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VCA Charities clears the wish list of the Los Angeles County Fire Foundation Search Dog Team and surprises handlers and canines at the Hermosa Beach Fire Station on Monday, December 19, 2022

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What's on the top of every pet's wish list? A home for the holidays! This holiday season, VCA Charities continues to make wishes come true for shelter partners, pets and pet owners through its A Home for the Holidays campaign – clearing shelter wish lists, covering adoption costs and funding veterinary care in support of adoption readiness. The campaign is supported by fundraising inside VCA Animal Hospitals thanks to generous donations from VCA clients and assistance from VCA's 35,000 Associates.

"From New Jersey and New Mexico to San Diego and Spokane, we're bringing joy to some of our best nonprofit partners in order to help pets find and remain in loving homes this holiday season," said Kimberly West, president and chair of VCA Charities board of directors and vice president for Corporate Affairs at VCA Animal Hospitals. "In our hometown of Los Angeles, we're also providing support to shelter teams by volunteering our time and talent as they work tirelessly to ensure pets are cared for and loved on while they patiently wait for a forever home."

In a special A Home(town) for the Holidays grant, VCA Charities cleared the wish list of the Los Angeles County Fire Foundation Search Dog Team – this highly trained search and rescue unit is part of FEMA's California Task Force 2 (CA-TF2) and was most recently deployed in response to Hurricane Ian.

"Clearing the wish list of these working dogs is especially meaningful," said Kim Van Syoc, executive director of VCA Charities. "These incredible handlers and canines log countless hours of training in order to effectively respond to communities in crisis – we've been told nothing brings more joy to these teams than being ready to respond."

Helping pets find and remain in loving homes is not just for the holidays, it's at the heart of VCA Charities mission. Since 2021, VCA Charities has donated more than \$2 million in grants and provided nearly 1.3 million meals to hungry pets in partnership with Hill's Pet Nutrition. Whether it's responding to disasters, transporting pets from at-capacity shelters to ones with a waitlist of adopters, or funding emergency veterinary care for pets belonging to low-income pet owners, VCA Charities works to support the joy of pet ownership.

Learn more about our impact by reading VCA's fourth annual Impact Report, Joy of Caring, at <https://vcahospitals.com/social-responsibility>.

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