



AGENDA

OC ANIMAL CARE COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA



Wednesday, October 22, 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.

*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*



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ANIMAL CARE COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA



Wednesday, October 22, 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, 4th District
Elizabeth Cowan, Vice Chair, 5th District
Dr. Leslie Malo, Committee Member, 1st District
Vacant, Committee Member, 2nd District
Kim Kane, Committee Member, 3rd District

III. Minutes

Regular Meeting, July 23, 2025

Recommended Action: Committee approve the minutes of the July 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 January 28, 2026, 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 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

- Danielle Thomas, Chair, 4th District ABSENT
- Elizabeth Cowan, Vice Chair, 5th District PRESENT
- Dr. Leslie Malo, Committee Member, 1st District, PRESENT
- Vacant, Committee Member, 2nd District
- Kim Kane, Committee Member, 3rd District PRESENT

III. Minutes

Committee Members Comments

- Approve the Summary of Minutes of the meeting held on April 23, 2024.
- Motion to approve minutes: Motioned by Committee Member Dr. Malo, seconded by Committee Member Kim Kane
 - All in Favor: Vote was unanimous

IV. Regular Business

1. Public Education Program Report

- a. Public Information Officer, Alexa Pratt, shared information on the Let's Paws flyers that were distributed this quarter which included subject matter on spay/neuter, the importance of microchipping, and pet safety tips for Memorial Day.
- b. Alexa discussed the social media statistics for OCAC this quarter. Alexa described that the addition of three marketing interns has contributed to an increase in interactions and views across social media platforms.
 - OCAC added 654 new followers on Facebook.
 - OCAC Instagram added 1,200 new followers.
- c. Alexa discussed the OCAC Adoption Promotions that occurred this quarter including *Supermutt* for April, *Finding Fido*, for May, and *Bark to the Future*, for June, all of which waived fees for dogs 25 lbs. and over. Alexa added that in June, OCAC started \$50 *Feline Fridays* that will extend through the summer.
- d. Alexa described that on June 7th, OC Animal Care participated in *California Adopt a Pet Day*, hosted by Cal Animals, where a total of 169 pets were adopted, including 125 kittens and 24 dogs.
- e. Alexa shared that the new website has been launched and the updates are now active. She shared that she hopes the design is more user-friendly and encourages more people to check out the OC Animal Care website and ultimately increase adoptions.

Committee Member Comments

- Committee Member Kim Kane asked if someone in-house is creating the promotional flyers.
 - Alexa answered that Teresa who is a Staff Specialist at OCAC creates the flyers.
 - Director Monica Schmidt added that the flyers are also printed and distributed at community events, so there are digital and print copies available.
 - Committee Member Kim Kane said that Teresa does a good job, and that the flyers are eye-catching.
- 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 and resources. Alexandra explained the events are great opportunities to spread the word about responsible pet ownership and recruit fosters and volunteers. Alexandra continued that although resources are available on the website and social media, some may prefer to interact in person.
- g. Alexandra described several events that took place this quarter including the Children's Health Fair, hosted by Board of Supervisors Chairman Doug Chaffee, the South County Pet Expo Event, and several of the Older Adults Get Together hosted by OC Public Libraries, where OCAC provided free pet tags and community resources.
- h. Alexandra shared that five Katy Cares and Heroes in Animal Care presentations took place this quarter, which bring in anywhere from 50-75 attendees. Alexandra shared this is a great way to connect with the younger generations and teach about responsible pet ownership.
- i. Alexandra stated that there was a total of 32 community events attended this quarter throughout the OCAC service area.
- j. Alexandra explained there was a total of 102 volunteers who helped to prep, stage, control traffic, and hand out food during the Pet Food Pantries held this quarter, which totaled in 408 volunteer hours. Alexandra stated that OC Animal Care handed out over 66,290 pounds of food for 2,809 animals in need this quarter. Pet Food Pantry donors included Solventum, PetSmart, A Hidden Vine, Petco, and Hyundai.

Committee Member Comments

- Vice Chair Elizabeth Cowan said she noticed the Pet Pantry numbers have decreased over the last three months compared to previous quarters and asked if the reason can be identified.
- Director Monica Schmidt responded that OC Animal Care gives what it gets, because it is donation based, the amount of food given away can vary, and another factor is the number of pets each person has, although OCAC will give away the food they have until they run out.
- Vice Chair Elizabeth Cowan asked if there is ever any leftover food.
- Director Schmidt said that sometimes there is leftover food, especially for small mammals. Any leftover food will be saved for the next Pet Pantry if it is not expired. Director Schmidt added that they do tend to run out of supplies at the Pet Pantry. She stated the Pet Pantry is primarily for food, but any supplies that OCAC does not need or cannot use at the shelter will be donated to Pet Pantry, for example dog toys that are not deemed safe to be in the kennel, or cat toys that

cannot be easily sanitized. Director Schmidt added that many dog sweaters are donated to OCAC consistently throughout the year and are often given away at Pet Pantry until they run out.

