Zachery Limer 639 Paul Hardin Drive Chapel Hill, NC 27514

March 25, 2024

Ms. Jessica Patrick Senior Multiplatform Producer, WRAL 2619 Western Blvd. Raleigh, NC 27606 onlinenewsroom@wral.com

Dear Ms. Patrick:

Every year, around 6.3 million companion animals (dogs, cats, etc.) enter animal shelters in the US. In our state alone, there were more than 56,505 stray animals in 2022.

Located in Durham, Independent Animal Rescue seeks to minimize these numbers and aid in the fostering of dogs and cats in the Triangle. Through its adoption and free spay and neutering services the benefits they provide for strays and unwanted animals are hard to ignore.

With direct access to IAR's communications director, Lex Tamvakis, I am writing to suggest a feature of its upcoming annual 5k- The Fast and the Furriest. This is one of its largest fundraisers and this year will mark the first time the event is in person.

After reading your riveting feature about the Beautiful Together Animal Shelter in Chapel Hill, I believe a feature about IAR's 5k would be perfect for people who are looking for more animal shelters in the area.

This piece would run in the 500–800 word range with various photographs available from previous years and pictures of the animals.

I am a current public relations student at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with news writing experience.

Thank you for your consideration of this article and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Respectfully, Zachery Limer 336-447-9463