



THE **PEOPLE** CONCERN

Because everyone should be housed, healthy and safe.
OPCC & LAMP COMMUNITY UNITED

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k9 connection Receives Grant from American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA)

Los Angeles, CA (December 4, 2017) – k9 connection, a program of The People Concern, was recently awarded a \$2,500 grant from the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) to support its operations.

“With approximately 11,821 dogs killed in LA City Animal Shelters last year, and thousands of young offenders serving time in juvenile correctional facilities, the proactive approach we offer through year around k9 connection programs, nurtures the positive, underdeveloped capacities in challenged teens -- while giving shelter dogs a second chance: one innovative solution to two seemingly insurmountable challenges,” said Juliet Beynon, Project Director at k9 connection. “For the past 12 years, our teens from less-than-optimal circumstances have had the opportunity to overcome the effects of their past, their limitations, and their fears, by training homeless shelter dogs in k9 connection programs from the Westside to downtown Los Angeles. In essence, we provide a safe haven for teens and shelter dogs to get a new lease on life.”

The grant from ASPCA will allow k9 connection to continue its operations, which offers underserved teens in the Los Angeles community the chance to break through learning and life barriers by training and bonding with homeless dogs –furthering k9 connection’s mission to help shelter dogs be adopted into permanent homes.

For more information, please visit www.k9connection.org.

About k9 connection

k9 connection, a program of The People Concern, started in 2005. It is an experience-based program, which educates and inspires area continuation high school students through bonding with and training homeless shelter dogs. Each individual program serves counselor referred teens at participating schools, and concludes with a graduation ceremony and the placement of each dog in a permanent home. In the 12 years since its inception, k9 connection has completed 94 intensive three-week programs, held regular follow up "check backs" with its graduates, worked with over 929 at-risk youth, and helped more than 583 homeless dogs find permanent homes.

About The People Concern

The People Concern empowers the most vulnerable among us to rebuild their lives. With compassion and profound respect for those we serve, we provide a fully integrated system of care, including housing, mental health and medical treatment, and social services. Our services are tailored to the unique needs of homeless individuals, survivors of domestic violence, challenged youth, and others who have nowhere else to turn.

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