needed for the upcoming increase in kittens at the shelter. There will be a foster recruitment event May 17<sup>th</sup> which will be a kitten shower and foster orientation event to provide valuable insights in how to properly care for kittens.
- Director Schmidt added that on June 7<sup>th</sup>, OC Animal Care will participate in the second annual Adopt-a-Pet-Day, sponsored by Cal Animals, ASPCA, and San Francisco ASPCA. Last year at the event, there were 126 animals adopted from OC Animal Care, and tens of thousands of dollars are spent in advertising throughout California to help build awareness around the event. Director Schmidt concluded by inviting committee members to help spread the word about the event and invited them to attend.

## **Committee Member Comments**

- Committee Member Elizabeth Cowan asked about recent recruitments and hires.
- Director Monica Schmidt answered that OC Animal Care has brought on several employees, however there is currently a county-wide hiring freeze. She added that OC Animal Care did get special permission to unfreeze and open the Animal Care Attendant recruitment. There was also six Animal Care Officer Trainees hired in January who started a six-month training program. The trainees have received training in livestock handling from ASPCA, and they will start doing rides on their own in the next month or two.
- Director Schmidt added that there were shelter positions that were initially extra help employees who have been hired on as full-time employees without missing work.
- There were also internal promotions and retirements. Ronnie who was the Supervising Animal Care Attendant, retired after 36 years with OC Animal Care. Arielle Chapman was promoted internally to a Supervising Animal Care Attendant position. Additionally, Jose was promoted to a

Senior Animal Care Attendant. Nicole was promoted to a Animal Adoptability Assessment Specialist position. Lastly there is an RVT starting this Friday, and after his hire, the clinic will be fully staffed.

- Committee Member Elizabeth Cowan thanked Director Schmidt for the update.
- Director Schmidt added that there is an open recruitment for Animal Care Attendants that is being pushed on social media that hopefully will bring in many good candidates.
- Chair Kim Kane asked if Director Schmidt had received any good candidates so far.
- Director Schmidt answered that there have been many applicants, but it is not always a good fit as many people do not have animal experience, or they do not realize what the job entails, or there are no shows. For this reason, it is best to build a robust list of applicants. The job is also being advertised by Cal Animals, AAWA, and on social media.

## **VI. Public Comments**

### **1. Public Speaker #1 Michael M**

- a) Michael M congratulated Director Schmidt and Samuel Blankenship on the new internal promotions and said he was sure they would strengthen the OC Animal Care team.
- b) He also expressed his appreciation for the website update. He stated that shelter websites should show the adoptable animals in one or two clicks, which is what the new website has accomplished.
- c) Michael M stated he agrees with Samuel Blankenship's assessment that husky, German Shephard, and pit-bull are the three most common breeds, especially if you include mixes.
- d) Michael said he was aware of a foster list provided by another organization during the LA fires. He suggested to contact them and if they are qualified, to make use of them. Michael said this is such a good program, and it would be a shame to miss out on families who are willing to foster.

## **VII. Election of a Committee Chairperson and Vice Chairperson**

- Chair Kim Kane addressed the committee to let them know she cannot be elected as the new chair because she has already served, and Vice Chair Dr. Leslie Malo can not be re-elected as Vice Chair. Chair Kim Kane opened the floor for discussion between the committee members.
- Committee Member Danielle Thomas asked Committee Member Elizabeth Cowan if she had any interest.
- Committee Member Elizabeth Cowan said she has only been on the committee for a year but is willing to do either the Chair or Vice Chair position.
- Committee Member Elizabeth Cowan suggested that Committee Member Danielle Thomas serve as Chair.
- Vice Chair Dr. Leslie Malo suggested Committee Member Danielle Thomas serve as Chair, and Committee Member Elizabeth Cowan serve as Vice Chair.
- Motion to approve by Committee Member Dr. Leslie Malo and seconded by Committee Member Kim Kane
  - a. Ayes: 4, Nays: 0. Motion passed.

