



June 23, 2021

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **FORSYTH HUMANE SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNOUNCES THE RETIREMENT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SARAH E. WILLIAMSON**

The Forsyth Humane Society (FHS) Board of Directors announces the retirement of Sarah E. Williamson, Executive Director, effective June 30, 2021. Sarah E. Williamson has served FHS for eight years. Under her leadership FHS completed a successful capital campaign and built a state-of-the-art animal shelter. In 2018 FHS expanded to become a contracted partner of Forsyth County with responsibility for cat and dog care at the county shelter. FHS embraced the goal of increasing the save rate of shelter cats and dogs in Forsyth County from 36% in 2017 to 90% by 2023. As of the end of March, Ms. Williamson and her team have increased the save rate to 80%.

"We thank Sarah for her dedication to this mission and applaud her significant accomplishments on behalf of the animals and people of Forsyth County," said Matt Gessner, FHS Board President.

"Eight years is 56 dog years, and I am proud of what this community and this staff and board team have accomplished together. It has been an honor to do this work. The agency is strong, and I look forward to cheering FHS on as it continues to save lives and accomplish great things," said Sarah E. Williamson.

Mark Neff, Director of Operations and Human Resources, will step in as Interim Executive Director effective July 1, 2021.

The FHS Board of Directors has engaged Capability Company to conduct an executive search for Ms. Williamson's replacement.

*We are Forsyth Humane Society and we've been saving the lives of homeless cats and dogs in Forsyth County, NC for 80 years. Join us in our goal to reach a 90% save rate for shelter pets as we celebrate our 80th anniversary. You can help us by adopting, fostering, volunteering or donating and together we will #SAVEFURSYTH.*

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**[forsythhumane.org](http://forsythhumane.org)**