



**For Immediate Release**

## **The Arizona Pet Project and SniffAZ Join Forces** *Valley Nonprofits Combine to Help More Arizona Pets & Families* *SNIFF2018 Event Scheduled for November 8, 2018*

(Phoenix, AZ – July 10, 2018) – The Arizona Pet Project and SniffAZ, two Arizona not-for-profits dedicated to helping Arizona pets and their families, today were pleased to announce that their organizations have merged and together will continue their work to support Arizona animals and their families. All SniffAZ events and activities will continue under The Arizona Pet Project organization.

SniffAZ, an all-volunteer Valley organization established in 2012 dedicated to funding no cost spay/neuter services, will join forces with The Arizona Pet Project, a Valley nonprofit agency that prevents pet homelessness through spay/neuter and shelter intervention. Under The Arizona Pet Project name, the combined organization plans to grow its opportunities to help Valley pets and their families.

Elizabeth Sharp, Chairman and President of SniffAZ, said, “I am excited about today’s announcement and on behalf of the entire SniffAZ organization, we look forward to continuing our work in collaboration with The Arizona Pet Project. Since our inception in 2012, with the unending support of our volunteers, sponsors, and donors, we have raised nearly \$400,000, which funded over 6,000 spay/neuter surgeries in Arizona communities. The Arizona Pet Project has partnered with us over the years to ensure those funds achieved their maximum impact in our community. By joining forces, we will expand on this legacy and improve the health and quality of life for even more pets and their families. We are honored and thankful to have the continuing support of our priceless donors and sponsors, including Austin Electric Company, Mr. Don Tapia, Sanderson Lincoln, Western Banks, and Mr. Rick Cox. We invite animal lovers everywhere to support our important work by attending SNIFF 2018, to be held November 8<sup>th</sup> at Gainey Ranch Country Club.”

In January 2017, The Arizona Pet Project took over the Spay Neuter Assistance Program formerly managed by Maricopa County Animal Care & Control. Donations by SniffAZ were earmarked entirely to support mobile spay/neuter clinics in the field. The mobile clinics ensure free surgeries are reaching pet owners in communities with the highest need.

Leanna Taylor, Executive Director of The Arizona Pet Project, said, “Pets (and their people) in our community, have benefitted greatly from the dedication and hard work of SniffAZ over the past six years. We are thrilled to continue our partnership with their passionate crew of volunteers and donors, in a new and exciting way - one that will impact thousands of additional dogs and cats and further reduce shelter intake and euthanasia in Maricopa County.”

SNIFF2018 will be held November 8, 2018 at Gainey Ranch Golf Club. In addition to one of the Valley’s best silent auctions and raffles, the annual cocktail event will feature adoptable dogs from Maricopa Animal Care and Control. For more info, please visit [www.sniffaz.org](http://www.sniffaz.org).

### **About The Arizona Pet Project**

The Arizona Pet Project’s primary goal is preventing pet homelessness by keeping families with pets together. Oftentimes, pet owners cannot afford to care for their animals and they surrender them at shelters. The reasons are many. Owners may have lost their jobs or their homes, suffered an illness, or had a divorce or death in the family. Or their pet may have gotten sick and they cannot pay the veterinary bills. Surrendering a pet to a shelter where they are frequently euthanized is a tragedy we want to avoid. The Arizona Pet project is here to support families by keeping their pets healthy and safe. Animals bring comfort, joy, healing and health, and we believe those benefits shouldn’t be restricted to a very small percentage of owners who can afford the best care and resources pets deserve. For more information on The Arizona Pet Project and the 2018 HERO Awards, visit <http://www.azpetproject.org>.

### **About SniffAZ**

SniffAZ is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to raise awareness of the need for spay/neuter of companion animals and to generate funding for organizations that deliver spay/neuter services in Maricopa County. Donations and contributions are deductible to the full extent provided by law. For more information about SniffAZ and SNIFF events, visit [www.sniffaz.org](http://www.sniffaz.org).