



Long Beach Animal Care Services

COMPASSION SAVES NEXT STEPS

January 21, 2020

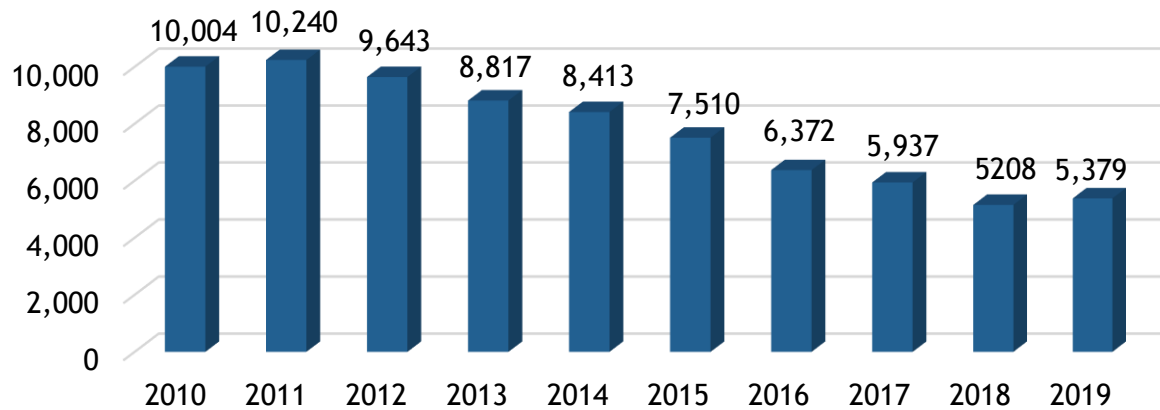
Purpose of Compassion Saves Next Steps Presentation

- **The 2017-18 City Audit on Long Beach Animal Care Services (LBACS), the establishment of the Mayor's Animal Care Services Visioning Task Force, and the April 16 City Council study session on the Compassion Saves model has lead us to this point in the development of a forward looking Animal Care Services Bureau.**
- **On May 7, 2019, the City Council directed the City Manager to lead the way in implementing the Compassion Saves model and to ensure it is reflected in the development of the LBACS strategic plan.**
- **In addition, the City Council directed staff to develop recommendations for improving operational relationship with spcaLA.**
- **This presentation will also provide key progress metrics, an update on kennel management, fundraising, plans for enhanced LBACS adoption messaging and greater adoption opportunities, and a recommendation on two ordinances to help manage dog and cat population growth.**

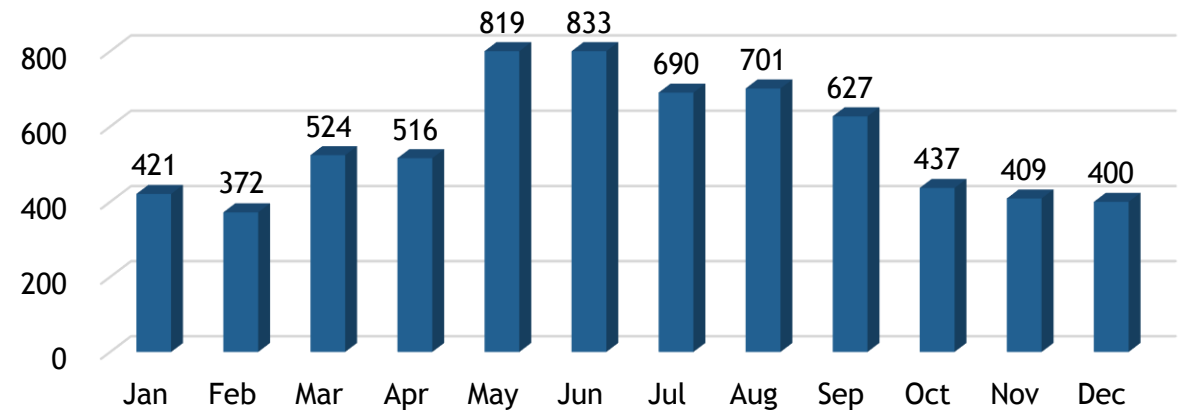
Compassion Saves by Numbers

Admissions by Year and by Month for 2019

Admissions (cat and dog)



