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## **SPCA Florida Receives Impact Polk Grant from the GiveWell Community Foundation**

Lakeland FL - SPCA Florida has been awarded an Impact Polk grant of \$10,000 from the GiveWell Community Foundation for free spay and neuter services for Polk County families who qualify for help with their personal pets.

SPCA Florida, in collaboration with local animal clinics and hospitals, will offer free spay and neuter services along with a rabies vaccine for qualifying residents. Funding from this grant will allow SPCA Florida to reduce unwanted litters and increase lifesaving efforts.

Participants helping county residents are, Banfield Pet Hospital, Orchid Springs Animal Hospital, Santa Fe Animal Hospital, SPCA Florida Medical Center, and TLC PetSnip. "The selfless support of these collaborating clinics and hospitals will help Polk County reduce the number of unwanted births while increasing the safety of unsterilized animals by eliminating their desire to roam during mating season. Their participation is life changing, and we are sincerely appreciative," said Shelley Thayer, Executive Director, SPCA Florida. "All potential families were screened by SPCA Florida. And, 150 open positions were filled within 24 hours, with over 100 qualified "back up" positions. We are grateful to the GiveWell Community Foundation for recognizing an enormous need in our community and supporting that need," said Thayer.

SPCA Florida thanks the GiveWell Community Foundation for the opportunity to give our communities animals a long life of unconditional love to the families who care for them.

### **About GiveWell Community Foundation**

*GiveWell Community Foundation works with individuals, families, businesses, and nonprofits to build a stronger community throughout Polk, Hardee, and Highlands county and beyond through charitable funds and competitive grant cycles. The Foundation is home to more than 300 charitable funds and the Impact Polk and Empower Polk grant cycles. GWCF has awarded of \$209 million in grants since its founding in 1997. To learn more about GWCF, visit [givecf.org](http://givecf.org) or call 863-683-3131.*

### **About SPCA Florida**

*Founded in 1979, SPCA Florida is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization headquartered in Lakeland, serving all of Polk County and the surrounding communities. Dedicated to improving the lives of pets and people, SPCA Florida provides caring, compassion and hope to more than 4,300 homeless animals entering our doors each year.*

*Open to the public, our Reva McClurg Animal Medical Center is a state-of-the-art veterinary facility that heals and helps 50,000 patients annually. Thousands more pets and people are served through our community outreach and education programs.*

*Simplistically, every \$100 donated to SPCA Florida, or essentially the cost of an average adoption, equates to \$3,000 worth of positive economic impact throughout Polk County, Central Florida, and the state. Additionally, we are proud of the fact that 92% of every dollar goes to program resources and helping homeless animals.*

