



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 7, 2019

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NORTHERN CALIFORNIA'S FIRST NO-KILL ANIMAL SHELTER NOW PROVIDING SERVICES FOR PALO ALTO, LOS ALTOS AND LOS ALTOS HILLS

(PALO ALTO, Calif.) – Pets In Need, Northern California's first no-kill animal shelter, on Thursday celebrated its agreement with the City of Palo Alto to provide animal care services for Palo Alto, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills.

Under the agreement, Pets In Need recently assumed the day-to-day operations of the city shelter, saving the city approximately \$400,000 a year in operating costs and enabling Pets In Need, which is headquartered in Redwood City, to expand its rescue operations and advance its no-kill mission.

"We are grateful to the City of Palo Alto for the opportunity to expand our services and build on our history of providing progressive, humane care for abused and at-risk animals," said Pets In Need Board President Rob Kalman. "I commend the city for its commitment to making the Palo Alto shelter a national model for the humane treatment of animals in public shelters."

Palo Alto Mayor Eric Filseth joined Pets In Need for the celebration, which included tours of the shelter, a preview of planned renovations and opportunities to meet adoptable animals.

"This partnership with Pets In Need ensures that the residents of Palo Alto will continue to have access to local animal shelter services right here in our community," said Filseth. "Pets In Need has a proven track record of operating as a cost-effective and efficient animal shelter that is dedicated to providing humane, life-saving care, and we are pleased to welcome them to Palo Alto."

Pets In Need accepts any animal brought into the Palo Alto shelter by animal control officers or residents of Palo Alto, Los Alto and Los Altos Hills. The shelter is currently open for adoptions Monday through Friday from noon to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Pets In Need also offers a vaccination clinic, animal licensing services, lost and found pet assistance and volunteer and foster opportunities. In the upcoming months, the organization expects to begin offering a spay and neuter clinic, humane education programs such as camps, teen shadow opportunities, school and youth organization visits, and birthday parties.

Renovations to the Palo Alto shelter are underway, including basic repairs to the existing kennels as well as renovations to the offices and lobby. Pets In Need expects to add kennels and make upgrades to the medical suite over the next several months.

"We are excited to be in Palo Alto and look forward to providing services and programs that make the world a better place – for animals and people," said Pets In Need Executive Director Al Mollica. "Thanks to the generosity of individual donors, corporations and foundations that support the life-saving mission of Pets In Need, we are moving closer to our vision of a world in which every healthy and adoptable animal finds a forever home. This is only the beginning of what we hope will be a longstanding relationship with the Palo Alto, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills communities. "



Also in attendance for the celebration were Palo Alto City Councilwoman Lydia Kou; former Palo Alto City Councilwoman Karen Holman; President of the Friends of the Palo Alto Animal Shelter (FOPAAS) Jeremy Robinson; Pets In Need board members, donors, staff, and volunteers; and other elected and community leaders.

“We’re thankful the city reached an agreement with Pets In Need that not only keeps our animal shelter open, but is also an investment in the future of animal care services in Palo Alto,” said Robinson. “Our organization is happy to support the work of Pets In Need, and we are grateful for the contributions of our dedicated volunteers who help in ensuring all animals find a loving home.”

Additionally, the celebration included a special guest appearance from Milo, a Pets In Need rescue dog who four years ago was given only months to live. In addition to being diagnosed with cancer, Milo was abused as a puppy and has a skin condition. However, after being placed in “fospice” care with Los Altos resident Sheela Pai and her family, he is thriving.

“Milo’s sure not giving up,” said Pai. “Another shelter may have put him down, but Pets In Need saved him. He’s 8 years old now and starting to get a little silver under his chin. He wasn’t supposed to live long enough to get silver hairs.”

About Pets In Need

Headquartered in Redwood City, Calif., and founded in 1965, Pets In Need is Northern California’s first no-kill animal shelter. The nonprofit organization rescues cats and dogs from public shelters in the Bay Area and beyond when they are in danger of being euthanized due to space or financial limitations. Pets In Need also operates the Palo Alto animal shelter, a no-kill public animal shelter serving Palo Alto, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills. Pets In Need has consistently earned a four-star rating by Charity Navigator and its medical operation is accredited by the American Animal Hospital Association, a distinction given to fewer than 15 percent of veterinary clinics in the United States. To learn more about Pets In Need visit <http://www.petsinneed.org>.

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