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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## The Capacity of Care

Save-A-Pet continues to provide high standards of care despite near-capacity population

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JULY 22, 2010 (GRAYSLAKE, IL): A slow recovering economy and lingering unemployment has caused an increase in the relinquishment and abandonment of pets. Accordingly, Save-A-Pet Adoption Center faces more requests for intake, as well as increases in the number of pets simply dumped overnight at their adoption center. "Surrounding communities, some as far away as downtown Chicago, know that we are a no-kill," says Development Manager Marc Portugal. "Owners who feel genuinely guilty about giving up their pet come to us because they know their pet will actually have a second chance at Save-A-Pet."

In spite of a heightened adoption center population, cost increases for services and supplies, and fluctuations in donations, Save-A-Pet continues providing quality care for over 350 dogs and cats. "We treat each resident as if they were our own pet. They deserve nothing less—especially after being abandoned. Caring for the residents in this manner improves their overall wellness, and helps prepare them for adoption." says Portugal.

While the majority of Save-A-Pet dogs and cats are in good health, Save-A-Pet also cares for some animals with various medical challenges—including diabetes, epilepsy, FIV, and even cancer. Aging residents also require specialty care including supplements, augmented exercise routines, and more. "In spite of their medical issues, these animals are as adoptable and as capable of sharing their love as any other resident." According to Portugal, the average annual cost to care for a healthy Save-A-Pet resident is \$1,000. In 2009, Save-A-Pet cared for 1,450 dogs and cats.

Save-A-Pet has even made efforts to support the Gulf Oil Spill clean-up activity—via the collection of animal fur, human hair and nylon materials. Collected materials will be sent to Gulf Coast communities and used to create fiber booms that may help absorb the oil.

Portugal adds, "Providing a consistent level of quality care for the population—as we have—requires a large output of expenses. This obligation becomes more complicated for an organization like Save-A-Pet—a no-kill rescue funded solely by the generosity of our donors. That being said, every successful adoption represents an opportunity to save an additional life. We can't thank our donors and volunteers enough. Save-A-Pet continues to exist, and the residents are alive and well, because of our donors' and volunteers' genuine compassion. They truly support our efforts to save lives. They put the residents first."

Founded in 1972, Save-A-Pet is a 501(c)(3), no-kill adoption center dedicated to finding loving, quality homes for each dog & cat in its care. Having rescued over 45,000 animals since 1972, Save-A-Pet strives to create an environment that enhances both awareness of and support for the humane treatment of animals.

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For more information on how to support Save-A-Pet, please contact Development Manager Marc Portugal at 847.740.7788 X 102. Save-A-Pet is located at 31664 North Fairfield Road in Grayslake, IL. Hours of operations vary; please check [www.saveapetil.org](http://www.saveapetil.org) for details. Save-A-Pet currently houses over 350 animals looking for 4EVER homes.