



FAITHFUL STALL 2018

LYFTING SPIRITS TO SAVE KITTENS

Each year, more than 10,000 kittens enter the DACC care system. Many of these kittens are too young to be adopted and require round-the-clock care that is beyond DACC's resources. There are several reasons why these kittens are vulnerable. Unweaned kittens (generally less than four weeks of age) require milk or milk replacement, relying on their mother to nurse them or to be bottle fed every two hours by a human caretaker. They must be kept warm and dry,



and assisted with elimination activities. Weaned "Pee Wee" kittens (four to eight weeks of age) are able to eat solid food on their own and are starting to explore their environment. Although they require less round-the-clock care than unweaned kittens, they are still too young to be adopted.

Housing these vulnerable kittens at animal care centers is extremely risky for them because their immune systems are not fully developed and they are highly susceptible to serious illness from adult stray cats housed at the care centers. The County does have a number of dedicated foster volunteers (including staff), but the need for volunteers still far outweighs the availability of these homes. With additional resources to provide medical care and staffing to run the program and identify additional foster homes, almost all weaned kittens could thrive and be adopted.

The Department recognized the need to change this outcome but lacked funding. The Animal Care Foundation regularly purchases kitten milk replacement and foster care supplies, but the demand far exceeds what the Foundation can provide. To address this critical need, DACC has developed several creative programs with key partners to save the lives of thousands of kittens.

Pee Wee Fostering Program

In collaboration with the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), the innovative Pee Wee Kitten Program provides foster care

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GROOMING GIVES HOPE SAM ADAMS

Meet Sam Adams! Sam is a white miniature poodle who came to our Downey Animal Care Center looking a bit ragged and dirty. During his evaluation, Sam was selected to be a recipient of the services provided by the Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation's (ACF) Grooming Gives Hope program.

The Grooming Gives Hope program provides grooming for pets at our animal care centers who have arrived with overgrown, matted, and dirty fur. Grooming greatly increases their comfort by relieving the pain that matted fur can cause, reveals underlying medical concerns, and gives them critical TLC and socialization to bring out their personalities. It makes them more visually appealing and outgoing, and they are much more likely to be adopted!

Sam's story is just another example of how the ACF supports the quality of life and adoption efforts of all DACC animals.







The Los Angeles County
Animal Care Foundation is an independent 501(c)(3) charitable foundation that supports the animals served by the County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Care and Control. The Animal Care Foundation provides help to more than 70,000 animals each year. Through the leadership of a volunteer Board of Directors, money raised by the Animal Care Foundation is used in many ways to enhance the care and increase the adoption of unwanted animals.

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LYFTING SPIRITS continued...

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for Pee Wee kittens who are not ready for adoption. Upon intake at pilot animal care centers, eligible kittens are now immediately moved to a specialized mobile unit where they are examined to ensure they are healthy and can eat on their own. The kittens receive vaccines, flea treatment, deworming, and are transported to pre-approved foster homes as soon as possible. There, they are lovingly cared for by foster volunteers until they are ready to be spayed or neutered and placed into new homes. These kittens, therefore, never enter the general care center population. This greatly reduces their risk of disease and euthanasia, and fast tracks their ability to be adopted.

Permanent homes for the kittens are also secured via this program. Foster parents serve as adoption ambassadors by networking the kittens to friends, on social media and in their community during the time they are caring for them. If they are unsuccessful, the ASPCA has partnerships with Petco and other community based organizations to provide adoption opportunities. The Pee Wee program has saved thousands of kittens this year, and was awarded a 2018 Achievement Award in the area of Community and



Economic Development from the National Association of Counties.

Expanding our Fostering Volunteers

DACC is always in need of more volunteers to provide temporary, loving care to Pee Wee kittens for several weeks until they areold enough to be adopted. To find new opportunities for foster volunteers, DACC has expanded outreach efforts to retired adultswho may have some free time on their hands.

