



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Youth Experiencing Homelessness and Their Pets Receiving Healthcare at the Same Time

Changing the Streets, Wind Youth Services, One Community Health and 4RFriends Work Together to Deliver Comprehensive Healthcare for ALL Members of the Family

Sacramento, CA (February 20, 2019): Sacramento based **Changing the Streets**, working in partnership with Wind Youth Services, One Community Health and 4RFriends, is hosting a monthly One Health Clinic serving youth experiencing homelessness and their pets. These One Health Clinics will be held the last Tuesday of each month beginning Tuesday, February 26, 2019 at Wind Youth Services.

Each monthly One Health Clinic will host a team of healthcare providers who will deliver healthcare to youth and their pets **at the same time**. Services provided will help participants optimize their own health and the health of their pets, while strengthening the human-animal bond. Together this leads to better health for the entire community.

Janet Hendrickson, President of Changing the Streets and a Nurse Practitioner said, "I have had many patients who will do things for their pets before helping themselves. Their pet is their family and the strength of their bond is evident. By offering veterinary care side by side with their own care, it allows me, as a healthcare provider, the opportunity to connect with my patients in a much more meaningful way."

These One Health Clinics will also allow the youth at Wind Youth Services an opportunity to learn about their own health and the health of their pets and how caring for themselves is as important as caring for their four-legged family member.

"We are excited to see the impact of a total health model on the lives of the youth we serve. This holistic approach is a best practice for care and we are eagerly anticipating the positive outcomes from this joint project," said Robynne Rose-Haymer, Executive Director of **Wind Youth Services**.

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The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention defines One Health as **the recognition** that the health of people is connected to the health of animals and the environment. It is a collaborative, multisectoral, and trans-disciplinary approach—working at the local, regional, national, and global levels—with the goal of achieving optimal health outcomes recognizing the interconnection between people, animals, plants, and their shared environment.

The importance of a One Health approach to healthcare delivery is paramount. Currently, in humans, 6 out of every 10 infectious diseases are spread from animals.

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Changing the Streets helps underserved communities through innovative programs in the spirit of the One Health Initiative. We aim to help people, animals and the environment flourish through changing health, changing minds and changing communities. To learn more about how Changing the Streets is creating healthier communities, visit www.changingthestreets.org

One Community Health is a private, nonprofit community health center serving the greater Sacramento area. Our team of compassionate and highly educated professionals use a medical home model of care, including preventive care, routine checkups, immunizations, and management of acute and chronic illnesses. To learn more, visit www.onecommunityhealth.com

Wind Youth Services provides supportive services and opportunities to youth experiencing homelessness as they pursue self-determined lives of stability and independence. Wind Youth Services is the only service provider in Sacramento County focusing solely on runaway, homeless, and transition-age youth. One in thirty American youth between the ages of 12-17 are homeless, and one in ten youth between the ages of 18-25 experience homelessness. Our community is no exception. Everyday Wind has a waiting list of over 50 youth needing a place to sleep. To learn more about the services Wind provides or to find out how you can help, please visit our website at www.windyouth.org

4RFriends empowers underserved communities to keep their pets happy, healthy, and at home. To learn more, visit www.4rfstreetvets.org

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