



# A Resource guide for aging in place with pets in Allegheny County

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# Introduction for Caregivers & Professionals

## Can Aging With Pets Make Life Better for Older Adults?

The older adult population is growing and in most developed countries they are living for much longer. This in turn has maximized the quality of their years after retirement. “The number of Americans ages 65 and older is projected to nearly double from 52 million in 2018 to 95 million by 2060, and the 65-and-older age group’s share of the total population will rise from 16 percent to 23 percent. (Mather, 2019)

Aging brings challenges. Retirement, reduced income, changes in lifestyles, declines in physical and mental health and losses of family members and friends and reduced social networks can lead to increased feelings of loneliness and social isolation. However, pet ownership has been found to reduce these risks and promote well-being.

# Benefits of aging with pets

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Research investigating the effects of pet ownership and human-animal interaction for adults have found several benefits:

- Pets can motivate people to engage in an active and healthy lifestyle which enhances physical and cognitive functioning in older adults.
- Pets can help in establishing a structured daily life because they require regular meals walks grooming and attention all of which helps the older person structure a day with meaningful activities and provides cues for self-care activities.
- Pets can stimulate positive emotions such as pleasure and foster feelings of being protected and safe both inside and outside the home.
- Living with a pet provides company and reduces feelings of loneliness as pets are often seen as family.
- Pets can offer some of the emotional support or opportunities for nurturance previously provided by human social networks.
- Providing nurturance to others can create a desirable feeling of being needed and valued and can enhance an older person feeling of self-worth – provide a sense of purpose.
- Having a pet can distract from pain and sorrow and provide motivating activities and pleasure.
- Pets create opportunities for new social relationships – “social catalysts” – stimulating communication with neighbors.



# Risks and challenges related to pet ownership in older adulthood

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- Economic aspect. Pet ownership costs money. It can mean financial burden for older adults who have limited social incomes.
- Pet care and pet healthcare costs more, especially when having an older animal
- The attitudes of family members, formal caregivers, doctors and nurses may discourage pet ownership for older people.
- Aging leads to a decline in physical health and strength which can lead to an inability to provide adequate care for a pet. This might become a challenge for older adults resulting in animal neglect and coexisting with the inability to take care of oneself.
- Keeping pets increases vulnerability dependent on their health status. Older people have a greater risk of injuries and fractures due to falls associated with dogs and cats.
- There may be cases where older adults are unable to provide all the necessary pet care independently and caregivers are often called upon to assist. This can be an extra burden on the informal caregiver, who often may not available or might not be able to fulfill the animal care tasks.



# Risks and challenges related to pet ownership in older adulthood cont.

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- Also keep in mind that pet ownership is not a uniformly desired or positive experience. Simply having a pet present in the home does not guarantee a strong bond or affectionate relationship between the owner and the animal.
- In some cases, extreme attachments may also be associated with less desirable health outcomes for the older person such as hoarding too many pets, refusal to be hospitalized because they are not willing to leave their pet without care.
- Pets can also be a reason to remain in a home that is no longer suitable for an older adult or delay a transition to assisted living out of concern for the animal since many housing facilities refuse to allow tenants to keep animals.
- It can be very painful for the older adult to re-home their pet(s) when they are no longer able to care for them



# Training Scenarios and Resources for Common Situations.

This section covers situations which caregivers, family members or professionals may encounter when working with older adults and their pets in the community and provides some talking points for what to consider.

These are common scenarios that you may encounter as a caregiver or professional when working with older adults. This section can be used for training or as a place to start when you encounter a situation with an older adult and their pet. We have included talking points and resources.



"My dad has always had a dog. His Irish Setter Murphy died 6 months ago. He was really sad, but now he says that he is ready to have another dog - a puppy. He will be 75, and while he is doing well, living alone in the family home. But I, think that this is a bad idea. He is in good health now, but what if he gets sick? What if he falls over the dog? How is he going to be able to walk the dog in the winter? What if he goes into the hospital or has to move to a place where they don't take dogs, or what if the dog outlives him? He is angry with me for being such a "downer" about the puppy."

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It's a natural for people who have lived with beloved pets to want to continue to have an animal. After all, they know the benefits of living with a companion animal and puppies are adorable!

In talking with your father, you may consider bringing in his veterinarian to help with the conversation, scheduling a consultation with her/him. It may be a less emotionally charged conversation to have a professional discuss the pros and cons and to make recommendations about breeds and ages of the animal.

If your father is insistent on a puppy, then perhaps a breed that is smaller or in need of less frequent walking may be less of a challenge for him to care for. The veterinarian can make a recommendation. There are also "pet match" websites that help you in selecting a breed based upon personal factors.

<https://www.purina.com/dogs/dog-breed-selector> or the American Kennel Club <https://www.akc.org/dog-breed-selector/> are two such websites.

A conversation with dad about why he prefers a puppy would also be a good step! Sometimes after losing a pet, people gravitate towards puppies or younger animals because they want a lot of time with their new companion and don't want to deal with the pain of another loss. It's possible he's still working through some complicated

feelings and may be more open to an adult pet after discussing the root of his desire for a puppy.

Adoption staff at many shelters are “match makers” and can work with dad around finding a companion that is best suited to his lifestyle. Each dog is an individual – dogs of any age or breed can vary in terms of energy and temperament!. Staff can help assess your dad’s lifestyle and identify individual dogs that may be a good companion for dad based on their knowledge of the individual dogs in the shelter.

There are also senior dogs in need of homes, and some agencies match senior dogs with older adults. Reaching out to an animal shelter or to specific breed rescue organizations may help to find a senior dog in need of a home. Animal Friends (<https://www.thinkingoutsidethecage.org/>) and the Pennsylvania SPCA also match senior pets with older adults (<https://www.pspca.org/>). There are also opportunities to volunteer as a dog-walker at shelters if your father decides that he does not want to have a dog in the home.

Training a dog to not jump and to not get under-foot will be important. Enrolling in puppy classes or obtaining training advice may be needed. Animal welfare agencies offer low-cost group classes. However, the home should also be assessed for potential “trip” hazards---throw rugs, furniture that moves; pet toys should be off the floor and stored in baskets.

If economics allow, having a pet-walking service may help your father when it is too cold, or the weather conditions keep him from walking the dog. There are many paid services, and an animal shelter can give your recommendations about volunteers in your area who volunteer to walk dogs. There are also neighborhood associations that sometimes help older neighbors during winter and youth from local churches who may walk a dog on bad weather days.

Finally, it will be important to plan for the pet’s care in the event of an illness, hospitalization or death, regardless of the age of the animal. Section 2 outlines the basic planning tools and the appendices include the documents. Family members and/or the veterinarian could share these documents and offer to help think through and complete them.

Your client Mrs. Scott needs to have her knee replaced, but every time you talk about it she protests that she cannot go because “who will take care of Mr. Socks”? Mr. Socks is a 15-year tuxedo cat and her sole companion.

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Pets can be a powerful window of engagement in working with your clients to get care for themselves (e.g. “I need to take care of myself for pet”), but they can also be a deterrent as in the case of Mr. Socks.

The advantage that you have in this situation is that it is not a crisis, and you have time to make a plan for both Mrs. Scott and Mr. Socks. First, use the human-animal relationship in a positive way to motivate Mrs. Scott. For example, discuss how she can she meet his needs if she can’t walk to the litter box or get over to pet him? This may help her realize that her health is important to his well-being!! For trained professionals, use of motivational interviewing skills would be appropriate.

If this conversation seems to be resonating with her, then you can begin on the second phase—locating resources for Mr. Socks. An older cat may do better with someone coming into her home, but it is always possible to board cats as well. See section 2 and the appendices for the “GO BAG” check list. The resource guide also has pet sitting and boarding resources.

Finally, if this conversation is progressing, then whoever will be caring for Mr. Socks will need limited power of attorney (see the forms in the appendices) just in case something happens.

This may also open the door to talking about “who takes care of Mr. Socks” long term.

One of the clients at the senior center confides in you that she really cannot continue to live in her house because it is becoming too expensive and difficult to maintain, the taxes are high, and her family is pressuring her, but she can't move into an apartment because of her beloved Jack Russell terrier. "I can't live in an apartment — Timmy won't be able to bark and be himself and he will bother the neighbors if I live in an apartment."

