

PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

WORKSHOP SUMMARY

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Meeting Date: July 22, 2025

Department: Public Safety

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I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF


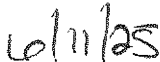

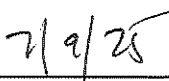
Title: Animal Care and Control Overview

Summary: At the January 14, 2025, Board of County Commissioners (Board) meeting, the Board directed staff to present a comprehensive overview of Public Safety Department's Animal Care and Control (ACC) Division's operations. This agenda item provides a detailed review of ACC's current programs, key initiatives, and overall operational structure, including an analysis of recent accomplishments, ongoing challenges, and performance metrics across various service areas. The presentation will cover critical aspects of ACC's responsibilities, including animal shelter management, public outreach initiatives, veterinary clinic services, field operations, and overall animal welfare efforts. Specific topics of discussion will include live release rates, intake and euthanasia statistics, and community engagement strategies aimed at increasing pet adoptions and responsible pet ownership. Additionally, the Board will receive an update on recent policy and procedural changes designed to improve service efficiency and outcomes for animals and the community. Furthermore, this item will outline ACC's current budgetary framework, detailing funding allocations for operational costs, and staffing as well as revenue collections. Countywide (SF)

Background and Policy Issues: ACC provides shelter and care for approximately 10,000 animals each year. Through proactive programs, ACC has successfully reduced annual intake while continuing to expand efforts to find positive outcomes for animals in its care. While many animals are adopted, transferred to rescue partners, or reunited with their owners, some particularly cats and pit bull-type dogs—face greater challenges in securing placement. ACC remains committed to increasing live outcomes through enhanced adoption programs, community partnerships, and targeted initiatives that support these at-risk animals.

Attachments: Presentation

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Recommended By:		
	Department Director	Date
Approved By:		
	Assistant County Administrator	Date

FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact

Fiscal Years	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>	<u>2028</u>	<u>2029</u>
Personal Services					
Operating Costs					
Capital Expenditures					
External Revenues					
Program Income (County)					
In-Kind Match (County)					
Net Fiscal Impact	*				

ADDITIONAL FTE

POSITIONS (Cumulative)	0	0	0	0	0
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Is Item Included In Current Budget? Yes _____ No _____
Does this item include the use of federal funds? Yes _____ No _____

Budget Account Exp No: Fund _____ Dept. _____ Unit _____ Obj. _____ Prog. _____
Rev No: Fund _____ Dept. _____ Unit _____ Rev. _____ Prog. _____

B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:

*There is no fiscal impact associated with this agenda item.

C. Departmental Fiscal Review: See memo

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Dev. and Control Comments:

Shirley M. White 6/12/2025
OFMB
Legal Sufficiency: 9A 6/12
13 6/12

Brande Znachet 6/12/25
Contract Administration
26 6/12/25

B. Legal Sufficiency:


Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

Department Director

This summary is not to be used as a basis for payment.

Animal Care and Control Overview



**Public Safety Department
Animal Care & Control**

BCC Workshop

July 22, 2025

9:30 A.M.

Mission

"Ensuring the protection and advocacy of companion animals and the education and support of the humans caring for them."



- Medical treatment
- Low cost veterinary services for public
- High Volume Spay/Neuter
- Abuse and Cruelty Forensics

Clinic

- Public Safety
- Education/Enforcement
- Animal Welfare
- Abuse & Cruelty Investigations

Field

Admin.

- Outreach
- Strategic Planning
- Procurement and Contracting
- Policy and Ordinance Review

Shelter

- Animal Care, Health & Enrichment
- Public Adoptions
- Customer Service
- Live Release Programs



Everything is interconnected



Countdown to Zero (C2Z)

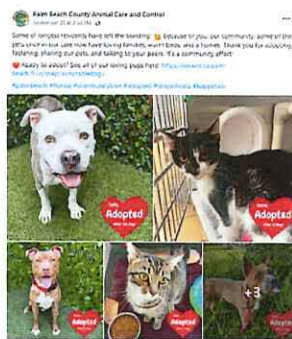
“End Euthanasia of Adoptable Animals”

- 2014 - Resolution adopted by BCC with the objective of ending euthanasia of all adoptable dogs and cats by the year 2024.
- 2024 - Resolution extended by BCC for another 10 years as goal had not been met, although extensive improvements had been made.
- Primary drivers for improvement are:
 - ❖ High volume, affordable and targeted sterilizations
 - ❖ TNVR
 - ❖ Medical and behavioral programs
 - ❖ Intake reduction programs
 - ❖ Increased relationships with rescues/fosters
 - ❖ Increased volunteers; proactive adoption programs

What does C2Z Look Like?



