

Status Report ~ Shelter Enrichment Team

3/12/2019

Funding Viability

Background: Funds were allocated (no-bid contracts) from the donation account in February 2018 (\$99,000) and June 2018 (\$300,000). Given the rate of donations received over the past several years, it would take 4-5 years to replenish this amount in the donation account. Staff reported that the donation account will be depleted within two years. In addition, the shelter faces a substantial budget shortfall for 2019/2020.

It costs more than \$1,100 per service day (M-F) for SET services, the majority of which are dog walkers.

What is the impact of this program on the donation account?

Are/will funds be diverted from other essential programs funded by donors impacting medical care and population control (spay/neuter)?

Sustainability

Background: Many of the components of this program were accomplished by an on-site behavior analyst and volunteers prior to the creation of the for-profit company Unconditional Love by one of the CCAS behavior analysts.

It doesn't appear the SET program addresses the failures of the shelter, e.g. the lack of volunteers who walk dogs, but rather bypasses current conditions.

What is the path forward for volunteers and staff to take over the bulk of the contracted work?

Questions regarding the report:

1. Numerous training classes are listed. The information not provided is the number of persons actually participating in these classes. What are drop-in classes and who benefited? How were the public training classes publicized and how many people participated?
2. The average daily enrichment chart shows dogs directly affected by SET efforts, but doesn't provide data of the relationship to the entire population of CCAS dogs.
3. How has this program impacted adoption return rates, the primary reason for return being behavior?
4. How has this program impacted adoptions (increased?) and length of stay (reduced?)?
5. Should the goal of helping dogs maintain for longer stays be secondary to preparing dogs for adoptions?