



DAY-OF MEDIA CONTACT:

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(DO NOT RELEASE ABOVE CONTACT INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC)

LINK TO PUBLICITY PHOTOS / B-ROLL VIDEO: <https://bit.ly/3j0ZAal>

TUESDAY, AUG. 18, 2020 – SAN DIEGO

**San Diego Humane Society to Distribute its One Millionth Pet Meal
Since Beginning of COVID-19 Pandemic**

*Organization to celebrate how the nonprofit's safety net services continues to meet
unprecedented community need with commemorative meal distribution*

WHAT:

- [San Diego Humane Society \(SDHS\)](#) has distributed one million pet meals (and counting!) via their Community Pet Pantry since the COVID-19 pandemic began in March. That's the equivalent of 230,000 pounds of pet food, reaching 45,000 pet families.
- In recognition of this achievement, the organization will give out its one millionth pet meal to a deserving member of our community, Miguel Angel. During COVID-19, Miguel's work hours were reduced and unfortunately, he just lost his job yesterday. Miguel helps take care of 10 dogs within his extended family and picks up supplies from SDHS weekly. SDHS' distribution events ensure no San Diegan will need to give up the pet they love because of financial concerns.

WHEN: Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2020 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

**** PLEASE NOTE: Best time to cover is 10-10:30 a.m. ****

WHERE: San Diego Humane Society, 5500 Gaines Street, San Diego, Calif. 92110
Reserved media parking will be available.

INTERVIEWS/VISUALS:

- Dr. Gary Weitzman, President and CEO, San Diego Humane Society
- Quinn Douglas-Hiley, Distribution Coordinator, San Diego Humane Society

- Service recipient Miguel Angel can speak to the impact of San Diego Humane Society's assistance. He will have one of his dogs with him. ***Miguel is also fluent in Spanish.***
- Diana Moore, volunteer, San Diego Humane Society can speak to her experience of volunteering with San Diego Humane Society and how the organization helps families and pets in our local community.
- Tables showcasing how much dog and cat food a \$25 donation buys.
- Members of the community receiving pet food for their furry family members.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT:

- Since the pandemic began, SDHS has opened its campus locations for weekly pet food distributions. Anyone can visit the organization's campuses in Escondido, Oceanside or San Diego from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday to pick up a bag of dog or cat food, as well as other supplies, such as cat litter, pet treats and pet beds while supplies last.
- To reach more people in their communities, SDHS has also partnered with the Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank, San Diego Unified School District and other human service groups serving seniors to make pet food available at their distribution sites.
- Further, pet food has also been distributed to SDHS's dog and cat rescue partners for the pets in their care. The drive-thru service allows the nonprofit to provide pet food and supplies efficiently and safely.
 - In the early stages of this service, SDHS was helping more than 500 families each day. The pet food distribution is in part possible thanks to generous donations from its partners at GreaterGood.org, ASPCA and [Petco Foundation](http://PetcoFoundation).
- The organization's safety net services go beyond providing families with pet food and supplies. SDHS also offers veterinary assistance and other resources outlined at www.sdhumane.org.

About San Diego Humane Society

San Diego Humane Society's scope of social responsibility goes beyond adopting animals. We offer programs that strengthen the human-animal bond, prevent cruelty and neglect, provide medical care, educate the community and serve as a safety net for all pet families. Serving San Diego County since 1880, San Diego Humane Society has campuses in Escondido, Oceanside and San Diego. For more information, please visit sdhumane.org.

Suggested Tweet: [@sdhumane](https://twitter.com/sdhumane) has reached 1 million pet meals distributed since the #COVID19 pandemic began. Anyone can visit SDHS campus locations in Escondido, Oceanside or San Diego from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tues- Sun to pick up a bag of dog or cat food and other supplies while supplies last.

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