



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## National Nonprofit Petco Love Invests in SFC Virginia To Save and Improve the Lives of Pets in Virginia

\$25,000 grant will be celebrated at local Petco event on June 21, 2022

**Fredericksburg, VA (June 15, 2022)** – SFC Virginia is set to receive a \$25,000 grant investment from national nonprofit Petco Love during a special celebration at the Petco Harrison Crossing, 5717 Plank Road in Fredericksburg, Virginia on June 21, 2022, at 11 a.m. in support of their lifesaving work for animals in the Fredericksburg Region and across Virginia.

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 \$330 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 6.5 million pets adopted and counting.

"Our investment in SFC Virginia 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 celebrated the one-year launch anniversary of <a href="Petco Love Lost">Petco Love Lost</a>, a national lost and found database that uses pet facial recognition technology to simplify the search for lost pets."

"The impact of Petco Love's lifesaving investment in our community is being able to help more animals in need, provide more medical care, and find loving homes for more cats and dogs," said Ryan Barker, Executive Director of SFC Virginia.

SFC Virginia connects foster families and adopters in the Fredericksburg area and beyond with dogs and cats who are in need. SFC has helped more than 1,500 animals each year since its 2019 inception, providing foster and medical care to prepare them for loving homes.

For more information about SFC Virginia, visit <u>sfcva.org/</u>. Learn more about Petco Love here: <u>petcolove.org</u>.

## **About SFC Virginia**

SFC connects foster families and adopters in the Fredericksburg area and beyond with dogs and cats who have found themselves in a shelter. Virginia is a regional leader in the no-kill movement, with a live release rate of 78%, but we have a long way to go to reach the state goal of "No-Kill 2020" and the national goal of "No-Kill 2025." We hope to play a role in helping the state achieve a 90% live release rate by transferring in animals from underserved county shelters and other rescues that work directly with these shelters and finding them homes in our area.

Being a foster-based rescue, we do not maintain a physical shelter, and all animals in our care remain in foster homes until they are adopted. The SFC is committed to open, low-barrier adoptions, which means that in most cases, our pets can be adopted directly from the foster parent or at an adoption event after a meet-and-greet to ensure they are a good fit for your family. We believe that removing barriers to adoption is truly lifesaving and enables us to help more animals that have found themselves without a home.

## **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 \$330 million in adoption and other lifesaving efforts. We've helped find loving homes for more than 6.5 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 <a href="petcolove.org">petcolove.org</a> or follow on <a href="Facebook">Facebook</a>, <a href="Instagram">Instagram</a>, <a href="Twitter">Twitter</a>, and <a href="LinkedIn">LinkedIn</a> to be part of the lifesaving work we lead every day.