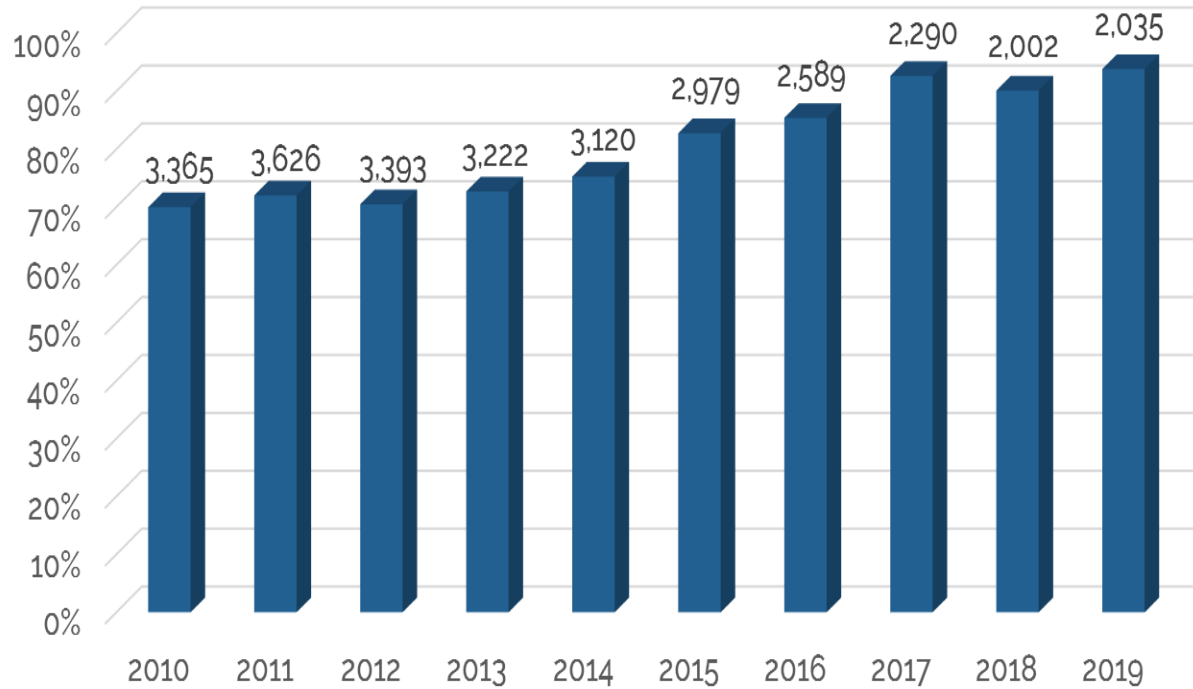
Admission by Month (cat and dog)



