Petco Love has provided a generous grant award of $96,000 to the Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation. The grant funds will support the Foundation’s Care Voucher program, a public assistance program that offers pet food and supplies, basic veterinary services, and other critical resources for pet owners at no or low cost. This program ensures that pets in need receive the care and resources they require, while not separating them from the families they love merely for temporary financial constraints.

The Care Voucher program has prevented the surrender of hundreds of pets due to one-time financial constraints. The main reason for issuing the Care Voucher is the need for basic veterinary services such as care for teeth, skin, or gastrointestinal issues. Without the availability of these services, many pet owners would have no option but to surrender their pet to a care center. Vouchers can be requested by any pet owner who resides within unincorporated Los Angeles County and most of the 45 cities served by DACC.

Vouchers have a value of up to $500, but not every procedure requires the full amount of the voucher. For those situations where the costs exceed the $500, we see pet owners making up the difference with their limited funds or even placing the balance on Care Credit. Clearly, these animals are loved and their families do everything they can to keep them in the family.

By providing this intervention service, fewer animals are relinquished to DACC’s care. DACC can then focus its attention on animals in its care with no families, providing more advanced medical treatment, behavior modification, and adoption opportunities for these pets. We encourage our donors to contribute to this worthy endeavor to elevate and protect the well-being of animals in our community.
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 approximately 25,000 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. EIN: #95-3909782

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NEW DIGS FOR PALMDALE ACC DOGS

Dogs at the ACCs love time outside of their kennel runs when they can play with each other, socialize, and burn off extra energy. These play groups allow DACC staff and volunteers to get better ideas of each dog’s personality and what would be an ideal home for them. However, the dirt play yards at the Palmdale Animal Care Center caused dogs and people to get dirty, and even muddy when it rained. The Foundation stepped in and paid for high quality artificial grass so the play yards (and dogs and people) would stay clean. The artificial grass provides a better footing for the dogs to play and is more appealing for adopters who are selecting their new family member. Thank you for supporting the Foundation’s work to enhance the animal care center environment!

SMILE FOR THE ANIMALS!

The Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation is now registered to receive charitable donations when you purchase items through AmazonSmile. AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support the Foundation every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile is available at smile.amazon.com and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping app. Just look up the Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation and select us as your charity of choice. The animals will thank you!
DACC’s Pee Wee kitten foster program, which began in 2016, has now saved more than 8,000 underage kittens that would otherwise be euthanized due to lack of maternal care.

DACC is regularly contacted by well-meaning people who have found a litter of young kittens that cannot yet eat on their own and wish to bring them to the animal care center for care. However, this is not always the best option for the kittens. There may be a mother caring for them, and it is better for them to remain with her until they are weaned. Bringing unweaned kittens to an animal care center may expose them to viruses carried by asymptomatic adult cats that the kittens’ underdeveloped immune systems cannot fight. Care centers do not have the staff to feed unweaned kittens every few hours, around the clock. Therefore, these kittens may be euthanized if a foster home cannot be found for them. If the kittens appear clean, healthy, and have full bellies then their mother is caring for them and intervention is not necessary until they are weaned, at which time they should be spayed or neutered and placed into new homes.

If the kittens appear to be thin, ill, and unclean then the mother may have become injured or otherwise unable to care for them. In these cases, the kittens need help but there is still a better option than bringing them to an animal shelter. DACC has a foster care program for residents who wish to save a litter of kittens. The Foundation pays for all the supplies necessary and DACC provides training and advice along the way. Many kind people have taken in litters of kittens for the few weeks necessary until they are old enough for adoption, and even participate in finding homes for the kittens.

A supplemental kitten foster care program has been made possible by the generous support of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA). The ASPCA began working with us on our Pee Wee kitten program in the autumn of 2016. The ASPCA has an intervention program at our Downey and Baldwin Park Animal Care Centers (ACCs) where they provide registered veterinary technicians (RVTs) to evaluate each litter of kittens and refer them to foster homes that day. The RVTs works out of DACC’s Ani-Safe trailers, which are fully operational animal care mobile trailers that can house staff and animals during emergencies or other off-site needs.

Public-private partnerships like the Pee Wee program show that collaboration and good stewardship make a difference in animals’ lives. Please spread the word and consider becoming a foster parent with DACC (check out www.animalcare.lacounty.gov/become-a-foster-caretaker/) or with the ASPCA at www.aspca.org/FosterLA. More than 8,000 kittens thank you!
DACC participated in Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger’s Tribute to Veterans and Military Families in Arcadia on May 28, 2022. As part of the resource fair DACC brought pets for adoption, distributed pet food and supplies, and provided low-cost vaccinations for pets. DACC staff and volunteers engaged with attendees, providing advice and resources for their pet needs.

Under the State of California’s Pets for Vets Act, veterans are entitled to adopt a dog or cat at no charge from public animal shelters. In addition, the County of Los Angeles discounts its pet licenses for disabled veterans. We thank and honor those who serve our country!

You may remember George, the beautiful Siberian Husky the Foundation saved by providing surgery to correct his painful eyelid entropion. Renamed Zappo by his new family, he has fully recovered and is in a loving home where he is given long walks where his eyes can take in his beautiful surroundings. No longer in pain, Zappo is living his best life. Thanks to your donations, we help animals like Zappo all year long.

ZAPPO HAS A NEW VIEW ON LIFE!