The first discussion to have is finding out more about her housing situation and whether she is interested in moving out of the home and what keeps her there besides Timmy. Leaving a family home is a difficult decision, and Timmy may be one way of justifying to family why she cannot leave her home. The family home has powerful memories and ties, and she may need some assistance in thinking through this decision.

If it is determined that her dog is the only reason why she is not moving, then discussing various types of housing is the next step, ideally involving family. This resource guide provides a table of pet-friendly housing options for older adults, and a terrier of Timmy's size will not be a problem.

There are some good websites on animal behavior by breed such as the AKC website. Some breeds bark more than others, but dogs bark for a reason, often to get attention or because they are bored. Jack Russell terriers (JRTs) are high-energy, intelligent dogs who have a strong prey drive and love to play. It will be important that any smaller home or apartment have



a place for Timmy to be walked and played with. Because of their social nature, JRTs like the attention of humans, and were she to live in a congregate setting, Timmy may bark less as he basks in the attention of so many seniors!

If finances allow, some facilities offer doggie day care where Timmy could enjoy supervised exercise and socialization to burn off some energy in an appropriate setting. Some facilities even offer day care and other services by the hour or offer memberships which would allow drop-in visits for Timmy.



On your meals on wheels (MOW) delivery, you notice that John gives half of his tuna salad from the meal to his cat Snowball. When he notices that you have noted it, he sheepishly says, “Well, I’m low this month, and I don’t have any cat food for Snowball, so she can have half my tuna sandwich.”

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John is eligible for food benefits (SNAP), senior boxes, farmer’s market vouchers, and/or food pantry services that he is not accessing.

Food insecurity for older adults is often missed because older adults are embarrassed or feel stigma about going to food pantries. Additionally, the presence of home delivered meals suggests that he may have health conditions that prevent him from shopping and/or cooking. They may also interfere with independence in transportation or picking up food, creating barrier to using a pantry.

If John is hesitant about going to a pantry, he can go to one for Snowball—see the resource guide for a list of local pantries which have pet food. At the very least he can get cans of tuna or other high-density protein which will be better for Snowball than tuna salad. Again, using a pet as a motivator may help John access food sources for Snowball and himself. The discussion can be “Snowball likes pet food and you can get that at ABC pantry, and stock up on some foods for you if you want.” You can also contact the local food pantry with pet food to see if they would agree to share some food with your MOW clients with pets who are unable to access the food pantry.

Mr. Jones is a client of your agency, and he has two young and energetic dogs. Over the course of your time visiting in his home, you notice that the dogs are becoming increasingly aggressive as he is unable to walk them and play with them due to his lung disease (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease or COPD). As a result, they are becoming more aggressive with each other, and they jump on Mr. Jones. You feel as though the dogs are suffering from not being walked, and you are worried for your client's health—from falling or being knocked over to the accumulation of dog hair and dander, which is problematic for his COPD. But he clearly loves his dogs, and they are his companions now that he is essentially housebound.

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This is a challenging situation—an older pet owner with a progressive illness who may be negatively and positively impacted by the animals.

The benefits of having the dogs are the social companionship and the obvious bond between the client and his pets, but there are factors which are resulting in negative effects for the client and the animals. While the dogs are not neglected, they are experiencing sub-optimal living arrangements.

There are two probable strong motivating factors here. First, he is a pet owner and they are often motivated by their love for their animals.

Second, he probably wishes to remain living in his own home. Managing a chronic illness, like COPD, to accomplish this can be motivating for some people. Both can be a way to begin to address this.

This is a case when it would be good to bring together a “conference” with Mr. Jones, his medical care team (especially his pulmonologist and primary care physician), family members, and the animal welfare organization in his area. This can be done using internet technology (Zoom, Microsoft teams) to problem solve. It may require coordination to keep the dogs in the home and to reduce the risks.

Factors for the team and Mr. Jones to brainstorm:

- Volunteers, family, or paid dog walkers to walk and exercise the dogs
- Additional house cleaning help to reduce allergens, dirt and dust
- Pet training to reduce jumping in the house
- Advanced planning for the dogs since hospitalizations may occur if the COPD progresses
- Doggie Day care to run off energy if finances permit

While it is a difficult conversation, discussing when it is time to re-home or under what conditions he would be willing to consider re-homing will be important before a crisis forces it.

As with the other cases, having a GO BAG, and advance directives and discussions about the long-term care of these young dogs is important.



There is a call to your agency from a concerned citizen. When you go to the home you find that Mrs. Smith who is 90, living with Alzheimer's disease and fairly immobile, is living with her 70 year daughter who has accumulated 10 dogs, 15 cats, and several rabbits.

Hoarding is a disease that is not well-understood but has a devastating impact on the humans and the animals. On its face, this would seem like an animal hoarding situation. The first call should be to Adult Protective Services through the local Area Agency on Aging followed by a call to the Animal Humane Officer for the County. The numbers for these Agencies can be found in the Resource sections under "Human and Animal Protective Services".

To call protective services, you only need a reasonable suspicion that a vulnerable adult (older adult or person with a disability) may be abused or neglected in some way. Sometimes, people (the general public and professionals) are reluctant to phone Adult Protective Services (APS) because they believe that people will be removed from their homes.

When, at all possible, APS tries to work with people to help them get the services needed to continue to live safely and well in the community.

They can connect both mother and daughter, in this case, with resources that may help them to more effectively meet their needs, including mental health services.

Local APS: 412-350-6905 or 1-800-344-4319

State APS: 1-800-490-8505

Mrs. Cole has been admitted to your rehabilitation unit for physical therapy after she fell at home and fractured her hip. When doing the psychosocial assessment with her, you find out that she is concerned because she cares for a colony of 15 feral cats in her neighborhood. As the caretaker, she feeds them every day. She is very concerned for their welfare to the point that she wants to leave against medical advice (AMA). She thought that she could go home after the acute hospitalization, and now she is worried that another 3 to 4 weeks without food or care will be catastrophic for “her cats.”

Although there is not a lot of research literature on the role of feral cats in reducing social isolation, feral cat colonies can provide “company” and purpose for older adults living alone. Even if the cats are not friendly, they provide routine and structure and purpose.

There are voluntary organizations devoted to helping feral cats. The Allegheny County feral organization is Pittsburgh Feral Cat Movement (on Facebook). They are a very active group of volunteers who will care for her colony while she is hospitalized. Another group is “Frankie's Friends” and also “Pittsburgh Cats”. These organizations can be found in the Resources Section. Moreover, if the colony has un-neutered or un-spayed cats, they can use this opportunity to trap, neuter, and release. The volunteers feeding could arrange a video call or phone call with Mrs. Cole so that she could see/hear that the cats are in good hands.

If the cats are cared for, then she may be persuaded to not leave AMA. Although they may not be “pets” in the sense of an indoor cat, they are still a powerful motivation for her to work in PT and get home. She should be encouraged to discuss her movement goals with her physical and occupational therapists so that they can help her prepare for and modify tasks associated with feeding the cats as bending and walking on uneven terrain or with a walker may need to be considered.

Your new home health client is grieving the death of her dog “Angel” who died 6 months ago, before she became your patient. Miss Maggie lives alone in a subsidized apartment. She feels a great sense of loss and lack of purpose and isolation but has no energy to go to church or do other social activities she did when she had Angel. Somedays she tells you “I don’t bother getting get out of bed.”

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Older adults can be greatly impacted by the death of a pet because it is often their only companion.

Depending on your role at the home health agency and the professionals available on your team, you should decide if you will do a grief assessment, or if you will refer to social work, psychology, or psychiatry. Begin with a biopsychosocial assessment that includes use of a depression screening tool like the Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9).

Depending upon the initial responses, you may want to follow that with the Inventory of Complicated Grief (ICG) and the Geriatric Depression Scale. You may also need to assess activities of daily living. While most people move through grief on their own with some disruption to their lives, some people experience complicated grief or depression that interferes substantially with daily living. These are medical conditions that may be causing or exacerbating the health problem that caused the referral and should be addressed. There is good evidence for using both talk therapy and medication.

The resources also include a section on pet grief. There is an array of resources, many on-line options as well as local grief support groups. When Miss Maggie is ready, she can access any of these sources for free.

As she is a new client and you are engaging under difficult circumstances, asking if she would like to speak with you about Angel, talking about her beloved pet, may be a window of engagement for you. You can follow up at some point by helping her to access the grief resources.



