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HUMANE SOCIETY OF CATAWBA COUNTY TO BEGIN OPERATING CATAWBA COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

NEWTON, NC – Catawba County Animal Services has expanded its partnership with the Humane Society of Catawba County (HSCC) to operate the Catawba County Animal Shelter, effective October 1, 2017. HSCC has been providing adoption services within the Catawba County Animal Shelter since 2014.

The Catawba County Animal Shelter provides services that seek to meet the needs of the community at large and local governments by providing safe, humane shelter for impounded, homeless, abused, neglected, lost or abandoned animals. It also serves as home base for Catawba County's Animal Services division.

Through this new partnership, HSCC will facilitate the intake of all animals presented at the shelter from within Catawba County, veterinary care, fostering and adoption, educational programming and vaccine clinics, volunteer coordination, and maintenance of shelter equipment. Catawba County Animal Services will continue to provide animal control and public health related services from the shelter and will be responsible for maintenance of the building, which is located on the Catawba County Government Center campus in Newton.

"Over the course of our current collaboration with the Humane Society, we realized we were duplicating processes and paperwork that could be streamlined under one central point of operation," said Mark Pettit, Catawba County's Assistant Emergency Services Director. "The Humane Society's expertise in shelter operations, animal care and adoption makes them an ideal partner to provide comprehensive shelter management, which will ultimately help expedite the process of moving animals from intake through adoption more quickly."

"The Humane Society of Catawba County is extremely excited about this expansion," stated Jane Bowers, Executive Director of Humane Society of Catawba County. "Our partnership with the County since 2014 has benefited so many animals and has illustrated to all just how beneficial the public/private partnership can be. This model is used in other counties across North Carolina, and we are proud to be the vanguard for such a progressive movement."

Catawba County Animal Services provides animal control services for Catawba County as required by North Carolina state law. This includes responding to and investigating reports of animal cruelty, animal nuisance, stray animals, and animal bites. For more information about Catawba County Animal Services, call (828) 465-8228 or visit www.catawbacountync.gov.

The mission of Humane Society of Catawba County is to make our community a better place for people and for animals by facilitating the adoption of rescued dogs and cats, advocating the spaying and neutering of pets, and promoting humane treatment of all animals. Humane Society of Catawba County was born in

1998, the outgrowth of Western Piedmont Humane Society. HSCC is not affiliated with any national humane organizations, nor is it funded by United Way. For more information about the Humane Society of Catawba County, call (828) 464-8878 or visit www.catawbahumane.org.

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