



NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

SFC VIRGINIA RECEIVES \$45,000 GRANT FROM PETSMART CHARITIES TO HELP MORE ADOPTABLE PETS FIND FAMILIES IN SPOTSYLVANIA

*PetSmart Charities National Adoption Week In-Person Events to Take Place at Local PetSmart Stores
March 18-24*

SPOTSYLVANIA, VA – 3/1/24– SFC VIRGINIA has received a \$45,000 grant from [PetSmart Charities®](#) to help prepare more pets in Spotsylvania for adoption. Some four million pets find themselves in U.S. shelters each year. In partnership with [PetSmart Charities](#), SFC Virginia will bring adoptable pets to 3 different PetSmart locations in support of National Adoption Week, taking place **March 18 - 24, 2024**.



SFC Virginia is a foster-focused rescue with a home base in the Fredericksburg/Spotsylvania area. With over 300 active fosters, they have found homes for over 7800 dogs and cats since their formation less than 5 years ago. SFC Virginia hosts adoption events weekly at local PetSmart locations, which are open to the public, and help connect pets like Rock On, who was treated for injuries from a dog attack and a skin condition while in their care and spent time with several loving foster homes, to families in the region willing to open their hearts and homes to pets in need.

"Since July 2019, we have collaborated with rural and underserved shelters across Virginia with the aim of eliminating euthanasia due to lack of space and enhancing the overall live release rate in the state," explained Ryan Barker, Executive

Director of SFC Virginia. "As a young organization with minimal barriers and

requirements for the animals we rescue, medical expenses constitute the majority of our budget. This generous grant will empower us to offer medical assistance, including spay/neuter, microchipping, and core vaccinations, to at least 300 homeless pets in Virginia in 2024. Simultaneously, it will assist us in expanding our annual intakes, ensuring that the pets emerging from our program are thoroughly vetted and set up for success in their forever homes."

"Shelters across the U.S. are struggling to keep pace with the number of animals coming in and need support from their communities to bring pets and people together," said Heidi Marston, director of pet placement at PetSmart Charities. "We're proud to support SFC Virginia and the essential work they do to care and advocate for the animals that come through their door in need of loving families. Please consider supporting their lifesaving work through volunteering, fostering, adopting, or by making a donation."

PetSmart Charities National Adoption Week is a special time during the year. PetSmart stores feature adoptable pets to meet and cuddle in spacious areas, and staff and volunteers are on-hand to make introductions and answer questions. Potential pet parents can also learn about the products and services they'll need for the best possible start with their new family members.

You can learn more about SFC Virginia at www.sfcva.org.

WHEN/WHERE:

Adoptable pets will be available at the following times and PetSmart locations:

March 23, 2024 - 12-4pm at Petsmart Stafford Marketplace, 1160 Stafford Marketplace, Stafford VA

March 24, 2024- 1-4pm at Petsmart Central Park, 1421 Carl D Silver Pkwy, Fredericksburg VA

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About SFC VIRGINIA

SFC Virginia is a foster-focused animal rescue group in Spotsylvania, VA. Founded in June 2019 with the goal of saving dogs and cats from rural and otherwise underserved shelters in the state, we strive to provide quality medical care including vaccinations and spay/neuter surgeries, and to find permanent adoptive homes in our area. Our goal is to make a positive contribution to the overall live release rate in Virginia and toward No-Kill Nation 2025. Since our

formation, we have placed more than 7800 dogs and cats into new homes, and work with over 20 shelter partners throughout the state to pull animals to safety. Find out more about our work at www.sfcva.org.

Follow SFC Virginia on Instagram: [@squishyfacecrewva](https://www.instagram.com/squishyfacecrewva)

Find SFC Virginia on Facebook: www.facebook.com/squishyfacecrewva

About PetSmart Charities®

PetSmart Charities is committed to making the world a better place for pets and all who love them. Through its in-store adoption program in all PetSmart® stores across the U.S. and Puerto Rico, PetSmart Charities helps up to 400,000 pets connect with loving families each year. PetSmart Charities also provides grant funding to support organizations that advocate and care for the well-being of all pets and their families. Our grants and efforts connect pets with loving homes through adoption, improve access to affordable veterinary care and support families in times of crisis with access to food, shelter and emergency relief. Each year, millions of generous supporters help pets in need by donating to PetSmart Charities directly at PetSmartCharities.org, while shopping at PetSmart.com, and by using the PIN pads at checkout registers inside PetSmart® stores. In turn, PetSmart Charities efficiently uses more than 90 cents of every dollar donated to fulfill its role as the leading funder of animal welfare in North America, granting more than \$500 million since its inception in 1994. Independent from PetSmart LLC, PetSmart Charities is a 501(c)(3) organization that has received the Four-Star Rating from Charity Navigator for the past 18 years in a row – placing it among the top one percent of rated charities. To learn more visit www.petsmartcharities.org.

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