

March 2018 Director's Report for Pima Animal Care Center



Figure 1 Animal Protection Officer cuddles a dog rescued from under a trailer with collar badly embedded in his neck.

Animal Center News

- PACC took in 1,160 pets and achieved a save rate of 89% compared to March 2017 when PACC took in 1,132 and achieved a save rate of 84%.
- The Law Enforcement Training Institute of the University of Missouri held a weeklong Advanced Cruelty Investigations training at PACC providing certification to attendees. Several PACC officers along with officers from around the country, attended.
- PACC held its first on-site vaccine and microchip clinic, providing free microchips and vaccines to approximately 80 pets from the 85713 zip code.
- PACC received a grant to host 25 shelter professionals from around the United States, who will travel to Tucson to spend four days learning about PACC's lifesaving programs:
<http://www.maddiesfund.org/medium-large-dog-foster.htm>
- Director of Cat Lifesaving at Austin Pets Alive! Monica Frenden spent four days at PACC conducting a cat program assessment and providing consultation on how to improve cat and kitten care and lifesaving at PACC.
- PACC staff and volunteers participated in the Loop celebration, with a large, interactive pet station featuring adoptable dogs and an interactive pet display with pet rodents and reptiles. Twelve dogs were adopted at the event.

- Veterinary Behaviorist and Maddie's Fund Director of Research, Dr. Sheila D'Arpino and Veterinary Epidemiologist, Dr. Gary Patronek, visited PACC to assist leadership in developing an evidence-based approach to shelter operations, with particular focus on the upcoming foster expansion study. The study period begins on April 16.
- PACC has been selected as a pilot shelter for the Maddie's Pet Assistant app, which is a tool to help foster caregivers and adopters with enhanced support for questions or challenges: <http://www.maddiesfund.org/mpa.htm>
- PACC held a volunteer stakeholder meeting to discuss how and why life and death decisions are made for PACC pets. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7AUDbdj6vyY&feature=youtu.be>
- PACC partnered with the Red Cross and Veteran Stand Down to provide donations and services to pets owned by veterans.
- Shelter leadership staff have been invited to present at every major, national animal welfare conference in 2018 including the Humane Society Animal Care Expo, the Best Friends National Conference and the National Animal Control Association Conference. Shelter Director Kristen Auerbach as well as Chief Veterinarian Jennifer Wilcox and Chief Animal Protection Officer will all be speaking.

Personnel Updates

- The four foster coordinators are Cynthia Franco (cats), Rosio Reyes (medical and juvenile funded by PACC), Patricia O'Grady (dogs) and Rachel Jones (marketing and placement). Rachel Jones begins on April 16, the beginning of the Maddie's Fund study period.
- Esteban Rodriguez started as the Field and Community Services Program Coordinator.
- Megan Lumpkin was selected and started in her role as the Behavior and Enrichment Assistant.
- Three animal protection officers were selected and begin in April.
- Two Community Cat Technicians have completed the hiring process and begin in their role on April 16.
- Twenty-nine candidates are being interviewed for eight, open shelter technician positions (medical clinic and pet support/admissions).
- PACC is currently in the recruitment process for a Communications Specialist, a Dispatcher, Licensing Specialists and a Community Support Services Specialist.

Field and Community Services

- Animal protection responded to 2,371 calls for service, including 848 priority one and two calls.
- Animal protection investigated 356 neglect and cruelty complaints and responded to 193 bite complaints.
- Thanks to support from the Pima County Risk Management Department, PACC was able to purchase new safety supplies including nets, catchpoles and safety leashes for animal protection officers.
- The pet support center responded to 3,324 calls.

Veterinary Services

- 561 cats and dogs were spayed or neutered at PACC.
- Vets conducted 186 specialty surgeries.
- PACC received funding from a private donor to hire a fourth vet and two additional vet techs. Candidates are undergoing the hiring process and the fourth vet is anticipated to be on board by mid-June.

Volunteer, Foster and Rescue Programs

- 54 cats and 146 dogs were sent to foster homes.
- PACC leadership presented a webcast for Maddie's Fund on adult dog foster programs: <http://www.maddiesfund.org/adult-dog-fostering.htm>
- 455 volunteers donated 6,942 hours of service.
- 96 people applied to be volunteers and 96 people attended new volunteer orientations.
- 65 volunteers participating in dog walking trainings and 10 volunteers attended the level 2 dog walking class.
- 37 volunteers attended cat volunteer training, 6 attended greeter training and 9 volunteers became volunteer mentors.
- 'Trail Dog' volunteers held two, dog walk outings for PACC dogs.
- Volunteer Larry Nelson has agreed to lead a volunteer-led group focusing on providing additional support for dogs experiencing in-shelter behavioral decline.
- Volunteer Maggie Winegarden is leading a free course called 'Canine Fun Camp' designed to help volunteers teach dogs obedience skills to increase their adoptability.
- Five volunteers groups assisted with enrichment and dog walking.
- PACC hosted a community dog walk with 100 people participating.
- Volunteer photographer Michael Kloth held photography and social media training for volunteers.
- 189 pets went to rescue groups including 43 cats and 146 dogs. Special thanks to Halo (14), Hermitage (12), Lil' Bit of Love (39), SAFE (16), Tucson Pets Alive (23), Valley Humane Society (18) and Hope (11).

Friends of PACC

- The Friends attended the Loop celebration to help raise awareness of the role of the FoP.
- They held a 'friend'-raising event in the community to raise awareness of PACC's progress and needs.
- They hired three, temporary vet techs to support the clinic staff.
- The Friends of PACC are planning to participate in El Tour de Tucson. Visit www.friendsofpacc.org to ride with the PACC!