



Programs and Services

The SPCA of Northern Nevada is much more than just a shelter. We also offer a wide variety of programs benefitting both pets and people, many of them unique within our geographical area. The new facility will allow us to expand all of our current programs, and will also allow us to make new programs and services available.

Pet Rescue

With additional space, we can rescue more dogs and cats from across more of Northern Nevada, including the outlying rural areas where the need is greatest and resources the fewest. As always, saving and re-homing pets whose time is running short at “the pound” will remain our core mission.

The TLC Program (Rehabilitation)

Dogs and cats that find themselves in shelters have often been abused, neglected, or poorly socialized. Others may develop undesirable behaviors when suddenly confronted by the loss of their former home and the realities of shelter life. These problems are difficult to address within a large municipal animal control facility, and the result is that many treatable dogs and cats are simply “written off”. However, the SPCA’s sheltering philosophy – a smaller, more intimate setting; a close, personal relationship between our pets and their caretakers; and a lifetime commitment to each and every pet - uniquely positions us to rehabilitate animals that need a little extra time and care. Our new facility will provide the opportunity to play and socialize, access to natural light and fresh air, high-quality veterinary care, and positive interactions with people and other animals. It will also offer an integrated course of positive behavioral training in collaboration with local animal trainers. No other shelter can offer this much TLC to recovering pets, or give them a better chance to reach their full potential.



The Good Dog! Program

Even happy, well-adjusted dogs can benefit from training. Our new shelter will incorporate ongoing, consistent in-house training for all dogs. The result will be better pets going out the door, and a greater likelihood of successful adoptions.

Meet Your Match Adoption Process

The SPCA of Northern Nevada has always taken pride in matching the right person with the right pet. The new shelter will offer facilities that enhance this service, including pleasant meet and greet areas, and better summary information materials for each pet. Making the right match is the key to a long, happy relationship.

Adoption Follow-Up

All of our adopters can expect to hear from us to make sure that the adoption is going well. If there are problems, we will offer advice and assistance. As always, if an adoption is not working out, we accept the return of a pet so that we can place it in a more appropriate home. We are committed not only to making adoptions, but to making happy, lasting adoptions.



Pits are Pets Program

Pit Bulls and Pit crosses are common animal shelter residents, and because of their reputations and frequent mistreatment at the hands of uneducated owners, they pose a special challenge. Our pit bull program is designed to benefit both pets and people, by educating the public about the many wonderful qualities of the breed, promoting proper training, handling, and socialization, and matching our pits with appropriate, knowledgeable adopters.

Seniors for Seniors Program

Senior pets and senior people have a lot to offer one another -- especially understanding and companionship in the golden years. We will offer special promotions and incentives to match senior pets and senior adopters, and will also follow-up with these adoptions to offer assistance where needed.

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Humane Education and Training

Lasting progress towards our goals means educating and engaging the public about humane issues and proper pet care. Our new facility will include space dedicated to our on-site humane education program, and we will also engage in active outreach to schools and senior centers. Focal areas of Washoe County's only full-featured humane education program will include:

- Training classes for adopters and the public
- Special training for seniors
- Outreach to public schools
- Outreach to senior centers
- On-site summer programs for youth



Pet Assisted Therapy

Visiting with animals can help people feel less lonely, and less depressed. Visits from dogs or cats can provide a welcome change from routine, or the renewal of old friendships. People become more active and responsive both during and after visiting with animals. Animal visits provide something to look forward to. Stroking a dog or cat can reduce a person's blood pressure. Petting encourages use of hands and arms, stretching and turning. The benefits continue even after the visit. The visit leaves behind memories not only of the visit, but also of past experiences. It offers something for people to share.

SNIPs (Spay/ Neuter Assistance)

For nearly ten years, our Spay-Neuter Incentive Program (SNIPs) has provided badly needed assistance to lower-income Washoe County pet owners. In addition, in 2007 – 2009 we received funding from Maddie's Fund® to implement Nevada's most extensive spay-neuter program ever. In all, we have been responsible for helping nearly 10,000 lower income pet owners to spay or neuter their pets. We will continue and expand the SNIPS program at our new facility.

Vaccination and Microchip Clinics

We will continue to offer the public low-cost vaccination and micro-chip clinics twice a week at the new shelter.

Volunteer Program

The SPCA’s volunteer program is undergoing a major expansion that will increase volunteer numbers and ensure that every volunteer is well-trained, knowledgeable, and fully engaged in the pursuit of our mission. We will offer volunteer opportunities for every age, covering a variety of tasks from pet care to fundraising. Additionally, we will offer opportunities for those sentenced to community service and “at risk” youth to contribute productively and responsibly to our mission.

Foster Care Program

Foster homes will continue to provide a crucial role in two ways:

- 1) Allowing litters of puppies and kittens to be raised in a healthy, positive home environment until time for adoption
- 2) Helping to rehabilitate dogs and cats that as a part of the “TLC Program” (see above)



Pets Up for Parole

We will implement the well-tested, highly-effective model of matching dogs that need rehabilitation with inmates at the Washoe County Jail who desire to contribute their time and efforts to a positive cause. This program will function as an extension of the “TLC Program”.

Disaster Services

In the event of wildfire or other catastrophic events that require home evacuations, the SPCA will implement a disaster response plan (prepared in collaboration with other animal shelters, law enforcement authorities, and disaster response organizations) to provide emergency sheltering for displaced pets.

SPCA of Northern Nevada	NEW	EXPANDED	UNIQUE
Pet Rescue		🐾	
TLC Rehabilitation Program	🐾		🐾
The Good Dog Program	🐾		🐾
Meet Your Match Adoption Process	🐾		🐾
Adoption Follow-Up		🐾	
Pet Assisted Therapy	🐾		🐾
Pits are Pets Program	🐾	🐾	🐾
Seniors for Seniors Program		🐾	
Humane Education and Training	🐾	🐾	🐾
Spay-Neuter Assistance		🐾	🐾
Low-cost Vaccination and Microchipping		🐾	🐾
Volunteer Program		🐾	
Foster Care Program		🐾	
Pets up for Parole	🐾		
Disaster Services	🐾		