High Volume-
Affordable
Spay/Neuter



Proactive and
Efficient Adoptions



Rescue Networks



Volunteers



Community Outreach and
Involvement



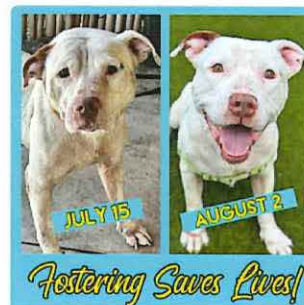
Proactive Lost
& Found



TNR (Trap-Neuter-Return)



Medical and
Behavior
Programs



Foster Care



Keeping Pets
and People
Together



Advocacy

Metric Highlights (Best Friends Animal Society)

- 9,309 dogs/cats euthanized per year prior to C2Z
- 1,221 dogs/cats euthanized in 2024 = **87% reduction**
- 93% - Current save rate for dogs
- 85% - Current save rate for cats

Palm Beach County Animal Care and Control

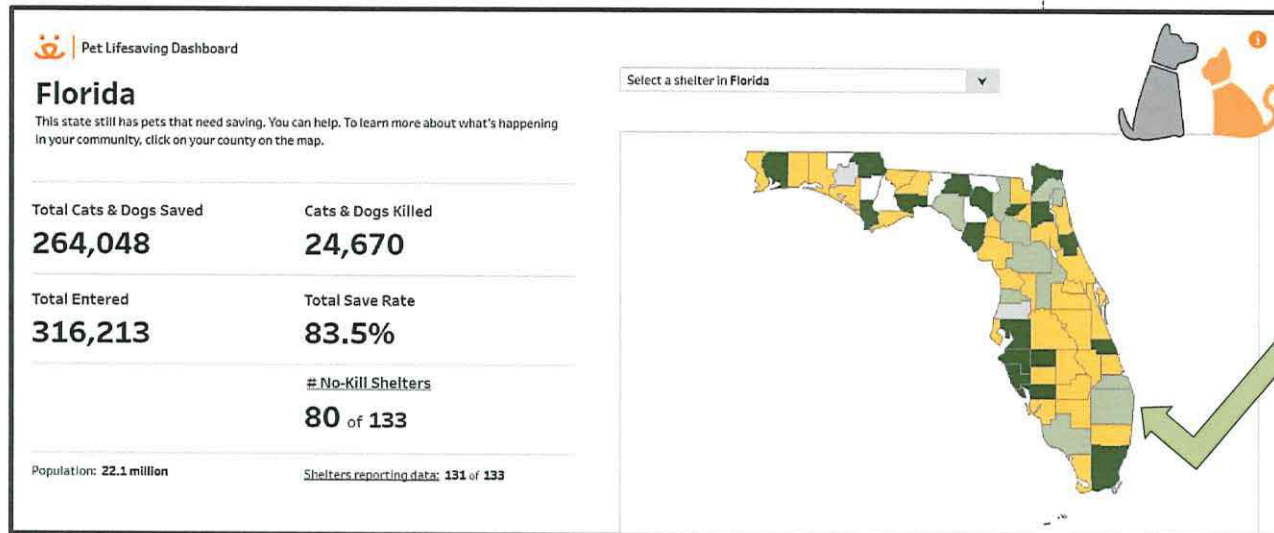
This shelter is very close to achieving the no-kill benchmark with a save rate of 85% to 89.9%.

This shelter is government-run with a mandate to handle animal services for one or more communities in the area. Agencies like this one routinely work with limited resources and space. But with help from community members, they can help sustain safe, humane neighborhoods for pets and people. Get involved and help them save lives.

SHELTER STATUS: NEARLY NO-KILL

Total Pets Entering	Total Cats Entering	Total Dogs Entering
9,757	5,507	4,250
Total Pets Saved	Total Cats Saved	Total Dogs Saved
8,369	4,603	3,766
Total Save Rate	Cats Save Rate	Dogs Save Rate
85.77% <small>+1.1%</small>	83.58%	88.61%
No-Kill Gap	Data Year	Prior Year
412 <small>+124</small>	2023	2022

In the case of the new 2023 data, we will update the most current data from 2022 to 2023. Data is sourced from the ASPCA's Petfinder. ASPCA is not responsible for the accuracy or use of the data. Your use of the data is at your own risk. The data is for informational purposes only.

