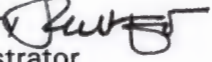




MEMORANDUM

Date: May 19, 2021

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry 
County Administrator

Re: April 2021 Pima Animal Care Center Report

Attached please find the most recent update from the Pima Animal Care Center (PACC), which will be shared with the PACC Advisory Committee at their April meeting.

In April 2021, PACC took in 1,502 lost and surrendered pets and assisted 1,235 pets and their people throughout the community while achieving a live release rate of 91 percent. Shelter intake was up 141 percent compared to the same time period last year and flat compared to 2019. This increase was due the negative economic and operational impacts of COVID-19 affecting the community.

PACC continues its partnership with the Humane Society of Southern Arizona (HSSAZ). In addition to providing HSSAZ a weekly standing surgery day for their community cat program, PACC provided Trap-Neuter-Return assistance altering 33 of HSSAZ cats last month.

PACC's community support services continue to focus its efforts on keeping Pima County residents together with their pets and supporting families with critical needs throughout the pandemic.

CHH/dym

Attachment

c: Jan Leshar, Chief Deputy County Administrator
Francisco García, Deputy County Administrator & Chief Medical Officer
Health and Community Services
Monica Dangler, Interim Director, Pima Animal Care Center

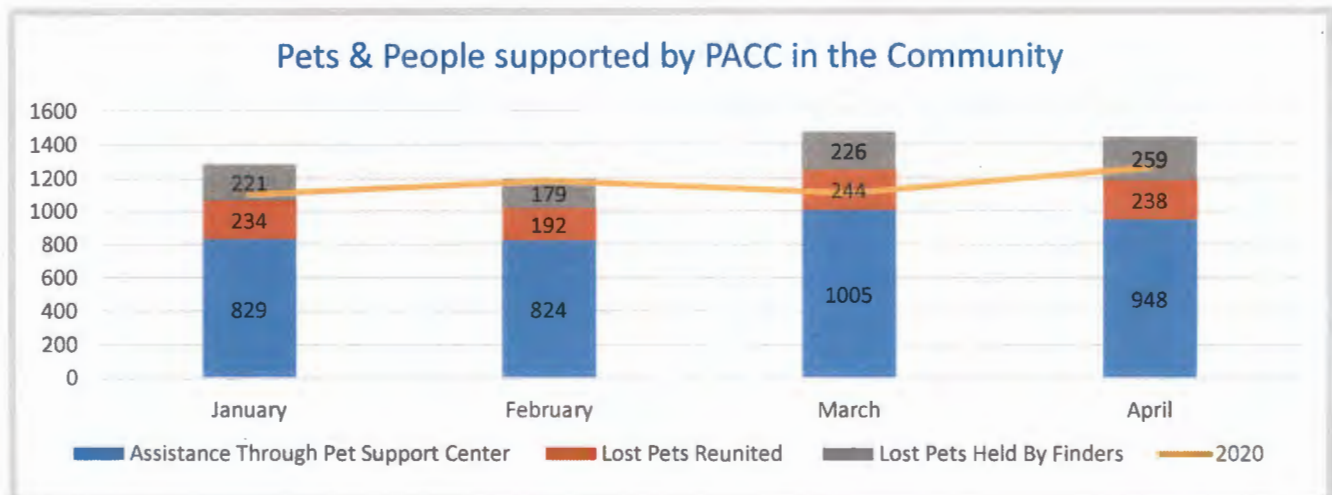
Pima Animal Care Center Animal Services Report April 2021

Poppie was adopted by one of the Animal League of Green Valley volunteers. She is now in a loving, caring home with a very experienced person!