# Recommendations, Preparation, and Planning

Aging with a pet means that owners and their families need to make additional preparations. You can help the older adult access these documents and keep them in a place where others can access, so that a plan in in place should it need to be implemented.



# Assessments

**Psychosocial assessments** are the seminal assessment of health care. Understanding the different social systems is critical no matter what your professional orientation. However, rarely are pets included in the psychosocial assessments. This is unfortunate because pets are often social supports and health activators for the older adult living in the community. Add these simple prompts to your psychosocial assessment checklist. You can include the pet in a genogram if that is part of the assessment process. Genograms visually show the relationships, assets, challenges and conflicts. It is a good way to learn about all of the human and animals in the family.

If you do not do a genogram in doing the assessment, include some prompts:

- Do you live with a pet or pets? If so, probe for type (dog, cat, small mammals, and reptiles)
- What are their names? How old are they? How long have you had them? Have you always had animals/pets?
- Tell me what they are like? (probe for personality, behaviors etc.)
- What kinds of things do you like to do with them?
- Do you have a photo of them? (if not, “what do they look like?”)
- Do you have any challenges (probe for challenges with feeding, health care costs, animal behaviors that can create problems (biting, scratching))?
- Do you have any worries about the Pet’s welfare O? “Are you worried about your pet’s health and safety?”

This discussion will also help to build rapport with a client. Even if they don’t want to talk about themselves, chances are that they will be happy to talk about their pets!!

Include this information in the assessment and the patient/client record.

# Preparing and Planning

**Informal Vs. Formal Arrangements** are needed and should be based upon the personal preferences and needs of the pet.

**Informal arrangements** are those for the care of a pet that are not legally enforceable. They are written or verbal agreements made with friends, family, veterinarians, etc. They can also be made with rescue organizations and humane groups and do not involve attorneys.

In choosing an informal arrangement:

- Do NOT make assumptions. Speak with the individuals to secure commitment.
- Have a backup plan in that if the individuals or group selected cannot take on the animal, then there is another plan in place.
- Choose wisely!

**Formal arrangements** are those that are legally enforceable although they do vary state by state. Pets can be included in wills, but it is advisable to visit an attorney to set up a will under which the pet may benefit, as this is a nuanced area and there can be inadvertent consequences if this is done incorrectly.

# Formal Arrangements cont.

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A person can give or “bequeath” their pet to a friend or family member in their will. (The law treats pets as property, just like a household item or piece of jewelry, although the client probably feels very differently!). In Pennsylvania, a person cannot leave money directly to their pet. Some pet owners choose to leave their pet, together with a specified amount of money, to a friend or family member to defray the costs of caring for the pet. This type of arrangement is simple and practical, but it does not provide any sort of enforcement mechanism in the event that the recipient does not use the money to care for the pet as desired.

If the pet owner wants to ensure that their pet is cared for or rehomed after death but they do not have a friend or family member who is willing to take their pet, some local animal shelters offer programs to accept, care for, and rehome the pet after the pet owner’s death. It is important to make these arrangements during the pet owner’s lifetime to ensure that the pet’s care will remain uninterrupted. One example in Allegheny County is Animal Friends’ Lifesaver Society, under which a pet owner can bequeath their pet and a specified amount of money directly to the shelter in exchange for the pet’s immediate care (additional details at this site: <https://www.thinkingoutsidethecage.org/other-ways-to-give/planned-giving/>).

# Formal Arrangements cont.

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A more stringent legal arrangement is the use of a Pet Trust. Although the law on the use of Pet Trusts does vary state by state, they are permitted in Pennsylvania. The pet owner can work with an attorney to set up a trust to hold an amount of money that can only be used for their pet's care. This type of trust can be set up during the pet owner's lifetime, such as if the pet owner can no longer care for their pet or must move to a facility that does not allow pets, or it can be set up to become active after the pet owner's death. The pet owner designates a person to act as the "trustee" to take custody of the pet and manage the money for the pet's care. This type of arrangement is complex and requires annual tax compliance and other administrative expenses. Despite these added burdens, the pet owner can be assured that the trustee can be held legally liable if the pet is not cared for or if the money is misused.

The ASPCA has a Pet Trust Primer article at this link

<https://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/pet-planning/pet-trust-primer> as well as a list of state laws covering legal protections for pets.

The client can visit an attorney to create a Durable Pet Care Power of Attorney to designate someone to make decisions about the care of a pet should the owner become unable. A power of attorney is only active during the lifetime of the pet owner. It is not a substitute for permanent care – thus, you should help the client consider permanent arrangements. This type of document varies state by state and often has strict formatting and signing requirements. For example, as of May 2020, a Pennsylvania power of attorney must be signed by two witnesses in addition to the client, and it must be notarized. An example of a Pennsylvania pet care power of attorney is located in the appendix.

# Formal Arrangements cont.

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Finally, the ASPCA also suggests that a **letter of instruction**, while not legally binding is critical for older pet owners to have along with a “**Go Bag**”. Having both of these, even if not needed, may help the owner to feel less anxious about “what will happen” if in an emergency they needed to leave their pet. If this information and bag are prepared and can be put into place as quickly as possible.

The letter of instruction identifies who will care for the animals and location (at the elder’s home or in a boarding situation), pet vaccination records, names, ages and breed/type of animals, photos if possible.

Ideally the pets have identification tags or have microchips.

As part of this document, include the pet’s routine, dietary preferences, and information to ensure continuity of care. Examples include “Maggie does not like loud noises” or “Chip will eat Maggie’s food so feed them apart”; Ben and Jerry are a bonded pair. Although Jerry seems to need Benny more, Benny will seek out Jerry. They are very dependent on each other.

## **The GO BAG**

The Go bag is a bag that can be picked up “on the go” and includes breed/animal specific supplies for the pet –litter pan small bag of litter, small poop bags, towels, bowls food, medicines, and leashes for dogs, crates or carriers. It is what the pet would need if they needed to leave the home quickly. **The list of items is in the appendix.** Put these items in a carrier so that they are there and ready to be picked up quickly and “on the go” in the case of an emergency.

# Community Resources in Allegheny County for Aging in Place With Pets

Owning a pet can have a lot of great benefits for older adults, but there may be some challenges that require outside help and resources. Thanks to excellent community partners, including Animal Friends and Humane Animal Rescue, this section of the guide has compiled resources that may be able to help older adults care for their pets. One such burden is financial, which may limit ability to get food or vet care. This list includes food banks that provide pet food and low-cost veterinary services, such as vaccine and spay/neuter, to help those facing a financial burden. Another barrier is transportation, as many older adults may no longer drive and cannot bring pets on public transportation. There are some pet taxi services available to help, though they range in cost. Additionally, there is a need to have a plan in case of an unexpected trip to the hospital or a stay in a nursing facility, and there are emergency boarding facilities that can provide care for your pet during this time. Lastly, it's important to find suitable housing for older adults who may want to downsize from their existing home, so there is a list of Senior Apartment buildings that allow pets, as well as details regarding their pet policies. This guide is not comprehensive, and you are encouraged to reach out to these organizations or one of our community partners for more information or assistance.

\*These resources were compiled winter and spring of 2020\*

# Pet Food Access

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## Chow Wagon Associated Food Pantries

- Ambridge Center for Hope
  - Service Region: Ambridge
  - 740 Park Road, Ambridge, PA 15003
  - (724) 251-4899
- Bethany Baptist Church
  - Service Region: Central (Homewood Wilkinsburg)
  - 7745 Tioga Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15208
  - 412-242-3255
- Brashear Association Food Pantry
  - Service Region: South (South Side and surrounding areas)
  - 2005 Sarah Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15203
  - (412) 431-2236
- Brentwood Presbyterian Church & Brentwood Meals on Wheels
  - Service Region: South (Brentwood)
  - 3725 Brownsville Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15227
  - (412) 881-9334
- Brookline Christian Food Pantry
  - Service Region: Central (Brookline, Dormont, Beechview and Overbrook)
  - 1036 Brookline Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA 15226
  - (412) 341-4435
- Carrick Food Pantry
  - Service Region: Carrick
  - 2019 Brownsville Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15210
  - (412) 886-1864

