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## Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **PETS HELPING PEOPLE ANNOUNCES A NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

*Milwaukee, Wisconsin (August 7, 2017)* – The Board of Directors of PETS HELPING PEOPLE (PHP) is pleased to announce Amy Dodge has been named the new Executive Director, effective July 19. Dodge succeeds the Board of Directors managing and guiding the 19 year old non-profit organization for the past two years. The board, acting as a body, has been working hard on its governance responsibility, while board members, acting as individuals, have also stepped forward to support and help with the operations of PHP. Pets Helping People’s mission of service throughout the Greater Milwaukee Area is providing certified Animal Assisted Therapy programs and services including assessment and training. After an exhaustive organizational assessment, it was determined that an executive director was needed to propel PHP forward.

Dodge’s resume includes more than 30 years of organizational operations and business development including volunteer and staff management, marketing and budget oversight in the nonprofit sector and for-profit businesses. Her earlier career was spent with Shully’s Cuisine & Events as an Event Coordinator and more recently as Director of Operations and Marketing. Dodge was also head of Business Development with Blue Horse advertising agency. Her non-profit experience included an Executive Director position with a state-wide golf organization, a Development Director with a mental health organization and co-founder/President of Milwaukee Empty Bowls. These diverse experiences are an excellent fit for the revitalization the Pets Helping People organization is seeking.

Amy stated, “Southeastern Wisconsin has so many untold stories of doing fantastic work. Pets Helping People is one of those missions that just makes good sense. People need to hear about it and support the volunteers that are creating such incredible good-will in the community. I am honored to be part of this group and assist with the next phase of PHP.”

Kari Schmidt, President of Pets Helping People said, “We are delighted to have Amy Dodge join us with her vast experience in nonprofit. We believe this will bring opportunities to execute and implement our mission in the community.”

### **About Pets Helping People**

Pets Helping People (PHP) is a not-for-profit 501(c) 3 organization established in 1998 on the premise that dogs, through their unconditional love and acceptance, when paired with a compassionate human can be a remarkable source of companionship, inspiration, motivation and support to the healing and learning processes. PHP offers unmatched training, testing and support to individuals who want to share the love they have for their dog with others through the practice of animal assisted interventions (AAI). PHP partners with facilities and organizations who want to offer the healing benefits of the human-animal bond with their clients by assisting with program development and team placement. PHP provides customized interactive educational presentations to many schools, community groups, residential facilities, and employers expanding their understanding of and appreciation for the diverse benefits of AAI.

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