



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media contact: Jamie Baxter

The Impetus Agency

775-322-4022

jamie@theimpetusagency.com

Pet Partners of Arizona Hires New Phoenix Program Manager

Phoenix, Ariz. – Pet Partners, the nation’s leading organization in registering therapy animals for animal-assisted interventions, announced today the hiring of Meghan Rothschild as the new Program Manager for the Phoenix area. The Phoenix area Program Manager is the second for Pet Partners of Arizona, joining the existing Program Manager for the chapter’s Tucson office. Pet Partners of Arizona is one of four Pet Partners chapters established in 2019. The chapters combine the opportunities available in the local community with the best practices put in place by Pet Partners International Headquarters in Bellevue, Wash., while also serving as an extension of existing Pet Partners community-based groups.

“As Pet Partners and the demand for therapy animal visits continues to grow, we are committed to dedicating more localized resources to organize and guide our volunteers,” said C. Annie Peters, President and CEO of Pet Partners. “Phoenix is a wonderfully pet-friendly city and with additional resources in the area focused on sharing the human-animal bond, we can positively impact even more lives.”

After receiving her bachelor’s degree in criminal justice from Arizona State University, Rothschild chose to focus on community support in the nonprofit field. She comes to Pet Partners with a background in nonprofit development, most recently with March of Dimes Arizona where she was responsible for event planning and logistics and worked with thousands of volunteers. She is a proponent of the power of the human-animal bond through her experience with her dog Remi, and is eager to help bring that to more people as part of the Pet Partners staff team. Rothschild will provide Phoenix-based support for local Pet Partners volunteers, events, and facilities interested in therapy animal visitation.

“We are pleased to welcome Meghan to Pet Partners of Arizona,” said Ashley Drew, Executive Director of Pet Partners of Arizona. “Meghan’s attention to detail, passion, and pride in providing stellar customer service will definitely shine here at Pet Partners.”

Therapy animals, such as those who participate in the Pet Partners Therapy Animal Program, provide affection and comfort to members of the public, typically in facility settings such as hospitals, assisted living, and schools. If you are in the Phoenix area and are interested in learning more about the Pet Partners Therapy Animal Program, you can reach Rothschild at meghanr@petpartners.org.

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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 three million visits annually, Pet Partners serves as the nation's 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.