# Pet Food Access cont.

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- Chain of Hope
  - Service Region: East (Wilkinsburg)
  - 611 S. Ave, Wilkinsburg, PA 15221
  - (412) 247-5018
- Cloverleaf Area Ecumenical Assistance Program
  - Service Region: South (Pleasant Hills and surrounding areas)
  - 1 Grove Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15236
  - (412) 207-1657
- Community Human Services
  - Service Region: Central (Oakland)
  - 370 Lawn Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15213
  - (412) 246-1600
- Council of Three Rivers American Indian Center
  - Service Region: North (Blonox and Allegheny Valley)
  - 120 Charles Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15238
  - (412) 782-4457
- Hazelwood YMCA Food Pantry
  - Service Region: Central (Hazlewood and Greenfield)
  - 134 East Elizabeth Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15207
  - (412)421-5648
- Henry Kaufmann Neighborhood House
  - Service Region: Central (Arlington)
  - 2201 Salisbury St, Pittsburgh, PA 15210
  - (412) 431-0557

# Pet Food Access cont.

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- Holy Assumption of St. Mary Orthodox Church
  - Service Region: Central (South Side)
  - 105 S. 19th St, Pittsburgh, PA 15203
  - (412) 431-6428
- Homewood-Brushton YMCA Food Pantry
  - Service Region: Central (Homewood, parts of Larimer and Wilkinsburg)
  - 7140 Bennett Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15208
  - (412) 243-2900
- Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry (NHCO)
  - Service Region: North (Allison Park and surrounding communities)
  - 1975 Ferguson Road, Allison Park, PA 15101
  - (412) 487-6316
- McKees Rocks (Inter-Church) Food Pantry
  - Service Region: West (McKees Rocks and Kennedy Township)
  - 618 Russelwood Ave, McKees Rocks PA 15136
  - 412-771-4088
- Millvale Food Cupbord INHCO)
  - Service Region: North 15209
  - 416 Lincoln Ave, Pgh pa 15209
  - emcochran@nhco.org
  - Naklaum@nhco.org
  - 412-487-6316

# Pet Food Access cont.

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- North Boroughs Food Pantry (NHCO):
  - Service Region: North (Bellevue, Avalon, and Ben Avon)
  - Greenstone Methodist Church, 939 California Ave, 15202
  - emcochran@nhco.org
  - 412-487 6316
- Northside Common Ministries
  - Service Region: Central (15214, 15212, 15233 zipcodes)
  - 1601 Brighton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15212
  - (412) 323-1170
- Operation Safety Net (Northside Common Ministries)
  - Service Region: all of Allegheny county
  - 1601 Brighton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15212
  - (412) 302-3528
  - *Focused on homeless*
- Our Lady of the Angels Food Pantry
  - Service Region: Central (Lawrenceville & 15201 zip code)
  - 319 45th Street, Pittsburgh PA 15201
  - (412) 682-3877
- Penn Hills Service Association:
  - Service Region: East (Penn Hills)
  - 2519 Universal Road, Penn Hills, PA 15235
  - (412) 798-2711
- Riverview Presbyterian Church
  - Service Region: Central (Perry Hilltop, 15214 zip code)
  - 3505 Perrysville Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15214
  - (412) 321-7300

# Pet Food Access cont.

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- Riverview Towers
  - Service Region: Central East
  - 52 Garetta Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15217
  - (412) 521-7876
  - *Only for Riverview Towers residents*
- St. Vincent DePaul of Sharpsburg
  - Service Region: Fox Chapel Area School District
  - 210 Garnier St, Sharpsburg PA 15215
  - 412-781-2866
- South Hills Interfaith Ministries
  - Service Region: South (Bethel Park and surrounding communities)
  - 5301 Park Ave, Bethel Park, PA 15102
  - (412) 854-9120 ext. 108
- South West Meals on Wheels
  - Service Region: South (Carnegie)
  - 601 McMillen Street, Bridgeville, PA 15017
  - (412) 279-5670
- Squirrel Hill Community Food Bank
  - Service Region: Central East (Squirrel Hill & 15217 zip code)
  - 828 Hazelwood Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15217
  - (412) 421-2708
- Verona United Methodist Church
  - Service Region: East (Verona and surrounding communities)
  - 798 Herron Avenue, Verona, PA 15147
  - (412) 828-7394
- Veterans Leadership Program
  - Service Region: Allegheny County
  - 2934 Smallman Street, Pittsburgh, PA
  - (412) 481-8200

# Pet Food Access cont.

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- West Hills Food Pantry Service
  - Service Region: Corapolis and surrounding communities
  - 522 Carnot Road, Moon Township, PA 15108
  - (412) 262-4930

## HAR Resources

- Ellies Pet Pantry (HAR)
  - <https://www.humaneanimalrescue.org/donate/ellies-pet-pantry>
  - [admissions@humaneanimalrescue.org](mailto:admissions@humaneanimalrescue.org)
  - (412) 345-7300 ext. 290
- Hungry Hippo's Pet Food Pantry
  - [www.biggiesbullies.com/hungry-hippos-pet-food-pantry.html](http://www.biggiesbullies.com/hungry-hippos-pet-food-pantry.html)
  - [hippospantry@biggiesbullies.org](mailto:hippospantry@biggiesbullies.org)
- North Side Food Bank
  - [www.northsidefoodpantry.org](http://www.northsidefoodpantry.org)
  - [jana.thompson@ncmin.org](mailto:jana.thompson@ncmin.org)
- Vet's Kitchen - Beaver County Humane Society
  - <https://beavercountyhumanesociety.org/vets-kitchen-guidelines>
  - (724) 775-5801

# Low Cost Vet Clinics

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## Humane Animal Rescue

- Northside
  - Phone: (412) 345-7300
  - Address: 1101 Western Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15233
  - Email: [contact@animalrescue.org](mailto:contact@animalrescue.org)
  - Hours
    - Tuesday-Friday: 10am -6pm
    - Saturday: 8am - 4:30pm
    - Sunday: Tech appointments only
  - Payments Accepted: cash, credit, check, debit, CareCredit
- East End
  - Phone: (412) 345-7300
  - Address: 6926 Hamilton Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15208
  - Email: [contact@animalrescue.org](mailto:contact@animalrescue.org)
  - Hours
    - Tuesday-Friday: 10am - 6pm
    - Saturday: 8am - 4:30pm
    - Sunday: Tech appointments only
  - Payments Accepted: cash, credit, check, debit, CareCredit

## Fix Ur Cat's Shots and Snots Clinic (Cat's Only)

- Washington
- Phone: (724) 416-3265
- Address: 18 West Pike St, Canonsburg, PA 15317
- Hours: Monday: 9am - 1pm

# Low Cost Vet Clinics cont.

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## Edgebrook Vet Clinic

- South Hills
- Phone: (412) 621-2369
- Address: 1405 Saw Mill Run Blvd, Pittsburgh, PA 15210
- Hours
  - Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 1-8pm
  - Tuesday: 4-8pm
  - Sunday: 10am - 4pm
- Payments Accepted: cash, credit, check, debit, pet insurance

## Pittsburgh Animal Hospital

- East Liberty
- Phone: (412) 661-9817
- Address: 1117 Washington Blvd, Pittsburgh, PA 15206
- Email: pittanimalhospital@gmail.com
- Hours
  - Monday: 9am - Noon
  - Tuesday-Saturday: 9am - 3pm
- Payments Accepted: cash, credit, check, debit, pet insurance

# Low Cost Vet Services

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## Low Cost Spray/Neuter

- Animal Friends (412-847-7004)
- City of Pittsburgh “Fixburgh”
- Hello Bully
- Homeless Cat Management Team
- Humane Animal Rescue
- Spay Neuter Clinic North Hills & Penn Hills
- Fixin/Wagon (mobile unit)

## Low Cost Vaccine Services

- Animal Friends
  - <https://www.thinkingoutsidethecage.org/pet-care/vaccine-clinics/>
  - (412) 847-7029
  - [vaccineclinic@thinkingoutsidethecage.org](mailto:vaccineclinic@thinkingoutsidethecage.org)
- Humane Animal Rescue
  - <https://humaneanimalrescue.org/veterinary-clinic/about-the-clinic/>
  - (412) 345-7300
  - East End Walk-in Hours: Tuesdays 8:00am - 10:00am
  - North Side Walk-in Hours: Tuesday-Friday 8:00am - 10:00am
- Vetco at Petco
- <https://www.vetcoclinics.com/services-and-clinics/clinic-locations-and-schedules/pittsburgh-pennsylvania-vaccination-clinics/>

# Low Cost Vet Services cont.

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## Low Cost Vaccine Services cont.

