

Operation Kindness to help Dallas Animal Services and the Dallas Police Department with animal cruelty forensics

The Carrollton non-profit will provide forensic veterinary services to the city free of charge

CARROLLTON, TX (02/10/2023) — Operation Kindness is developing and finalizing a memorandum of understanding with Dallas Animal Services (DAS) and Dallas Police Department (DPD) to assemble a specialty veterinary team to provide forensic veterinary services and examinations.

In response to recent news that DAS and DPD no longer had support for forensic veterinary evidence gathering for animal cruelty cases, Operation Kindness reached out to offer support and resources to create a new veterinary team to provide the necessary services. The new team will be embedded in the Dallas shelter to provide forensic examinations and necropsies for animals suspected to be victims of cruelty or neglect. As an extension of the Operation Kindness Community Initiatives program, the team will be able to provide other veterinary services, surgeries and services to DAS animals, as needed, to increase lifesaving outcomes.

"After hearing that Dallas animals needed forensic veterinary services, we jumped into action to put together a new team within our Community Initiatives program," said Ed Jamison, CEO of Operation Kindness. "We knew that it was critically important to have these services available for the wellbeing of pets in Dallas. When our organizations work together, we can save more lives."

As a long-standing rescue transfer partner, Operation Kindness assists with the high volume of pets entering DAS by transferring dogs and cats into our care from the Dallas shelter. Over the past 18 months, Operation Kindness has been DAS's #1 transfer partner, transferring more dogs and cats into our care than any other organization.

Although dogs and cats from active cruelty cases will not be housed at the Operation Kindness Carrollton shelter, the organization is still committed to remaining DAS's top transfer partner. This commitment helps ensure that DAS has the space and capacity to care for all Dallas animals in need.

"We appreciate that Operation Kindness came to the table in the true spirit of partnership – asking what Dallas Animal Services and Dallas Police Department needed to be successful, and then adjusting their support accordingly," said MeLissa Webber, Director of Dallas Animal Services. "This collaboration will help ensure that DPD's Animal Cruelty Unit has the resources they need to investigate and prosecute cruelty, while also helping DAS maximize lifesaving."

As more details are formalized, additional information will be shared. Please check the Operation Kindness website at <u>www.operationkindness.org</u> for the latest updates.

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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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