

Safe Havens for Pets

Guidelines for Programs Sheltering Pets for Women who are Battered



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Sponsored by The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation

**Safe Havens for Pets:
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Pets for Women who are Battered**

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Forty-one unselfish and dedicated professionals helped create *Safe Havens for Pets* and the document you have in your hands would never have existed without their willingness to share their experiences and knowledge.

I dedicate *Safell avens for Pet*, in memory of my mother, Mary Pugliese Ascione, to all families where fear has replaced tenderness, where violence has displaced peace.

Frank R. Ascione

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**SAFE HAVENS FOR PETS:
GUIDELINES FOR PROGRAMS SHELTERING PETS
FOR WOMEN WHO ARE BATTERED**

“My first client (as a counselor at a women’s center in Wisconsin) came in very apologetic and said, ‘I have to go home.’ When I tried to tell her that she didn’t have to go home, she said, ‘No, you don’t understand.’ She pulled out of her purse a couple of pictures and handed them to me without comment. They were pictures that her mother had forwarded to her that her husband had sent to the mother... They were pictures of him chopping off the ears of her dog with gardening shears. She said, ‘I have to go home... If I want to save my dog’s life and the lives of the other animals on the farm, I have to go home.’ I didn’t have any answers for her. I didn’t have any way of helping her... We never heard from her again.”

(Ann Quinlisk, 1997- cited in Lerner [1998])

A woman’s attempt to escape violence – a horrifyingly cruel threat – the woman unable to find alternatives except to return to the violence to attempt to protect her animals – a counselor helpless to provide the woman with a safe alternative. Ann Quinlisk’s (Executive Director, Domestic Violence Intervention Project) moving account of a battered woman’s efforts to leave a violent home foiled by the woman’s well-founded concern for the lives of her animals highlights an issue receiving increasing attention from domestic violence and animal welfare advocates. Although shelters for women who are battered have become more readily available and accessible over the past two decades, the vast majority of shelters are unable to accept pets or companion animals that a woman may wish to accompany her. Shelters have also been ill equipped to address the issue of pets and other animals women may have left behind.

The desperate woman in Quinlisk’s narrative is, unfortunately, not an isolated case. Three separate studies have documented that from 18% to 40% of women seeking shelter at a crisis center report that concern for their pets’ welfare prevented them from seeking shelter sooner, in some cases, for more than two months (Ascione, 1997; Ascione, 1998; Flynn, 1999). We have no estimate of the number of women who are battered who share this concern but never show up at a crisis shelter.

In the past decade, greater attention has been given to fear for the welfare of animals as an obstacle for some women attempting to escape intimate violence. Domestic violence and animal welfare professionals have collaborated in developing programs to shelter pets for women who are battered. In some instances, the programs are admittedly informal, with women’s needs addressed on a case by case basis. In others, programs have been

formalized and include a designated director, written policies and procedures, a separate budget, and procedures for evaluation. However, as these programs have evolved, there has not been a method for distilling and disseminating the collective wisdom and experience of programs sheltering pets for women who are battered. Domestic violence and animal welfare professionals familiar with these programs know that their establishment and operation are not simple matters of finding temporary, loving homes for pets in need. Safety, confidentiality, pet ownership, locating pet sheltering, financial, veterinary, pet transportation, women's post-shelter housing, publicity, staff training, animal abuse, and even ethical issues challenge those considering development of pet sheltering programs.

Safe Havens for Pets: Guidelines for Programs Sheltering Pets for Women who are Battered is one attempt to meet the needs of domestic violence and animal welfare agencies considering the development of pet sheltering programs or evaluating the operation of existing programs. Sponsored by the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation and with the generous help of many advocates for women and for animals, I interviewed professionals from 21 domestic violence and 20 animal welfare agencies beginning to operate or already operating programs sheltering pets for women who are battered. Using a detailed, 141-item interview protocol, I asked each agency about the evolution and operation of their program, the policies and procedures they have established, challenges and obstacles they have confronted, their successes and failures, as well as questions related to the issues listed above. I have attempted to distill the responses of the participants as faithfully as possible. I have tried to note common themes where they became evident, and to highlight questions, concerns, and unresolved issues for future dialogue and discussion among all those concerned with the welfare of women who are battered, their children, and their animals. Where appropriate, I have offered recommendations that I hope will be of assistance to agencies developing their own programs for sheltering pets for women who are battered. Many of the agencies that participated in this project were gracious enough to provide copies of their printed material, in some cases, including policies and procedures, intake forms, and related documentation. Samples of these have been duplicated in the appendix to serve as a guide for agencies developing Safe Havens for Pets programs.

