FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 22, 2023



Petco Love and the Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County Aim to Stop the Spread of Deadly Preventable Diseases Through Free Pet Vaccination Event As part of Petco Love's initiative to provide one million free pet vaccines, the Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County will host a vaccine and wellness event on March 25 in Tacoma.

TACOMA, WA – The Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County will provide free vaccinations for the community during a Vaccine and Wellness Clinic. The free vaccines are made possible through Petco Love's new national vaccination initiative, which is providing one million free pet vaccines to existing animal welfare partners, including the Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County, for family pets in need.

Parvovirus and distemper in dogs and panleukopenia in cats — the most prevalent deadly diseases affecting pets — are preventable with a simple vaccine. An estimated 30% of pet parents do not take their pet to a veterinarian annually for preventative care. To ensure the health and wellness of our beloved pets and to address this critical need, the Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County and Petco Love have partnered to make pet vaccines free and accessible.

Through this national effort, the Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County aims to vaccinate as many pets as possible during their Vaccine and Wellness Clinic. The clinic will be held on March 25, 2023, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. at 2608 Center Street in Tacoma, Washington. This clinic is for low-income pet owners and is first come, first served.

The free vaccines distributed at events through the Petco Love initiative will be the DAPPv Canine and HCP Feline vaccines. Other vaccines, microchips, and flea treatments will also be available for a low-cost fee.

"Thanks to Petco Love, we can offer these important vaccines at no cost to pet owners," said Mary Storey, community outreach manager at the Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County. "We urge community members to take advantage of this event to ensure the health and wellness of our community's pets."

"It is heartbreaking when any pet suffers or dies from a disease that could have been prevented. It is further exacerbated when unvaccinated pets come into busy shelter kennels, where these deadly diseases can spread quickly, resulting in multiple deaths, skyrocketing expenses, and hindering saving pet lives," said Susanne Kogut, Petco Love President. "By creating greater awareness and making this crucial preventative care more accessible to pets not currently receiving these lifesaving vaccines, we can prevent the dangerous spread of disease."

For more information about the event and other services the shelter provides, visit the shelter's website at <u>thehumanesociety.org/</u>. Learn more about Petco Love's lifesaving impact at <u>PetcoLove.org</u>.

About the Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County

One of the oldest animal welfare organizations in the nation, the Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County, cares for around 10,000 animals every year and maintains multiple humane programs. Dedicated to "Making Happy Happen," the Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County works tirelessly to protect animals, support pet owners, and enhance relationships between animals and people. Learn more at <u>thehumanesociety.org/</u>.

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 \$330 million in adoption and other lifesaving efforts. We've helped find loving homes for more than 6.5 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. Is love calling you? Join us. Visit <u>petcolove.org</u> or follow on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>LinkedIn</u> to be part of the lifesaving work we lead every day.

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