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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Animal Wellness Centers Makes Donation to Westside Food Bank

Firm Follows Through on Commitment to All Animals with Financial Contribution

SANTA MONICA – Animal Wellness Centers (AWC) today made a financial contribution to The Westside Food Bank, which distributes nearly four million pounds of food annually to human welfare programs in the Los Angeles area.

AWC Founder and Chief Medical Officer Annie Harvilicz, DVM, CVA (“Dr. Annie”) said “As active members of our community, we are committed to causes that champion the wellbeing of *all* animals. That’s why we are proud supporters of such a caring organization.”

ABOUT THE WESTSIDE FOOD BANK

The Westside Food Bank is an independent, non-governmental, 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation founded twenty seven years ago, which provides food to social service agencies on the Westside of Los Angeles County. Our food often enables low-income people to stay in their homes, deterring the problem of homelessness, because it saves them from having to make the agonizing choice between paying for rent or food when they can’t afford both. Receiving our food also enables our 65 member-agencies to devote more of their own resources to other ways of helping clients achieve self respect and economic independence. For more information, please visit www.westsidefoodbankca.org.

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.

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