FALL 2021

## **SEVINATION SAN FRANCISCO** VETERINARY MEDICAL A S S O C I A T I O N OUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

### A MESSAGE TO SFVMA MEMBERS

Dear Colleagues,

During my internship a hurricane made landfall in Virginia and knocked out power to the majority of Richmond for nearly 1 week. The emergency and specialty hospital I worked at was the only veterinary clinic that continued to operate in the city thanks to 3 generators on the roof. We saw pretty much every dog and cat that needed veterinary care in the entire city for a week. It may not sound like a long time, but when every cage, run, and stacked donated kennel lining 2 entire floors is full, it felt like an eternity. We had every available staff member come in as much as possible, we napped in the clinic or briefly at home in between working horribly long shifts. We ran out of supplies, improvised and borrowed. This was my introduction to disaster veterinary medicine.

The last year has been reminiscent of this at many times. We have never before seen this many pets seeking care with a reduced workforce that continues to dwindle. I work as a relief veterinarian at many different practices and everyone is struggling. Many veterinarians and support staff have quit, walked away from the profession, or cut back on hours due to severe burn out. New grads are already wanting to leave the field. I for one have recently cut back on hours and stopped doing emergency shifts due to burn out. You can only work shifts with 20 pets in the emergency queue, a full hospital, and no breaks for so long. Emergency hospitals now regularly reach capacity and have to close if they have the staff to open to begin with. This is extremely hard for the caring people in our profession to do, but there are simply not enough people to care for these pets sometimes, and we try to send them to some place that still has room.

We all hoped that this would get better with time. While everyone has done their best to make adjustments like saving extra appointment slots for urgent care appointments, taking extra drop offs, closing incoming patients when at capacity, and getting clients back in the building as soon as feasible, we simply cannot keep up in this new world the way that we once did. There are not enough of us, and it is really hard to hold onto support staff that are well trained, working their backsides off and getting yelled at regularly to get paid less than what they could easily make

### A MESSAGE TO SFVMA MEMBERS (cont.)

doing something much less stressful. Gone are the days clients could easily make an appointment to be seen on the same day or get into a specialist within the week. Radiograph reports take 5 days to come back in some places now because even our radiologists reading rads from afar are overwhelmed.

This is a marathon not a sprint. We spent so much of last year reacting to changes and hoping things would return to usual. This is now our new normal, and we must adjust. We don't have some magical cache of more veterinarians, techs, assistants and CSRs. We need to take care of the ones we have and train new ones to want to stay. It is unsustainable to ask workers to come into a meat grinder where they are run off their feet and barely have time to visit the bathroom every day. By all means those days happen, but we need to stop it from being normal if we want to avoid burning everyone out.

We need to retrain our clients that this is the new normal, and they will need to wait longer for responses and appointments and should plan accordingly. Maybe practices need to set up days of vaccine clinics for well pets, maybe we need a veterinary version of a nurse practitioner that can be obtained without a lifetime of debt and 8 years of education, maybe we need to combine resources between hospitals to help each other, maybe we need to learn it's ok to say no, maybe we need to utilize telehealth services more to help triage and communicate. At the end of the day, please take care of yourselves, each other, and your staff. We want the profession to survive and Not One More Vet, Vet Tech, Vet Assistant, or CSR to be lost.

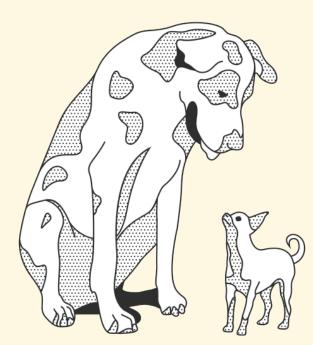
Unfortunately, our sponsor and speaker for September had to cancel due to Covid related issues, so there will be no meeting in September. We hope the best for their team and apologize for any inconvenience.

Sincerely,

Amy Lightstone, SFVMA President



## Unfortunately, there will be <u>no CE this quarter</u> due to COVID related issues!



### Your Dog Could Be a Healthspan Study Scientist

There are still a lot things we don't know about the aging process in dogs, so we've made it our mission to learn more. Enroll in our observational (no drug) study investigating the biology behind how our best friends age.