Supporting Pets and People in the Community

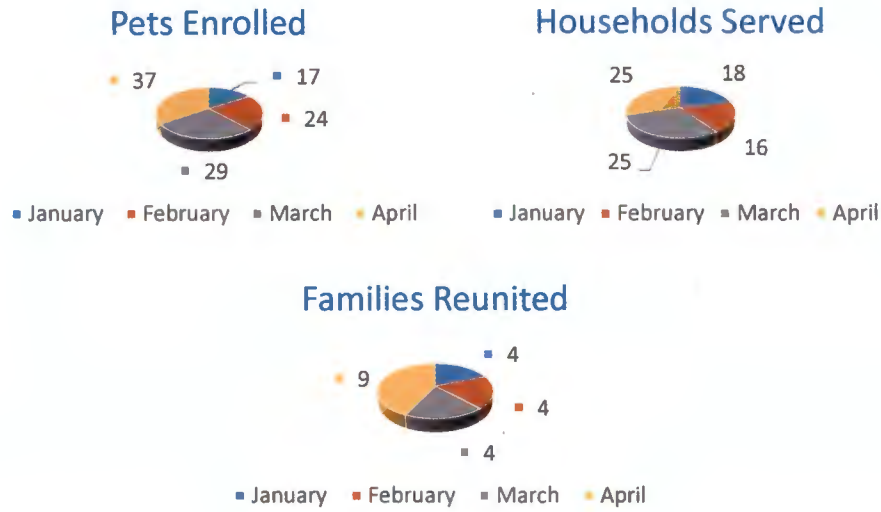
In an effort to expand the services PACC offers the community and to create a “shelter without walls,” a shift has been made to support the pets and people within our community by taking more of our services outside the PACC facility. The intention is to keep pets in the community by providing support to the families that own them. Over the last year, PACC has seen a smaller number of pets enter the shelter. Perhaps this is a result of us asking the community to hold on to friendly, stray animals until their owners are located or until the allotted stray hold time is up. Studies done in Austin, TX, indicate that 85% of dogs that stray do not wander more than 1000 feet from their homes. The chance to reunify with their owners is much higher if they stay within their neighborhoods than if they are brought to the shelter; and sometimes finders elect to adopt the animals if the owners cannot be found. Either scenario keeps the animals out of the shelter and in a home environment. The graph below illustrates that as more finders of lost pets hold onto them, more pets are reunited with their families.



Safety Net Foster Program

The Safety-Net Program, created in January 2021, provides short-term temporary foster care for the pets of families in crisis due to hospitalization, death, house fire, eviction, domestic violence, and economic hardship. PACC has found a much higher need in this program than initially expected due to hospitalizations. PACC continues to prepare for an influx of people needing assistance due to evictions.

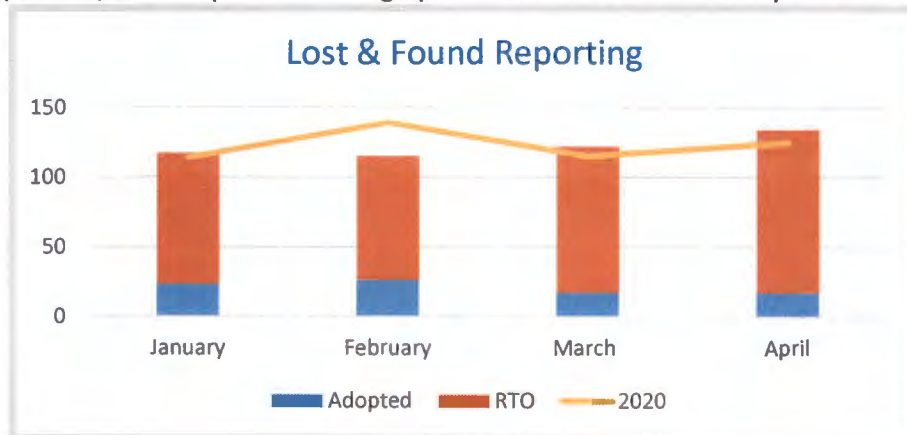
Year-To-Date



Since the inception of the program, PACC has served 107 animals and 84 families, and reuniting 21 families consisting of 35 pets. There have only been five pets year-to-date that could not be reunited with their family due to death or long-term hospitalization.

