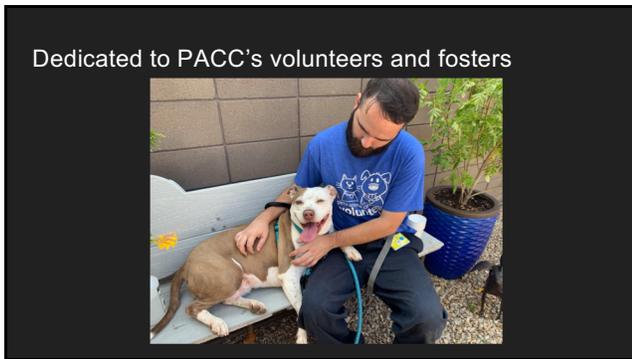
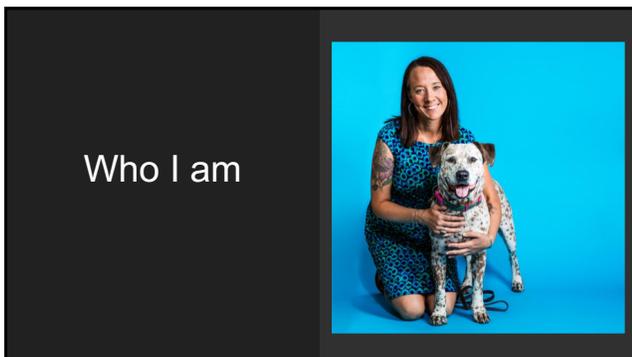




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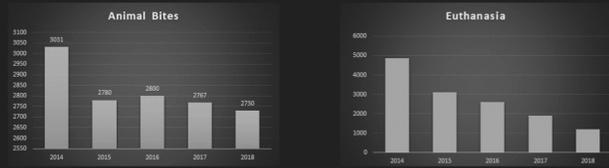
Pima Animal Care Center quick facts

- 18,000 intake
- 92% true live release rate
- 11 day average length of stay
- Average number of dogs: 300 to 400 in shelter
- Adoptions per month: 1,000
- Dogs to foster: 2,500 in 2018
- Currently housing 3 dogs with LOS above 90 days



4

Does euthanizing more dogs make things safer?*



| Year | Animal Bites | Euthanasia |
|------|--------------|------------|
| 2014 | 3031 | 5000 |
| 2015 | 2780 | 3500 |
| 2016 | 2805 | 3000 |
| 2017 | 2767 | 2000 |
| 2018 | 2710 | 1000 |

*We also track bites in shelter, bites by adopted dogs and bites per capita over time.

5

The problem



6

Part I. Starting points

7

Myths about big dogs in shelters

| | |
|--|---|
| Myth #1: | Myth #2: |
| Shelters need to choose between warehousing and lifesaving | Making decisions about what dogs live and die is simple and uncomplicated |

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Big dogs in need are a *social* problem



- Lack of pet accessible housing
- Crisis and poverty-related issues
- Lack of access to training and behavior support
- Population density makes owning big dogs harder and harder
- Breed stigma and legislation
- More people coming for help

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Dogs are individuals

- All dogs are good dogs
- A few dogs are unsafe dogs
- Shelters are hard places to know anything about dogs
- We can't predict future behavior
- Previous history may tell us something
- Context matters



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What is the problem we're trying to solve?



Shelters are faced with decisions to euthanize healthy adult dogs due to capacity issues and/or 'behavior.'

Shelters are not built to save these dogs. They don't move themselves through the system

We have to do more to save them

Many shelters name 'big dogs' as their number one, unsolved problem

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What you will learn from this webcast

1. How to never use euthanasia as a method of population control
2. **The easy things you can do to get to a 90% save rate for dogs**
3. Develop and implement a standard procedure for making life and death decisions for at-risk dogs
4. **Engage staff, volunteers and advocates as partners saving more challenging dogs**
5. Give most every dog a fair chance at a live outcome

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What are we NOT telling you to do

1. Save 100% of all dogs
2. 'Warehouse' dogs
3. Release 'dangerous' dogs
4. Spend a lot more money
5. Know exactly what dogs should live or die



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Why we need to do things differently

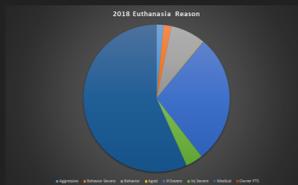


- Increase lifesaving
- Treat every dog as an individual
- Build trust with staff, volunteers and advocates
- Data tracking to identify gaps and risk factors
- Eliminate mistakes in decisions
- Promote employee and volunteer emotional wellbeing

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What you need to get started

1. Overall live release rate of dogs in one year (live outcomes over total outcomes - no excluded dogs)
2. Number of dogs euthanized
3. Number of dogs dying due to lack of space
4. Number of dogs dying for 'behavior'



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Part II. The basics of getting to 90%

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The goal

Consistently save 90%
of medium and large
dogs without increasing
length of stay or
creating capacity
issues.