#### We are looking for dogs that....

- have an accurate birth year documented by veterinary or breeding records,
  - weigh less than 25 lbs or more than 50 lbs,
  - are **2-5 years** old OR **7 or more years old**, and
- do not have a diagnosis of diabetes mellitus or hypoadrenocorticism (also called Addison's disease)

Participants will receive a free vet visit, health assessment, and gift box.

#### Scan the QR code to get started

or visit loyalfordogs.com/ eligibility-form



### VOLUNTEERS FOR AGING STUDY (cont.)



## **The Healthspan Study**

An **observational** (no drug) study investigating the biology behind how our best friends age.

Now seeking participants!

Participants will receive a free vet visit, health assessment, and gift box

#### If your dog is...

less than 25 lbs or more than 50 lbs

between 2-5 years or more than 7 years old

& has an accurate year of birth

... they may be eligible for this study!

D

Learn more & sign up at: www.loyalfordogs.com

vets@loyalfordegs.com

### LATEST NEWS FROM SFAFA



## SFAFA SAN FRANCISCO AID for ANIMALS

We are so pleased to announce that as of July 1st, **San Francisco Aid for Animals has entered our tenth year of providing grants to Bay Area veterinarians**. Despite a very bumpy year for the entire veterinary community, we were able to hold our own with fundraising and have entered our new fiscal year ready to face the challenges ahead. This past year, with your help and support, we were able to provide over \$200,000 for life-saving veterinary care for 66 **pets**. Our continued success has allowed us to expand our service area and we have added new member hospitals in Sonoma County and the East Bay which gives us the ability to reach more deserving families and their beloved pets. Many thanks to all of you for all of your help and support for this amazing program. Many of you have partnered with us since day one. We couldn't have made it this far without you. Here is to another successful year for all of us! Thank you, thank you, thank you from San Francisco Aid for Animals.

#### The story of Hank — another success story: We couldn't have done it without all of you!

A pit bull puppy was found abandoned and left for dead in an orchard in the East Bay. He was taken to UnderDog Rescue, was named Hank and was placed as a foster with Molly and her family. It didn't take long before they all fell in love. Hank had found his forever home. Some time later the family noticed some awkwardness in his gait and he was taken to IronHorse VetCare in Dublin where it was discovered that he had ligament tears in both stifles. Underdog Rescue and Hank's new family were committed to funding Hank's bilaterial TPLO surgery, but their resources did not completely cover the cost of Hank's care. Luckily, as an SFAFA member hospital, IronHorse reached out to us and a grant was provided to cover the remainder of Hank's medical costs. Hank had a successful surgery and is now recovering well at home.

#### Molly's family sent us this message:

"We are so beyond grateful that you stepped in to help Hank! He is an absolutely precious boy who loves our family BIG and we love him BIG. It has been love at first cuddle and we can't wait to have him back adventuring with us. Thank you thank you thank you for all you do and for making this chance for Hank possible! (Here he is wishing that he could jump on the couch again – soon enough buddy soon enough!)"

### SUBMITTING REQUESTS TO SFAFA

### HAVE A FAMILY WHO CAN'T AFFORD THE CARE FOR THEIR PRECIOUS ANIMAL?

### San Francisco Aid for Animals Can Help You Save a Life

SUBMIT A REQUEST FOR FUNDING

Go to www.sfafa.org

Select 'For Providers' and 'Funding Request Forms' (Password: sfafa)

Complete the GIA or Tauber form online

Scan and email invoices showing in-kind donation to requests@sfaidforanimals.org

SFAfA reviews and confirms application and then has a check issued



Hospital receives grant from Community Initiatives and receipt for donated services

### SUBMITTING REQUESTS TO SFAFA (cont.)

## **SFAfA Grant Examples**

#### **General Guidelines**

(GIA and Tauber Funds are available for any case, please use all of your funds)

The pet must have an urgent need for medical care.

- 2 The case has a good prognosis.
  - If it's a long term problem, the clinic must be able to provide ongoing care.
- Your client must have exhausted all other financial options.
- 5 Your hospital will provide a matching or greater discount/donation of in-kind services

6 Your client must reside in, or have significant connection to, the San Francisco Bay Area.

#### **Condition Examples**

(List is not all inclusive. Please reach out to us with any questions!)

