

WHAT'S UP, DACC?

JANUARY 2021



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
ANIMAL CARE & CONTROL

LATEST NEWS FROM OUR
ANIMAL CARE CENTERS



COMFORTED BY
OUR PETS

WITHIN THESE
PAGES:

WHAT WILL 2021 BRING?

With an incredibly challenging year behind us, we thought it was important to remember the good that came of 2020 and have included some highlights in this month's issue. Those successes we credit to the many partnerships we enjoy with our cities, our pet-loving community members, and our dedicated staff and volunteers. We now look forward to heading into the new year and new ways we can enhance the lives of the residents and animals in our communities.

02 PETS HELP WITH
STRESS RELIEF

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MANAGED INTAKE

06 DECEMBER
DONORS!

PETS HELP WITH STRESS RELIEF

INTERVIEW WITH WHITNEY DUONG

During this past year, many of us have sought ways to cope with changes. These may include hobbies, sports, or maybe even binge-watching our favorite series on Netflix. For some, it may include turning to loved ones or our pets. Such is the case for Whitney Duong, the manager for the contracts and grants division who has worked with DACC for 11 years. Whitney was kind enough to participate in an interview to share some of her story and how her pets have helped her cope during this challenging time.

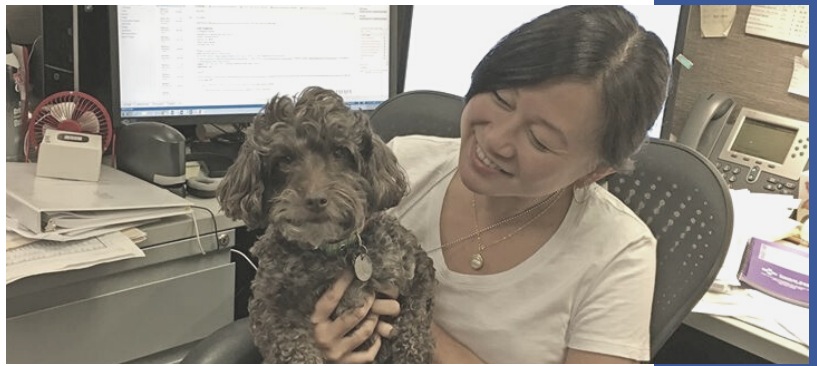
How many animals have you adopted since beginning your career with DACC?

"At least 12 animals, either adopted or rehomed. I've also referred a lot of friends who have adopted from the department."

Whitney currently has two dogs: Hershey (13), who was adopted from the Lancaster Animal Care Center, and Lucky (13) whom Whitney took in after a resident found her as a stray.

Are there any activities, practices, or hobbies that help you relieve stress?

"I enjoy reading, watching YouTube, Netflix, cooking, and enjoy supporting local businesses. Also, just looking at my pets—hearing them snore, seeing that they're comfortable helps release my stress—just knowing that I'm helping them. One of the perks of working for DACC is that we were allowed to bring our pets to work. I could see all the faces of my coworkers brighten up when they pet Hershey and Lucky. Now that I am working from home and having Team meetings, my fur kids take turns sitting on my lap during my virtual meetings."



"During this very stressful time, my fur kids remind me to take breaks by tapping their wet noses on my feet. I would feel less stressed and more focused by merely petting them or watching them sleep next to my makeshift office. I love my job, but it can be hectic and very stressful, but having my fur kids next to me brings me happiness and reminds me that one day we will return to our worksite and see our fur and human friends again."

What do you enjoy about working for DACC?

"The people. They're all very passionate and everybody works together to get the job done. I feel supported and heard by department leadership. I also enjoy working with the contract cities and building rapport and relationships with them. I've been with DACC longer than any other organization. I feel like I've found my forever home."

Is there anything else you'd like to share with the readers?

"I think that this job helps me feel like I make a difference for our animals and our communities. I wake up knowing I'm making a difference, day to day, and always enjoy learning more about the department. I really love my team and the great work that they do."

CSAC AWARD

MANAGED INTAKE

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) recently announced the recipients of its 2020 Challenge Awards, spotlighting the most innovative programs developed and implemented by California counties. DACC was honored to have won a Merit award under the category: Disaster & Emergency Response/Management.

DACC was acknowledged for implementing a Managed Intake and Expanded Placement program for animals. This program allowed DACC to expeditiously implement a new animal management practice to respond to, and enhance services during, the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

“DACC is honored to receive this prestigious award from CSAC,” said DACC Director Marcia Mayeda. “Our entire DACC team is to be congratulated for their adaptability, resourcefulness, and commitment to our mission as we dramatically changed our operations to continue to serve animals and constituents.”

