FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Suncoast Humane Society to provide shelter for pets of C.A.R.E. victims

A shelter in the storm.

Anyone who has gone through a crisis in their life knows the comfort of finding a safe haven out of the storms of life. Suncoast Humane Society (SHS) wants to provide a safe haven for animals who are in a crisis situation.

SHS is partnering with the Center for Abuse and Rape Emergencies, Inc. (C.A.R.E.) to provide temporary housing for pets whose owners are receiving crisis services from C.A.R.E. This non-profit agency, which started in 1983, helps victim/survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and other violent crimes.

Karen McElhaney, Executive Director of C.A.R.E. tells us: “According to Red Rover.org, which is the organization that will be assisting us with grants to make this collaboration possible, a staggering 65% of domestic violence survivors will delay leaving the home because they do not want to leave without their pet. We are so excited and so thankful to the Suncoast Humane Society for stepping in and giving these beloved pets a safe and loving place to stay. We look forward to working together!”

Suncoast Humane Society Executive Director, Phil Snyder, followed with: “The Cycle of Abuse has long been determined. Violence is violence, be it against a person or an animal. Our goal is to help people and animals who are in threatening situations. No one wants to suffer the additional pain of having to give up their pet”.

The SAFE Pet with C.A.R.E. Program will provide foster care for those animals that qualify for the program. The goal is to provide temporary care for animals whose owners are not able to immediately find family or friends who are able to provide extended care for their pets while in crisis.
The location of the pets would be kept confidential in our foster care program.

Suncoast Humane Society is always looking for good foster homes, with the addition of the SAFE Pet for C.A.R.E. Program the need will be even greater.

**Suncoast Humane Society has been serving animals and people since 1971.** Founded as Englewood Animal Aid Society, the organization’s services and programs were soon challenged to meet the demands placed on them by the pet over-population crises.

Expansions to their facility in Englewood during the 1980s and 1990s helped the Society to more effectively provide for a growing service area. To reflect the changes, the organization became Suncoast Humane Society. **Over time our service area expanded and is now Charlotte County, Sarasota County, the Boca Grande portion of Lee County and beyond.**

Visit our adoptable pets and learn more about Suncoast Humane Society online at www.humane.org, in person at 6781 San Casa Drive, Englewood, FL 34224 or at one of our many community events!

###

Photos submitted by Suncoast Humane Society