

# WACO CITY COUNCIL

# PET CIRCLE REGIONAL UPDATE

February 18th, 2025





#### **PURPOSE**

Today's presentation will provide a comprehensive look at Animal Services operations over the last year and the recent transition to Pet Circle Regional Animal Center.





#### **OUTLINE**

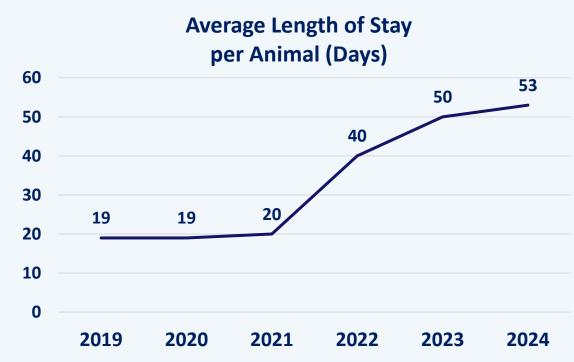
- ANIMAL SHELTER OPERATIONS BY THE NUMBERS
- PROGRAM UPDATES AND GOALS
- EVENTS
- CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES
- PAWSITIVE ENDINGS

# ANIMAL SHELTER OPERATIONS— BY THE NUMBERS

#### Animal Intakes vs. Average Length of Stay

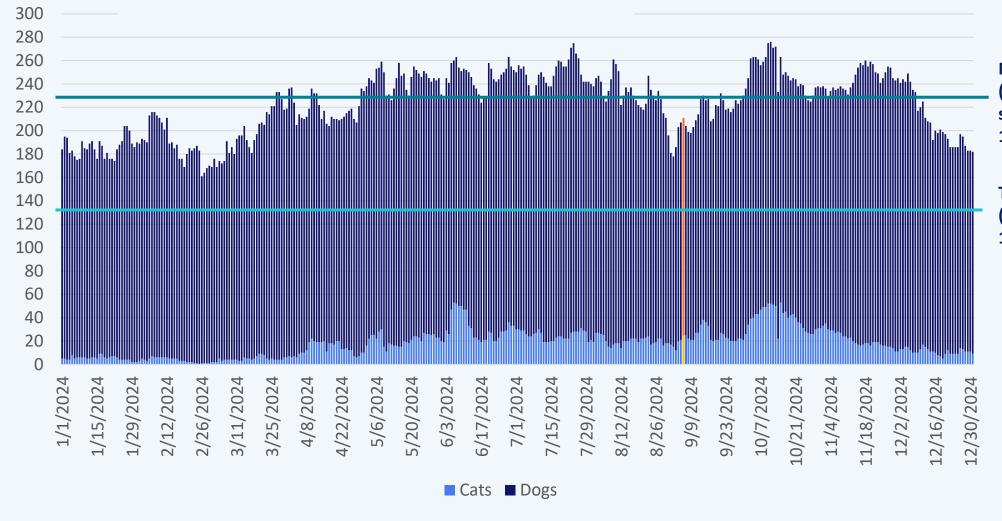
- 30% decrease in Animal Intakes over last 6 years
- Average Length of Stay should be 15 days





#### **Campus Population**

- 275 days spent over 100% capacity
- Remained above 80% capacity the entire year

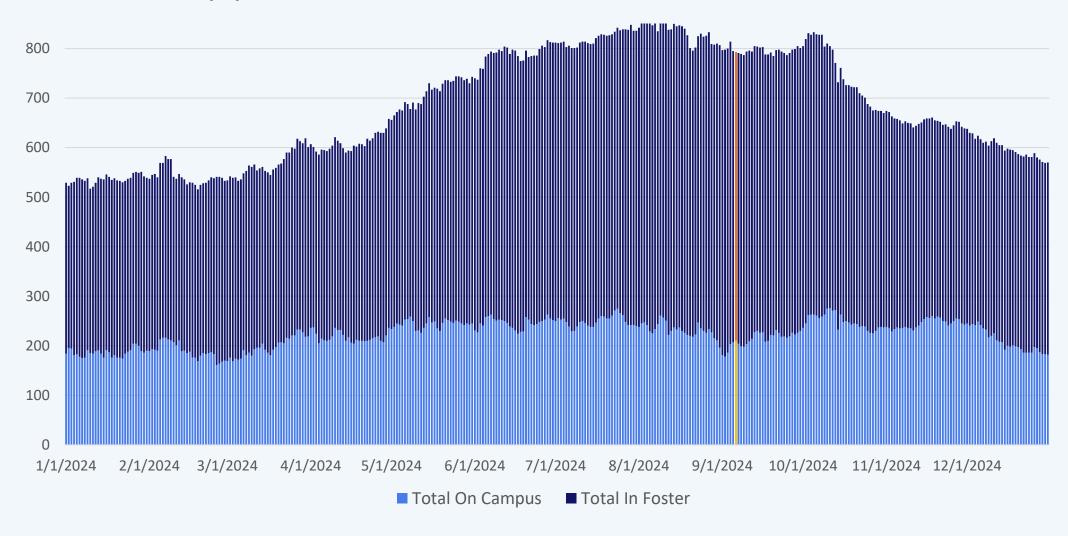


Maximum Kennel Occupancy (All runs, puppy house and some short-term kennels): 189 dogs; 37 cats

