

7929 N. Michigan Rd.
Indianapolis, IN 46268
<http://indyhumane.org>

Contact:
John Aleshire: 317.872.5650 ext. 104
jaleshire@indyhumane.org
Tristan Schmid: 317. 872.5650 ext. 119
tschmid@indyhumane.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HUMANE SOCIETY OF INDIANAPOLIS OFFERS FREE PET IDENTIFICATION IN EXCHANGE FOR DONATIONS TO GLEANERS FOOD BANK

Local pet owners to receive free microchip with a donation of non-perishable food items

INDIANAPOLIS (December 1, 2008) – The Humane Society of Indianapolis (HSI) will offer free microchips and registration for pets when their owners donate a minimum of five non-perishable food items to Gleaners Food Bank on Saturday, December 6, between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. at HSI’s campus, 7929 N. Michigan Rd.

“The holidays are all about giving,” says John Aleshire, executive director of the Humane Society of Indianapolis. “This event benefits pets and people – it’s a great way to give to the community.”

City of Indianapolis code requires that cats and dogs bear permanent means of identification, and microchips are a simple and effective way of permanently identifying a pet. After the microchip is painlessly administered, the pet’s identification and the owner’s contact information are registered in a database, allowing shelters and veterinarians nationwide to identify the animal and contact the owner in the event the pet becomes lost.

HSI offers microchipping to the public during regular adoption hours, no appointment necessary, for \$20. However, this holiday season, pet owners can help their pets *and* their community by donating a bag of non-perishable grocery items to Gleaners Food Bank in exchange for a free pet microchip.

Gleaners (gleaners.org) distributes food to charities that serve hundreds of thousands of hungry Hoosier families.

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About the Humane Society of Indianapolis: *The mission of the Humane Society of Indianapolis is to provide shelter and comfort to animals in need on the path to loving lifetime homes. Founded in 1905, HSI provides vital services to animals and people alike through sheltering and adopting animals, providing positive- reinforcement behavior training for both adoptable and owned animals through its Canine Training School, and outreach through community and shelter programs.*

A private, nonprofit organization that receives no public or private government funding, the Humane Society of Indianapolis is supported solely by contributions, grants, bequests, investments, and adoption and service fees. For more information and current adoptable animals, visit <http://indyhumane.org>.