Pet Reunification Program

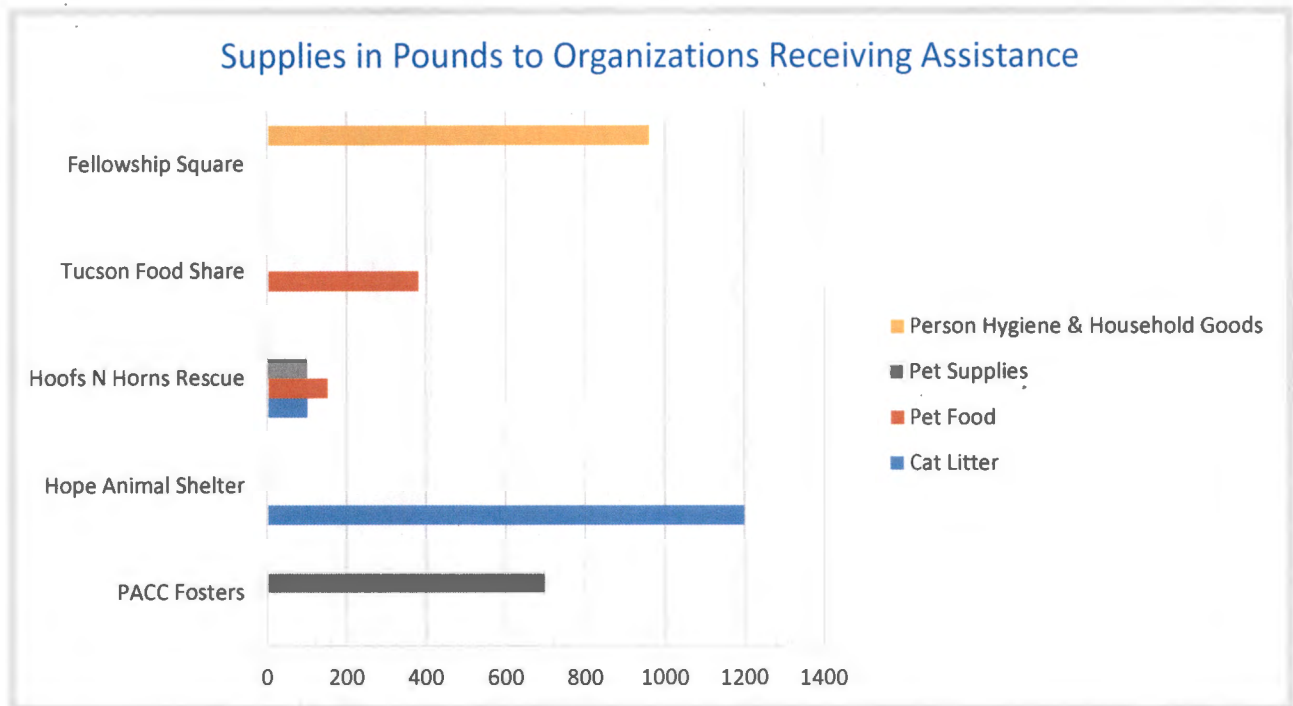
Our Pet Reunification Team helps people reconnect with their lost pets that have been brought into the shelter. Nationally, 12-15% of lost pets entering a shelter are reunited with their family. Our goal is to increase pet reunification to 40% by the end of 2021. We will accomplish this by partnering with LovePup.org to microchip pets in high intake areas, increasing volunteer participation, and utilizing pet reunification technologies like Finding Rove, Simple Text, and Adoptimize. The graph below illustrates the steady increase in pet reunification.



Community Outreach

PACC distributes food, personal hygiene, and household goods throughout the community through partnerships, ongoing events, and occasional large-scale events. PACC has seen a 30%+ increase in individuals seeking assistance in keeping their pets. With our community outreach efforts, we hope to bridge the gap between animals being surrendered and people keeping their pets.

- PACC provided 530 pounds of food and more than 2,260 pounds of supplies to support our partners and the community. The following partners received food and items through in-kind grants.

