

## Rent-A-Center Lends a Hand to Pooches That Lend a Paw

April 9, 2013

Local nonprofit organization receives surprise donation to aid in its support of military veterans

RIO RANCHO, N.M.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Apr. 9, 2013-- Paws and Stripes, a Rio Rancho based nonprofit organization, is the surprise recipient of a random donation from Rent-A-Center. Rent-A-Center's donation to Paws and Stripes came in the form of fulfilling the organization's entire wish list on Amazon.com. This donation is in conjunction with the company's program, Random Acts of Caring. The program provides unexpected donations of merchandise and funding to deserving nonprofit organizations across the country.

Merchandise began to arrive at the Paws and Stripes office at the end of March and includes a variety of necessities such as dog beds, dog food, halti collars, iPads and general office supplies.

"It's like Christmas at the Paws and Stripes office," said Lindsey Stanek, executive director for the organization. "We are so excited to have so much donated to help our program."

Member of the Paws and Stripes team along with veterans and their service dogs will welcome Rent-A-Center representatives to its office on Wednesday, April 10 at 10:00 a.m. for a small ribbon cutting ceremony. The Paws and Stripes office is located at 4041 Barbara Loop SE, Suite D.

"This marks our 89 <sup>th</sup> Random Act of Caring, and we're thrilled to make this donation to Paws and Stripes," said Valerie Stokes, public affairs specialist for Rent-A-Center. "They've engineered a fantastic program that provides support for veterans while also saving the lives of shelter dogs. They're doing good on multiple fronts, and that definitely deserves recognition."

## **About Paws and Stripes**

Paws and Stripes provides service dogs for wounded U.S. military veterans with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Traumatic Brain Injury. The dogs come only from shelters, and highly trained service dog trainers work with the veteran/dog teams. The dogs and the training are provided to the veteran free of charge. Learn more at <u>www.pawsandstripes.org</u>.

## About Rent-A-Center

Rent-A-Center (NASDAQ: RCII), headquartered in Plano, Texas, operates more than 3,000 stores in the United States, Puerto Rico, Canada and Mexico. The Company employs over 20,000 coworkers. Learn more at <u>www.rentacenter.com</u>.

Source: Rent-A-Center

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