

## Dear RCHS Friends and Family,

We know that things are uncertain out there, and we are wishing all of you health and peace as you face the challenges that the Coronavirus (COVID-19) brings to Southern California.

Rancho Coastal Humane Society is choosing to remain open for adoptions 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. every day, but Tuesdays. Our programs and services shall continue to address the needs of the community and pet owners in crisis; however, at this time, our Pet Assisted Therapy (PAT) program has suspended all visits to senior care facilities and schools, at the facilities' request.

We are committed to following the recommendations by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and public officials and will continue to monitor the evolving Coronavirus situation.

At the shelter, RCHS staff follows stringent cleaning procedures. Kennels are cleaned and sanitized twice daily, and enhanced cleaning protocols of public spaces have been implemented. Restrooms for hand washing and hand sanitizing stations remain available for everyone visiting and working at the shelter.

RCHS staff – at the Thrift Shop and the Shelter – has been urged to engage in frequent and sustained handwashing protocols. RCHS employees have been instructed to stay home if they are experiencing any type of cold or flu symptoms. This is the time to forego shaking hands or other physical contact, avoid touching your face, cover a cough or sneeze with an elbow or a tissue, taking care to throw the tissue in the trash.

Some have asked if there is any reason to be concerned that pets might be able to catch or carry the coronavirus. According to the CDC:

- There is no reason to think that any animals, including pets in the United States might be a source of infection with this new coronavirus.
- To date, CDC has not received any reports of pets or other animals becoming sick with COVID-19.
- There is no evidence that companion animals, including pets, can spread COVID-19.
- More information can be found at [Healthy Pets, Healthy People website](#).

Our thoughts and well-wishes go out to those who have been affected, and we will continue to do our part to preserve the well-being of our animal welfare community.

We appreciate your continued commitment to RCHS and the companion animals in our care.

Together We Save Lives!



**Judi Sanzo**  
President/CEO