Lyfting Spirits to Transport Pee Wee Kittens

DACC wants to make fostering as easy as possible for our volunteers. Getting the kittens into their foster homes as quickly as possible is important because they will need immediate and ongoing care. LA County's large area and traffic congestion presents challenges that can hinder a foster caregiver's availability, so DACC and the ASPCA have developed a pioneering solution by using Lyft Rideshare Service to deliver kittens to their foster homes. This opens up fostering opportunities to many more willing and caring volunteers who live far beyond the care centers' service areas. The ASPCA also provides ongoing training and support to foster caretakers through their veterinary medical services and clinically-staffed call center support line. Once the kittens are ready to be spayed or neutered, the foster caretaker or Lyft service will deliver the kittens to the care center or designated medical facility for their treatment. This ground breaking solution earned DACC the Los Angeles County Quality and Productivity Commission's 2018 Changemaker Award, which recognizes a department whose commitment to productivity and quality improvement has catalyzed positive department-wide or system-wide culture change.

These programs have required exceptional planning, partnering, and innovation to succeed. Through these public-private partnerships, the Foundation and DACC have engaged many committed partners that have joined us to save the lives of thousands of kittens in Los Angeles County!

REDEFINING CARE



DACC is the largest animal care and control agency in the United States, caring for more than 70,000 animals every year. Due to its advanced shelter medicine program, innovative animal behavior and enrichment program, model animal transport practices, shared leadership model, and other cutting edge practices DACC has become recognized internationally as a leader in best practices in animal welfare.

To assist DACC in communicating this image, Pepperdine University professor Ginger Rosenkrans' advertising students "adopted" DACC as their "pet" project to help update its image. "As a government agency, a lot of our resources are limited, so to have such intelligent and enthusiastic students work on a project for



us. It's been amazing," said Don Belton, the department's public information officer. "We're rebranding from 'animal shelters' to 'animal care centers.' That's the name of our department. It has a more positive connotation." The project was provided to DACC at no cost to the department.

"Replacing the term 'shelter' with 'animal care center' encompasses more of the vast number of services we provide," said Marcia Mayeda, director. "While 'shelter' only describes one aspect of what we do, 'animal care center' goes far beyond that to include nutrition, medical care, behavioral enrichment, reunification of lost pets, adoption into new homes, protection from abuse or neglect, protection against dangerous animals, intervention assistance for pet owners, and much more. It is a holistic, all-encompassing term that we are proud to use. That's why we call our facilities 'animal care centers', or ACCs, instead of 'shelters'. Our new tagline, 'Redefining Care' was created by the Pepperdine students and we believe it is an excellent way to convey what we are doing here at DACC."

TIGRA CELEBRATES HER FREEDOM



Lisa Eldridge and Tigra

Tigra was brought to the Department's Palmdale ACC after her owner was arrested (based on eyewitness accounts) for beating her and choking her with a cable. Due to a complicated court case, Tigra remained in DACC's care for eight months while the case wound its way through the court system. Becoming depressed during this long kenneling period, Tigra needed some help. Palmdale ACC manager Lisa Eldridge fell for Tigra and started bringing her into the office each day, where Tigra could enjoy belly rubs, naps, squeaky toys, and a change of scenery. This really lifted Tigra's spirits. When Tigra's owner was convicted, she was finally released by the court to be adopted into a new home and was treated to a special celebration – the cheese patty portion of an In-N-Out hamburger (veterinarian

approved)! Tigra is now in a loving, forever home and will never experience the trauma of her previous life again.

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DIRECTOR

Marcia Mayeda Administrative Office 5898 Cherry Avenue Long Beach, CA 90805 562-728-4610

ANIMAL CARE CENTER LOCATIONS

Agoura 29525 Agoura Road Agoura Hills, CA 91301 818-991-0071

Baldwin Park 4275 N. Elton Avenue Baldwin Park, CA 91706 626-962-3577

Carson/Gardena 216 W. Victoria Street Gardena, CA 90248 310-523-9566

Castaic 31044 N. Charlie Canyon Road Castaic, CA 91384 661-257-3191

Downey 11258 S. Garfield Avenue Downey, CA 90242 562-940-6895

Lancaster 5210 W. Avenue I Lancaster, CA 93536 661-940-4191

Palmdale 38550 Sierra Highway Palmdale, CA 93550 661-575-2888

REAL DEAL K9S GET REAL JUSTICE

Animal Enforcement Officers of the County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Care and Control (DACC) are committed to ensuring that residents of the County and their animals are protected and safe. They work diligently investigating complaints of animal abuse and neglect. They are entrusted with the task of making certain that County residents know and follow local and state laws and ordinances when caring for animals.

