



**Press Release
For Immediate Release**

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PetSmart Invests in Adoption Preparation for Washington County SPCA Animals

Bartlesville, OK (May 1, 2020) – The Washington County SPCA (WCSPCA) of Bartlesville, OK announced it has been awarded a \$22,813.00 grant from PetSmart to support the cost of preparing animals for adoption. In 2020, the WCSPCA adopted out over 1000 animals. Every single one was vaccinated, spayed or neutered, microchipped, and tested for heartworms and given heartworm preventative before it could be adopted to its forever home. This cost poses a significant burden on the WCSPCA as it must pay the veterinary costs to perform these surgeries.

“PetSmart’s support will cover the cost for the adoption prep for about a quarter of all animals we will adopt out throughout 2021. This will help free up operating dollars to accommodate more animals in need,” said Tonya Pete, the WCSPCA’s CEO.

10 million animals enter overcrowded shelters every year and, sadly, 4-6 million of these animals are put to sleep. Every year, the Washington County SPCA takes in over 2,500 dogs and cats without homes. Although the WCSPCA hasn’t euthanized for space since 2009, pet overpopulation is a burden to city systems and can become a danger to public safety. That is why the WCSPCA is committed to spaying/neutering, and providing vaccinations and other necessary medical care to every animal that comes through its doors, especially before they can be adopted to new homes.

There are many services offered to local residents to help them afford spay and neuter surgeries for their animals. The WCSPCA offers vouchers for reduced cost spay/neuter surgeries to county residents who meet certain income requirements. The vouchers cost \$59 for dogs, \$25 for male cats, and \$35 for female cats. They can be purchased at the WCSPCA offices located at 16620 State Highway 123, Bartlesville, OK 74006. These vouchers are redeemable at one of three local partner veterinary clinics: Johnston Veterinary Clinic in Pawhuska, Animal Medical Center in Bartlesville and 4 Animals Veterinary Clinic in Bartlesville.

For more information about local spay and neuter resources, check out the WCSCPA's website at wcspca.org/spay--neuter.

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