



Contact: Becky Hass
Tel: (424) 222-9591
Email: Becky@animalwellnesscenters.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 11, 2010

Animal Wellness Centers Makes Significant Donation to The Humane Society of the United States

Contribution Underscores Firm's Commitment to Animal Protection

SANTA MONICA – Animal Wellness Centers today announced a significant financial contribution to The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS).

Dr. Annie Harvilicz, Founder and Chief Medical Officer, made this statement:

"The Humane Society of the United States is the nation's largest and most effective animal protection organization-backed by 11 million Americans, or one in every 28. Since 1954, The HSUS has championed a humane and sustainable world for all animals. They are America's mainstream force against cruelty, exploitation and neglect, as well as the most trusted voice extolling the human-animal bond. It's mission statement says it all: Celebrating Animals, Confronting Cruelty.

"I've followed animal rights' groups for the past two decades and nothing has energized the movement as much as Wayne [Pacelle]'s leadership in HSUS. He is a true champion for animals, working within our existing legal system to bring about effective, long-lasting change. One example: The cat declaw ban we fought for and won late last year here in Santa Monica. Only the HSVMA stood with us to protect cats when other industry groups failed us and the animals. I am proud of our commitment to The HSUS and look forward to working more with Wayne and the HSVMA in the future."

Wayne Pacelle, President and CEO of HSUS, had this to say: "We need more veterinarians like Dr. Annie who put the well-being of animals above all else. I am very impressed by her approach to veterinary medicine, and I look forward to Dr. Annie's active continued involvement in the Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association (HSVMA). I look forward to building a strong partnership with Animal Wellness Centers going forward."

ABOUT THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES

The Humane Society of the United States is the nation's largest animal protection organization — backed by 11 million Americans, or one of every 28. For more than a half-century, The HSUS has been fighting for the protection of all animals through advocacy, education and hands-on programs. Celebrating animals and confronting cruelty.



ABOUT ANIMAL WELLNESS CENTERS

Animal Wellness Centers LLC is a fast-growing companion-animal healthcare firm headquartered in Santa Monica, California. Its core business is veterinary services with a focus on comprehensive animal wellness designed to strengthen the human-animal bond. It is the exclusive retailer of Dr. Annie's™ brand products. Its flagship Center in Santa Monica's Ocean Park neighborhood is the world's first non-anthropomorphic companion-animal center offering full array of pet products, an education center, preventative care clinics and a social networking arena.

Annie Harvilicz, DVM, CVA ("Dr. Annie") is the Founder and Chief Medical Officer of AWC. She brings experience at leading centers for animal care throughout the world including extensive work on endangered species such as giant pandas, black rhinos, cheetahs, and elephants. She has appeared on the Discovery Channel's *Animal Precinct* television program during her tenure at the ASPCA's Animal Hospital in New York City. Her private practice has spanned across the country with high-profile clientele from New York to Los Angeles. She completed her DVM degree at the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine where she served as President of the school's chapter of the AVMA. She is also the recipient of various awards and distinctions including, among others, the Sherrie Clark Compassion and Caring Award and the Tobey Award for special compassion for lost, abandoned, or homeless dogs. She is licensed to practice in California, New York, Pennsylvania and Maryland and is certified in Traditional Chinese Veterinary Medicine.

###