- Vice Chair Elizabeth Cowan asked if there is a red flag on the Pet Pantry numbers due to lack of interest or lack of donations.
- Director Schmidt said there is interest, although donations can be hard to get sometimes. She added there was a recent donation from a local company which donated their short-dated food which will hopefully improve numbers for next quarter. Director Schmidt added that occasionally some of the regular donors have unforeseen circumstances that can contribute to less food donated than usual due to an allocation change on their end.
- Committee Member Dr. Leslie Malo said that he belongs to a service club that is interested in sponsoring a Pet Food Pantry. He asked if there was a particular month that donations are needed.
- Director Schmidt responded that she would run a report to find the months with the lowest numbers and let him know.
- It was moved by Committee Member Dr. Leslie Malo, seconded by Committee Member Kim Kane.

a. Ayes: 3, Nays: 0. Motion passed.

2. Foster Program Report

- a. Alexandra Su reported that 795 animals were placed in the OCAC Foster Programs this quarter, supported by 1,024 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 79 dogs were placed in Foster-to-Adopt, supported by 91 homes. Alexandra shared that if dogs were returned due to not being a good fit in their original foster home, info was gathered by the foster team to better place them in their next home. Of the dogs that participated, 47 dogs were adopted, maintaining over a 50 percent adoption rate.
- c. Alexandra highlighted the story of Badger, A German Shepherd mix who was timid and lacking confidence when he first came to OC Animal Care, but quickly became a staff and volunteer favorite. Alexandra shared that this quarter, adopters were drawn to Badger but still not ready to fully commit, so they participated in the Foster-to-Adopt Program. After 14 days the adopters decided to adopt Badger, and shared that he is now the “baby” of the family.
- 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, but they are able to provide dogs with a break from the shelter. Alexandra highlighted the success story of Amazon, a large, long-stay dog who was exhibiting kennel stress. Alexandra explained he was ranked as a high priority to place by the Foster Team, and he was matched with a foster family where he is currently decompressing and adjusting well. Alexandra shared Amazon will be invited to onsite and offsite adoption events to promote him for adoption, in addition to social media posts with photos and videos provided by the foster family.
- e. Alexandra continued to speak about foster recruitment, and shared it is an important part of the Foster Program to sustain the number of available fosters. On May 17th there was a kick-off Kitten Foster Orientation that included meeting members of the Foster Team, a bottle-feeding demonstration, and a tour of the kitten nursery. Alexandra shared that this is an important event where fosters can learn what goes

- into caring for small kittens, and it helps to ease any anxieties potential fosters may have.
- f. In the end of June, Alexandra shared a Kitten and Dog Foster Orientation was held.
 - g. Alexandra shared in addition to the foster orientations, recruitment efforts continue at community events, by word of mouth, and flyers.

Committee Member Comments

- Vice Chair Elizabeth Cowan questioned if the foster orientations relate to the total number of fosters listed previously for the quarter.
- Alexandra responded that people who are interested after the orientation can be onboarded as a foster that same day, however, she does not have an exact number of fosters that signed up because of the orientations.
- Vice Chair Elizabeth Cowan asked what the turnover rate is for a foster and on average how long does a foster stay in the program.
- Alexandra responded that it depends, some families have been fosters for six years, where some are young families with children are looking to foster just for the summer. Other circumstances like work or moving can affect the foster turnover rate, but Alexandra shared that is why recruitments are held so often.
- Vice Chair Elizabeth Cowan asked what the difference between the Kitten Foster Orientation and the Kitten and Dog Foster Orientation is.
- Alexandra responded the two events are similar, but the Dog Foster Orientation is tailored more towards dogs.
- Vice Chair Elizabeth Cowan asked if the orientations were two separate events, and if a person interested in fostering kittens would have to sit through an orientation for dog fosters.
- Alexandra clarified that they are two separate events, and the Dog and Kitten Foster Orientation happened at two different times with fosters welcome to attend either or both orientations.
- Vice Chair Elizabeth Cowan asked how many people attended the orientations.
- Alexandra responded around 20 people attended each orientation.
- It was moved by Committee Member Dr. Leslie Malo, seconded by Committee Member Kim Kane.
 - a. Ayes: 3, Nays: 0. Motion passed.

3. Volunteer Program Report

- a. Alexandra Su described the variety of tasks OCAC volunteers assist with, including socialization for the animals, dog walking, sorting through donations, enrichment, cleaning, laundry, and events. This quarter, there were 312 volunteers with 7,719 hours logged.
- b. Alexandra shared the Volunteers of the Month for this quarter. Carole Metzinger was awarded for the month of April, Hugo Zusho, for May, and Sandy Peetoom, for June.
- c. Alexandra stated that this quarter a Volunteer Coffee event was held, which provides volunteers a chance to chat with staff and gain insight in what is going on around the shelter. Staff guests at the coffee event included Dr. Carissa Jones, Chief Veterinarian, and Samuel Blankenship, Shelter Services Manager. There was also a Volunteer Roundtable held this quarter, which is an opportunity for volunteers and staff to connect. Alexandra shared the volunteers can offer feedback and insight during the roundtable. Alexandra shared that this quarter, during the roundtable, volunteers

requested a shaded area in the employee parking lot they can use while walking dogs. Alexandra said OC Animal Care was able to provide a fully enclosed, shaded pop-up structure, which volunteers now utilize on their walks.