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A word about volunteers



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Communications

1. Daily public pleas for fosters and adopters
2. Completely transparent, urgent pleas during times of crisis
3. Volunteers/rescue groups/staff given notification and seven day deadlines to at risk dogs
4. Walk through videos/photos of dogs in kennels
5. Long stay dogs featured in communications multiple times



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Care in shelter



1. Play groups for assessment, enrichment and co-housing selection
2. Dog-driven co-housing the norm, not the exception
3. Daily kennel enrichment for single housed dogs
4. Twice-daily kennel breaks for dogs
5. Additional support for dogs with LOS greater than 14 days

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Policies and Procedures

1. Adult dogs available for foster or adoption
2. Dogs immediately available upon intake
3. Volunteers can foster or adopt any dog
4. Volunteers can work with harder dogs
5. No dogs housed in non-public areas without good reason
6. Same day foster/adoption placement with one hour process



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Foster-centric model



1. Half of all dogs in foster
2. Field trip and overnights - no barriers to participate
3. Volunteers and fosters can make videos and take photos and share
4. Foster programs for fospice, behavior, long stay, senior, medical
5. Foster mentioned as often as adoption in marketing
6. No wait to foster

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Pro-tips for saving more dogs

- Let volunteers access shelter software
- Create specialty programs for volunteers
- Hold out-of-the-box adoption events
- Start every day with kennel census and long stay list
- Hold public play groups on weekends
- Market bonded pairs



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Part III: Saving at risk dogs

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What dogs are at risk?

Category 1: Fearful, shy, stressed, kennel stress, jumpy/mouthy, long stay, non-social

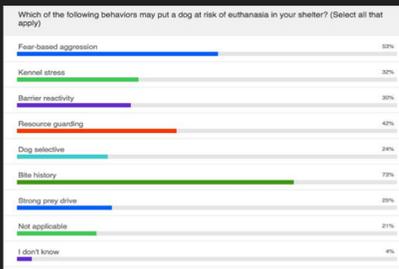
Category 2: Known history of behavior challenges (guarding, separation anxiety), hard to handle in shelter, reactive, leash-biting, feral behavior

Category 3: any bite history, known history of aggressive behavior, running at large plus any aggression, harming other animals

Category 4: really hard dogs

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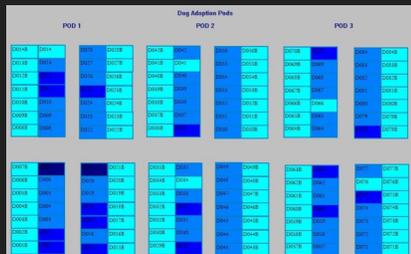
What puts dogs at risk in your community?



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What you need to get started

1. Dog-by-dog data (behavior, medical, owner/finder, volunteer and ACO notes)
2. Specific factors putting dogs at risk
3. Dog daily inventory and available kennels



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Case management
From intake through outcome



Age: Approximately 1Y 6M
Sex: M
Color: BLACK
Major Cross Streets: GRANT RD, CAMPBELL AV
PACC ID Number: A635020
Found Date: 05/19/2018



Contact Pima Animal Care's Pet Support Center for more information
Phone: 520-724-PACC (7222)
Email: PSC@pima.gov

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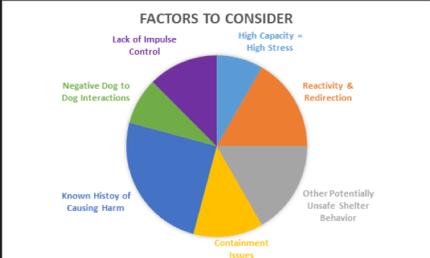
1. Dog is flagged for review by behavior team

1. Case manager reviews notes
2. Dog is interacted with outside of kennel
3. Dogs with history of causing harm to humans or animals or with more serious behavioral challenges brought to leadership team



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Case management process initiated



FACTORS TO CONSIDER

- Lack of Impulse Control
- High Capacity = High Stress
- Reactivity & Redirection
- Other Potentially Unsafe Shelter Behavior
- Containment Issues
- Known History of Causing Harm
- Negative Dog to Dog Interactions

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Additional factors considered

- Overall history in the home
- Size of dog
- Context and circumstances of negative incidents
- Severity of injury if any
- Dog's presentation at shelter
- Handle-ability
- Whether there are multiple factors
- Whether there are multiple incidents
- Fan club status
- Potential adopter/foster/rescue



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Pathway options considered

1. Decompression program
2. Foster care
3. Special needs adoption
4. Continue to evaluate
5. Short term rescue deadline
6. Notification of euthanasia



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Special needs adoption (SNAB and SNA+)



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Things to do before you euthanize for behavior



1. Make sure you have the right dog identified
2. Review notes and call to confirm
3. Interact with dog outside the kennel
4. Call the finder or owner
5. Let people know and give them time to help (staff, volunteers, rescues)
6. Meet the dog
7. Have the director sign off

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What NOT to do

1. Euthanize with no notification
2. Hide at risk dogs in the back of the shelter
3. Mark low level behavior dogs as 'rescue only'
4. Send them to sanctuary without research
5. Adoption or foster without full disclosure
6. Defend decisions when you were wrong



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What coming up in tomorrow's webcast?



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