



For immediate release

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Stray Cat Alliance Applauds New LA Animal Services Leader Pick

Staycee Dains Showed Her Admin & Animal Welfare Chops In Long Beach

Los Angeles (June 2, 2023) – Stray Cat Alliance applauds the selection of Staycee Dains as the new Los Angeles Animal Services general manager, which was announced Thursday.

“Kudos to the City of Los Angeles and Mayor Karen Bass for appointing a seasoned and effective animal welfare professional as the general manager of Los Angeles Animal Services,” said Christi Metropole, President and CEO of Stray Cat Alliance.

“Thousands of animal lives and taxpayer dollars depend on LA Animal Services to effectively and innovatively reduce intake and euthanasia,” Metropole said “Staycee proved herself an able, savvy leader when Stray Cat Alliance collaborated with her in implementing cutting-edge programs that reduced euthanasia to 9% for cats in Long Beach.”

Stray Cat Alliance collaborated with Dains and her team when she was director of animal services for the City of Long Beach. Stray Cat Alliance is one of the largest animal welfare organizations in Los Angeles and among the largest feline-focused nonprofits in the country.

In fact, Stray Cat Alliance recognized Dains with its Impact Award in 2021 for her collaboration on the return to home program that helped the City of Long Beach achieve such strong outcomes for cats.

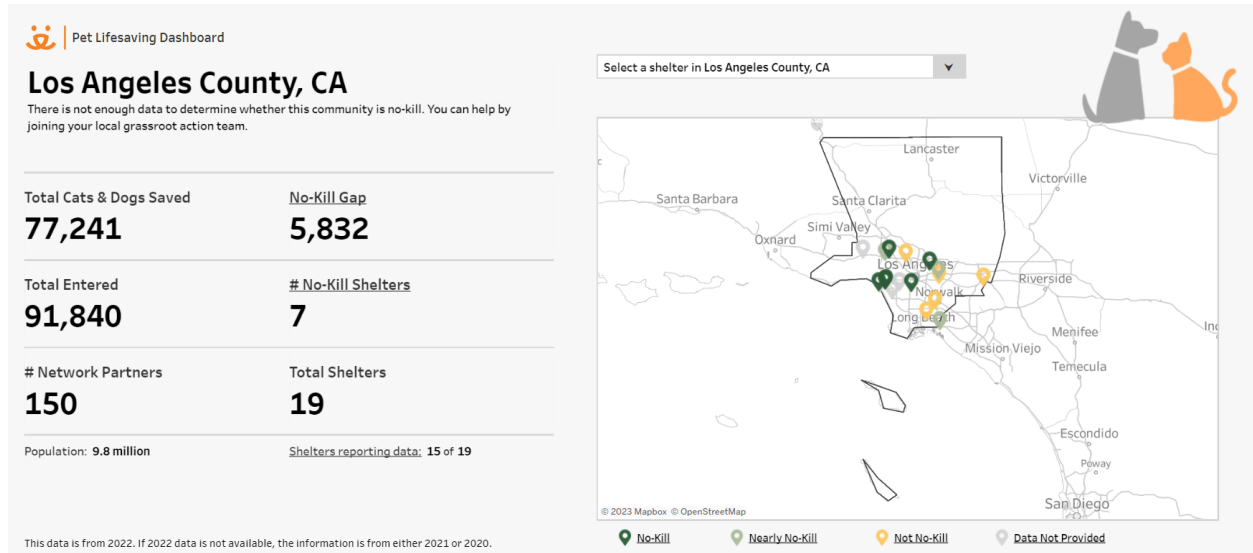
Los Angeles Animal Services is the second largest shelter system in the United States, after the Los Angeles County shelter. Although some progress was made in reducing euthanasia in the City of Los Angeles in 2021, the post-pandemic return to work led many pandemic adopters to surrender their pets and adoptions slowed. When adoptions slow, euthanasia increases in systems like Los Angeles city and county.

California has been the Number 1 state for cat euthanasia for the past six years and is one of the top two states for dog and cat euthanasia. Greater Los Angeles is where many of those deaths occur, according to the national Shelter Animals Count database.

- 44% more kittens and 18% more cats were euthanized in 2022 than in 2021 in LA Animal Services’ six shelters.
- Deaths climbed 22% to 9,485 in 2022 as reported by the shelters and rescues in LA County – that’s three-quarters of all the cats who died in Texas’ shelters, the second largest state for cat deaths.

Best Friends Animal Society released its [2022 data](#) this week. California is one of two high-kill states noted in the data set.

Here is Best Friends' data set for LA County:



More information about dog and cat outcomes from the city and county shelter:

- The LA Animal Services data is available [here](#).
- Los Angeles County shares its data [here](#).

About Stray Cat Alliance:

Stray Cat Alliance has fought for the right of every cat to be safe, healthy and valued since 2000. By 2021, it was the second-largest cat-focused organization in the country.

Stray Cat Alliance's cutting-edge programs in surrender prevention, called Safe at Home, and returning community cats to their neighborhoods, called Return to Home for Community Cats, have become national models. Stray Cat Alliance partners with other leaders in animal welfare including the Best Friends Animal Society, ASPCA, Humane Society of the United States, Found Animals Foundation, the Mary Jo and Hank Greenberg Foundation and others.

Stray Cat Alliance's headquarters are in Los Angeles, where it serves some of the most underrepresented and high-need communities. Stray Cat Alliance's board of directors is comprised of eight members from across the country who meet monthly. In its most recent fiscal year, Stray Cat Alliance spent more than 80% of its budget on program expenses.

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