## **VIII. Advisory Committee Comments**

- 1. Committee Member Elizabeth Cowan said she is impressed by the staff, and she is excited to see the new website. She said she can only imagine what it is like working with the Orange County IT on a new website, and congratulations. She also said she is not on social media and will follow up with her email for future correspondence.
- 2. Chair Kim Kane seconded Elizabeth Cowan's statements and said this is a lot of work and that the staff is doing a great job. She also asked if there is a way to know if people are taking advantage of the free online training.

3. Alexandra Su answered that GoodPup was launched in January, and she will have more information regarding the number of people who have utilized the training during the next COC meeting in July. Alexandra explained this is due to the 90-day sign-up period. Alexandra highlighted a GoodPup success story about a senior husky named Ghost, who was a little aggressive towards other dogs. Ghost was adopted and the adoptive parents said the training was very helpful, and they feel more confident handling Ghost.
4. Chair Kim Kane asked how Alexandra and her team know when someone signs up for GoodPup.
5. Alexandra answered that GoodPup
6. handles the support services, and there is an automatic report that generates the adopter's name and sign-up information. GoodPup also sends reminders to sign-up directly to the adopters.
7. Committee Member Elizabeth Cowan asked if GoodPup is a third-party vendor.
8. Director Monica Schmidt answered that GoodPup is a third-party vendor.

#### **XI. Adjournment**

- Meeting adjourned at 12:42pm.



## Community Outreach Committee Report

July 23, 2025



### 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.



## Social Media Statistics (April - June)

### Facebook

- Added 654 new followers
- Increased content interactions 74% to 27,839
- Increased views 100% to 813,810

### Instagram

- Added 1,202 new followers
- Increased content interactions 13% to 30,757
- Increased views 2% to 554,934

## Adoption Promotions

This quarter, the adoption promotion was extended to waive fees for dogs 25+ pounds. \$50 Feline Fridays launched June 27 and will continue through summer.

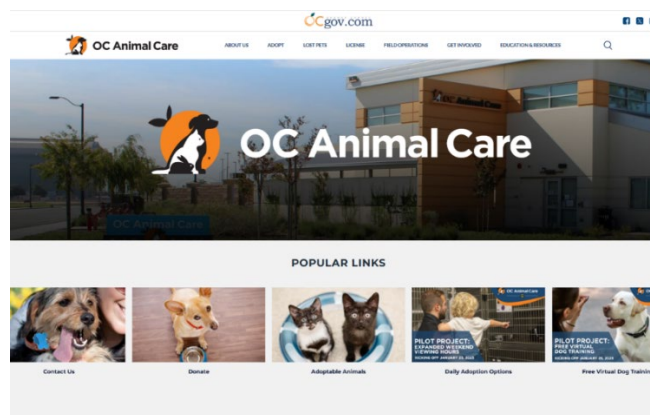






On Saturday, June 7, 2025, OC Animal Care participated in the California Adopt-a-Pet Day hosted by CalAnimals, ASPCA, and SF-SPCA. Adoption fees were sponsored by the ASPCA for all adopters. Thanks to the sponsorship along with paid advertisements throughout the state by CalAnimals, ASPCA, and SFSPCA, 169 pets were adopted at OCAC during the event!

OC Animal Care implemented the new website design previewed at the last Community Outreach Committee meeting.



## **Community Events and Partnerships**

This quarter we continued to participate in the Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center where the City of Anaheim's Community Service Dept. partners with organizations to provide resources to underserved communities. During the events, we provided free pet tags sponsored by Noble Friends, information, and resources for pet owners. We will continue this partnership and providing resources to the community to help keep pets with their families.



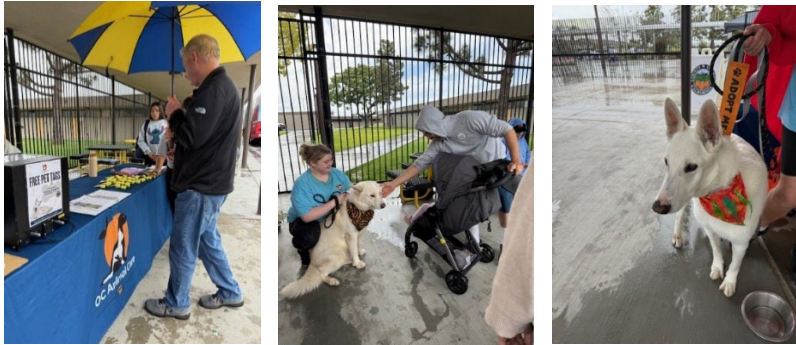
Anaheim Mobile Family Resource events continued throughout the quarter, making a positive impact in communities most in need.



