

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local cat initiative aims to reduce cat overpopulation

(Indianapolis, IN) — IndyFeral, an Indianapolis-based non profit, received a \$100,000 grant from PetSmart Charities® in May of 2011 to launch a cat initiative in collaboration with the FACE Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic, to reduce cat overpopulation in Indianapolis.

The initiative will offer free spay/neuter services for any cat, whether stray, feral, or pet, living in zip codes 46201, 46203, 46227, 46221 and 46241. These five Indianapolis zip codes have been identified as having the highest rate of cat intake at Indianapolis Animal Care and Control.

Under FACE's Neighborhood Cat Program, stray, feral, or "neighborhood" cats will be neutered, vaccinated, and ear-tipped, and then released. The ear-tip is universally recognized as a sign that a cat has been neutered.

"Cats will survive and continue to reproduce even in the most challenging outdoor situations," says Ellen Robinson, Executive Director of the FACE Clinic. "The only way to get a handle on the cat population is through very aggressive spay/neuter efforts."

IndyFeral's nine year-old Trap-Neuter-Return program successfully alters more than 3,000 stray and feral cats annually as Indianapolis' only proactive organization, completely committed to fighting the area's stray and feral cat overpopulation problem.

"Stray and feral cats are the greatest source of cat overpopulation. These cats produce 80% of the kittens that flood the shelters every spring and summer," says Lisa Tudor, Executive Director of IndyFeral.

Media Contact:
Lisa Tudor, lisa@indyferal.org
Executive Director, IndyFeral
(317) 919-1917

About IndyFeral

Established in 2002, IndyFeral is nonprofit 501 (c) (3) organization which serves as a resource for caretakers of stray and feral cats in Central Indiana. To learn more about caring for outdoor cats, visit www.IndyFeral.org or call (317) 596-2300. For more info, visit indyferal.org.

About FACE Low Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic

The FACE Spay/Neuter Clinic is a non-profit, 501c3 organization committed to ending pet overpopulation in Indianapolis through accessible spay/neuter. Since we opened in 1999, FACE has neutered more than 145,000 animals resulting in a drop in euthanasia from 22,000 to 8,500. For more info, visit facespayneuter.org.

About PetSmart Charities

Established in 1994, PetSmart Charities, Inc. is an independent, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that creates and supports programs that save the lives of homeless pets, raise awareness of companion animal welfare issues, and promote healthy relationships between people and pets. The largest funder of animal welfare efforts in North America, PetSmart Charities has provided \$165 million in grants and programs benefiting animal welfare organizations and has helped save the lives of nearly 5 million pets through its in-store adoption program. To learn more about how PetSmart Charities is working toward its Vision of a lifelong, loving home for every pet, visit petsmartcharities.org or call 1-800-423-PETS.