



Humane Society of Vero Beach and  
Indian River County  
6230 77<sup>th</sup> Street  
Vero Beach, FL 32961  
(772) 388-3331

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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## Humane Society celebrates October as Adopt-A-Shelter-Dog month

**(Vero Beach, FL)** – There are lots of reasons to love October - and one of them is National Adopt-A-Shelter Dog month. This national month-long celebration provides the perfect opportunity to find a canine companion at The Humane Society of Vero Beach and Indian River County (HSVB & IRC). “The Humane Society has lots of fantastic dogs who are looking for wonderful homes,” says Adoption Counselor Sue Kelly. Kelly suggests that prospective adopters consider the following questions prior to adoption in order to make the perfect match:

- 1. Am I ready to make a long-term commitment?** Adopting a dog means being responsible for his health and happiness for the rest of his life. Committing to a dog also includes making sure he or she is well-behaved welcome in public parks, on walks, and as a visitor.
- 2. Is this dog right for my household?** “Every dog has a unique personality,” explains Kelly, who advises speaking with a Humane Society counselor about which dog might be most suitable for your lifestyle. A large, active dog may be too much for some family members to handle while puppies may be too delicate for rough play with children.
- 3. Who will be the primary caretaker for this dog?** While children can always help, at least one adult should always be the primary caretaker of any animal adopted into the home.
- 4. Can I afford a dog?** The cost of a pet is more than just the shelter’s adoption fee: The average annual cost of caring for one canine ranges from \$775-\$1,500 depending on the dog’s size, age, health and training.

Kelly suggests other ways to help shelter dogs if you can’t adopt such as volunteering at the animal shelter, donating money, pet supplies, blankets or toys and encouraging family and friends to adopt from the Humane Society. Animals adopted from HSVB & IRC are spayed or neutered, microchipped and receive basic vaccines. The shelter also offers free counseling as well as free dog training classes for those dogs adopted from the shelter.

For more information about animals available for adoption, please visit the shelter at 6230 77<sup>th</sup> St., Vero Beach or call (772) 388-3331 ext. 10.