Committee Members Comments

- Committee Member Kim Kane commented that it can be hard to attract and keep volunteers, but OC Animal Care looks like it is doing a good job.
- Vice Chair Elizabeth Cowan asked how often volunteer recruitments happen.
- Operations Manager Jamie Link replied it is once or twice a month depending on when Samuel Blankenship is available to conduct Dogs 101 training in correlation with the orientation.
- Vice Chair Elizabeth Cowan asked how often the Volunteer Coffee events take place and how they are advertised.
- Operations Manager Jamie Link answered that they are sent to the volunteers through email and Facebook group notifications. Volunteers can then log on to Volgistics, the online volunteer platform, to sign up to attend the event. Once volunteers are signed up, staff can see who will be attending the event through Volgistics.
- Director Monica Schmidt added that there is a volunteer event once a month. Last quarter there were two Volunteer Coffee events and one Volunteer Roundtable. The Volunteer Coffee event is usually held in the morning either on a Friday or Saturday, depending on staff availability. Director Schmidt added that one Volunteer Coffee event included a presentation from Dr. Carissa Jones, and the following month there was a presentation from Samuel Blankenship, who presented on dog behavior, which was requested by the volunteers. Director Schmidt clarified each presentation was its own unique event.
- Vice Chair Elizabeth Cowan asked if the subject matter and presentations were flexible.
- Director Monica Schmidt added that Dr. Carissa Jones is usually booked for a presentation going into kitten season to educate volunteers on neonate kittens and disease prevention because it is seasonally relevant.
- Committee Member Elizabeth Cowan asked how many people attended Volunteer Coffee and Volunteer Roundtable.
- Operations Manager, Jamie Link responded the lowest she has seen has been 10-15 attendees, and usually there are 15-20 attendees.
- Vice Chair Elizabeth Cowan asked how many attended the Volunteer Roundtable.
- Director Monica Schmidt said that around 30 people were in attendance.
- It was moved by Committee Member Dr. Malo, seconded by Committee Member Kim Kane.
 - a. Ayes: 3, Nays: 0. Motion passed.

4. Adoption Program Report

- a. Tammy Osborn described OC Animal Care collaborated with Greater Good Charities to transport 103 kittens to the Pacific Northwest, along with two dogs. Tammy described how staff prepared for the transport, including arriving at the shelter at 3:00 AM to load the animals on trucks to take to the airport, where staff then loaded the animals on to the plane.

- b. Director Schmidt added that the Department of Animal Services from Los Angeles County was also in attendance at the airport to transport animals that had been displaced from fires, and that OC Animal Care was happy to have the unique opportunity to partner with them during this transport.
- c. Tammy continued that this quarter, the Rescue Team collaborated with the Foster Team to streamline foster and rescue plea emails. The email pleas now include both rescue and foster links which has decreased the number of emails sent and saves time for staff. Tammy continued that she believes the update has been successful.
- d. Tammy stated that over 750 pets were placed with shelter partners, local veterinarians, or other animal organizations this quarter. Tammy stated that 146 postings were sent to partners and networkers. Tammy mentioned that the Rescue Team is very grateful for the support from shelter partners, especially during the busy kitten season.
- e. Tammy continued that this quarter, no pets were placed in the medical program due to being picked up by rescues who had provided the necessary medical care.
- f. Tammy concluded by telling an adoption success story of a large Oscar fish in a small tank sitting at the park. When Field Services received the call and arrived at the park, the fish was in distress and not getting enough oxygen. OCAC provided him with a bigger tank and other necessary supplies. Tammy continued that the staff had become attached to the fish and named him Johnny Depth. After outreach to OC Animal Care shelter partners, Johnny was picked up by an exotic pet rescue.
- g. Alexandra shared that the Rescue Team had reached a goal they had set at the start of 2025, which was accomplished by building a relationship with a partner Humane Society. Alexandra explained that streamlining communication and creating a schedule of visits to OCAC has been very beneficial.
- h. Alexandra shared that the Foster Team has added five new interns who are college students and looking to build a career in the animal welfare industry.
- i. Alexandra shared that the Foster Team had set an additional goal at the start of 2025 to automate emails for their team, and they have done so by using Postmaster in conjunction with Chameleon software. The automation of emails has been successful and created more time to complete other tasks. Alexandra shared that a 3-3-3 Rule video was created in-house and will be sent to fosters via email, which will further streamline workflow for the Foster Team.

Committee Members Comments

- Vice Chair Elizabeth Cowan asked if the crates used in the transport were for one kitten, or multiple kittens.
- Tammy Osborn replied that some crates contained 2-3 kittens.
- Alexandra Su added that the veterinarians had medically cleared the kittens before the transport, and it is beneficial to have the body warmth of other kittens for the plane ride. Tammy added someone from Greater Good Charities was also on the plane with the kittens to make sure the animals were safe during the flight.
- Vice Chair Elizabeth Cowan asked how big an Oscar fish is.
- Operations Manager Jamie Link replied it was a medium sized fish, but Oscars can grow up to about a foot.
- It was moved by Committee Member Dr. Malo, seconded by Committee Member Kim Kane.
 - Ayes: 3, Nays: 0. Motion passed.