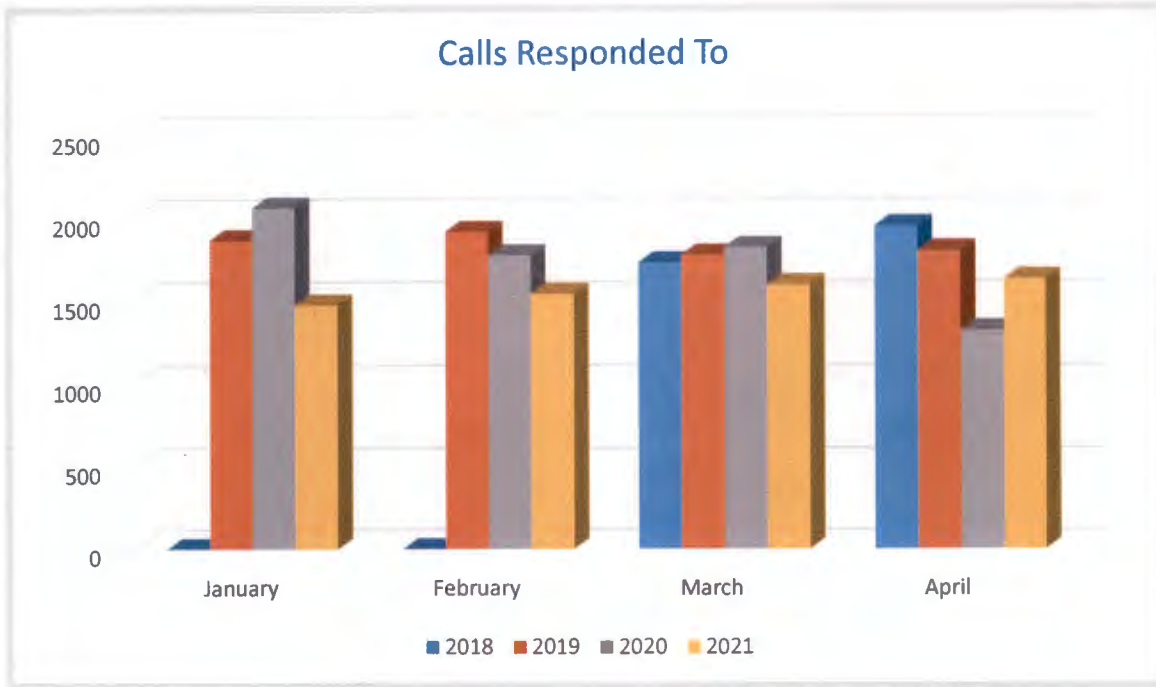


- PACC partnered with Lovepup.org to hold a [microchipping and food and supply distribution event](#) in District 2 at Abrams Public Health Center on April 10th, serving 203 individuals and microchipping 154 animals. PACC distributed:
 - 1,913 pounds of pet food
 - 1,333 pounds of pet supplies
 - 800 pounds personal hygiene and household supplies

