

# Shelter Scenario Yellow

AWJAC 2022

Team Scenario

# Notes

- Information provided in this document is fictitious and does not represent factual data from the shelter. Information provided has been generated for the sole purpose of the contest and does not represent the management, protocols or data of the shelter itself.

# Questions to answer:

- Please perform an assessment of the welfare of the dogs and cats at the shelter. Present and discuss positive and negative aspects for both dogs and cats.
- Provide recommendations to improve the welfare of the dogs (**two recommendations**) and cats (**two recommendations**) at the shelter, taking into consideration animal management, husbandry and facility design.
- Provide one long-term recommendation to optimize the sustainability of operating the shelter now and in the future.

# Background

- Limited admission private shelter
- ~1400 dogs admitted each year
- ~2000 cats admitted each year
  
- Shelter operated at 98-100% capacity year round
  
- 99% dog live release
- 98% cat live release
  
- Average length of stay: 12 days (cats), 15 days (dogs)

# Staffing

- 2 full time veterinarians on site
- 5 full time caretakers who take primary responsibility for dogs
  - 60% turnover rate/year
- 100 volunteers who take primary responsibility for cat care  
Volunteer time: 1 hour/week, interact with all cats and cover all rooms
  - Cats not accustomed to volunteers will demonstrate some hiding or aggressive behaviors towards volunteers

# Intake and Holding procedures

- Housed in holding area to complete following intake procedure:
  - Health exam performed by veterinarian or care staff
  - Scan for microchip
  - Identification, weight, sex, age estimate
  - Receive medical care if necessary
- Average time in holding area prior to moving to adoption floor:
  - 3 days (cats)
  - 2 days (dogs)

# Environmental enrichment

## Dogs

- Current enrichment opportunities:
  - Toys/blankets
  - Leash walks
  - Food treats
  - Volunteer interactions including play, petting and grooming
  - Raised bed
- Reactive dogs on adoption floor: 20%

## Cats

- Current enrichment opportunities:
  - Toys
  - Music/TV
  - Indoor/outdoor access
  - Cage furnishings include:
    - Litter pan
    - Towel/bed
    - Hide box
    - Elevated area for resting
- Cats hiding on adoption floors: 25%

# Preventative care at intake

## Dogs

- Pyrantel de-wormer, topical flea and tick preventative and canine heartworm test
- Vaccinations: MLV DHPP, Rabies, Intra-nasal MLV: Bordetella, CPIV, Adenovirus
- Heartworm positive: 15%
  - Review protocol for treatment

## Cats

- Pyrantel de-wormer, topical flea and tick preventative and single dose ponazuril for kittens < 4 months
- Vaccinations: MLV FVRCP, Rabies
- Kitten diarrhea #1 medical issue at shelter followed by upper respiratory infection



# Treatment room

- Sick dogs and cats are housed in treatment room with intake animals
- No current space for a separate area for isolation and quarantine but plans to include this space when shelter expands
  - Shelter limits intake of sick animals at time of intake to prevent space issues in treatment room
- Kitten diarrhea program: Probiotic supplement 2x/day for 5 days, fenbendazole daily for 3 days, oral vitamin supplement for 5 days
- URI treatment program: Compound minocycline liquid given orally for 10 days