- Infectious diseases (Parvo virus, feline panleukopenia, influenza, anaplasmosis...
- Hepatitis / Liver Disease
- Gastro-enteritis, hemorrhagic gastro-enteritis, inflammatory bowel disease
- Acute Pancreatitis
- Respiratory disease
- Abcesses
- Blood transfusions if good prognosis
- Immune mediated thromocytopenia

- Corneal ulcers
- Skin conditions (Demodex, scabies,...)
- Toxin exposure
- Initial workup for any condition with good prognosis
- Cushings Disease
- Feline urinary obstruction
- Fractured bones
- Trauma cases (hit by car, fire...)

- Amputations
- Skin tumors
- Wound repair
- Skin grafts
- Severe dental disease
- Enterotomy
- Cruciate ligament repair, TPLO, Back Surgery
- Lens luxations
- Pyometra

### SFVMA CURRENT OFFICERS

PRESIDENT Amy Lightstone, BVSc sfvmapresident@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT Anna DeVincenzi, DVM sfvmavp@gmail.com

TREASURER Keely Commins, DVM sfvmatreasurer@gmail.com

SECRETARY Tiffany Hahn, DVM sfvmasecretary@gmail.com We need a new CVMA Delegate and alternative to represent San Francisco veterinarians!

Please reach out to Tiffany Hahn at sfvmasecretary@gmail.com if you are interested in helping

represent out community!



### **SPONSOR A FUTURE MEETING**

In order to continue to support our charitable and scholarship funds, and generally maintain the organization (with keeping dues payments reasonable), the Board will continue to seek sponsorships that help to cover the costs of our programs.

If you are interested in sponsoring a future meeting, please contact **Amy Lightstone**: **sfvmapresident@gmail.com** 



### **RABIES CLINICS**



#### RABIES CLINICS FOR 2021 TO BE ANNOUNCED...

... but please consider volunteering for Vet SOS! (www.sfvma.net/volunteer)

#### THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Thank you to all the volunteers that continually make these clinics a success! Volunteers will still be needed for the upcoming 2021 Rabies Clinics. Sign up today!

Please email **sfvmavp@gmail.com** with your information to sign up for a clinic. Rabies clinics will be held at Animal Care and Control (ACC), 1200 15th Street (at Harrison) from 10am–1pm.

Please contact **Anna DeVincenzi** if you have any questions or would like to volunteer: **sfvmavp@gmail.com** 



### CHARITABLE DONATIONS

The SFVMA Board will consider charitable grants to organizations that support the care and welfare of animals in our community and promote the veterinary profession.

Please contact Keely Commins for details on requests for donations: sfvmatreasurer@gmail.com



### HOSPITAL STANDARDS SELF-EVALUATION CHECKLIST

Below is a link to the Veterinary Medical Board's Self-Evaluation Checklist. This could assist your practice with being prepared for the possibility of premise inspections.

#### www.vmb.ca.gov/forms\_pubs/hosp\_insp\_chklst.pdf



FALL 2021

#### 2021 WESTERN VETERINARY SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP

### San Francisco Veterinary Medical Association Scholarship \$1,500

#### HermanMax Salvosa-Chua, DVM 2024 2021 Recipient



Thank you, San Francisco Veterinary Medical Association, for this scholarship. I am extremely thankful and humbled.

I will do my best in classes so that I can apply what I learn to provide the best standard of care. I take with me the pride of San Francisco and all that I have learned there to make sure that these standards go beyond just our animal patients... they extend to the people that take care of them. As I work with my teammates and the community at WesternU, I'll keep in mind

one of the last lessons I learned from Dr. Hazanow before I moved down to start school..."Is it kind? Is it true? Is it useful?"

Even though I was born and raised in Long Beach and Orange County, San Francisco will always be my hometown. I am Bay Area proud with my undergraduate diploma from CSU East Bay hanging on the wall. The education I received in those classes in Hayward and in the streets of the City formed my drive to do more to help the community. The way WesternU incorporates science, caring, and humanism mirrors what I've experienced living in San Francisco.

One approach that I've come to appreciate in the WesternU CVM program is their integration of "Veterinary Issues" as a class starting from year one, week one. I get excited to share and discuss with my cohort, my experiences from living in the Bay. While visibility and celebration of diversity, equity and inclusion are danced about and normalized in the City, for others in my class, these are still just words. Many of the issues discussed in class (such as animal welfare, personal wellbeing, legislation, policy, and

malpractice... to name a few) were just everyday conversations that I had with people in San Francisco; and now we get to dive deeper into what that means for veterinary professionals and how the care we provide can be affected.