During the past few years, domestic violence and animal welfare programs have often contacted me about how to effectively operate programs sheltering pets for women who are battered. My hope is that *Safe Havens for Pets*, based on the experience and expertise of agencies already operating such programs, will provide a more informed and satisfactory answer to their questions and eliminate the need for each new program to "reinvent the

wheel.” A feedback form is included in this booklet so that you, the reader, can advise me of how well that hope has been realized.

Background of the survey leading to *Safe Havens for Pets*

With funding from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, activities related to creation of *Safe Havens for Pets* were initiated in the fall of 1998. The plan had been to identify a dozen or so programs, around the country, sheltering pets for battered women, interview the program directors about their operational policies and procedures, and distill this information in a report. At that time, I assumed there might be a pool of twenty to thirty such programs from which I could select a representative sample. The report would identify successful and unsuccessful practices and serve as a resource for agencies interested in implementing safe havens for pets.

A letter describing the project was sent to each of the state domestic violence coalitions in the United States, national domestic violence organizations (N=75), and to 25 animal welfare organizations. Notices were also published, pro bono, in the Domestic Violence Report (DVR), in *LINK*, the newsletter of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, and in *The Latham Letter*, a publication of the Latham Foundation. Respondents were asked to complete a brief form in which they could identify safe havens for pets (SHP) programs, in any stage of development. Respondents were also asked to indicate a contact person who would be willing to be interviewed for this project and/or request to be placed on a mailing list for a copy of the project executive summary once the project was completed.

Over the course of 6 months, I received, via regular and electronic mail, replies from over 98 domestic violence and animal welfare agencies identifying 113 programs in various stages of conception or operation. Eighteen respondents could not identify a program but were still interested in receiving a copy of the project's executive summary. I had clearly underestimated the number of programs considering or operating safe havens for pets and the widespread interest in guidelines for establishing these programs. With the approval of a time extension by the Dodge Foundation, I expanded the initial target of interviewing 12 agencies to interviewing 41 agencies about their SHP programs.

Twenty-one domestic violence and twenty animal welfare professionals, from Alaska to Florida, were gracious enough to spend between one-half and one-and-a-half hours in telephone interviews responding to questions from a 141-item protocol. The domestic violence agencies ranged from those serving large, urban centers to small rural shelters

and the animal welfare agencies ranged from an urban veterinary medical school to humane societies and animal welfare agencies in rural, suburban, and urban locations. The richness and wisdom of the information provided in this report are, in great part, due to the willingness of these agency representatives to share their time and talent in responding to my questions. Any flaws in this report, however, are my own.

Characteristics of the Agencies Interviewed

How the 41 agencies learned about the Safe Havens for Pets (SHP) Project.

Although a number of agencies said they had heard about SHP Project from more than one source, most learned of the project from a domestic violence resource. For the 21 domestic violence agencies, domestic violence resources, like DVR and LINK, were mentioned 17 times, animal welfare resources 3 times, and direct mail or other contacts [e.g., news reporter] 4 times. For the 20 animal welfare agencies, domestic violence resources were mentioned 11 times, animal welfare resources 8 times, and direct mail or other contacts 11 times.

Agency respondents' reaction to being asked to participate in the SHP Project. Since I am acutely aware of the time pressures facing domestic violence and animal welfare professionals, I asked this question with some trepidation knowing my own reluctance to spend 30 to 90 minutes on the phone with unfamiliar callers! My fears proved to be unfounded, however, since all respondents commented positively about the invitation to participate. A sampling of the remarks of domestic violence agency respondents follows.

- * "... thrilled someone is doing something comprehensive nationally... there's a real need there..."
- * "...excited because we're proud of our program..."
- * "... this is a predominant issue in working with victims... women are ashamed and embarrassed to talk about it [animal abuse] because they judge it is so outside normal behavior..."
- * "... no strong reaction but positive since we have seen the need and judges don't always see the importance of animal abuse in domestic violence cases..."
- * "... good reaction... our program was set up with funds donated by a former victim whose pets had been threatened and killed..."

