

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Great Plains SPCA Responds to Large Dog Capacity Crisis with Reduced Adoption Fees and “Slumber Party” Program

May 11th 2026

**Merriam, K.S.** — Great Plains SPCA is urgently asking the community for help as the shelter faces a growing large dog capacity crisis. **Currently, more than 60% of the dogs in Great Plains SPCA’s care are over 50 pounds**, leaving the shelter at full capacity and limiting space for incoming pets in need.

In response, **Great Plains SPCA has reduced adoption fees for all available dogs to just \$26** in an effort to help more pets find homes quickly and safely.

“Large dogs are often overlooked in shelters, but they make incredibly loyal, loving companions,” said Emily Wallace, Vice President of Operations at Great Plains SPCA. “Right now, adopting a large dog doesn’t just change one life. It creates space for another animal who urgently needs safety and care.”

The shelter is also encouraging community members to participate in **“Slumber Parties,” a short-term fostering opportunity** in which a dog is taken home for a night or weekend. These temporary stays provide dogs with relief from the shelter environment, reduce stress, and help staff learn more about how dogs behave in a home setting.

Individuals interested in fostering or hosting a Slumber Party are encouraged to contact the shelter’s foster team at [foster@greatplainsspca.org](mailto:foster@greatplainsspca.org).

For those unable to adopt or foster, monetary donations are also needed to help provide food, medical care, enrichment, and daily support for the animals currently in care.

**Great Plains SPCA hopes the community will step forward to help relieve overcrowding and support dogs waiting for permanent homes.**

To learn more about available dogs, fostering opportunities, or ways to give, visit [greatplainsspca.org](http://greatplainsspca.org).

For more information, visit [www.greatplainsspca.org](http://www.greatplainsspca.org).

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#### **About Great Plains SPCA**

Great Plains SPCA (GP) is the highest rated animal shelter in the Kansas City area serving 500,000 residents and 7,000 community pets annually. GP 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. GP is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. For more information, please visit [www.greatplainsspca.org](http://www.greatplainsspca.org) or follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.