



MEDIA ALERT

December 11, 2018

Contact: Kira Swaim, Children for Change

415-209-4750, kira@tamrealty.com

Lisa Bloch, Marin Humane

415-506-6256, lbloch@marinhumane.org

**CHILDREN FOR CHANGE AND MARIN HUMANE TEAM UP TO BRING GIFTS
TO LOW INCOME PET GUARDIANS**

Scores of community-minded, animal-loving kids will be bringing holiday gifts to the beloved pets of low income Marin County residents this Saturday, December 15.

The youth are a part of Children for Change, a child-led nonprofit with youth members (age 8 - 15 years old) at all schools in the Ross Valley School District, Davidson Middle School in San Rafael, and chapters in the Reed Union School District. This is the first year students will be serving as “gift elves” for Marin Humane, which has been bringing gifts to pet guardians in need for the past 25 years.

“We’re thrilled to be joined by the children and parents of Children for Change,” said Marin Humane Community Engagement Director Darlene Blackman. “Many of our clients are elderly and live alone with their pets so to receive not just gifts but a friendly visit from a child is sure to brighten their holidays.”

On Saturday, December 15, approximately 50 students and parents will gather at Marin Humane to receive almost 200 gift packages which they’ll distribute to pet guardians throughout the county. The packages include items like pet beds, treats, and toys.

“Our youth--and adults--are thrilled to serve as gift elves for low income pet guardians this year, said Annelise Bauer, executive director, Children for Change. “Together with Marin Humane, we have developed impactful service learning opportunities that speak to our youth. And, this one, no doubt, will result in smiles all around.”

Those receiving the gift packages are clients of Marin Humane’s Pet Care Assistance program, which provides ongoing support for low income pet guardians in the form of free pet food, help with veterinary bills, and volunteer support for basic animal care like dog walking and litterbox cleaning.

WHO: Children for Change, Marin Humane

WHAT: Holiday gift delivery for low-income pet guardians

WHERE: Gift pickup at Marin Humane, 171 Bel Marin Keys Blvd, Novato, deliveries throughout Marin

WHEN: Saturday, December 15, 1:30 pm

Visit www.children4change.org or www.marinhumane.org to learn more.