#### 2021 WESTERN VETERINARY SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP (cont.)

I will continue the next year in the positions of treasurer of our SC-ACVP and secretary of our SC-AAAP, guided by the collaboration and goal-oriented skills I learned from watching the doctors at Seven Hills. And as I take on more duties as chair-elect of the Government Affairs Committee within the SAVMA House of Delegates, I hope to accurately, empathetically, and justly represent the needs of my fellow student doctors. I hope that we can help introduce initiatives to help support mental wellbeing in our field.

Pathology residency is still at the top of my list of goals. And I look forward to the challenge of more studies, opportunities, and externships to sway that pursuit. This scholarship is keeping me motivated while keeping me grounded. In a way it is a symbol of the combined effort from all of us. And I will do my best to pay it forward when I can.

Again, thank you so much!

Ingat ka lagi,

HermanMax O. Salvosa-Chua DVM Class of 2024

### **CLASSIFIED ADS**

#### Accelerate your mastery needed to maintain clinical excellence.

Our 22nd Annual Small Animal Symposium is perfect for all veterinary professionals looking for a complete CE experience tailored to the veterinary community's current needs and requirements.

### Hear from some of the brightest minds in veterinary medicine, offering various topics across four tracks:

- Doctor
- Well-being
   Anesthesia Bootcar
- Technician
   Anesthesia Bootcamp



Register today at sagesymposium.com

#### SAGE SYMPOSIUM 2021 ACCELERATING CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

#### We are going VIRTUAL again this year, which means you can:

OCTOBER 17 2021

- Earn 7 Live RACE Approved CE credits within one day
- Stay safe and healthy from the comfort of your home.
- Save your vacation time for a REAL vacation because YOU DESERVE that time for YOU! It's been a crazy year!
- Access all content from the LIVE event day on-demand for passive CE credits available for three months

### REFER TO **A WELL ADJUSTED PET** FOR PHYSICAL REHABILITATION!

 We're the only Rehabilitation Center in Northern California, outside of UC Davis, that is currently Credentialed by the Canine Rehabilitation Institute to serve as an Intern Training Site for Graduating Animal Rehabilitation Students

- . We are only 10 minutes south of San Francisco
- · We see patients Tuesday-Saturday
- We will keep you up to date on your patients' progress

#### WE CAN HELP IMPROVE YOUR PATIENTS' QUALITY OF LIFE AND SURGICAL OUTCOME WITH THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

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- Automatic enrollment in 100% practice paid short- and long-term disability after 60 days of employment – includes maternity leave
- Eligibility to enroll in the Veterinary Student Debt Relief Pilot Program

#### Support when you need it most.

As the world's largest veterinary practice, the network of hospital, field, and headquarters leadership, allows us to offer you the support and resources needed to help you worry less and focus more on being your best self.

Ready to start your career with Banfield? Please reach out to Lynsey Reeder: Lynsey.Reeder@Banfield.com or apply at: jobs.banfield.com

SAN FRANCISCO



### **Shelter Medicine** Veterinarian

San Francisco, CA 

Shelter Medicine

**DESCRIPTION:** At the San Francisco SPCA, the practice of Shelter Medicine requires a unique blend of individual medicine and population management with a strong focus on behavioral wellness. Every day, the Veterinarians and Technicians on our Shelter Medicine Team dedicate themselves to maximizing our life saving capacity in San Francisco and beyond. We are looking for a highly skilled, innovative, compassionate, Shelter Medicine Veterinarian to join this remarkable team. Imagine going to work at one of San Francisco's most enduring and respected nonprofit organizations with a legacy of many "firsts" in animal welfare. Iconic and innovative, the SF SPCA offers you the opportunity to be a part of a team focused on day-to-day excellence with a vision to ensure that all California shelters have access to practical, evidence-based protocols by 2030.

ABOUT YOU: As a Veterinarian, you've chosen a career Shelter Medicine because of your devotion to improving the outcomes for homeless animals. You have practical experience and repeated success with population management and disease control. You are a highly skilled surgeon. You understand patient flow and pathways for shelter animals. You are smart, driven, and make your decisions by combining evidence-based research with your eye on practical solutions and results. You are committed to the on-going development of your team, the organization and yourself. You are a unique Veterinarian who recognizes your ability to successfully, think outside of the box and beyond the present, to find solutions. You are excited about the opportunity to work in an organization with over 45 Veterinarians who have an incredible range of expertise.

