

February 2019 Director's Report for Pima Animal Care Center



Animal Center News

- PACC took in 1,208 pets, achieving a save rate of 93% compared to January and February of 2018 when PACC took in 1105 pets and achieved a save rate of 87%.
- 723 pets were adopted, 221 were returned to their owners and 169 were transferred to rescue groups.
- PACC [celebrated our first year](#) in the new facility, due to the support of the Pima County Board of Supervisors, volunteers, staff, foster families, Friends of PACC, advocates, rescue partners, and adopters.
- Four team members presented over a dozen times at the American Pets Alive national conference in Austin, TX. Simultaneously, they were able to learn from and network with other national lifesaving organizations at no cost to Pima County.
- On February 26, PACC assisted with the [removal of 21 cats](#) from a home in central Tucson. All but 4 of the cats have been adopted.
- Animal protection officers were called to assist the Sherriff's Department to [return two roaming camels](#) back to their owner.
- PACC Leadership met individually with Pima County's board appointed hearing officers, the Public Defender's Office, and representatives from the Tucson Police Department, and Pima County Sherriff's Office, to discuss moving towards a community policing model, and improvements to our investigative and citation processes.
- The Friends of PACC announced that they reached the goal of their capital campaign, Your Love Saves Lives, thanks in part to large donations from Maddie's Fund, and ongoing support from the Pima County community.
- The Friends of PACC received a third \$60,000 grant from Maddie's Fund to host two foster apprenticeships at PACC this spring, with 30 students from around the nation visiting for four days to learn about PACC's operations and foster programs.
- Playgroups are held 10-14 times a week, with 60-80 dogs benefiting daily.

- Enrichment is scheduled for behavior team staff to accomplish 2 mornings a week increasing the weekly in kennel enrichment dogs receive. All dogs receive some form of kennel enrichment, about 70 long stay dogs receive extra kennel enrichment twice a week.
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Personnel

- Seven new employees began at PACC, and 5 current employees transitioned into new positions. These team members include three veterinary technicians, four animal protection officers, a clinic supervisor, two field supervisors, and our fourth foster coordinator, Katie Pappenhagen. Katie will be focusing on adult cat foster care and Cynthia Franco will provide much needed additional support for medical and neonatal foster families.
- Seven team members were hired in June and will begin in July, including three officers, two veterinary technicians, a pet support specialist and a licensing specialist.
- The following positions are currently advertised: 3 animal care officers, 2 dispatchers, 2 veterinary technicians, 1 licensing and adoption technician, and a part time animal care officer for our Ajo substation.

Field and Community Services

- Animal Protection Officers responded to 3,554 calls in January with 1,654 being priority 1 and 2, and 3,621 calls in February, including 1,680 priority 1 and 2 calls.
- During the first two months of 2019, officers handled 715 bite investigations and responded to 826 calls about cruelty or neglect.
- The Pet Support Center handled over 5000 calls and provided assistance to 17 families.
- PACC brought in Marcie Valen from No Kill Pima County to train our admissions staff on intake diversion and community resources.
- In January and February, PACC handed out 2,343 lbs. of dog food, 391 bags of treats, and 394 lbs. of cat food through our Pup in Boots programs. We also handed out 481 collars, 246 leashes, and 74 dog sweaters to 367 pet owners.
- Our fencing assistance program provided 5 rolls of fencing, 12 dog houses, and 1 dog run to help dog owners with confinement issues for their outside dogs.
- The Community Cat team facilitated spay/neuter for nearly 600 cats between January and February and loaned out over 100 traps.
- Community and Outreach Manager, Bennett Simonsen, met individually with Esperanza en Escalante, the U of A School of Public Health, AWASA, PAAW Animal Resource Committee, Flowing Wells Neighborhood Association, Pima County End Poverty Now, and the Addressing Poverty Working Group, to continue developing new ways to support pet owners in our community in our efforts to become a full resource center for pets and their owners.

Veterinary Services

- 571 cats and dogs were spayed or neutered at PACC in January, and 502 in February.
- Vets conducted 192 specialty surgeries during the first two months of 2019.

- PACC volunteers provided seven-day-per-week support to the medical clinic, assisting with walks, enrichment, cleaning, stocking, and customer service.
- A third vet has been selected and is expected to join PACC in early April.
- Local vets covered 15 shifts at PACC during January and February.

Media

- PACC was covered in news media 42 times in two months, and Friends of PACC mentioned five times.
- [Protecting pets from Southern Arizona's freezing overnight temps](#)
- [PACC offering special discount during the Tucson Gem Show](#)
- [County Animal Shelter Offers Creature Comforts for Occupants](#)
- [What to avoid giving your dog on Valentine's Day](#)
- [How some Tucsonans spent the MLK Day of Service](#)
- [NOT GOING TO THE DOGS: Volunteers enable animal groups to keep saving lives](#)
- [PACC to help pets belonging to the homeless](#)

Volunteer, Foster and Rescue Programs

- PACC staff prepared video orientations to expedite the foster onboarding process.
- During the month of February, PACC's outreach team participated in 7 community events, and hosted 2 group events onsite.
- In January, PACC began hosting Sunday Family Furdays with family oriented activities to enrich the lives of shelter pets.
- Over 12,000 volunteer hours were logged in the first two months of the year, and 102 new volunteers attended orientation.
- 273 pets went to foster in January and 199 in February.
- 173 pets were transferred to rescue partners in January and 169 in February.
- Nearly 70 dogs went on [Pawjama party overnights](#) and/or day trips.
- New adult cat foster coordinator Katie attended an apprenticeship at Cat Town in Oakland, CA.
- Volunteer groomer Amy Ganos was [awarded a full scholarship](#) to California based Animal Behavior College's Certified Grooming Instruction Program, thanks in part to her dedication to the pets of PACC.