# OC Animal Care



We had the opportunity to participate in several events to spread the word about responsible pet ownership, shelter programs, volunteer/foster opportunities and resources available to pet owners. As well as showcasing our adoptable dogs.



We attended the 2025 Children and Health Fair hosted by Orange County Board of Supervisors Chairman Doug Chaffee. While there, we promoted resources, provided free pet tags sponsored by Supervisor Doug Chaffee and showcased several of our adoptable dogs, who had a great time greeting attendees.



We attended the South County Pet Expo on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. We were able to share resources, seek out potential new fosters and volunteers, while showcasing some of our adoptable dogs.



We attended several of the Older Adults Get-Together events, presented by OC Public Libraries. At these Get-Togethers we were able to provide free pet id tags, promote our community resources, and help spread the word about all of our shelter pets awaiting their new forever homes.



Additionally, we hosted 5 Katy Cares and Heroes in Animal Care presentations in addition to numerous school projects, fundraisers, and outreach activities. These events host anywhere from 50-75 attendees, teaching young people about responsible pet ownership while interacting with amazingly patient therapy dogs.



We participated in 32 community events during this quarter.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
04/03/25	Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center	Anaheim
04/05/25	Spring into Love Adoption Event	OC Animal Care
04/12/25	Pet Food Pantry	OC Animal Care
04/12/25	Orange County Pet and Reptile Expo	Costa Mesa
04/16/25	Katy Cares	OC Animal Care
04/22/25	Fullerton College Earth Week Fair	Fullerton
04/24/25	Lake Forest Elementary School Career Day	Lake Forest
04/26/25	2025 Children and Family Health Fair	Anaheim
04/26/25	South County Pet Expo	Lake Forest
04/30/25	Katy Cares	OC Animal Care
05/01/25	Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center	OC Animal Care
05/03/25	Paws in the Park	Ladera Ranch
05/07/25	Applied Medical Community Res. Expo	Rancho Santa Margarita
05/08/25	Older Adults Get-Togethers	Laguna Woods





# OC Animal Care



05/10/25	Pet Food Pantry	OC Animal Care
05/13/25	Katy Cares	Cypress
05/14/25	NOCCCD 5 <sup>th</sup> Annual Employee Health And Wellness Fair	Cypress
5/15/25	Older Adults Get-Togethers	Rossmoor
05/17/25	Kitten Foster Orientation and Open House	OC Animal Care
05/21/25	Katy Cares	Irvine
05/22/25	Older Adults Get-Togethers	Costa Mesa
06/04/25	A Hidden Vine Pet Food Fundraiser And Adoption Event	Mission Viejo
06/06/25	OC Parks Sunset Cinema	Brea
06/07/25	Cal Animals Adopt a Pet Day	OC Animal Care
06/12/25	Presentation for Applied Medical	Rancho Santa Margarita
06/14/25	Pet Food Pantry	OC Animal Care
06/14/25	Rossmoor Family Festival	Rossmoor
06/21/25	Katy Cares	OC Animal Care
06/21/25	Pet-a-Porter	Costa Mesa
06/25/25	Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center	Anaheim
06/27/25	OC Parks Sunset Cinema	Fullerton
06/28/25	Kitten and Dog Foster Orientation	OC Animal Care

## 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. This past quarter we had 102 volunteers along with support from community groups.

## Community volunteer groups- Break down by month:

April: Helping Hands, Pacific Life Insurance, LatinX at UCI, and the UCI Red Cross.



May: OC Bar Association, Advantech, and UCI Red Cross Association.

