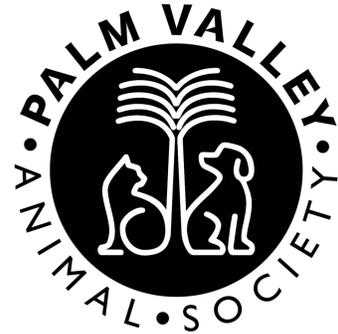


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For Immediate Release

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PALM VALLEY ANIMAL SOCIETY RECEIVES \$20K TO EXPAND ITS FOSTER PROGRAM, THANKS TO MADDIE

Edinburg, TX, (6/8/2020) – Palm Valley Animal Society (PVAS) is proud to announce that it is the recipient of \$20,000 from Maddie's Fund®, a national family foundation established by Dave and Cheryl Duffield to revolutionize the status and well-being of companion animals.

This grant will boost PVAS' foster program and take it to the next level. The support comes at a time when the foster program has become the heart of PVAS' lifesaving efforts. COVID-19 challenged animal welfare around the country and started a movement that is reimagining how pets are sheltered and housed. The community in the Rio Grande Valley has been a part of that movement, fostering and saving the lives of hundreds of animals during the past few months.

"Thanks to Maddie, this grant will support our foster network, and could mean the difference in getting new fosters who might not have their own supplies," said Casamento. "During COVID-19, the community stepped up and opened its homes to hundreds of pets, giving these animals a second chance and a new life. Fostering saves lives."

Currently, there are over 150 foster families fostering over 300 cats, kittens, dogs, and puppies through PVAS. The grant from Maddie's Fund® will help the foster team build supply kits for foster families. Kits will include crates, bowls, leashes, and collars. With this support and the dedication of staff, volunteers, and foster families, PVAS has transformed its lifesaving and for the first time ever achieved a 94% save rate in May. With over 25,000 dogs and cats coming in yearly, PVAS is one of the largest shelters in the entire country.

"Our foster caregivers are incredible and we have seen firsthand how they go above and beyond to save lives when we ask for help," said Chelsea Hughes, a volunteer with the foster team. "These are difficult times for everyone... This grant from Maddie's will help ensure that everyone who has a loving home and can provide care will be able to participate in fostering."

PVAS encourages the community to get involved – through adopting, volunteering, fostering, donating, and spreading the word.

[Maddie's Fund®](#) is a family foundation created in 1994 by Workday® co-founder Dave Duffield and his wife, Cheryl, who have endowed the Foundation with more than \$300 million. Since then, the Foundation has awarded more than \$237.6 million in grants toward increased community lifesaving, shelter management leadership, shelter medicine education, and foster care across the U.S. The Duffields named Maddie's Fund after their Miniature Schnauzer Maddie, who always made them laugh and gave them much joy. Maddie was with Dave and Cheryl for ten years and continues to inspire them today.

Maddie's Fund is the fulfillment of a [promise](#) to an inspirational dog, investing its resources to create a no-kill nation where every dog and cat is guaranteed a healthy home or habitat. #ThanksToMaddie.

About Palm Valley Animal Society

Our mission: “Palm Valley Animal Society will provide lifesaving care, comfort, and compassion to animals in need by engaging the hearts, hands, and minds of our community.”

PVAS’ goal is to save every animal that can be saved through progressive adoption, foster care, and rescue transfer programs. PVAS offers a number of additional programs designed to help pets in the shelter, in the community, and in your home, including volunteer, fee-reduction, and veterinary services programs.

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