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VCA Animal Hospitals to Support Furkids Animal Rescue & Shelters by Providing Free Healthy Start Exams for Adoptive Pet Parents

VCA, Veterinarians and Staff from 15 Atlanta area VCA Animal Hospitals Partner with Furkids to Offer Complimentary Consultations, Expert Advice, and More

Atlanta, GA (July 9, 2019) — <u>VCA Animal Hospitals</u> (VCA) are ensuring that pets adopted from <u>Furkids Animal Rescue & Shelters</u> (Furkids) get off to a healthy start. VCA along with veterinarians and staff from 15 Atlanta area VCA Animal Hospital locations will offer people who adopt a shelter pet a complimentary first exam, and provide in hospital consultations, expert advice and more to all pet-lovers.

"We at Furkids are so pleased with our new partnership with VCA," said Samantha Shelton, CEO of Furkids. "The synergy between our two organizations will create a broader safety net for homeless cats and dogs, allowing us to better care for more animals, both before and after adoptions. We anticipate the new relationship will help increase adoptions by providing an added incentive for potential adopters to secure the health of their new pets in their forever homes."

New pet owners who adopts from Furkids will receive an adoption kit from VCA, which includes a healthy start certificate for a complimentary first exam. During the initial visit, a VCA veterinarian will evaluate and consult on the pet's overall health by checking the heart and other vital organs, as well as examine for fleas, ticks and other external parasites.

Tom Hazay, Regional Operations Director of VCA: "We are proud to partner with Furkids and to help raise awareness about the benefits of adopting from a local shelter. Working collaboratively, VCA and the Furkids can make a meaningful, and often lifesaving, difference in the lives of so many pets. We're looking forward to working together to promote the health and happiness of pets throughout metro-Atlanta."

About Furkids Animal Rescue & Shelters

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 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. 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. For more information about our volunteer opportunities and programs, visit www.furkids.org

About VCA Animal Hospitals

VCA Animal Hospitals operates more than 850 small animal veterinary hospitals in the U.S. and Canada. The hospitals are staffed by more than 4,700 fully qualified, dedicated and compassionate veterinarians to give pets the very best in medical care, of which over 525 are board-certified specialists who are experts in areas such as Oncology, Cardiology, Emergency & Critical Care, and Surgery for animals. VCA Animal Hospitals provides a full range of general practice services to keep pets well and specialized treatments when pets are ill. For more information, visit VCAhospitals.com or follow on Twitter @vcapethealth and facebook.com/VCAAnimalHospitals/.

About VCA

VCA is a leading provider of pet health care services in the country delivered through more than 850 small animal veterinary hospitals in the U.S. and Canada, a preeminent nationwide clinical laboratory system that services all 50 states and Canada (Antech Diagnostics), the leading animal diagnostic imaging company in the market (Sound), and Camp Bow Wow (CBW), the nation's Premier Doggy Day and Overnight Camp® franchise, an Inc. 5000 company.

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