



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Petco Foundation Invests in Pet Partners' Life-Changing Work Supporting Therapy Animals

- Investment of \$30,000 will extend efforts to help pets and people live their best lives -

Bellevue, Wash. – Pet Partners, the nation’s leading organization registering therapy animals for animal-assisted interventions, announced it has been awarded a \$30,000 grant investment from the Petco Foundation to support its Therapy Animal Program. The investment will help Pet Partners bring the healing power of therapy animals to even more people in need.

“Thanks to the generosity of the Petco Foundation, we’ll be able to expand our Therapy Animal Program and help more people experience the benefits of the human-animal bond through therapy animal visits,” said Pet Partners President and CEO Annie Peters. “We’re honored to have an esteemed and trusted organization like the Petco Foundation join us in advancing the field of animal-assisted interventions.”

Investments are made possible through the Petco Foundation’s annual [Helping Heroes](#) campaign which takes place each October in Petco locations nationwide to support the life-changing work of service, therapy and working animals.

Pet Partners’ Therapy Animal Program is made up of 10,000+ volunteers and their pets who touch a variety of clients in the U.S. and abroad including veterans with PTSD, seniors living with Alzheimer’s, students with reading challenges, patients in recovery, people with intellectual disabilities and individuals nearing end of life. Therapy animal teams also make visits under special circumstances to comfort those in need, such as the case during college midterms and finals, or after a natural disaster.

To learn more about the impact of Pet Partners’ therapy animal teams, visit www.petpartners.org. For more on the Petco Foundation, visit petcofoundation.org and join the conversation on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) by using the hashtag #HelpingHeroes.

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About Pet Partners

Pet Partners is the national leader in demonstrating and promoting the health and wellness benefits of animal-assisted therapy, activities, and education. Since the organization's inception in 1977, the science proving these benefits has become indisputable. With more than 13,000 registered teams making more than 3 million visits annually, Pet Partners serves as the nation's largest and most prestigious nonprofit registering handlers of multiple species as volunteer teams. Pet Partners teams visit with patients in recovery, people with intellectual disabilities, seniors living with Alzheimer's, students, veterans with PTSD, and those approaching end of life, improving human health and well-being through the human-animal bond. With the recent release of its Standards of Practice for Animal-Assisted Interventions and international expansion, Pet Partners is globally recognized as the industry gold standard. For more information on Pet Partners, visit www.petpartners.org.

About the Petco Foundation

At the Petco Foundation, we believe that every animal deserves to live its best life. Since 1999, we've invested more than \$260 million in lifesaving animal welfare work to make that happen. With our more than 4,000 animal welfare partners, we inspire and empower communities to make a difference by investing in adoption and medical care programs, spay and neuter services, pet cancer research, service and therapy animals, and numerous other lifesaving initiatives. Through our Think Adoption First program, we partner with Petco stores and animal welfare organizations across the country to increase pet adoptions. So far, we've helped more than 6 million pets find their new loving families, and we're just getting started. Visit petcofoundation.org to learn more about how you can get involved.