THE ROLE: You will work closely with the Shelter Medicine Team to provide excellent medical care to the thousands of homeless animals that enter the SF SPCA shelter each year. Collaboration with the Director of Shelter Medicine and Shelter Medicine nursing team is essential to assess, create, maintain, improve and implement effective protocols for preventive care, treatment, population management, and operational processes. Performing high-quality surgical procedures and developing ongoing treatment plans that coincide with continuous efforts to reduce length of stay in order to meet adoption goals. We will count on you to ensure compliance with all laws regarding the practice of veterinary medicine and animal welfare.

ABOUT US: We are achievers, with over 153 years of innovation in animal welfare, we continue to reach and challenge the status quo. Our comprehensive benefits package takes to heart what you need today with low cost healthcare coverage and wellness programs, while looking out for your tomorrow by investing in a competitive 401(k) package with matching funds. Veterinarians receive generous CE resources and paid time off. Our campus is located between the Potrero Hill and Mission Districts, and easily accessible by BART, MUNI and local freeways. We offer a variety of commuter programs and generous discounts on veterinary care for your pets.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION: They're more than just words for us. They are on every SF SPCA job description and guide how we develop programs, deliver services, build our teams, cultivate our leaders, and create a culture of belonging.

Ready to make a change? Excited about the future possibilities? We want to hear from you.

#### SAN FRANCISCO SPCA Associate Veterinarian (Mostly Emergency)

San Francisco, CA

**DESCRIPTION:** Imagine going to work at one of San Francisco's most enduring and respected nonprofit organizations with a legacy of many "firsts" in animal welfare. Iconic and innovative, the SF SPCA offers you the opportunity to be a part of a team focused on day-to-day excellence. Every day, the Veterinarians and Technicians on our Team dedicate themselves to maximizing our life saving capacity in San Francisco and beyond. We are looking for a highly skilled, innovative and compassionate Veterinarian, to join this remarkable team.

**ABOUT YOU:** Education and Experience (required):

- Graduate from an accredited veterinary medical college DVM or equivalent
- Licensed to practice in the State of California
- Possession of a DEA registration number
- At least 3 years of experience as a full-time practicing veterinarian

**THE ROLE:** You will work closely with talented mentorship, colleagues, and support staff, and have the opportunity to provide extraordinary medical care to all pets in San Francisco. Apply a forward-thinking approach by collaborating with a team to create, maintain, improve and implement effective protocols. Experience and perform high-quality surgical procedures. Support includes a wide range of diagnostics and treatment options including ultrasound (stand-alone and point-of-care), flexible videoscopy, rigid videoscopy, video otoscopy, digital radiography, 2 ORs with humane-grade equipment including LigaSure and electrocautery, in house laboratory, and rapid turnaround reference laboratory access. We will count on you to ensure compliance with all laws regarding the practice of veterinary medicine and animal welfare.

#### YOU CAN EXPECT:

- Daytime shifts only: 8am-7pm
- Emergency only or Emergency/GP combination
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  Coaching and mentoring for skill-building
- \*Advanced Facilities and Equipment listed in our online posting\*

**ABOUT US:** We are achievers, with over 153 years of innovation in animal welfare, we continue to reach and challenge the status quo. Our comprehensive benefits package takes to heart what you need today with low cost healthcare coverage and wellness programs, while looking out for your tomorrow by investing in a competitive 401(k) package with matching funds. Veterinarians receive generous CE resources and paid time off. We offer a variety of commuter programs and generous discounts on veterinary care for your pets.

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**DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION:** They're more than just words for us. They are on every SF SPCA job description and guide how we develop programs, deliver services, build our teams, cultivate our leaders, and create a culture of belonging.

Ready to make a change? Excited about the future possibilities? We want to hear from you.

## Seeking Veterinarian CENTER VETERINARY CLINIC

We are a small animal, one doctor practice, in Novato **seeking a full or part time veterinarian**. Originally opened in 1982, we have a fun and family-like atmosphere where we take pride in practicing quality medicine and building long term relationships with our clients.

We are lucky to have several ER's in the area for afterhours care, a good support network of nearby specialists, and easy access to the 101 freeway. Recently updated facility, we offer digital x ray, digital dental x ray, Tonovet and more. We offer a competitive salary, paid time off, CE and uniform stipends, at cost veterinary services and supplies and... did we mention a fun and family-like atmosphere?

