



# News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Animal Control

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## **Animal Control Receives \$25,000 Petco Foundation Grant**

FAYETTEVILLE – Cumberland County Animal Control has been awarded a \$25,000 grant from the Petco Foundation to improve the quality of life and care of the cats in the shelter.

Animal Control will use the funds to expand the shelter’s cat adoption, holding and isolation areas by creating more-versatile housing for the cats. New condo-style enclosures that are larger than the current cages and can be configured for multiple cats, including litters or bonded pairs of cats, will be purchased for the adoption area. Bonded cats have a strong attachment to one another and need be kept together to reduce anxiety and stress.

The cages currently in the adoption area will be repurposed in the isolation and holding areas.

The new cat housing will help reduce stress levels in the cats by giving them more room thus preventing stress-related illness that could lead to euthanasia, said Shelter Manager Jennifer Hutchinson-Tracy.

Additionally, the adoption room will be painted to add more color and personality to the area and make the room more welcoming to visitors.

“Overall, we would have happier, healthier cats that would be more appealing to adopters and rescues and a setting that demonstrates our commitment to providing quality care and a positive adoption experience,” said Hutchinson-Tracy.

Animal Control will continue to seek funding for further improvements to the cat housing areas including replacing feral cat cages with feral cat dens and installing portals with doors between pairs of steel cages allowing them to be used as double or single-occupancy cages.

For more information about adopting a pet from the Animal Control Shelter, call 910-321-6852 or to see all the animals available for adoption, visit Animal Control’s webpage at [co.cumberland.nc.us/animal\\_control.aspx](http://co.cumberland.nc.us/animal_control.aspx) or the Friends of Animal Control’s Facebook page at [facebook.com/CCACanimalfriends](https://facebook.com/CCACanimalfriends). Adoption hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Saturday from 1 to 5 p.m. The Animal Control adoption fee includes the pet’s rabies vaccination, pet privilege license, microchip and spaying or neutering by a local veterinarian.

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