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9th Annual Tom & Mom Cat Special Low Cost Spay/Neuter Program In conjunction with Spay Day 2010

Happy New Year Veterinarians and Staff –

We would like to invite you to begin 2010 by putting your compassion and skills into action to help combat the pet-overpopulation crisis in our area. We encourage you to join us in participating in the highly successful, month-long Tom & Mom Cat Special (TAMCS) spay/neuter program for low-income individuals – more than 5,000 cats have been spayed/neutered thanks to your hard work and dedication!

During the economic downturn, the organizations that coordinate the annual TAMCS have all seen a rise in the number of phone calls from folks looking for help for their pets – whether it is for medical care, spay/neuter assistance, or food and supplies. We continue to be inundated with calls from low-income community members who want to do the right thing and get their pet neutered, but do not have the funds to do so. Please join us in helping these struggling families keep their beloved pets – statistics show the lowest 3% income bracket can be responsible for 80% of strays in shelters.

This year, we are offering low-income households the opportunity to alter their male cats for \$10 and female cats for only \$20. **Our goal is to spay/neuter more than 1200 cats!**

Please consider performing five spays and five neuters. In prior years, we have asked veterinarians to commit to a minimum of ten \$10 male cat neuters during a month-long period between Valentine's Day to St. Patrick's Day. This year, we really want to stress the need for spay surgeries. We will subsidize an additional \$25 per spay, for a total compensation of \$45 per spay surgery performed. Additional spays/neuters are optional, but highly encouraged and very much needed!

Other ways you can participate: Some veterinary clinics have found one-day, spay/neuter clinics very successful. These clinics are typically held on a day that the vet hospital is normally closed. It's a great team-building experience with everyone feeling good about donating his or her time and expertise!
Please contact us at 503-286-2411 if you are interested in our assistance with coordinating a one-day spay/neuter event.

Also, if you are not able to perform all of your targeted spays/neuters during the month-long program, or if the February 14 – March 17 timeframe does not work for you, you can complete surgeries at a later date and still participate in the program. Just let us know what works for you.

How we will reach people in need: We will specifically target and promote the event in low-income rental neighborhoods such as apartments and mobile home parks to encourage economically stressed households to take advantage of the opportunity to have their cat neutered (or spayed.)

Scheduling appointments: We suggest that veterinarians accept appointments for these spays/neuters on a “first-come, first-served” basis. We also encourage clinics to confirm appointments the night before (volunteer assistance available upon request) and accept cash-only payments from participants. Clinics may also want to request payment at the time the cat is dropped off for surgery. We will refer callers to clinics until we have been notified by the clinic that they are at maximum scheduling capacity. Calls subsequent to the event may be referred to our Web site for information on spay/neuter assistance. Additional compensation for spays will be made to veterinarians after spays are completed.

Since this is a community service designed to encourage people who cannot otherwise afford to alter their cats, participating veterinarians will agree not to include additional services or charges such as vaccines, pain medications and up-charges for pregnant females. We support suggesting any prudent additional services as optional.

To discourage “deal shoppers,” we will specify that our program is intended for low-income individuals who cannot otherwise afford to have their cat altered. Our volunteers will make every effort to fill available surgery slots. We will also make reminder calls to help prevent last-minute no-show clients.

We request that participating veterinarians sign up by Wednesday, January 20, 2010. The phone line for screening potential clients opens up on Saturday, January 23.

Thank you in advance for your continued support in reducing the feline overpopulation problem in our community.

Please fax this form to: 866-372-0971

Yes, I will participate in the 2010 Tom & Mom Cat Special!

Clinic Name: _____ Phone: _____

Clinic Contact: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

I will complete a minimum of _____ neuters and _____ spays.

If holding a special one-day Tom & Mom Cat Special Spay/Neuter Clinic, please list date of clinic: _____

Please indicate the earliest age you that will perform a spay/neuter surgery: _____

Will you spay/neuter feral cats? _____

Veterinarian Signature: _____ Date: _____



For more information, call: 503-286-2411, e-mail: spayday@spayoregon.org,
or visit our Web site: www.spayoregon.org
The Tom & Mom Cat Special is coordinated/sponsored by representatives from local animal welfare organizations: Animal Aid, Oregon Spay/Neuter Fund, Indigo Rescue, POPPA, Friends of Shelter Animals, Lessons and Paws, and Animal Rescue & Care Fund.