V. Director's Comments

- Director Monica Schmidt started by giving an update on the Board Directives that were put into place July 1st. OC Animal Care expanded viewing hours on July 1st, and Director Schmidt thanked the CEO's Office and Human Resources Department, who had supported OC Animal Care expanding staff to pre-covid levels, and OC Animal Care has added seven positions to the Shelter Team. Director Schmidt added that interviews are in progress for the Community Liaison position, although the Kennel Attendant positions were the priority, and were completed by July 1st. Director Schmidt added that the second quarter statistics were published on the website and moving forward the statistics will be published monthly.
- Director Schmidt added that the next Quarterly Adoption Event is coming up August 2nd, and that it is a great time to come adopt a pet, which will have discounted adoption fees. It will also be the kick-off for Clear the Shelters month sponsored by NBC and Telemundo.
- Director Schmidt shared there will be a Free Microchip Event on September 20th, sponsored by Noble Friends where residents in the OC Animal Care service areas can bring up to two dogs or cats, or a combination of the two, to be microchipped at the event held at OCAC.
- Director Schmidt highlighted a unique case where OC Animal Care took in 124 polydactyl cats from a residence in Fullerton. Director Schmidt thanked the staff who played a part in the rescue, including the Field Team, Clinic Staff, Shelter Team, Rescue Team, Customer Service, and Foster Team. Director Schmidt shared that teams that you may not expect to be involved, such as the Procurement Team, played a vital role as they assisted with all the supplies needed for the cats.

Committee Member Comments

- Vice Chair Elizabeth Cowan asked about if the cats have been advertised to be adopted yet.
- Alexa Pratt responded that a social media post will be going out today.

VI. Public Comments

1. Public Speaker #1 Michael M

a) Michael M said he would like to read two paragraphs from an article written by Ed Baks, former Director of Los Angeles Animal Services. The subject of the column was how to respond to animals displaced due to ICE deportations. Michael M suggested that measures be taken to accommodate the displaced animals, and to be prepared for an influx of animals to the shelter. Michael suggested residents should be prepared with information on what to do with their pet should they be deported.

2. Public Speaker #2 April Josephson

- a) April commented that she is happy with the staffing updates, the expanded hours, and the Large Dog Foster Program.
- b) She also commented that she would like to make sure that stray cats are scanned for microchips when they come into the shelter to be sure they are returned to the owner.
- c) April added that she has received several calls about displaced pets from individuals who have been deported and would be happy to collaborate with OCAC on how to educate the public.
- d) April commented on a transport to Idaho where two French Bulldogs had died. She said she did not know why the French Bulldogs would be on a long transport and suggested to not transport French Bulldogs due to breed related breathing issues.

VII. Advisory Committee Comments

1. Committee Member Kim Kane said loves the community outreach efforts and is happy with the website improvements. Committee Member Kane also asked about how many adopters are utilizing the *GoodPup* services.

2. Alexandra Su responded she could look at the numbers and get back to her with an answer and added that *GoodPup* is the main communicator with the adopters regarding the training. Alexandra added the Intake staff are trained to ask adopters who are returning dogs if they have used *GoodPup*.
3. Committee Member Kim Kane asked if there was an influx of pets to the shelter during the Fourth of July Holiday.
4. Director Schmidt responded that the number of strays was slightly lower than the last two years. Director Schmidt added that The Fourth of July holiday was a three-day weekend which may have correlated to higher arrest numbers, because OCAC received a higher number of calls to the Field Services Department to pick up pets who were with people who had been arrested.
5. Director Schmidt added that when people are detained, regardless of the reason, the pets have up to a 30-day detainment period where they can be released to the owner, or the owner can find a designee to pick up the pet on the owners' behalf. Director Schmidt added this applies to any law enforcement detainment, or a hospital stay. Director Schmidt stated that once OCAC has confirmed the owner has been released from their detainment, the owner will then have seven days to pick up their pet from OCAC.
6. Committee Member Kim Kane commented that she volunteers at the Irvine Hospital and asked what can be done to help an injured person who is unable to take care of their pet.
7. Director Schmidt clarified that Irvine Animal Shelter would have their own policy for medical pets, If the pet were in the OC Animal Care service areas, they would have up to a 30-day hold period. Director Schmidt added the Police Department or Fire Department will usually call OC Animal Care to come pick up the pet once their owner has been detained.
8. Committee Member Dr. Malo thanked Orange County for allowing the new hires at OCAC, and mentioned perceived problems from the public can be the result of inadequate staffing, and said he was glad that it has taken some pressure off. Committee Member Dr. Malo also thanked OCAC staff and volunteers.
9. Committee Member Kim Kane asked if there is a *GoodPup* flyer.
10. Alexandra Su answered that there is a flyer that was published when the program launched, and it is also supplied in all adoption packets.
11. Committee Member Kim Kane responded that she would like to share the flyer on Facebook, and that it is beneficial to put more responsibility on the adopter to train their dog.
12. Tammy commented that a staff member at OCAC used *GoodPup* and found it very helpful.
13. Vice Chair Elizabeth Cowan stated that she had the opportunity to meet with OCAC staff about their goals, and commented she is glad Alexandra Su gave an update and celebrated her team's accomplishments. She added that she is thankful to have met with staff and would be happy to receive updates about how the shelter is doing after the new expanded hours.