- * "... very timely..."
- * "... glad someone is recognizing that this is a huge problem..."
- * "... happy that a handbook will be available... working on this 'blind' has been difficult..."
- * "... delighted... there are many pet lovers at the domestic violence shelter and they know they would not want to leave their pets behind..."
- * And from animal welfare agency respondents,
- * "... great... this is the thing I'm proudest of doing..."
- * "... pleased someone is doing this... helpful in creating a network for referrals if someone is moving to a new area..."
- * "... fabulous... we could have used this information before starting our program..."
- * "... great... gets the problem into public awareness..."
- * "... delighted... we're unsure of some of the things we're doing..."

All respondents, except one from a domestic violence agency concerned about security, were willing to allow me to identify their programs by name and mailing address and this information is included in the appendix.

How agencies described the stage of development of their SHP program. One domestic violence program reported operating an informal SHP program, using the homes of staff and volunteers, since 1979. However, most programs had a shorter history. Of the domestic violence agencies interviewed, 13 had been in operation 1 year or less and 7 had been operating for longer than 1 year. In contrast to the nearly 20 year old informal program mentioned above, one program, not yet operational, was described as being in the "prenatal" stage of development. Most programs self-described as being in their "infancy" and the mean length of time in operation was 1.4 years. The oldest program had been operating for 5 years.

For the 20 animal welfare programs, 6 had been in operation 1 year or less, 12 had been operating for longer than a year, and 2 programs were still in the formative stage. The mean length of time in operation was 2.5 years and the oldest program had been operating for a 10-year period.

The number of years in operation does not adequately describe the evolving nature of some of these programs. For example, one domestic violence agency respondent noted that their program, though 2.5 years old, was in the process of regrouping since the initiator of the program had left the agency. An animal welfare respondent with a 2-year-old program described the program as still in the learning stage.

Estimates of the overall level of services provided by the participating agencies.

Domestic violence agencies were asked to estimate the number of crisis calls received annually (these were general crisis calls, not necessarily related to the SHP program). Sixteen of the 21 agencies provided estimates ranging from 540 to 13,000 calls per year (mean = 3,971). Animal welfare agencies estimated the number of calls received annually that were specifically related to the SHP program. Eleven of the 20 agencies provided estimates ranging from 4 to 120 calls per year (mean = 34).

The domestic violence agencies (20 of 21) reported their shelter capacity in terms of the number of persons who could be housed. This figure ranged from 14 to 60 (mean = 27). Animal welfare agencies were asked to estimate the number of animals (primarily dogs and cats) that could be sheltered at one time. Estimates ranged from 5 to 500 (mean = 209). One animal welfare agency did not have a shelter facility but maintained a listing of 300 active foster homes. Three programs described regular animal sheltering facilities but also mentioned the availability of a large pasture for farm animals or a wildlife center that provided additional space.

The overall number of human clients (women and children) sheltered, per year, by the domestic violence programs was provided by 18 respondents and ranged from 50 to 1,000 (mean = 390). The overall number of animals sheltered, per year, by the animal welfare agencies was estimated by 12 respondents and ranged from 2,000 to 50,000 (mean = 13,442) with 5 of the 12 programs each sheltering more than 10,000 animals. Animal welfare programs were not asked about the average duration of sheltering for animals in the general (non-SHP) population.

The enormous service loads carried by domestic violence and animal welfare agencies is all the more impressive given reports of the number of staff for these programs. Domestic violence agencies reported full and part-time staffs ranging from 8 to 90 persons (mean = 27.2) and animal welfare agency reports ranged from 1 (the next highest lower estimate was 10) to 160 persons (mean = 52).

Services to elderly individuals who are battered, clients from rural areas, and other client groups. For domestic violence agency respondents, 95% reported serving clients who are elderly. These clients were described as sometimes concerned more for their pets' welfare than their own. Elderly clients' attachment to their pets was described as stronger than the attachment of younger clients but it was also noted that physical and financial challenges often made it more difficult for elderly clients to care for their pets.

For animal welfare agency respondents, 70% serve clients who were elderly. The stronger attachment to pets was also noted by these respondents and attributed to the absence of children, greater dependency needs and social isolation, greater concerns about safety, and that pets provided a sense of security. One respondent noted that the pets of elderly clients are more likely to be well cared for. Yet another respondent indicated that pets of some elderly clients may be in poorer health and/or neglected, perhaps related to the elderly client's own difficulty with self-care. One respondent suggested that elderly clients experiencing domestic violence are more likely, than younger clients, to relinquish their pets if they are concerned about safety.

