

August 2019 Director's Report for Pima Animal Care Center



Animal Center News

- PACC took in 1,650 pets, including 1,040 dogs and puppies and 582 cats and kittens, and achieved an overall live release rate of 93.3%.
- 1,184 pets were adopted, 205 returned to their owners, and 185 transferred to rescue groups.
- On August 31st, there were 371 dogs and 309 cats on site at PACC and an additional 245 dogs and 519 cats in foster.
- PACC facilitated a record 122 adoptions during the one day [“Clear the Shelters” national campaign](#). Telemundo was onsite, broadcasting live throughout Southern Arizona. On-site festivities included a cakewalk, food vendors, and a fashion show.
- New interaction boards have been installed in cat housing areas for staff and volunteers to communicate individualized cat needs, designate participation in cat behavior programs, and to ensure that “every cat, every day” receives hands-on enrichment.
- An average of 57 dogs benefitted from playgroup each day in August, resulting in 105 dogs who are benefitting from cohousing. All single-housed dogs receive daily kennel enrichment, with approximately 100 long-stay dogs receiving in-kennel enrichment twice a day.
- 26 shelter dogs participated in 31 day trips and 14 overnight pawjama parties.
- Pima County pet lovers donated [hundreds of watermelons to help PACC pets](#) beat the heat. The giving was so great that PACC was able to share watermelons with partners at Hoofs N Horns Farm Sanctuary, the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary, Reid Zoo, and the Community Food Bank.
- PACC was the recipient of several large donations of supplies this month, including 700 orthopedic dog beds and three oversized pallets of cat treats from The Greater Good Foundation. Additionally, over 500 fresh watermelons were brought in by the caring residents of Pima County! These gifts not only comforted pets housed at the shelter, but were shared with adopters, foster parents, rescue partners, and animal sanctuaries throughout the community.

- PACC's Adoptable Pets webpage continues to be one of the most viewed in the county, with nearly 40,000 unique views this month.

Volunteer, Foster, and Rescue

- 410 volunteers completed 6,779 hours of volunteer service and 197 people applied to volunteer at PACC. Volunteer trainings were held for dog handling levels 1 and 2, cat care, Chameleon software, adoption counseling training, dog enrichment and playgroup support.
- 498 animals went to foster including 51 adult cats, 32 adult dogs and 320 medical animals.
- As part of developing foster follow up processes, 342 foster pets were adopted.
- 173 dogs and 14 cats were transferred to rescue partners.
- Thanks to Friends of PACC and a Maddie's Fund Grant, 10 senior and medical-case dogs were transferred to Best Friends Sanctuary in Kanab, Utah.
- A new volunteer manager position was created and is currently accepting applications. The Volunteer Manager will support PACC's volunteer program and address some of the ongoing challenges associated with managing a complex, high-volume program in a large municipal shelter.

Field and Community

- Animal Protection Services responded to over 1600 calls including 128 police assists, 775 stray and leash law complaints, 81 bite investigations, and 218 calls regarding cruelty, neglect and/or abandonment.
- Animal protection assisted with 4 large impound cases, including one [involving 57 cats](#). These cats are now available for adoption.
- Over 7,300 dogs were licensed generating over \$123,000 in revenue.
- The community cat team trapped 27 cats for a community TNR event, trapped 49 cats through PACC spay and neuter funding, lent 44 traps to members of the public, and responded to 254 calls for assistance.
- Over 3,588 cats have been spayed or neutered through the program in 2019. Due to the overwhelmingly positive response, the available funds have been spent. The contract renews in December.
- The Pet Support Center received 2096 calls for assistance and scheduled 170 surrender appointments.
- PACC assisted 41 families with medical and other expenses using support from the Friends of PACC Keeping Pets Together Fund.
- The Pups in Boots program served over 300 pets and their guardians, providing over 2000 pounds of pet food, 500 bags of treats, 200 leashes and collars, 60 pairs of dog booties, and 50 water bowls. The Pup in Boots program also provided vaccines, microchips, and a vet exam to 25 pets at the monthly Z Mansion Wellness Clinic.
- Bennett Simonsen and Director Hassen-Auerbach met with representatives from the Pima County Criminal Justice Reform Unit.

- Shelter Manager, Danielle Harris, and Community Outreach Specialist, Liana Moss, hosted a meeting of the Homeless Work Program.
- APS Officers Jordyn Long and Marzelle Gamez attended community events to discuss pet safety and responsible pet ownership.
- PACC Behavior and Enrichment Coordinator, Thamzen Carson, and PACC Volunteer Shari Mollencopf met with Dr. Crista Coppola of the University of Arizona to discuss collaborating on an upcoming animal behavior class.
- Tucson was certified as a Better City for Pets by the [Mars Petcare Better Cities for Pets Program](#). Tucson scored highest on the areas of animal shelter and homes, with a high score for parks and a positive business score with significant opportunity for growth in the local business community.
- Representatives from HSSA and the Hermitage met with PACC's event team to plan a coordinated mega adoption event. "Tucson Shelters United" will take place Oct 18-20th and will include reduced adoption fees and coordinated marketing made possible thanks to the Petco Foundation.

Personnel

- PACC is in the process of selecting 10 Pima Community College students through the [Federal Work Study Program to assist the shelter](#) during the 2019-20 school year. Aurie Clifford, FWSP Analyst at PCC, held an onsite training for PACC supervisors of student employees.
- Lycette Martinez was hired to join the Training and Behavior team, Julai Hildreth began as a new licensing technician, and Bobby Padilla joined the veterinary clinic.
- Five new animal protection officers are in the final stages of hiring, with two vacancies remaining.
- PACC is recruiting for animal care technicians for both the clinic and shelter.
- Staff celebrated the unofficial end of summer with their annual barbecue, hosted by PACC's Sunshine Committee and Central Pet, sponsored by Friends of PACC.

Vet Services

- PACC vets spayed or neutered 930 pets and performed 95 special surgeries including for the first time in PACC history a lifesaving feline perineal urethrostomy surgery.
- Veterinarians conducted over 330 appointments and performed 282 surgeries for foster pets.
- About 400 pets in the public were served at a free vaccine and microchip clinic hosted by PACC at Kino Sports Complex. The next community clinic is in partnership with Ward 3 offices and will be held on October 26th.
- Two overnight vet technicians have been selected and will begin training in late September.

Friends of PACC

- Friends of PACC was a Favorite (finalist) [in the Best Nonprofit](#) category of the Arizona Daily Star's Readers' Choice Awards.
- Friends of PACC was nominated to receive a Tucson Metro Chamber Copper Cactus Award for best nonprofit. The awards ceremony is scheduled for September 13th.

- Friends of PACC is recruiting riders of all ages to their [El Tour de Tucson team, Ride with the PACC](#). Every rider that signs up earns a \$100 donation to Friends of PACC from a generous anonymous donor.
- Friends of PACC partnered with City High School to hire two senior interns to serve the shelter during the 2019-2020 calendar year to assist with marketing foster pets and working in the clinic.