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**SDHS Celebrates 5-Year Anniversary of San Diego County Reaching Zero
Euthanasia of Healthy or Treatable Animals**

On July 1, 2015, San Diego Animal Welfare Coalition committed to "Getting to Zero."

San Diego — San Diego Humane Society is celebrating the five-year anniversary of "Getting to Zero," the San Diego Animal Welfare Coalition's commitment to reaching zero euthanasia of healthy or treatable animals in San Diego County. Before July 1, 2015, treatable animals were at risk of euthanasia in shelters due to sheer numbers and limited resources.

"Getting to Zero was truly a milestone for San Diego, because it was the first time in our region's history that no healthy or treatable animal was at risk for being unnecessarily euthanized," said Dr. Gary Weitzman, president and CEO of San Diego Humane Society. "San Diego is one of the safest communities in the nation for animals."

San Diego Humane Society is proud to have not euthanized a healthy or treatable animal since 2002. When the San Diego Animal Welfare Coalition — a collaboration of area shelters, foster families, rescue groups and other lifesaving partners — was able to reach the same goal of zero euthanasia in July 2015, it meant that all healthy and treatable animals entering the San Diego animal sheltering system were safe from being euthanized. San Diego is the largest city in the nation to have accomplished this feat.

The San Diego Animal Welfare Coalition is a partnership between eight local animal shelters and rescue organizations: Chula Vista Animal Care Facility, PAWS of Coronado, El Cajon Animal Shelter, Friends of Cats, Rancho Coastal Humane Society, County of San Diego Department of Animal Services, San Diego House Rabbit Society and San Diego Humane Society.

B-roll and photos can be downloaded here: <https://bit.ly/2BpydWy>.

Suggested Tweet: @sdhumane is celebrating the 5-year anniversary of "Getting to Zero," the San Diego Animal Welfare Coalition's commitment to reaching zero euthanasia of healthy or treatable animals in San Diego County. San Diego is the largest city in the nation to have accomplished this feat.

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.

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