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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 27, 2020

WHO: Central California Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals/Fresno County Humane Society (CCSPCA)

WHAT: CCSPCA Board of Directors Has Adopted Socially Conscious Animal Sheltering

WHEN: Thursday, February 27, 2020

WHERE: CCSPCA, 103 S. Hughes Ave., Fresno, CA 93706

WHY: The CCSPCA officially adopted the Socially Conscious Animal Sheltering model, an acclaimed best practice in animal welfare that more associations across the country are adopting. While the organization has been implementing the fundamental goals for years, the Board of Directors thought it was important to take the step of officially adopting the practices.

Socially Conscious Animal Sheltering strives to create the best outcome for all animals by treating them respectfully and alleviating their suffering. The mission is to maximize live outcomes for animals, while also balancing animal well-being and public safety. Fundamental goals of Socially Conscious Animal Sheltering are:

- Ensure every unwanted or homeless pet has a safe place to go for shelter and care. CCSPCA will not turn away animals in need of assistance.
- Make every healthy and safe animal available for adoption. CCSPCA will not offer for adoption animals that are irremediably suffering or dangerous to the community.
- Assess the medical and behavioral needs of homeless animals and ensure those needs are thoughtfully addressed. CCSPCA, through its dedicated medical team and its animal behavior and enrichment team, provides a holistic approach to ensuring each animal's needs are met.
- Align CCSPCA's policy with the needs of the community. The organization recognizes its responsibility to the public trust and ensures its programs and policies reflect and support this obligation.
- Alleviate suffering and make appropriate euthanasia decisions. CCSPCA often accepts animals that are irremediably suffering and cannot live without experiencing severe,

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unremitting pain or other serious health challenges. In these situations, it is most humane to relieve an animal's suffering with compassionate euthanasia.

- Consider the health and wellness of animals for each community when transferring animals. CCSPCA partners with more than 140 rescue organizations throughout the country to ensure animals have the best chance of adoption and can be taken to other shelters or rescues in areas of the country that are experiencing a shortage of shelter animals. These win-win programs save thousands of animals lives each year. However, it is also important that animals transported through these programs do not suffer from physical or behavioral defects that could endanger animals or people in their new communities.
- Enhance the human-animal bond through thoughtful placements and post-adoption support. CCSPCA works with potential adopters to make sure animals they select are suitable matches for their lifestyles, the adopter can properly care for and handle the animal and other factors to make certain the placement is successful. CCSPCA provides post-adoption support to adopters to ensure the placement thrives.
- Foster a culture of transparency, ethical decision-making, mutual respect, continual learning and collaboration. CCSPCA remains committed to upholding the highest ethical standards in meeting its mission.

For additional information, check out our informational video on YouTube!

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