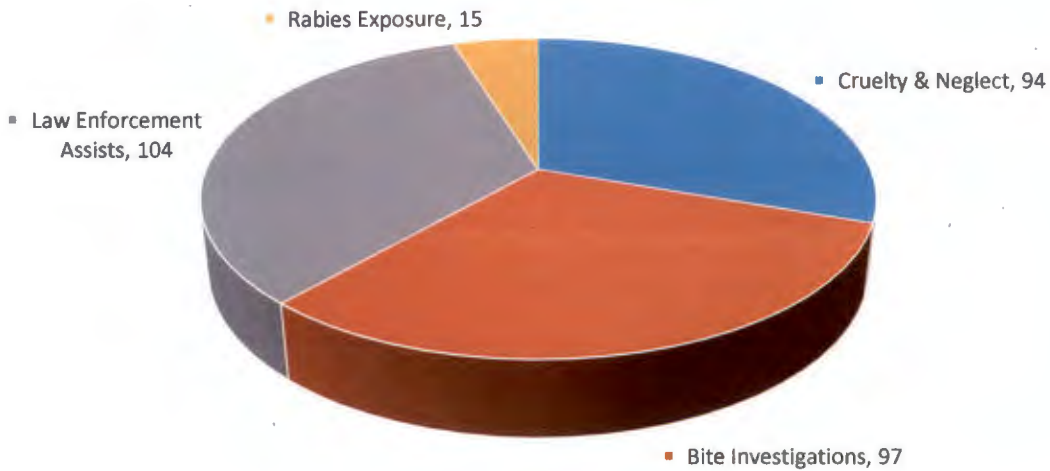
Animal Protection Services

PACC's Animal Protection Services team has continued to experience high turnover rates, high vacancy rates and high absenteeism due to COVID-19. We continue to limit APS officers to priority calls which make up the bulk of their work day. PACC is currently in the process of hiring seven officers who are expected to begin cross-training in May.

- APS worked one hoarding case that brought 64 pets this month. Year-to-date, there have been 12 hoarding cases involving 359 animals.



April Priority Calls



Community Owned Cat Program

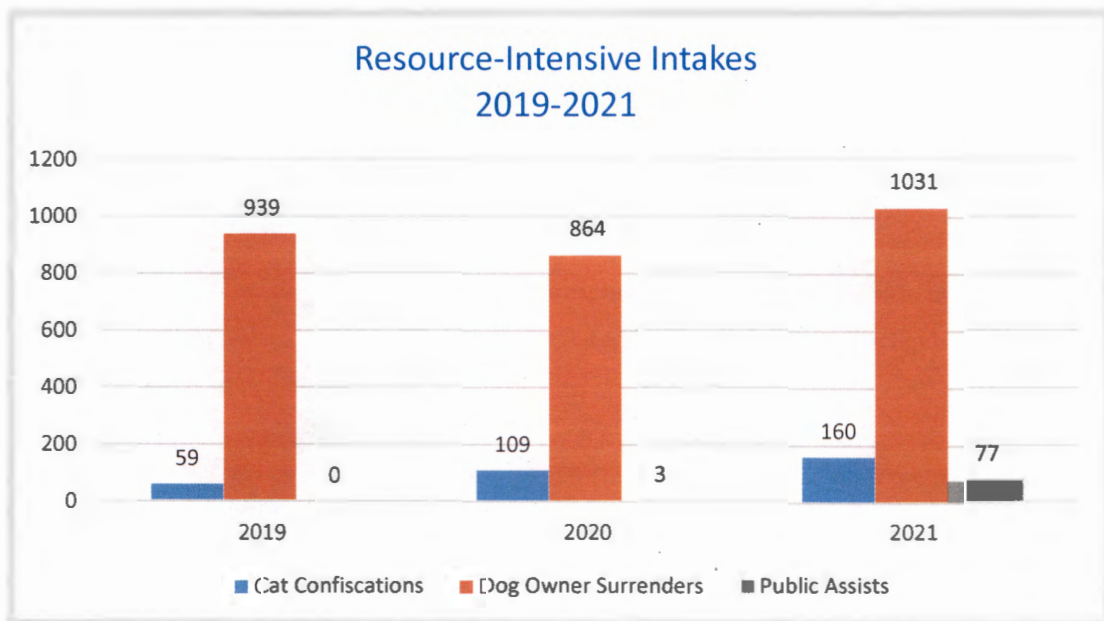
Beginning in February 2021, PACC offered our partner, Humane Society of Southern Arizona (HSSAZ), assistance with Trap, Neuter, and Return surgeries. We have performed 86 surgeries for HSSAZ year-to-date. PACC also began performing in-house spay and neuter surgeries for community owned cats that were brought in from our Community Cat team. The cost of performing this month's surgeries in-house was \$3,564 compared to \$9,900 that would have been charged by our vendor. This is a savings of \$6,436.

