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SPCA Florida and Polk County Animal Control Kittens Fly the Friendly Skies

Partnerships with Two Illinois Shelters to Save Lives

Lakeland: SPCA Florida supporters, Donna Robinson and Mark Helmericks will depart Thursday, February 27th from Lakeland Linder Airport at 10:30am, to fly 30+ homeless cats and kittens to their new home in the Chicago area. In partnership with two Illinois no-kill shelters, Tree House Humane Society and Hinsdale Humane Society, staff and volunteers will meet the arriving feline passengers at Chicago Executive Airport. The felines will be fully vetted and spayed or neutered according to an agreement between the two no-kill organizations.

“Through our efforts to find a foster home in Orlando for a kitten that someone threw out of a car window in New York (heart-warming success! – but another story) we learned of SPCA Florida’s dedicated work to bring down the state’s pet euthanasia numbers. Across the USA, there is encouraging progress: from 17 million animals killed in 1984 down to 4 million now, with some states like Delaware achieving No-Kill status. Public awareness and resources make the difference. We hope that taking 30+ kittens from Polk County to new homes in Illinois (which is well along on achieving No-Kill status) we will spread the word that every animal deserves the opportunity for a good life. And, it will give 30+ lucky families a wonderful new fur member.” said Donna Robinson and Mark Helmericks.

Transports to approved northern shelters, is one more way SPCA Florida is saving lives. Darlene Duggan, Operations Director at Tree House Humane Society said, “At Tree House Humane Society we believe that every cat should thrive, and we are happy to be partnering with SPCA Florida to help ensure this mission is extended beyond the geography of the Chicago area. We look forward to ongoing participation in the Polk County Initiative and are inspired by its leaders working hard to improve the lives of cats in their area.”

Additional collaborative efforts are underway that include partnerships in Maine, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Vermont, Illinois, Rhode Island, and Virginia. On a local level, SPCA Florida is partnering with local Veterinary Clinics and Polk County Animal Control to rescue homeless animals and transport them to safety.

“We are grateful to Tree House Humane Society and Hinsdale Humane Society for lending Polk County a hand in saving more lives. In partnership with Polk County Animal Control, we strive to take Polk County to a No-Kill status by 2025. In addition to transports, we are asking the community to spay and neuter all Polk County animals.” said Randa Richter, Media and Partnership Relations.

SPCA Florida seeks financial, foster, and adoption support. To help, go online at www.spcafloida.org and donate, foster or check out our available dogs and cats.

Healthy Animals. Humane Communities.



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About SPCA Florida

Founded in 1979, SPCA Florida is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization headquartered in Lakeland. Dedicated to improving the lives of pets and people in the community, SPCA Florida provides caring, compassion and hope to more than 6,000 homeless animals entering our doors each year. Open to the public, our 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.

