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**After 17 Years of Leading Emancipet,  
President and CEO, Amy Mills, Announces Transition**

AUSTIN, TX, - Emancipet non-profit veterinary clinics, headquartered in Austin, Texas, announced today that its President and CEO, Amy Mills, will transition out of the role later this year. Mills has led the organization since 2006.

“For over seventeen years, Amy Mills has led Emancipet, and in that time, the organization has transformed from a small, grassroots spay/neuter clinic into one of the largest and most impactful non-profit veterinary care providers in the country, impacting the lives of millions of pets and their families.” said Jed Rogers, Emancipet’s Board Chair. “Under Amy’s leadership there has been incredible transformation for Emancipet. A true social innovator, Amy saw the unmet needs in the community and the hidden potential in Emancipet’s mission. Very soon after she started, she began expanding the types of medical procedures Emancipet offered beyond spay/neuter, partnered with other local nonprofits and government agencies, launched a fundraising program, and started creating programs and services that prioritized the needs of low-income families.”

Mills has led the organization since November of 2006, when it operated out of a leased mobile spay/neuter vehicle, and eventually in 2007 a temporary clinic inside a City of Austin building which saw more than 22,000 visits that year.

“Through many conversations with our clients that year, I began to see how important this work was to them and how much more of an impact we could have, not just for the animals, but for the families they were part of. I was hooked,” said Amy Mills, Emancipet’s President and CEO.

Under Mills' leadership, Emancipet then began expanding the types of medical procedures and services offered, and prioritizing the needs of low-income families. By centering their clients' needs and building trusting relationships, Emancipet started to grow, and began to scale and started opening new clinics in 2013.

Emancipet also began teaching other organizations their business model and core values, launching the consulting and training program: Emancipet New School.

In 2016, Emancipet merged with an incredible non-profit organization called Animal Trustees of Austin, which allowed them to further expand the services it offers to include dentals, heartworm treatment, and more advanced surgery. In 2019, Emancipet set our bold goal: that by the year 2028, everyone in the United States would have access to veterinary care they could afford. A few months later, the pandemic hit and Emancipet pivoted to stay open to continue serving its communities. Emancipet then expanded again, opening a new clinic in Houston in early 2020, and partnering with PetSmart Charities to open two new clinics inside PetSmart retail stores in Houston and Philadelphia in 2022. Under Mills' leadership, Emancipet saw the most visits in a single year in its history in 2023, with over 230,000 pet visits to its clinics and mobile units.

"I am so grateful for the partnership and support of so many partners, supporters and colleagues over the years and the many ways we have collaborated and dreamed of a better future for animals and the people who love them," said Mills. "I am even more excited and passionate about this mission and its potential today than I was the day I started. I love this organization and the movement to make veterinary care affordable and accessible for everyone. I will never stop loving it, regardless of where I spend my work days."

Mills will continue to lead the organization until early November, 2024, when Emancipet plans to welcome her successor.

Emancipet's Board of Directors has partnered with Pearl Street Collective, a leading social-sector executive search firm, to lead a national search.

## **ABOUT EMANCIPET**

Celebrating its 25th year in 2024, Emancipet is a nonprofit organization on a mission to make veterinary care affordable and accessible for everyone. Emancipet clinics provide access to preventative care office exams, vaccines, spay/neuter surgeries, heartworm treatments, dental cleanings, surgeries, and more at low and discounted prices for those that need it most. Emancipet is able to offer its low-cost veterinary care services for dogs and cats through the generous support of donors. Founded in 1999, Emancipet sees over 200,000 visits annually to its clinics in Austin, TX, Killeen, TX, Houston, TX and Philadelphia, PA. By providing low-cost services, with compassion and free of judgment, Emancipet works to support and strengthen some of the most powerful bonds in life - those between people and the pets they love. For more information, visit [www.emancipet.org](http://www.emancipet.org).

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