

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Kara Pollard, 307-359-5452 kara@dogcopilot.org

Dog Is My CoPilot reaches its goal of saving 10,000 lives with the August 5 transport of 100 dogs and cats from New Mexico Founder and Pilot Dr. Peter Rork adopts 10,000th passenger

JACKSON, WY (July 30, 2018) — The dog days of summer are the start of a new life for more than 100 dogs and cats who were destined for euthanasia at overcrowded municipal animal shelters in Roswell, Hobbs and other locations in southeast New Mexico.

Thanks to the coordinated efforts of Dog Is My CoPilot (DIMC), From Forgotten to Forever Animal Rescue and Transport, DC Paws, Amazing Grace Pet Rescue and Reeds Ranch and Rescue the dogs and cats are being flown Aug. 5 to "furever" homes in Colorado, Utah and Montana. The flight completes Jackson-based DIMC's goal of saving its **10,000th life** in 2018. Dr. Peter Rork, DIMC's pilot and cofounder, plans to adopt the milestone dog, a chocolate lab mix left abandoned in Hobbs, N.M.

DIMC, a 501(c)3 non-profit founded in 2012 to transport dogs from areas of the United States where they're unwanted to areas where they're in demand, has saved over 9,900 lives and counting. As opposed to long-distance ground transportation or the red tape of commercial flights, transporting animals in DIMC's Cessna Caravan 208B is very efficient and DIMC never charges the partners they fly for!

"For every animal that's in a shelter, there is a human responsible. This is not a dog problem but a people problem. We only transport to facilities that will never put down a healthy, adoptable animal and we never charge the groups we fly for," says Rork, who co-founded DIMC with Judy Zimet, a lawyer in Arizona.

Since its founding, DIMC has grown from saving a few hundred lives a year to more than 2,500 annually. DIMC's success is due to its dedicated team of organizers and contributors. Be part of the team by making a donation to DIMC's <u>Flying Them Home Campaign</u>.

"Our joy lies in knowing we are rescuing animals AND helping people be happier when they adopt them. We invite you to join our family in rescuing dogs and cats by pledging to our campaign. Every little bit helps," said DIMC Executive Director Kara Pollard.

WHEN/WHERE:

Sunday, August 5, 2018. Media can take advantage of photo and video opportunities at the following times and locations:

5:00 am LOAD @ Lea County Regional Airport

FBO: Christian Aero LLC 6601 Carlsbad Hwy Hobbs, NM 88240 For more information, call: 575-318-7585

6:00 am LOAD @ Roswell International Air Center Airport

FBO: Avflight Roswell 100 Suothwest way Roswell, NM 88201 For more information, call: 844-383-5769

10:00 am ARRIVAL/UNLOAD @ Centennial Airport

FBO: TAC Air 7425 S. Peoria Circle Englewood, CO 80122 For more information, call: 303-790-2575

1:00 pm ARRIVAL/UNLOAD @ South Valley Regional Airport FBO: South Valley Regional Airport 7365 South 4450 West West Jordan, UT 84084 For more information, call: 801-561-0420

3:30 pm ARRIVAL/UNLOAD @ Driggs-Reed Memorial Airport FBO: Teton Aviation Center

253 Warbird Lane Driggs, ID 83422 For more information, call: 208-354-3100

5:30 pm ARRIVAL/UNLOAD @ Polson Airport FBO: Lake Aero/Ronan Aviation 471 Regatta Road Polson, MT For more information, call: 406-883-2482

Relocation services like those provided by DIMC are crucial to saving adoptable animals who are unnecessarily euthanized because of shelter overcrowding. By flying animals out of areas where they are at risk of euthanasia due to overpopulation, not only do animal passengers find their "furever" families, but DIMC creates more space in shelters for animals who might otherwise have remained at large or been euthanized. Every animal DIMC transports saves two lives: The one that's saved and the one that takes its place.

ABOUT DOG IS MY COPILOT:

Dog Is My CoPilot provides long-distance air transportation when ground transportation makes no sense — flying adoptable animals from organizations with high euthanasia rates to those that will never put a healthy animal down. Thousands of animals have been saved from being euthanized due to overcrowding and are given a better chance at being adopted. DIMC works with municipal animal shelters and nonprofit animal rescue organizations located primarily in Texas. Arizona, New Mexico and California, delivering animals to destination partner organizations in northern states including Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. Flights are funded by public donations alone and DIMC flies from 40 to as many as 250 animal passengers on each flight, enabling it to keep costs down and save more cats and dogs. Routes covered by DIMC Founder Peter Rork's Cessna 208B encompass the Rocky Mountain, Southwest and Pacific regions. There is no charge to the animal welfare organizations for whom DIMC flies. To help DIMC in its mission to save animals from euthanasia, donate to its Flying Them Home campaign at https://dogcopilot.org/flyingthemhome/.

ABOUT FROM FORGOTTEN TO FOREVER ANIMAL RESCUE AND TRANSPORT:

Is a non-profit 501c3 organization involved in rescuing animals from Roswell and surrounding SE Cities in New Mexico. We currently pull, foster, vet and transport Dogs and Cats to rescues in Colorado on a weekly basis. We are a foster based organization, which means every animal pulled is placed in a loving foster home until they transport to partnering rescues in Colorado, Utah, Montana and Wyoming. Our primary mission is to pull animals from the Roswell Animal control before they are scheduled for euthanasia. The City of Roswell only gives the animals 7 days to either be reclaimed, adopted or pulled by a rescue. They are put to sleep on the morning of the 8th day. From Forgotten to Forever Rescue and Transport has been partnering with Dog Is My CoPilot since 2015. DIMC came to our rescue during our darkest hour rescuing dogs and kitties from Roswell and SE New Mexico, they really shined a light on just how bad things were for the animals. We were losing many dogs and cats on a daily basis, we could not save and move them fast enough, once we partnered up with DIMC it was a game changer. We were able to move death row animals to Colorado, Utah and Montana, which opened up many more rescues coming together. Fast forward 3 years later and still going strong and we have reduced the number of lives lost by 90%. 3 years ago we were losing so many dogs and kitties every single day, currently we are losing a few each month.

About DC PAWS, Amazing Grace Pet Rescue & Reeds Ranch and Rescue

Amazing Grace Pet Rescue is a 501c3 organization in Hobbs, NM, Reeds Ranch and Rescue 501c3 is based out of Seagraves, Tx and focuses on that city's kill shelter, DC PAWS are in Denver City, Tx., and focus mainly on the animals in the shelter. These groups have saved, vetted, transported, and over 2000 animals a fresh start at a better forever and the lives they deserved all along.

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DOG IS MY COPILOT, INC.

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