

Friends for Life Program

What would happen if you died and your pets were left with no one to care for them? Many animal lovers have assurances from family or loved ones that their companion animals will be cared for in a loving manner if that should happen. If that is not the case for you, SafeHaven Humane Society (SHHS) has a Friends for Life Program that will provide you with the secure knowledge that your pets will be cared for after you are gone.

You are invited to enroll your companion animals in the Friends for Life Program by including SHHS in your estate by making a gift at a specified level or higher. You will be asked to provide some detailed registration information about your animals and their living environment. You will also be asked to keep this information up to date annually. Should it be necessary, the humane society will take custody of your pet after your passing and be sure your companions are placed in a similar setting to their current environment.

This is not an insurance program or a pet trust. It is a way for you to make a significant gift to SHHS and provide for your pets.

Who qualifies for this service?

This is a service for donors to SHHS who have included us in their estate planning at a minimum level or provided the society with a significant gift while living. The actual gift levels are established by the society Board of Directors. The current established gift level (as a gift or bequest) is \$10,000 per participating animal. Once accepted in the Friends for Life Program, participant levels for a specific participant will not change. New animals added to the program will need to qualify under current standards: To be eligible, your pet(s) must be generally healthy and free of severe behavior problems. All decisions regarding your pet(s) will be made in accordance with the SHHS Friends for Life Program. A copy of this policy will be provided to you. Generally a maximum of four pets (cats, dogs, and rabbits,) per household can be accepted in the program unless special arrangements and agreements are made. The SHHS Friends for Life Program can also be named as the trustee in a pet trust under Oregon law.

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SafeHaven Humane Society

33071 Highway 34 SE • P.O. Box 2018 • Albany, OR 97321
(541) 928-2789 • www.safehavenhumane.com

Friends for Life Program Cont'd...

How will my pet(s) be cared for after I am gone?

Friends for Life animals are given very special treatment. Using your up to-date information in our files, we will place your animal(s) in environments very similar to their existing home. Medical treatment is provided when necessary. Special foster homes are utilized if the animal needs to recover from an illness. Euthanasia is only considered if a very poor quality of life for the animal dictates such action. A Friends for Life participant animal is in the program for their entire life. Even after being adopted the animal remains a Friend for Life participant.

How do I utilize the Friends for Life Program for my companion animal(s)?

- Arrange with the SHHS development office for the appropriate bequest or gift to qualify for the program.
- Fill out all the necessary forms, including the Friends for Life Program application, a health and medical history for the pet(s), behavior profiles for each animal and a Pet Alert Card.
- Draft your will to include giving SHHS custody of your pet(s) at the time of your death. Provide SHHS with a copy of that portion of your will for our records.
- Carry the SHHS Pet Alert Card in your wallet specifying where you want your pet (s) taken at the time of your death.
- Identify an "interim care provider" (friend, relative, veterinarian, etc.) where your pet can go immediately and temporarily.
- Instruct your interim care provider to notify SHHS of your pet's whereabouts and that it is enrolled in the Friends for Life Program. Notify SHHS at 541.928.2789 and indicate the animals are a part of the program.

SafeHaven Humane Society will provide you with copies of the necessary documentation for your attorney, executor of your estate and the interim care provider. You will also receive a copy of the Friends for Life Program.

For the wellbeing of your companion animal(s) you are required to keep the SHHS up-to-date on the status of your pet(s) by updating paperwork and responding to inquiries for information.

The SHHS Friends for Life Program is a very special service to our donors and is focused on maintaining a rich and comfortable life for your companion animals should they outlive you.

If you would like more information about this valuable program, including specific gift or bequest requirements, contact SHHS Executive Director Chris Storm at 541.928.2789 or cstorm@pacifier.com



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