

\$2,665 grant received from PetSmart

The Animal Friends Foundation (AFF) has received a grant for \$2,665 from PetSmart to use in its free spay/neuter program for low-income residents of Cumberland County.

“We’re excited that this PetSmart Charities grant will enable us to continue our mission of ending the tragedy of unwanted companion animals,” said Carolyn Vinci, President of AFF. “Spaying or neutering is an important first step in reducing their numbers.”

AFF and the Millville Housing Authority are working together to identify Housing Authority residents whose pets need spaying or neutering. The program will offer the free surgery and rabies and distemper shots for cats currently owned by the Authority’s low-income residents. The Housing Authority’s

Pet Policy states that all pets are to be altered and up-to-date on vaccinations.

“We don’t want to penalize compassionate pet owners who have not been able to afford the surgeries for their

pets. This grant will help us help our residents comply with Authority policy and insure healthier, happier pets,”

said Pam Kipers, President of the Housing Authority Board.

Vinci said the services offered by the grant would also be opened to low-income residents throughout the county. More than five million pets are euthanized annually because there aren’t enough homes for them, she said. It costs U.S. taxpayers an estimated \$2 billion each year to take in, care for, and unfortunately sometimes euthanize homeless animals.

