



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PETCO LOVE AND THE HUMANE SOCIETY FOR TACOMA & PIERCE COUNTY ENCOURAGE PET FOSTERING WITH A FOCUS ON FUN

Nonprofit organizations partner for National Foster a Pet Month to encourage more pet parents to lend a (temporary) hand or home to pets in need during busy summer season.

TACOMA, WA (June 23, 2022) – The Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County is teaming up with national nonprofit Petco Love and Skechers with its BOBS from Skechers philanthropic footwear collection, to put the focus on the fun in fostering pets. Pet fostering is lifesaving and critical for animal shelters particularly during the busy summer season.

“Ending preventable euthanasia of shelter pets is possible today,” said Susanne Kogut, president of Petco Love. “Data tells us that if we could encourage 2% more of the 85-million pet-owning households to foster just one pet a year, we can eliminate preventable euthanasia and save the lives of the 800,000 shelter animals at risk of euthanization in the U.S. annually.”

But fostering can be serious fun, too.

Throughout June, [Petco Love](#) will work with its network of partners nationwide to share the fun aspects of fostering while helping pet parents groove through their foster pet goodbyes. In fact, saying goodbye to foster pets – and the fear they’ll struggle giving the pet to a new family – is among the most-cited reasons why pet parents don’t foster.

Petco Love is taking a humorous approach to saying goodbye to foster pets by holding a #MyFosterBreakUp story contest featuring Foster Breakup Kits giveaways and a curated playlist to help foster pet parents through their goodbyes.

Kits include breakup essentials: cozy, festive socks from BOBS from Skechers, a pint of Ben & Jerry’s Ice Cream, Kleenex, the official Petco Love Foster Breakup Spotify Playlist, and a foster tee that reminds you that “Foster Pets are Here for A Fun Time, Not a Long Time.” Foster parents can enter to win by sharing their breakup letter from their foster pet on Instagram using the hashtag #MyFosterBreakUp from June 1 –30 and even win \$10,000 in lifesaving funds for the organization they foster from.

The Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County will also join shelters nationwide for the National Foster Pet Open House event by inviting the public to visit the shelter located at 2608

Center Street on Monday, June 27 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. for an interactive foster meet-and-greet party.

During the event, those interested in fostering will hear from some of the shelter's experienced foster heroes and get to know the animals in need of a temporary place to stay. Plus, open house guests will get to take home some amazing foster swag courtesy of Petco Love.

"As a rare open admission shelter, we care for more animals than any other shelter in Washington State," said Ashley Taulbee, director of development and marketing. "This means we always have animals in need of foster homes. Our foster parents provide a much-needed space for pets who need a break from the shelter and they help free up kennel space for more pets who have nowhere else to go."

Establishing June as National Foster a Pet Month to increase participation in fostering is just one of the lifesaving actions led by Petco Love in their 23-year history of helping pets, with \$330 million invested in lifesaving efforts and 6.5 million pets adopted – and counting. Skechers has contributed more than \$8 million to help over 1.5 million shelter pets, including saving 1.1 million rescued pets in the United States and Canada.

The nonprofit also recently launched a new national database, [Petco Love Lost](#), which uses pet facial recognition technology to help reunite missing pets with their families.

To learn more about the Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County and their upcoming event, please visit thehumanesociety.org.

To learn about Petco Love and to view foster resources, visit petcolove.org/foster and join the conversation on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) using #PetcoLoveFoster. For more on BOBS from Skechers, visit BOBSfromSkechers.com.

About the Humane Society for Tacoma & Pierce County

As a rare open-admission shelter and an organization that does not euthanize for time or space, 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 www.thehumanesociety.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 \$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. Join us. Visit petcolove.org or follow on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#) to be part of the lifesaving work we lead every day.

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