

Operation Kindness Unveils New Lifesaving Partnerships Hub in Dallas

The organization will expand to a new facility, serving even more animals

CARROLLTON, TX (September 13, 2023) — Operation Kindness has been saving animals lives out of its Carrollton shelter location for 47 years. Now, the organization is making a historic move south with a new Lifesaving Partnerships Hub, with a special unveiling of the new location and its services offered on Saturday, September 16, at 10:00 A.M.

Located in Dallas near I-30 and N. Westmoreland Rd., the new facility will offer much-needed veterinary support for partner rescue groups pulling animals from Dallas Animal Services (DAS), so more animals can leave Dallas Animal Services' care, increasing its lifesaving rate. The space will also serve as a hub for interstate animal transport, <u>the forensics</u> <u>partnership</u> between Operation Kindness and Dallas, as well as Operation Kindness' pet food pantry. The hub will be the home base for <u>Operation Kindness' Community Initiatives</u> team which works across Texas.

"For years, Operation Kindness has been known as a community leader in animal welfare," said Ed Jamison, CEO of Operation Kindness. "We are bringing our lifesaving services beyond our shelter doors to our partners in the City of Dallas and beyond, expanding our footprint and reach of services where it is needed the most."

The expansion of Operation Kindness comes as shelters across the country, including Dallas Animal Services, suffer from a national veterinary shortage. The Lifesaving Partnerships Hub will bring more veterinary resources for shelter partners, including DAS. The Hub's surgery suite will be able to serve as a location for community cat spay/neuter surgeries. Southern Dallas already is considered a veterinary desert, but the resources for community cats are even more limited. Community cat surgeries performed at the Hub would decrease the significant overpopulation and improve the health and quality of life of community cats within southern Dallas, especially.

The Hub also will serve as the primary facility for Operation Kindness' Interstate Animal Transport program, which transports animals to northern destination shelters and rescues from overcrowded and under-resourced municipal shelters like DAS. Operation Kindness currently works with Dallas Animal Services as our priority transport partner, along with more than 50 other shelter partners in Texas, helping them improve their live release rates.

The Lifesaving Partnerships Hub will also serve as the southern hub for Operation Kindness' pet food pantry. Currently, owners seeking food for their pets must drive to Operation Kindness' Carrollton location. The Hub will serve as a more convenient pet pantry location to deliver food and supplies to areas in the south that are most in need. Serving as the headquarters for the Community Initiatives program, the Hub will increase the Community Wellness team's ability to host vaccine and wellness clinics within southern Dallas.

The Lifesaving Partnerships Hub brings critical care and resources to what's known as a "veterinary desert," where residents lack access to veterinary services due to the absence of

community clinics, high costs for services and the inability to transport pets outside of the geographical area. Through the Lifesaving Partnerships Hub, Operation Kindness is bringing critical resources to areas most affected by pet overpopulation, pet homelessness and preventable yet fatal diseases such as parvo and distemper.

Operation Kindness invites the media to see the unveiling of the new Lifesaving Partnerships Hub on Saturday, September 16, at 10:00 A.M. at 1771 Terre Colony Court, Dallas, Texas, 75212.

Interviews are available by Zoom, phone or in-person.

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About Operation Kindness

Operation Kindness, a 501(c)(3) non-profit animal welfare organization, operates a lifesaving animal shelter and programs to assist people and pets. Founded in 1976, Operation Kindness is a pioneer in Texas for assisting animals in need of veterinary care, companionship and most of all, a home.

In addition to pet adoptions and lifesaving medical care, Operation Kindness' programs provide foster care for vulnerable animals, behavior and training support for pet parents, affordable veterinary services for community pets, a pet food pantry, and volunteer opportunities. To learn more about Operation Kindness, please visit their website at <u>www.operationkindness.org</u>.

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