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BRIGHTEART VETERINARY CENTERS EXPANDS NETWORK OF ADVANCED CARE FACILITIES IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

Completes Acquisitions of Arboretum View Animal Hospital (Illinois) and Western Veterinary Specialist Centre and Animal Care Emergency of Calgary (Alberta)

ARMONK, N.Y. – (January 24, 2008) – BrightHeart Veterinary Centers today announced the completion of two acquisitions that extend its footprint into Illinois and Western Canada. BrightHeart has acquired Arboretum View Animal Hospital (AVAH), located in Downers Grove, Ill., and Western Veterinary Specialist Centre (WVSC) and its affiliate, Animal Care Emergency (ACE) of Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Within its network of veterinary hospitals, BrightHeart now has a combined staff of over 300, including 67 veterinarians, of whom 23 are board-certified specialists.

In June 2007, BrightHeart Veterinary Centers launched its plan to establish the first national network of advanced care veterinary hospitals with its initial acquisition: the Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center of Bedford Hills, N.Y. The second BrightHeart facility, Farmington Valley Veterinary Emergency Hospital in Avon, Conn., was acquired in October. BrightHeart expects to acquire at least two additional facilities this year, the company said.

Howard Rubin, chief executive officer of BrightHeart, said, "Pet owners today want a wide range of diagnostic and treatment options, as well as increased levels of sophistication in medical care for their pets. BrightHeart responds directly to these needs. Our network has taken the lead in delivering a new standard of veterinary care by bringing together practices with the stature, reputation and quality to support our mission."

Mr. Rubin continued, "Our strategy is to create an unparalleled resource of specialty and emergency facilities across North America. Our culture promotes operational excellence, the sharing of best practices within our network, and greater communication with referring veterinarians and the general public. Our ultimate goal is to deliver the best possible medical outcomes for our patients. The Arboretum View Animal Hospital, the Western Veterinary Specialist Centre and Animal Emergency Care of Calgary have all established reputations for excellence in pursuing this same goal."

AVAH, under the directorship of Dr. Tom Lassiter, serves the Chicago metro market and surrounding communities with multi-disciplinary veterinary services and specialty/emergency care. The hospital's 112-person staff includes six board-certified specialists. The hospital also includes a state-of-the-art intensive care unit. AVAH offers a broad range of diagnostic and treatment options, including surgery, internal medicine, oncology and rehabilitation therapy.

Dr. Lassiter said, "We are delighted that our affiliation with BrightHeart Veterinary Centers gives us the opportunity to help elevate our profession through collaboration with specialists, emergency clinicians, referring veterinarians and pet owners across North America. BrightHeart's commitment to advancement in technology, client service and medical resources is consistent with our own commitment to deliver outstanding veterinary care to the Chicago area."

WVSC treats over 8,000 companion animal patients annually at its modern, 30,000-square-foot facility located in downtown Calgary. The Centre's board-certified specialists offer extensive diagnostic and treatment options, including surgery, oncology, ophthalmology and internal medicine. The hospital's 82-person staff includes nine board-certified specialists. Animal Care Emergency of Calgary, an affiliate of WVSC, offers a full intensive care unit and 24-hour staffing.

Dr. David Fowler, one of the founding partners of WVSC, said, "Our primary focus has been to deliver compassionate care to our patients, with an overriding commitment to medical excellence. With BrightHeart, we expect to add enhanced cancer treatment resources in 2008, with the installation of a linear accelerator for advanced radiation therapy. WVSC will then be the only full-service private veterinary cancer treatment center serving Canada and the northwestern United States."

Dr. Martin Baer, director of ACE, said, "BrightHeart gives us the ability to accelerate the development of our business operations, information technology systems and human resources to meet the rapid growth in demand for our services. We are excited about our future with the BrightHeart network, and look forward to becoming the premier veterinary specialty/emergency practice in Canada."

About BrightHeart Veterinary Centers

BrightHeart's network of advanced-care veterinary facilities works closely with referring veterinarians and pet owners to provide the highest standards and greatest range of options in pet care, giving pets the best chance to lead longer, healthier lives. BrightHeart provides its doctors and staff with outstanding career advancement opportunities; promotes greater communication with referring veterinarians; and seeks to increase public awareness of advancements available to pet owners for the medical diagnosis and treatment of pets. Additional information about BrightHeart Veterinary Centers can be found at www.BrightHeartVet.com.