

Healthy Pets Healthy Families Coalition Update



The Care Harbor veterinary team brought pet preventive care services to the event for the first time.

On Tuesday May 21, 2019, the Healthy Pets Health Families (HPHF) Coalition met for their 30th meeting with over 20 people in attendance!

Dr. Peyvand Silverman and Jennifer Anderson from ASPCA presented about "ASPCA & Community Medicine in LA." Their community Medicine Program provides accessible, affordable veterinary medical care for low-income pet owners via clinics and mobile medical units here in Los Angeles, as well as New York City and Miami. In Los Angeles County, they have a highly skilled team of veterinarians and medical support staff that serves more than 10,000 pet-owning families annually. They treat common conditions and offer spay/neuter, routine vaccinations and humane euthanasia, as well as caring for homeless animals and community cats.

Because increasing access to veterinary care is critical to the welfare of pets, and to keeping pets with their families and out of shelters, ASPCA's team collaborates with veterinarians and animal welfare professionals from around the country to share knowledge and develop approaches for expanding care to more pet owners in need. During the meeting Dr. Silverman and Jennifer Anderson facilitated a great discussion about issues around access to veterinary care and possibly solutions.

If you would like more information about ASPCA, please visit their website at: <https://www.aspc.org/animal-protection/los-angeles-initiative>

"Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results."

- Andrew Carnegie



Tamerin Scott led the 30th Healthy Pets Healthy Families meeting.

Don't hesitate, *participate!*

Get involved with making a difference in your community.

The next HPHF Coalition meeting is:

Tuesday, August 27th, 2019

From 9:30 am —12:00 pm

At 5555 Ferguson Dr., Commerce, CA 90022 (in the auditorium).

For any questions/comments, please contact us at: vet@ph.lacounty.gov

Highlights from Brainstorming session— “Pets and a New Baby: Tips for Parents & their Physicians”

After the presentation, members participated in a brainstorming session to create educational material for new parents that own pets and their physicians. Please see below for more details.

Recommendations for Pet Owners with a New Baby	Recommendations for Physicians to Communicate to New Parents that Own Pets
Before your new baby arrives, make sure your pet is up-to-date on all recommended preventive care and talk to your veterinarian about steps you can take to ensure your entire family stays healthy.	Encourage expecting parents to talk to their veterinarian about recommended preventive care for the pet.
Plan ahead! This includes preparing your pet for the new arrival, as well as financial planning. Ensure that you have an emergency fund saved just in case something happens to your pet.	It is important for physicians to ask expecting parents if they have pets. There are basic steps pet owners can take to ensure the entire family stays healthy and safe. Tell parents to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep cats indoors • Don't feed raw pet food diets • Practice good hygiene • Don't get a reptile if child is under 4 years old
Prepare your pet for the new arrival. Implement changes and new routines before the baby comes home. Ensure your pet knows basic commands and is comfortable using a crate and leash.	Potential risks to pregnant women and children that should be considered when providing advice to the family: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toxoplasmosis—cats • Turtles/ reptiles— Salmonella • Ringworm • Roundworms— larval migrans • Ticks & Disease • Fleas & Disease • Raw pet food— various pathogens (<i>Salmonella</i>, <i>Campylobacter</i>, <i>Mycobacterium bovis</i>, • Rabies • Sleeping with pet • Pet licking baby's face • Psittacosis (birds) • Exotic pets • Bites
Never leave your pet and child alone. Facilitate the first introductions between your new baby and pet. For example, put the baby's blanket in the dog's crate to help it get used to the new smell.	
Teach children of all ages appropriate interactions with animals.	
Ensure all pet supplies are out of reach of children, especially litterboxes.	

VPH Updates and other news:

- Save the Date: On **October 29th** we will have the **Animal-Assisted Therapy Forum**
- VPH will be providing education classes on One Health and other pet-related topics at LA County's Community Wellness Complexes in Pomona and MLK Health Centers. If you're interested in giving educational One Health related talks, please contact us at: vet@ph.lacounty.gov.