FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Nonprofit, Petco Love, Awards $150,000 Grant to Fort Bend County Health & Human Services’ Animal Services Division

Local Petco celebrated award on June 21, 2022

Rosenberg, Texas (July 5, 2022) – Fort Bend County Animal Services (FBCAS), received a $150,000 grant from national nonprofit, Petco Love, during a special celebration at the Brazos Town Center Petco, on June 21, 2022 in support of their lifesaving work for animals in Fort Bend County. The grant will be disseminated over a two-year period to FBCAS.

Petco Love is a national nonprofit leading change for pets by harnessing the power of love to make communities and pet families closer, stronger, and healthier. Since its founding in 1999, Petco Love has invested $330 million in adoption and other lifesaving efforts. Additionally, Petco Love helps find loving homes for pets in partnership with Petco and more than 4,000 organizations — like Fort Bend County Animal Services — across North America, with 6.5 million pets adopted and counting.

“Our investment in Fort Bend County Animal Services is part of more than $15 million in investments recently announced by Petco Love to power local organizations across the country as part of our commitment to create a future in which no pet is unnecessarily euthanized,” said Susanne Kogut, president of Petco Love. “Our local investments are only part of our strategy to empower animal lovers to drive lifesaving change right alongside us. We recently celebrated the one-year launch anniversary of Petco Love Lost, a national lost and found database that uses pet facial recognition technology to simplify the search for lost pets.”

Fort Bend County Animal Services is the county’s open admission shelter covering 875 miles of unincorporated Fort Bend County and taking in approximately 4,500 pets per year. FBCAS serves as the Rabies Control Authority for the county and through its Lifesaving Programs reached a 90% save rate in August 2018 and has remained at or above 90% since then.

“We are incredibly fortunate to be able to receive this grant investment from Petco Love to benefit our pets at the shelter in our community over the next two years. This grant will allow us to create new opportunities to expand our Lifesaving Programs and improve the lives of the pets that we are entrusted to care for. The benefit of the generosity from the community’s donations at their local Petco stores will help us further our mission and we cannot thank everyone enough,” said Rene Vasquez, Director for Fort Bend County Animal Services.
Receiving the check at the Brazos Town Center Petco event on behalf of FBCAS were Rene Vasquez, Barbara Vass, Marcus Guajardo, and Kellie Vogler.

For more information about FBCAS, visit https://www.fortbendcountytx.gov/government/departments/health-and-human-services.

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**About Fort Bend County Animal Services**

Fort Bend County Animal Services serves the unincorporated area of Fort Bend County. Our mission is to eradicate the spread of rabies among the County’s animals and prevent rabies in the human population. Further, we strive to enhance the quality of life in our community through education initiatives designed to prevent pet overpopulation, to provide compassionate enforcement of current laws relating to the treatment of animals and to place animals in our care with loving and responsible families.

**About Petco Love**

Petco Love is a life-changing nonprofit organization that makes communities and pet families closer, stronger, and healthier. Since its founding in 1999 as the Petco Foundation, they have empowered animal welfare organizations by investing $330 million in adoption and other lifesaving efforts. They have helped find loving homes for more than 6.5 million pets in partnership with Petco and organizations nationwide.

Their love for pets drives them to lead with innovation, creating tools animal lovers need to reunite with lost pets, and lead with passion - inspiring and mobilizing communities and their more than 4,000 animal welfare partners to drive lifesaving change alongside them. Join them. Visit petcolove.org or follow on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn to be part of the lifesaving work they lead every day.