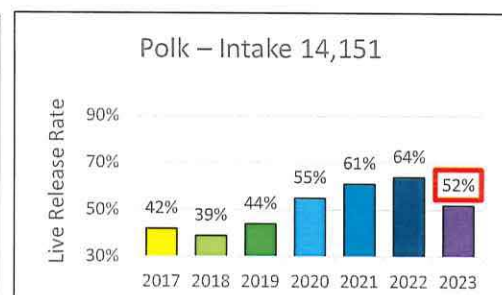
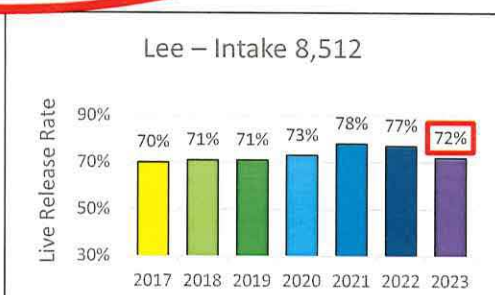
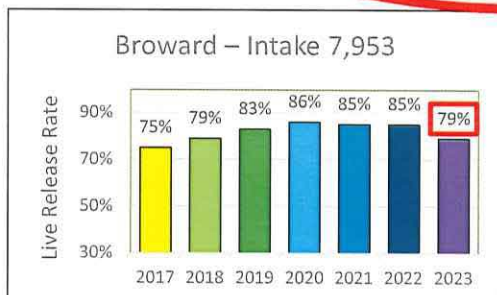
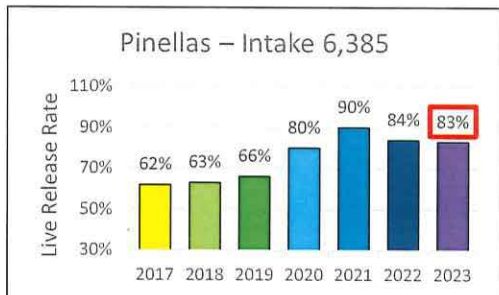
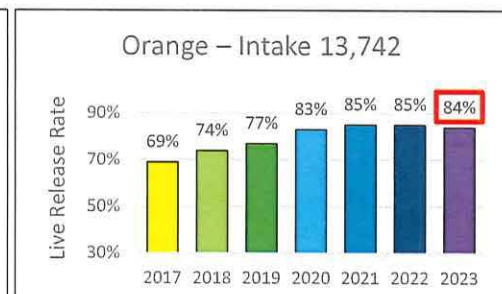
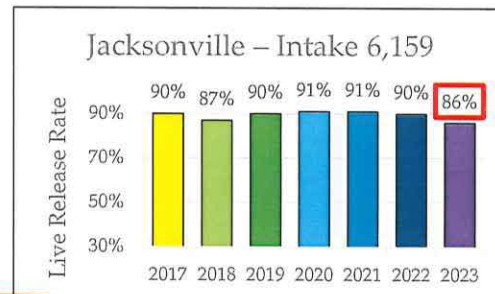
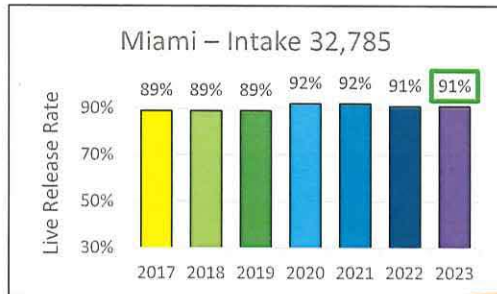
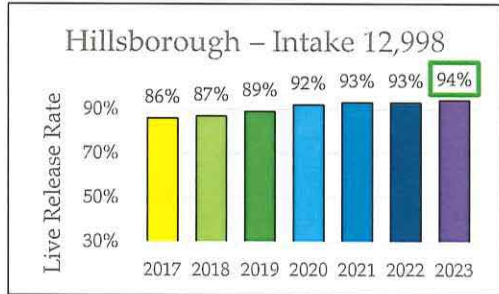


	No-Kill
	Nearly No-Kill
	Not No-Kill
	Incomplete Data
	Non-Service Area

- Palm Beach County

FL Govt. Shelter Comparison

Live Release Rates and Intake for CY 2024 Dogs/Cats



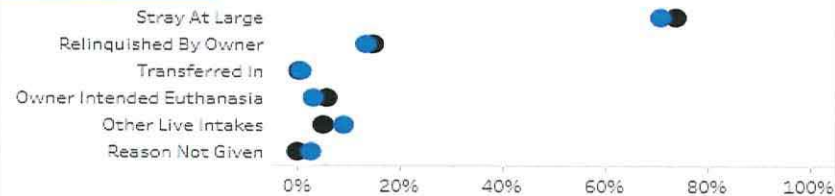
Comparisons

- Palm Beach County Animal Care and Co...
- Filtered Organizations (30)

