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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Spay Day USA Prevents Thousands of Unwanted Pregnancies in Lawrenceville *70 Animals Receive Free Spay/Neuter and Rabies Vaccines with \$5,000 Grant*

Lawrenceville, GA (2/10/20) – 70 cats and dogs in Lawrenceville will receive free spay/neuter surgeries and rabies vaccinations at Planned PETHood of Georgia on Feb. 25, Spay Day USA, thanks to a \$5,000 grant from the Georgia Pet Foundation.

Feb. 25, 2020 is Spay Day USA. This national day is devoted to bringing attention to pet overpopulation in our country. When the day was created in 1994 by the Doris Day Animal League, 14-17 million pets were killed each year in shelters across the country. Today that number is way down, closer to one million, but there is still a lot of work to do. “We are moving in the right direction,” says Planned PETHood Executive Director and Co-Founder Elizabeth Burgner. “There are people and communities that still need education on the importance of spaying and neutering their pets and financial help to make it happen. Many low-income families love their pets, but struggle to care for them medically. That is why we applied for this grant.”

According to Gwinnett County Animal Welfare and Enforcement, a majority of their stray animal calls come from Lawrenceville, the largest city by population in Gwinnett County. Lawrenceville also has the highest poverty rate in the county, at 21.6%. For comparison, Georgia’s average rate is 16.9% and the national average is 14.6%.

While this grant will not solve the overpopulation issue in Lawrenceville, it is a start. This grant from the Georgia Pet Foundation will cover free spay/neuter and rabies vaccinations for 70 animals on Tuesday, Feb. 25, which is Spay Day USA 2020. Appointments have already been filled, but there is a waiting list to be considered if more slots open up or more funding becomes available. “We wish we could offer free services to everyone in need,” says Planned PETHood’s Development Coordinator Lauren Frost. “We are always seeking sponsorships for free services, and our regular prices are so low that with a little planning most people can afford them.”

Planned PETHood of Georgia offers low-cost spay/neuter services year-round at their Duluth clinic. Cost for surgery is between \$50-\$60 for a cat and \$70-\$110 for a dog. There are additional discounts for feral/community cats. For a full list of resources and services Planned PETHood provides, visit their website at www.PETHoodGA.org

Planned PETHood of Georgia, Inc. | 2860 Buford Hwy, Duluth, GA 30096 | 678.561.3491

**“Helping Pets and the People who care for them by providing
Innovative Programs and Affordable Services that Save Lives”**



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About Planned PETHood of Georgia: Planned PETHood of Georgia offers several innovative programs and affordable services, including a high quality, low-cost spay/neuter clinic. Founded in 2010, Planned PETHood has fixed more than 55,000 cats and dogs, saved hundreds of community cats with its working cat program, rescued more than 5,000 homeless animals, and served more than 10,000 people and pets at monthly low-cost vaccination clinics. Learn more about their services at www.PETHoodGA.org

About Georgia Pet Foundation: Through the sale of specialty license plates and private charitable donations the Georgia Pet Foundation funds eligible, statewide spay-neuter programs in an effort to eliminate pet overpopulation and the euthanasia of healthy and treatable cats and dogs. Learn more about their program at <https://georgiapetfoundation.org/>