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Grant Award to Benefit Shelter and Community Pets

SPOKANE, Wash., May 1, 2020 – Thanks to a grant awarded by American Humane last week, animals at the Spokane Humane Society received a special treat today. Funds from the Washington, D.C.-based foundation also are expected to benefit local companion animals in the near future.

Disaster and Cruelty Response Specialist for American Humane, Amber Batteiger, stated, “We know that the worldwide crisis of COVID-19 has been devastating to our nation’s animal shelters and rescue organizations. American Humane launched the “Feed the Hungry” fund in response to this overwhelming need. It provides emergency funding for much needed basic supplies for animals, like food, treats, cat litter, and medical supplies. We’re pleased to be able to provide this support to the Spokane Humane Society.”

Using a small portion of the “Feed the Hungry” funds, the Spokane Humane Society bought marrowbones and catnip as treats for pets awaiting new homes. “Since community interaction with our furry friends has been limited, we’re excited that American Humane’s support has made it possible to provide them with something special to fill kennel time,” stated Spokane Humane Society’s Interim Executive Director, Terena Thi. Yokes grocery store in Liberty Lake helped the shelter stretch the grant dollars by providing the bones at a discount.

The majority of the funds are expected to defray the rising cost of medical supplies. According to lead veterinarian, Logan Belleque, DVM of the shelter’s spay/neuter clinic, “We are seeing similar shortages of anesthetics and PPE supplies as in human health care. We are appropriately rationing supplies in order to last through this crisis. We have had to order an alternate anesthetic, which costs seven times more than our standard protocol. These supplies are essential for emergency surgeries now, and to provide our low-cost spay/neuter services for community pets in the near future when we can resume operations.”

Community donations have, so far, kept the shelter’s Pet Food Bank well stocked, but remaining grant funds will be used to shore-up this safety net for public pets. Those needing free pet food and litter are asked to call to schedule an appointment. For more information, please visit their [website](#).

“We’ve had to cancel some fundraising events and postpone others,” stated Thi. “Combined with rising costs, American Humane’s support comes at a great time.”

ABOUT SPOKANE HUMANE SOCIETY

The Spokane Humane Society is the oldest animal shelter in Spokane. They are a 501c3 private, non-profit serving the public since 1897 by providing care, shelter, and placement into loving homes for homeless, neglected, and unwanted animals in the greater Spokane area through adoptions.

To view adoptable animals or provide life-changing support to furry friends, please visit the SHS website at www.spokanehumanesociety.org. Stay updated by following the SHS Facebook page [here](#).

ABOUT AMERICAN HUMANE

American Humane is the country's first national humane organization. Founded in 1877, American Humane is committed to ensuring the safety, welfare, and well-being of animals, and its leadership programs are first to serve in promoting and nurturing the bonds between animals and people.

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