XI. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 12:54 pm.



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.

PET SAFETY TIPS
4TH OF JULY



Celebrate Pet Safety this 4th of July!

Are you having fun over? Be aware of these party hazards that can be harmful for your pets!

1. Keep alcohol and party foods out of paws reach!
2. Keep charcoal, fireworks, sparklers, and glow sticks away from curious pets.
3. Keep toxic chemicals away from pets such as insecticides, insect repellent, and sunscreen.
4. Establish boundaries and monitor the grill at all times.
5. Watch out for leftover party favors and decorations that your pet may find.

Learn pet safety tips and check out the "Get Involved" page on ocpetinfo.com

Let's Paws

PET SAFETY TIPS
4TH OF JULY SAFE SPACE



Celebrate Pet Safety this 4th of July!

Fireworks are loud and scary! Bring your pet indoors and provide them with a safe space.

1. Designate a quiet room or crate for your pet.
2. Keep doors and windows shut, and keep curtains closed.
3. Place a sign on the door so no one enters the room.
4. Play calming music in the background, or have the TV playing to distract your pet from the loud noise.
5. Give your pet their favorite chew toy, or a Kong, to keep them busy.

Learn pet safety tips and check out the "Get Involved" page on ocpetinfo.com

Let's Paws

IMPORTANCE OF MICROCHIPPING



1 in 3 pets will get lost. Without an ID, 90% won't return home.

Learn pet safety tips and check out the "Get Involved" page on ocpetinfo.com

What is a Microchip?
Microchips are the size of a rice grain and are implanted with a quick injection between the shoulder blades. A handheld scanner detects the microchip number and, with one quick phone call to the microchip company, a shelter or clinic, will be in contact with you.

Why Use a Microchip?
Collars and ID tags can break or slip off. A microchip is permanent, responsive, and can be purchased at almost every veterinary office.

Remember to Update!
Be sure to keep the address and phone number on file updated. If you move or change your phone number, update your contact information with the microchip company.

Let's Paws

IT'S HOT OUTSIDE!
THE GROUND MAY BE HOT!



Asphalt can burn your pet's paws. Make sure to avoid hot surfaces when the weather starts up!

Learn pet safety tips and check out the "Get Involved" page on ocpetinfo.com

Let's Paws

Air Temperature:	Asphalt Temperature:
77°	→ 125°
86°	→ 135°
87°	→ 143°

Did you know?
At 125°F, skin destruction can occur in just 60 seconds. Always check the asphalt prior to allowing your pet to walk on it.

PET SAFETY TIPS
HOT WEATHER



Never Leave Your Pet in the Car
Never leave your pet alone in a vehicle, even with the windows cracked. It only takes 10 minutes for the temperature inside to reach 100 degrees. If you see an animal in a hot car, try to locate the owner or call 911.

Watch Out for Hot Pavement
Don't leave your pet standing on the hot pavement and keep walking to a maximum. Remember, if it's too hot for bare feet, it's too hot for bare paws.

Always Provide Water and Shade
Bring your pet inside during the hot day and let them rest indoors. Be sensitive to the needs of older, obese or short-nosed dogs, who are less tolerant of the heat and should be kept indoors in air conditioning as much as possible.

Limit Exercise
Don't let playful pets overexert themselves in extremely warm weather. Exercise in the early morning and late evening to avoid the heat.

Watch for Signs of Heatstroke
Excessive panting and drooling, high heart rate, disoriented gait, mobility problems, high body temperature, vomiting, and diarrhea are all symptoms of heat stroke. If your pet is experiencing these symptoms, contact your vet immediately.

Learn pet safety tips and check out the "Get Involved" page on ocpetinfo.com

Let's Paws

IT'S HOT OUTSIDE!
EXERCISING WITH YOUR PET



Take extra precautions when exercising with your pet.

Learn pet safety tips and check out the "Get Involved" page on ocpetinfo.com

Let's Paws

Exercise at dawn or dusk.
Plan activities at this time morning and/or late evening to avoid the hottest part of the day.

Watch out for hot pavement.
If it's too hot for bare feet, it's too hot for paws.

Be aware of special needs dogs.
Chow, Akita, or short-nosed dogs, are less tolerant of the heat and should be kept indoors in air conditioning as much as possible.

Take a break.
Be sure your pet has frequent access to fresh water and shade to keep them cool and hydrated.

Use pet shoes.
Protect your pet's paws when going outside for a walk.

Social Media Statistics (July - September)

Facebook

- Added 111 new followers
- 32K followers
- Increased reach 12%

Instagram

- Added 1,000 new followers
- 21K followers
- Increased reach 16%

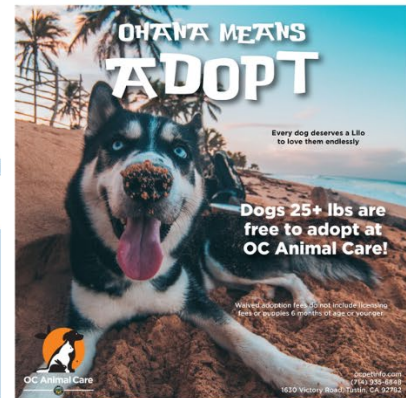


OC Animal Care



Adoption Promotions

From July through September, the adoption promotion was extended to waive fees for dogs 25+ pounds. In August for Clear the Shelters month, the promotion included a 2-for-1 on cats and kittens.



