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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Adoption Makes the Grade with AWA's "Teacher's Pet"**

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**Voorhees, NJ:** The Animal Welfare Association (AWA), in partnership with the Camden County Board of Freeholders, is pleased to announce "Teacher's Pet", an adoption event running from May 2-7. During Teacher Appreciation Week, AWA wanted recognize the importance of teachers in our community and show gratitude for their service. All adult pets will have fee-waived adoptions for teachers who live in Camden County but work elsewhere or live elsewhere and teach in the county. The Freeholders are generously sponsoring this event as part of their Pet Friendly Programming.

AWA understands how valuable educators are in our community. "We know that teaching compassion and kindness to children today means raising a new generation of pet owners and animal lovers," says Maya Richmond, Executive Director of AWA. "We also know how hard teachers work and wanted to show our appreciation for all that they do for our children by offering them a chance to adopt a loving pet."

AWA is unique in its position as an educational resource. Its Humane Education program teaches people of all ages to understand and care for the animals in their lives by fostering compassion, respect, and empathy for all living things. AWA accomplishes this through increasing children's understanding of animals and their needs, educating the public on the importance of animal issues and how they affect society, and emphasizing the connection between pets and people in our daily lives.

The Camden County Board of Freeholders is supportive of AWA, pets and pet owners in our county. By underwriting a variety of programming initiatives, the Board of Freeholders continues to make our community stronger and healthier. The Board of Freeholders supports adoption programs including Seniors for Seniors and Pets for Vets; AWA's veterinary outreach program called Vets on Wheels, which delivers important medical care to needy pets; and family-friendly events including Paws and Feet and Bark in the Park, among others. The Board continues to demonstrate their compassion and dedication to improving the lives of pets and their families, and AWA is very fortunate to have their support.

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**Animal Welfare Association**, a private, non-profit, 501(c) 3 animal welfare organization, serves the people and animals of southern New Jersey. AWA is dedicated to eliminating animal suffering, promoting the importance of the human-animal bond, and improving the role of animals in the well-being of people. Through a variety of programs including adoptions, veterinary services, pet therapy, and humane education, in 2016 over 22,000 pets were served through AWA programming. AWA is South Jersey's leader in progressive companion animal care.