In June, 2018 DACC's hard work on a very disturbing case was rewarded with criminal convictions for the offenders. This case began in 2017 with a complaint from a man who had purchased a dog from a guard dog business called Real Deal K9s in Acton, Calif. His dog arrived ill and malnourished, and he reported its condition to Sgt. Rachel Montez-Kemp and Corporal Ed Callaway of DACC's Lancaster Animal Care Center.

With search warrant in hand, officers were stunned by what they saw when they arrived at the location. They found a very ill pregnant dog, a litter of 11 newborn puppies, two dogs that had died of starvation, one dog whose foot appeared to be chewed off and badly infected, and 24 more dogs who were all starving and malnourished. All dogs were seized and brought back to the Lancaster ACC.

Upon further investigation of the property, officers found that there were two children, ages seven and nine, living in the house with the couple. A loaded semi-automatic handgun was discovered pushed down between cushions of the family couch. Upon discovery of the gun, both children were taken from the home by the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). They now reside with their grandparents.

The defendant's hard drive was examined and contributed greatly to the evidence against the couple. Investigators found incriminating photos of neglected animals. The owners were arrested on multiple counts of animal cruelty and one count of child abuse. Bail for both was set at over \$1 million.

Junior Barillas Morales pleaded guilty to three felony counts



Sgt. Montez-Kemp and Cpl. Calloway with their case file.

of animal cruelty, one felony count of child abuse, and one misdemeanor count of animal cruelty. He was immediately sentenced to five years in state prison. Natasha Elena Ahmad pleaded no contest to one felony count of animal cruelty. She was sentenced to six months in jail, 45 days community labor, required to take animal neglect classes, sentenced to five years of probation and was barred from owning or possessing any animals for 10 years. The defendants also agreed to make a \$10,000 payment toward an undetermined amount of restitution.

Despite their horrible condition, all the surviving dogs were rehabilitated and adopted to loving homes. DACC salutes its hard working animal protection officers and the law enforcement agencies who work with them to impose appropriate penalties on people who abuse and neglect animals. Many lives, both animal and human, have been saved by their hard-work, steadfastness, and compassion.

POOCHES IN THE POOL

This year, the Department of Animal Care and Control joined the County of Los Angeles' Department of Parks and Recreation to host the Parks' "Pooches in the Pool" event on Labor Day. Six pools in the County welcomed dogs to swim in their pools for one last dip before the pools closed for the summer. Dogs were allowed to swim, jump, and frolic in the pools for several hours to the delight of the dogs and their owners. DACC provided trained behaviorists and volunteers to make sure the dogs played safely, and the Parks department provided lifeguards in case any dogs needed assistance.

Dino Mayeda, a 125 lb. Great Pyrenees who decided to take a dip in the deep end, appreciated the TLC from the lifeguards! The star of the Alta Loma Park pool was Oreo Hamai, who out-swam every dog there, even the Labradors. DACC reminds pet owners to never force their pets to go swimming, as not all dogs may enjoy the experience. It should be fun for all involved, as it was during Pooches in the Pool. Keep an eye out for announcements for next year's events on Labor Day.



MEET THE KITTY ROOM

Thanks to the Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation (ACF), the "Meet the Kitty" room at Palmdale Animal Care Center (ACC) has new furniture! Upon the recommendation of Department of Animal Care and Control's (DACC) Senior Veterinarian Dr. Sabio-Solacito, the ACF donated new Crijo cat furniture for the cats to show themselves off to the public and enjoy good times with fellow felines.

The Crijo beds and trees are durable, easy to clean and disinfect, and comfortable pieces that allow cats to play, exercise, rest, or visit with potential adopters. The communal room offers the cats a nice change of scenery from their cages. The furniture allows them to stretch their bodies and minds, and let their individual personalities blossom.





DACC is forever grateful to the ACF and its donors for their commitment to the animals we all serve. The ACF is committed to donating critically needed items to the care centers when other funds are not available. Their commitment is tremendous and everything that they do is done to support, care for, and protect the animals of Los Angeles County.

