



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 7, 2026

Contact: Sidney Baxter, Marketing & Communications Manager

Email: sbaxter@pawswithacause.org

Phone: (616) 877-7297 ext. 215

PAWS Welcomes Two Members to the Board of Directors

Grand Rapids, Michigan – Paws With A Cause (PAWS) is welcoming two members to its board of directors this October: Ellen Winterburn, Founder and Talent Creator at Touchstone Talent, LLC, and Sara Osterman, Director of EHS & Sustainability at Masco Corporation.

“We’re excited to welcome Ellen to the PAWS board and to have Sara return,” said Michele Suchovsky, Chief Executive Officer at Paws With A Cause. “Both bring valuable experience, perspectives, and a strong connection to our mission. We’re grateful for their willingness to lend their expertise and leadership to help PAWS reach more people and expand our impact.”

Winterburn has been a longtime supporter of PAWS and brings extensive experience in talent development, relationship building, and leadership through her work with Touchstone Talent, LLC.

“I’ve been a big fan of PAWS for the past 20 years and have always seen it as a vibrant community of passionate people who believe in the extraordinary difference dogs can make in the lives of people with unique needs,” said Winterburn. “I am inspired to help PAWS reach more people, place more dogs, and change more lives, while building on the incredible work already happening every day.”

Osterman currently serves as Director of EHS & Sustainability at Masco Corporation and previously served as chair of the PAWS board. During her previous tenure, she provided valuable leadership and support during PAWS’ capital campaign and the renovation of its headquarters. She now returns to the board with a deep understanding of the organization and its continued growth.

PAWS’ governing board is comprised of statewide business leaders and community members who provide direction and support for the organization’s mission to transform lives through partnerships with custom-trained working dogs. Board members serve three-year terms and may serve a maximum of two terms. Meet the full Board of Directors at: www.pawswithacause.org/staff-board

###

About Paws With A Cause: Since 1979, Paws With A Cause (PAWS) has been transforming lives and strengthening communities through partnerships with custom-trained working dogs. PAWS assistance and facility dogs have helped thousands of people thrive, providing opportunities to live with independence, confidence, and companionship. Serving over 30 states across the country, PAWS is

accredited by Assistance Dogs International and Animal Assisted Services International. To learn how you can get involved, please visit: pawswithacause.org