



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

ATLANTA HUMANE SOCIETY RECEIVES \$50,000 FROM PETSMART CHARITIES® TO IMPLEMENT NEW SPAY AND NEUTER MODEL

Grant to allow charity to more effectively provide spay and neuter surgeries to communities in need

ATLANTA, GA – February 1, 2019– The Atlanta Humane Society announced it received \$50,000 from [PetSmart Charities](#), the largest funder of animal welfare in North America, to help implement a new spay and neuter model in Atlanta. With the help of this donation, the organization will be able to provide low-cost spay and neuter surgeries to more communities.

Nationally it is estimated that at least three to four million healthy, adoptable cats and dogs are euthanized each year. Many of these homeless animals are former pets who find themselves at small municipal or rural, overcrowded shelters that are doing their best, but just can't keep up with the numbers. Sadly, millions of animals are euthanized who could have made great family companions. Across Georgia there are still many shelters where even kittens and puppies are routinely euthanized because the community's population isn't large enough to adopt them all into good homes.

To combat this, the Atlanta Humane Society is implementing a new model of their previous low-cost spay and neuter program. The new model will focus on utilizing the Atlanta Humane Society's two main facilities as the program's surgery hub. We will target pet owners from the most in-need neighborhoods, and community members will have the opportunity to sign their pets up for the service. The Atlanta Humane Society will then provide transport to and from the surgery hub. This model will allow the organization to be more efficient at providing surgeries and increase the number of animals reached.

"This model will enable us to touch more animal lives, and it allow the Atlanta Humane Society to combat animal overpopulation in the most efficient way possible," said Dara Daniels, Atlanta Humane Society Shelter Medicine Business Manager. "By providing the transport to and from community points, we're making it easier for our community to have access to spay and neuter surgeries for their pets."

PetSmart Charities aims to proactively prevent pet homelessness through increased spay and neuter efforts. With the help of animal welfare partners, such as the Atlanta Humane Society, PetSmart Charities has funded over 1.7 million spay and neuter surgeries in the U.S. since 2009.

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About the Atlanta Humane Society

The Atlanta Humane Society (AHS) is one of the oldest private charitable organizations in Atlanta, founded in 1873. AHS saved the lives of more than 10,000 animals in 2018. It is our mission to improve animal welfare in the southeastern United States by providing quality animal services including preventative initiatives, education, advocacy and adoption of animals into permanent loving homes. We are proud to be a part of the solution to ending pet homelessness and overpopulation in the Southeast United States. For more, visit atlantahumane.org.

About PetSmart Charities®

PetSmart Charities, Inc. is a nonprofit animal welfare organization with a mission to find lifelong, loving homes for all pets by supporting programs and thought leadership that bring people and pets together. In addition to finding homes for almost 500,000 shelter pets each year through its in-store adoption program in all PetSmart stores across the U.S. and Puerto Rico, PetSmart Charities provides funding to non-profits aligned with its mission through four key areas of grant support: Preventing Pet Homelessness; Helping Shelter Pets Thrive; Supporting the Bond Between People and Pets; and 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 90 cents of every dollar donated and has become the leading funder of animal welfare in North America, donating about \$300 million to date. PetSmart Charities, a 501(c)(3) organization, has received the Four Star Rating from Charity Navigator, an independent organization that reports on the effectiveness, accountability and transparency of nonprofits, for the past 14 years in a row – placing it among the top one percent of charities rated by this organization. To learn more visit www.petsmartcharities.org.

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