On Saturday, Aug. 2, 2025, OC Animal Care hosted a Clear the Shelters Adoption Event. 80 pets were adopted during the event.

On Saturday, Sep. 20, 2025, OC Animal Care hosted a Free Microchip Clinic sponsored by the Noble Friends Foundation. Thirty-seven dogs and cats were microchipped.



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 Department partners with various 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.

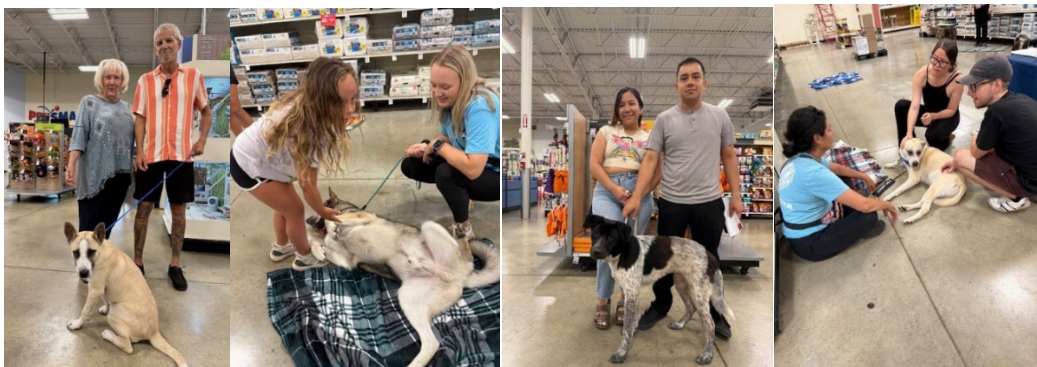


OC Animal Care



Anaheim Mobile Family Resource events continued throughout the quarter.

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 two events at PetSmart in Santa Ana to showcase adoptable dogs and promote our services to the community. Two of the dogs were adopted to their new forever homes.



At the Active Older Appreciation Event hosted by Council Member Carlos A. Leon on Sep. 27, we were able to share resources, seek out potential new fosters and volunteers, while showcasing some of our shelter dogs.



We hosted 1 Katy Cares and Heroes in Animal Care presentations and 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 amazing therapy dogs.



We participated in 37 community events during this quarter.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
07/03/25	Fountain Valley Concerts in the Park	Fountain Valley
07/04/25	Yankee Doodle Dog Show	Anaheim
07/10/25	Fountain Valley Concerts in the Park	Fountain Valley
07/12/25	Pet Food Pantry	OC Animal Care
07/12/25	Rossmoor Family Festival	Rossmoor
07/15/25	Katy Cares	Anaheim
07/24/25	Fountain Valley Concerts in the Park	Fountain Valley
07/25/25	OC Parks Sunset Cinema	Anaheim
07/26/25	PetSmart Adoption Event	Santa Ana
07/30/25	Anaheim Family Mobile Resource Center	Anaheim
08/01/25	OC Parks Sunset Cinema	Laguna Niguel
08/02/25	Clear the Shelters Adoption Event	OC Animal Care
08/05/25	National Night Out	Lake Forest
08/05/25	National Night Out	Placentia



OC Animal Care



<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
08/05/25	National Night Out	Fullerton
08/05/25	National Night Out	Villa Park
08/06/25	National Night Out	Yorba Linda
08/07/25	Anaheim Family Mobile Resource Center	Anaheim
08/09/25	Pet Food Pantry	OC Animal Care
08/09/25	Rossmoor Family Festival	Rossmoor
08/15/25	Cultural Heritage Festival	Fountain Valley
08/16/25	Cultural Heritage Festival	Fountain Valley
08/17/25	Cultural Heritage Festival	Fountain Valley
08/18/25	Tustin Legacy Community Meeting	Tustin
08/22/25	OC Parks Sunset Cinema	Orange
08/23/25	PetSmart Adoption Event	Santa Ana
08/26/25	National Dog Day Presentation	Anaheim
08/27/25	Anaheim Family Mobile Resource Center	Anaheim
09/04/25	Anaheim Family Mobile Resource Center	Anaheim
09/10/25	EQUUS Workforce Solutions Resource Fair	Anaheim
09/11/25	OCEA Health Fair	Santa Ana
09/13/25	Pet Food Pantry	OC Animal Care
09/13/25	Rossmoor Family Festival	Rossmoor
09/20/25	Free Microchip Clinic	OC Animal Care
09/20/25	Supervisor Chaffee Kids Fishing Derby	Placentia
09/21/25	Girl Scout Troop Donation Drive	Irvine
09/27/25	Active Older Adult Appreciation Event	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. This past quarter we had 102 volunteers and support from various community groups.

