



654 Richland Hills Drive, San Antonio, TX 78245
www.petcofoundation.org

February 2018

Valued partner,

On behalf of everyone at the Petco Foundation, we are pleased to provide you with the enclosed grant award of **\$5,000.00**, to be used towards the purpose outlined in your grant application for our October 2017 grant cycle. Please see your approval email for instructions on how to properly acknowledge the Petco Foundation as well as the link to our press kit and logo.

We're thrilled to have your organization benefit from the generosity of Petco Foundation supporters, and we hope you will use this donation to continue the lifesaving work you do for the animals in your community.

Together, with partners like you, we can create a lifesaving nation, where every pet has the chance to find a loving home. We celebrate your commitment to animals and thank you for all that you do on behalf of pets and the people who love and need them.

Petco Foundation grant follow-up instructions:

In order to apply for future funding from the Petco Foundation, we require that your organization to provide a follow-up report of how funds were used as well as an update of your organization information. Please login to your account on our grant site to complete this report. You may access the login page from www.petcofoundation.org on the **Petco Foundation Partners** page by clicking on the blue "partner login" button. After signing in scroll down and click **Edit** in the box.

Sincerely,

Susanne Kogut
Executive Director
Petco Foundation

P.S. The Petco Foundation desires that all funds and efforts be prioritized for lifesaving, and seeks to reduce our environmental footprint. Therefore, we respectfully request that no items be mailed to the Petco Foundation and that any thank you letters be sent by email only to foundationpartners@petco.com. We welcome and appreciate recognition on social media (@petcofoundation), on your website, or in other print and digital communications. We ask that this recognition thank the Petco Foundation, Petco and/or our Petco store partners collectively rather than individual employees of Petco or the Petco Foundation.

The Petco Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, tax exempt corporation.

How will your organization utilize the investment made by Petco Foundation?

Gaston County's current animal shelter was built forty years ago; at the time, animals were held for a three day stray hold and then euthanized. Gaston County Animal Care and Enforcement (GCACE) has worked hard over the past four years to increase the number of animals that are adopted or rescued, decrease our euthanasia rate, and increase our live release rate. In the past ten years, we have decreased our euthanasia rate from 79% in 2006 to 31.2% in 2016 through adoptions and rescue claims. Our goals are to provide resources and possible alternative solutions to pet relinquishment, to keep more pets in homes and out of shelters, and to provide meaningful, supportive community education on the responsibilities of pet ownership. Our Animal Shelter building and its amenities are central to these goals.

So far, the County has raised \$4.5 million dollars to construct a new animal shelter; the total cost of the project is projected to be \$6.2 million. The amount raised to date will only allow us to build a shelter that has less animal housing than our current shelter and a bare minimum of office space and citizen areas. The County's population has steadily increased over the past few years, as North Carolina continues to grow faster than the United States average. As Gaston County's population increases, so does the number of animals and animal owners. Additional funding will allow us to build a shelter that our growing county desperately needs. Our goal is to construct an adopter-friendly facility that provides a comfortable environment for our animals and increases our capacity—allowing us to hold animals longer than seven days and increase the amount of adoptions and rescues. This generous investment from Petco Foundation will positively impact the citizens and animals of Gaston County.

Other information

Established in 1972, Gaston County Animal Care and Enforcement (GCACE) provides for the health and safety of Gaston County's citizens and animals. Our mission is to not only enhance the safety of citizens, but also to ensure the proper care and treatment of animals. This is accomplished through animal-related services which reflect our professionalism and a concern for responsible pet ownership. In addition to properly impounding and caring for stray, diseased, injured, and unwanted animals at the Animal Shelter, GCACE is responsible for investigating animal related complaints including nuisance, leash laws, animals on school grounds, rabies suspects, and reported cases of cruelty, abuse and neglect. GCACE conducts, promotes, and sponsors educational and training seminars—through Gaston College, the Agricultural Center, various schools and civic buildings, and the Animal Shelter itself. These workshops have been attended by personnel nationwide and the GCACE program has been recognized nationally by the National Association of Counties as one of the best in the state.

How you will recognize Petco Foundation if funded?

Gaston County Animal Care and Enforcement (GCACE) will recognize Petco Foundation's investment and role as an organizational supporter. Once the new shelter is constructed, GCACE will acknowledge Petco Foundation's generous contribution when announcing lifesaving achievements, specifically on the Animal Placement statistics uploaded to our organization's website.