



## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

### \$100,000 PetSmart Charities of Canada™ Grant to HBSPCA

#### More wellness support for pets coming to Hamilton

Hamilton, ON (January 27, 2022) – No pet left behind is a priority for the Hamilton community. [PetSmart Charities of Canada](#) has granted \$100,000 to the [Hamilton/Burlington SPCA](#) (HBSPCA) to expand access to under-resourced pets and their people for basic veterinary care.

“It takes a village to keep pets healthy and PetSmart Charities of Canada is part of the team,” says Marion Emo, Interim CEO. “The grant will expand wellness clinics for pets and their families where they live. The clinics are much like primary care for people; clinics provide preventative care, keeping pets healthy and at home where they belong”.

The HBSPCA piloted pet wellness clinics with the support of a PetSmart Charities of Canada grant that allowed a team of staff, volunteers and community partners, including City Housing Hamilton, to test the feasibility of community-based clinics and most importantly, pet families’ uptake. It was no surprise to discover that under resourced pet families were delighted to access preventative care closer to home. As one pet parent said *“It means the world to us that SPCA comes into our buildings for a small fee. For some of us, pets are our only family, and it allows us to **care for our family**”* - Claire

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ud2n875l6xg&t=19s>

“The veterinary care system can sometimes make it challenging for those in need to access care for their pets, and no one organization can tackle this issue alone,” said Dani LaGiglia, Senior Community Grants Manager at PetSmart Charities of Canada. “PetSmart Charities of Canada is proud to partner with innovators like HBSPCA to build accessible vet care models that will help provide care for those who need it most. This effort promises to ensure that people from all walks of life can enjoy the benefits of having a pet as an important member of the family.”

The last 18 months in the Times of COVID have been hard on families, particularly among already at-risk families. The HBSPCA outreach services are designed to keep pets and their

people together by providing health and wellness supports and prevent disease, veterinary costs, and pet surrender.

The grant will provide wellness support to approximately 1000 pets in our community.

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### **About the Hamilton/Burlington SPCA**

[The Hamilton/Burlington SPCA \(HBSPCA\)](#) keeps pets and their people together, helps pet owners be the pet parents they want to be and rehomes neglected and abandoned animals for second chance lives.

Charitable Registration # 11923 6750 RR0001

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/HBSPCA>

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Website [www.hbspca.com](http://www.hbspca.com)

### **About PetSmart Charities® of Canada**

[PetSmart Charities of Canada](#) is committed to making the world a better place for pets and all who love them. Through its in-store adoption program in all PetSmart® stores across the country, PetSmart Charities of Canada helps thousands of pets connect with loving families each year. PetSmart Charities of Canada also provides grant funding to support organizations that advocate and care for the well-being of all pets and their families. Our grants and efforts connect pets with loving homes through adoption, improve access to affordable veterinary care and support families in times of crisis with access to food, shelter, and emergency relief. Each year, thousands of generous supporters help pets in need by donating to PetSmart Charities of Canada directly at [PetSmartCharities.ca](http://PetSmartCharities.ca), while shopping at [PetSmart.ca](http://PetSmart.ca), and by using the PIN pads at checkout registers inside PetSmart stores. In turn, PetSmart Charities of Canada efficiently uses more than 90 cents of every dollar donated to fulfill its role as the leading funder of animal welfare in Canada, granting more than \$24 million since its inception in 1999. Independent from PetSmart Inc., PetSmart Charities of Canada is a registered Canadian charity. To learn more visit [www.PetSmartCharities.ca](http://www.PetSmartCharities.ca)

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### **Media Contact:**

Marion Emo, Interim CEO

289 778-1799.

[memo@hbspca.com](mailto:memo@hbspca.com)

24-Hour PetSmart Charities

Media Line: 623-587-2177