Community volunteer groups- Break down by month:

July: G4G Service Club, Del Taco/Jack in The Box, Gray West Construction, Infinite Electronics

August: G4G Service Club, LBA Logistics, Whole Foods Market, CarMax

September: Wildan, GGHS Girls League, Whole Food Market, CBRE Construction

Volunteers contributed 400 hours to prep work, staging, directing traffic, taking stats, providing education, and connecting people with resources, handing out over 67,920 pounds of food to help feed approximately 2,931 animals in need.

Pet food dispensed- Break down by month:

July: 21,110 pounds to help feed 876 animals

August: 21,580 pounds to help feed 942 animals

September: 25,230 pounds to help feed 1,113 animals

Pet Food Pantry donors this past quarter were:

Herz Pet food/JSP America Inc, Petco, San Diego Humane Society and United Across Borders Foundation.

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 958 animals were placed into our Foster Program. These animals were



supported by 1,201 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 112 dogs participated in our Foster-to-Adopt Program. These animals were supported by 128 homes, reflecting that some dogs may have participated in the Foster-to-Adopt more than once. 63 dogs were adopted through the program.

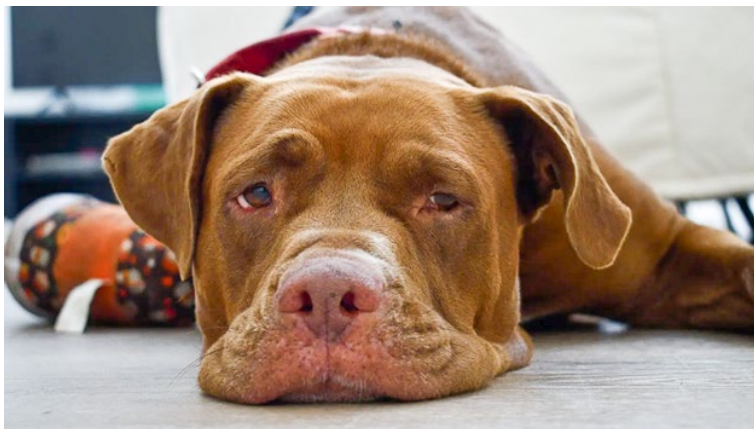


As part of the program, staff gather and review statistics such as number of participants, reasons for not adopting, return rate of those adopted. As with any programming, analysis is based on quantitative as well as qualitative information.

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 info gathered during weekly check-ins. Foster dogs are provided opportunities to find their forever homes by attending off-site adoption events. During this quarter, 10 dogs participated in our Large Dog Foster Program. These animals were supported by 11 homes, reflecting that some dogs may have participated in the program more than once.



Solar (A1863979) relaxing while in foster. Solar was later adopted July of 2025.

Foster Recruitment-Kitten Kits in Action

Little Man's Journey: A Tale of Compassion and Connection

The moment Little Man was discovered, the finder reached out for help. Instead of immediate shelter intake, they were offered a Kitten Kit— including formula, bottles, a heating pad, and hand on step-by-step care instructions. This simple



diversion tactic empowered the finder to become a temporary caregiver, giving Little Man the nurturing he needed without overwhelming shelter resources.

By the time Little Man was 2 months old, he entered our care and was healthy, socialized, and ready for adoption. He was adopted within days, his playful spirit and loving nature a testament to the love he received.

This story is more than a successful diversion—it's a reminder that meaningful connections can be built through resources, support, and shared purpose. The Kitten Kit didn't just save a life—it sparked a ripple of compassion that continues to grow.

From the finder, "Thank you from our hearts to yours, for providing the supplies and support! It's a team effort! Ya'll have really empowered us with knowledge, thank you! It was your kitten kit which got us through. I love telling Little Man's story and I rave about you all to so many people in OC, spreading the word about your services."



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 contributed to exercising, grooming, handling, training/socializing, and enrichment for available animals, as well as cleaning, laundry, socializing and caring for 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 offsite and onsite Adoption and Educational events. As well as care and feeding shifts for our felines at Petco.



Volunteer Contribution Hours this Quarter:

Total Volunteers with Service: 284

On-Site Volunteer Hours: 9,897

Volunteer Tasks - Hours Logged

Dog Walking/Enrichment Hours: 6,623; Cat Assistance/Enrichment Hours: 2,525
Other (Includes Support Services, Rabbits, Groomers, and Clinic Volunteers): 749

What an extraordinary number of hours! We are grateful for our volunteers.

