



NEWS RELEASE For Immediate Release

CAROL HOUSE QUICK FIX PET CLINIC TO ADDRESS LACK OF AFFORDABLE VETERINARY CARE IN ST. LOUIS, MO WITH \$150,000 GRANT FROM PETSMART CHARITIES®

March 22, 2022— **St. Louis, MO** – Nearly 50 million pets in the U.S. cannot access even the most basic veterinary care. Due to cost and other barriers, pets in under-resourced communities often do not receive essential services such as preventative care, vaccinations, spay/neuter services, dental and other medical care. In the U.S., <u>70 percent</u> of homes include pets. As research continues to reveal the benefits of the human-animal bond, a movement is underway to connect pet parents to the health care their pets need to keep them and their families healthy.

With a \$150,000 grant from <u>PetSmart Charities</u>, Carol House Quick Fix Pet Clinic will support pets and pet parents in need of these veterinary services by providing spay/neuter and basic veterinary wellness and preventative care to our communities that lack the access to these critical services for their pets. Through the generous support of PetSmart Charities over the next 24 months, we will be able to support and grow these essential programs which provide on average 10,000 spay/neuter surgeries and 5,000 wellness/preventative care visits annually.

"This funding from PetSmart Charities comes at a fundamental time for pets in our communities, by removing barriers to veterinary care, we empower pet parents to provide the essential care they want to give to their pets," said Wendy Heckman, Executive Director of Carol House Quick Fix Pet Clinic.

According to the Human-Animal Bond Research Institute, pets make a significant impact in the health and wellness of the people they love. This grant funding will help more families in need receive the veterinary care that ensures pets live long, healthy lives.

"Pets are integral members of families," said Sarah Schlesinger, Community Grants Manager at PetSmart Charities. "It's our mission to make lives better for pets, and that includes supporting local connections to affordable veterinary care. The benefits of parenting pets shouldn't belong exclusively to those with privilege. If we can alleviate some financial burden, it's an important step in keeping pets and people together."

To learn more about the services offered at Carol House Quick Fix Pet Clinic or to make an appointment call 315-771- PETS (7387) or visit us at www.CarolHousePetClinic.org.

About Carol House Quick Fix Pet Clinic

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, preventive care and services, supplies, advocacy and information to pet owners in underserved communities in the St. Louis area, through strategic, positive community engagements. CHQFPC has performed over 98,600 low-cost or free spay/neuter procedures and more than 59,000 wellness/preventative visits since opening June 2012. To learn more visit www.CarolHousePetClinic.org. **Find Carol House Quick Fix Pet Clinic on Facebook:** <u>facebook.com/CHQuickFix</u>

About PetSmart Charities®

PetSmart Charities is committed to making the world a better place for pets and all who love them. Through its in-store adoption program in all PetSmart[®] stores across the U.S. and Puerto Rico, PetSmart Charities helps up to 600,000 pets connect with loving families each year. PetSmart Charities also provides grant funding to support organizations that advocate and care for the well-being of all pets and their families. Our grants and efforts connect pets with loving homes through adoption, improve access to affordable veterinary care and support families in times of crisis with access to food, shelter and emergency relief. Each year, millions of generous supporters help pets in need by donating to PetSmart Charities directly at PetSmartCharities.org, while shopping at PetSmart.com, and by 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 \$500 million since its inception in 1994. Independent from PetSmart LLC, PetSmart Charities is a 501(c)(3) organization that has received the Four-Star Rating from Charity Navigator for the past 18 years in a row – placing it among the top one percent of rated charities. To learn more visit www.petsmartcharities.org.

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Instagram: <u>@PetSmartCharities</u> Twitter: <u>@PetSmartChariTs</u> Facebook: <u>Facebook.com/PetSmartCharities</u> YouTube: <u>YouTube.com/PetSmartCharitiesInc</u>

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