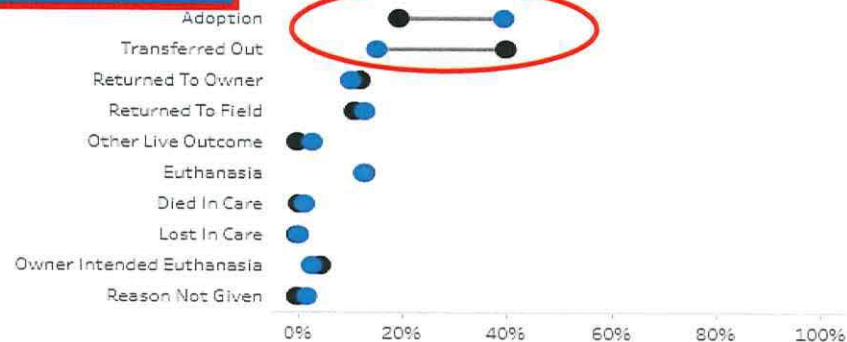
Change Filters



Gross Intakes



Gross Outcomes

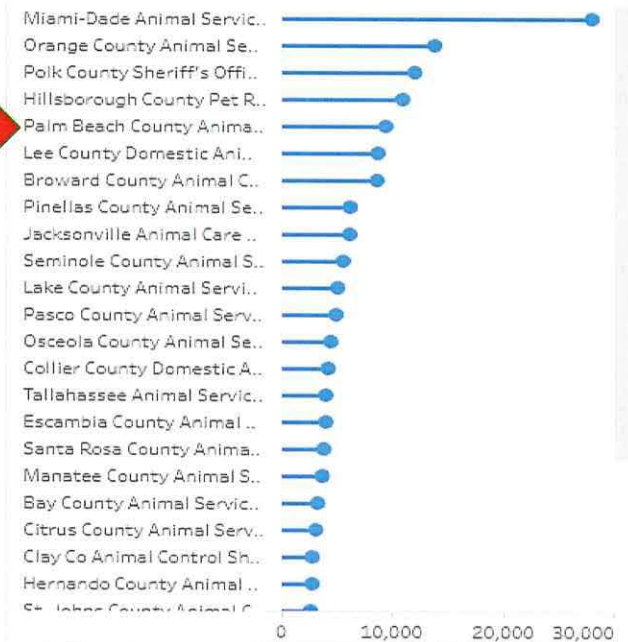


Save Rate



Filtered Organizations: Total Gross Intakes

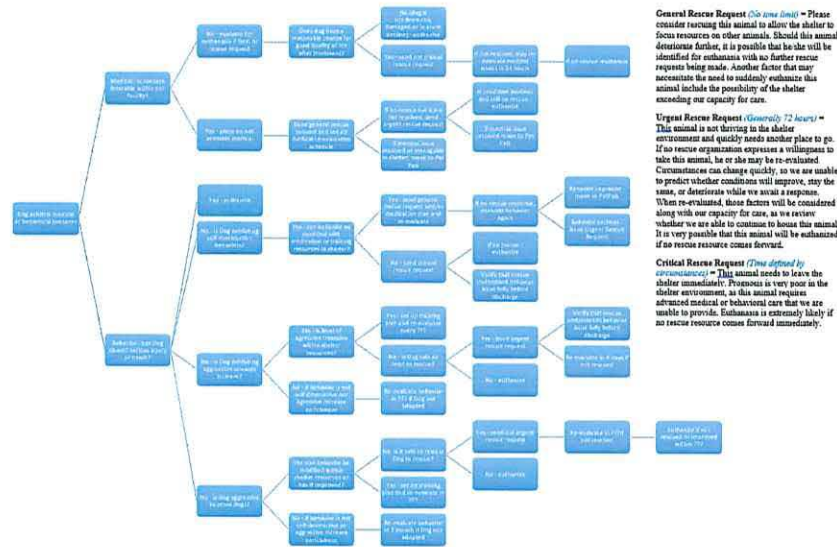
View by: ▲ Highest ▼ Lowest



Latest Update: 12/7/2023 9:53:21

ACC
Compared
to 30 other FL
County
Shelters

Euthanasia Decisions



Complex process that includes all levels of shelter staff input, including volunteers.

- 1) Starts with input from direct handlers (kennel staff and volunteers) who note positive and negative behaviors and/or vet team who note medical issues.
- 2) Behavior team involved in assessing dog and often referred to Vet team for calming medications.
- 3) Discussed at weekly "dog" meetings (equivalent held every 2 weeks for cats).
- 4) Provisions made for additional behavioral adjustments, medications and/or "Doggy Day Out"
- 5) If medical or behavioral issues warrant rescue request, initially issued for 48 hours.
- 6) Often rescue requests are extended.
- 7) Once all options are exhausted, animals are put on proposed euthanasia list, which is reviewed by ACC Director.

Virtual Kennel Representation of Capacity

Visual Kennel page 1 of 20

File Display Page

PAGE 1 OF 7

DOG KENNELS

K1-DOG KENNELS (max 2 each)		K2-DOG KENNELS (max 2 each)		K3-DOG KENNELS (max 2 each)	
K1-102	K1-101	K2-152	K2-151	K3-202	K3-201
K1-104	K1-103	K2-154	K2-153	K3-204	K3-203
K1-106	K1-105	K2-156	K2-155	K3-206	K3-205
K1-108	K1-107	K2-158	K2-157	K3-208	K3-207
K1-110	K1-109	K2-160	K2-159	K3-210	K3-209
K1-112	K1-111	K2-162	K2-161	K3-212	K3-211
K1-114	K1-113	K2-164	K2-163	K3-214	K3-213
K1-116	K1-115	K2-166	K2-165	K3-216	K3-215
K1-118	K1-117	K2-168	K2-167	K3-218	K3-217
K1-120	K1-119	K2-170	K2-169	K3-220	K3-219
K1-122	K1-121	K2-172	K2-171	K3-222	K3-221
K1-124	K1-123	K2-174	K2-173	K3-224	K3-223
K1-126	K1-125	K2-176	K2-175	K3-226	K3-225
K1-128	K1-127	K2-178	K2-177	K3-228	K3-227
K1-130	K1-129	K2-180	K2-179	K3-230	K3-229
K1-132	K1-131	K2-182	K2-181	K3-232	K3-231
K1-134	K1-133	K2-184	K2-183	K3-234	K3-233
K1-136	K1-135	K2-186	K2-185	K3-236	K3-235
K1-138	K1-137	K2-188	K2-187	K3-238	K3-237
K1-140	K1-139	K2-190	K2-189	K3-240	K3-239
K1-142	K1-141	K2-192	K2-191	K3-242	K3-241
K1-144	K1-143	K2-194	K2-193	K3-244	K3-243
K1-146	K1-145	K2-196	K2-195	K3-246	K3-245
K1-148	K1-147	K2-198	K2-197	K3-248	K3-247

INCOMING DOGS DOGS DAY OUT
H1-100(21) DDO

WHITE = Empty Cage; GREEN = Under Capacity; ORANGE = Full Cage;
BLUE = Over Capacity; RED = Unusable

