



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **IndyFeral Receives \$100,000 Grant from PetSmart Charities® to Launch Free-Roaming Cat Initiative**

Indianapolis, IN – 9-27-11— **IndyFeral** received a \$100,000 grant from PetSmart Charities® to launch a free-roaming cat initiative in collaboration with the FACE Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic. The goal of the initiative is to reduce the free-roaming cat crisis in Indianapolis by increasing spay/neuter capacity and Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) services for cats who find themselves living on the street.

“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” states Lisa Tudor, Executive Director for IndyFeral.

The initiative will offer free spay/neuter services for stray and feral cats in Indianapolis for residents who live in zip codes 46201 and 46203. These two zip codes have historically had the highest rate of cat intake at Indianapolis Animal Care and Control. To help combat cat overpopulation, The FACE Spay/Neuter Clinic recently launched the Neighborhood Cat program to add additional resources to help free-roaming cats.

Ellen Robinson, Executive Director of the FACE Clinic states “Cats survive and continue to reproduce even in the most challenging outdoor situations. The only way to get a handle on the cat population is through very aggressive spay/neuter efforts. Our Neighborhood Cat Program is designed to make it as easy as possible for Indianapolis residents to neuter and care for these

outdoor cats.” The Humane Society of Indianapolis will be providing targeted education and outreach in support of the initiative. IndyFeral’s nine year-old Trap-Neuter-Return program successfully alters more than 3000 stray and feral cats on average to proactively fight the area’s stray and feral cat overpopulation.

To view a list of services, locations and hours of operation, visit [www.IndyFeral.org](http://www.IndyFeral.org) (317) 596-2300 or [www.facespayneuter.org](http://www.facespayneuter.org) (317) 638-3223.

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](http://www.IndyFeral.org) or call (317) 596-2300.

#### **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 \$134 million in grants and programs benefiting animal welfare organizations and has helped save the lives of more than 4.7 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](http://petsmartcharities.org) or call 1-800-423-PETS.

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