- VIP Pet Care
  - <https://www.vippetcare.com/pricing/>
- VCA Fox Chapel
  - <https://vcahospitals.com/fox-chapel/services/preventive-care/reduced-cost-vaccine-clinic>

## Emergency Boarding

- Animal Friends
  - (412) 847-7000
  - 562 Camp Horne Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15237
- Caritas House
  - (304) 985-0021
  - 391 Scott Avenue, Morgantown WV
- HosPaws
  - (724) 972-5168
- PACT for animals
  - (610) 581-4141
  - Located in Eastern PA
- SAFE Paws Across Pittsburgh
  - (412) 495-2799

# Low Cost Vet Services cont.

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## Feral Cat resources (Trap/Neuter/Release & veterinary care)

- Homeless cat management team
  - 207 Allegheny St, Tarentum, PA 15084 (412) 321-4060
  - Facebook message
- Frankie's friends
  - 730 5th Ave, New Kensington, PA 15068
- Fixin/wagon mobile clinic
  - <https://www.facebook.com/pg/fixnwagn/community/>

## Pet Transportation

- Fetch
  - <https://www.fetchpetcare.com/pittsburgh-cranberry-wexford/services/#services>
  - (412) 307-4923
  - Online reservation available - lots of other services
- Pet Transit
  - <http://www.pettransit.com/contact.html>
  - (412) 576-8369
  - [gofetch@pettransit.com](mailto:gofetch@pettransit.com)
  - SENIOR DISCOUNT AVAILABLE
- Pittsburgh Pet Concierge
  - <https://www.pghpetconciierge.com/pet-taxi-services-transportation>
  - (412) 856-8505
  - [pittpetconciierge@aol.com](mailto:pittpetconciierge@aol.com)

# Low Cost Vet Services cont.

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## Doggie Day Care

- The Big Easy Dog Daze & Café
  - 12 McCandless Ave, Pittsburgh PA 15201
  - 412-360-8214
  - <https://bigeasydogdaze.com/dog-daycare/>
  - They offer doggie daycare in 2 hour, half day, and full day increments, as well as package deals
- The Dog Stop
  - Franchise with multiple locations in the Pittsburgh area
  - [thedogstop.com/find-your-location](http://thedogstop.com/find-your-location) to find local facility and contact info
  - Offer day care hourly if desired
  - Also offer boarding, training classes, and in-home services if clients' finances allow
- Camp Bow Wow
  - Locations in Green Tree, Highland Park, North & South Hills
  - [Campbowwow.com/locations/](http://Campbowwow.com/locations/)
  - Offer half day and full day pricing



# Pet Loss and Bereavement

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## In-person Resources

- Animal Friends Pet Loss Support Group
  - **Free**
  - (412) 847-7026
  - visit <https://www.thinkingoutsidethecage.org/our-programs/pet-loss-support/> for schedule
- Blue Pearl Veterinary Partners
  - Has pet loss and grief support groups which meet
  - [socialwork@bluepearlvet.com](mailto:socialwork@bluepearlvet.com)
  - (412) 348-6515
- Pet Prayer Blankets
  - Has group sessions for grief and loss
  - (412) 443-3297

## Online Resources

- APLB.ORG Pet Loss Chat
  - The chat room is a dynamic interactive software moderated by professionals
  - An internet connection is required to be able to participate in the chat rooms
  - <https://www.aplbchat.org/pet-loss-chat/> this website has the signup for times to chat
  - **Free**

# Pet Loss and Bereavement cont.

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## Online Resources cont.

- Grief and discussion forums
  - Have no moderated discussion, but it can be helpful in providing peer support
  - <https://www.griefhealingdiscussiongroups.com/forum/11-loss-of-a-pet/>
- Chance's Spot
  - Provides online pet loss support forum as well as Pet loss hotline numbers, an out-reach program, email programs and grief counseling.
  - There are also free pet loss-ebooks that can be printed out. <https://chancespot.org/pet-loss-support/index.php>
- University of Pennsylvania Day By Day Pet Caregiver Support
  - A partnership between the University of Pennsylvania Veterinary Program (PennVet) and Day by Day Pet Caregiver support, a team of support specialists.
  - They have a variety of services for grieving pet owners.
    - On-line support chats held Sunday 7-8 pm ET and Thursday 8-9pm which is monitored by a professional <https://daybydaypetsupport.com/chat-room/>
    - Individual phone counseling email at [daybydaypetsupport@comcast.net](mailto:daybydaypetsupport@comcast.net) to schedule
    - Also on Facebook and Instagram.

# Pet Loss and Bereavement cont.

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## Pet Loss Hotlines

If there is a need to speak to someone immediately about the loss of a pet, use the following toll-free local and long-distance pet loss support phone numbers:

- (484) 453-8210: 24/7 hotline for crisis and grief phone support
- (855) 352-5683: Lap of Love Pet Loss and Bereavement Hotline
- (607) 253-3932: Cornell University Pet Loss Support Hotline
- (508) 839-7966: Tufts University Pet Loss Support Hotline
- (877) 474-3310: ASPCA Pet Loss Hotline
- (217) 552-5371: C.A.R.E. Pet Loss Hotline



# Pet-Friendly Senior Housing

Name of Housing	Location	Restrictions & Policies	Address	Phone Number	Agency
York Commons	Central	1 pet, under 25lbs, \$95 deposit	4003 Penn Ave. Bloomfield, PA 15224	412-682-1151	SeniorCare Network
Laurentian Hall	Central	pets under 25 lbs, \$300 deposit	5321 Penn Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15224	412-361-4462	
New Pennley Place	Central	1 cat or 1 dog, under 30 lbs, \$300 deposit	5601 Penn Ave. East Liberty, PA 15206	412-362-2040	
Ebenezer Towers	Central	1 per household, cat or dog, under 20 lbs, no aggressive breeds, \$300 deposit	420 Dinwiddie St. Hill District, PA 15219	412-391-9465	
Bennett Place	Central	1 pet, under 25lbs, \$150 deposit	7245 Bennett St. Homewood, PA 15208	412-242-9977	
Silver Lake Commons	Central	1 pet, under 25 lbs, \$95 deposit; 10 gal aquarium, 2 birds	6935 Frankstown Ave. Homewood, PA 15208	412-362-0165	SeniorCare Network
St. Augustine's Plaza	Central	1 pet, under 30lbs, \$300 deposit	230 36th St. Lawrenceville, PA 15201	412-362-0165	

# Pet-Friendly Senior Housing cont.

Name of Housing	Location	Restrictions & Policies	Address	Phone Number	Agency
Bellefield Dwellings	Central	under 20lbs, \$300 deposit	4400 Centre Ave. Oakland, PA 15213	412-621-1132	
Parkview Manor	Central	1 pet, under 20lbs, \$300 deposit	3250 Parkview Ave. Oakland, PA 15213	412-621-7863 ext. 10	
William Moorhead Tower	Central	2 pets, under 40lbs, no aggressive breeds, \$300 deposit per pet	375 N. Craig St. Oakland, PA 15213	412-681-3709	
Morse Gardens	Central	1 pet, dog under 20lbs, cat under 15lbs, \$250 deposit	2416 Sarah St. Pittsburgh, PA 15203	412-481-3742	
John Paul Plaza	Central	1 pet, medium size (21 inches tall), \$300 deposit	1005 Herron Ave. Polish Hill, PA 15219	412-683-5850	
Second Baptist Senior Apts	Central	1 dog under 25 lbs, 1 cat under 15 lbs, \$150 deposit	128 W. 12th Ave, Homestead Pa 15120	412-892-3910	Supportive Housing Mgt
Allegheny Union Baptist	Central	1 dog under 25 lbs, 1 cat under 15 lbs, \$150 deposit	2700 Centre Ave. Hill District, PA 15219	412-829-3910	Supportive Housing Mgt