Visual Kennel as of 11:00 am
May 28th, 2025

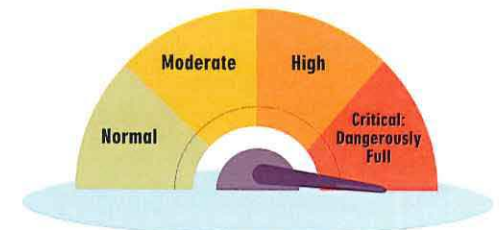
White = Empty kennel
Green = 1 dog
Red = 2 dogs

Total Dog Capacity = 144 dogs

At time of public opening:

- 11 dogs waiting in incoming
- 1 dog from K1 on Doggy Day Out
- If we hadn't doubled up compatible dogs, we would be left with only 2 open kennels at public opening.
- We habitually receive 12 to 15 dogs per day: strays, owner surrender, seizures, rabies quarantine and special hold.
- Cat areas are even more crowded during kitten season (Feb-Oct)

How Full is the Shelter?



We need YOUR help!

Petal Beach County
Department of Public Safety
Division of Animal Care & Control

PBCGOV.COM/ANIMAL

Infographic used on our web page and social media to convey urgency

Field Code Compliance

- *Special Investigation (Abuse and Neglect)*
- *Licensing and Enforcement (Commercial)*
- *Manner of Keeping and Nuisance Complaints (Individuals)*
- *Bites/Quarantine and Special Hold*
- *Seizures*
- *Collaborations with Law Enforcement*
- *Hoarding*
- *Rabies Control*



Fostering – our community saving lives

May I borrow your bathroom?



It's just for a few weeks until I'm old enough to get adopted.

To you, it's a few weeks.
To her, it's a lifetime.

Become a foster parent and help save lives.

Hurricane Milton foster alert allowed ACC to send out over 200 animals in less than 18 hours! Of all the dogs and cats that went into foster for the storm, all but 2 dogs have since been adopted – usually by their foster!



Become a...

FOSTER!

BECOMING A FOSTER SAVES LIVES



Foster2Rescue

Foster a select dog for 2-6 weeks so they can be rescued by Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League.



Foster2Adopt

Looking to adopt but want to make sure the pet is a good fit for your family? Foster before you adopt!



Foster2Petpals

Help the animals in our community get healthy and enter our adoption program (Petpals) by providing nourishment and love for a short time.



Foster2Family

Become an extension of our shelter! Foster a pet of your choosing and help him/her find their family.

Plus: Doggy Day Out
Sleep Overs
Home For The Holidays

Play Groups

- Expanded play yards/quiet zones and had “Dogs Playing For Life” (DPFL) program training done for staff and volunteers via grant from Animal Farm Foundation in 2024
- Before DPFL 90 play group notations were done on a monthly basis, after that number went to over 400 per month!



Public Outreach

- 72 events run in 2024 (37 focused on adoptions or TNVR, 35 on education), covering 122 days using staff and volunteers



Adoption event at hotel with ACO

Education event at library



Adoption event at car dealership



Adoption event at fairgrounds

Volunteers bringing dogs to PBC Employee Picnic



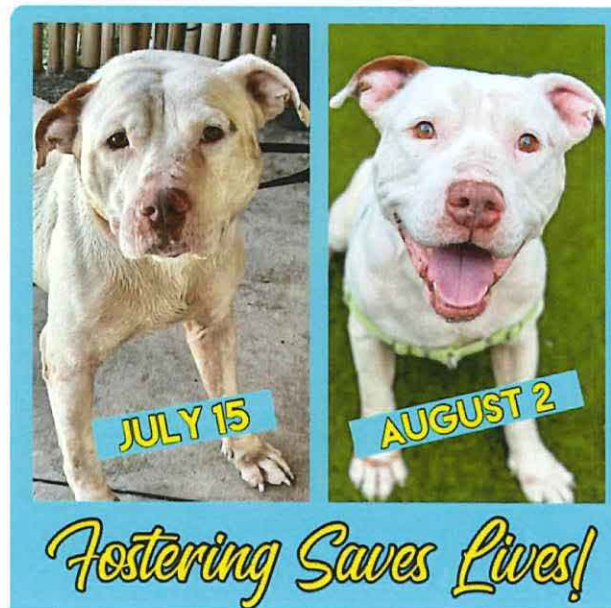
TNVR event for high risk trailer park

Media Ops and Social Media Posts

Palm Beach County Animal Care and Control
August 7 · 🌐

🐾 Finding forever homes, one paw at a time! 🐾 Our shelter is bursting with joy as these precious pups embark on their new adventures with loving families. From wagging tails to happy trails, we're over the moon seeing our furry friends thriving in their forever homes. Thank you to everyone who made adoption possible - you've changed lives and made tails wag! 🐾❤️🐾
#AdoptDontShop #FurEverGrateful #palmbeachcounty #happytails

👉 Looking to add a furry member to your family? See all of our adoptable pets here:
<https://secure.co.palm-beach.fl.us/snap/adoptabledogs>



2,852,517 social media hits in FY24

Palm Beach County Animal Care and Control
January 27 · 🌐

In partnership with the City of Greenacres, Florida - Government and Furry Friends Adoption, Clinic & Ranch we were able to serve the over 350 homes in the Pickwick Mobile Home Park, located in Greenacres, by TNVR (Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate-Return) their community cats at no cost! 🐾 The two day TNVR event was held on January 21 and 22 and included 36 PBC ACC staff members and volunteers, Furry Friends transport staff, and Pickwick management.