We believe in prioritizing care over profits, truly caring about the people that we work with, having a work/life balance, and fostering a collaborative environment for the benefit of our clients and their pets.

If this sounds like a place you would like to work, please email Chris Sterns at:

#### chrissterns@rocketmail.com



### **BluePearl Veterinary Partners Seeking Full-Time ER Doctors**

**BluePearl Veterinary Partners in Daly City, CA is seeking two Full time ER doctors** (12 shifts/ month) to work in our 24/7 Specialty and Emergency hospital. You would be working alongside three other full time experienced ER doctors and one part time ER doctor. We have a fully equipped hospital for high-level care. Immediate openings available, we would love to hear from you!

BluePearl Veterinary Partners hospital in Daly City, CA is a state-of-the art 7,500 square foot facility. It is big enough to have top of the line equipment, but still small enough for clients to receive personalized, comprehensive care and service. Built in 2013, the hospital is located in the rapidly growing area of Daly City and is easily accessible.

Our clinicians offer 24/7 emergency care as well as specialty services in internal medicine, surgery, oncology, cardiology and Rehabilitative Medicine. Onsite diagnostic and treatment capabilities include a CT scanner, ultrasound, endoscopy, arthroscopy, laparoscopy and digital radiography.

#### Contact for more information: **Dr. Sonja Olson** — **sonja.olson@bluepearlvet.com** Visit **www.bluepearljobs.com** to apply!

### Larkspur Landing Veterinary Hospital

#### Larkspur Landing Veterinary Hospital is seeking a full or part time vet to join our practice.

We are a privately owned small animal hospital in Marin county. We have a fun energetic staff and excellent clients.

One position available is monday and tuesday spay/neuter/procedure days that pay \$800/ day, and usually the vet gets off work by 3pm.

The other position is seeing appointments, currently curbside.

Public transportation is available via ferry, smart train, and golden gate transit bus.

#### Contact: Mary Press, DVM (415) 461-6133 larkspurlandingvet@yahoo.com

### Volunteer Vet Techs Needed at PAWS (Pets Are Wonderful Support)

**PAWS** mission is to preserve, support and nurture the human-animal bond for those most vulnerable in our community, low-income San Francisco residents who are seniors (over 60 years old) and/or persons living with a disability, with pet food and vet care, among its services.

**Volunteer Vet Techs** assist one of our licensed Volunteer Veterinarians with exams and nail trims at our Ask The Vet consultations. Our vet exam room is located in the PAWS building in the Mission neighborhood of San Francisco.

Volunteer Vet Techs do not need to be licensed vet techs, but must have a minimum of one year experience working in a veterinary environment, and feel comfortable performing animal restraint and animal handling tasks within a limited clinic environment.

Please contact Program Coordinator, Volunteer Services, Walter Campbell for more information and to apply to volunteer:

wcampbell@shanti.org

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Dr. Jason Wood Dipl. ACVP Dr. Jacqueline Brady MS, Dipl. ACVP

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REAL TIME ONLINE DOG TRAINING

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SIRIUS<sup>®</sup> Puppy & Dog Training has moved online!

For the rest of 2020 we'll be teaching all of our puppy & dog training classes online using Zoom.

You'll get real-time feedback from the same world-class instructors, now in the comfort of your own home.

Our small class sizes ensure every family and dog gets the individual attention they deserve!

vetsos@sfccc.org



Veterinary Street Outreach Services (VET SOS) is recruiting volunteers— DVMs and veterinary assistant/technicians — for its monthly mobile clinics serving the companion animals of homeless San Franciscans. Visit www.vetsos.org for more information, including upcoming clinic dates. Support the human-animal bond in this vulnerable population and work with outstanding volunteers from all over the Bay Area!

Voicemail: (415) 355-2237

Email:

## 5 reasons **Nationwide** is the **#1 pet insurer**

#### We believe in wellness.

We've offered preventive care coverage for more than 20 years. Because, like you, we know that regularly scheduled veterinary care is the best way to help healthy pets stay healthy.

#### Experience counts.

Thanks to more than 35 years of experience protecting dogs, cats, birds and exotic pets, there's nothing we haven't seen.

## We started the pet insurance industry in the U.S.

As the first and only underwriter for Veterinary Pet Insurance<sup>®</sup>, we were proud to be part of the pioneering vision that brought pet health insurance to the U.S. in 1982.

