



**For Immediate Release: December 31, 2013**

## **Maid Brigade Awards \$5,000 to Furkids**

*Open Hearts Campaign Gives Back to Local Charities Making a Lasting Impact*

ATLANTA—As part of the company's first annual *Open Hearts Campaign* that gives back to non-profits making a difference in the community, [Maid Brigade](#) – the Atlanta-based house cleaning franchise – has awarded \$5,000 to Furkids.

[Furkids](#) is Georgia's largest no-kill animal shelter, which provides a cage-free and loving environment for its rescued animals until finding them permanent homes.

"More than 10 years ago I found a stray mother cat with kittens and was unable to find a shelter to take them in – so I started Furkids," says Samantha Shelton, founder and executive director of Furkids. "Since 2002, we have facilitated close to 9,000 adoptions and today we operate 13 full-time adoption centers throughout metro Atlanta."

With more than 26 non-profits in the running, the *Open Hearts Campaign* asked Maid Brigade Facebook fans to vote for their favorite charities. A total of nearly 6,800 votes were cast throughout the month of December. Furkids received more than 2,000 votes and was announced the winning organization last week via the [Maid Brigade Facebook page](#).

In close second was [Equest](#), which provides therapeutic sports riding classes and Hippotherapy to children and adults with physical, cognitive, and emotional disabilities. The Texas-based organization was awarded \$500 from Maid Brigade.

"We wanted to give back in a big way to the local non-profits making a lasting impact in the communities in which Maid Brigade serves," says Bart Puett, president of Maid Brigade. "The *Open Hearts Campaign* gave our customers a voice in which charity was chosen. It's inspirational to see how these organizations have touched the lives of so many people."

### **About Maid Brigade**

Headquartered in Atlanta, Maid Brigade is the only house cleaning service that is Green Clean Certified® with more than 400 franchise service areas in the United States and Canada. Established in 1979, Maid Brigade is the green cleaning industry leader and has a longstanding legacy of providing quality customer service and consistent and thorough cleaning using the most advanced techniques and equipment. The company has also implemented a consumer advocacy program in response to reports from the Environmental Protection Agency linking chemicals in traditional cleaning products to a wide range of health risks. For more information visit [www.maidbrigade.com](http://www.maidbrigade.com) or call 866-800-7434.

###