

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# PAWS NY Receives Pivotal Two-Year Grant From Amie's Place Foundation

New York, NY, December 30, 2011 – Pets Are Wonderful Support (PAWS NY) today announces that Amie's Place Foundation has awarded them a game-changing two-year Grant of \$150,000. This new partnership will allow PAWS NY to make the transition from an all-volunteer management group to a professionally funded and managed nonprofit organization.

This Grant will be used to hire PAWS NY's founder, Rachel Herman, as its first full-time staff person. Ms. Herman will assume responsibilities as Executive Director starting January 5, 2012. With her full-time leadership and support from the Grant, PAWS NY will significantly expand its cornerstone Housecall Program.

Through the Housecall Program, dedicated volunteers visit New York City residents facing both physical and financial hardships. By providing simple pet care assistance, such as dog walking, provision of food and water, litter box maintenance, and transportation to and from veterinary appointments, PAWS NY ensures its clients will keep their pets and continue to benefit from the human-animal bond.

When asked about PAWS NY's service, client Arnold J. explains, "It really means a lot to me...I'm not able to take [my dog] out every day...PAWS really came along at the right time and helped me a lot." Arnold's volunteer Linda adds, "I would never want to imagine any situation that would bring these two apart. I'm just really thrilled to be a part of something that allows them to stay together and stay a family."

Thanks to this extraordinary support and recognition from Amie's Place Foundation, PAWS NY can fulfill its mission to help people by helping pets.

## ABOUT PETS ARE WONDERFUL SUPPORT (PAWS NY)

PAWS NY is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization founded in 2008 that provides pet care assistance to individuals in New York who are unable to care for their pets, due to incapacitating hardships such as terminal illness, job loss, physical limitations due to disability and age, or other crises. For more information on PAWS NY, please email info@pawsny.org or visit http://pawsny.org.

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### ABOUT AMIE'S PLACE FOUNDATION

It all began in 1982 in Long Beach, Long Island, with the exceptional work of Lewis Gelfand, DVM who provides pet care treatment and assistance for people too ill to care for their pets. Based on Dr. Gelfand's work, Amie's Place Foundation was established in New York City to fund organizations that provide programs for people who need help caring for their pets, who risk losing them during times of crisis, or who face barriers limiting access to their pets when they most need each other. In light of the profound healing effect that pets have on individuals who are going through a difficult, sometimes life-changing event, the Foundation works to provide necessary pet-care assistance and to promote public awareness of the unique relationship a beloved pet and its human companion share. Grants have funded the first Senior Center and hospital-based programs at The Caring Community and St. Vincent's Hospital in Greenwich Village, New York City. Amie's Place Foundation has funded programs, that include Beth Israel Hospital, JASA, Mayor's Alliance for NYC's Animals, PAWS NY and Search and Care. The Foundation hopes to see these model programs replicated around the nation to prevent the unnecessary separation of people and pets that need each other. For information about Amie's Place Foundation. please email info@amiesplacefoundation.org or visit <a href="http://www.amiesplacefoundation.org/">http://www.amiesplacefoundation.org/</a>.