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**LARIMER HUMANESOCIETY**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***LARIMER HUMANE SOCIETY TO PROVIDE ANIMAL WELFARE SERVICE FOR WELD COUNTY***

*Humane Society of Weld County to Dissolve, Effective October 2, 2023*

**Loveland, June 6, 2023** – The board of the Humane Society of Weld County announced today that the organization will dissolve and transfer its assets, including the animal shelter located at 1620 42<sup>nd</sup> Street in Evans, CO, to Larimer Humane Society on October 2, 2023. As of that date, Larimer Humane Society will assume full responsibility for providing animal welfare services to Weld County. During the transition period, the current leadership and staff of the Humane Society of Weld County will work with ongoing support from Larimer Humane Society to maintain operations. Larimer Humane Society has been collaborating with the Humane Society of Weld County leadership and City and County municipal leaders since the beginning of the year to identify the most suitable options for animal sheltering and services in Weld County. The support provided thus far has included supplies, counsel, animal transfer, and animal intake. In addition, Larimer Humane Society will offer financial support during the four-month transition period. All services currently provided by the Humane Society of Weld County, including sheltering, adoptions, lost & found services, pet microchipping, and more will continue.

“Larimer Humane Society is an acknowledged leader in animal welfare. We are confident in their capabilities and optimistic their operational know-how, coupled with the efficiencies of one organization serving multiple communities throughout Northern Colorado, will result in more vital programs and services that heal, nurture, and protect companion animals and our communities well into the future,” said Kara Englert, board president of Humane Society of Weld County.

Weld County, the fastest-growing county in the state and home to seven of the state’s 14 fastest-growing municipalities, experienced a 23% increase in the number of stray animals coming to the shelter in 2022 alone. The Humane Society of Weld County has faced challenges in meeting current demands and has determined its inability to meet future needs, given the area’s anticipated continued growth and subsequent increase in the pet population, declining

revenues, and limitations posed by an aging facility. Weld County Sheriff Steven Reams said, “We are pleased to have formed this new collaboration with Larimer Humane Society, which furthers our commitment to the responsible relationship between animals and people – an essential component to a high quality of life.”

Larimer Humane Society is developing a transition plan to ensure the Weld County community continues to receive essential animal welfare services. The organization is prepared to invest the necessary resources to provide comprehensive direct services for any pet in need, including hiring additional staff and addressing deferred maintenance needs at the Evans shelter. “As a nonprofit organization, we are committed to fulfilling our mission, which has historically necessitated service beyond county lines. Residents of Weld County should not lack essential services when we have the resources and experience to offer support,” said Judy Calhoun, CEO of Larimer County Humane Society. “We appreciate the confidence and support from the leadership of the Humane Society of Weld County, as well as numerous municipal leaders who have entrusted us to provide this essential service for Weld County. We look forward to learning from the community, delivering the best outcomes, and serving Weld County for many years to come.” Calhoun continued.

The ambitious timeline requires a phased implementation of new services, which will ultimately result in the most comprehensive, direct services that promote the well-being of pets and people throughout Northern Colorado. Larimer Humane Society will immediately initiate planning efforts to address the growing long-term needs for animal services in Weld County. This includes developing a plan for the construction of a new facility.

For more information about the transition, donation opportunities, and ways to get involved, please visit [LarimerHumane.org](http://LarimerHumane.org).

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### **About Larimer Humane Society**

Founded in 1969, Larimer Humane Society is the largest animal welfare organization dedicated to homeless and abused animals in Northern Colorado. Larimer Humane is more than a shelter, this nonprofit organization serves as a community resource center and advocate for fostering compassionate, safe, and responsible relationships between animals and people. Larimer Humane Society provides adoption services, support for pet owners, and humane education for all ages. As the leader in animal welfare in Northern Colorado, the organization holds contracts to provide animal sheltering and control services for Fort Collins, Loveland, and Larimer County. Additionally, Larimer Humane Society collaborates with local authorities in Berthoud, Timnath, Johnstown, and Wellington. It is a local, independent nonprofit not affiliated with national organizations such as ASPCA or the Humane

Society of the United States and does not receive funding from these organizations. To learn more about Larimer Humane Society, please visit [larimerhumane.org](http://larimerhumane.org).