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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HOMELESS CHIHUAHUAS FROM CALIFORNIA COMING TO THE DUMB FRIENDS LEAGUE, THANKS TO DR. PAPIDIES AND PET AIRWAYS

DENVER (December 23, 2009) – It may not be a Chihuahua Christmas, but nearly three dozen Chihuahuas are traveling from California to Denver, in hopes of finding homes before the new year through the Dumb Friends League. On December 26, the Chihuahuas from the Los Angeles area will catch a flight on Pet Airways and arrive in Denver that evening. Some of the dogs could be available for adoption beginning December 27.

A long-haired Chihuahua named Dr. Papidies was the inspiration for this rescue effort. Dr. Leslie Capin, who entered her beloved dog into a national “cutest dog” competition, donated half of the winnings to the Dumb Friends League. Then, after learning about the Chihuahua crisis in California—where animal shelters are overcrowded with dogs like Dr. Papidies—Dr. Capin offered to cover the cost of transportation for 100 Chihuahuas, so they would have the opportunity of finding permanent homes through the Dumb Friends League.

“Thanks to the generosity of Dr. Capin and Pet Airways, we are able to fly in 30 to 35 Chihuahuas and give them a second chance at happiness,” said Robert Rohde, President and CEO of the Dumb Friends League. “But we won’t stop there. We will work with other animal shelters in California and coordinate additional flights to help more Chihuahuas that are in need of homes.”

The Chihuahuas, as well as some other small-breed canines, will be transported from Los Angeles area shelters to the Los Angeles Executive Airport for a Pet Airways flight leaving at approximately 11 a.m. Saturday. They will arrive at the Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport in Broomfield, Colo. between 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Staff members from the Dumb Friends League will pick up the dogs beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Interested adopters and donors are encouraged to visit the Dumb Friends League Web site at ddfl.org, or call (303) 751-5772 for more information on these Chihuahuas. No additional volunteer assistance is needed at this time for the Chihuahua rescue effort.

About the Dumb Friends League

As the leading animal welfare organization in the Rocky Mountain region, the Dumb Friends League has been helping pets and people in metro Denver and surrounding areas for nearly 100 years. The League has two shelter locations: its main shelter at 2080 S. Quebec St. in Denver and the Buddy Center at 4556 Castleton Court in Castle Rock. For more information about the Dumb Friends League, visit ddfl.org.

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