

## **Doubling Down on Dog Rescue: Furkids Animal Rescue Receives Historic Challenge Grant**

**Cumming, Ga. 5.8.24** - Furkids Animal Rescue is raising funds to build a new state-of-the-art two-story dog shelter at their headquarters property, consolidating their cat and dog operations and doubling their ability to save canine lives. **Generous donor and animal advocate, Fair Sutherlin, has issued a challenge grant - agreeing to match all donations towards the new dog shelter up to 1 million dollars.**



Exterior rendering of the new Furkids Dog Shelter

Situated on 9.1 acres, The headquarters of Furkids Animal Rescue and Shelters stands as a pioneering destination shelter, driven by purpose and community involvement. Their recent milestones include the grand opening of the Furkids Fort and Michelle Felker Cat Shelter in December 2023, a cutting-edge facility designed to offer cats free-roaming spaces, 'catios' for fresh air, and ample natural sunlight.

Furkids also unveiled The Giaquinto Event Center at Shiloh Gardens, a dedicated venue for special events aimed at raising crucial funds to support their life-saving programs. These initiatives underscore Furkids' commitment to innovative solutions in animal welfare and community engagement. Furkids is now determined to build upon their dog program, and make an even greater impact.

**With Fair Sutherlin's challenge grant, Furkids embarks on the next phase of its transformative journey.** Every contribution made towards this portion of their capital campaign and the construction of the Dog Shelter will be matched dollar for dollar, up to

1 million dollars. This landmark opportunity underscores the power of collective action in advancing the mission of Furkids Animal Rescue - **and they are seeking the help of animal lovers everywhere to help them carry out this plan.**



Samantha Shelton, founder and CEO of Furkids Animal Rescue (left) and Fair Sutherlin (right)

The new Furkids Dog Shelter will be approximately 13,000 square feet and similar in configuration to the Cat Shelter, with fenced outdoor play yards and each dog having an individual room. The new building and enhanced configuration will enable Furkids to accommodate up to 115 dogs, doubling their current life saving capacity, while providing additional room and a more comfortable environment for our long-term residents.



Exterior rendering of new Furkids dog shelter



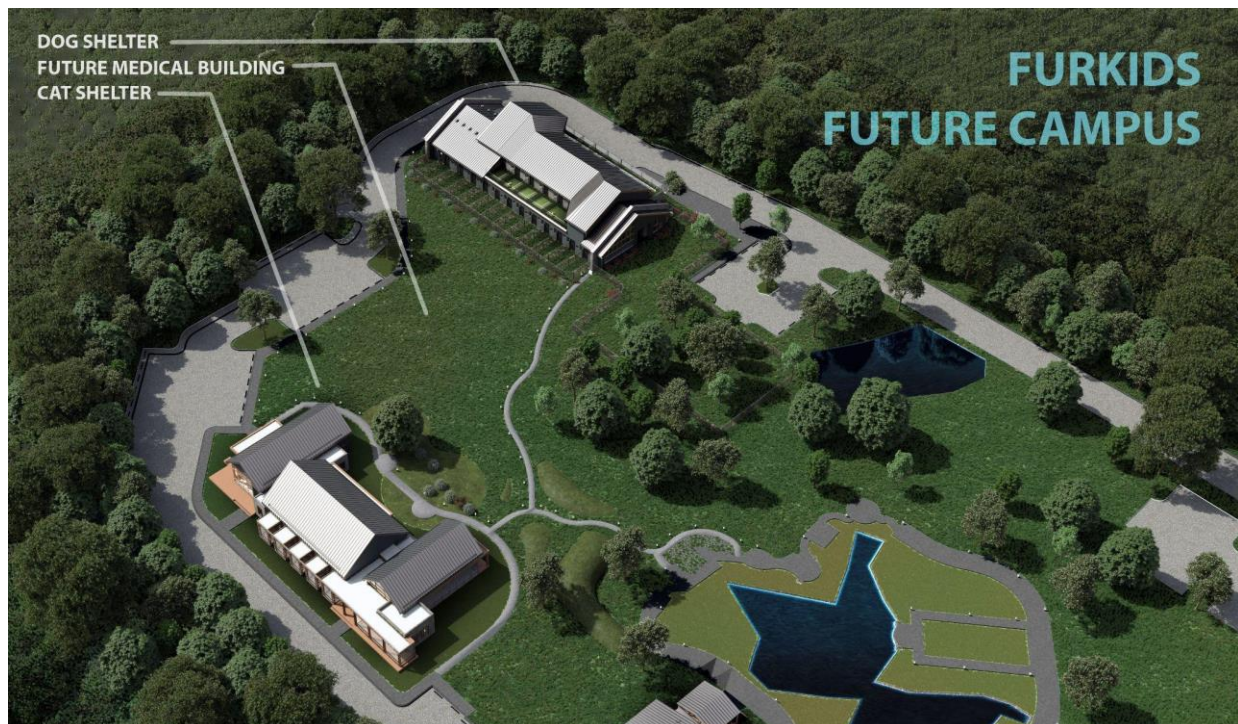
In addition, constructing the new Furkids Dog Shelter will allow their organization to work more efficiently by consolidating dog and cat operations at their Headquarters. The current Furkids dog shelter (located three miles away at 1520 Union Hill Road, Alpharetta, GA 30005) will eventually be sold and the proceeds applied to current dog shelter construction costs. Having both cats and dogs on the same property will be beneficial to their animals, staff and volunteers, and all guests who visit the shelter.

Want to accept this challenge grant and help Furkids save animal lives?

Fill out a pledge form to donate here: <https://furkids.org/destination-furkids-donate/>

Dog Shelter Naming opportunities: <https://furkids.org/naming-opportunities/>

Learn more about Furkids Animal Rescue: <https://furkids.org/>



Rendering of Furkids headquarters property showing Cat Shelter (finished), future medical building location, and new dog shelter.

ABOUT FURKIDS Furkids, headquartered in Atlanta, GA, is a 501c3 nonprofit charitable organization that operates the largest cage-free, no-kill shelter in the Southeast for rescued cats and Sadie's Place, a no-kill shelter for dogs. Furkids also operates one of the only facilities in the Southeast dedicated to the care of FIV positive cats. The Furkids mission is to rescue homeless animals, provide them with the best medical care and nurturing environment while working to find them a forever home. Furkids heals the whole animal, physically and emotionally, restoring its health and its spirit. Furkids has rescued and altered more than 65,000 animals since its founding in 2002. Approximately 1,000 animals are in the Furkids program today, in the Furkids shelters, 8 PetSmart and Petco adoption centers, and more than 400 foster homes in the Atlanta area. Furkids is the only animal rescue organization in metro Atlanta that allows children of all ages to volunteer.