



For Immediate Release

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### **Petco Foundation Invests \$500,000 in Lifesaving Work of Animal Care Centers of NYC (ACC)**

NEW YORK, April 13, 2016 – Animal Care Centers of NYC (ACC) today announced it has been awarded a \$500,000 grant from the Petco Foundation to support ACC’s lifesaving work in NYC, including its behavior enrichment program and dog playgroups. The grant will be awarded in \$250,000 increments over the next two years.



The Petco Foundation presents lifesaving grant award to ACC on Thursday, April 7

ACC is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the welfare and humane treatment of homeless animals. The organization operates the only open-admissions animal shelter in New York City, serving more than 8 million people. In 2015, ACC took in nearly 34,000 animals, including more than 30,000 cats and dogs, 86 percent of which were placed by ACC through direct adoptions and partnerships with animal welfare organizations.

“Creating a comfortable environment for the animals in our care is a priority,” said ACC’s Executive Director, Risa Weinstock. “This includes daily dog playgroups as well as other programs aimed at improving the lives of shelter animals. The Petco Foundation grant will ensure we are able to maintain and expand our current behavior enrichment program. It is a real game changer for the homeless pets of NYC and we are honored that the Petco Foundation has made such a tremendous investment in ACC and our lifesaving programs.”

“We are thrilled to support Animal Care Centers of NYC and the incredible work that they’ve done to help make NYC a lifesaving community,” said Susanne Kogut, Executive Director of the Petco Foundation. “This grant will help ensure every animal has a loving home and family. We’re inspired by what ACC and the NYC community has accomplished together, and look forward to seeing the many lives that will be saved in the future.”

**About Animal Care Centers of NYC**

Animal Care Centers of NYC (ACC) is one of the largest animal welfare organizations in the country, taking in more than 30,000 animals each year. ACC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that rescues, cares for and finds loving homes for animals throughout the five boroughs. ACC is an open-admissions organization, which means it never turns away any homeless, abandoned, injured or sick animal in need of help, including cats, dogs, rabbits, small mammals, reptiles, birds, farm animals and wildlife. It is the only organization in NYC with this unique responsibility. Visit [www.nycacc.org](http://www.nycacc.org) for more information, and follow NYCACC on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Animals available for adoption can be viewed online at <http://nycacc.org/AdoptionSearch.htm>, or on ACC's free mobile app (available on Google Play and iTunes). ACC adoptions include vaccinations, a microchip, spay/neuter, a free office visit at a participating veterinarian and a free identification tag. Follow NYCACC on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

**About The Petco Foundation**

At the Petco Foundation, we believe that every animal deserves to live its best life. Since 1999, we've invested more than \$157 million in lifesaving animal welfare work to make that happen. With our more than 4,000 animal welfare partners, we inspire and empower communities to make a difference by investing in adoption and medical care programs, spay/neuter services, pet cancer research, service and therapy animals, and numerous other lifesaving initiatives. Through our Think Adoption First program, we partner with Petco stores and animal welfare organizations across the country to increase pet adoptions. So far, we've helped more than 4.9 million pets find their new loving families, and we're just getting started. Visit [petcofoundation.org](http://petcofoundation.org) to learn more about how you can get involved.

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