

MULTICULTURAL VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (MCVMA) PRESS RELEASE

MCVMA Secures Permanent Open Access to First DEI Publications in Veterinary Medicine

[Silverdale, WA] — The **Multicultural Veterinary Medical Association (MCVMA)** is proud to announce the permanent open access availability of the first comprehensive publications dedicated to **diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI)** in veterinary medicine. These groundbreaking collections, **“Veterinary Clinics: Small Animal Practice – Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Veterinary Medicine,” Parts 1 and 2**, were published by **Elsevier** and are now freely accessible to the public thanks to support from **Maddie’s Fund®**, a national family foundation established by Dave and Cheryl Duffield to revolutionize the status and well-being of companion animals.

Edited by MCVMA Past President and Founding Dean of Hanover College School of Veterinary Medicine **Christina V. Tran, DVM**, the two-part series features **20 review articles and editorials** authored by a diverse group of experts, including veterinarians, veterinary technicians, social workers, and educators. Among the list of contributors are nationally recognized leaders **Dr. Michael Blackwell, Dr. Vernard Hodges, Dr. Coretta Patterson, Dr. Katherine Fogelberg**, and **Veterinary Technician Specialist Stephen Niño Cital**.

“This publication spotlights an extraordinary group of authors whose lived experiences and professional insights will continue to shape diversity, equity, and inclusion in veterinary medicine,” said **Dr. Christina V. Tran**. “Each topic was carefully selected to reflect the evolving needs of our profession—ranging from inclusive mentorship and access to care, to the intersectionality of race, gender, and identity in clinical and educational settings. This publication represents not just a collection of voices, but a call to action for a more equitable and inclusive future in veterinary medicine.”

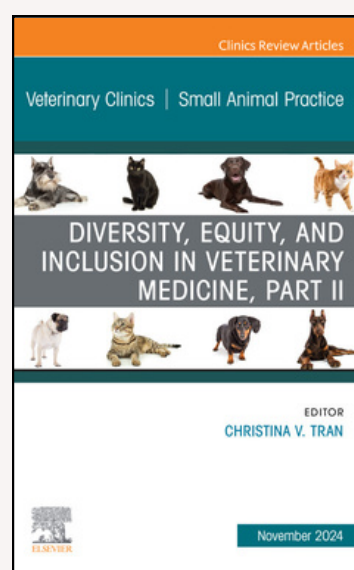
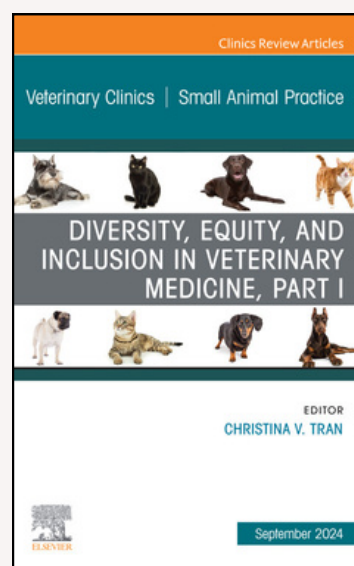
A Historic Milestone in Veterinary Literature

These publications represent the first scholarly collections dedicated solely to DEI in veterinary medicine—an essential step in addressing the systemic inequities affecting both professionals and clients within the field.

In **June 2025**, MCVMA purchased **permanent open access** to both volumes, making every article in the series **freely available to read, download, cite, and share without restriction**. This effort ensures continued accessibility to these vital works for current and future generations of veterinary professionals, educators, and students, regardless of income or institutional affiliation.

“We can’t stress enough how grateful we are to Maddie’s Fund and Issue Editor Dr. Tran for making this possible,” said **Melody Martínez, CVT**, MCVMA Executive Director and contributing author. “Without their support and continued advocacy, these authors’ contributions would have remained behind a paywall, only accessible to those with the means to pay or who otherwise have institutional access.”

“In our current political and economic climate, MCVMA believes that open access to DEI information and educational tools is imperative to counter the ongoing misinformation and attacks on equity and justice,” Martínez continued. “This initiative will increase the visibility and impact of the research, and has the potential to accelerate more studies and generate stronger policy solutions to address inequities in the veterinary profession.”



Free “Meet the Author” Webinar Series Launching Soon

To further support learning and engagement with the authors and article topics, **MCVMA will host a free virtual “Meet the Author” webinar series.** This interactive series will allow attendees to meet contributors, ask questions, and engage in deeper discussion on critical themes such as culturally responsive veterinary care, allyship in professional settings, and DEI in veterinary education.

“MCVMA is proud to stand firm in our knowledge that diversity, equity, and inclusion make the veterinary profession better for everyone, including our clients and patients,” said **Dr. Ashleigh Davis-Bergsohn**, President of the MCVMA. That is why it is so important that the knowledge and expertise encompassed within these volumes remain easily accessible to everyone. The FREE “Meet the Author” Webinar Series will encourage a more in-depth understanding of the various topics through interaction with the authors, while also supporting active participation in making a change to the system.”

MCVMA is currently seeking sponsors for the “Meet the Author” Webinar Series. Interested sponsors can contact info@mcvma.org for more information.

To be notified when the webinar series launches, interested participants are encouraged to **sign up for MCVMA’s Newsletter at <https://bit.ly/MCVMANewsletter>** and follow MCVMA on Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn.

Where to Access the Publications

All articles from *Veterinary Clinics: Small Animal Practice – Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Veterinary Medicine*, Parts 1 and 2, are now **freely available online** at: **www.mcvma.org/publications**

Why Open Access Matters

Open access (OA) allows free public use and sharing of scholarly content, eliminating paywalls and expanding research impact. This move by MCVMA exemplifies how OA can dismantle long-standing barriers to education and empower more equitable participation in veterinary science.

Acknowledgments

This initiative was made possible through a generous grant from **Maddie's Fund®**, a national family foundation dedicated to advancing animal welfare and an ongoing supporter of MCVMA. *#ThanksToMaddie*

About MCVMA

The **Multicultural Veterinary Medical Association** is a nonprofit organization dedicated to fostering diversity, equity, and inclusion in veterinary medicine. Through advocacy, mentorship, education, and community support, MCVMA empowers professionals from historically marginalized backgrounds and drives systemic change within the field.

Website: www.mcvma.org



About Maddie's Fund®

Maddie's Fund® is a family foundation established in 1994 by Dave and Cheryl Duffield and is the fulfillment of a promise to an inspirational dog, Maddie. She provided them much joy for over ten years and continues to inspire us today.

Due to their generosity and vision, the Foundation has awarded over \$301.3 million in grants toward increased community collaborations and live outcomes, pioneering shelter medicine education and establishing foster care as a standard across the U.S. and driving innovation in access to care. Maddie's Fund proudly offers the industry a national voice, important funding opportunities for bold ideas, learning resources and access to collaborate and share innovative solutions.

The Foundation invests its resources in keeping with Dave & Cheryl's promise that pets and their people would enjoy the same experience they had with Maddie. We are committed to keeping pets and people together, creating a safety net of care for animals in need and operating within a culture of inclusiveness and humility. *#ThanksToMaddie*. Maddie's Fund is part of The Duffield Foundation Family which also includes [Liberty Dogs](#) and [Dave & Cheryl Duffield Foundation](#).

Website: www.maddiesfund.org