



Santa Barbara County Animal Care Foundation

Santa Barbara County Animal Services is required by law to take in every stray animal under any condition. The three County facilities in Santa Maria, Lompoc and Goleta are overflowing with homeless and often injured, abused and neglected animals. With no owners to claim them, who will champion their cause? Who will pay for the surgeries of the many cats hit by cars, assist with the alteration of feral cats, or those felines suffering from upper respiratory infections? Who will pay for the care of the dog that needs to have an eye removed due to neglect, the one with a broken jaw from abuse, or the abandoned puppy with mange? This is where the Santa Barbara County Animal Care Foundation steps in, and with the loving assistance from people in our community, we make a life-saving difference. Animals without owners are given a second chance to find a forever home where they are valued and loved.



What is a County (Municipal) Animal Shelter?

Many in our community do not understand the difference between a private and municipal animal shelter. Both kinds of shelters are here to help animals, but the word kill is a decisive word that turns people away from the shelter where they are needed the most. They are repulsed by the thought of the euthanasia of a healthy adoptable companion animal, and truthfully anyone who loves animals is. However how is this supposed to change if people turn away from the truth and the root of the cause/problem?

One difference in a private vs. municipal shelter is the numbers; 100's vs. 1000's.

The second is that private shelters accept only owner turn-in animals vs. municipal shelters that *are* required by law to take in *all* stray animal(s) under *any* condition(s). Private shelters can and do have strict guidelines on the type and age of animals accepted.

Until intake numbers are reduced, citizens choose to adopt their next animal from a county shelter, and local pet overpopulation is dramatically lessened, healthy animals will be euthanized.

Shelter volunteers and supportive organization(s), such as the Santa Barbara County Animal Care Foundation, provide outreach, education, promotion of fostering and adoption to assist the shelter animals, but more of our community is needed to assist the staggering numbers of animals in need. Help turn sadness into happy endings.

Help us make a difference by making a donation.
Together We Can Save Lives

