



VHMA MEMBER PROFILE

Joseph Makkar, CVPM

At some point, he decided that living in Los Angeles (a bus away from Hollywood) wasn't simply good for building his resume as an actor but, also, for building his resume as a consultant and manager for veterinary hospitals.

Joseph graduated from The Los Angeles County High School for The Arts, among artists such as Jenna Elfman ("Dharma and Greg"); Actor/Comedian, Anthony Anderson; and Vocalist Josh Groban. At a point between high school and attending Pepperdine University's Graziadio School of Business Management, he decided that helping build a veterinary practice from the administrative side would be helpful to the medical side.

While appearing in movies with Richard Dreyfus, Nick Nolte, Bette Midler, Demi Moore, and box office actors of the like, the one industry he knew he wanted to stick with was where his heart was, veterinary medicine, which he was first introduced to by his sister-in-law.

His sister-in-law was leaving her practice for maternity leave and wanted to replace herself with someone that she knew would excuse himself upon her return. He accepted the offer. However, as great things happen to great organizations serving greater causes, Joseph wanted to stay on board. He created a position (among the first pharmacy technicians in our industry) for his sister-in-law that would remove a bottleneck in the practice which allowed them to see a greater number of patients. The hospital grew exponentially and he took pride in building a successful practice.

From that point, the practice owner (the co-author of the new integrative *Integrating Complimentary Medicine into Veterinary Practice*, published by Wiley/Blackwell) and research chair for the American Holistic Veterinary Medical Association, Rick Palmquist, DVM, chose to expose Joseph to an association of sixty-five animal hospitals in Los Angeles and surrounding counties. From that point forward and with much gratitude, much success has come to Joseph as he now manages five animal hospitals, a high-end pet cottage, and owns a veterinary staffing agency called Veterinary Staff Unlimited in Marina del Rey, California.

Veterinary Staff Unlimited (VSU) has over 20 relief doctors, 25 RVT's, and over 100 veterinary specific candidates available for hospitals in Los Angeles and surrounding counties. There are currently over 40 hospitals registered with VSU that benefit from the use of staffing, group buying, diagnostic laboratory discounts, equipment purchasing from IV pumps to digital x-ray machines, acquisition and sales of veterinary hospitals, and so much more.

Joseph can be reached in his office in Marina del Rey and has an information and applicant registration career center through www.vetstaff.com. His dream is to build Veterinary Staff Unlimited so that all hospital managers will have an extension to their HR department where they can use services from background checks for their employees, staffing, consulting and acquisitions, expansion and sales of their practices. Veterinary Staff Unlimited only provides limited services to hospitals outside California but will be looking to sell franchises within the next year.

Joseph has been a member of the VHMA since 2005 and was awarded the CVPM (Certified Veterinary Practice Manager) designation in February of 2008.

