

Animal Fundraiser to Benefit Veterinary Program Planned

The event will raise money for a nonprofit group that provides free veterinary care to cats and other animals worldwide.

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Rural Area Veterinary Services (RAVS), a nonprofit organization that provides free veterinary care to animals in remote communities worldwide, is holding its first Bay Area animal fundraiser May 18 in San Francisco.

The animal fundraiser event, which is open to the public, will have a silent auction, a DJ, wine and appetizers. There is a \$20 suggested donation.

Each year, RAVS provides more than \$1 million in veterinary services to more than 10,000 animals.

"When beasts of burden, domestic animals and feral animals suffer, their suffering compounds the health and economic problems of the people around them," RAVS lead veterinarian Jennifer Scarlett said.

"With RAVS, I've seen the entire communities change and take on humane responsibility for the animals in their care. Likewise, I've had the pleasure of watching veterinary students gain empathy and skill," Scarlett said.

RAVS projects include caring for sick and injured animals in rural communities, free spaying and neutering, vaccination and parasite control services for dogs and cats and routine care for horses and livestock. RAVS also provides educational programs for adults and children on topics such as disease prevention, dog bite prevention and humane animal care.

The Rural Area Veterinary Services animal fundraiser takes place at 7 p.m., May 18 at the Muse Gallery, 614 Alabama St., San Francisco. For more information, call (415) 515-5798.