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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**PETLAND, INC. LAUNCHES CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION TO SUPPORT LOCAL COMPANIONS**

*Petland Charities will donate funds to local shelters and K9 units*

**CHILLICOTHE, OH (May 1, 2017)** – Petland, Inc. is showing their dedication to the local communities they serve by kicking off a campaign to help furry companions in need.

Through Petland Charities, a 501c3 organization, Petland will partner with the communities their corporate stores call home to raise funds for local shelters and K9 units.

“Petland deeply cares for all animals and we want to ensure they are properly cared for,” said Joe Watson, president and CEO of Petland, Inc.

Petland will invite customers to make donations to local shelter or K9 units throughout the year. Petland Charities also will match customer donations up to \$3,000 per store per year.

Petland Charities and the campaigns to raise funds for local shelters and K9 units will be introduced to the corporate stores in phases. The first campaign will launch May 1. The stores that will be participating are in Cicero, NY; Athens, OH; Chillicothe, OH; Dayton, OH; Gallipolis, OH; Grove City, OH; Heath, OH; Hilliard, OH; Lancaster, OH; Washington Court House, OH; and Monroeville, PA.

“We want to give these non-profits as much help as possible,” said Edwin Sayres, executive director for Petland Charities. “All money raised from these campaigns will stay in these communities, ensuring local organizations receive the funds they need.”

Petland will continue other corporate charitable giving, including promoting the adoption of homeless pets, granting children’s pet-related wishes via the Make-A-Wish Foundation®, donating to St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital®, paying for the training of service dogs for disabled veterans, donating food to K9 units and providing grants to teachers to purchase pets and pet supplies for the classroom.

“Petland has been giving back since the company was founded, so Petland Charities is simply an extension of our current efforts,” Watson said. “We take our role in the community very seriously and are excited to see the positive impact this new endeavor will have.”

To learn more about Petland Charities and the new giving campaigns, visit [www.petlandcares.com](http://www.petlandcares.com).

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**ABOUT PETLAND, INC.**

Petland, Inc. is a franchise operation with quality, full service retail pet centers across the United States, Canada, China, Mexico, South Africa, Brazil and El Salvador. For more than 49 years, Petland Pet Counselors have been dedicated to matching the right pet with the right person and meeting the needs of both. To its customers who already have pets, Petland is dedicated to enhancing their knowledge and enjoyment of the human-animal bond. Petland was founded in 1967 and is headquartered in south central Ohio. For more information on Petland, visit [www.petland.com](http://www.petland.com).

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