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Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA
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Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA to Transport 50 Animals from the Animal Protection Society of Durham as Part of Collaboration with Best Friends Animal Society

(Charlottesville, VA) — The Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA is partnering with the Animal Protection Society of Durham and Best Friends Animal Society as part of Best Friends' Shelter Collaborative Program with a goal of increasing lifesaving for dogs and cats entering APS of Durham. On Thursday, January 20th, a team from the SPCA will transport 24 dogs and 26 cats, including puppies and kittens, from the Animal Protection Society of Durham to our shelter in Charlottesville to be adopted. The team will leave at 8 a.m. and plan to return by 4 p.m. This will be the first visit of our partnership. The goal is to alleviate the burden on APS of Durham as they are receiving an influx of animals. Our hope is that by providing breathing room for their staff, they will be able to focus more on programming.

The shelter collaborative program matches two shelters that are leaders in animal welfare with the goal of working together toward saving more animals. The goal of the partnership is to achieve a 90% save rate at APS of Durham by the end of 2022. This would mean that 90% of the dogs and cats entering their care leave alive, understanding that some animals will be too medically or behaviorally fragile to be released.

The Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA is a national leader in animal welfare who was chosen to partner with the Animal Protection Society of Durham because they have experience overcoming many of the challenges APS of Durham faces each day.

"We have been a leader in Virginia with our Community Cat Program and we look forward to partnering with the Animal Protection Society of Durham to implement a similar program at their shelter," said

Angie Gunter, Chief Executive Officer of the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA. “We are excited about this collaboration and look forward to learning from each other.”

Through the Shelter Collaborative Program, Best Friends will be providing grant funding to cover the expenses associated with achieving the partnership’s goals. The Animal Protection Society of Durham will use the funding to implement nationally recognized proven strategies to decrease unnecessary intake and increase adoptions, community engagement and rescue partnerships. These proven strategies have been successful at saving dogs and cats at the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA.

“Animal Protection Society of Durham is absolutely committed to saving more lives,” said Executive Director Shafonda Allen. “We welcome this partnership and appreciate the support of both Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA and Best Friends Animal Society.”

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.

About Best Friends Animal Society

Best Friends Animal Society is a leading animal welfare organization working to end the killing of dogs and cats in America’s shelters by 2025. Founded in 1984, Best Friends is a pioneer in the no-kill movement and has helped reduce the number of animals killed in shelters from an estimated 17 million per year to about 347,000. Best Friends runs lifesaving programs all across the country, as well as the nation’s largest no-kill animal sanctuary. Working collaboratively with a network of more than 3,300 animal welfare and shelter partners, and community members nationwide, Best Friends is working to Save Them All®. For more information, visit bestfriends.org.