We are so grateful for our partners and the community's support for this successful event! 🐾

! By vaccinating and sterilizing community cats in a targeted area, it keeps the cats healthy, reduces the possibility of disease in the community, reduces nuisance behaviors, and decreases homelessness in animals by reducing the amount of kittens born each year.

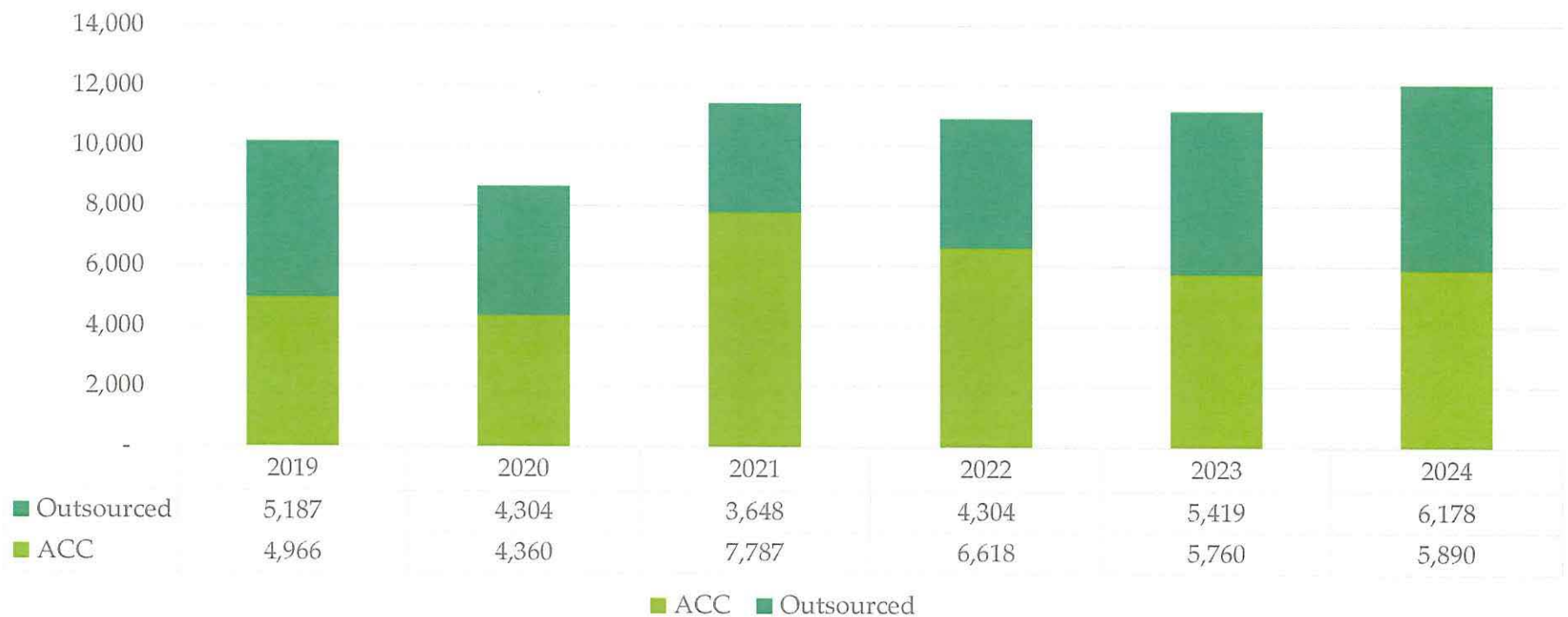




Veterinary Challenges and Successes

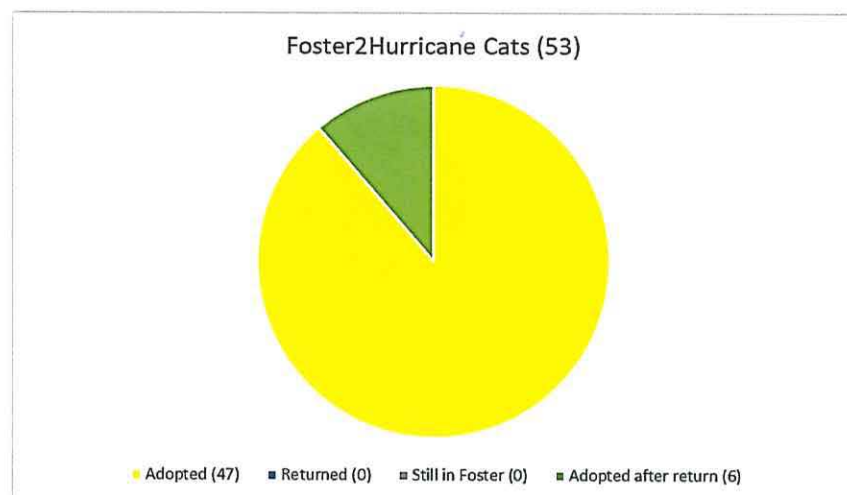
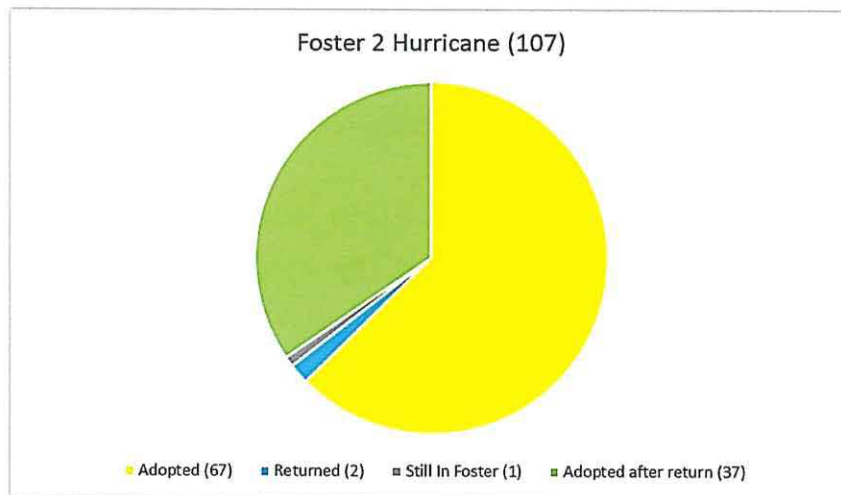
- Nationwide veterinary staff shortages: increase in corporate-owned clinics, lack of graduating staff in shelter medicine, competition for staff
- Current areas for surgeries outgrowing shelter and owned animal needs
- Cold laser treatments
- CR Boxes
- Heartworm diagnostics, treatment and rescue relationships
- Fear-Anxiety-Stress (FAS) medications
- Improved kitten diagnostics and treatments
- Telemedicine and rabies vaccination legislative wins
- Staff representation on national shelter vaccination taskforce
- Tick surveillance program

Sterilization Surgeries Increased



Emergencies and Pet Friendly Shelter

