



The Humane Society of San Bernardino Valley

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Parvo Season Early This Year

SAN BERNARDINO – Canine Parvovirus is a highly contagious and deadly disease caused by a virus. The virus attacks the gastrointestinal tract of puppies and dogs as well as coyotes and foxes. The HSSBV Veterinary Clinic has seen parvo cases start earlier than normal this year.

Symptoms may include lethargy (sleepy puppy) and not eating when they are first “coming down with” the disease and later breaking with vomiting and bloody diarrhea. In some cases this can happen in less than 24 hours.

Parvo virus is spread through contaminated stool, kennel surfaces, food bowls, collars and leashes as well as on people’s clothes and shoes. The virus can live in the soil for up to a year and is resistant to heat and freezing.

Vaccination and good hygiene are critical components of parvovirus infection. Puppies should start their vaccine series (puppy shots) as early as 6 to 8 weeks of age, with boosters every three weeks until they are 16 weeks of age.

Adults should be vaccinated every year, especially nursing mothers. Get your pet vaccinated **BEFORE** the risk of exposure happens.

Contact your local veterinarian or visit the Humane Society (374 W Orange Show Road, San Bernardino) to get your puppy started on their series of puppy vaccines today!

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The Humane Society of San Bernardino Valley operates a vital low-cost spay/neuter and vaccination clinic, has a humane education program for children in grades K-6, and has two cruelty investigators on staff to address abuse and neglect of pets in our community. Without your support, these programs would not be possible.

**A Nonprofit Charitable Organization
Caring for All Animals in Need**