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## Great Plains SPCA Increases Pet Food Pantry Distribution During COVID-19 Peak

Merriam, KS (April 8, 2020) – Great Plains SPCA (GPSPCA), a no-kill animal shelter in the Kansas City area serving 6,000 pets annually, will double its pet food distribution amounts at this weekend's Pet Food Pantry scheduled for Saturday, April 11 to encourage social distancing practices.

GPSPCA operates a Pet Food Pantry once per month that provides 3,000 pounds of food to 122 families who cannot otherwise afford to feed their pets. This month they are doubling the amount provided so that people only have to come to the shelter once in the next couple of months, allowing them to stay at home during what is projected to be the peak of the COVID-19 outbreak in the Kansas City area.

Individuals who need food must sign up ahead of time and can do so by visiting <a href="mailto:greatplainsspca.org/programs/pet-food-pantry">greatplainsspca.org/programs/pet-food-pantry</a> and completing the Pet Food Assistance Application. Pet food pick up is on Saturday, April 11 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. The media are welcome to visit the shelter in Merriam at 5428 Antioch Drive at this time to experience the Pet Food Pantry.

GPSPCA Chief Executive Officer, Tam Singer, said, "In order to keep our staff and everyone that we serve healthy, we have been restricting traffic at the shelter but know that the need for pet food assistance is greater now than ever. We hope that allowing people to double up on their pet food this weekend will reduce the number of times they need to leave their homes, reducing exposure for them and the rest of the community."

GPSPCA is in great need of dry cat food for its Pet Food Pantry. To donate dry cat food, please order from GPSPCA's <u>Amazon wish list</u> which can also be found on GPSPCA's website <u>greatplainsspca.org</u>. As a precaution, GPSPCA is not accepting public donations dropped off at the shelter at this time.

Monetary donations to GPSPCA have declined during the COVID-19 crisis. Individuals who can help support the shelter during this difficult time may donate at <u>greatplainsspca.org/donate</u>.

## **About Great Plains SPCA**

Great Plains SPCA is a no-kill animal shelter in Merriam, Kansas serving 6,000 community pets annually. Great Plains SPCA works to save, protect and improve the lives of animals, while strengthening the relationship between pets and their human companions by providing humane sheltering, adoptions, community outreach and behavior and training. Great Plains SPCA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. For more information, please visit greatplainsspca.org or follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.