- ACC responsibilities include setting up, staffs and runs the Pet Friendly Shelter while also being a part of the statewide animal shelter placement activation and sweeping county locations for animals left in inappropriate places.
- Hurricane Milton foster alert allowed ACC to send out over 200 animals to fosters and rescues in less than 18 hours! Of all the dogs and cats that went into foster for the storm, all but 2 dogs have since been adopted – usually by their foster!



Volunteers – vital part of our humane care

Volunteer Impact

- 367 Volunteers contributed 13,196 hours*** – equal to 7 full-time staff

Services Provided

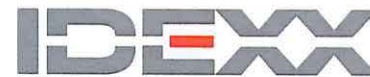
- 🐾 Playgroup Support | 🐕 Dog Walking | 🛁 Medical Baths | 🐕 & 🐱 Enrichment |
- 🏠❤️ Fostering | 🧼 Kennel Cleaning | 📖 Education | 🎉 Event Assistance

Top 10 Volunteers by Hours in 2024

#	Hours	Volunteer	#	Hours	Volunteer
1	1,105	Solange Solis	6	514	Heather Smith
2	436	Fabienne Dupre	7	406	Marilee DeOliveira
3	363	Conni Gibson	8	338	Anne Schmidt
4	323	Sue Rogers	9	305	Elizabeth Harrington
5	302	Ashlee Coosaia	10	281	Siobhan Gallagher

Does not include all the un-clocked fostering hours or hours spent marketing our animals on personal social media