Agencies were asked if they served clients from rural areas and if this presented special problems or challenges to their SHP program. For domestic violence agency respondents, 71% serve rural areas, in one case, a location so isolated that a veterinarian flies in for a few days three times per year! Some of the problems and challenges serving rural clients included:

- * Having larger numbers of pets, larger breeds, and farm animals making finding temporary shelter more difficult
- * Having pets who are accustomed to roaming free which make housing pets with foster families more challenging
- * Difficulty in advertising services, including the availability of the SHP program, and in providing outreach (e.g., domestic violence education, legal aid)
- * The women's physical isolation, communication problems (e.g., when a batterer has ripped out the phone line), and transportation difficulties
- * Shortage of post-shelter housing alternatives
- * Occasional difficulties in enlisting cooperation from law enforcement agencies

For the animal welfare agency respondents, 100% reported serving rural areas and also noted problems more common with clients from rural locations.

- * Isolation, transportation from distant locations, and lack of local animal control agencies
- * The cost of feeding larger animals such as horses or herds of animals while they are sheltered
- * Animals that are less likely to have been spayed or neutered, more likely to have ticks, and more likely to be unsocialized

In one case, rather than trying to find shelter for farm animals, the domestic violence and animal welfare agencies collaborated in assisting a woman obtain a restraining order to

make the batterer leave the farm. In another, a woman living on a ranch left the batterer but had 15 farm cats. Rather than housing the cats in cages at the humane society, which was judged to be stressful for the cats, they were placed in foster homes.

In addition to participating in the SHP programs, both domestic violence and animal welfare agencies provide other services (e.g., education, outreach, advising local and state government). Since this project focused on sheltering issues, I asked animal welfare agency respondents whether they also sheltered animals for homeless individuals, not necessarily domestic violence victims who might also be homeless (60% did), for individuals with medical or mental health emergencies (80% did), and for victims of fires or natural disasters (75% did). One-third of the domestic violence agency respondents were unaware or unsure of any of the animal welfare agencies' services to these client groups. Most domestic violence agency respondents, however, were able to identify at least one of these three client groups receiving sheltering.

Facilities for sheltering pets at the domestic violence shelter and the availability of pet carriers or port-o-pets for the short-term housing of pets. Only three (14.3%) of the domestic violence agency respondents said they could house pets at their facility. Examples included a kennel, built as an Eagle Scout project, adjacent to the domestic violence shelter and a shelter that had a dog run and dog house. Eight (38.1%) of the domestic violence agency respondents noted the availability of portable pet carriers (port-o-pets) which had been donated by pet stores, the animal welfare agency, or the community. These carriers were often used for the temporary housing of pets until a more appropriate relocation of the animals could be effected. The difficulty of keeping pets at the domestic violence shelter was related to concerns over potential staff and client allergies, a premium on space where a kennel might displace part of the children's play area, or the fact that the shelter was a public building and therefore prohibited animals.

Only one animal welfare agency respondent was aware of a domestic violence shelter having space for pets but seven (35%) noted the availability of pet carriers. Providing pet carriers was judged to be a good idea but, in one case, the obstacle to providing them was financial.

Presence of "house pets", belonging to staff or a particular staff member, at the domestic violence shelters. None of the domestic violence agency respondents and only five (25%) of the animal welfare agency respondents described house pets at the domestic

violence shelters save for one program with an aquarium and two others that allowed animal visits during animal-facilitated-therapy with children. Two domestic violence agency respondents thought having a house pet was a good idea but one respondent was concerned that children at the shelter might mistreat a house pet or the pet of another client unless closely supervised. The absence of house pets was again attributed to health and hygiene issues and one shelter's lease prohibiting pets.

Domestic violence shelter policy on assistance animals for clients with disabilities.

For domestic violence agency respondents, 16 (76.2%) reported allowing clients to bring assistance animals, 2 (9.5%) could not allow assistance animals, and 3 (14.3%) said the issue had never come up. Three respondents admitted that they had never thought of this issue in light of their more general prohibition against pets at the shelter and would now have to develop a policy. One shelter had a staff member with a disability who brought her assistance animal to work and another shelter that would not allow animals suggested that they would find and pay for motel housing for a client with this need.

For animal welfare agency respondents, 5 (25%) responded that the domestic violence program accepted assistance animals, 3 (15%) that they did not, and 12 (60%) were unaware of the domestic violence program's policy. One animal welfare agency respondent had confronted this issue since a client who was deaf had an assistance dog and could not relocate at the house of friends since they would not allow pets in their home.