Month	Surgeries Performed at PACC
January 2021	15
February 2021	135
March 2021	124
April 2021	198

- In April, PACC assisted HSSAZ with the spaying and neutering of 33 cats when they had a last minute shortage of veterinary resources.
- The Community Cat program staff reached out to over 200 community members in April through phone, email, and web responses. We continue to provide traps to families for our Trap-Neuter-Return program, recover lost pets and catch injured cats for medical treatment. This month, 45 traps were loaned to 16 individuals. Year-to-date, 485 community members, have been assisted.

Shelter Operations

PACC has begun to see a marked increase in intake compared to 2019. The top three types of intakes being seen include increased confiscation of cats from hoarding situations, owner surrender of dogs due to having too many, and offering on-site housing for community members needing public assistance for COVID-related issues, as illustrated in the chart below. These types of intakes are resource-intensive and directly related to the economic impacts of COVID-19.

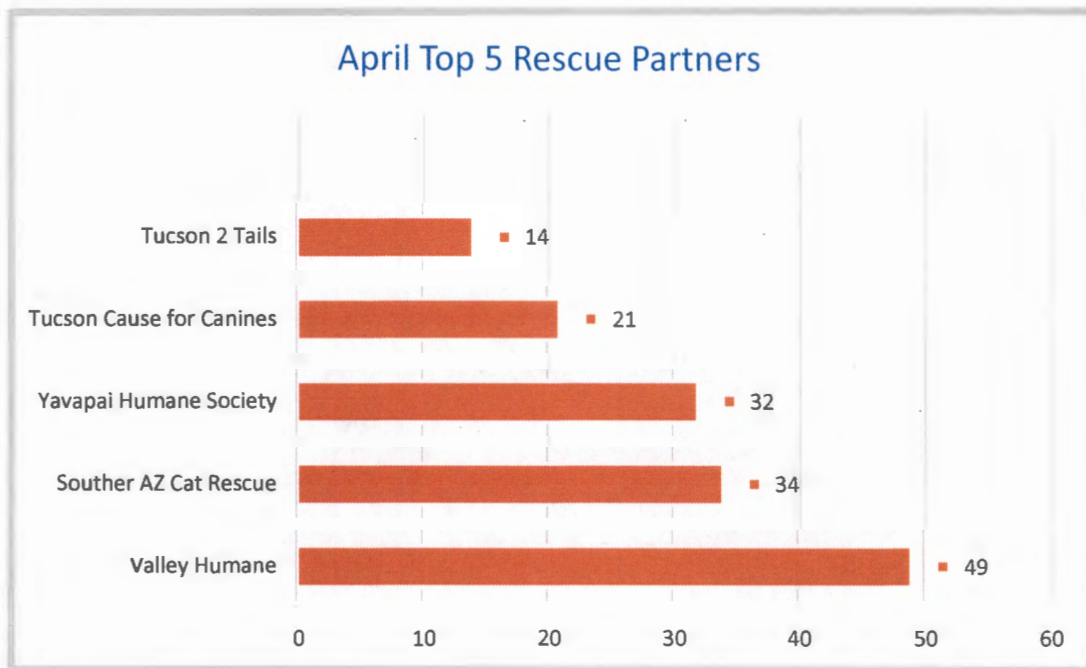


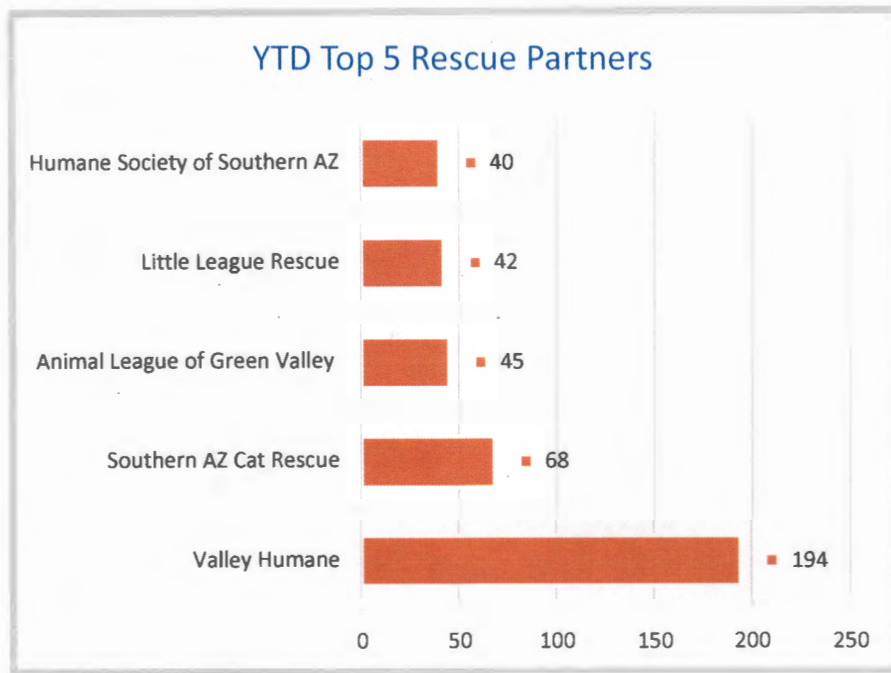
Our Outcomes Team is critical to PACC’s lifesaving success and consists of staff and volunteers who work to get animals out of the shelter and into homes as quickly as possible. The team works diligently to find adoption, rescue, or foster placement. The table below shows year-to-date statistics related to animals with a live outcome from the shelter, as well as data regarding rescue partner transfers.

Year-To-Date Statistics

Month	Shelter Intakes	Adoptions	Returned To Owner	New Fosters	Total Fosters	Animals Sent to Rescue	Animals Housed at PACC	Live Release Rate
January	1055	548	176	186	579	189	343	93%
