

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** July 2023

July 18, 2023

For more information, contact:

Kimberly Wade (904) 294-1914

Joy Smith (916) 300-8166

FieldHaven Feline Center and The City of Shasta Lake Animal Control Announce Collaborative Lifesaving Efforts and Celebratory Pet Party July 27

Lincoln, CA – TAMI (Trap-Alter-Manage-Invest) is a lifesaving program led by FieldHaven Feline Center for community cats. It's funded thanks to a grant from California for All Animals, which exists to amplify the work of California animal shelters. TAMI is focused on several defined areas surrounding FieldHaven's shelter in Lincoln. The most recent partnership is between The City of Shasta Lake Animal Control, Northstate Veterinary Clinic in Redding, and Best Friends Animal Society. TAMI will offer lifesaving programs including free and low-cost spay/neuter for cats, vaccines, and microchips for The City of Shasta Lake residents, and transfer opportunities for pets to shelters with more space and resources.

To celebrate this partnership and the 150 cats who have already been saved thanks to this grant, The City of Shasta Lake Animal Control is holding a special pet party next Thursday, July 27 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at 3025 Ashby Road. Festivities include free vaccines and microchips for dogs and cats belonging to City of Shasta Lake residents, raffle prizes, dog and cat adoptions, volunteer and free cat spay/neuter opportunities, and more!

"Shasta Lake Animal Control is a small shelter with very few resources, but powerful enough to make a lifesaving difference in the community and gain access to progressive change—especially being under new management for the last year," said Joy Smith, founder and executive director for FieldHaven. "We often transfer cats and kittens from their shelter to ours because of their lack of resources. The lifesaving gap in Shasta Lake is certainly not because of lack of desire or trying; it's because of lack of vet care. TAMI will change that!"

TAMI is a holistic, community-based program that focuses on underserved areas. It will make affordable services and resources more accessible, decrease barriers for local residents, create sustainability for the care of community cats, and reduce overall euthanasia of unwanted and an uncared population of cats in these specific regions.

"We cannot adopt our way out of cat overpopulation. Spay/neuter is truly the answer," said Joy Smith, founder and executive director for FieldHaven. "Collaboration is how we all work together, shelters and vet clinics, especially in a time of the veterinary crisis and shortage of staff. Thanks to California for All Animals, we are bringing resources directly to pets and people who need it the most. By partnering with Shasta Lake, who had been under new management for a year, this not only helps ensure the success of TAMI but also makes each of our own programs and services more successful."

FieldHaven Feline Center

Founded in 2003, FieldHaven Feline Center is a progressive nonprofit animal welfare organization who offers innovative solutions for cats and people in need while enhancing their lives. They operate a free-roaming cat adoption facility, thrift store marketplace and spay/neuter clinic. For more, visit fieldhaven.com.

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In late 2022 a survey was published assessing access to veterinary care in California animal shelters. Specific details and the full results are here and some of the highlights are listed below: 344,000 California shelter animals do not have adequate access to veterinary care staff. 40% of shelter respondents are unable to consistently perform spay neuter 80% of respondents stated they are experiencing an increase in length of stay due to the shortage. Of the shelters that have budgeted positions for veterinarians and veterinary nurses, more than 50% of those positions remain vacant due to a lack of candidates.

California for All Animals is a five-year project to improve the lives of at-risk animals in the state and provide much-needed resources to shelters that serve this vulnerable population.

To find out more about the TAMl program, including how to get involved and how to donate to sustain the cause, visit <https://fieldhaven.com/programs/tami/> or call (916) 434-6022.

If you are a Shasta Lake resident looking for more information, contact their shelter directly at (530) 275-7480.

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