



FAITHFUL *friends*

SUMMER 2025

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

As I reflect on this past year, I am filled with both gratitude and a strong sense of purpose. Despite a challenging financial landscape, your support has helped us continue doing what matters most—providing safe shelter, lifesaving care, and compassionate service to the animals and pet owners who rely on us.

When wildfires tore through Southern California in January, we responded quickly to help families and their animals. Our teams provided emergency shelter to 482 displaced animals, and I'm proud to share that 414 have already been reunited with their families. The remaining animals, many of them livestock, are still in our care while their owners work to rebuild. These efforts would not have been possible without you.

We are also seeing more and more pet owners struggling to keep their animals due to the rising cost of living. Thanks to the Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation and our generous donors, we have been able to expand access to free wellness services through Vet@ThePark, provide spay and neuter assistance, and distribute Care Vouchers to help with urgent needs like veterinary care and grooming.

Every time I visit our care centers, I am reminded of what your support makes possible. I see shy kittens who finally relax in the arms of a foster caregiver. I see older dogs getting their first bath in months. I see pet owners holding back tears when we tell them we can help.

You are part of each of these moments. Your kindness is what allows us to show up for animals, no matter the size of the challenge.

Thank you for standing with us, believing in our mission, and helping us build a more compassionate community for animals and the people who love them.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Marcia Mayeda, CAWA
Director, Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care and Control



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FROM STRAY TO STAR: ECLIPSE'S JOURNEY TO A FOREVER HOME

When a tiny kitten was found wandering alone on a school campus in late May, no one knew how much her life was about to change. On May 29, 2025, Eclipse arrived at the Palmdale Animal Care Center. Just nine weeks old, she was underweight, matted, and struggling. She had clearly been surviving on her own for far too long.

Thankfully, Eclipse was immediately enrolled in our **Dreams Come True** program—a donor-supported fund that provides advanced medical care, specialized grooming, and other services that go beyond standard care center resources. Through this program, Eclipse received the veterinary care and attention she needed to treat dehydration, eye discharge, and malnourishment.

Her transformation was remarkable. With each passing day, Eclipse's personality began to shine through—curious, affectionate, and full of life. Her before-and-after photos tell the story better than words ever could.

Just a little over a week later, on June 6, Eclipse found her forever family. She went from being a frightened, fragile stray to a beloved companion in a home where she is now cherished and safe.

This entire journey was made possible by your donations to the **Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation**. The **Dreams Come True** program ensures that animals like Eclipse—who need a little extra support to overcome illness or trauma—are not overlooked. Your generosity helps provide healing, hope, and a second chance at life.

Thank you for making stories like Eclipse's not only possible, but unforgettable.



NEW PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: HOMEBOY INDUSTRIES GROOMING

We are proud to announce a new partnership with Homeboy Industries, the largest gang rehabilitation and reentry program in the nation. Founded more than 30 years ago by Father Gregory Boyle in Los Angeles, Homeboy Industries provides hope, job training, and support to individuals who have been involved in the justice system or are seeking to leave gang life behind. The organization helps people rebuild their lives through employment opportunities, therapy, education, and skill development in a supportive community.

Thanks to donor support, Homeboy Industries now brings its newest workforce training program—Puppy Fades—to our Downey Animal Care Center once a week. Under the guidance of a professional instructor, participants learn hands-on grooming skills by providing full grooming services to animals in our care.

The program is a win for everyone. Animals receive high-quality grooming, improving their health and adoptability. Participants gain real-world experience and job-ready skills in animal care, creating a new path forward in their personal and professional lives.

This partnership complements our two full-time grooming programs already operating at our North and South Animal Care Centers—also made possible by generous grants and donor funding.

Your support made this program launch possible. By investing in the intersection of animal care and human potential, you are helping create brighter futures for both people and pets.

MESSAGE FROM RENEE SIKAND, ACF PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

Each year, I am deeply moved by the compassion, generosity, and commitment of our supporters. You are the heart of the Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation, and your contributions have a direct and lasting impact on animals in need.

