







Petco Love, BOBS from Skechers™, and the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA Seek Heartwarming Pet Love Stories, Submissions Opening for Petco Love Stories Campaign on September 13

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA (September 15, 2023) – National nonprofit Petco Love, in partnership with BOBS from Skechers™ and the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA are excited to put out the call for pet adopters in our local communities to share their love stories about how their adopted pet changed their life. The Petco Love Stories campaign celebrates the unbreakable bond between pet parents and their adopted pets while also raising awareness about the importance of pet adoption.

Submissions open on September 13, 2023, for the Petco Love Stories campaign. The campaign's winning tales will receive lifesaving grants for the organizations the pets were adopted from thanks to Petco Love and BOBS from Skechers™. This year on Valentine's Day, Petco Love and BOBS from Skechers™ awarded Love Stories winners at 18 organizations across the country, granting a total of more than \$500,000 to animal welfare partners.

Petco Love Stories encourages pet parents to share their personal stories of love, joy, and transformation that have come about through adopting their best friend. Whether they are stories of resilience, acts of kindness, or compassion – Petco Love wants to hear them all!

"There is no end to the amazing, emotional stories of how pets change our lives," said Petco Love President, Susanne Kogut. "Through Petco Love Stories, we aim to highlight these remarkable bonds and create a platform where pet parents can share their stories while making a positive impact on the lives of animals in need."

With thousands of animals adopted from CASPCA each year, we know there are a plethora of love stories out there!" said CASPCA Interim Executive Director Sue Friedman. "Sharing your story shows the Charlottesville community the incredible impact that shelter animals can have on their lives, and hopefully encourages them to turn to the CASPCA when they're looking for their new best friend."

Submissions for Petco Love Stories are open to individuals 18 years and older, or those who have parental consent to share their story. In 500 words or less, please share your love story and photos of you and your adopted pet. Submit your story starting September 13, 2023, at https://petcolove.org/lovestories/. Submissions close on October 31, 2023.

Since 2013, more than 20,000 adopters have shared how their pets have changed their lives in the annual campaign, with Petco Love granting nearly \$7 million to the hardworking animal welfare organizations making these adoption matches possible.

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About the Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA

The Charlottesville-Albemarle SPCA is proud to have maintained the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County as life-saving communities for 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 Petco Love

Petco Love is a life-changing nonprofit organization that makes communities and pet families closer, stronger, and healthier. Since our founding in 1999 as the Petco Foundation, we've empowered animal welfare organizations by investing \$370 million in adoption and other lifesaving efforts. We've helped find loving homes for more than 6.7 million pets in partnership with Petco and organizations nationwide. Our love for pets drives us to lead with innovation, creating tools animal lovers need to reunite lost pets, and lead with passion, inspiring and mobilizing communities and our more than 4,000 animal welfare partners to drive lifesaving change alongside us. Join us. Visit petcolove.org or follow on Facebook, Instagram, X, and LinkedIn to be part of the lifesaving work we lead every day.

About SKECHERS U.S.A., Inc.

Skechers U.S.A., Inc. (NYSE:SKX), a Fortune 500® Company based in Southern California, designs, develops and markets a diverse range of lifestyle and performance footwear, apparel and accessories for men, women and children. Collections from The Comfort Technology Company™ are available in over 180 countries and territories through department and specialty stores, and direct to consumers through digital stores and over 4,700 Company- and third-party-owned physical retail stores. The Company manages its international business through a network of wholly-owned subsidiaries, joint venture partners, and distributors. For more information, please visit <u>about.skechers.com</u> and follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u> and <u>TikTok</u>.

About BOBS from Skechers

BOBS from Skechers' charitable collection of shoes, apparel and accessories have improved animals' lives: over the past eight years, Skechers has contributed more than \$10 million to help 1.9 million shelter pets, including saving more than 1.4 million rescued animals in the United States, Canada, United Kingdom and Japan. 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 16 million 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 BOBSfromSkechers.com and follow the brand on Facebook and Instagram.