

Q: Is the Calaveras County Board of Supervisors supporting this effort?

A: In December of this past year, the Board resolved to provide a site suitable for a new shelter and is supporting a negotiated partnership with CHS for the management of the new shelter

Q: Why hasn't the Animal Services done something before now?

A: The Staff is a hardworking, dedicated group of people. They have done the best they could with the tools and budget given them. Animal Services has improved dramatically under the Sheriff's Department. CHS volunteers have also provided thousands of hours of service. But the facility is what it is – terribly inadequate.

Q: Does the CHS Shelter eliminate Calaveras Animals Services?

A: No. The County in partnership with CHS will continue to provide legally mandated services at the new facility.

Q: How much will the New Shelter cost the taxpayers?

A: Taxpayers have always paid for Animal Services and that will continue. The County owns the land and CHS will be raising funds to construct the facility.

Q: How does Calaveras Humane Society plan on funding the New Shelter?

A: We will be holding fundraising events, writing grants, contacting foundations and pet supply companies and contacting celebrities interested in animal issues. We are open to all suggestions to assist our efforts.

Q: Will a New Shelter help with the feral cat problems?

A: At some point we will try to establish a trap, neuter and release program which will, over time, reduce the feral cat population.

Q: Will this be a "no kill" facility?

A: A true "no kill" facility can only exist when there is another facility nearby to take the animals it turns away. This doesn't exist for us, and we can't turn any animal away. However, we enable a "no kill" shelter after we're up and running. It's always a partnership, and the regular facility has to come first. That is us. It is also our goal to reduce euthanasia, and our new facility will help us achieve this.

Q: How does the way dogs are caged make a difference?

A: Dogs in new style kennels do not face one another and cannot see each other, thereby reducing anxiety and aggression. It is also our goal to provide socialization and training to all animals prior to adoption

Q: How will a New Shelter help with adoptions?

A: An inviting facility where people can feel comfortable meeting the animals and learning about the animals they want to adopt takes all of the anxiety and stress out of the adoption process. Our shelter will be one that the citizens of Calaveras County can be pleased to visit and be proud of.

Q: Why now in this economy?

A: This is our window of opportunity to create the partnership between the County and CHS which will enable us to complete this important project.