



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:

Maya Richmond, Executive Director

856-424-2288 ext. 109

director@awanj.org

AWA urges Chihuahua parents to prevent unwanted litters during their August “Cherish Your Chihuahua” campaign

Sponsored by PetSmart Charities®, “Cherish Your Chihuahua” provides \$20 spay/neuter surgeries (and free nail trim) for Chihuahua dogs

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Voorhees, NJ: – Chihuahuas and Chihuahua mixes are some of the most at risk pets entering U.S. shelters each year. Animal Welfare Association (AWA) with funding support from PetSmart Charities, the largest funder of animal welfare efforts in North America, are addressing the problem by introducing the “**Cherish Your Chihuahua**” spay/neuter campaign.

Through the “**Cherish Your Chihuahua**” campaign, AWA will offer a special \$20 spay/neuter surgery and free nail trim for Chihuahua and Chihuahua mixes during the month of August. Space is limited so call early to schedule an appointment.

“Spaying/neutering a pet is the most effective thing a pet parent can do to prevent unwanted litters from being born and contributing to the homeless pet overpopulation problem,” says Maya Richmond, Executive Director of AWA. “AWA is excited to partner with PetSmart Charities’ “Cherish Your Chihuahua” campaign. This campaign provides more than \$145,746 to spay/neuter clinics including AWA’s Pet Clinic to fund affordable, high-quality spay and neuter surgeries for more than 3,106 Chihuahuas across the nation during the month of August.”

The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) endorses spaying and neutering puppies as young as eight to 10 weeks old. Research also shows that the procedure may improve the behavior and health of the pet, including reducing the risk of certain reproductive cancers and infections.

This special \$20 rate is even less than the organization’s normal low-cost priced and is available to all South Jersey residents. *Pet parents who wish to take advantage of this offer must mention the “Cherish Your Chihuahua” campaign when they call to schedule their appointment.* The campaign is based on availability.

Please call 856-424-2288 for more information or to schedule an appointment. More information can be found at www.awanj.org

About AWA

Animal Welfare Association, a private, non-profit, 501(c) 3 animal welfare organization, serves the people and animals of southern New Jersey. AWA is dedicated to eliminating animal suffering, promoting the importance of the human-animal bond, and improving the role of

animals in the well-being of people. Through a variety of programs including adoptions, veterinary services, pet therapy, and humane education, in 2014 over 23,000 pets were served through AWA programming. AWA is South Jersey's leader in progressive companion animal care.

About PetSmart Charities:

PetSmart Charities, Inc. is a nonprofit animal welfare organization that saves the lives of homeless pets. More than 400,000 dogs and cats find homes each year through our adoption program in all PetSmart® stores and our sponsored adoption events. PetSmart Charities grants more money to directly help pets in need than any other animal welfare group in North America, with a focus on funding spay/neuter services that help communities solve pet overpopulation. PetSmart Charities is a 501(c)(3) organization, separate from PetSmart, Inc.