

July 4, 2022 Angie Gunter Chief Executive Officer Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA (434) 973-5959 ext. 312 agunter@caspca.org

Charlottesville, VA Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

CHARLOTTESVILLE-ALBEMARLE SPCA INVITES PUBLIC TO PEACEFUL PETS EVENT

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA (April 22, 2022) -- This Fourth of July, the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA is offering an alternative activity to setting off fireworks. Members of the community are invited to spend their evening comforting canines at the shelter.

Fireworks can cause dogs in shelters stress, and in an effort to reduce their anxiety in our shelter, we are inviting people to sign up to spend time hanging out with dogs during our "Peaceful Pets" event from 7 to 10 PM.

Participants can sit outside of a dog's kennel and read out loud, play music, talk to the dog, or even just watch a movie with the volume up. They are welcome to bring blankets and pillows to sit on. A collection station will be set up in the lobby if they want to bring treats or toys for the dogs and cats.

"We make every effort to keep our animals calm and happy every day of the year, but the Fourth of July requires a little extra work," said Angie Gunter, Chief Executive Officer of the SPCA. "Simply seeing a person outside their kennel can help a dog feel less scared and alone and make this holiday much more enjoyable."

Our goal is to create a low-stress environment for the animals in our care. Those interested in helping, <u>can click here to fill out a short form.</u>

About the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA: The Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA is proud to have maintained the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County as a No Kill community, providing lifesaving care to thousands of animals in the region. The mission of the SPCA is to advance the compassionate treatment of animals by providing sheltering, medical care and behavioral services for dogs and cats; promoting permanent, caring homes; and furthering education and outreach to place healthy animals in caring homes.