

Cecilia Rivera

Cecilia (she/her) is the Animal Population Coordinator of San Diego Humane Society (SDHS). She started her career in animal welfare 6 years ago in Riverside, CA whilst attending her undergraduate studies at UC Riverside. Upon graduation in 2018 with a double B.S., Cecilia moved to San Diego and continued her pursuit for a career in animal welfare. Soon after, she was offered a position as an Animal Caregiver and aided in both the domestic and wildlife populations at SDHS & Project Wildlife for 2 years. After, she transferred positions and became a sworn Humane Law Enforcement Officer for an additional 2 years.

During that time, she attended Madonna University and obtained a M. S. in Humane Leadership and two graduate certificates in Nonprofit Management and Humane-Animal Bond in the Summer of 2021. Fast forward to now, she has been in this newly developed position since June 2022. Monitoring four shelter's worth of the domestic animal population assisting leadership in tracking pathways, being the lead of the Companion Animal Sheltering unit (CASU) of the Emergency Response Team (ERT) and going hands-on where needed in areas of animal care, vaccine clinic, mass intakes, transports and more, are some highlights of the role – and she loves it!