February	1268	557	173	247	584	206	321	92%
March	1182	720	198	218	466	189	309	93%
April	1502	532	184	88	646	243	420	91%

- PACC received a \$225,000 award from Petco Love, formerly Petco Foundation, for our continued partnership with the foundation, being actively engaged with their adoption initiatives, and being first to implement their new initiatives.





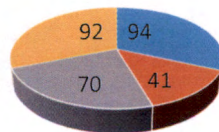
- PACC partnered with MAD Rescue in March, and Paradise Parrot Rescue in April, bringing our rescue partner total to 278.

PACC Volunteers

Volunteers are critical to PACC’s ability to build capacity. PACC has seized the opportunity to re-think how we engage, train, and place volunteers to support every aspect of PACC’s operations. As more of the community is vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus, continued growth in new volunteer numbers is expected to assist in meeting the needs of PACC’s lifesaving efforts.

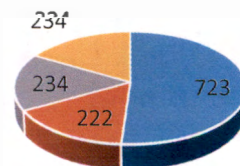
Year-To-Date

New Volunteers



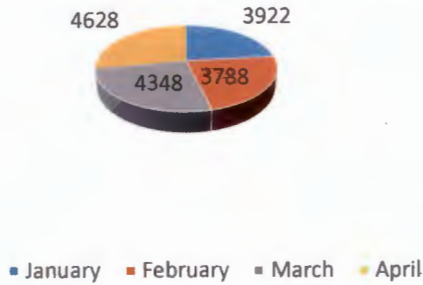
■ January ■ February ■ March ■ April

Total Volunteers Recording Hours



■ January ■ February
■ March ■ April

Volunteer Hours Served



Vet Services

- Dr. Paige Anderson has joined our veterinary team, filling a critical role in our veterinary clinic lifesaving efforts.

As illustrated in the table below, veterinary services increased 40% over March 2021. The increase is a result of increased intake. More animals required lifesaving treatments, especially cats.

Year-To-Date

Month	Spay/Neuter	Spay/Neuter CATS TNR	Dogs Receiving Lifesaving Treatments	Cats Receiving Lifesaving Treatments	Foster Appointments	Total
January	437	15	40	11	136	639
February	506	135	48	9	197	895
March	480	124	41	9	139	793
April	694	198	57	32	131	1112