Staff training on the link between domestic violence and animal abuse. One of the trends emerging as a result of collaboration between domestic violence and animal welfare agencies is cross training. Ideally, cross training is bi-directional education in which domestic violence professionals train animal welfare professionals on the dynamics of domestic violence and the needs of women and children who are escaping abusive relationships. In turn, animal welfare professionals train domestic violence professionals on the significance of animal abuse and neglect and the ways that animal maltreatment relate to violence, especially child abuse and neglect and violence between partners. Respondents were asked if such general cross training had occurred in their programs. For domestic violence agency respondents, 8 (38.1%) indicated it had occurred, 10 (47.6%) that it had not, and 3 (14.3%) indicated the training was minimal. For the animal welfare agency respondents, 7 (35%) indicated cross training had occurred, 8 (40%) that it had not, and 5 (25%) described the cross training as minimal or just starting.

A question was also asked about unidirectional training efforts (i.e, domestic violence training for animal welfare **or** animal welfare training for domestic violence) on the link. For the 19 domestic violence agency respondents for whom this question was appropriate, 7 (36.8%) replied that they had provided domestic violence training for animal welfare agencies, 11 (57.9%) had not, and one (5.3%) described the training as informal. For animal welfare agency respondents, 10 (50%) had provided animal abuse training for domestic violence agencies, 9 (45%) had not, and one (5%) described the training as informal. In one case, an animal welfare agency SHP program director completed the domestic violence agency's 40- hour training curriculum.

I also asked respondents if agency staff members were specifically trained about the rationale for and operation of the SHP program. For domestic violence agency respondents, such training was noted by 13 (61.9%), it had not occurred according to 6 (28.6%), and was described as informal by 2 (9.5%) respondents. One respondent noted that the training probably needed to be repeated because of high staff turnover. For the 18 animal welfare agency respondents for whom this question was appropriate, training was noted by 10 (55.6%), it had not occurred according to 5 (27.8%), and was described as informal by 2 (11.1%) respondents.

Since training on the link between domestic violence and animal abuse did not occur in every program, I asked if domestic violence and animal welfare counselors were screened for their experiences with animal abuse or their sensitivity to the importance of pets to some women and children. The rationale for asking this question was the potential for strong emotional responses to hearing stories of animal abuse or the counselors' own encounters with animal abuse affecting their response to domestic violence victims' stories of abused animals. This type of screening was uncommon and reported by only 5 (23.8%) of the domestic violence agency respondents and 4 (20%) of the animal welfare agency respondents. A number of respondents said that although screening did not occur, sensitivity to the importance of pets to domestic violence victims was discussed more generally in staff meetings or in informal discussions. One domestic violence agency respondent admitted not having considered this issue and another indicated they would consider it in the future.

Rather than suggesting that staff be "screened" on issues related to animal abuse, it might be more appropriate to suggest that cases where domestic violence and animal abuse occurred together be described in staff meetings as a method of preparing counselors for the types of experiences they may encounter when talking with clients.

Developing a Safe Havens for Pets (SHP) Program

Initiation of the SHP program. Responding agencies were asked whether the domestic violence agency or the animal welfare agency initiated the SHP program. For domestic violence agency respondents, 71.4% reported that the domestic violence program initiated SHP, 14.3% reported SHP as initiated by the animal welfare agency, and 9.5% reported it was initiated jointly by both agencies. In one case, a student in veterinary medicine started a SHP program.

Animal welfare agencies reported that the SHP program was initiated by a domestic violence agency in 15%, by animal welfare in 75%, and jointly in 5% of cases. One respondent was uncertain who initiated the SHP program.

Agency concerns that the SHP programs would be overwhelmed. One of the concerns that I have heard voiced by some animal welfare agencies is that the number of requests to shelter pets for women who are battered would dramatically exceed the capability and resources of animal welfare agencies. Respondents were asked if this concern arose during the planning and implementation of their SHP programs. Worrying that they would be overwhelmed was acknowledged by eight (38.1%) of the domestic violence agency respondents and sixteen (80%) of the animal welfare agency respondents. Agencies that were not concerned mentioned the following reasons:

- * The SHP was purposely developed on a small scale
- * Advertising the program had been minimal
- * Rather than being concerned, there was awareness that not every woman's needs could be accommodated since the community is small and has few veterinarians available for sheltering pets

Agencies that were concerned about being overwhelmed noted the following reasons:

- * Difficulty in finding shelter for farm animals
- * Small size of the animal welfare agency
- * Insufficient number of foster families to shelter pets
- * Concerns expressed by animal welfare agency board of directors and recent media attention
- * Increased demand if more than the one current domestic violence shelter wanted to access this service

One animal welfare agency respondent noted that they have been overwhelmed with requests on one occasion yet another worried that the SHP program was underutilized.

