



NEWS RELEASE: For Immediate Release

**CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT ANIMAL CARE & CONTROL TO  
CONTINUE “BLESS YOUR HEART” PILOT PROGRAM FOR PETS**

**THE PROGRAM PROVIDES AFFORDABLE VETERINARY CARE TO ADDRESS  
CANINE HEARTWORM DISEASE IN CHARLOTTE, NC THANKS TO A  
\$51,000 GRANT FROM PETSMA®RT CHARITIES®**

**WHAT: Bless Your Heart Community Clinic**  
**WHEN: Thursday, April 28, 2022**  
**TIME: 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**  
**LOCATION: Camp North End – 300 Camp Road Charlotte, NC 28206**

**April 27, 2022** — CHARLOTTE, NC – Due to cost and other barriers, pets in nearly 50 million under-resourced communities in the U.S. are without access to even the most basic veterinary care including preventative and spay/neuter services, vaccinations, dental and other medical care.

In the U.S., [70 percent](#) of homes include pets. As research continues to reveal the benefits of the human-animal bond, a movement is underway to connect pet parents to the care their pets need to keep them and their families healthy.

With a \$51,000 grant from [PetSmart Charities](#), Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department Animal Care & Control (AC&C) will provide continued support for pets in need of these veterinary services by hosting monthly Bless Your Heart Community Clinics at [Camp North End](#) in Charlotte.

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*“These clinics are vital to help educate pet owners about heartworm disease that is very prevalent in our region. Canine heartworm disease is a life-threatening condition that is not always outwardly visible, but it can be treated and is easily preventable. The clinic's goal is to be able to provide heartworm testing and preventatives or treatment for dogs of families that otherwise would not have access to veterinary care.” said AC&C Director, Dr. Josh Fisher.*

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At the clinic, dogs will receive a general wellness exam and heartworm test with a veterinarian, as well as CORE vaccines, and a microchip that links them to their owners. The heartworm tests

will provide results in just a few minutes and then the clinic can provide six months of heartworm and flea prevention medication or assist with a treatment plan.

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*“Building on Camp North End’s holistic approach to health and wellness, we are happy to host Bless Your Heart Clinics, which provide wraparound support for pet owners. Dogs are such a special part of their families and this programming is vital in keeping them healthy,” said Varian Shrum, Community Manager at Camp North End.*

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This is a need-based clinic and there are limited spaces available. Appointments are required and can be reserved online here: [online form](#).

### **About Charlotte-Mecklenburg Animal Care & Control**

Animal Care & Control (AC&C) is part of the Administrative Services Bureau of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department and currently consists of five units including Field Operations, Animal Sheltering & Medical Services, Customer Service & Community Outreach, Communications, and Administrative Services. In addition to providing regulatory services that contribute to community public health and safety, AC&C has many programs that focus on education, intake mitigation, pet management, adoption, and animal health concerns.

AC&C is dedicated to helping the people and pets of Charlotte & Mecklenburg County by providing a variety of medical and support services. AC&C is also here to help educate the public about how to best care for animals and work to keep pets and people safe and together.

### **About Camp North End**

Developed by ATCO Properties & Management, Camp North End is a state-of-the-art creative development that is being designed and curated to cater to today’s most innovative and cutting-edge companies in Charlotte. Select Camp North End buildings are being jointly developed by ATCO and Shorenstein Properties, LLC.

As one of the largest adaptive reuse projects currently underway in the U.S., the project is transforming a historic 76-acre site where people once manufactured Model T cars and assembled US Army missiles into a catalytic hub of creativity and ideas.

With over 300,000 square feet of space already redeveloped for work, artistic expression, dining and hospitality, entertainment, recreation, and community building, and another 1.5 million square feet on the way, Camp North End's curated development will drive growth for the businesses that join its community.

For more information about Camp North End, visit the official Camp North End website at <https://camp.nc/> or follow along on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#) at [@campnorthend](#).

### **About PetSmart Charities®**

PetSmart Charities is committed to making the world a better place for pets and all who love them. Through its in-store adoption program in all PetSmart® stores across the U.S. and Puerto Rico, PetSmart Charities helps up to 600,000 pets connect with loving families each year. PetSmart Charities also provides grant funding to support organizations that advocate and care for the well-being of all pets and their families. Our grants and efforts connect pets with loving homes through adoption, improve access to affordable veterinary care and support families in times of crisis with access to food, shelter and emergency relief. Each year, millions of generous supporters help pets in need by donating to PetSmart Charities directly at [PetSmartCharities.org](#), while shopping at [PetSmart.com](#), and by using the PIN pads at checkout registers inside PetSmart® stores. In turn, PetSmart Charities efficiently uses more than 90 cents of every dollar donated to fulfill its role as the leading funder of animal welfare in North America, granting more than \$500 million since its inception in 1994. Independent from PetSmart LLC, PetSmart Charities is a 501(c)(3) organization that has received the Four-Star Rating from Charity Navigator for the past 18 years in a row – placing it among the top one percent of rated charities. To learn more visit [www.petsmartcharities.org](http://www.petsmartcharities.org).

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#### **PetSmart Charities**

24-Hour PetSmart Charities

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