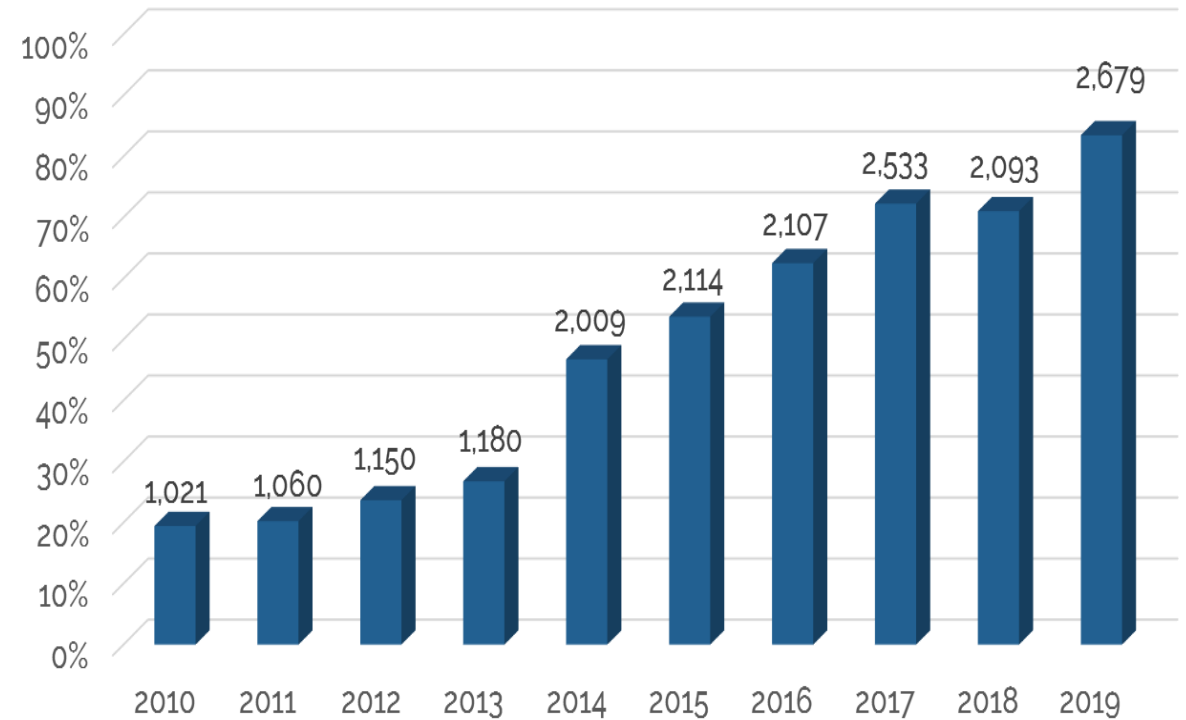
Compassion Saves by Numbers

Live Release Rates

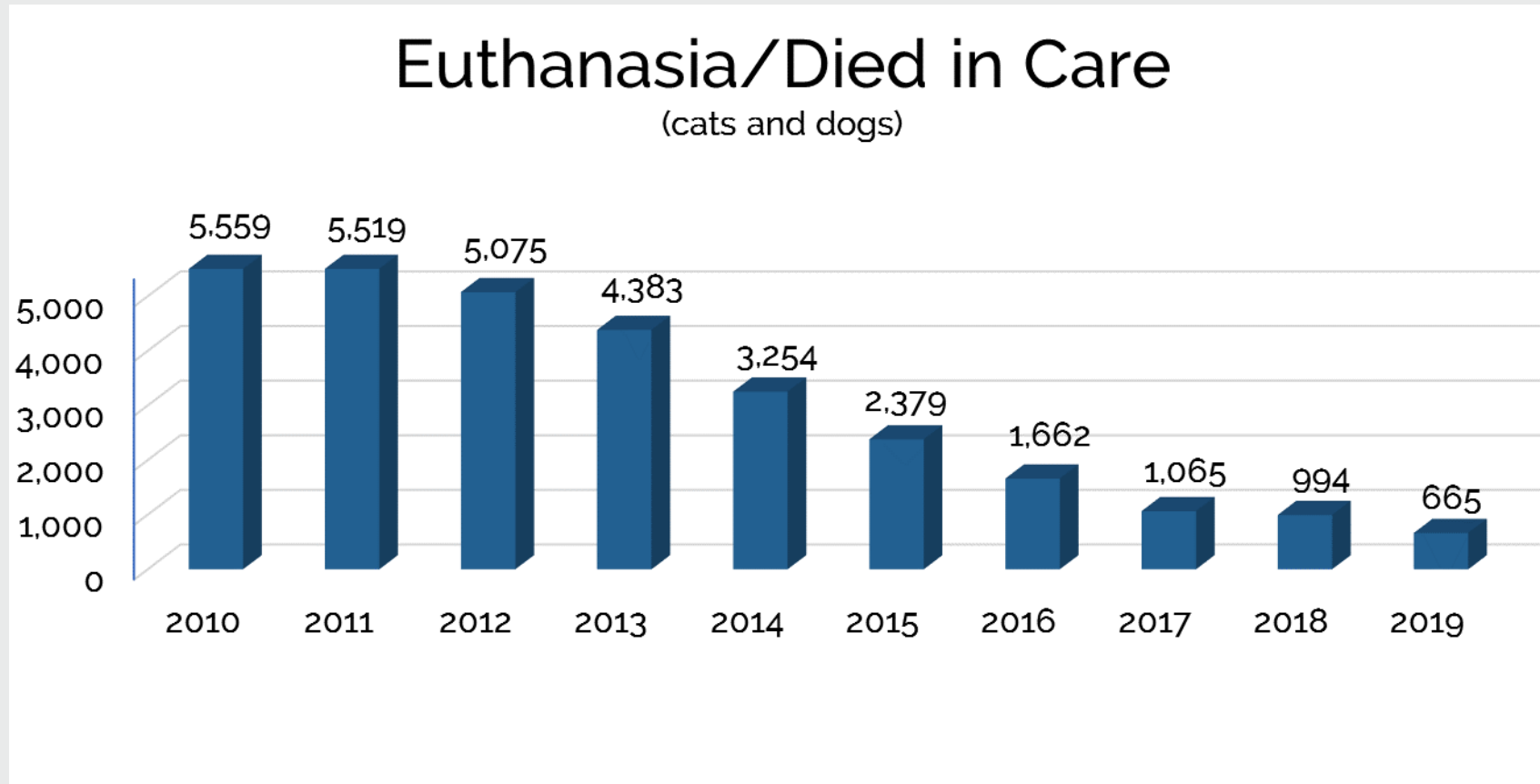
Dog Live Release



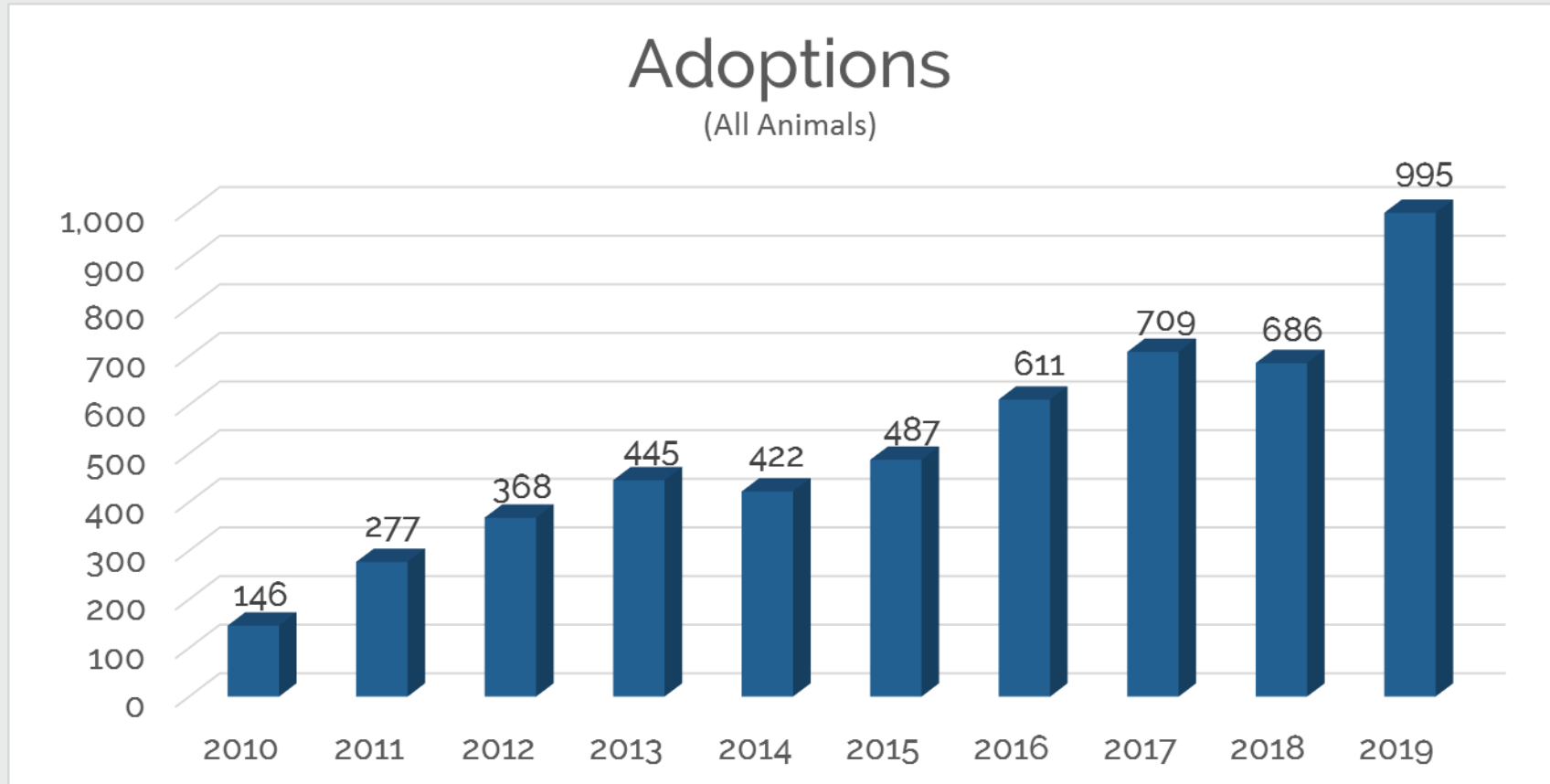
Cat Live Release



Compassion Saves by Numbers



Compassion Saves by Numbers



Compassion Saves: Achievements, Challenges and Opportunities

Achievements

- **Hired Staycee Dains as new head of Long Beach Animal Care Services (LBACS) in February 2019.**
- **Increased community engagement through foster care, adoption, and volunteerism.**
- **Expanded opportunities for veterinary care/treatments and behavioral support for animals, especially during peak summer season.**
- **Hired full time veterinarian and Adoption and Volunteer Coordinator due to City Council budgetary enhancements in FY 19-20.**
- **Nearly 200 animals were fostered in 2019, adoptions were at an all-time high from 686 in 2018 to 995 in 2019.**

Compassion Saves: Achievements, Challenges and Opportunities

Achievements

- **259 volunteers gave 11,864 hours, a remarkable 73% increase in volunteer involvement compared to 2018.**
- **Key to our volunteer success is the recent improvement in processing volunteers so that there is less waiting and we ensure we don't lose any volunteers due to the old processing system.**
- **Another important factor is we have improved training for orientation that all volunteers complete. These training and monitoring improvements have resulted in advanced volunteers assisting LBACS in handling animals.**
- **We also recently developed a special group of trained volunteers to assist in our behavior program.**
- **To ensure that volunteer time is well respected, we launched a web portal that volunteers sign in and can clearly schedule their work based on LBACS needs.**

Compassion Saves: Achievements, Challenges and Opportunities

Challenges



Three mini pods and a mighty mover were placed at LBACS parking area to deal with the peak summer 2019 season

- **Though admission rates have been steadily going down every year since 2010, LBACS is still challenged by significant increase in admissions from May to September.**
- **The 2019 summer season was particularly challenging. Due to staff's hard work and rescue groups, volunteers and special medical treatment collaborations, the results were very positive.**