JUNO

Celene Lopez tells the story about her adoption of Juno:

She was only two months old, weighed under 2 ½ pounds, was small and afraid when I adopted her. It was four years ago that Juno came to me from the Baldwin Park Animal Care Center while I was volunteering with United Hope for Animals. She has since grown into a tiny but healthy five pound bundle of joy and been spoiled rotten by my partner and I.

We live in Arcata, California near the Oregon border where Juno's favorite things in life are being carried around in bags, going to the beach and playing fetch. Juno currently has friends of all shapes and sizes, including cats and dogs. She is a big a sister to two guinea pigs, two rats and a little human sibling on the way.

Juno spent the three years following her adoption being an emotional support dog to not only myself but many people across our college campus at Humboldt University. We went to all of our psychology classes together

and worked for Check It, a bystander intervention movement against sexual assault. There were long days in and out of meetings and presentations around challenging subjects. That was Juno's life and she loved being able to cuddle with hundreds of different people. One of the people she was able to cuddle up to was former Vice President Joe Biden who granted a Champion of Change



Award to Check It in 2016, and gave Juno a plush of his Shepherd pup "Champ Biden." She still cuddles with it today.

Read more about Celene and Juno at www2.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/student-success/Profiles/Pages/Celene-Lopez.aspx

MEMORIAL GIFTS

The Foundation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions made in memory of loved ones.

Beatrice Abrams - in memory of Pono Shennum

Susan Albi - in memory of Max Elias

Sarah Anderson – in memory of Johnny McNabb

Robert, Tracy & Katherine Andrews - in memory of Frank Andrews

Syble & Chico Andrews – in memory of Frank Andrews

Christine Arias - in memory of Oreo & Ditto

Bob Ballenger - in memory of Frank Andrews

Elaine Book - in memory of Rick Sansone

Dianne C. Boranian – in memory of Tilly Matute

Nora Castillo - in memory of Mister

Derrick Chi - in memory of Ginger

Thomas Clements – in memory of Lily Carter

Steve & Sherry Denunzio - in memory of Delilah

Fumiko Fukuzawa - in memory of Hanako IV

Timothy & Janie Gibson - in memory of Jia Jia

Marisa Gonzalez - in memory of Milo Castro

Sheila Chung - in memory of Gloria Burt

Timothy & Janie Gibson – in memory of Zi-Lung

Daphne Bell Grigsby - in memory of Ra Sword

Daphne Bell Grigsby - in memory of Bailey Dockins

John Gonzales – in memory of Frank Andrews

Diane Gunther - in memory of Phoebe Burke

Diane Gunther - in memory of Jackpot Taylor

David Hartung - in memory of Bayley Campagna

David & Ramona Hickey - in memory of Peanut

Sandy Hill - in memory of Frank Andrews Del Hunter-White - in memory of Natasha Attoinese

