



Dr. Maria Solacito has been the Senior Veterinarian for the Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care and Control since July 2012. She oversees the agency's medical program in 7 Animal Care Centers (ACC) with a staff of 11 shelter veterinarians and 27 RVTs.

Dr. Solacito has a D.V.M. from the University of the Philippines and completed her clinical year at Purdue University.

Dr. Solacito is a member of the Southern California Veterinary Medical Association (SCVMA), the World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA), the Association of Shelter Veterinarians (ASV) and The Association for the Advancement of Animal Welfare (AAWA). She served as President of the Southern California Filipino Veterinary Medical Association (SCFVMA) for 2016-18. She also regularly volunteers for the Paws For Life outreach program of the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) in Los Angeles. Dr. Solacito also completed the County of Los Angeles/University of Southern California (USC)'s Executive Leadership Development Program.

Dr. Solacito is very passionate about animal welfare and she believes that veterinarians play an important role in its advocacy and in the societal change it inspires. She is an advocate for shared leadership amongst veterinarians and non-medical decision-makers in animal sheltering operations. She has been sought out to speak in conferences on animal welfare, veterinary leadership, shared leadership and animal sheltering.

Cooking is one of Dr. Solacito's many talents and she loves preparing meals for family and friends. Her other interests include listening to acoustic guitar music and watching Hayao Miyazaki movies. She and her husband share their home with HipHop (cat) and

Cookie and Ben (dogs) who were all adopted from the Lancaster shelter.