



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Peninsula Humane Society & SPCA Celebrates One Million Volunteer Hours** *Volunteers to be honored during National Volunteer Week*

**BURLINGAME, CALIF.** — The Peninsula Humane Society & SPCA (PHS/SPCA) has reached a major milestone by logging one million volunteer hours since the 2011 opening of its Center for Compassion in Burlingame. More than 1,400 volunteers have generously given their time to help with all aspects of animal care and administration duties amounting to one million hours.

“I have been volunteering three days a week at the shelter helping to care for and socialize cats since 2011”, said PHS/SPCA volunteer Judi Richards. “Coming into the Peninsula Humane Society to volunteer with the cats is one of the highlights of my week.”

PHS/SPCA volunteers do everything from walk dogs and socialize cats, feed baby wildlife and neonatal kittens, provide foster care for dogs and cats, help raise money, sort through donations to PHS/SPCA’s resale shop Pick of the Litter, present humane education to the public, help scared animals get past their fears, facilities maintenance, and many more critical responsibilities.

“One million is a huge number, and we are so appreciative of our volunteers who tirelessly gave one million hours to save the lives of animals in San Mateo County,” according to Brian Probst, PHS/SPCA Director of Volunteers and Community Programs. “They are performing life-saving work for the shelter animals and we couldn’t operate without our dedicated volunteers.”

To honor and celebrate volunteers and this astonishing one million volunteer hours milestone, PHS/SPCA will be providing cookies and other sweet treats throughout the week of April 23-29, which is also National Volunteer Week. The treats will be donated by the Crystal Springs Chapter of the National Charity League.

“I love dogs and appreciate all the care and attention the Peninsula Humane Society & SPCA gives to all the animals,” said Mike Gabitas a volunteer dog walker for PHS/SPCA. “It’s so much fun to volunteer as a dog walker. The dogs get out for some exercise and I do too! It’s a win-win for me and the dogs.”

PHS/SPCA estimates that in 2016 alone, volunteers helped save the lives of 6,142 animals.

National Volunteer Week is an annual national event commemorated in mid to late April to promote and show appreciation for volunteers. It was first established via Presidential Proclamation in 1974.

#### **About Peninsula Humane Society & SPCA**

Peninsula Humane Society & SPCA is a private, open-door, not-for-profit animal welfare organization. Primary programs include animal adoptions; animal rescue and sheltering, including specialty care for domestic animals with medical and/or behavioral challenges; wildlife rehabilitation; animal cruelty investigation; community outreach and education; low-cost spay/neuter; and obedience classes. This vital work is made possible by volunteers and donations. PHS/SPCA receives no funding from national animal welfare organizations. Visit [www.phs-sPCA.org](http://www.phs-sPCA.org) to learn about all PHS/SPCA’s programs and services, ways to help the animals and special events.