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Mountainside Middle School Uses Science for Pet Food Drive to Benefit Spokane Humane Society

SPOKANE, Wash., Jan. 15, 2020 – Mountainside Middle School kicks off their 23rd Annual Pet Food Drive on Friday, January 17th, which will benefit the Spokane Humane Society.

Under the leadership of Mountainside's science teacher, Mr. Jim Louie, students will be outside local businesses, asking the community to donate food, kitty litter and other items. In addition to asking the public for in-kind donations, each student that raises \$100 in cash donations is rewarded with a trip to the Spokane Humane Society to drop off the collected bounty and spend some quality play time with the animals. Donations will be requested through February 7th, and delivered by the students to the shelter on February 14th.

Historically, food raised by students have been allocated to the shelter's Food Bank, which provides assistance for low-income pet owners. "Our goal is to keep families united with their pets, but sometimes when income is tight, people are forced to choose between meeting their basic needs and caring for their pet...Through their food drive, these kids give us the ability to help. Last year the food bank distributed over 40,000 pounds of food to more than 625 different people. That's a significant impact these kids are making." stated Spokane Humane Society Executive Director, Sheila Geraghty. "Over the years, the contribution Mr. Louie and his students have made to our shelter is enormous. They are a valued part of our history and each year we enjoy showing a new generation how we put their donations to use".

Mr. Louie, the founder of this legacy in philanthropy stated, "At Mountainside, we believe education extends beyond the classroom. This drive gives kids a chance to refine their interpersonal skills with a diverse audience. It encourages them to set and achieve goals, and it's a fun way to show them that through community involvement they can make a difference in their world."

In the interest of education and animal welfare, the Spokane Humane Society is encouraging the community to look for Mr. Louie and his students at a store near you.

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 <u>www.spokanehumanesociety.org</u>. Stay updated by following the SHS Facebook page <u>here</u>.