

Transforming Lives in LA County

Proskauer For Good on June 10, 2025

Our longstanding, non-profit partner, <u>The People Concern</u>, is one of Los Angeles County's largest social services agencies, providing a wide array of wrap around services for those with nowhere else to turn, including mental and medical health care, housing, domestic violence services, substance abuse treatment and free care for those with furry companions. They meet the challenges inherent in homelessness and domestic violence with evidence-based solutions and, in so doing, transform lives with care and compassion.

On May 21st, Proskauer lawyers and business staff volunteered through The People Concern at a spring clinic for pets of people experiencing homelessness. Veterinary services, grooming, and supplies were provided to the community at large in the parking lot of Samoshel, a shelter run by The People Concern which is one of the few agencies in LA County that allows companion pets at their interim and permanent supportive housing facilities. Our volunteers registered participants and escorted them through the services being offered. All those who attended were also provided with a gift bag full of food and supplies and they were fitted with new pet gear including collars and leashes.

"The housing crisis affects our unhoused neighbors in countless ways. It is incredibly fulfilling to meet one of their less-obvious needs, by facilitating veterinary care for their four-legged family members. The joy is contagious, as participants proudly introduce their dogs and cats and fondly describe the comfort and companionship they bring. Helping people care for pets they love reminds me of the common human experiences we all share." Proskauer Partner, Shawn Ledingham.

"We were delighted to have the expert and enthusiastic help of Proskauer lawyers and staff; they were all quick studies, diving in where needed and taking the time to interact with each pet owner while listening to their hopes and concerns. We also had an impressive turnout of 41 pets accompanied by 29 owners. We realize that in many cases, their companion animals are the only family they have, so we're essentially caring for both ends of the leash." Juliet Beynon, Director, K9 Connection.

• Shawn S. Ledingham, Jr.

Partner

• Douglas B. Frank

Partner

Colleen Hart

Partner