**Press Release**

**For Immediate Release

 Contact: Rita Falaguerra, Director Cat Adoption Team Services (CATS)**

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January 13, 2013 - Cat Adoption Team Services (CATS) is excited to announce they have been selected by the Petco Foundation to receive a $30,000 Spay Me Grant to assist low income pet owners and to relieve the cat overpopulation problem in the State of Rhode Island.

 CATS will focus its attention and grant funds in the following cities and towns; East Providence, Providence, West Warwick, Central Falls and Woonsocket.

 "We are so very pleased to have been selected to receive these grants monies. Many people don't realize the intense need for financial assistance for spay and neuter to low income pet owners, said Rita Falaguerra Director of CATS. "Additionally, we have a severe cat overpopulation in our State. Every year thousands of cats are euthanized in Rhode Island and many more remain homeless on our streets not only in our big cities but in our small towns as well."

 The cat overpopulation is a life and death problem which can only be solved through spaying and neutering as it is 100% effective. Statistics show one male cat can father 420,000 kittens in just 5 years.

 CATS applied for the grant to help the plight of cats in Rhode Island. They are an all-volunteer, non-profit, 501(c)(3) and are located at the Providence Petco every Sunday from 11:00AM-3:00PM showing homeless cats for adoption.

"The Petco Foundation has been an integral part of assisting us in adopting many cats and kittens each year. They provide us a great location to show homeless cats, much needed pet food donations and funds which enable us to help save so many cats each year. They are a true partner in rescue and as a Corporation, they really put their money where their mouth is", stated Rita Falaguerra.

 A check presentation will occur on Monday, January 28th at 10:30AM at the Providence Petco located at 454 North Main Street, University Heights, Providence. Invited attendees include Governor Chafee, Senators Whitehouse and Reed and Representatives Cicilline and Langevin, as well as the State Representative and Senators, Mayors and Council members from the benefiting communities.

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