#### We pay more claims.

We pay more than 1.2 million claims every year—that's an average of more than 3,300 claims every single day.

#### We insure more pets.

Nearly 650,000 pet parents trust us to protect their pets' health. In fact, many of our members have insured multiple pets with us over the decades.



# Contact Your Local Representative for Information:Sharon Burns, R.V.T.(562) 315-3777Claims or Policy Questions:(866) 838-4874



Coverage for your **world's best pet parent** side.



Help keep dogs and cats in their homes, and in your practice, by recognizing behavior problems and referring clients to me for additional help. My goal is to alleviate the emotional suffering of pets and the

people who love them. I provide house call appointments in the greater Bay Area to establish behavior diagnoses and design **Behavior Treatment Plans** which include management, behavior modification, medication if appropriate, and a year of email support. I look forward to helping your patients and clients!



### **San Francisco Pet Behavior**

A Veterinary Consulting Service Dr. Keely Commins

www.sfpetbehavior.com | keelydvm@sfpetbehavior.com 236 West Portal Avenue #485 | San Francisco, CA 94127



#### HELP US HELP YOUR CLIENTS IN FINANCIAL NEED!

SAGE Compassion for Animals prevents suffering and euthanasia by providing financial assistance to families with companion animals in medical crisis (www.sagec4a.org). We received our 501c3 status just as Shelter in Place was announced for the San Francisco Bay Area. Our Board Members are veterinarians, veterinary technicians, non-profit consultants, and have deep ties with animal shelters and rescue groups and understand the financial constraints that some pet families are limited by in making best decisions about their pet's health. We are passionate about providing financial assistance for veterinary care and educating communities about how to prevent and reduce illness. We recognize and acknowledge that compassion fatigue in veterinary medicine is compounded with pet parents have limited financial resources.

We are looking forward to partnering with veterinary practices in the San Francisco Bay Area to help provide financial assistance to your clients in need that have a companion animal in an acute medical crisis. We are looking for guidance from you if your client and their pet meets our eligibility requirements and that you are willing to offer at least a 25% discount on your services.

That is all that is required to become a veterinary partner and listed on our site provide (https://www.sagec4a.org/veterinary-partners/)! If your client is awarded a grant, we send the check directly to your office.

If you are interested in being recognized as a SAGE Compassion for Animals Veterinary Partner, please email us at info@sagec4a.org and our Executive Director, Dr. Julie D. Smith, will be happy to discuss!

### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

#### Want to do something that saves lives, feels good and helps your community? Then volunteer to help animals when disasters strike in California!



Thousands of animals need care during and after disasters. Some 63% of California households have pets, including an estimated 10 million pet cats, nine

million dogs, and one million horses. Other pets, farm animals, and wildlife also need assistance during and after disasters like earthquakes, floods, and wildfires.

Veterinary professionals are vital to animals during disasters. The mission of the California Veterinary Medical Reserve Corps (CAVMRC) is to provide veterinary professionals with the training and credentialing necessary to support animal health and public health.

Deployment is always voluntary. Volunteers get involved at whatever level works for them – assistants are needed as well as leaders, part-time responders are as welcome as those who can help out for a week or two, plus there are ongoing roles in areas such as planning and disaster response. Volunteer participation can be a matter of life or death for rescued animals and means the world to the owners of those animals.

#### **BENEFITS OF JOINING THE CAVMRC**

The CAVMRC provides veterinary professionals:

- Credentialing necessary to support animal health and public health emergency response.
- Continuing education and training opportunities that allow you to strengthen your skills to better serve your practice, your community and our state.
- Networking and information sharing opportunities with veterinary team members across the state.

#### WHO CAN JOIN THE CAVMRC?

You don't need any prior disaster response experience or training to join the CAVMRC. The entire veterinary practice team is welcome, including:

- Veterinarians
- Registered veterinary technicians
- Veterinary assistants, office managers and all support staff members
- Students in veterinary medical programs
- Retired veterinary professionals with a current license

#### **PROGRAM AFFILIATION**

The CVMA registered the CAVMRC as a unit of the Medical Reserve Corps under the California Emergency Medical Services Agency and works in cooperation with local, statewide, and national agencies. The CVMA has played an important role in preparing for and responding to disasters in California since 1994 and builds on this experience with this new affiliation.

#### For more information visit the CAVMRC website:

cvma.net/resources/disaster-response-program-2/california-veterinary-medical-reserve-corps-cavmrc/