

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**THE HUMANE SOCIETY FOR TACOMA AND PIERCE COUNTY RECEIVES \$53,000 GRANT FROM PETSMART CHARITIES® TO SUPPORT SHELTER OPERATIONS AND HELP LOCAL PETS IN NEED**

TACOMA, WA – The Humane Society for Tacoma and Pierce County has received a \$53,000 grant from [PetSmart Charities](#). Grant funds have been used to support the daily operations of the Humane Society for Tacoma and Pierce County so they can continue helping homeless pets in their community that are in need of shelter and care.

More specifically, the PetSmart Charities grant is designed to maintain the health and well-being of homeless cats, by purchasing and installing a high-capacity HVAC unit to provide 100% fresh air in the shelter’s Cattery.

“The Cattery’s HVAC improvements will better remove airborne impurities that make a shelter an uncomfortable place for pets and people,” said Stuart Earley, Chief

Executive Officer of the Humane Society for Tacoma and Pierce County. “Incoming cats are already stressed and susceptible to contaminants, such as dander, odor, microbes, and

ammonia. Through this project, we are raising environmental health and therefore cutting the length of stay for cats.”

Previously, the Cattery was serviced by 20-year-old recycled air units. The new HVAC system now meets veterinary standards for filtration, ventilation and isolation from human areas, and will benefit pets as well as shelter volunteers and staff.

“We are thrilled to continue to support the important work of The Humane Society For Tacoma and Pierce County,” said Jenny Aho, regional relationship manager at PetSmart Charities. “This renovation will enable the organization to provide clean, fresh air to cats in the shelter, improving their health and better assisting in finding loving homes for these deserving pets.”



PetSmart Charities' grant categories are designed to support nonprofits that share a commitment to finding loving homes for all pets by supporting programs that bring people and pets closer together.

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### **About the Humane Society for Tacoma and Pierce County**

Since 1888, The Humane Society for Tacoma and Pierce County has worked to protect animals, eliminate pet euthanasia, support pet owners, and enhance the relationships between animals and people. The Humane Society cares for nearly 10,000 animals every year and maintains multiple humane programs, including a low-cost spay/neuter service, a Pet Food Pantry, and pet adoptions. The Humane Society adopts more animals than any other shelter in the state of Washington and has long been at the forefront of progressive animal welfare legislation. Learn more at [www.thehumanesociety.org](http://www.thehumanesociety.org).

### **About PetSmart Charities®**

PetSmart Charities, Inc. is committed to finding lifelong, loving homes for all pets by supporting programs that bring people and pets together. Through its in-store adoption program in all PetSmart® stores across the U.S. and Puerto Rico, PetSmart Charities helps to find forever homes and families for more than 500,000 shelter pets each year. PetSmart Charities also provides grant funding to nonprofits aligned with its mission. 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 more than 90 cents of every dollar donated to fulfill its role as the leading funder of animal welfare in North America, granting more than \$390 million since its inception in 1994. Independent from PetSmart Inc., PetSmart Charities is a 501(c)(3) organization that has received the Four-Star Rating from Charity Navigator, a third-party organization that reports on the effectiveness, accountability and transparency of nonprofits, for the past 16 years in a row – placing it among the top one percent of charities rated by this organization. To learn more visit [www.petsmartcharities.org](http://www.petsmartcharities.org).

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