LOS ANGELES COUNTY ANNUAL REPORT

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Marcia Mayeda

Animal Care and Control

- **\$** (562) 728-4610
- **(562)** 422-3408
- animalinfo@animalcare.lacounty.go
 www.animalcare.lacounty.gov
- ♥ @LACoAnimalCare
- f County of LA Department of Animal Care and Control

"Canine euthanasia became the lowest it has ever been; down to 34.7% of all incoming dogs." Two-thousand and thirteen was a very busy and productive year for the Department of Animal Care and Control. Canine euthanasia became the lowest it has ever been in this department; down to 34.7% of all incoming dogs. This is remarkable because this Department is the largest animal care and control agency in the Country, and accepts all animals brought to it regardless of temperament, medical condition, or adoptability. This achievement was reached by the hard work of dedicated staff, volunteers, and valuable community partners that support these efforts with placement assistance and grant funding.

The Department also strengthened its resources in protecting public safety by creating the Critical Case Processing Unit. This unit is composed of select officers with exceptional investigative skills who review all incidents of potentially dangerous or vicious dogs. The officers evaluate the circumstances and injuries resulting from dog bites or attacks. They then prepare petitions for a hearing officer or judge to determine whether the dog should have restrictions placed around its ownership. To date, more than 400 cases have been completed, making our communities safer for people and their pets.

Additionally, the Department was grateful to receive more than \$220,000 from the Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation to purchase small animal rescue and housing mobile response units.

These units have been used to house animals rescued from animal hoarding situations, displaced by fires, at special adoption events, and as supplementary surgical recovery areas for community spay/neuter outreach events. Each unit is self-contained with power, heat and air conditioning, and other amenities to make the animals and visitors comfortable.

The Department made significant strides forward in adding the first animal care facility in more than 40 years. This new facility will be located in the city of Palmdale, and will provide additional animal care housing for animals in the Antelope Valley. Response times to calls for animal control assistance will be reduced for Palmdale and the east Antelope Valley. This animal care center is scheduled to open in 2016.

Thank you for your interest in the Department of Animal Care and Control. Please remember to spay or neuter your pets, and make your next pet a shelter animal!