

Media Contact:

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

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Use

**SPOKANIMAL RECEIVES DISASTER-RELIEF GRANT FROM NATIONAL NONPROFIT PETCO LOVE
TO HELP PET OWNERS IMPACTED BY FIRES**

SpokAnimal Obtains In-Kind Goods and Financial Grant To Support Community

Spokane, WA (September 14, 2023) – SpokAnimal has received a \$20,000 disaster-relief grant and in-kind pet supplies from national nonprofit organization Petco Love. The lifesaving investment will help SpokAnimal cover the unexpected expenses related to its efforts to support pet parents impacted by the recent Gray and Oregon Road fires. The pet supplies, which arrived on September 9, will be distributed to those who need to replace pet items lost during the catastrophic event.

SpokAnimal provided over 200 staffing hours to help Spokane Humane Evacuation Animal Rescue Team (HEART) set up and support animals at emergency animal shelters during the fires. Its veterinarians provided on-site animal care for the livestock at the fairgrounds, and for the companion animals at Spokane Falls Community College. The shelter took in almost two-dozen animals who were surrendered by evacuees and provided temporary boarding for a few pets to allow owners time to secure new housing.

“We have a very tight budget, which didn’t include responding to the fires, so we are extremely thankful to have Petco Love’s support in this situation. We certainly never expected a national animal welfare organization to reach out to us directly during this crisis and offer support. It meant a lot to us,” stated SpokAnimal Executive Director, Dori Peck. “Prior to the fires, Petco Love investments have enabled us to provide free vaccines to thousands of local pets. They have also helped us make lifesaving shelter improvements, like the new kennel installation that was recently completed. Petco Love has definitely made a big impact in our community.”

“Petco Love is committed to making sure pets stay with their families, especially in times of disaster,” said Petco Love President Susanne Kogut. “We are proud to help SpokAnimal and their community through this challenging time, as we know pets belong with the people who love them.”

Pet parents impacted by the fires and agencies providing restoration relief are encouraged to contact SpokAnimal for pet supplies and food. Those interested in supporting SpokAnimal can access volunteer and donation opportunities at <https://spokanimal.org>.

###

About SpokAnimal

SpokAnimal was founded in 1983 and has become Eastern Washington's largest humane society for pet adoptions. Last year, we found homes for 4,031 animals. Over 60 percent of our shelter's intake was from owner-surrendered animals and transfers from the local municipal shelter, SCRAPS. The other portion of animals arrives through our vibrant transport program, which allows us 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. Our vet clinic supports both shelter and public pets with spay/neuter services, microchips, vaccines and dentals. Ad hoc care for pets, such 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.

About Petco Love

Petco Love is a life-changing nonprofit organization that makes communities and pet families closer, stronger, and healthier. Since our founding in 1999 as the Petco Foundation, we've empowered animal welfare organizations by investing \$370 million in adoption and other lifesaving efforts. We've helped find loving homes for more than 6.7 million pets in partnership with Petco and organizations nationwide. Our love for pets drives us to lead with innovation, creating tools animal lovers need to reunite lost pets, and lead with passion, inspiring and mobilizing communities and our more than 4,000 animal welfare partners to drive lifesaving change alongside us. Join us. Visit petcolove.org or follow on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [X](#), and [LinkedIn](#) to be a part of the lifesaving work we lead every day.