# Pet-Friendly Senior Housing cont.

Name of Housing	Location	Restrictions & Policies	Address	Phone Number	Agency
Sylvania Place Apts	Central	1 dog under 25 lbs, 1 cat under 15 lbs, \$150 deposit	29 Sylvania Ave. Beltzhoover, PA 15210	412-829-3910	Supportive Housing Mgt
Forward Shady Apartments	Central	1 pet, under 25 lbs, \$95 deposit; 10 gal aquarium, 2 birds	5841 Forward Ave. Squirrel Hill, PA 15217	412-521-3065	SeniorCare Network
Riverview Towers	Central	1 pet, under 25lbs, \$300 deposit	52 Garretta St. Squirrel Hill, PA 15217	412-521-7876	
Brinton Towers	East	1 pet, under 25lbs, \$300 deposit (\$50+\$10 each month)	3000 Locust St. Braddock Hills, PA 15221	412-824-9000	
Harry S Truman Apts.	East	1 dog or cat, under 40lb, \$250 deposit	25 North Second St. Duquesne, PA 15110	412-466-8550	
Fairmont Apartments	East	1 pet, under 25 lbs, \$95 deposit; 10 gal aquarium, 2 birds	5461 Penn Ave. Garfield, PA 15206	412-362-6080	SeniorCare Network
The Commons at North Aiken	East	1 pet, under 25 lbs, \$95 deposit; 10 gal aquarium, 2 birds	5330 North Aiken Ct. Garfield, PA 15224	412-661-1075	SeniorCare Network

# Pet-Friendly Senior Housing cont.

Name of Housing	Location	Restrictions & Policies	Address	Phone Number	Agency
Fifth Avenue Commons	East	1 pet, under 25 lbs, \$95 deposit; 10 gal aquarium, 2 birds	1205 Fifth Ave. McKeesport, PA 15132	412-678-0488	SeniorCare Network
Miller Avenue Apts	East	1 dog under 25 lbs, 1 cat under 15 lbs, \$150 deposit	16 Miller Ave, Duquesne PA 15110	412-829-3910	Supportive Housing Mgt
Bessemer Terrace Apt	East	1 dog under 25 lbs, 1 cat under 15 lbs, \$150 deposit	850 Main St Pittsburgh PA 15112	412-829-3910	Supportive Housing Mgt
Forest Hills Senior Apt	East	1 dog under 25 lbs, 1 cat under 15 lbs, \$150 deposit	2111 Ardmore Blvd. Pittsburgh PA 15221	800-238-7555	Supportive Housing Mgt
Versailles Archer Apartments	East	1 dog under 25 lbs, 1 cat under 15 lbs, \$150 deposit	325 Electric Ave, Pittsburgh PA 15113	412-823-3910	Supportive Housing Mgt
East Boros Apartments	East	1 pet, under 20 lbs, \$300 deposit	4165 Ivanhoe Dr. Monroeville, PA 15146	412-856-7480	
Parkview Towers	East	1 pet, under 30 lbs, \$300 deposit	111 Caroline St. Munhall, PA 15120	412-461-2993	
St. Therese Plaza	East	1 pet, under 25 lbs, \$95 deposit; 10 gal aquarium, 2 birds	4 St. Therese Ct. Munhall, PA 15120	412-462-2319	SeniorCare Network

# Pet-Friendly Senior Housing cont.

Name of Housing	Location	Restrictions & Policies	Address	Phone Number	Agency
Plum Creek Acres	East	1 pet, under 25 lbs, \$95 deposit; 10 gal aquarium, 2 birds	501 Center - New Texas Rd. Plum, PA 15239	412-795-2191	SeniorCare Network
Swissvale Towers	East	1 cat or dog, under 20lbs, \$300 deposit (\$50+\$10 each month)	16 Miller Ave, Duquesne PA 15110	412-829-3910	
Grandview Apartments	East	1 pet, \$99 deposit, no aggressive breeds, 3 people to take pet in emergency	2130 Grandview Ave. McKeesport, PA 15132	412-673-8490	McKeesport Housing Authority
Isbir Manor	East	1 pet, \$99 deposit, no aggressive breeds, 3 people to take pet in emergency	Building 17, 11th and Market McKeesport, PA 15132	412-673-6942	McKeesport Housing Authority
McKeesport Tower	East	1 pet, \$99 deposit, no aggressive breeds, 3 people to take pet in emergency	601 Sixth St. McKeesport, PA 15132	412-673-6942	McKeesport Housing Authority

# Pet-Friendly Senior Housing cont.

Name of Housing	Location	Restrictions & Policies	Address	Phone Number	Agency
Northside Coalition Senior Housing	North	1 dog under 25 lbs, 1 cat under 15 lbs, \$150 deposit	1500 Brighton Pl Pittsburgh PA 15212	800-238-7555	Supportive Housing Mgt
Etna Commons	North	1 pet, under 25 lbs, \$95 deposit; 10 gal aquarium, 2 birds	21 Hickory St. Etna, PA 15223	412-782-2711	SeniorCare Network
West Deer Manor	North	1 dog under 25 lbs, 1 cat under 15 lbs, \$150 deposit	40 McKrell Rd Russelton PA 15076	724-265-5399	Supportive Housing Mgt
Riverview Manor	North	1 dog or cat, under 25/30lbs, \$300 deposit (\$50+\$10 each month)	1500 LeTort St. Brighton Heights, PA 15212	412-734-0741	
Sheptytsky Arms Apartments	North	1 pet, under 25 lbs, \$200 deposit	3505 Mexico St. Brighton Heights, PA 15212	412-766-8802	
Alverno Apartments	North	2 pets, under 30 lbs, \$300 deposit (\$50 each month)	98 Hawthorne Rd. Millvale, PA 15209	412-821-7080	
Northview Heights High Rise	North	1 pet, under 25 lbs, \$250 deposit	533 Mt. Pleasant Rd. #1102 Pittsburgh, PA 15214	412-237-0804	

# Pet-Friendly Senior Housing cont.

Name of Housing	Location	Restrictions & Policies	Address	Phone Number	Agency
Northside Coalition Senior Housing	North	1 dog under 25 lbs, 1 cat under 15 lbs, \$150 deposit	1500 Brighton Pl Pittsburgh PA 15212	800-238-7555	Supportive Housing Mgt
Etna Commons	North	1 pet, under 25 lbs, \$95 deposit; 10 gal aquarium, 2 birds	21 Hickory St. Etna, PA 15223	412-782-2711	SeniorCare Network
West Deer Manor	North	1 dog under 25 lbs, 1 cat under 15 lbs, \$150 deposit	40 McKrell Rd Russelton PA 15076	724-265-5399	Supportive Housing Mgt
Riverview Manor	North	1 dog or cat, under 25/30lbs, \$300 deposit (\$50+\$10 each month)	1500 LeTort St. Brighton Heights, PA 15212	412-734-0741	
Sheptytsky Arms Apartments	North	1 pet, under 25 lbs, \$200 deposit	3505 Mexico St. Brighton Heights, PA 15212	412-766-8802	
Alverno Apartments	North	2 pets, under 30 lbs, \$300 deposit (\$50 each month)	98 Hawthorne Rd. Millvale, PA 15209	412-821-7080	
Northview Heights High Rise	North	1 pet, under 25 lbs, \$250 deposit	533 Mt. Pleasant Rd. #1102 Pittsburgh, PA 15214	412-237-0804	

# Pet-Friendly Senior Housing cont.

Name of Housing	Location	Restrictions & Policies	Address	Phone Number	Agency
Shaler Oaks	North	1 pet, breed restrictions, \$300 deposit	1122 Mt. Royal Blvd. Shaler, PA 15223	412-487-9401	
Steelworkers Tower	North	1 pet, under 25 lbs, \$200 deposit	2639 Perrysville Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15214	412-321-2460	
Sharpsburg Tower	North	1 pet, under 30 lbs, \$300 deposit	601 Main St. Sharpsburg, PA 15215	412-784-0600	
North Hills Highlands	North	1 pet, under 25 lbs, \$250 deposit	100 Felicity Dr. Ross Township, PA 15237	412-366-3300	
West Park Court	North	1 dog or cat, under 25 lbs, \$300 deposit (\$50+\$10 each month)	710 West North Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15212	412-231-2636	
St. Justin Plaza	South	1 pet, under 25 lbs, \$95 deposit; 10 gal aquarium, 2 birds	120 Boggs Ave. Mt. Washington, PA 15211	412-381-3941	SeniorCare Network

