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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **BANFIELD, THE PET HOSPITAL® LAUNCHES ITS 2008 SEASON OF SUPPERS™ CAMPAIGN TO COLLECT PET FOOD FOR WESLEY COMMUNITY SERVICES**

During this holiday season, from now through December 31, seven area Banfield the Pet Hospitals - Western Hills (2310 Ferguson Road), Eastgate (650 Eastgate South Drive), Colerain (10164 Colerain Avenue), Springdale (11741 Princeton Pike), Hyde Park (3401 Alamo Avenue), Mason (8175 Arbor Square Drive, Mason), and Bridgewater Falls (3439 Princeton Rd., Hamilton) will be collecting pet food from their clients to give to the "Pet Portions" program of Wesley Community Services, 3333 Glenmore Avenue, Westwood. This is the third consecutive year that Banfield hospitals will be collecting pet food for Wesley Community Services clients.

According to Dr. Caroline Christmas, a veterinarian at the Eastgate Banfield, customers who donate 10 pound bags of dog food or cat food will receive a free nail clipping for their pets. Other Banfield locations are offering similar programs in exchange for donated pet food.

Banfield's more than 730 veterinary hospitals across the country are working in conjunction with the national Meals-On-Wheels Association of America (MOWAA). MOWAA pet food program "We All Love Our Pets" (WALOP) is an initiative that seeks to unite Meals-On-Wheels programs across the country to provide pet food to their senior clients.

Since June, 2006, Wesley Community Services has been providing free pet food to its almost 1,600 senior clients. Wesley Community Services conceived the "Pet Portions" program after noticing that clients were sometimes sharing their Meals-On-Wheels food with their pets. "Many

seniors' sole companion is their pet, but quite a few of our clients can't afford to buy pet food," says Stephen Smookler, WCS Executive Director. "We realized we could do a better job of keeping our seniors healthy and happy by keeping their pets healthy and happy."

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### **About Banfield, The Pet Hospital®**

*Founded in Portland, Oregon, in 1955, Banfield has become the largest Pet general veterinary practice in the world, with more than 730 quality hospitals in many neighborhoods across the U.S., in the U.K. and in Mexico. More than 1,900 veterinarians at Banfield are committed to giving Pets the same level of care that their human family members receive. Banfield hospitals offer a full-range of comprehensive, medical services, computerized medical records, Pet preventive care plans, extended operating hours, and is the only veterinary practice in the world with an extensive quality assurance program. Banfield, The Pet Hospital helps extend the lives of millions of Pets each year. For journalists seeking more information, please visit our press room at <http://www.banfield.net/press-room> or contact our Media Hotline at 888-355-0595 (no sales calls, please).*