

# 2020 Healthy Pets Healthy Families COALITION UPDATE

March 2016



*“Our goals can only be reached through a vehicle of a plan, in which we must fervently believe, and upon which we must vigorously act. There is no other route to success.”*  
- Pablo Picasso

## 17<sup>th</sup> Coalition Meeting Update

The Healthy Pets Healthy Families (HPHF) Coalition met on February 24th, 2016 and this year we decided to change things a bit.

The 1st part of 2016 will be dedicated to **Obesity Prevention** and we will learn a little more about our interventions in that area. This will coincide with the development of our HPHF Obesity Report, which will be finalized by June. The 2nd half of the year will focus on **Bite Prevention** and a specific report will also be available by the end of the year.

This does not mean that we stopped working on our other focus areas. In February, HPHF participants met in focus groups for an **Objective Planning activity**. The goal was to engage our coalition members in the ongoing HPHF projects and reach a significant milestone for each focus area by the end of 2016.

How are we reaching this milestone by the end of 2016 you ask? Great question! We created a worksheet that highlighted each focus area’s 2016 objective and how it fits in the overall HPHF plan. We also discussed any potential challenges and ways to overcome them and identified sub-tasks to achieve our objectives. At our next HPHF Coalition meeting on **May 24, 2016**, we will discuss our progress with these goals. See page 2 for a list of 2016 objectives for each focus area. Please contact us if you would like to participate in any of them.

While the focus group activity played an integral part of our meeting, we still had time to share exciting Veterinary Public Health Program (VPH) updates! Since the HPHF Coalition previously met, VPH was able to finalize and [post online](#) our 1st Animal Disease Surveillance Report. We are also gearing up for our 2nd Annual Healthy Pet Expo (see Figure 1). We are partnering with our Acute Communicable Disease Control Program to raise awareness of flea-borne typhus. By letting veterinarians know that a case of human typhus occurred in their neighborhood, we hope to improve flea control in pets in that area and prevent infections in people. Finally, we are excited to hire 2 VPH staffs that will join our team: a Health Educator and an Epidemiology Analyst. Their expertise will definitely help us move forward with our HPHF activities.

April 16th • Saturday • 9am-3pm

Come Join Us  
**HEALTHY PET EXPO 2016**  
for **DOGS & CATS**



**Figure 1:** Our 2nd Annual Healthy Pet Expo will be held at **Whittier Narrows Park on April 16th, 2016 (9am-3pm)**. Come join us to promote healthy pets in healthy communities!

Services will include:

- **Free** & low-cost dog/cat vaccines
- **Free** spay/neuter (reservations at: [PetExpo@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:PetExpo@ph.lacounty.gov))
- **Free** veterinary consultations
- And much more!

### Get involved!

Are you interested in helping us reach our goals for our 2016 focus area objectives? See page 2 for more.

Please contact us know if you want to help at: [vct@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:vct@ph.lacounty.gov)



## Focus Areas Objectives for 2016:

### Bite prevention:

- Finalize Frequently Asked Questions sheet and school-based bite prevention presentation. Contact heads of schools to discuss beta-testing of presentations.

### Disaster preparedness:

- Encourage the public to prepare and practice for an emergency, providing a unified 10 simple steps for preparation.

### Obesity prevention:

- Create a 2017 activity calendar and distribution plan targeting children ages 5-10 years old with monthly educational tips related to obesity (pet and/or human) & exercise goals for the family.

### Secondhand smoke:

- Engage in outreach and survey veterinarians about cases of tobacco/e-cigarette toxicity, targeting regions with higher concentration of smokers.

### Spay & neuter:

- Hold one spay/neuter event in county area (hopefully Baldwin Park/El Monte area) by the end of 2016 focusing on cats with a goal of at least 100 surgeries.

### Vaccine-preventable diseases:

- Conduct a door-to-door educational flyer distribution campaign in 2 zip codes by the end of June 2016. Organize radio interviews in English and Spanish.

### Zoonoses & parasite prevention:

- Develop 20 messages using our pre-existing Single Overarching Communication Objectives (SOCOs) about zoonotic/vector-borne disease prevention & distribute them through social media during specific (human & pet) health-related dates.

Next HPHF Coalition meeting:

When: May 24th, 2016

Where: Auditorium  
5555 Ferguson Drive  
Commerce, CA 90022

Mark your calendars and join us!



### **Veterinary Public Health Program**

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