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**For Immediate Release**

**Pets Alive launches “Community Cats,”  
Campaign to Spay and Neuter Free-Roaming Cats in April**

**Sponsored by PetSmart Charities®, “Community Cats”  
provides free spay/neuter surgeries and rabies vaccinations for feral and stray cats**

**Bloomington, IN (March 21, 2016)** – During the month of April, Pets Alive Nonprofit Spay/Neuter Clinic will offer no-cost spay and neuter surgeries, plus free rabies vaccinations as part of [PetSmart Charities’ “Community Cat”](#) spay/neuter campaign to alter free-roaming cats. If left unaltered, unowned feral and stray cats produce large quantities of unwanted kittens each spring, flooding local animal shelters and leading to higher euthanasia rates. By taking a proactive approach and getting the cats fixed now, Pets Alive will help lessen the impact of the coming kitten season.

Spaying and neutering is one of the most effective ways to reduce the homeless pet population and is safe for kittens as young as eight to 10 weeks old, according to the American Veterinary Medical Association. Spaying a female cat before the first heat cycle can be beneficial, improving the health of the cat by reducing the risk of certain reproductive cancers and infections.

“Female cats can have as many as three litters a year, and kittens can breed as young as four months old,” says Dr. Nancy Ferguson, Pets Alive Veterinarian. “Most people don’t want to see the cats they’re feeding get pregnant over and over again, so our **“Community Cat”** campaign will serve as a gentle reminder to caretakers of free-roaming cat colonies to catch and sterilize their cats.”

This special free rate is available to all residents of south central Indiana. Transportation options may exist for those outside of Monroe County. *Residents feeding free-roaming cats who wish to take advantage of this offer must mention the **“Community Cat”** campaign when scheduling their appointment.* Appointments are based on availability. For more information or to schedule an appointment, interested persons should visit [www.petsaliveindiana.org](http://www.petsaliveindiana.org) or call 812-349-1349.

[PetSmart Charities’ “Community Cat”](#) campaign will provide \$634,692 to spay/neuter clinics across the United States to fund affordable, high-quality spay and neuter surgeries for 13,713 free-roaming cats during the month of April.

**About Pets Alive:**

Pets Alive is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization providing the compassionate solution to end the euthanasia of cats and dogs by offering reduced-cost spay/neuter surgeries and essential vaccines and medicine to pets in south central Indiana. All surgery fees are subsidized through the generosity of our donors and sponsors.

**About PetSmart Charities:**

PetSmart Charities, Inc. is a nonprofit animal welfare organization that saves the lives of homeless pets. More than 400,000 dogs and cats find homes each year through our adoption program in all PetSmart® stores and our sponsored adoption events. PetSmart Charities grants more money to directly help pets in need than any other animal welfare group in North America, with a focus on funding spay/neuter services that help communities solve pet overpopulation. PetSmart Charities is a 501(c)(3) organization, separate from PetSmart, Inc.

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