

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DENVER -- Demi's Animal Rescue is partnering with Colorado Coalition for the Homeless to provide vet care for those who can't afford it or don't have access to an animal hospital.

On October 14, from 8am to 5pm pet owners will be able to take their pets to 3999 Colorado Blvd Denver, CO 80205 to receive treatment.

CCH has invited their own clients to participate in the event and have also provided the venue for the procedures to take place. The event, however, is open to anyone who may be struggling to secure or maintain housing.

"The point of this clinic is to help pet homelessness and make it easy and simple for people to provide care to their pets," said Demi Merritt, founder of Demi's Animal Rescue. "As an organization we strive to make doing the right thing easy."

The clinic will treat each pet, provide food, leashes and collars under the condition that each pet be spayed or neutered. A large portion of pet rescue organizations – DAR included – see the unwanted breeding of pets contributing to the amount of shelter euthanasia's, which is why the measure exists.

"The issues we are facing are very complicated and we are trying to hit multiple sides of it, with spay and neuter being at the center," said Merritt.

The rescue's collaboration with private vet offices and other nonprofit organizations will ensure each pet receives all the care it needs in a controlled environment.

DAR has worked for many years to save pets from being killed by pulling from shelters' kill lists and taking in owner surrenders. But this accounts for animals that are put into the hands of DAR. However, many people in the homeless community have pets as support animals and can't afford healthcare.

"These pets are at the center of these people lives and are a friend that helps them through hard times, our goal is to nurture that and prevent them from entering a shelter system, or worse," said Merritt.

These pets rarely come through a rescue because of the loyalty pet owners have to their companions, aside from the pets providing support for mental illness.

"The connection these people have with their pets is quite beautiful, which is why we chose to target this population and partner with Colorado Coalition for the Homeless," said Merritt.

This is the first time DAR and CCH have teamed up to provide services to the homeless. However, this could be a service that the two organizations provide annually.

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