

Jenee Rawlings

As a community member who sees the tremendous need for expanded access, I want to say that while YAAEC may be a new 501(c)(3), it is not an informal organization. It has a strong governance framework, including an independent Board of Directors, adopted Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, organizational policies, and appropriate financial and organizational controls. YAAEC has also completed the required state and federal registrations, including registration with the California Attorney General's Registry of Charities and Fundraisers.

While YAAEC is not currently soliciting donations, the organization has intentionally put the appropriate governance and compliance structure in place so that it is well positioned to responsibly accept charitable contributions and pursue grant funding in the future.

These elements provide the oversight, accountability, and organizational foundation for YAAEC to enter into agreements, manage resources responsibly, and grow sustainably as a community nonprofit.

I'd like to also add that I am excited that YAAEC is positioned to supplement and expand upon the important work already being done in our community, not to replace or compete with existing providers. - which we still need.

YAAEC is positioned to supplement and expand upon the important work already being done.

The County's own reporting shows animal intake continuing to grow year over year. That does not diminish the valuable work being done today. It simply demonstrates that the current level of available resources and services has not been sufficient to reverse that trend.

YAAEC was formed to help expand capacity, bring additional resources to the table, and work collaboratively with the County and other organizations toward the shared goal of reducing animal intake through prevention.