**For Immediate Release**

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**Mississippi Spay and Neuter Participating in Mississippi Day of Giving 2015 to Raise Funds for Animal Cruelty Prevention Initiative**

*Mississippi Spay and Neuter Joins Hundreds of Nonprofits Participation in Mississippi Day of Giving on October 24, 2015*

Mississippi Spay and Neuter (MS SPAN) has joined Mississippi Day of Giving, a statewide effort to unite Mississippians around causes in which they truly believe in and help nonprofit organizations connect to the larger community. The Day of Giving is October 24, 2015, and hundreds of nonprofit organizations from across the state have registered.

“Mississippi Day of Giving is a great way for our organization to share information about our services,” said Elaine Adair, President of Mississippi Spay and Neuter. “We are excited to be a part of an effort that will have a significant impact on the work we do in our community and the work organizations like ours do in communities throughout the state.”

MSSPAN’s fundraising goal is $1,000, which will subsidize the spay/neuter of 100 outdoor cats in the 39213 zip code in order to reduce the burden of overpopulation and prevent cruelty toward stray and feral cats.

During the Day of Giving, donors will be able to donate to causes they care about online at MSDayofGiving.org. Online giving increased by almost nine percent from 2013 to 2014, and the Day of Giving will allow more Mississippians to take advantage of new tools that make supporting their favorite organizations easy and secure.

“Mississippi’s spirit of giving has made the state one of the most charitable in the nation,” said Stacy Andrews, Director of Strategic Partnerships & Community Engagement for Volunteer Mississippi. “Mississippi Day of Giving will provide a platform for people to find and support organizations all across the state, and we are thrilled about the opportunities this creates for donors and nonprofits.”

For more information on Mississippi’s Day of Giving, visit [www.MSDayofGiving.org](http://www.MSDayofGiving.org).

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Mississippi Day of Giving was established by a 2015 Governor’s Proclamation to celebrate the spirit of philanthropy in our state. The purpose of this powerful giving experience is to unite Mississippians around causes in which they truly believe in and help nonprofit organizations connect to the larger community.

Engage Mississippi, a new effort spearheaded by Mississippi Arts Commission, Mississippi Center for Nonprofits and Volunteer Mississippi, is focused on aligning the state’s resources toward a common goal and facilitating collaboration to solve community problems. By developing a strategy for effectively “channeling change,” Engage Mississippi seeks to ensure the creative and charitable economy in Mississippi has the tools to continue playing a critical role in the economic health of communities in our state.

**Mississippi Spay and Neuter**’s pet sterilization program at the Big Fix Clinic proactively helps fight the Jackson Metro Area's dire pet overpopulation problem. The clinic is located at 100 Business Center Parkway in Pearl. Low-cost services are available to pet cats and dogs as well as stray and feral cats. Over 30,000 surgeries have been performed at the clinic since its opening in 2008.

*MSSPAN’s Mission: To reduce euthanasia and suffering of homeless animals by providing affordable spay and neuter; by engaging the cooperation of the community and by raising awareness of pet overpopulation.*

Over 70,000 cats and dogs are euthanized in Mississippi each year. A single pair of cats and their kittens can produce as many as 420,000 kittens in just 7 years, while a pair of dogs and their puppies can produce as many as 67,000 puppies in 6 years. The solution is within reach of every pet owner with a commitment to spay or neuter.

Currently, MS SPAN provides pet owners living in 42 counties or 82% of Mississippi's residents with access to low-cost spay/neuter services either through their voucher program, high-volume spay/neuter clinic (the Big Fix Clinic), and/or through their referral services to the other 3 high-volume clinics around the state as well as referrals to other animal welfare groups with "Animal Care" funding.  MS SPAN also offers free transport services from 3 locations in a 90-mile radius to the Big Fix Clinic. Since the organization’s founding in 2005, it has subsidized and/or performed over 59,000 surgeries.

For more information on Mississippi Spay and Neuter and its programs, call 601-420-2438 or visit www.[msspan.org](http://www.yourwebsite.org/).