# Pet-Friendly Senior Housing cont.

Name of Housing	Location	Restrictions & Policies	Address	Phone Number	Agency
Sweetbriar Place	South	1 pet, under 25 lbs, \$95 deposit; 10 gal aquarium, 2 birds	211 Sweetbriar St. Mt. Washington, PA 15211	412-381-3941	SeniorCare Network
Germaine Harbor	South	1 pet under 30, \$300 deposit	100 Germaine Ln Bethel Park PA 15102	412-833-9818	
Parkside Manor	South	1 small cat or dog, less than 30lbs, \$300 deposit, must have shots	1306 Brookline PA 15226	412-343-2770	
Ormsby Manor	South	"size restrictions", \$150 deposit	113 Ormsby Ave, Mt Oliver PA 15210	412-829-3910	
Sycamore Street Apt	South	1 dog under 25 lbs, 1 cat under 15 lbs, \$150 deposit	124 W Sycamore St, Mt Washington PA 15211	412-829-3910	Supportive housing mgt
West Mifflin Manor	South	1 pet, under 40lbs, \$250 deposit	2400 Sharp Ave, West Mifflin PA 15122	412-466-4111	
Bridgeville Towers	West	1 pet, under 20lbs, \$300 deposit	479 Banks St, Ext Bridgeville PA 15017	412-221-6674	

# Pet-Friendly Senior Housing cont.

Name of Housing	Location	Restrictions & Policies	Address	Phone Number	Agency
Goodwill Manor Housing	West	1 pet, under 25, \$300 deposit	601 McMillian St Bridgeville PA 15017	412-257-4844	
Honus Wagner	West	1 pet, under 22lbs, \$300 deposit	First Third Ave Carnegie PA 15106	412-276-8899	
Coraopolis Towers	West	1 pet, small, \$300 deposit	961 First Ave, Coraopolis PA 15108	412-262-5522	
Crafton Towers	West	dogs and cats, small, \$300 deposit	1215 Foster Ave Crafton PA 15205	412-921-5057	
Noble Towers	West	1 pet, under 25lbs, \$250 deposit	2440 Baldwick Rd, Green Tree PA 15205	412-921-9087	
Leetsdale Hi-Rise	West	1 dog under 25 lbs, 1 cat under 15 lbs, \$150 deposit	27 Spence St, Leetsdale PA 15056	412-829-3910	Supportive housing mgt
Leo Meyer Manor	West	1 pet, under 20lbs, \$300 deposit	1015 Church Ave, Mckees Rocks PA 15136	412-829-3910	

# Pet-Friendly Senior Housing cont.

Name of Housing	Location	Restrictions & Policies	Address	Phone Number	Agency
Sto-Rox Plaza	West	1 pet, \$250 deposit	731 McKees Rocks, PA, 15136	412-331-4112	
WoodCrest Retirement Res	West	1 pet, under 25lbs, \$300 deposit, extra \$10 on rent each month	1502 Woodcrest Ave Moon PA 15108	412-264-0918	
West Lake Apts	West	1 dog under 25 lbs, 1 cat under 15 lbs, \$150 deposit	1015 Crucible St West End PA 15220	412-829-3910	Supportive housing mgt



# Pet-Friendly Shelter Service for Pets of Domestic Violence

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Note: some of these shelters are outside of Allegheny County

## **Alle-Kiski Area HOPE Center**

- Contact for address
- Tarentum, PA 15084
- Hotline Number: 888-299-4673
- Phone Number: 724-224-1100
- <http://www.akhopecenter.org/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/AKHOPCECenter>
- [hopecenter@akhopecenter.org](mailto:hopecenter@akhopecenter.org)
- (Last updated June 25, 2020)

## **Animal Rescue League Of Western Pennsylvania**

- Multiple locations; contact for address
- Pittsburgh, PA 15208
- Phone Number: 412-345-7300
- <https://www.humaneanimalrescue.org/>
- (Last updated June 25, 2020)

## **Blackburn Center Against Domestic & Sexual Violence**

- Contact for address
- Greensburg, PA 15601
- Hotline Number: 724-836-1122 or 888-832-2272
- Phone Number: 724-837-9540
- <http://www.blackburncenter.org>
- (Last updated June 25, 2020)

# Pet-Friendly Shelter Service for Pets of Domestic Violence cont.

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## **Crisis Center North**

- Contact for address
- Pittsburgh, PA 15237
- Hotline Number: 412-364-5556
- Toll Free Number: 866-782-0911
- <http://www.crisiscenternorth.org/>
- [info@crisiscenternorth.org](mailto:info@crisiscenternorth.org)
- (Last updated June 21, 2018)

## **Crisis Center of Lawrence County**

- Multiple locations; contact for address
- New Castle, PA 16101
- Hotline Number: 724-652-9036
- Phone Number: 724-652-9206
- <http://www.crisisshelter.org>
- (Last updated June 25, 2020)

## **Victim Outreach Intervention Center**

- Contact for address
- Butler, PA 16001
- Hotline Number: 800-400-8551
- Phone Number: 724-283-8700
- <http://www.voiceforvictims.com>
- [voice@voiceforvictims.com](mailto:voice@voiceforvictims.com)
- (Last updated June 25, 2020)

# Pet-Friendly Shelter Service for Pets of Domestic Violence cont.

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## **Washington Women's Shelter Inc.**

- Contact for address
- Washington, PA 15301
- Hotline Numbers:
  - Toll Free: 800-791-4000
  - Washington: 724-223-9190
  - Greene: 724-852-2463
  - Fayette: 724-439-9500
- <http://www.peacefromdv.org/>
- (Last updated June 25, 2020)

## **Women's Center & Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh**

- Multiple locations; contact for address
- Pittsburgh, PA 15224
- Hotline Number: 412-687-8005 ext. 1
- Phone Number: 412-687-8017
- <http://www.wcspittsburgh.org/>
- (Last updated June 25, 2020)

# Protective Services for Elders and Animals

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## Reporting the Abuse or Neglect of an Older Adult

- Local Hotline: 412-350-6905 or 1-800-344-4319
- Statewide Hotline: 1-800-490-8505

## Reporting the Abuse or Neglect of an Animal

### Animal Friends

- 412-847-7066
- Only those with firsthand knowledge should file a report. Hearsay and secondhand information cannot be investigated. To ensure your report is as helpful as possible:
  - Include an address or location, a detailed synopsis of the concern, and a phone number where you can be reached.
  - Do not leave a message asking us to call you back for information.
  - Do not call multiple agencies with the same report.



# Local Services for Older Veterans

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## **Pets for Vets Pittsburgh Chapter**

To help heal the emotional wounds of military veterans by using the power of the human-animal bond to provide a second chance for shelter animals by rescuing, training and pairing them with America's servicemen and women who could benefit from having a companion animal

- Open to any veteran living in the chapter area
- Complete and sign the only line application and
- provide a copy of the DD-214 letter from the health care provider
- **PetsForVets@ThinkingOutsideTheCage.org | 412.847.7030**

## **Life Changing Service Dogs for Veterans**

Guardian Angel Medical Service Dogs, Inc. trains medical service dogs to mitigate the challenges associated with several disabilities, including PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder), Traumatic Brain Injury, seizure disorders, glucose imbalance, mobility issues and more

- **Apply for your Guardian Angel Medical Service Dog online at: <https://www.padogsforvets.org/need-a-service-dog>**

**THESE DOCUMENTS REFLECT  
PENNSYLVANIA LAW, MAY 2020 AND  
MAY NOT REFLECT THE LAW THAT IS  
CURRENT AT THE TIME OF READING.  
PLEASE CHECK TO MAKE SURE THAT  
THE LAW HAS NOT CHANGED BEFORE  
USING THEM**

**DURABLE PET CARE POWER OF ATTORNEY**

**THIS IS REFLECTIVE OF PENNSYLVANIA LAW, MAY 2020 AND MY NOT REFLECT THE LAW THAT IS CURRENT AT THE TIME OF READING. PLEASE CHECK TO MAKE SURE THAT THE LAW HAS NOT CHANGED.**

**NOTICE**

THE PURPOSE OF THIS POWER OF ATTORNEY IS TO GIVE THE PERSON YOU DESIGNATE (YOUR "AGENT") BROAD POWERS TO HANDLE YOUR PROPERTY, WHICH MAY INCLUDE POWERS TO SELL OR OTHERWISE DISPOSE OF ANY REAL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY WITHOUT ADVANCE NOTICE TO YOU OR APPROVAL BY YOU.

THIS POWER OF ATTORNEY DOES NOT IMPOSE A DUTY ON YOUR AGENT TO EXERCISE GRANTED POWERS, BUT WHEN POWERS ARE EXERCISED, YOUR AGENT MUST USE DUE CARE TO ACT FOR YOUR BENEFIT AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS POWER OF ATTORNEY.