Target Kennel Occupancy (80% of double-sided runs): 101 dogs; 30 cat

#### **Animal Population by Location**

• Foster population increased over 300 animals in the summer months



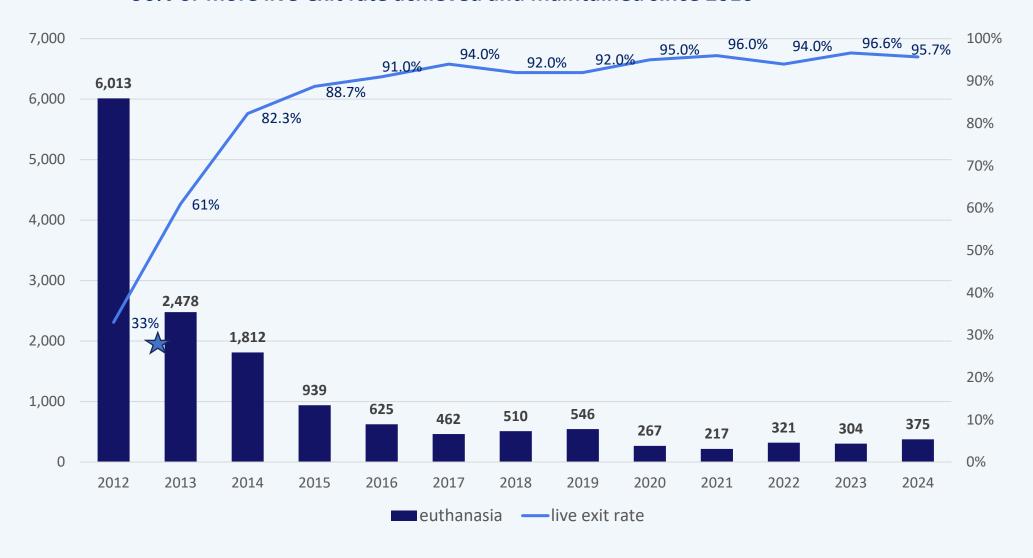
#### **2024 SAC Population Balance Calculator**

- Outcomes as a percentage of intake
- At or above 100% is ideal
- Under 100% means animals stayed in the shelter system



#### **Euthanasia and Live Release Outcomes: 2012-2024**

90% or more live-exit rate achieved and maintained since 2016



#### PROGRAM UPDATES



#### **MEDIA**

#### **Social Media**

Impressions: 1,876,761

Engagements: 50,109

Post link clicks: 7,034

Engagement Rate (per impression): 2.7%

Audience growth: 1,722

Web Page: PetCircleWaco.org

Total views: 90,466

#### **Newsletters**

Weekly newsletters

Avg open rate 42%

Monthly newsletters

Avg open rate 47%

**Urgent newsletters** 

Avg open rate 43%

#### **VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**



- Better Impact Software
  - Incorporated background check through Sterling Volunteers
- Many opportunities
  - Kennel cleaning
  - Animal Enrichment
  - Laundry/bowls
  - Adoption events
- 1,679.54 hours volunteered since program opened in October
- Greatest current need at the animal center



#### PET FOOD PANTRY

Pet Circle has a pet food pantry run on donations

- Helps keep pets with their owners
- Provides temporary food assistance to help families in need feed their pets
- We offer free dog food, cat food, litter and other supplies if we have it
  - We are <u>always</u> in need of unopened donated dog and cat food as there is a great need in the community for this program.

