NEWS RELEASE

Ilene Shapiro – Summit County Executive FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Animal Control distributes 165,000 pounds of free pet food and supplies to community

SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO—Since launching its Community Pet Food Pantry in November 2022, Summit County Animal Control has now provided 165,000 pounds of free pet food and supplies to residents. Animal Control created the program to help residents offset the costs of pet products, especially food and cat litter. Animal Control staff has hosted seven events since last year, with a monthly giveaway held on the last Tuesday of every month. It has also provided free food and supplies to local non-profits including, One of Kind Pets, Maggie's Mission, Summit County Humane Society, Meals on Wheels, A.R.T, Whispering Acres, Fox Tale Sanctuary and Geauga Mama Dogs and Pups.

"There is clearly a significant need for pet food and supplies in our community. We are pleased to be able to offset some of these costs for vulnerable residents. We do not want to see residents having to give up a pet or cut corners on bills because they are struggling to purchase food or litter," said County Executive Ilene Shapiro. "Our staff at Animal Control deserves special thanks for all their hard work to hold these events each month."

The distribution of free pet food and supplies is made possible by Animal Control's GOODS program, a partnership with Greater Goods Charities. The GOODS program provides pet supplies like food and litter to distribute to local rescues and pantries to stretch dollars and assist more pets and people. Animal Control is working with Peanut's Pet Pantry to distribute the supplies, as well. More information on this program is available at: https://co.summitoh.net/pages/Greater-Good-Program.html.

The next Community Pet Food Pantry event will be held Tuesday, July 25 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at 250 Opportunity Parkway. No pre-registration is required. Participants are asked to use Bartges St./Pier Dr. to line up for the event.