YOUR AGENT MAY EXERCISE THE POWERS GIVEN HERE THROUGHOUT YOUR LIFETIME, EVEN AFTER YOU BECOME INCAPACITATED, UNLESS YOU EXPRESSLY LIMIT THE DURATION OF THESE POWERS OR YOU REVOKE THESE POWERS OR A COURT ACTING ON YOUR BEHALF TERMINATES YOUR AGENT'S AUTHORITY.

YOUR AGENT MUST ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH YOUR REASONABLE EXPECTATIONS TO THE EXTENT ACTUALLY KNOWN BY YOUR AGENT AND, OTHERWISE, IN YOUR BEST INTEREST, ACT IN GOOD FAITH AND ACT ONLY WITHIN THE SCOPE OF AUTHORITY GRANTED BY YOU IN THE POWER OF ATTORNEY.

THE LAW PERMITS YOU, IF YOU CHOOSE, TO GRANT BROAD AUTHORITY TO AN AGENT UNDER POWER OF ATTORNEY, INCLUDING THE ABILITY TO GIVE AWAY ALL OF YOUR PROPERTY WHILE YOU ARE ALIVE OR TO SUBSTANTIALLY CHANGE HOW YOUR PROPERTY IS DISTRIBUTED AT YOUR DEATH. BEFORE SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT YOU SHOULD SEEK THE ADVICE OF AN ATTORNEY AT LAW TO MAKE SURE YOU UNDERSTAND IT.

A COURT CAN TAKE AWAY THE POWERS OF YOUR AGENT IF IT FINDS YOUR AGENT IS NOT ACTING PROPERLY.

THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF AN AGENT UNDER A POWER OF ATTORNEY ARE EXPLAINED MORE FULLY IN 20 PA. C.S. CH. 56.

IF THERE IS ANYTHING ABOUT THIS FORM THAT YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND, YOU SHOULD ASK A LAWYER OF YOUR OWN CHOOSING TO EXPLAIN IT TO YOU.

**I HAVE READ OR HAD EXPLAINED TO ME THIS NOTICE AND I UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS.**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Type Name: \_\_\_\_\_, Principal

## DURABLE PET CARE POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, THAT I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_ County, Pennsylvania, do hereby appoint \_\_\_\_\_ as my agent in accordance with 20 Pa. C.S. § 5601(f) to make any and all pet care decisions for my pet (hereinafter referred to as my "Agent"). If my said Agent is unable or unwilling to act or continue as my said Agent, for any reason whatsoever, I appoint \_\_\_\_\_ as successor Agent in his or her stead.

I do not intend this durable pet care power of attorney to revoke (i) any enduring general power of attorney I have executed with respect to my other property and affairs, (ii) any enduring power of attorney I have executed for my health and personal care, (iii) any power of attorney filed by me with any financial institution, or (iv) any power of attorney filed by me with the Internal Revenue Service or any state or local taxing authority in the United States. However, I do intend this durable pet care power of attorney to revoke all other prior pet care powers of attorney executed by me with regard to my Pet.

My Agent shall have full authority to do in my name and stead, for such consideration and upon such terms as my Agent shall from time to time deem proper, any and all of the following things relating solely to the care of my pet:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Species/Breed: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

(hereunder referred to as my "Pet"), including but not limited to:

To approve and authorize my Pet's stay at any pet care facility, boarding facility, kennel, or other such facility; and

To approve and authorize any and all medical treatment deemed necessary by a duly licensed veterinarian; and

To execute any consent, release or waiver of liability required by veterinary authorities incident to the provision of medical, surgical or other essential care to my Pet by qualified veterinary medical personnel; and

To authorize pet care and/or veterinary services in an amount not to exceed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ without my prior approval, provided that any amounts in excess of such stated amount shall require the provider of such services to contact me directly for discussion and approval prior to the provision of such services and prior to any payment; and

In the event that my Pet is unable to continue living with a comfortable quality of life and following consultation with a duly licensed veterinarian, to arrange for the humane euthanization of my Pet by a duly licensed veterinarian; and

In the event that my Pet is no longer able to reside with me, to use his/her best judgment in finding a good home for my Pet or allowing a licensed animal shelter or veterinarian to rehome my Pet.

To the extent possible and prudent, it is my desire that my Pet be cared for by the following veterinarian:

Veterinarian/Clinic Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Other specific desires:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

This durable pet care power of attorney shall be revoked by my giving written notification of the revocation to my Agent.

This durable pet care power of attorney shall not be affected by my subsequent disability or incapacity.

This durable pet care power of attorney shall be construed in accordance with, and governed by, the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Type Name: \_\_\_\_\_, Principal

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of the following, neither of whom is an Agent designated herein:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA :  
: SS:  
COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_ :

On this, the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, before me, a Notary Public, the undersigned officer, personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_, known to me (or satisfactorily proven) to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within durable pet care power of attorney, and acknowledged that he/she executed the same for the purposes therein contained.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I, \_\_\_\_\_, as Agent, have read the attached durable pet care power of attorney and am the person identified as the agent for the principal,

\_\_\_\_\_. I hereby acknowledge that in the absence of a specific provision to the contrary in the durable pet care power of attorney or in 20 Pa. C.S. when

I act as agent:

I shall act in accordance with the principal's reasonable expectations to the extent actually known by me and, otherwise, in the principal's best interest, act in good faith and act only within the scope of authority granted to me by the principal in the durable pet care power of attorney.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Type Name: \_\_\_\_\_, Agent

# CHANCE'S SPOT EMERGENCY ALERT CARD

What would happen to your pet if something happened to you? In the event of an emergency, you need some way to let others know you have a friend that depends on you.

The Chance's Spot Emergency Alert Card will let people know that in case of an emergency, you have pets who need care. By filling out the card, someone can be notified so that they may provide that care.

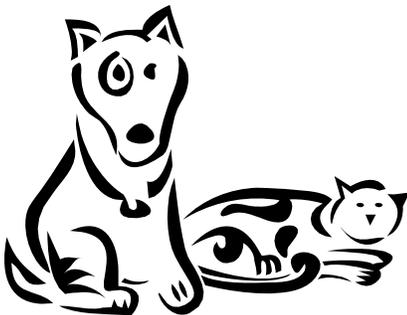
Please print as many as needed and for everyone you know who has a pet.

## DIRECTIONS:

1. Print this page. (Card stock paper works best)
2. Cut out along solid lines & fold in half.
3. Fill in contact information.
4. Laminate card to protect it.\*

\* It's best to use glue stick to keep the card folded, whether you choose to laminate or not.

<b>MY PETS NEED CARE!</b> In case of emergency please contact Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____	 <b>PLEASE SEE REVERSE FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION</b> I have ____ pets that need care in the event of an emergency. Please Help. <small>Copyright Chance's Spot. Brought to you by www.chancesspot.org</small>
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Cut out this card and affix to your driver's license with a paper clip or rubber band so that it can be found easily. Also, don't forget to download and print our **Emergency Caregiver's Instructions** and **Pet First Aid Manual** to complete your Emergency Alert Kit. Visit the Chance's Spot website and download now!

[www.chancesspot.org/petemergency.php](http://www.chancesspot.org/petemergency.php)

## Articles for a "GO BAG"

This is adapted from the AVMA website on pets

<https://www.avma.org/resources/pet-owners/emergencycare/pets-and-disasters>

This is a checklist for what should be in the GO BAG. Place these items in a carrier so that they are all in one place and can be obtained in a hurry.

### Food and medicine

- 3-7 days' worth of dry and canned (pop-top) food\*
- Two-week supply of medicine\*
- Feeding dish and water bowl
- Liquid dish soap

\*These items must be rotated and replaced to ensure they don't expire

### Sanitation

- Litter, litter pan, and scoop (shirt box with plastic bag works well for pan)
- Newspaper, paper towels, and trash bags
- Zip lock bags

### Important documents

- Identification papers including proof of ownership
- Medical records and medication instructions
- Emergency contact list, including veterinarian and pharmacy
- Photo of your pet (preferably with you)

### Travel supplies

- Crate or pet carrier labeled with your contact information
- Extra collar/harness with ID tags and leash
- Muzzle

### Comfort items

- Favorite toys and treats
- Extra blanket or familiar bedding

Instructions on the pet's personality, quirks and habits