

E.G. Prieto Sheriff ~ Coroner

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## **Press Release**

Subject: Sheriff's Office to receive \$7,000 in Grant Funding from the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

**Contact: Vicky Fletcher Chief Animal Services Officer,** 530.668.5286

## Date: May 16, 2013

The Yolo County Sheriff's Office, Animal Services Section, is pleased to announce the award of \$7,000 in grant funding from the American Society for the prevention of Cruelty to Animals. This grant funding was specifically sought to develop and begin a pilot foster program for kittens currently unable to be housed at the Yolo County Animal Shelter. While the Animal Shelter has Intake for animals of all ages, housing under age kittens is an area of special concern because of their weekend immune system and amount of dedicated attention they require. For example, underage kittens most often are bottle-fed several times a day until they are able to eat solid foods, something shelter staff cannot do due to limited time resources. For this reason, foster homes are often used so that the kittens can receive the care they need. Outside of the shelter environment, before being placed in permanent homes. While some foster homes are currently being utilized by the shelter, there has been no funding available to successfully implement and purchase needed materials for a dedicated fostering program.

The Yolo County Animal Shelter anticipates the intake of over 1,000 kittens; and a potential 250 of these kittens receiving care from volunteers in offsite foster homes. The generous ASPCA grant award will allow the shelter to create the infrastructure of a dedicated foster program, including promotion, training for volunteers, and providing the volunteers with supplies and equipment needed to foster underage kittens from the time of intake into the shelter of time of intake into the shelter through placement. It is the hope that with these upgrades to the fostering program, animals will receive the best possible treatment available and be in the best possible condition when arriving at their permanent adoptive homes.

## "Service Without Limitations"

The Yolo County Animal Services Section provides patrol and sheltering services to all incorporated cities and unincorporated areas of Yolo County. While continuing to offer adoptions of dogs and cats, and other animals at the shelter, newly expanded services now include off-site adoption events, low cost spays and neuters, and rabies vaccination clinics. This further outreach will maintain the Yolo County Sheriff's Office mission of promoting a safe and healthy community and providing "Service Without Limitations".

For more Information on Animal Services Foster Program, or if you wish to become a volunteer, please contact the Yolo County Animal Shelter at 530.668.5237.