June: Whole Foods Market, G4G Service Club, Hyundai, and Solventum

Volunteers contributed 408 hours to prep work, staging, directing traffic, taking stats, providing education, and connecting people with resources in the community, handing out over 66,290 pounds of food to approximately 2,809 animals in need.

Pet food dispensed- Break down by month:

April: 24,280 pounds to help feed 1,024 animals

May: 21,870 pounds to help feed 931 animals

June: 20,140 pounds to help feed 854 animals

Pet Food Pantry donors this past quarter were:

Solventum, A Hidden Vine, Petco, and Hyundai



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

## 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.

Foster caretakers are a vital piece of the OC Animal Care family. This quarter, a total of 795 animals were placed into our Foster Program. These animals were supported by 1,024 foster homes, reflecting that some animals may have been placed in foster care more than once, due to either changes in foster homes or the need for multiple placements. Our foster caretakers are saving lives!





## Foster-to-Adopt Program

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.

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 the dog so we can pass along the information to future adopters. During this quarter, a total of 79 dogs participated in our Foster-to-Adopt Program. These animals were supported by 91 homes, reflecting that some dogs may have participated in the Foster-to-Adopt more than once. 47 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.



Badger (A1864813) first came into the shelter in April 2024. He was timid and had very little confidence to approach people. He was nervous and had a constant flight response preferring to avoid any contact with people. It was clear Badger needed a slower approach and started working with our teams, earning the hearts of many volunteers who frequented his walks. He started showing off his playful goofy self in our play yards. Soon enough, he felt comfortable with respectful visitors/potential adopters.

Badger patiently waited at our shelter for his chance and a year later was chosen as a Foster-to-Adopt. By the end of the 14 days, the foster had completely fallen in love and let us know Badger was her family's "baby." We are so happy that Badger found his forever home.



## Large Dog Foster Program

The Dog Foster Program provides shelter pets a much-needed break from their routine by enjoying a "Stay-cation" in a foster parent's home. Our fosters complete



an application and are paired with a shelter pet based on preference and abilities. Fosters are provided the essential supplies (i.e. martingale collar, ID tag, food, and leash) and support from our Foster team with weekly check-ins, training guidance, and resources.

Foster dogs are continuously promoted as available for adoption on our website and through social media from photos, videos and information gathered during our weekly check-ins. Our foster dogs are provided extra opportunities to find their forever homes by attending off-site adoption events.



Foster stated: “Amazon (A1852283) has been amazing and loves all people. Amazon has perfected walking on a leash and no longer pulls. Amazon is treat-motivated and listens very well. He continues to decompress and is settling in.”

## Foster Recruitment

This quarter, the Foster Program had our kick-off Kitten Foster Orientation on May 17. Attendees learned how to become a kitten foster and help kittens on their journey to a forever home! Attendees met our team, watched bottle-feeding demonstrations, heard from a seasoned foster about her foster journey, and







toured the nursery to view kittens in need. To support the growing need for fosters, we also hosted a Kitten and Dog Foster Orientation on June 29.

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

## Volunteer Program

This report summarizes this quarter's activities for OC Animal Care's Volunteer Program and includes contribution hours, program enhancements/opportunities, and volunteer participation. Volunteers helped with exercising, grooming, handling, socializing, and enrichment for available animals, as well as cleaning, laundry, socializing and caring for kittens in the nursery. Volunteers also assist with showing dogs and cats at numerous offsite and onsite Adoption and Educational events and care and feeding shifts for our felines at Petco.

### Volunteer Contribution Hours this Quarter:

Total Volunteers with Service: 312

On-Site Volunteer Hours: 7,719

### Volunteer Tasks - Hours Logged

Dog Walk/Enrichment Hours: 5,722;

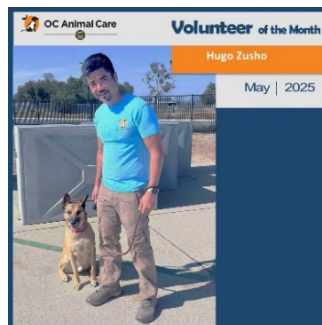
Cat Assist/Enrichment Hours: 602

Other (Support Services, Rabbits, Groomers, and Clinic Volunteers): 1,395

This is an extraordinary number of hours and we are so grateful for our volunteers!