Managed Intake aligns DACC practices and resources with the needs of the community to reduce the necessity of accepting animals into DACC's seven animal care centers. The Enhanced Placement initiatives increase positive outcomes for stray and unwanted animals by increasing adoptions, providing additional foster homes, and partnership with private animal adoption organizations.

More information can be found at www.animalcare.lacounty.gov.

Click [HERE](#) to learn more about this story!

ANIMALS RETURN HOME

In 2019, approximately 13% of stray animals brought to our animal care centers were reunited with their owners. Thanks to the support of our communities, this number increased to 18% in 2020. We continue to look for ways to expand partnerships with our communities and are excited to build on what we learned and achieved last year!



Happy New Cat

**CAT ADOPTION FEES
WAIVED AT ALL LA COUNTY
ANIMAL CARE CENTERS!**

JANUARY 1-31, 2021

**VISIT [ANIMALCARE.LACOUNTY.GOV](https://animalcare.lacounty.gov) TO
SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT TO ADOPT**

LICENSE AND TRUST FEES NOT INCLUDED

SPONSORED BY THE



SCHEDULE APPOINTMENT TO ADOPT!

- 1 View our available animals** by visiting animalcare.lacounty.gov/view-our-animals
- 2** Once you find an animal you would like to adopt, **click on the animal's photo.**
Next, **click on the blue starburst button** that reads "Inquiry to Adopt" and complete the form.
- 3 You will receive a response** from our staff letting you know if the animal is available or whether it already has interested parties. If the animal does not have a commitment to adopt (CTA) or interested parties, the staff member will secure your place on the list. We currently accept one commitment to adopt and up to three interested parties for each pet. The CTA will have the option to interact and decide if the animal is a good fit for their family. The three interested parties will be scheduled on a different day if the pet is not adopted.
- 4 Show up on your appointment date** to adopt the animal. Congratulations on your new family member!



“

The Department's foster program has engaged the community, created strong partnerships, and ensures that the animals in their care still find their forever homes, regardless of outside circumstances.”

DACC'S FOSTERING PROGRAM RECOGNIZED

[PET FOSTERING CREATES COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT](#)

Each year, the County's Quality and Productivity Commission recognizes innovative and impactful programs administered by County departments. This year, the Commission focused specifically on programs that have helped manage the impact of Covid-19. DACC submitted its expanded foster program for consideration and was featured in the quarterly *Quality Matters* newsletter. The full article is below!

In response to the County's pandemic guidelines, animal care centers were forced to curtail traffic at each location and made the decision to schedule appointments for potential adopters. This drastically reduced the foot traffic at the care centers and staff were concerned that this change would affect their ability to adopt pets out to their forever homes.

Line staff, managers, executives, and volunteers worked together, and their online foster program was born! This program allows foster parents to apply and receive all their training online and provides curbside pickup once a foster match has been made.

The Department's foster program has engaged the community, created strong partnerships, and ensures that the animals in their care still find their forever homes, regardless of outside circumstances. The community is engaged in finding solutions for the animals that need homes and in turn, receive love and companionship during difficult and isolating times.



15 YEARS...AND COUNTING

This generous and beautiful couple has been donating to the Lancaster Animal Care Center for 15 years! How amazing is that? We couldn't be more grateful and we know our pups will surely enjoy their new treats!



MISS GENEROSITY!

America's Majestic Miss California winner, Daniella, collected and donated 46 brand new blankets to the Castaic Animal Care Center. Daniella and her family adopted their dog, Happy, from Castaic a while back and often give back to the care center to show their appreciation.



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

For the latest DACC updates, and for heartwarming stories from around our animal care centers, please follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter!



[@LACoAnimals](#)



[@LACoanimals](#)

[@FosterAnimalsLACO](#)



[@LACoAnimalCare](#)

FIND AN ANIMAL CARE CENTER NEAR YOU!

Baldwin Park:

4275 N. Elton Street
Baldwin Park, CA 91706
baldwinpark@animalcare.lacounty.gov

Carson/Gardena:

216 W. Victoria Street
Gardena, CA 90248
carson@animalcare.lacounty.gov

Downey:

11258 S. Garfield Ave.
Downey, CA 90242
downeyctaip@animalcare.lacounty.gov

Castaic:

31044 N. Charlie Canyon Rd.
Castaic, CA 91384
castaic@animalcare.lacounty.gov

Agoura:

29525 Agoura Road
Agoura Hills, CA 91303
agoura@animalcare.lacounty.gov

Lancaster:

5210 W. Avenue I
Lancaster, CA 93536
acclancaster@animalcare.lacounty.gov

Palmdale:

38550 Sierra Highway
Palmdale, CA 93550
palmdale@animalcare.lacounty.gov

Interested in Fostering?

Click [HERE!](#)

Licensing Questions?

Call: (562) 345-0400
Email: licensing@animalcare.lacounty.gov

Interested in Volunteering?

Click [HERE!](#)