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## **San Diego Animal Welfare Coalition Reminds Community to Spay and Neuter Pets**

**San Diego** – This World Spay Day, Feb. 25, 2020, the [San Diego Animal Welfare Coalition](#) urges the community to spay and neuter their pets. Not only is spaying/neutering the solution to pet homelessness, it also offers numerous health benefits for pets such as protection from illnesses like testicular cancer, mammary cancer, enlarged prostate gland and uterine cancer. Studies also show that altered pets often exhibit less unwanted behavior, such as urine-marking, roaming and aggression.

“Targeted spay and neuter efforts are the best way we know to proactively address the challenge of animal homelessness in San Diego County,” said Dr. Gary Weitzman, president and CEO of San Diego Humane Society. “We want to empower pet owners to make the responsible care choices that will benefit the health of their pets and the community. Our needs-based services are available to the public all year long.”

Lack of accessible or affordable spay/neuter surgeries is at the core of national pet homelessness. That’s why the San Diego Animal Welfare Coalition makes it a priority to provide affordable spay/neuter surgeries for pets in our community.

“We’re hosting special clinics this week so we can double the impact,” said Mandy Mills, administrator of Chula Vista Animal Care Facility. “We are pleased to be able to help address the root of the shelter overpopulation problem.”

“Any pet owner will tell you that, if they could have anything, they would want their pet to live longer,” said Judi Sanzo, president and CEO of Rancho Coastal Humane Society. “Spay/neuter can make that wish come true.”

World Spay Day, the last Tuesday of February, is an international effort to promote the lifesaving benefits of spaying and neutering pets. Check with a San Diego Animal Welfare Coalition member to see how you can get your pet spayed or neutered.

The San Diego Animal Welfare Coalition comprises eight local animal shelters, which consistently exceed standards to save more lives – making us one of the strongest animal coalitions in the nation and a leader in the humane treatment of animals. Member organizations include: Chula Vista Animal Care Facility, Coronado Animal Care Facility, El Cajon Animal Shelter, Friends of Cats, Rancho Coastal Humane Society, San Diego County Department of Animal Services, San Diego House Rabbit Society and San Diego Humane Society.

**B-roll and sound for World Spay Day are available here: <http://bit.ly/328UqRr>.**

**About San Diego Humane Society**

San Diego Humane Society’s scope of social responsibility goes beyond adopting animals. We offer programs that strengthen the human-animal bond, prevent cruelty and neglect, provide medical care, educate the community and serve as a safety net for all pet families. Serving San Diego County since 1880, San Diego Humane Society has campuses located in Escondido, Oceanside and San Diego. For more information; please visit [sdhumane.org](http://sdhumane.org).

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