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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GREY MUZZLE GRANT GIVES SENIOR DOGS AT HUMANE SOCIETY OF NORTH TEXAS A SECOND CHANCE The Humane Society of North Texas Possives

The Humane Society of North Texas Receives \$20,000 Grant from The Grey Muzzle Organization

OCTOBER 2, 2024 | FORT WORTH, TEXAS – There's good news for old dogs this year as The Grey Muzzle Organization announces the recipients of its annual grants, and dogs at the Humane Society of North Texas (HSNT) are among the winners.

HSNT, with three animal shelters throughout North Texas, is one of 100 animal welfare groups chosen from nearly 400 applicants to receive a grant to help local senior dogs and the people who love them. The winning groups are sharing more than \$1 million in grants to help save and improve the lives of at-risk old dogs in their communities.

"A grant from the Grey Muzzle Organization has enabled the Humane Society of North Texas (HSNT) to provide free basic veterinary care to 100 senior dogs of low-income older adults through the *Rae of Hope* program," said Destiny Vandeput, Director of Communications for HSNT. "This indispensable program offers essential services like vaccinations, microchipping, flea/tick prevention, and heartworm medication at no cost to pet owners, helping senior dogs stay in loving homes with their senior owners. More than 87% of our clients lack access to affordable veterinary care without Rae of Hope. In 2023, HSNT served 1,062 dogs through program clinics, with over 36% being seniors who might have otherwise been vulnerable to entering shelters if their owners could no longer care for them. Last year, Rae of Hope helped 392 senior dogs stay in their loving homes, and we look forward to making an even larger impact ahead!"

Over the past 16 years, the national nonprofit Grey Muzzle Organization has provided more than \$5.7 million in grants to support its vision of "a world where every senior dog thrives, and no old dog dies alone and afraid."

"Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we're delighted to help deserving organizations like the Humane Society of North Texas (HSNT) make a positive difference in the lives of dogs and people in their communities," Grey Muzzle's Executive Director Lisa Lunghofer said. "Many senior dogs in North Texas are enjoying their golden years in loving homes thanks to the lifesaving work of HSNT."

Since 1905, the Humane Society of North Texas (HSNT) has worked to eliminate animal cruelty, promote humane values and end animal homelessness in North Texas. As an independent nonprofit organization,

HSNT relies on the generosity of the public to help ensure there is a safe place for abused, injured, and homeless animals in the community. To make a lifesaving donation, please visit hsnt.org/donate or Facebook. To learn more about HSNT, visit <u>hsnt.org</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, <u>TikTok</u>, and <u>Instagram</u>. Pets and People, Saving Each OtherTM

The national nonprofit <u>The Grey Muzzle Organization</u> improves the lives of at-risk senior dogs by providing funding and resources to animal shelters, rescue organizations, sanctuaries, and other nonprofit groups nationwide. For details, please visit <u>www.greymuzzle.org</u>

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The Grey Muzzle Organization grant has significantly contributed to serving this population of senior pet owners and senior dogs, like current HSNT supporters helped Ginger, in 2024-2025!

"She was a throw-away dog," said Diana Pointer about Ginger, a Corgi-Chiweenie mix, who benefitted from a Rae of Hope Clinic hosted by HSNT. "The family that had Ginger couldn't potty train her, so they didn't want her anymore," Diana explained. Ginger has since become a loving member of Diana's family and is now almost 14 years old.

Diana shared how Rae of Hope has been a blessing as money is tight and veterinary care costly. "When Kip bought pet food this month, that was \$50 of our grocery bill!" she noted.

Diana and Kip brought three pets to HSNT's Rae of Hope Clinic.

Diana and Kip were impressed by the care and compassion HSNT's staff showed their pets. The clinic's announcement came at the perfect time. "At our stage in life, we have to be careful with money—especially with inflation," she said.

When asked what she would say to the program's funders, Diana simply said, "Thank you!"—three times. She added that she and Kip married later in life, and though he wasn't initially an animal lover, he quickly became a "fool for pets" like her. "We both hate to see them mistreated and believe they deserve the best life possible."