



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

CITY OF ABILENE ANIMAL SERVICES RECEIVES \$33,000 FROM PETSMA CHARITIES® TO FUEL SPAY AND NEUTER EFFORTS IN ABILENE

Abilene, Texas – February 22, 2018 – City of Abilene Animal Services today announced it received \$33,000 from [PetSmart Charities](#), the largest funder of animal welfare in North America, to help fuel its spay and neuter efforts in Abilene, Texas. With the help of this donation, Animal Services will offer \$20 spay/neuter vouchers to alter 1,000 pets.

Abilene Animal Services continues to implement strategies to improve positive outcomes at the Animal Shelter. From 2016 to 2017, positive outcomes increased by over 10%. Over the past several years the focus has been to work to improve outcomes; however, working on reducing the number of unwanted pets in Abilene is a new way to improve outcomes at the shelter.

“We are very excited to receive a \$33,000 grant from PetSmart Charities. Abilene Animal Services has never before been able to offer this opportunity to the public. Our goal is that by helping the public spay/neuter their pet it will result in fewer unwanted pets that make their way to the Shelter,” said Animal Services Director Mirinda Walden.

For an application to apply for one of the 1,000 spay/neuter vouchers, please email abilene.animalservices@abilenetx.gov beginning March 1, 2018. For additional information, please call the shelter at 325-698-0085.

PetSmart Charities aims to proactively prevent pet homelessness through increased spay and neuter efforts. With the help of animal welfare partners, such as City of Abilene Animal Services PetSmart Charities has funded over 1.7 million spay and neuter surgeries in the U.S. since 2009.

###

About PetSmart Charities®

PetSmart Charities, Inc. is a nonprofit animal welfare organization with a mission to find lifelong, loving homes for all pets by supporting programs and thought leadership that bring people and pets together. In addition to finding homes for almost 500,000 shelter pets each year through its in-store adoption

program in all PetSmart stores across the U.S. and Puerto Rico, PetSmart Charities provides funding to non-profits aligned with its mission through four key areas of grant support: Preventing Pet Homelessness; Helping Shelter Pets Thrive; Supporting the Bond Between People and Pets; and Emergency Relief and Disaster Support. Each year, millions of generous PetSmart shoppers help pets in need by donating to PetSmart Charities using the pin pads at checkout registers inside PetSmart stores. In turn, PetSmart Charities efficiently uses 90 cents of every dollar donated and has become the leading funder of animal welfare in North America, donating about \$300 million to date. PetSmart Charities, a 501(c)(3) organization, has received the Four Star Rating from Charity Navigator, an independent organization that reports on the effectiveness, accountability and transparency of nonprofits, for the past 14 years in a row – placing it among the top one percent of charities rated by this organization. To learn more visit www.petsmartcharities.org.

Follow PetSmart Charities on Twitter: [@PetSmartChariTs](https://twitter.com/PetSmartChariTs)

Find PetSmart Charities on Facebook: [Facebook.com/PetSmartCharities](https://www.facebook.com/PetSmartCharities)

See PetSmart Charities on YouTube: [YouTube.com/PetSmartCharitiesInc](https://www.youtube.com/PetSmartCharitiesInc)

Media Contact:

Mirenda Walden

325-698-0085

mirenda.walden@abilenetx.gov

24-Hour PetSmart Charities

Media Line: 623-587-2177