Trailblazers in Animal Welfare Award Employer Consent Form & Letter of Recommendation

Animal Care Expo 2025

Purpose:

This form confirms that the employer is aware of and consents to the applicant's participation in the Trailblazers in Animal Welfare Award program for the Animal Care Expo (Expo) and agrees to the conditions set forth by the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) as outlined below. The employer acknowledges that the applicant, if selected as an award recipient, the applicant will receive a grant to attend the Expo that will cover their travel, lodging, and complete conference registration and, therefore, will be required to attend the Animal Care Expo from April 15-18, 2025, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

This form also serves as a letter of recommendation advocating for the applicant's consideration for an award that recognizes their contributions to advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion in the animal protection movement.

Section 1: Applicant Information

- Employee Name: ______
- Job Title/Position:
- Organization Name:
- Organization Address:
- Employer/Supervisor Title:
- Employer/Supervisor Contact Information:
 - Email:
 - Phone Number:

Section 2: Employer Consent and Agreement

By signing this consent form, the employer agrees to the following:

1. Employee Participation:

The employer acknowledges and consents to the employee's application for the Trailblazer Award, which includes mandatory attendance at the Animal Care Expo from April 15-18, 2025, in Las Vegas, Nevada, if selected as an award recipient.

2. Time Commitment:

The employer agrees to allow the employee time off to attend the Expo and fulfill all related commitments associated with receiving the Trailblazers in Animal Welfare Award, including attending conference sessions and the on-site award ceremony. This includes three days of participation attendance onsite from April 15-18, 2025 and 1-2 days of travel.

3. Grant and Travel Arrangements:

The employer understands that an HSUS grant will cover all travel, hotel, and conference registration fees. The employer will be responsible for signing a grant agreement. The employee will be responsible for booking their own travel arrangements via a link provided by HSUS no later than March 14, 2025.

4. **Return of Grant Funds if Unable to Attend:** Should the employee be unable to attend the Expo after being selected for the award, the employer agrees to return the awarded grant funds to HSUS in full no later than March 31, 2025.

Section 3: Employer Letter of Recommendation

Please provide a brief statement (250-300 words) recommending the applicant's participation in the Trailblazers in Animal Welfare Award program. Describe how the applicant contributes to your organization's work in animal welfare and diversity, equity, inclusion, and access to animal care services for underserved communities, and explain why you believe they are a strong candidate for this award.

Letter of Recommendation:

Employer Signature

By signing below, I confirm that I have read and agree to the terms outlined in this consent form and fully support my employee's participation in the Trailblazers in Animal Welfare Award program.

Employer/Supervisor Signature: ______ Date: _____