





MEDIA CONTACTS: Dariel Walker (619) 299-7012 ext. 2251 *office* (619) 250-6801 *cell* <u>dwalker@sdhumane.org</u>

PetSmart Charities 24-hour Media Line 623-587-2177 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Oct. 10, 2018

PAWS San Diego Receives \$40,000 Grant from PetSmart Charities®

An Estimated 6,000 Pets Will Receive Supplies and Medical Care from this Generous Grant

SAN DIEGO, Calif. — PetSmart Charities is awarding San Diego Humane Society a \$40,000 grant to support <u>PAWS San Diego</u> - a program that provides essential pet services to low-income seniors, chronically ill, disabled and homeless individuals to help them keep their pets.

While many grants awarded to San Diego Humane Society are designed to help pets currently in the shelter, this grant is unique, because it helps more pets stay together with their families.

"With this generous gift from PetSmart Charities, we can continue to bring free and low-cost services directly into underserved neighborhoods so pets can stay happy and healthy with their families," said Geraldine D'Silva, director of PAWS San Diego.

Grant funds will be used to provide vital pet supplies, including pet food, litter and flea medication, as well as supporting veterinary costs to ensure PAWS San Diego clients have access to the medical care their pets need. This generous gift will positively impact an estimated 6,000 beloved pets who, without PAWS San Diego's intervention and PetSmart Charities' support, would be at risk of relinquishment because their families may be unable to afford medical treatment and care supplies.

"At PetSmart Charities, we believe strongly in the power of the human-animal bond. We're pleased to support PAWS San Diego and the San Diego Humane Society's efforts to help keep people and pets together, no matter what challenges they may be facing," says Jenny Aho, regional relationship manager at PetSmart Charities.

San Diego Humane Society is incredibly grateful for PetSmart Charities' partnership, support and their significant role in helping us to keep people and pets together.

<u>To schedule an interview or for more information, please contact Dariel Walker at 619-250-6801 or dwalker@sdhumane.org.</u>

Suggested Tweet: PAWS San Diego has received a \$40,000 grant from @PetSmartChariTs. An estimated 6,000 beloved pets in San Diego will receive essential supplies and medical care from this generous grant.



About PAWS San Diego

PAWS San Diego – a program of San Diego Humane Society – provides essential pet services and support to low-income seniors, chronically ill, disabled and homeless individuals to help them keep their pets. The goal of PAWS San Diego is to provide support services to people in need so that falling into tough times does not mean having to give up your pet. The best thing we can do for pets is to keep them out of animal shelters and together with the people who love and need them. For more information about PAWS San Diego www.sdhumane.org/paws.

About PetSmart Charities®

<u>PetSmart Charities, Inc.</u> 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 more than 500,000 shelter pets each year. PetSmart Charities also provides grant funding to nonprofits aligned with its mission under four key areas of support: Preventing Pet Homelessness; Helping Shelter Pets Thrive; Supporting the Bond Between People and Pets and Providing Emergency Relief and Disaster Support. 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 almost \$340 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 15 years in a row – placing it among the top one percent of charities rated by this organization. To learn more visit www.petsmartcharities.org.

Follow PetSmart Charities on Twitter: @PetSmartChariTs

Find PetSmart Charities on Facebook: <u>Facebook.com/PetSmartCharities</u> See PetSmart Charities on YouTube: YouTube.com/PetSmartCharitiesInc

###