



Press Release: A New Year, A New Home For Immediate Release

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A New Year, A New Home

January 2, 2020—Kettering, OH – The SICSA Pet Adoption Center has been patiently waiting on the new year. For the SICSA staff and volunteers, the turn of the calendar from 2019 to 2020 means more than resolutions, it means a new home.

On Sunday, January 5, 2020, SICSA will cease operations at their current location on Wilmington Pike in Kettering, and begin the process of moving to their newly built, state-of-the-art building on Washington Church Road in South Dayton.

“The Board of Directors, staff, and volunteers have been looking forward to this move since 2015”, shared Board President Will Bach. Bach went on to share how a strategic planning workshop with the Board, key community stakeholders, and staff at the end of 2014, identified the Wilmington Pike building as the largest barrier to SICSA fulfilling their mission. Originally built as a strip mall, SICSA took ownership of the Wilmington Pike location in the late nineties, changing and adding to meet their needs at the time. “Fast forward to 2014, and after experiencing continuous growth in both the types of services and the number of animals served, we found ourselves once again looking at building”, continues Bach.

In early 2015, SICSA hired a third party to complete a feasibility study which included testing whether or not the community would support a fundraising campaign aimed at expansion, as well as if moving from the Kettering community after 45 years would be accepted. “We explored options with Kettering first”, reports SICSA CEO Nora Vondrell. “We could not find the amount of land we needed to include all our services in Kettering. After several months, we started exploring options outside of Kettering, eventually identifying land in Washington Township”, continues Vondrell.

Visible from Interstate 675, the new building at 8172 Washington Church Road has been under construction since October of 2018. SICSA plans to move all services to Washington Township, mothballing the building on Wilmington Pike in Kettering, and eventually putting it up for sale. “We own the current building, which sits on two acres of land”, shares Vondrell. “As much as we would like to keep some kind of services in Kettering, the Washington Township location was built to accommodate all our current and expanding program needs. As such, it doesn’t make sense to have staff at two different locations, maintaining two operating budgets, etc.”, says Vondrell.



Vondrell went on to share how the new building on Washington Church has increased space for animal housing, a full service veterinary clinic, a dedicated Help Center, humane education classrooms, two adoption cafes, administrative and volunteer office space, and more. “While moving is bittersweet given how much we have loved being in Kettering, we are hopeful the Dayton community is as excited as we are about our new building and all it will mean to animal welfare”, Vondrell concludes.

SICSA expects it will take two weeks to fully move and have the new building ready to receive guests. They plan to have a period of soft opening time, starting most services back up the week of January 20th to

2600 Wilmington Pike, Kettering, OH 45419
www.sicsa.org



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allow staff and volunteers to work out any bugs and kinks. "We will then have a Grand Opening on Saturday, February 8, 2020, with activities throughout the day", reports Bach. "Stay tuned for updates and opportunities by going to our website or Facebook page", concludes Bach.