



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **National Nonprofit Petco Love Invests in betterTogether Forever To Help Increase Access to Veterinary Care for Pets in Los Angeles, CA**

**Los Angeles, CA (November, 2023)** – betterTogether Forever is set to receive a \$7,500 grant investment from national nonprofit Petco Love in support of their lifesaving work for animals in Los Angeles, CA.

Petco Love is a national nonprofit leading change for pets by harnessing the power of love to make communities and pet families closer, stronger, and healthier. Since its founding in 1999, Petco Love has invested \$370 million in adoption and other lifesaving efforts. And Petco Love helps find loving homes for pets in partnership with Petco and more than 4,000 organizations — like ours — across North America, with 6.7 million pets adopted and counting.

The investment in betterTogether Forever is part of \$1.5M in grants recently announced by Petco Love for more than 100 spay/neuter clinics and other low-cost veterinary care providers to help increase access to veterinary care for pets in their communities. The lifesaving investments are also being granted to reduce economic euthanasia, and the surrender of pets to shelters when families are not able to afford needed veterinary treatment.

“Petco Love knows pets are family and we strive to take care of them the best we can, though the reality is not everyone has equal access to veterinary care as many pet parents face difficult financial times,” said Susanne Kogut, President of Petco Love. “That’s why we are proud to support our partner animal welfare organizations in providing helpful services in their communities, so we can keep pets and their families together.”

“We believe in multispecies justice and that there needs to be affordable and accessible veterinary care for all. This generous grant will help us to continue to collaborate and partner to bring these services to communities of need as life has challenges, and the bond shared between a person and a pet provides stability, comfort, and relief. We are grateful to Petco Love for being part of the safety net in the community making us all betterTogether!” said Christy Schilling, Executive Director.

As part of Petco Love’s mission to make pet families healthier and increase access to veterinary care, through its *Vaccinated and Loved* campaign, Petco Love reached its goal of distributing 2 MILLION free pet vaccines for family pets in November 2023! The campaign was launched in August 2021, encouraging Petco Love animal welfare partners to host free vaccine clinics. *Vaccinated and Loved*

marked its first significant milestone in September 2022, when Petco Love reached its [one-millionth free pet vaccine distribution](#) for family pets and committed to another one million free pet vaccines.

betterTogether Forever is a nonprofit organization that offers options, services, resources, and referrals to pet parents in crises, in poverty, under-resourced, housing-challenged in Los Angeles, CA so that they can keep their pets, keep them safe and healthy, and NOT have to surrender them to an animal shelter, give them up, or live on the streets to stay with them. Since 2021 betterTogether Forever has partnered with a variety of animal welfare and human service agencies, being out in the community delivering a full range of support services to people who love their pets.

Brief list of accomplishments:

- Providing access to veterinary care and preserving the human animal bond since 2004
- Partnering with dozens of organizations and businesses, both in human and animal welfare and services, to support pets and their families in the communities of Los Angeles.
- Just this year (1/1/23-10/31/23) received and answered 3,689 requests for support; provided 806 pets with veterinary care; gave options to 1,231 through shelter intervention; and dispersed \$97,917.36 worth of pet food and supplies through our pet pantry (which is 14,382.68 pounds and 60,096.95 ounces of dog and cat food) all to keep families united and alleviate the overcrowded animal shelters.

For more information about betterTogether Forever, visit <https://www.peopleandpetsbtf.org/>. Learn more about Petco Love here: [petcolove.org](https://petcolove.org).

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### **About betterTogether Forever**

People and the pets they love belong together no matter what challenges life has thrown their way. betterTogether Forever is dedicated to helping pet parents in Los Angeles communities with incomes below the poverty line access valuable services to help them stay together with the pets they love, and to keep those pets safe, healthy, happy, off the streets, and out of animal shelters.

### **About Petco Love**

Petco Love is a life-changing nonprofit organization that makes communities and pet families closer, stronger, and healthier. Since our founding in 1999 as the Petco Foundation, we've empowered animal welfare organizations by investing \$370 million in adoption and other lifesaving efforts. We've helped find loving homes for more than 6.7 million pets in partnership with Petco and organizations nationwide.

Our love for pets drives us to lead with innovation, creating tools animal lovers need to reunite lost pets, and lead with passion, inspiring and mobilizing communities and our more than 4,000 animal welfare partners to drive lifesaving change alongside us. Join us. Visit [petcolove.org](https://petcolove.org) or follow on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [X](#), and [LinkedIn](#) to be part of the lifesaving work we lead every day.