Merri & John Isgrigg - in memory of Bella

Phyllis James - in memory of Torres

Loreen & Harry Kerr - in memory of Max

Loreen & Harry Kerr - in memory of Barney & Frosty

Mitchell & Ann Kolacinski - in memory of Honey

Donna Koch - in memory of Casey Banks

Lisa Lacritz – in memory of Rick Sansone

Hsin Liao - in memory of Hws Liao

Nancy Moomau – in memory of Toni Johnson

Nancy Moomau - in memory of Frank Andrews

Nancy Moomau – in memory of Smokey Yaffee

Janette Murayama - in memory of Mickey

Kaye & Larry Nolte - in memory of Frank Andrews

Sharon Pecorelli – in memory of Toni Johnson

Sharon Pecorelli - in memory of Frank Andrews

Sharon Pecorelli - in memory of Smokey Yaffee

Dilinie Perera – in memory of Frank Andrews

Christopher Ramirez - in memory of Kiki Lee

Diedra M. Riggs - in memory of Sadie & Lynch

Francisco & Carolyn Rodriguez – in memory of Mulan

Polux & Carmen Rojas, Jr. - in memory of Blue

Kirsten Rosenberg - in memory of Katie

John & Donnalee Simon - in memory of Ally

Catherine Soltero - in memory of Shelley

Andrea Soto - in memory of Pancake

Elizabeth Stothers - in memory of Rusty & Orion

Michael & Cynthia Sutherland – in memory of Frank Andrews

Robert Sutherland - in memory of Frank Andrews

Marlene Godinez Tapia - in memory of Barkie

Roberta & Bruce Toporoff - in memory of Shane

Joyce Uyeda – in memory of Martha Dinsmore

John & Martha Wengert - in memory of Wesley

Erika Wilson - in memory of Watson Lafe

Karen Zinkosky - in memory of Phyllis Seeder

Maria Zuniga - in memory of Champ

HONORARIUM GIFTS

Raffaela Baker - in honor of Robyn Dahl

Taiisa Boughton - in honor of Balthazar Ngo's Birthday

Heather Braun - in honor of Katie Coleman

Deborah Brock - in honor of Heather Thiele's Birthday and Boss & Bella

Tonya Brooke - in honor of Jessi Strahan

Alicia Brown - in honor of Marissa Jenkins' Birthday and in honor of

Bodie & Bowser

Josa Chao - in honor of Teddy Bell & Tiger Lee

Derrick Chi - in honor of Oski & Clutch

Ron Lee Chunn - in honor of Addy Chunn

Paul Cohen - in honor of Rachelle Levitt's Birthday

Christine Cloutier - in honor of Todd the Tiger Backos

Kathryn Craig - in honor of Charlotte Zaumeyer

Pam Davy - in honor of Willy

Kristen Demarco - in honor of Karen Klink

Natalie Dome - in honor of Cindy Mandel's Birthday

Phillip Ellman - in honor of Michael & Georgia Fishman

Deanna Erwin - in honor of Greta

Mari Estrada - in honor of Seven

Candy Flacks – in honor of Jean Fisher

Andrew & Judy Fried - in honor of Belvedere

Jamie Immel – in honor of Balthazar Ngo's Birthday

Zale & Shirley Kohler - in honor of George Quint's 80th Birthday

The Foundation gratefully acknowledges the following gifts made in honor of special people and animals.

Shelley Kommers – in honor of Kate Goldenberg's Mat Mitzvah

Kathleen Kovach - in honor of Staci Wilkes advocacy for animals

Mai Ngoc Mach - in honor of Dolly

Nancy Moomau – in honor of Estelle Segaitz 90th Birthday

Victoria Morrissy - in honor of Dylan & Shira Quinn

Edward Niblett - in honor of Kate Goldenberg's Bat Mitzvah

Office of County Counsel Labor & Employment Division - in honor of Donna Koch's Birthday

Sharon Pecorelli – in honor of Estelle Segaitz 90th Birthday

Martha Philippoff – in honor of Samson

Suzanne Puryear - in honor of Vicki Williams

Deidra Muzette Riggs - in honor of Sadie & Lynch

Sean P. Roche - in honor of Moose

Bryan Rogowski - in honor of The Baby Polansky

Polux Rojas, Jr. - in honor of Blue

Gina Rossi - in memory of Red Orsino

Mayte Sanchez - in honor of Jessica Lopez

Robert T. Sherman - in honor of Wolf

Carla M. Trent – in honor of Manley

M. Turbide - in honor of Catherine Allocco's Birthday

Nathanael Uhlig - in honor of Teddy Uhlig's Birthday

Felicia Williams - in honor of Kevin Blair, a homeless dog lover

Crystal Yagoobian - in honor of Vincent

DREAMS COME TRUE

The "Dreams Come True" program provides financial support for special surgeries, procedures, and medications for animals in our care. It is funded by the Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation and saves the lives of pets whose medical illnesses or injuries are too extensive and too costly to treat through the normal course of DACC veterinary services. For more information, visit the ACF website at lacountyanimals.org.

Susie Violet

Susie Violet was a little over a year old when she was brought into the Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care and Control's Castaic Animal Care Center. A sweet miniature poodle, she had been found on the street with a badly injured left leg. The veterinarian who initially examined her determined that the compound fracture to her femur was so severe that she might lose the leg completely.

Susie's owner was located but was unable to pay for the surgery and follow-up care that would be needed. There were several parties interested in Susie, but they were also unable to afford the expensive treatment. Fortunately, the Foundation's Dreams Come True program was available to pay for Susie's complicated surgery and recovery.

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After she had recovered, Susie was adopted and her new owner continued to care for her, take her to her veterinary office visits, and shower her with the love she needed in her new, forever home. The



Foundation continues to stand ready to help animals like Susie in the Los Angeles County animal care centers.

