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**Contact:**

Jeannine Addams  
J. Addams & Partners  
404.231.1132  
jfaddams@jaddams.com

**Furkids Partners with the Petco Foundation to Celebrate Local Foster Volunteers**  
*Atlanta Community Can Learn How to Save Animal Lives at Be A Foster Event on June 29*

**Atlanta, GA (6/17/19)** – Furkids is celebrating national “Foster a Pet Month” with the Petco Foundation and Skechers’ charity footwear collection, BOBS from Skechers, by recognizing two of its local pet foster volunteers and encouraging the community to help save animal lives at its Be A Foster event on Saturday, June 29 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., at Petco in Roswell, 2340 Holcomb Bridge Rd, Roswell, GA 30076. Furkids will also have pets, including kittens, at Petco stores in Alpharetta, Buckhead, Roswell, Sandy Springs, and Smyrna.

The Petco Foundation is recognizing a select group of dedicated individuals across the country as “Foster Mentors,” like Heather O’Callaghan, a foster volunteer for Furkids who has fostered many cats, from newborn, bottle fed kittens, to entire litters of kittens, to special needs cats, including Thor, a paralyzed kitten, and Camden, a paralyzed adult. The Petco Foundation is also celebrating “First-Time Fosters” who have decided to help make a difference in animals’ lives by becoming a foster for the first time, like Lauren Borland, who decided to make a lifesaving difference by fostering kittens for Furkids.

Both volunteers will be recognized at the Be A Foster event on June 29. Furkids’ First-Time Fosters will receive a \$200 Petco shopping spree to help get them started on their lifesaving journey, and both volunteers will receive BOBS from Skechers shoes to celebrate their lifesaving volunteer efforts.

“If less than two percent of pet-owning households in the U.S. fostered one pet a year, we could eliminate unnecessary euthanasia in animal shelters tomorrow,” said Susanne Kogut, president of the Petco Foundation. “We believe if more people knew about the lifesaving impact of fostering, and that it can be an easy and fun experience, more people would do it.”

Furkids is one of more than 600 animal welfare organizations across the country joining together at Petco locations across the country to celebrate the lifesaving impact of fostering pets. Furkids’ volunteers and staff will be on site to share information about fostering, demonstrate how to bottle feed kittens, collect donated wish list items and provide information about adoption. The first four people to sign up to foster with Furkids will receive a free Litter Genie® Pail.

“Foster homes are a vital part of saving lives for any organization. By fostering in a home, the animal gets the care, attention and love it needs to take the next step to adoption. Furkids has over 250 foster

homes, and with 400+ cats and kittens in foster, we couldn't save the lives we do without our foster parents," said Samantha Shelton, Founder and CEO of Furkids.

The Be A Foster event is part of the Petco Foundation's annual Be a Lifesaver campaign, which encourages everyone to help save animal lives by adopting, fostering, volunteering and donating. To create awareness and encourage more people to foster pets, the Petco Foundation has designated June as national "Foster a Pet Month," and will share information and stories all month long to show how fostering pets is highly rewarding and makes a significant impact on helping the U.S. become a lifesaving nation. Atlanta community members can also make a difference by making a donation at Petco, at checkout or online, for pets in need.

To learn more about Furkids, visit [Furkids.org](https://furkids.org), and on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#). Furkids' newest video is available [here](#).

For more on the Petco Foundation and ways to contribute to lifesaving causes, visit [www.petcofoundation.org/lifesaver](https://www.petcofoundation.org/lifesaver) and join the conversation on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) using #BeALifesaver.

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### **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 30,000 animals since its founding in 2002. Approximately 1,000 animals are in the Furkids program today, in the Furkids shelters, 13 Petco and other 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. Furkids volunteer programs are designed to restore the health and spirits of injured and homeless animals while providing healing opportunities for volunteers who are strengthened by the bond of love and care between humans and animals. Information about volunteering can be found at <https://furkids.org/volunteer/>.

### **About the Petco Foundation**

At the Petco Foundation, we believe that every animal deserves to live its best life. Since 1999, we've invested more than \$250 million in lifesaving work to make that happen. With our more than 4,000 animal welfare partners, we inspire and empower communities to make a difference by investing in adoption and medical care programs, spay and neuter services, pet cancer research, service and therapy animals, and numerous other lifesaving initiatives. Through our Think Adoption First program, we partner with Petco stores and animal welfare organizations across the country to increase pet adoption. So far, we've helped more than six million pets find their new loving families, and we're just getting started. Visit [petcofoundation.org](https://petcofoundation.org) to learn more about how you can get involved.

### **About BOBS from Skechers**

BOBS from Skechers' charitable collection of BOBS for Dogs and BOBS for Cats shoes, apparel and accessories have improved animals' lives: over the past three years, Skechers has contributed more than

\$3.4 million to help more than 583,000 shelter pets, including saving more than 241,000 rescued pets in the United States. It all started in 2011, when Skechers launched a movement to support children impacted by natural disasters and poverty – a cause that has helped the Company donate more than 15 million pairs of new pairs of shoes to kids in more than 60 countries worldwide. To learn more about BOBS from Skechers’ commitment to making a difference, visit [www.BOBSfromSkechers.com](http://www.BOBSfromSkechers.com) and follow the brand on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).

**About Skechers U.S.A., Inc.**

Based in Manhattan Beach, California, Skechers (NYSE:SKX) designs, develops and markets a diverse range of lifestyle footwear for men, women and children, as well as performance footwear for men and women. Skechers footwear is available in the United States and over 170 countries and territories worldwide via department and specialty stores, more than 3,060 Skechers Company-owned and third-party-owned retail stores, and the Company’s e-commerce websites. The Company manages its international business through a network of global distributors, joint venture partners in Asia, Israel and Mexico, and wholly-owned subsidiaries in Canada, Japan, India, and throughout Europe and Latin America. For more information, please visit [about.skechers.com](http://about.skechers.com) and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#).

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