

## **The Dave & Cheryl Duffield Foundation To Fund A National Spay/Neuter Initiative Helping Cats and Dogs in Nevada**

For Immediate Release

Incline Village NV

June 1, 2020 – This collaborative, historic initiative will provide surgery subsidy support grants, on-ground assistance, training in high-quality, high-volume spay/neuter surgeries, and discounted veterinary supplies and services to shelters and veterinary clinics affected by COVID-19. Participating spay/neuter clinics and private veterinary clinics will be able to offer discounted operations to the public through these funds.

The unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic has forced communities in all 50 states to temporarily suspend non-emergency veterinary services such as spay/neuter surgeries. As states begin to reopen the economy, animal shelters and veterinary clinics in every state have backlogs of unaltered shelter pets, community cats and owned animals.

While #SpayTogether will impact every state, the coalition has identified eight key states that have substantial need due to veterinary shortages and/or large amounts of unaltered animals: Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, California, Texas, Nevada, Florida and Oklahoma.

“While Nevada has a wonderful network of shelters and rescues, our state does not have a large number of specially trained veterinarians who are able to perform high volume, high quality spay/neuter on the scale necessary to address the backlog created by Covid-19 closures. In addition, our state has experienced a devastating economic impact due to the crisis and the need for financial assistance for pet care is going to be greater than ever before. The Dave & Cheryl Duffield Foundation is committed to animal welfare efforts in Nevada and is very excited to be part of this historic national initiative to provide affordable spay/neuter for pets in need in the wake of this global crisis.” says Jerleen Bryant, Executive Director of the Dave & Cheryl Duffield Foundation.

Expert veterinary surgical support teams from the ASPCA, Animal Balance and ViDAS will provide on-site support, as needed, in the eight key states of focus. Community assessments that consider state and local emergency orders, equipment needs, and safety protocols will determine the timing of these activities.

Nonprofit animal welfare organizations as well as private practice veterinarians who provide spay/neuter services for the public will be able to apply for special funding from 6/1 through 6/8. Funding is limited, so organizations and businesses who are interested in participating are encouraged to apply ASAP. More information can be found at [animalsheltering.org/spaytogether](http://animalsheltering.org/spaytogether).

#SpayTogether is possible thanks to the support of the Humane Society of the United States, Maddie’s Fund, PetSmart Charities, Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health USA, Inc, Banfield Foundation, Best Friends Animal Society, Dave & Cheryl Duffield Foundation, ASPCA, Bissell Foundation, Petco Foundation, Michelson Found Animals, Clinic HQ, Animal Balance, Greatergood.org, UF Maddie’s Shelter Medicine Program, PetPro Tele+, Emancipet, Georgia B. Ridder Foundation, Idexx, Bark Avenue Foundation, ViDAS, DogsTrust USA, and Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association.

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