Opportunities: Kennel Management



- **Compassion Saves is working. More lives are being saved through foster care, adoption, and volunteerism. This has resulted in a 30% increase of animals in care, which means a greater need to be more strategic about the order in which animal care duties are completed.**
- **Several strategies have been implemented to better manage animal care including staff reassignments, volunteers, restructuring cleaning assignments to ensure feeding occurs before cleaning, providing more efficiency.**
- **Tomorrow (January 22), one new part-time employee will start working at LBACS to join the team to keep kennels clean and ensure a healthy environment for dogs is provided. A second new part-time employee will be also be joining soon to join the effort.**
- **The system to ensure better scheduling of kennel cleaning and dietary management is being implemented.**

Opportunities: LBACS Strategic Plan



- **Mayor's Animal Care Visioning Task Force began meeting in October 2018.**
- **The Task Force has provided very valuable feedback to the LBACS team in order to improve its effectiveness.**
- **The Task Force members have been very committed and have been working hard in helping to develop the LBACS Strategic Plan.**
- **The Strategic Plan, a key Task Force deliverable, will be presented to the City Council in March/April.**

Opportunities: Fundraising and Social Media



- **Partners of Parks has agreed to work with LBACS in raising private monies for LBACS.**
- **The \$100,000 of one-time FY20 addition to LBACS budget to help spearhead these efforts is key in making sure fundraising and social media presence is highly effective.**
- **Web portal and social media applications for LBACS will be enhanced.**
- **Creation of large annual fundraising event to help raise money for LBACS.**

Compassion Saves: Achievements, Challenges and Opportunities

Opportunities: Improve Citywide Adoption Messaging and Opportunities



- Will use the Council approved Measure A \$450,000 to realize the following opportunities:
 - Replace the five major directional signs with new signs that highlight LBACS.
 - Purchase up to three mighty movers to help with peak admission season and to be more effective in adoptions and outreach efforts in different parts of the City.

Opportunities: Operational Relationship with spcaLA

- **Staff and Deputy City Attorney reviewed the four agreements with spcaLA:**
 1. **Agreement for Construction – October 1998.**
 2. **Lease of 6.5 acres – October 1998 through July 2053.**
 3. **Lease-back – October 1998 through July 2053.**
 4. **Permit to park spcaLA vehicles at City’s Maintenance Operations yard – February 2014 – January 31, 2020.**
- **The Lease and Lease-back need more clarity on best ways to mutually agree on the use of common areas as well as more clarity on the operations of each party including activity in dedicated areas for each party.**
- **Have had two meetings with spcaLA and proposed the establishment of an operating agreement and plan to continue meetings to establish a mutual understanding of various operational issues being discussed:**
 1. **Shared keys for common area facilities.**
 2. **Signs in common areas that are LBACS specific.**
 3. **How best to use common area for the benefit of Compassion Saves.**
 4. **The development of an effective joint one-stop adoption desk and adoption questionnaire.**
 5. **Mutually agreed upon understanding on how best LBACS is to manage its footprint area and facilities.**

Opportunities: Ordinance to help manage Dog and Cat Population in Long Beach



- **Recommend that City Council requests the City Attorney to prepare Long Beach dog and cat ordinances to help manage population control.**
 - **Ordinance one: Increase household limit from 4 pets to 6 pets.**
 - **Ordinance two: Regulates non-profit organization that bring 300 or more dogs and cats from outside Long Beach.**

FOSTER - ADOPT - VOLUNTEER - DONATE



Compassion Saves

- **City team will continue to meet regularly with spcaLA to discuss issues that need to be clarified and reach an operational understanding on how best to work with each other.**
 - **Provide a report on the progress to City Council of these meetings in March/April**
- **Bring LBACS Strategic Plan back to City Council in March/April.**
- **Bring two population growth ordinances presented in concept today for City Council approval in March/April.**