

## **PetSmart Charities® Adoption Centers**

At its inception in 1987, PetSmart® made the sound decision to not sell dogs or cats, but to encourage pet adoptions. In 1992, PetSmart began donating space in each store to animal welfare organizations to help place pets in loving homes. These in-store Adoption Centers grew when PetSmart Charities was founded in 1994. Due to the overwhelming success of the program today, one homeless pet's life is saved every two minutes when it is adopted from a PetSmart Charities Adoption Center.

- Each year between 6-8 million companion animals are abandoned in the United States. A primary reason is pet overpopulation, caused by the failure of owners to have their pets spayed or neutered. Of those abandoned pets, 3-4 million are euthanized simply because they do not have homes.
- By partnering with more than 3,400 animal welfare agencies in the U.S. and Canada, PetSmart and PetSmart Charities' in-store Adoption Centers have saved the lives of more than 3 million once-homeless pets.
- Since its founding in 1994, PetSmart Charities has donated more than \$52 million dollars to animal welfare programs.
- You're going to find great pets at PetSmart Charities Adoption Centers. Pets with mixed heritage benefit from greater genetic diversity. For people looking for a specific breed, local adoption agencies are likely to have what they seek.
- PetSmart encourages people who cannot adopt at this time to donate to the cause or volunteer for local animal welfare organizations to save the lives of homeless pets.
- To adopt a pet, visit <u>www.petsmart.com</u> and click on "store locator" to find a PetSmart Charities Adoption Center near you.