



## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

### **BANFIELD FOUNDATION GIVES \$7,500 GRANT TO THE DONA ANA COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY**

April 30, 2019 – The Doña Ana County Humane Society received a \$7,500 grant from the Banfield Foundation to provide veterinary aid to the pets of low-income families.

Challenges such as injury/hospitalization, moving, losing a job, or being on a fixed income can force people to make wrenching decisions about their pets, such as surrendering them to the municipal animal shelter because they can't afford their medical care.

But with the help of the Banfield Foundation's grant, the Doña Ana County Humane Society is better equipped to keep these people together with their pets. Through our Animal Relief Fund, we offer emergency, quality-of-life and preventive veterinary assistance to low-income families in Doña Ana County. More than 250 pets and their families will benefit from this program this year.

"The Animal Relief Fund is the only program of its type in southern New Mexico," said DACHS Executive Director Kathy Lawitz. "Our goal is to keep pets healthy and with their families, who would otherwise be forced to euthanize their animals, surrender them to a shelter, or allow them to suffer due to lack of funds. With the high intake rate at our overcrowded municipal shelter, this program is key to keeping pets from being surrendered for financial reasons. It is central to our goal of 'Keeping People and Pets Together.'"

From Banfield Pet Hospital's start as a single hospital in 1955, to its nationwide presence today with more than 1,000 hospitals across the country and Puerto Rico, the practice has long been committed to giving back. With the creation of its charitable arm, the Banfield Foundation, in 2015, the two organizations have enhanced the lives of pets, people and communities across the country. To learn more, visit [BanfieldFoundation.org](http://BanfieldFoundation.org).

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**About the Doña Ana County Humane Society**

The Doña Ana County Humane Society, founded in 1955, administers programs that help people and pets in areas of unaddressed need. To that end, we offer low-income veterinary assistance, free behavior training for shelter dogs, and discounted adoptions for senior citizens who wish to adopt shelter pets. To learn more, visit [www.dachslc.org](http://www.dachslc.org), or find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/DonaAnaCountyHumaneSociety/>.

### **About the Banfield Foundation®**

At the core of the Banfield Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is the belief that all pets deserve access to veterinary care. In support of this belief, the foundation funds programs that enable veterinary care, elevate the power of the human-animal bond, provide disaster relief for pets, and advance the science of veterinary medicine through fostering innovation and education. It also leverages the expertise and passion of Banfield Pet Hospital associates to care for pets in need. At the Banfield Foundation, we are committed to making a better world for pets because they make a better world for us. For more information, visit [BanfieldFoundation.org](http://BanfieldFoundation.org).

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