

Tonya Buenrostro

Tonya Buenrostro, MPH, RVT, has dedicated her career to the compassionate care and well-being of animals while fostering meaningful connections with the communities she serves. With over 14 years of experience in shelter medicine, Tonya combines her expertise as a Registered Veterinary Technician with her commitment to public health and education. Her passion for animals began at an early age and inspired her to pursue a career where she could make a difference in the lives of both animals and people.

Tonya earned her bachelor's in animal health science and recently completed a Master of Public Health. Her graduate project, which explored a newly discovered nutrient (C15) first identified through dolphin research and its implications for human health, shows her eagerness to apply innovative scientific findings to improve both human and animal well-being. Through her advanced education, she has expanded her ability to address the intersection of animal health and human well-being. Her work in shelter medicine includes innovative workflow designs for high-volume spay/neuter procedures, creating reference tools for efficient drug calculations, and training staff in infectious disease prevention and animal behavior.

Beyond her technical expertise, Tonya has made a lasting impact through community outreach programs, partnering with public health agencies to provide care to homeless individuals and their pets.

As a participant in the 2025 CalAnimals Executive Leadership Program, Tonya is eager to continue developing her leadership skills and leveraging her unique background to create sustainable, compassionate solutions for animal welfare and community health.

Tonya is married with two children who are all active in church, soccer, karate, and baseball. She enjoys exercising, spending time with her family, and raising their chickens.