This year, the need has been greater than ever. Families across the County are doing their best to care for their pets through financial hardship, unexpected emergencies, and natural disasters. Thanks to your support, we have been able to step in with critical assistance.

Because of you, animals like Eclipse received medical care and grooming, transforming not just how she looked, but how she felt. Because of you, Soraya the horse had a safe place to land after being evacuated, and was reunited with her family when it was safe to return. Because of you, we were able to launch our new Puppy Fades program with Homeboy Industries, giving animals a better chance at adoption while also creating new job skills and opportunities for people.

These are the kinds of stories your donations make possible. They are not just numbers on a spreadsheet—

they are lives changed, second chances given, and hope restored.

I want to thank you for being part of this work. Whether you've given financially, shared our stories, or simply kept us in your thoughts, you are a vital part of the Foundation's mission. Together, we are creating a stronger safety net for animals and building a future where all animals are treated with care, dignity, and compassion.

With sincere gratitude,



Renee Sikand

President, Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation



WILDFIRE UPDATE: SUPPORTING ANIMALS IN CRISIS

When devastating wildfires swept through Southern California in January, the Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care and Control mobilized immediately to provide emergency transportation and care to displaced animals. Thanks to your support, we were able to respond swiftly and compassionately.

In total, **482 animals**—from dogs and cats to horses and goats—were evacuated and cared for by DACC staff and volunteers. We're proud to share that **414 of those animals have already been reunited with their families**, bringing comfort and healing in the aftermath of chaos.

For the animals still in our care, many of whom are livestock, the journey continues. Their families are working hard to rebuild homes, fencing, and access to basic resources. In the meantime, we remain committed to providing safe housing, daily care, and medical oversight for each one of them.

Your donations allowed us to provide hay, sheltering supplies, food, and medical attention at a moment's notice. **Thank you** for being there when the animals needed you most.

THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE

TOP NEEDS

We are always in need of essential supplies for the animals in our care, to provide to foster volunteers, and to distribute to pet owners in need. Our most pressing needs right now include:

- **Foster Supply Support:** Kits for foster caretakers to care for fragile, neonatal animals.
- **Food and Medical Supplies:** Food and medical supplies for *Vet@ThePark* free wellness events across the County.
- **Care Voucher Program:** Financial assistance for pet owners facing hardship to access veterinary care, grooming, and more.

Pet owners across LA County are struggling to afford pet ownership. Your gift today helps keep animals in loving homes and out of our animal care centers.



NEW ADOPTER BENEFIT: PET INSURANCE WITH METLIFE

We're excited to share a new benefit for adopters through our partnership with MetLife Pet Insurance. Every new adopter now has the opportunity to activate a 30-day trial of pet insurance at no cost or commitment.

This trial includes coverage for many conditions commonly associated with the care center environment and gives new pet parents peace of mind as they welcome their furry family member home. The program is designed to reduce the financial burden of unexpected veterinary costs and help prevent owner surrenders.

To learn more about the MetLife trial and its coverage, visit: animalcare.lacounty.gov/dacc-support-services

Thanks to our supporters and partners, we are working to remove the barriers that make pet ownership challenging and keep more animals where they belong—at home.

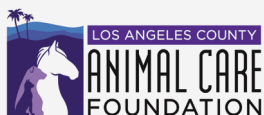
PLAN A LEGACY OF COMPASSION

One of the most meaningful ways to support animals for generations to come is by including the Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation in your estate plans. We've partnered with FreeWill, a free and easy-to-use online tool that helps you create a legally valid will or trust in just 20 minutes.

Whether you're starting from scratch or need to update your existing plans, you can use FreeWill to:

- Leave a lasting gift to the Foundation
- Ensure your pets are cared for in the future
- Support the programs and services you care about most

Every planned gift—no matter the size—helps ensure that animals in need continue to receive the care, safety, and love they deserve. You can get started today at: lacountyanimals.org/way-to-give/planned-giving



GIVE ONLINE
Scan the code for a direct link



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