

## **Media Release**

For Immediate Release

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## Woods Humane Society Receives \$5,000 Grant from BISSELL Pet Foundation to Reduce the Homeless Pet Population in San Luis Obispo County

(San Luis Obispo, CA June 2020) —Woods Humane Society (WHS) is proud to announce it has been awarded a \$5,000 grant from <u>BISSELL Pet Foundation</u> (BPF) for spay and neuter procedures. Woods Humane Society hopes to address overcrowding in local shelters and rescues by preventing unwanted litters of cats and dogs in San Luis Obispo County.

"Due to COVID-19, veterinary clinics across the country have put critical spay/neuter surgeries on hold for months, leaving thousands of shelter pets unaltered," said Cathy Bissell, founder of BISSELL Pet Foundation. "Knowing this, BISSELL Pet Foundation is awarding more spay/neuter grant funding than ever to support shelters' needs and ensure the health and safety of pets."

BPF's spring grant cycle will award funding to 86 organizations in 28 states totaling \$487,418 for spay/neuter.

Grant funding will be split between Woods Humane Society's PROJECT M.E.O.W (Trap, Neuter, Return) and the Daphne Fahsing Memorial Fund to subsidize 200 feline spay/neuter surgeries. Community members interested in more information should visit <a href="www.spayslocounty.org">www.spayslocounty.org</a> for information on Woods Humane Society's spay/neuter clinics for details on our reopening schedule and to make an appointment.

"Woods Humane Society is committed to offering accessible and affordable spay/neuter services for our community. Kitten season is upon us and with the generous donation from the BISSELL Pet Foundation we are closer to reopening our clinics to the public for this vital service. Together, we can make a significant positive impact in the health of our community's felines!" Leslie Sklena, DVM, Director of Veterinary Services

With a mission to find every pet a home, BPF focuses their efforts on adoption, spay/neuter, microchipping and emergency support.

For more information, visit: <a href="https://www.spayslocounty.org">www.spayslocounty.org</a> or contact our clinics at:

San Luis Obispo: 805-543-9316 x12

Atascadero: 805-464-5034

## **About Woods Humane Society**

Founded in 1955, Woods Humane Society has proudly served the homeless animals of San Luis Obispo County for 64 years. Woods Humane Society is a privately funded, non-profit, animal sheltering and welfare organization, based in San Luis Obispo that annually places over 3,000 dogs and cats into loving homes. In 2019, Woods clinics spayed/neutered a total of 6,438 dogs and cats including 1,270 community cats. Although our public spay/neuter fees are deeply discounted, we have extremely limited funding to further assist low-income pet owners with the cost of their pets' surgery, or to help with surgery costs for feral cats that are trapped by local cat rescue groups. Visit <a href="woodshumane.org">woodshumane.org</a> to donate or learn more.

## **About BISSELL Pet Foundation:**

BISSELL Pet Foundation is a charitable 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a mission to help reduce the number of animals in shelters through pet adoption, spay/neuter programs, microchipping and emergency support. Founded in 2011 by Cathy Bissell, BPF is an extension of her long-standing love for animals and commitment to their welfare. BPF has since partnered with 5,000 shelters and rescues across the U.S. and Canada to help pets find loving homes. The foundation is supported by generous donors and BISSELL Homecare, Inc where every purchase saves pets. To learn more, visit www.bissellpetfoundation.org.