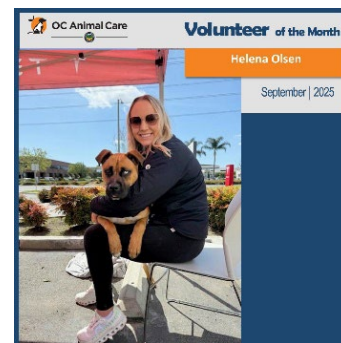
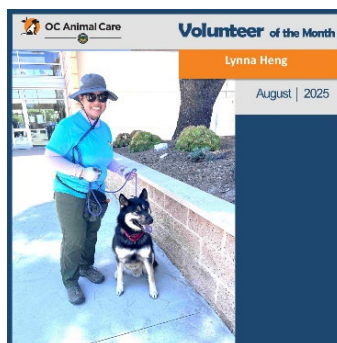
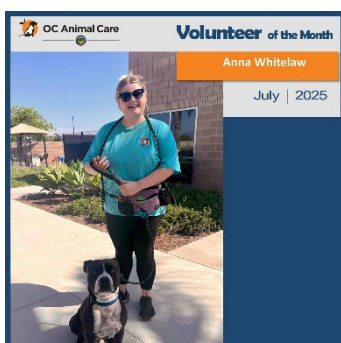
Volunteer Coffee

Our volunteer coffee is a great way for volunteers and department staff to connect. Volunteer coffee is going strong as staff members 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 Nicole Williams AAA, Lt. Fisk from Field Services, and our quarterly Volunteer Roundtable. We also hosted our quarterly Volunteer Roundtable which was attended by a variety of staff including: Monica Schmidt, OCAC Director, Alex Su, Shelter Programs Manager and Sam Blankenship, Shelter Services Manager

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

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.



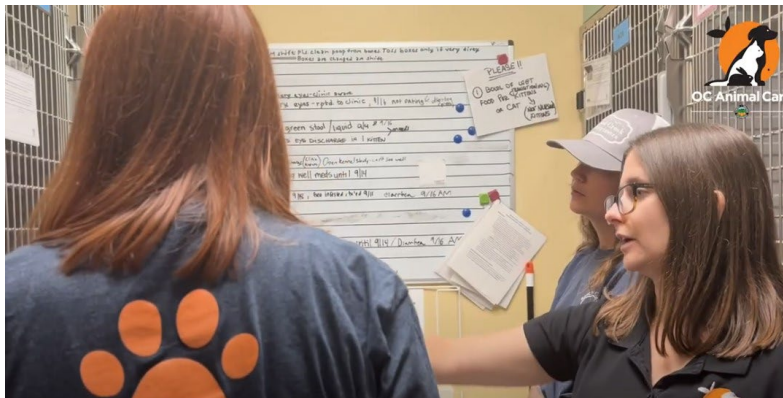
Recommended Action: The Committee receives and files the report.



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



Picking kittens for a shelter transfer

This quarter we organized several transports and worked on group transfers with multiple organizations. Some of them were not as far away, but they still resulted in many pets getting an opportunity to find their forever homes. Overall, these adoptions resulted in 44 dogs and 98 cats and kittens finding placement.

We have a group working with us that is now coming in regularly to pick pets for their adoption center, plus our Petco location has been thriving. In addition, we have also continued to work with our more local partners to help shelter pets find new homes. Our staff is grateful for all of our partnerships!

Partner Updates

This quarter we redesigned one of our office spaces downstairs to become a new workspace for our Rescue Coordinators. This enables our coordinators to be able to work more closely with our partners in an easily accessible location.

In late September of 2025, we notified our partners that beginning October 1, we have expanded to include dedicated Rescue Office Hours, for our valued 501(c)(3) shelter, rescue groups, and their affiliated networkers to visit and connect with animals who are urgently in need of rescue placement, without an appointment.



When: Wednesday's 1PM-3PM & Sunday's 11AM-1PM.

Location: OC Animal Care's Rescue Office, 1st floor. Partners can check in at the main lobby to be connected with our Rescue Coordinators.

During these hours, partners will have the opportunity to:

-  Meet animals with medical or behavioral challenges who need rescue placement
-  Explore new partnerships and strengthen relationships with our team
-  Receive detailed information about the animals to ensure the animal is the right fit for their organization

Our goal is to continue building a compassionate and effective rescue network. Whether they are a long-time partner or a new organization to our community, we welcome them to drop by, connect, and help us make a difference.

Aside from these walk-in hours, our Rescue team members will continue to be available 7 days/week to assist with questions, schedule appointments, or arrange special accommodations to help our pets in need.

Partner Adoptions

This quarter, over 940 pets were placed with non-profit rescue groups, local veterinarians, or with partner municipal and/or humane organizations. We sent out over 175 postings to our partners and networkers asking for assistance with our special needs pets. Our amazing partners continue to be a big part of our success in finding positive pathways for our most in-need shelter pets.





Shelter Medical Pets Program

We continue to have 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 we had one medical pet.



Poppy came in with a severe femur fracture and her pelvis was broken in several places. She had surgery to repair both her pelvis and femur and recovered quickly in the care of one of our foster caregivers. Her foster caregiver fell in love with her and gave her a forever home.

Success Story



Often times, pets come in to us severely injured and require advanced veterinary care. Chance was one of those pets. He was hit by a car and was suffering from head trauma, lung injuries and other injuries to his legs. He was in shock when he came in and we were able to stabilize him, but we knew he needed 24-hour care and a neurology specialist. We reached out to all of our partners and one of them had the resources to get him the advanced and specialized care he needed. We are happy to report that Chance made it through the woods and is expected to recover. He still has a ways to go, but he is past the critical stages and can work on his rehabilitation in the comfort of a loving foster home.

Recommended Action: The Committee receives and files the report.