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Media Alert

The Humane Society of North Texas Is Offering \$250 Incentive to Foster Large Dogs or Three or More Puppies for Three Weeks

Media Alert: Fort Worth, Texas, March 14, 2023 – Like many animal welfare organizations in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, the Humane Society of North Texas (HSNT) has dogs testing positive for the canine influenza virus (CIV), as well as upper respiratory infections (URI), both of which are highly contagious. In an effort to stop the cycle of exposure to the healthy dogs in its care, HSNT is asking for the community's help to foster large dogs as well as puppies who have been exposed but are not showing flu-like symptoms.

Thanks to generous donors, HSNT is able to offer an incentive to potential foster families. In exchange for providing a temporary home for these dogs for three weeks, HSNT is offering a \$250 incentive to thank foster families for their help. HSNT will also provide fosters with training, supplies, and cover 100% of the foster dog's veterinary care.

This incentive applies to fosters who take in a dog at least 40 pounds or three (or more) puppies from the same litter for a three-week period of time.

Additional Information:

Though CIV and URI are rarely life-threatening in dogs, they spread quickly and are challenging to contain in a shelter environment. These illnesses in dogs are much like the human flu virus; most dogs experience mild-to-moderate symptoms such as coughing, sneezing, lethargy and congestion goes away with rest and hydration within 1 to 2 weeks. In rare cases, dogs can develop secondary infections such as pneumonia that require additional treatment.

Foster families who wish to participate will foster either one large dog (over 40 pounds) or three or more puppies for a three-week period. Fosters will be required to foster for the entire three-week period to receive the \$250 incentive. They are also required to keep the foster dog(s) inside their homes and separate from any other household pets.

Resources:

<u>Canine Influenza – American Veterinary Medical Association</u>
<u>Canine Influenza - University of Wisconsin Madison Shelter Medicine Program (uwsheltermedicine.com)</u>

About the Humane Society of North Texas

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.hsnt.org, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn and TikTok.