



January 11, 2016

## Veterinary Clinic Team Challenge!

Dear Friends,

PAWSibilities®, Humane Society of Greater Akron will hold its annual Bark in the Park at Springfield Lake Park on Saturday, May 7, 2016 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. This family-friendly community event includes a pledge walk, vendors, food trucks, interactive games, demonstrations, raffles, and more! Proceeds and donations benefit the thousands of animals rescued, rehabilitated, and rehomed by PHSGA. Each year is bigger and better than the last! Our 2015 event hosted over 1,000 community members!

PHSGA has been Summit County's trusted caretaker for underserved animals. We are the only animal organization in Summit County that enforces the legal mandate, provided in the Ohio Revised Code, to protect abused, abandoned, and neglected companion animals and severely sick and injured strays. In 2015, we rescued close to 1,900 animals in need!

The keystone event of Bark in the Park is the pledge walk! During this time, participants gather in support of PHSGA and the animals that we serve. The walk serves as a celebration of all of the animals that have warmed our lives with their wagging tails, cold noses, and cozy snuggles while supporting the vital services provided to the community by PAWSibilities®. Leading up to Bark in the Park, registered walkers gather pledges from family, friends, and community members in support of their participation. Pledge donations provide second chances to the animals in our care.

It is our pleasure to invite your clinic and its employees to join us and our community of supporters as a participants in our first ever Bark in the Park **Veterinary Clinic Team Challenge!** Join together in a friendly competition against other area veterinary clinics and see who comes out on top! Funds raised will help us continue to rescue thousands of desperate animals while also increasing your clinic's profile as a compassionate, rescue-minded veterinary practice. Celebrate the spirit of teamwork and camaraderie at one of our most exciting events of the year!

Connect with our supporters and adopters from all of Northeast Ohio by also becoming a sponsor! Sponsorship opportunities range from \$300 to \$3,500 and offer exciting benefits! Contact us for more information!

On behalf of PAWSibilities®, Humane Society of Greater Akron, I thank you for your time and interest in supporting animal welfare services.

Sincerely,

Diane Johnson  
President/CEO

## BARK IN THE PARK 2016 VETERINARY CLINIC TEAM CHALLENGE INFORMATION

### Organize a Team:

- 🐾 Build interest & recruit employees by distributing included flyers (electronic version available upon request) and encouraging participation
- 🐾 Assign a team captain
- 🐾 Choose a team name
- 🐾 Register your team online for free! Visit [www.summithumane.org/BITP](http://www.summithumane.org/BITP) and follow the provided links.
- 🐾 Set a fundraising goal
- 🐾 Individual team members register online (\$5 registration fee per member), join the team, and customize their profiles
- 🐾 ...and you're ready!

### How It Works:

- 🐾 Before the event, team members reach out to their families, friends, and communities for support in honor of their participation at Bark in the Park 2016
- 🐾 Team members collect pledges from their supporters
- 🐾 The team captain boosts morale, tracks fundraising progress, and offers guidance
- 🐾 Team members attend Bark in the Park, participate in the pledge walk, and enjoy the pet expo!
- 🐾 The veterinary clinic team that raises the most will receive a trophy and special recognition on the day of the event!

### Tips & Tricks:

- 🐾 Get started early!
- 🐾 Generate some friendly internal competition! Offer an incentive for the individual who raises the most money!
- 🐾 Keep the momentum going! Offer encouragement!
- 🐾 Consider coordinating attire, designing a team member t-shirt, or wearing fun costumes at the event!
- 🐾 Contact us with any questions:

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# Help change the lives of animals in need – join your coworkers at Bark in the Park 2016!

- Who: PAWSibilities®, Humane Society of Greater Akron with Springfield Township
- What: Bark in the Park – Pledge Walk and Pet Expo!
- When: Saturday May 7, 2016 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- Where: Springfield Lake Park (2491 Canfield Road, Akron, Ohio 44312)

PAWSibilities®, Humane Society of Greater Akron is the trusted caretaker and advocate for the abused, neglected, and abandoned animals of Summit County. In 2015, we rescued almost 1,900 animals and placed over 1,500 animals in their forever homes! Bark in the Park is one of our top rated and most attended events and each year is bigger and better than the last! Help us continue our mission - participate in our pledge walk as a member of the **Veterinary Clinic Team Challenge!** Celebrate the animals that have touched your life while you build camaraderie and have fun! Your support changes lives!



## Don't Wait – Start Today!

- Register today! Visit [www.summithumane.org/BITP](http://www.summithumane.org/BITP) and follow the link to create a donor page through FirstGiving.
- Registration is \$5 and covers admission to Bark in the Park.
- Personalize your fundraising page! Include a photo and a special message from you to your supporters.
- Search for and join your company's team!
- Can't make it to attend the event? No worries! Become a "Virtual Walker"!

## Gather Pledges!

- Reach out to your friends, family, and community for support of your participation at Bark in the Park 2016!
- Share your story and a link to your FirstGiving page on your Facebook, Twitter, or other social media. You can also send emails!
- Pledges can be submitted online with a credit card or by check or cash using Pledge Forms
- Check out the resources posted on the Bark in the Park FirstGiving page!
- Raise at least \$100 individually and receive a limited release Bark in the Park t-shirt!
- Encourage other team members and work together to reach your fundraising goals!
- Compete against other companies! The veterinary clinic team that raises the most money will receive special recognition and a trophy on the day of Bark in the Park!
- Online pledge submission ends on May 6<sup>th</sup>!

## Attend the Event!

- After all your hard work, the day is finally here! Join your team and WALK! Proudly display your support of a great cause and celebrate the joy that animals bring to our lives.
- Don't forget your four-legged friends! Dog-friendly, well-behaved canines are welcome to join in on the festivities.
- The Pledge Walk route is approximately one-third of a mile, paved, and handicap accessible!
- Following the Pledge Walk, enjoy the Pet Expo! Sample tasty food, shop at a wide variety of vendors, participate in activities, enter raffles, and view demonstrations!

**Questions? Contact Amanda Lyons, Communications & Public Relations Manager  
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