



VCAS Overview

- VCAS is a comprehensive animal welfare agency dedicated to providing the highest quality of service to the people and animals of Ventura County.
 - Approximately 12,000 animal served each year (Camarillo & Simi Valley shelter locations)
 - Live Release Rate (Jan Sept 2019) = 93.8%
 - Average monthly number of animals returned to owner = 160
 - Average monthly response to field calls = 900
 - Average monthly number of animals diverted from shelter = 200
 - Average monthly number of surgical procedures = 450
- Current budget is \$8.8 million dollars
 - Provides services to eight cities plus unincorporated Ventura County for sheltering, pet licensing, and/or animal control services.
 - Revenue consists of city contract, pet licensing, and administrative citations.
 - 75 FTE plus extra-help/part-time positions (as needed).
 - Additional financial support provided through private donations made directly to the Animal Services Foundation of Ventura County.



HCA-VCAS Timeline Information

- July of 2012—transferred VCAS from a stand-alone agency reporting to CEO's Office to component of the Public Health division of HCA.
 - HCA would provide greater administrative support and resources to VCAS.
 - Close alignment to public health due to rabies reporting and infectious disease management.
- VCAS currently operates as a hybrid model.
 - HCA currently provides budgetary, human resources, payroll and administrative oversight and support.
 - VCAS maintain autonomous authority and budget allocations for IT and GSA services.
 - VCAS works directly with CEO's Office on special projects (i.e. city contracts, planning for new shelter).



What's Changed?

- The past ten years has seen a drastic change in the animal welfare industry, leading to enhanced professional standards and practices.
 - Animals are more often viewed as family members, not just property.
 - Community expectations related to governmental animal services has moved from an enforcement/nuisance model to a holistic approach focusing on lifesaving activities.
 - Research and best practice models have and continue to move the industry forward and has fostered a more professional approach to services.
- VCAS has followed this industry path and has evolved into a comprehensive service delivery system with distinct and industry-specific objectives and greater resources within the department.
 - VCAS is facing numerous challenges that are distinct from the operations of the HCA.
- Increase of VCAS administrative resources
 - Elevated supervisory duties fiscal operations to a Manager classification.
 - Added two (2) fiscal/accounting positions.
 - Added one (1) Marketing/Media positions.



Benefits of VCAS Reporting to CEO's Office

- Streamline communication and decision-making processes with CEO's Office regarding complex, industry-specific organizational activities
 - Contract negotiation with cities and industry-specific vendors.
 - Capital design and planning for new shelter facility.
- Greater opportunity for VCAS leadership to be involved in senior/executive-level county meetings and initiatives.
 - Increased access to numerous cross agency service areas and initiatives including community development, human services, and public safety/enforcement.
- Greater visibility for VCAS within county operations, thus providing increased opportunity for continued agency growth and development.



Thank You HCA!