#### **ANIMAL ADVENTURES**

#### **Bark Break**

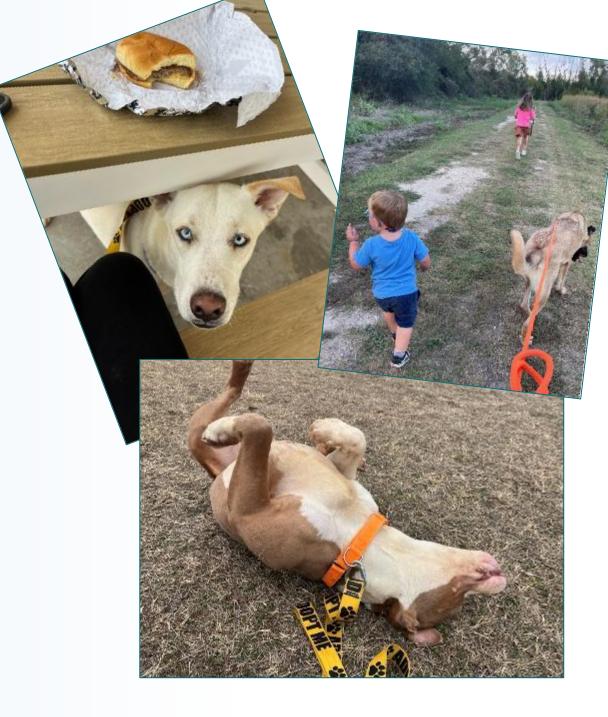
- Check out a dog for the day and have an adventure!
- Bring them back to the shelter by 5pm

#### **Sleepover Rover**

- Check out a dog for an overnight or weekend stay
- Provides a "trial run" for those considering adoption, without immediate commitment.

#### These programs provide:

- Reduced stress from shelter environment
- Valuable insight into behavior in a home setting to help increase marketability and adoptability





#### **MEET CHANCE**

- Staff members picked the name via a vote
- "Chance" symbolizes the second chances that the shelter provides to animals in need.
- Increase community engagement
- Brand recognition
- Help with fundraising and promotion
- Education and advocacy
- Boosts morale





TO PET CIRCLE

Can't foster, adopt or volunteer?

Support the shelter and programs by purchasing some cool shelter swag

- T-shirts (Teal or Grey) \$20 +tax
- Ball Caps \$20 +tax
- Beanies \$20 +tax
- Sweatshirts \$35+tax

# **EVENTS**

#### **EVENTS**

- Feb 6<sup>th</sup> 2:30pm
  - Pet Circle Road Unveiling
- Feb 14<sup>th</sup> 3:30pm
  - Cat Café at Central Library
- Feb 15<sup>th</sup> 11am
  - Common Grounds
- March 1<sup>st</sup> 12pm
  - Waco Block Party
- March 2<sup>nd</sup> 1pm
  - Playgroup Adoption event
- March 10<sup>th</sup>
  - Touch a Truck at Heritage Square
- March 14
  - Cat Café at Central Library
- March 19
  - Read to a Dog event at East Library
- April 6<sup>th</sup>
  - Microchipping and Vaccine clinic- location TBD







# CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

#### KNOWN CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES



Extended periods above capacity



Increasing animal Length of Stay



Adoptions have slowed from prior years



Increased demands for service



**Community Involvement** 

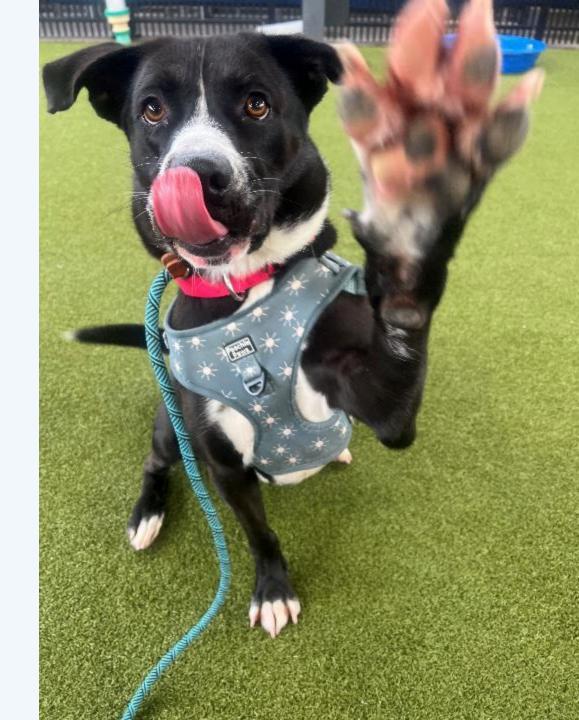


#### **HOW TO HELP**

Pet Circle Regional Animal Center is reliant on community support to enable lifesaving programs. Strong community involvement strengthens long-term success in animal welfare efforts.

- What does that look like?
  - Adopt or Foster
  - Spread the word
  - Make sure your pets are microchipped and spayed/neutered
  - Volunteer
  - Donate





#### PAWSITIVE ENDINGS

### THE STORY OF SQUISHY (AND STITCH)









#### **SUMMARY**

- Pet Circle remains overcapacity in large dogs
- Staff remains committed to expanding vital programs to increase life-saving potential
- Pet Circle relies on community support to be successful





#### **THANK YOU**

