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National Nonprofit Petco Love Invests in SPCA Florida. To Save and Improve the Lives of Pets in Polk County, FL

Lakeland, FL (August 3, 2023) – SPCA Florida is set to receive a \$36,000 grant investment from national nonprofit Petco Love in support of their lifesaving work for animals in Polk County FL.

Petco Love is a national nonprofit leading change for pets by harnessing the power of love to make communities and pet families closer, stronger, and healthier. Since its founding in 1999, Petco Love has invested \$350 million in adoption and other lifesaving efforts. And Petco Love helps find loving homes for pets in partnership with Petco and more than 4,000 organizations — like ours — across North America, with 6.7 million pets adopted and counting.

"Our investment in SPCA Florida is part of more than \$15M in investments recently announced by Petco Love to power local organizations across the country as part of our commitment to create a future in which no pet is unnecessarily euthanized," said Susanne Kogut, president of Petco Love. "Our local investments are only part of our strategy to empower animal lovers to drive lifesaving change right alongside us. We recently launched Petco Love Lost, a national lost and found database that uses pet image technology to simplify the search for lost pets."

"This was a huge win for our animal population," said Shelley Thayer, Executive Director of SPCA Florida. "The need for low cost spay and neuter services in Polk County is overwhelming and this grant will allow the economically challenged population to take advantage of the services. We are grateful to Petco Love for enriching their lives."

"This generous funding for our Pitties & Kitties Spay/Neuter Event in September and general low cost spay/neuter services through our public hospital for income challenged pet owners, will benefit not only the health of the animal, but the overpopulation situation in Polk County, said Randa Richter, Humane Programs & Public Media Director SPCA Florida.

SPCA Florida is a nonprofit organization that exists to eliminate animal suffering and to engage the entire community in the welfare and well-being of animals. We accomplish this by advancing model programs to promote the adoption of healthy animals, prevent dog and cat overpopulation, provide veterinary medical services for animals in the community, and keep animals in homes through relinquishment intervention strategies.

For more information about SPCA Florida., visit www.spcaflorida.org. Learn more about Petco Love here: petcolove.org.

About SPCA Florida

Founded in 1979, SPCA Florida exists to eliminate animal suffering and engage the entire community in the welfare and well-being of animals. SPCA Florida will help and heal 20,000 dogs and cats through its SPCA Florida Animal Medical Center and provide direct care for 6,500 animals through its Adoption Center this year. Ani-Meals and Food Assistance Programs, provide food and medical care for animals of homebound families and families who need supplemental food for thousands of dogs and cats each year.

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 \$350 million in adoption and other lifesaving efforts. We've helped find loving homes for more than 6.7 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 <u>petcolove.org</u> or follow on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>LinkedIn</u> to be part of the lifesaving work we lead every day.