Volunteer of the Month



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.

## Volunteer Coffee

Volunteer coffees are a great way for volunteers & staff to connect. Volunteer coffee is going strong as staff from various teams meet once a month with our



volunteers for an insightful peek into the many roles here at the shelter. This quarter's special guests included: Dr. Carissa Jones, Chief Veterinarian, and Sam Blankenship, Shelter Services Manager. We also hosted our quarterly Volunteer Roundtable which was attended by a variety of staff including: Monica Schmidt, OCAC Director; Jamie Link, Operations Manager; and Sam Blankenship.

We will continue hosting our coffee chats and quarterly roundtables to keep sharing news and hearing volunteer ideas and input.

**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 reviews steps taken to increase and improve adoptions and communication between OC Animal Care and Adoption Partners.

### Transports

This quarter we collaborated once again with GreaterGood Charities and helped 103 kittens and 2 dogs secure placement opportunities with our Northwest partners! Staff and volunteers did an amazing job getting them ready. We had volunteers help with building crates and staff from across multiple OCAC teams worked together to get the pets ready for their flight and delivered them straight to the tarmac. In addition, we have continued to work with our more local partners to help shelter pets find new positive pathways including cats, kittens, dogs, guinea pigs, rabbits and reptiles. Staff is grateful for all of our partnerships near and far!



It takes a village, from building crates and supplies, giving vaccines and health exams, to packing everyone up for a trip to the airport, to start the journey to loving new homes!



## Partner Updates

This quarter, we worked with our Foster Team to streamline and collaborate on our rescue partner and foster pleas. Our foster team sends out multiple pleas daily advertising our underage kittens/puppies that need specialized care to our foster caregivers. We were able to add a secondary contact list to these postings so that it would notify both our fosters and our partners/networkers at the same time. This has been very helpful to both teams, resulting in more pets being helped overall, in a shorter period of time.

If you're ready to help, choose the option below that best matches how you'd like to get involved.

[OC Animal Care Foster Volunteers Click Here!](#)

[Rescue Partners Click Here!](#)

♥ Litter Chocolate Pudding ♥\*\*can be split into duos, trios

Animal ID: A1924238, 39, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45

These 7 kittens are approximately 6 days old and should be bottle-fed every 2-3ish hours during the day and at least once overnight.



## Partner Adoptions

This quarter, over 750 pets were placed with non-profit rescue groups, local veterinarians, or with partner municipal and/or humane organizations. We sent out over 146 postings to our partners and networkers asking for assistance with our special needs pets not including underage kittens' postings that are being sent by our Foster Team. Our partners continue to be a big part of our success!





## Shelter Medical Pets Program

We continue to utilize the Medical Pets Program to help injured pets that come into OC Animal Care requiring specialized treatment. We continue to reach out to veterinarians and welcome their interest in participating. This quarter our rescue partners were truly amazing! They managed to take in all the pets needing advanced or specialized medical care and no pets had to participate in our Medical Pets Program.

## Success Story

We never know what we are going to encounter each day. Most days it is dogs, cats and pocket pets, but sometimes we receive a call that surprises even the most seasoned animal care staffer. This quarter we received a call about a large fish left abandoned in a small tank at a local park. Our officers quickly responded to the call and found an Oscar fish in distress and nearly all white in color, due to extremely low water temperature (estimated around 40-45 degrees F), minimal space and unfiltered/aerated water. The fish was rushed back to the shelter to get looked at and received fresh filtered water, with the necessary heater and a much larger tank. Oscar fish are large warm water tropical fish of the cichlid family and require temperatures of 75 to 80 degrees F. The fish, lovingly named "Johnny Depth", by our staff was held for a cruelty investigation, began to thrive in our care and was then released to rescue.

We are so happy we have rescue partners who specialize in pets like Johnny and will give them the best chance at finding a new home that will properly care for him. We'll miss you Johnny!



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