

Good Morning.

Last year when Lost Dogs Illinois participated in the round table meetings, I set a goal of return to owner rate of 40% since the average of return to owner rate in 2016 was 33%.

CACC'S RTO average for 2017 was 42%. August was a very good month with the RTO reaching 53%.

Shortly after LDI was organized, we had met with the former management staff with our suggestions. CACC's RTO at that was 12-15%. Soon after Susan was hired we met with her with the same suggestions.

CACC has improved their return to owner percentage because:

They reduced the reclaim fees to one standard fee of \$65

Microchips are being registered at time of implant (during Alfred's tenure)

They joined Helping Lost Pets an international centralized database that Lost Dogs Illinois and Lost Cats Illinois uses

Animals are leaving w/ID tags on collars (ID tag machine donated by Friends)

Installed a Kiosk for people to look at stray intake (during Alfred's tenure)

We believe there are things that CACC could still improve on:

Implement field redemptions so animals don't have to come to the shelter

Use our Lost Dogs of America FREE microchip hunter's service for dead-end or unregistered microchips

Place signs where found pets are picked up (Alfred's tenure – didn't last long)

Establish a volunteer group to cross-reference lost and found animals

Eliminate the lost pet tours so it is more convenient for people to visit and find their pet. Accessibility to look at dogs at all time. Right now the last tour is at 6:15 so people working later cannot see the strays.

Microchip scanners for police dept

Even though the RTO has increased, the percentage of stray intake has remained the same, which is approx. 60%. There is always the plea that CACC is overcrowded. By implementing two changes: 1. police having scanners and 2. Doing field RTO there would likely be a decrease in the number of stray intakes.

Our other concern is:

Shouldn't "approved stray hold facilities for the city" be required to post their found dog photos on HeLP or even have the same reclaims fees as the shelter. Animal Welfare League does not post stray photos at all and their fees are outrageous for Chicago citizens. Those citizens have no choice on which stay hold facility their stray dog will be taken to.