

Giselle Leal-Pelayo

Giselle currently oversees the Mission Viejo Animal Services Center robust volunteer program with over 170 volunteers helping the homeless animals, and various community outreach programs.

Since a young age Giselle has always had a deep love and passion for all things “animal”. This passion led her to pursue a career in the animal welfare field. She has worked for a local municipal animal shelter for the last 15 years. She has approached the animal welfare field through the lens of social services and has committed to improving the lives of animals and people. She has been an integral part of the center's growth, transition and integration of live-saving philosophies and creative and innovative programming. These programs have immensely changed and improved the quality of life for the shelter animals. As a result, the shelter is tremendously successful, with 97 percent of animals adopted and one of the lowest euthanasia rates in the country.