

**November 3, 2009
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CAPITOL AREA ANIMAL RESPONSE TEAM WINS
ECU "PAY IT FORWARD" CONTEST**

TOPEKA - The Capitol Area Animal Response Team (CAART) received \$1,000 as a result of the Educational Credit Union's "Pay It Forward" contest, Julie Castaneda, CAART Executive Director, announced today.

Educational Credit Union's contest offered members a chance to answer the question, "if Educational Credit Union gave me \$20 to help someone else, I would..." The first 25 participants at each location received \$20, with the stipulation that the recipients "pay it forward." ECU videotaped the responses, and asked the public to view and comment on the videos. The person making the video with the most comments would pocket \$500 and receive a \$500 donation to the charity of his or her choice.

The winning video featured Topekan Kathy Schlotterbeck saying she would donate her \$20 to CAART. After being notified that she won, Kathy not only designated CAART as the recipient of ECU's \$500 contribution, but also donated her own \$500 winnings.

The Capitol Area Animal Response Team is a volunteer organization dedicated to keeping pets and families together by providing temporary resources of food, shelter, and veterinary care for animals displaced by natural disasters or family crises. CAART has 501(c)3 status through the Topeka Community Foundation. More information on CAART and its services is available at www.shawneecaart.org.