



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Christy Schilling to become Executive Director of Bark Avenue Foundation**

Studio City, CA (August 1, 2017) – [Bark Avenue Foundation](#) (BAF) announced today that Christy Schilling, long-time animal advocate and non-profit professional, will assume the role and responsibilities of Executive Director, effective August 1, 2017. The hire follows an extensive search lead by BAF founder, Melanie Pozez, and the Board of Directors.

“Over the past decade, Christy has become one of the key leaders and respected activists in the Los Angeles animal welfare community,” said Pozez. “She is highly skilled in creating impactful partnerships, program development, and management. I have the utmost confidence in Christy’s leadership as the organization embarks upon this new and exciting chapter.”

“I am honored to have this opportunity to lead Bark Avenue Foundation and it’s amazing team of staff and volunteers saving animals’ lives everyday,” Schilling said. “As Executive Director, I plan to strengthen and expand the most impactful programs including BAF’s recently launched Humane Education school program and mobile spay/neuter community clinics. Under Melanie’s leadership, the organization has spayed/neutered over 30,000 pets and saved countless lives. I am thrilled to be stepping into this role and I believe our greatest years are yet to come.”

Schilling brings substantial experience in animal welfare and advocacy, strategic partnerships, education, and non-profit development. In 2014 she co-founded the non-profit The Animal Protectorates (TAPS) with the mission to Teach, Advocate, Protect and Support. She has been highly active supporting numerous animal welfare groups including Best Friends Animal Society, Los Angeles Animal Services, Lange Foundation, and BAF. She has received the Animal PAC’s Humane Hero Award for Activism (2016) and Congressman Adam Schiff’s Woman of the Year Award (2014).

“We feel extremely fortunate to have Christy joining the Bark Avenue Foundation team and blazing a new trail ahead to further help save the lives of animals here in the Los Angeles area,” BAF Board President Richard Krelstein said. “She is an amazing and inspiring leader who will take BAF programs and outreach to the next level.”

### **About Bark Avenue Foundation:**

Bark Avenue Foundation’s mission is to empower pet owners and local communities to reduce abandoned animal populations through spay/neuter, pet retention and reclamation, and humane education. Since 2004, Bark Avenue Foundation has spayed/neutered over 30,000 pets throughout Los Angeles and the surrounding area. For more information about our life-saving programs, please visit [www.barkavenuefoundation.org](http://www.barkavenuefoundation.org) and follow us on social media at [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), or [Instagram](#).

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