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Spokane Humane Society has a received a \$14,600 grant from the ASPCA's Northern Tier Shelter Initiative allowing for major improvements to its veterinary clinic and kennels.

With thousands of animals passing through our veterinary clinic every year, with treatment needs for everything from a mild infection to the amputation of a limb, the pressure is on our veterinary staff to work efficiently, accurately and fast.

The high cost of veterinary equipment means we use what we have until it simply doesn't work any longer. One reason why we are so excited about this grant is that we can finally put up real, modern surgery lights.

"My colleagues and I are extremely grateful for the assistance of the ASPCA," said Dr. Logan Belleque, shelter veterinarian. "Having struggled with outdated equipment we are so thrilled to have new surgical and dental lights."

Belleque said the lights will enable staff to be even more efficient and thorough.

Our other veterinarian, Dr. Jesse Robinson, benefitted directly from the ASPCA's generosity as it allowed her to participate in high volume spay and neuter training at ASPCA's Spay/Neuter Alliance's training facility in Asheville, NC.

"We have an amazing veterinary clinic with such dedicated staff," said Sheila Geraghty, executive director of the Spokane Humane Society. "Between Dr. Robinson's training and the improvements to our surgical room, this is a huge positive game changer for us."

The surgical lights were installed on July 20, a Friday when the clinic is usually closed, but they will be turned on right away on Monday morning for shelter surgeries.

Other improvements funded by the ASPCA Northern Tier Shelter Initiative grant include the replacement of chain link kennel partitions with solid metal walls. The barriers help reduce nose

to nose interaction, which in turn reduces potential disease transmission and also reduces the stress dogs feel while in the kennel.

The shelter intake office will benefit from a new walk-on scale making it a lot easier to weigh animals without having to lift them.

The veterinary clinic will also receive a much needed laptop and updates to its security system.

"We are so glad the ASPCA is committed to helping us continue to improve the quality of care for our patients," said Belleque. "It makes everything so much easier while we search for their forever home."

To learn more about the ASPCA's Northern Tier Shelter Initiative visit:

https://www.aspcapro.org/grant/2015/04/23/aspca-northern-tier-shelter-initiative-grants

Media is welcome to set up a tour of the improved clinic – please contact development director Pia Hallenberg at 509-467-5235 ext. 211

Press questions for the ASPCA should be directed here: https://www.aspca.org/about-us/press-releases