



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Friends of Campbell County, TN Animals Investing in Shelter Employees to Enhance the its Operation of the Campbell County, TN Animal Shelter

Jacksboro, TN (October 2024) – Friends of Campbell County, TN Animals (FCCA) is continuing to enhance the cost effectiveness of the Campbell County Animal Shelter and enhance the services it provides to the Campbell County, TN Community. FCCA recently received two grants and donations from individuals that support FCCA allowing FCCA to invest in three Campbell County TN Animal Shelter employees to earn their Veterinary Technician Associate Degree.

This investment will help address the growing concerns surrounding lack of access to animal care by increasing the number of registered veterinary technicians at the shelter. This will further enhance FCCA's ability to serve the animals at our animal shelter and those whose pet parents struggle financially. The Petco Love RVT Scholarship Fund at Penn Foster bridges the gap in the nonprofit veterinary workforce shortage by enabling training for approximately 100 candidates currently working at animal welfare organizations who aspire to become credentialed veterinary technicians.

“By investing in our staff, we will be able to further enhance the capabilities of a shelter staff member by enabling them to earn their Veterinary Technician Associate Degree. This will allow us to expand our clinic program and provide additional care to our shelter pets, community pets, and reduce our costs,” said Patricia Siwinski, Shelter Director of FCCA.

“This investment will help FCCA further expand its programs to increase our low-cost spay/neuter and low-cost vaccination programs for the residents of Campbell County, Tennessee,” added Siwinski. “We are regularly facing overcapacity issues at the Campbell County shelter that we operate for our community and expanding our spay/neuter program will help address a key underlying problem of animal overpopulation. This will also help our low-cost vaccination program and enhance the overall health of the pets in Campbell County. We are very grateful that our grantor partners and individual supporters continue to support FCCA's initiatives to greatly impact the health and lifesaving efforts for our pets.”

For its fiscal-year 2023-24, FCCA provided care to 5,532 animals. This included intaking 1,795 dogs and cats, providing vaccinations to 2,175 animals, and providing spay/neuter procedures on 1,277 animals. FCCA is proud to be providing numerous services that benefit the Campbell County Community. FCCA started its spay/neuter clinic in April 2020 and offers low-cost spay/neuter programs to Campbell County

residents. This program is critical to addressing the overpopulation of animals in Campbell County and without an affordable options for residents, most of these animals would not have been spayed/neutered. Since inception of the program, FCCA has provided spay/neuter services to 4,832 animals. Had these services not been performed, Campbell County would have experienced thousands of additional kittens and puppies. FCCA is also proud of the success of its low-cost vaccination program. Since the inception of the vaccination program, FCCA has enhanced the health of 4,318 animals in Campbell County - thus reducing the risk of illness in the dogs and cats in the county and ultimately improving the safety of animals for the benefit of the community.

FCCA continues its goal in alignment with the desires of the Campbell County, TN Commission to be designated a “no-kill” shelter which simply means that we have a goal of a live-release of at least 90% as we recognize as an open intake county animal shelter that we will have to euthanize some animals due to injury, illness, behavior or safety issues. In the fiscal year 2023-24, our live-release rate was 88.5% and this was an improvement from our live-release rate of 83.1% for fiscal year 2022-23.

If anyone is interested in adopting one of our dogs or cats in our shelter, please contact us. You can view all of our adoptable pets on Petfinder and Adoption applications can be completed online via our website fccanimals.org.

FCCA is a nonprofit organization that manages and oversees the daily operations of the Campbell County Animal Shelter for Campbell County, TN. Our purpose is to preserve animal life through humane sheltering and finding homes for the thousands of homeless animals that enter our shelter every year. Since 2015, we have cared for over 25,000 animals, spayed/neutered over 4,800 animals, and provided low-cost vaccines to over 4,300 animals in Campbell County, TN. These accomplishments were achieved through the extensive new programs launched by FCCA. We are pleased that these efforts have resulted in increasing our live-release rate for the animals of Campbell, County, TN to ~87% over the last three years.

For more information about Friends of Campbell County, TN Animals, visit our website at fccanimals.org.

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About Friends of Campbell County, TN Animals

FCCA is a non-profit organization formed in 2012 by a core group of volunteers determined to have a positive impact on animal welfare in the Campbell County, TN community, eventually taking over shelter management and animal control services for Campbell County in 2015. Our goal is to preserve animal life through sheltering animals in a humane environment, promoting pet adoptions, fostering rescue efforts, and inspiring advocacy. We urge responsibility and the importance of spay/neuter of cats and dogs to reduce pet overpopulation, striving to be an animal low-kill community for Campbell County, TN.