

**Media Contact:**

SpokAnimal  
Dori Peck, Executive Director  
Cell Ph: (509) 995-6010  
e-mail: [dori@spokanimal.org](mailto:dori@spokanimal.org)

**PRESS RELEASE**

For immediate use

**SPOKANIMAL COMPLETES \$130,000 KENNEL REPLACEMENT PROJECT**  
*Offering Community A Canine Adoption Promotion To Celebrate*

**Spokane, Wash., July 14, 2023** – SpokAnimal, Eastern Washington’s largest humane society for animal adoptions, has completed the installation of all new dog kennels at its shelter located at 707 N. Napa Ave. To celebrate the achievement, SpokAnimal is inviting the community to come tour the new kennels and take part in its dog adoption promotion, which runs through August 31, 2023. Those wanting to adopt will draw marked tennis balls from a bag to win 10-50% off adoption fees, or even a ‘name your price’ adoption with a minimum offer of \$50.

The 20 new kennels, valued at \$121,000, provide more room per pet than the prior enclosures and can be sub-divided to comfortably support a maximum of 40 dogs. The installation, valued at \$9,000, was done by SpokAnimal staff, and took place over a two-month period. SpokAnimal staff was also able to repurposed unused space to create a new dog washing station in the kennel room.

“Amazingly, we did this with virtually no impact to our animal-saving efforts. Compared to the year prior, we did just three fewer dog adoptions. That’s great news for the 138 dogs that found homes during the kennel replacement project,” stated SpokAnimal Executive Director, Dori Peck.

“Another impressive achievement is that our team actually improved our support for owners needing to surrender pets, and transferred in more pets from groups like SCRAPS to help with their overcrowding. In fact, we took in 28% more dogs compared to the prior year. Part of the reason our intake was up, but adoptions remained virtually the same, is because we took in almost twice the number of un-weaned puppies,” Peck stated.

The new, roomier kennels also offer additional benefits. The prior kennels had a chain link fence front, which meant dogs could clearly see other dogs around them. This often triggered cross-aisle barking, increased kennel stress in dogs, and created the potential for spreading saliva-based illnesses. These drawbacks have been eliminated thanks to the lower portion of the new kennels being solid and easy to sanitize. SpokAnimal staff confirmed that the kennels are now quieter and that dogs seem happier.

The purchase of the kennels was made possible in part through grant funding from Petco Love foundation, which is the nonprofit, philanthropic, sister organization of Petco Pet Stores.

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### **About SpokAnimal**

SpokAnimal was founded in 1983 and has become Eastern Washington's largest humane society for pet adoptions. Last year, it found homes for 4,031 animals. Over 60 percent of the shelter's intake was from owner-surrendered animals and transfers from the local municipal shelter, SCRAPS. The other portion of animals arrives through its vibrant transport program, which allows it to save pets from areas where overcrowding and euthanizing for space are still unfortunate realities. SpokAnimal's foster program helps it care for fragile and vulnerable animals. Its vet clinic supports both shelter and public pets with spay/neuter services, microchips, vaccines and dentals. Ad hoc care for pets, such as wound care, pregnancy complications, and digestive issues, is provided for public pets as staffing and finances allow. The Guardian Angel emergency boarding service and Pet Food Bank are other programs that support the local community. To further enhance animal welfare in the community, partnerships with organizations such as Catholic Charities of Eastern Washington, Meals on Wheels Spokane, The Salvation Army (TRAC shelter), The Red Cross, Family Promise and Best Friends are core to SpokAnimal's outreach. Those interested in supporting our nonprofit's work can contribute online at [www.spokanimal.org](http://www.spokanimal.org).