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PETCO CFO BRIAN LAROSE JOINS THE BOARD OF SAN DIEGO NONPROFIT NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR AUTISM RESEARCH (NFAR)

Committed to Improving the Lives of Those with Autism, LaRose Aims to Bring His Operational and Financial Experience to Help NFAR Continue to Make a Difference

San Diego, CA — San Diego-based nonprofit National Foundation for Autism Research (NFAR) is honored to announce that Brian LaRose has joined their volunteer Board of Directors. Recently named as Petco's Chief Financial Officer, LaRose is excited to add yet another meaningful title to his resume.

"As a parent of a teenage child with Autism, I have experienced many of the challenges and triumphs of raising a child on the spectrum," LaRose shared regarding why joining the NFAR Board was important to him. "I feel passionate about paying my experience forward to those parents who are earlier in the process through both my board involvement and by sharing what I have learned about my son and myself."

LaRose's goal in this new role is to help strengthen and further NFAR's important efforts throughout San Diego. NFAR has spent the past twenty years providing programs, services, and materials to the local autism community, with a current special emphasis on employment opportunities for the millions of autistic individuals that are aging into adulthood.

"I believe NFAR is one of the only organizations focusing on lifelong support for our children – from birth to young adult, to older adult," added LaRose. "I'm inspired to be a part of their mission."

With more than 20 years of deep financial, digital, and operational expertise, LaRose leads Petco's corporate and financial strategy, performance, reporting, and long-range business planning. He is responsible for all aspects of the finance function, including operations, budgeting, forecasting, investor relations, controllership, and treasury. Prior to joining Petco in 2020, Brian served as Divisional CFO for HP's 3D business unit. He led the separation management office during the separation of HP into two publicly traded Fortune 50 companies – at the time, the largest such split in U.S. history.

"We're thrilled that we will have Brian's talent and experience to help us guide our future efforts," said Juan Leon, NFAR co-founder and Board Chairman. "He's been involved in many of NFAR's fundraising and other events for years, including our annual Race for Autism, and it's wonderful to have him now an official part of our NFAR team."

Since 2005, NFAR has invested nearly \$2 million in more than 900 San Diego autism programs and initiatives to positively impact the living and learning environment for thousands of people with autism.

About NFAR

The National Foundation for Autism Research (NFAR) was founded in 2003 with a mission to serve the critical needs of those with autism in meaningful ways to improve their overall quality of life. NFAR's main fundraising event, the San Diego Race for Autism Superhero 5K, will be held on World Autism Acceptance Day, April 2, 2022, in Balboa Park. www.nFAR.org.www.raceforautism.org

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