



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Veterinary Care Everywhere RECEIVES \$30,000 GRANT FROM PETSMART CHARITIES® TO INCREASE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE VETERINARY CARE IN CONNECTICUT

March 26, 2021— West Haven, CT— Pet parents want to provide the very best care for their pets however, due to cost and other barriers, pets in under-resourced communities often do not have access to basic veterinary care such as spay/neuter services, vaccinations, dental care and other medical and preventative care.

With a \$30,000 grant from [PetSmart Charities](#), Veterinary Care Everywhere aims to support pets and pet parents in need of these services by providing at home veterinary care for pets of veterans, seniors and disabled individuals who might physically struggle to bring their pet to a traditional veterinary clinic. We anticipate over 100 families and their pets will benefit from our program this year alone.

“There are 400,000 seniors over the age of 70 in the state of CT, roughly 30% of which have a disability hindering mobility. Veterinary Care Everywhere (VCE) is a 501(c)(3) charity that offers free/low-cost, **at-home** veterinary services to pets of seniors, veterans and the disabled. VCE is Connecticut’s **only** program to offer these groups accessible and affordable at-home veterinary care,” said Dr. Nicole Sabo, Chief Veterinary Officer at Veterinary Care Everywhere.

“We know the pandemic has disproportionately affected many segments of our population, and recognize it has been particularly hard on seniors,” said Kelly Balthazor, community grants manager at PetSmart Charities. “We are proud to support this work that ensures pet parents with mobility issues and whose movements have been restricted by COVID-19 can continue to provide critical care for their pets.”

Since 1994, through its partnership with nearly 4,000 humane societies, SPCAs and pet rescues across North America, PetSmart Charities has helped more than 9.5 million pets to find loving homes via its in-store adoption program in over 1,650 PetSmart® stores. The leading funder of animal welfare has also donated more than \$450 million, to positively impact communities, to connect people and pets, to help preserve families and to improve access to veterinary care through initiatives like this with Veterinary Care Everywhere.

To find out more please visit us online at: www.VetCareEverywhere.org or call (800)533-1898.

About Veterinary Care Everywhere

VCE is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization established by CVMA board member Dr. Nicole Sabo in 2018. VCE provides free or low-cost *in-home* veterinary services for companion animals being cared for by individuals in Connecticut who have physical disabilities, are senior citizens (age 70+), or are veterans (age 60+). VCE provides a wide range of affordable at-home services for dogs and cats, including vaccinations, exams, and treatment for acute and chronic illnesses and injuries. And now, with the addition of a mobile veterinary clinic; Dr. Sabo and her team of volunteer veterinary technicians can expand their services to more comprehensive treatments and procedures, including spays, neuters, and others that may require sedation/anesthesia. Such a space has become even more important during the age of COVID-19; by having an exam room outside the client's home, VCE can continue fulfilling its mission while keeping Dr. Sabo and her staff safe---and therefore able to help more of Connecticut's vulnerable populations and their pets.

Find out more and follow us for updates:

www.VetCareEverywhere.org

<https://www.facebook.com/VetCareEverywhere>

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About PetSmart Charities®

[PetSmart Charities, Inc.](#) is committed to finding lifelong, loving homes for all pets by supporting programs and thought leadership that bring people and pets together. Through its in-store adoption program in all PetSmart® stores across the U.S. and Puerto Rico, PetSmart Charities helps to find forever homes and families for nearly 600,000 shelter pets each year. PetSmart Charities also provides grant funding to nonprofits aligned with its mission. Each year, millions of generous PetSmart shoppers help pets in need by donating to PetSmart Charities using the PIN pads at checkout registers inside PetSmart stores. In turn, PetSmart Charities efficiently uses more than 90 cents of every dollar donated to fulfill its role as the leading funder of animal welfare in North America, granting more than \$450 million since its inception in 1994. Independent from PetSmart Inc., PetSmart Charities is a 501(c)(3) organization that has received the Four-Star Rating from Charity Navigator, a third-party organization that reports on the effectiveness, accountability and transparency of nonprofits, for the past 17 years in a row – placing it among the top one percent of charities rated by this organization. To learn more visit www.petsmartcharities.org.

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