Partners

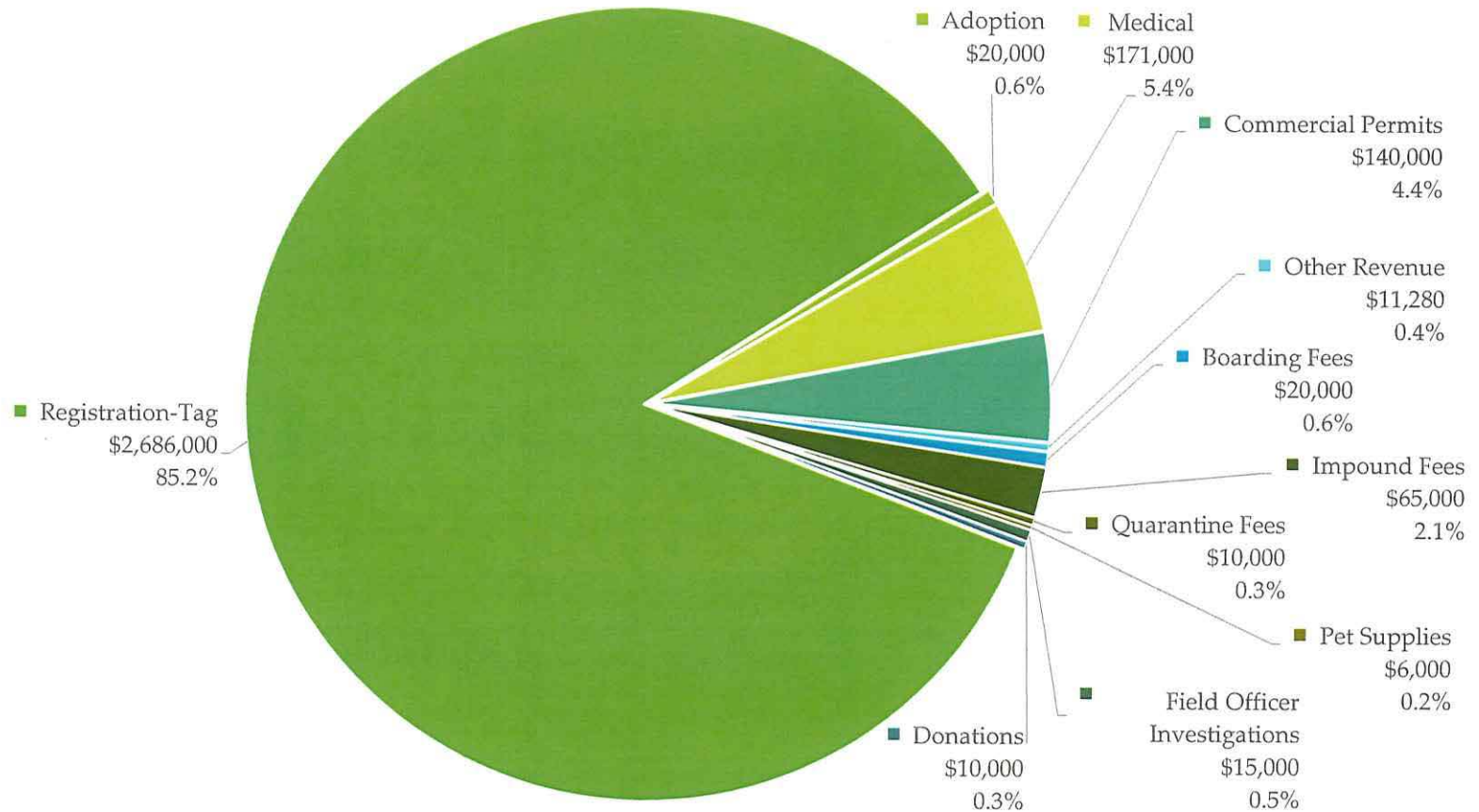


Plus over 120 individual shelters and rescues that pulled 3,963 individual animals from ACC in 2024, an increase of over 10% from 2023

Budget History

	Actual FY 2019	Actual FY 2020	Actual FY 2021	Actual FY 2022	Actual FY 2023	Actual FY 2024	Adopted Budget FY 2025
Revenues							
Charges for Services	\$ 2,852,030	\$ 2,513,595	\$ 2,762,754	\$ 2,515,584	\$ 1,949,611	\$ 1,712,819	\$ 3,149,500
Grants	63,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other (int./donations/stat. reserves)	122,436	85,629	96,064	103,968	73,455	31,267	4,780
Total Revenues	\$ 3,037,466	\$ 2,599,224	\$ 2,858,818	\$ 2,619,552	\$ 2,023,066	\$ 1,744,086	\$ 3,154,280
Expenses							
Personal Services	\$ 7,307,761	\$ 7,435,690	\$ 7,991,180	\$ 8,352,599	\$ 8,932,716	\$ 10,180,196	\$ 12,394,448
Operating Expenses	2,219,468	2,074,734	2,312,388	2,540,600	3,004,629	3,640,754	4,286,292
Capital	120,342	149,518	41,210	-	111,953	300,591	163,160
Total Expenses	\$ 9,647,571	\$ 9,659,942	\$ 10,344,778	\$ 10,893,199	\$ 12,049,298	\$ 14,121,541	\$ 16,843,900
Ad Valorem	\$ 6,610,105	\$ 7,060,718	\$ 7,485,960	\$ 8,273,647	\$ 10,026,232	\$ 12,377,455	\$ 13,689,620
Positions							130

FY 2025 Revenue Budget \$3,154,280

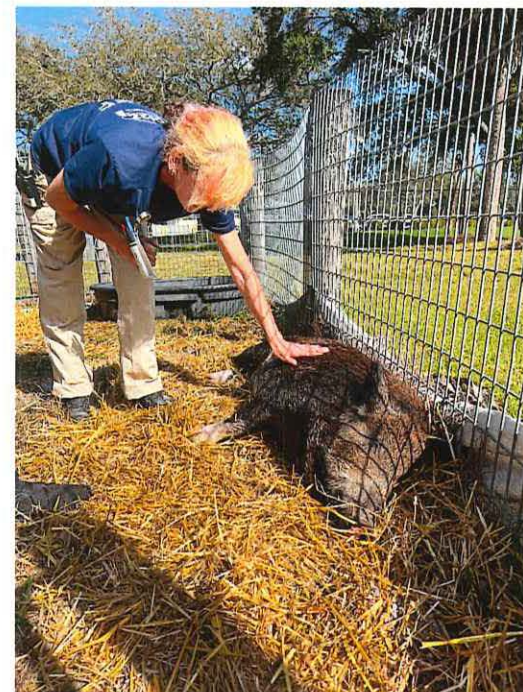


FY 2025 Expense Budget \$16,843,900





QUESTIONS?





Thank you

Todd Bonlarron – Interim County Administrator

Stephanie Sejnoha – Director Public Safety Department

Jan Steele – Division Director Animal Care and Control

Marianela Diaz – Division Director Finance and Administration

