

For Immediate Release

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Contact:

Mary Hiatt, President
Animal Welfare League of
Frederick County
301-529-6314 or
mary@awlfc.org

AWLFC Receives Grant Award

Frederick, MD (June 8, 2009) - The Animal Welfare League of Frederick County (AWLFC) is announcing the award of a \$1500 grant from the Build-A-Bear Workshop Bear Hugs Foundation. The grant will be used in support of AWLFC's Fixing Frederick Felines program, the county's largest all-volunteer Trap/Neuter/Release (TNR) initiative.

The goal of Fixing Frederick Felines is to reduce the number of free-roaming cats in Frederick County by trapping, sterilizing, vaccinating, and re-releasing cats into communities where food and shelter are provided. TNR is the only humane alternative to mass euthanasia of feral and free-roaming cats. It is a proven approach to reducing the number of unwanted kittens and it improves the overall health and welfare of the county's feline population through vaccination and sterilization.

"AWLFC wishes to express sincere gratitude to the Build-A-Bear Workshop Bear Hugs Foundation," said AWLFC President Mary Hiatt. "This grant will help us expand the FFF program and make an immediate and lasting impact in the local community." For information on how you can help, please contact AWLFC at www.alwfc.org or call 301-663-5855.

About the Animal Welfare League of Frederick County: The Animal Welfare League of Frederick County (AWLFC) is an all-volunteer, no-kill rescue organization dedicated to ending pet homelessness and ensuring humane treatment for every animal in Frederick County. Established in 2001, the organization has over 100 members and active programs that include: foster care and adoption services for over 300 cats and dogs annually; Fixing Frederick's Felines, AWL's Trap/Neuter/Release program that traps, alters, releases, and cares for feral cat colonies; and, support for Meals on Wheels, Pets Eat, Too program, where the group provides senior citizens with food for their pets. The AWLFC also helps with hoarding cases, animal cruelty, and animal emergencies.

About the Build-A-Bear Workshop Bear Hugs Foundation: Build-A-Bear Workshop Bear Hugs Foundation is committed to making life more bearable for children, families and pets in need of a helping paw. With the sale of each full-sized Bearamy's Kennel Pals® friend – a collection of Build-A-Bear Workshop® plush dogs – one dollar is donated to domestic pet programs including local animal shelters, stray pet rescue and rehabilitation organizations, and pet education programs around the country. These funds are available to qualified non-profit organizations in the United States and Canada through a quarterly grant process. Visit www.buildabear.com for more information.