



#### **NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

# CAROL HOUSE QUICK FIX PET CLINIC RECEIVES \$175,000 GRANT FROM PETSMART CHARITIES® TO INCREASE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE VETERINARY CARE IN ST. LOUIS, MO

March 24, 2020— SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI – One of the most common reasons pets are surrendered to local shelters is the lack of affordable pet wellness, training and education programs. Due to cost and other barriers, pets in under-resourced communities often do not have access to basic veterinary care such as spay/neuter services, vaccinations, dental care and other medical and preventative care.

With a \$175,000 grant from PetSmart Charities, Carol House Quick Fix Pet Clinic aims to support pets and pet parents in need of these services by providing spay/neuter and basic veterinary wellness care to local communities that lack the access to these critical services for their pets. This grant allows the organization to collaborate with the Animal Protective Association (APA), Belleville Area Humane Society (BAHS), and Gateway Pet Guardians (GPG) enabling the organizations to reach pet parents in several specific communities. Through the generous support of PetSmart Charities, Carol House Quick Fix Pet Clinic will be able to provide services to over 1,500 dogs and cats.

"This opportunity allows us to combine resources with our partner organizations and expand our current programs, deepening our relationships in the communities we serve. With access to veterinary care, assisting pet parents and improving the health and well-being of their pets, we see more pets staying in their loving homes, ultimately reducing the number or strays and unwanted litters in shelters," said Wendy Heckman, Executive Director, Carol House Quick Fix Pet Clinic.

"This collaborative effort, spearheaded by Carol House Quick Fix Pet Clinic, will remove many of the barriers pet parents face when trying to provide their beloved pets with basic care," said Lindsay Del Chiaro, director of community relations and programs at PetSmart Charities. "This initiative is a testament to the positive impact made when community-minded organizations work together. We're proud to support work that will provide vital resources for the pets and people of Saint Louis."

Since 1994, through its partnership with nearly 4,000 humane societies, SPCAs and pet rescues across North America, PetSmart Charities has helped more than 9 million pets to find loving homes via its instore adoption program in over 1,660 PetSmart® stores. The leading funder of animal welfare has also donated more than \$400 million, to positively impact communities, to connect people and pets, to help preserve families and to improve access to veterinary care through initiatives like this with Carol House Quick Fix Pet Clinic.

Pet parents can contact Carol House Quick Fix Pet Clinic for more information about these services at 314-771-7387 (PETS) or visit <a href="https://www.CarolHousePetClinic.org">www.CarolHousePetClinic.org</a>.

## **About Carol House Quick Fix Pet Clinic (CHQFPC)**

CHQFPC provides high-volume, low-cost, high-quality spay/neuter and basic wellness services to pets in the greater St. Louis area and surrounding rural communities. CHQFPC provides free spay/neuter, wellness care, supplies, advocacy and information to pet owners in underserved communities in North St. Louis City, through strategic, positive community engagements. CHQFPC has performed over 78,000 low-cost or free spay/neuter procedures and nearly 50,000 wellness visits since opening June 2012. To learn more visit www.CarolHousePetClinic.org.

Find Carol House Quick Fix Pet Clinic on Facebook: Facebook.com/CHQuickFix

#### **About PetSmart Charities®**

PetSmart Charities, Inc. is committed to finding lifelong, loving homes for all pets by supporting programs and thought leadership that bring people and pets together. Through its in-store adoption program in all PetSmart® stores across the U.S. and Puerto Rico, PetSmart Charities helps to find forever homes and families for nearly 600,000 shelter pets each year. PetSmart Charities also provides grant funding to nonprofits aligned with its mission. Each year, millions of generous PetSmart shoppers help pets in need by donating to PetSmart Charities using the PIN pads at checkout registers inside PetSmart stores. In turn, PetSmart Charities efficiently uses more than 90 cents of every dollar donated to fulfill its role as the leading funder of animal welfare in North America, granting more than \$400 million since its inception in 1994. Independent from PetSmart Inc., PetSmart Charities is a 501(c)(3) organization that has received the Four-Star Rating from Charity Navigator, a third-party organization that reports on the effectiveness, accountability and transparency of nonprofits, for the past 17 years in a row – placing it among the top one percent of charities rated by this organization. To learn more visit <a href="https://www.petsmartcharities.org">www.petsmartcharities.org</a>.

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