



PRESS RELEASE

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CLEVELAND PET OUTREACH CENTER ANNOUNCES EXPANSION DUE TO INCREASED NEED

CLEVELAND, OH—Neighborhood Pets today announced the expansion of its Wellness Clinic & Resource Center, located in the Slavic Village neighborhood of Cleveland. Serving over 4,000 Clevelanders since 2016 out of a 1,000 square foot space, Neighborhood Pets is excited to expand in order to meet the increased demand for its services.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, Neighborhood Pets has seen a significant increase in the number of Clevelanders who need help caring for their pets. The organization's pet food bank served 50% more households in 2020. This increase in need, driven in large part by the Covid-19 pandemic, shows no sign of slowing down. ***"With the city's poverty levels being higher than any other major city in the US, coupled with the increased poverty rates due to the pandemic - the need for Neighborhood Pets services are greater than ever before,"*** said Becca Britton, Executive Director of Neighborhood Pets.

The need to increase its physical and overall capacity is crucial to serving Clevelanders in an equitable manner. By doubling in size, Neighborhood Pets will be able to increase walk-in hours for wellness services and make more wellness appointments available. Serving as an anchor in the Slavic Village community for the last five years, the non-profit will be occupying a previously vacant and boarded up storefront adjacent to the existing Resource Center location. There will be art installations and several major improvements on the building. Most recently completed is a mural installation in the new lobby by Cleveland artist Sean Kelly.

The building/wellness clinic expansion is funded in part by lead sponsors [Petsmart Charities](#) and [Embrace Pet Insurance](#).

"Embrace Pet Insurance is proud to sponsor the expansion of Neighborhood Pet's Wellness Clinic. With their efforts, so many animals in Northeast Ohio will receive the treatment necessary to live the life they deserve - happy, healthy, and loved by their families." - Stephanie Kesselem , [Embrace Pet Insurance](#)

"The folks at Neighborhood Pets do more than help residents in need to take care of their furry charges-- they make Broadway Slavic Village a more loving place. We are all so fortunate to have Neighborhood Pets expanding in our neighborhood, and we look forward to many more dog and cat years of happy pets and owners to come." -Christopher Alvarado, Executive Director, Slavic Village Development

“Neighborhood Pets truly is an amazing group of dedicated staff and volunteers that keep our pet families together, healthy and happy. Their expansion in Slavic Village will help them serve more families providing free and low cost spay/neuter, wellness care assistance, low cost pet supplies as well as unlimited counseling and resources. They are a purrrrrfect fit in our community.”

-Anthony Brancatelli, Councilman, Ward 12, Cleveland City Council

Neighborhood Pets is a community-based nonprofit organization that provides services out of a storefront located in the Slavic Village neighborhood of Cleveland. Since 2016 it has helped people throughout Cleveland keep their pets in their homes by providing access to affordable pet care, resources, information, and other supportive services. Core services include a pet food bank, free spay/neuter, low-cost wellness care and pet supplies. Neighborhood Pets focuses on creating positive relationships with the community and is known as a trusted resource for Cleveland-area pet owners. To learn more, visit neighborhoodpetscle.org or follow Neighborhood Pets on Facebook and Instagram at @neighborhoodpetscle and on Twitter at @neighborpetscle.

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