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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Humane Society of North Texas Receives Grant from Pedigree Foundation to Create Sensory Garden for Dog Enrichment

April 4, 2024 – Fort Worth, Texas: The Humane Society of North Texas (HSNT) is thrilled to announce a grant from the Pedigree Foundation to support the creation of a Sensory Garden at HSNT's main Fort Worth shelter. This innovative space will provide critical mental and physical enrichment for the shelter's dogs, engaging all five senses to reduce stress, encourage exercise, and foster desirable behaviors in a natural, therapeutic environment.

The Sensory Garden will be designed to create a peaceful, enriching outdoor area where dogs can enjoy activities that promote calm and well-being. HSNT plans to transform an outdoor play yard into a dynamic space that includes a **Dig Pit** for safe digging, **Scent Games** with scented logs for tracking, **Ramps and Tunnels** for climbing and agility, and other sensory-focused elements such as wind chimes and varied textures. These features will help lower cortisol levels, promote mental stimulation, and reduce undesirable behaviors, making the dogs more adoptable and easing their transition to forever homes.

"This Sensory Garden, made possible by the Pedigree Foundation, is an exciting development in our efforts to enhance the lives of shelter animals," said Destiny Vandeput, Director of Communications at HSNT. "This space will provide a safe and enriching environment, enabling our Behavior Department to work effectively with each dog to reduce stress, encourage positive behaviors, and prepare them for adoption."

Behavior Training is a critical program at HSNT that is designed to improve the adoptability and future well-being of each pet. Over the last six years, HSNT's live release rate has improved from 47% in 2016 to 97% in 2022 by building a transport program, improving medical care and addressing the behavioral needs of the pets in our care. Focused on the individual needs of each dog, the Behavior Training program is part of our high-quality care that also includes medical care and sheltering.



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About the Humane Society of North Texas

Since 1905, the Humane Society of North Texas (HSNT) is on a mission to save, shelter, protect, and advocate for all animals in need 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](#), [TikTok](#) and [Instagram](#). Pets and People, Saving Each Other™

About PEDIGREE Foundation

We believe every dog deserves a loving, forever home. PEDIGREE Foundation is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization working to help end pet homelessness. Nearly 3.1 million dogs end up in shelters and rescues every year, and nearly half never find a home. The foundation was established in 2008 by Mars Petcare, maker of PEDIGREE® food for dogs, to help increase dog adoption rates. We've awarded more than 6,200 grants and more than \$12 million to U.S. shelters and rescues that help dogs in need. Since launching our Canadian grant program in 2022, we have provided \$200k CAD to local shelters and rescues in need across Canada, as well as \$20k CAD in Disaster Relief. At PEDIGREE Foundation, we're working toward a day when all dogs are safe, secure, cared for, fed well and loved. See how you can help at PedigreeFoundation.org.