



# NEW DOCUMENTARY LOOKS AT THE HOUSING CRISIS THROUGH THE EYES OF COMPANION ANIMALS

**Jesse Locke of Unlocked Films Produces Film Featuring The Work Of Local Nonprofit CAMP, The Unhoused, And Their Companion Animals.**

(Bend, OR) — A new documentary, featuring the work of Central Oregon nonprofit “CAMP,” will debut at Open Space Event Studios in Bend, Oregon on March 24, 2024. The film, produced by Jesse Locke of Unlocked Films, delves deep into the lives of community members experiencing homelessness, shedding light on their unique and profound relationships with their cherished companion animals.

CAMP stands for “Companion Animal Medical Project”, and was founded in 2020 by Johannah Johnson-Weinberg to address a gap in services to the houseless population of Bend and Redmond. As a professional housing and employment advocate, she noticed many of her clients had nowhere to go when their pets experienced a medical emergency. In addition, she realized that many of the preventative care services that could curb such emergencies, like vaccinations and spay & neuter surgeries, were not available either.

And so, CAMP was established to provide free veterinary care - both preventative and urgent - to the unhoused population of Central Oregon.

“Companion,” the name of the documentary, explores the intricate dynamics between humans and their pets but also prompts reflection on the essence of society itself. It highlights the significance of organizations like CAMP, and their crucial role in fostering compassion and support within our neighborhoods. This exciting project was generously sponsored by Tumalo Animal Hospital and Thrive Central Oregon.

“This premiere event is more than just a screening—it's a call to action,” says Johnson-Weinberg. “‘Companion’ inspires us to reconsider what community truly means, to recognize the challenges faced by those experiencing homelessness, and to explore tangible ways in which we can all contribute to creating a more inclusive and supportive environment for everyone.”

“Interviewing these community members and hearing the remarkable stories of their pets - what they mean to them and how they help their humans physically, mentally, and

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emotionally - was truly an honor," says Jesse. "The bonds we have with our animals transcends socio-economics. I think anyone can see that after watching this film."

Please join us for an unforgettable evening as we celebrate the premiere of "Companion," and honor the people and pets of Central Oregon. Tickets are \$35 a piece and can be bought at [www.campclinics.org/events](http://www.campclinics.org/events).

The evening will include the film screening, a raffle and silent auction, and a panel discussion with film producer, CAMP Representatives, and film participants.

100% of ticket sales go towards supporting CAMP and our no-cost veterinary services.

CAMP is grateful for the partners that made this film possible - Tumalo Animal Hospital, Sculpin Marine, Thrive Central Oregon, Open Space Event Studios, and Deschutes County.

### **About CAMP**

CAMP (Companion Animal Medical Project) is a 501c3 nonprofit organization founded in Central Oregon in 2020. The mission of CAMP is to help ease the burden of those experiencing homelessness or facing other debilitating financial hardships by providing veterinary care and supplies to their companion animals. For more information please visit <https://www.campclinics.org/>

### **About Tumalo Animal Hospital**

The mission at Tumalo Animal Hospital is to help patients - large and small - live longer, healthier and happier lives. They are committed to providing access to quality care, demonstrating compassion and respect, transparent and trustworthy communication, and serving our community through client education, empowerment, as well as local shelter partnerships. For more information please visit <https://www.tumaloanimalhospital.com/>

### **About Thrive Central Oregon**

Thrive Central Oregon's mission is to connect individual needs to community resources. They meet families and individuals - our neighbors - in public spaces to connect them with the assistance they are looking for. There are many resources in Central Oregon, but the landscape can be difficult to navigate alone. For more information please visit <https://www.thrivecentraloregon.org/>