Lucky Max

An adorable, two month-old, all-white male terrier, named Lucky Max, was brought into the Palmdale Care Center in January of 2018 with a badly broken left front leg. He was taken to Central Orange County Emergency Animal Hospital as part of the "Dreams Come True" program for surgical repair of his leg. He was in a lot of pain and didn't feel very lucky at the time, but he remained friendly with staff and had hopes of feeling better soon.

Because of the severity of the break and the fact that his growth

plate had been broken, surgeons repaired his leg by placing a K-wire to hold it steady. This procedure would provide Lucky Max with the stability he would need to heal and return to using his leg. However, the surgery could fail and amputation be necessary in the future. For that reason, doctors advised that Lucky Max would need a strict, eight week confinement.



Lucky Max's dreams of a forever home came true when Roxann Gibbs came into the Palmdale Care Center. She immediately fell in love with the fluffy little terrier and knew she wanted him in her life. The daily routine and critical care that he needed was explained to her. Roxann was committed to providing the care he needed and decided to adopt the little injured puppy to give him the loving home he always dreamed of.

Several months later Roxann returned to the Palmdale Care



Center with Lucky Max to share the news of his recovery. Lucky Max is now a happy, healthy, six month old puppy who has become Roxann's travel companion; he goes everywhere with her. She showed us photographs of Lucky Max during his recovery. Eventually, he was able to jump up onto the couch, having healed completely. Lucky Max is lucky indeed.

DACC SUPERMODELS!

When Neiman Marcus was putting together their Spring shoe and handbag catalog, they found the supermodels they needed from DACC!

DACC beauties Penelope and Calliope were found at the Palmdale Care Center and the dashingly handsome Hercules came from our care center in Lancaster.

Before being adopted by the Mutt Match L.A. animal adoption organization, Penelope, a white Brussels Griffon, was at the Palmdale Care Center nursing two broken legs. Who knew those legs would end up on the pages of a Neiman Marcus catalog? She was destined to be a star!

DACC would like to thank Mutt Match L.A. Rescue for sharing the photos and story with us. We are so proud of our graduates – they've made it to the big time!

The partnerships that DACC and the Foundation share with adoption groups throughout the County allow us to help these fabulous animals move on to living fulfilled lives in loving homes.

Below left to right are Hercules, Calliope, and Penelope.







WILD FOR ANIMALS FUNDRAISER

On Saturday, May 19th, Richard and Kiza Hilton and some furry friends hosted "Wild for Animals," a fundraiser benefitting the Castaic Animal Care Center. More than 150 people enjoyed silent and live auctions which raised \$11,000 to help the animals.

Dignitaries in attendance included U.S. Congress Representative Steve Knight, California State Senator Scott Wilk, California Assemblyman Dante Acosta, City of Santa Clarita Mayor Laurene Weste, who also serves on the ACF Board of Directors, and ACF President Abby Douglass.

Director Marcia Mayeda and Karen Stepp, Manager of the Castaic Animal Care Center, were acknowledged for their work throughout the Santa Clarita Valley. Also representing the ACF was Pauline East, Antelope Valley area liaison, and last but not least, Bowser the rescue dog! The Animal Care Foundation wishes to thank Richard and Kiza Hilton for organizing this wonderful event and for their continued support of animals in our communities.



Kiza Hilton, Assemblyman Dante Acosta, Representative Steve Knight, Congressman Scott Wilk

CLEAR THE SHELTERS

One week before its annual Clear the Shelters adoption event, DACC held a preview day at the Citadel Outlets in Commerce, Calif. The event was covered by NBC and Telemundo 52. The Outcome? 45 dogs and cats joined new families!

The following week, NBC and Telemundo-owned stations hosted their nationwide Clear the Shelters event and all seven of DACC's care centers participated. Adoption fees were reduced to \$20 for dogs and waived entirely for cats. At the end of the day, a total of 591 dogs, 342 cats, and nine rabbits were adopted for a total of 942 animals finding forever homes.

In the two days events, there were 987 animals that found new families! Not bad! Congratulations to staff, volunteers, NBC and Telemundo for their tremendous efforts in finding homes for these animals.



