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Tam Singer Sets New Standard for Leadership in Animal Welfare and Workplace Equity

MERRIAM, Kansas., September 23, 2025– Great Plains SPCA proudly announces a groundbreaking advancement in nonprofit leadership under the direction of CEO **Tam Singer**, whose visionary approach is transforming both animal welfare and workplace culture.

Singer, a trailblazer in the sector, has introduced a **comprehensive Parental Leave Policy** that sets a new benchmark for inclusivity and employee support. The policy provides **job protection and up to six months of continuous leave** for birthing parents, **with Great Plains SPCA paying 60% of base salary**, and extends generous benefits to foster and adoptive parents of both newborns and older children.

“If you want the world to be better, then you have to invest the time and resources to make it that way,” said Singer. “Paid family leave is crucial for maternal mental health and child well-being. The data consistently shows that returning to work before a child is six months old can have negative consequences for both mothers and children.”

Singer’s bold action addresses a critical gap in U.S. family leave protections while modeling what is possible for nonprofits nationwide. Her commitment to equity is not new: several years ago, she garnered regional attention for **raising frontline pay for shelter staff**, a move that reshaped local standards in animal welfare compensation.

Singer’s influence extends beyond her organization. She was featured in **KC Magazine’s “10 Power Players You Haven’t Heard of (Yet)”** for her behind-the-scenes impact and forward-thinking leadership.

“Animal welfare and nonprofit work is a female-driven industry,” Singer added. “Supporting our people, especially families, is essential to building a more compassionate, equitable world.”

ADP HR Consultant **Denise Brune** praised the move: “What Tam has initiated and led is unprecedented in for profit and non-profit industries. We are proud to partner with leaders who lead the way for positive change.”

GPSPCA staff are thrilled with the new policies. “As my husband and I consider growing our family through adoption, Great Plains SPCA’s new parental leave policy means the world to us. Every day in my work, I see how deeply this organization cares for both pets and people, and this policy is a powerful example of that commitment. By recognizing and supporting all types of families, including adoptive ones, Great Plains SPCA shows that it values employees as whole people, not just as professionals. Knowing I’ll have the time and support to bond with our future child makes me even prouder to work for an organization that lives its values both inside and outside the shelter walls.”—**Kyle Gabrielson, Manager of Philanthropy and Engagement**

With roots in England, Singer’s values were shaped early by exposure to family-friendly workplace policies, inspiring her to bring that same compassion to Great Plains SPCA. Her leadership reflects a powerful truth: **transforming workplaces transforms communities.**

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About Great Plains SPCA

Great Plains SPCA is the highest rated animal shelter in the Kansas City area serving 500,000 residents and 6,800 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 training. Great Plains SPCA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. For more information, please visit www.greatplainsspca.org or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).