None of the respondents indicated that these concerns were sufficient to forestall implementation of the SHP program.

Agency concerns that the SHP program might be abused. This concern was voiced by only five (23.8%) of the domestic violence agency respondents but by sixteen (80%) of the animal welfare agency respondents. Examples of the concerns raised by domestic violence agency respondents included worries that:

- * the SHP program would be used for free boarding rather than pet safety
- * pets might be abandoned
- * women might return to the batterer and abandon their pets
- * women might not be forthcoming about their ability to pay for pet sheltering
- * the domestic violence victim would take the batterer's pet for retaliation

Animal welfare agency respondents noted the following concerns:

- * that pets might be abandoned (2 respondents)
- * the SHP program might be used as free boarding by individuals who were not domestic violence victims (e.g., beach dwellers, alcoholics, transients) (3 respondents)
- * the SHP program might be used to board animals while the owner went on vacation (3 respondents, one of whom said this had occurred)
- * that the same woman might use the service repeatedly (2 respondents), a challenge also encountered by domestic violence programs
- * that the SHP program would be used to obtain free spaying and neutering
- * that it might be difficult to contact the pet's owner
- * that the batterer might show up at the animal shelter
- * that the agreed upon period of pet sheltering would be exceeded unnecessarily
- * that the SHP program might become a magnet for unmanageable, hard-to-handle pets

As will be noted later in the section on actual operation of SHP programs, some of these concerns were well-founded but emerged in only a small number of isolated cases. Again, the concerns were not judged sufficient to prevent the SHP program from being implemented.

Agency resistance to starting a SHP program, factors underlying the resistance, and methods of dealing with the resistance. Sixteen (76.2%) domestic violence agency respondents said there was no resistance to the SHP program. Three of these sixteen respondents expanded on their answer by noting the agencies' delight with the programs' availability and two others emphasized the desire to help victims and that staff in the district attorney's office liked animals. Five (23.8%) domestic violence agency respondents described cases of resistance to the SHP program by some staff or board members. One respondent noted staff concern with needing to interview women about pets during a crisis situation. This was portrayed as a diversion of staff attention from more important issues. The respondent suggested the need to educate some domestic violence staff about the importance of pet welfare issues for women who are battered. Two respondents said staff had raised concerns about pet ownership issues (i.e., the woman's right to take a pet with her that might be owned by the batterer) and the potential for litigation. Other factors underlying resistance included: fears that animals would be abandoned, safety issues when transporting pets, fears that violent incidents with the batterer might occur as a result of the pet sheltering, and, in cases where pets were temporarily housed at the domestic violence shelter, worries about clients not controlling pets, children and animals being bitten by pets, and client or staff allergies to pets.

Ten (50%) animal welfare agency respondents stated there was no resistance to the SHP program and four of these respondents expanded by describing staff as "very supportive", hoping to expand the service, and being willing to "make space" for these pets. The fourth attributed the lack of resistance to the fact that the animal welfare program's executive director initiated the SHP program! Ten (50%) of the animal welfare agency respondents described cases of resistance to the SHP program by some staff or board members. In one case, a lone critic suggested that domestic violence programs would not share information with a male animal welfare agency director. Two respondents noted resistance based on the increased workload and scope of activities required by the SHP program and another said board members raised concern about a SHP program being beyond the mission of the animal welfare agency. Three respondents mentioned concerns about the health and/or potentially aggressive, unsocialized SHP program pets, making placement with fosterers more difficult. Two respondents also raised worries about the duration of sheltering. In one case, pets had to be sheltered for 3 weeks after a murder/suicide and in another, animals had to be kept as evidence for 2 years in a criminal

case. Although many animal welfare programs shelter pets after fires and natural disasters, this sheltering is viewed as more short term than what some domestic violence victims might require. More long-term sheltering raises logistic and space problems and two respondents noted staff concerns that SHP might take space needed for adoptable animals. Two respondents noted that concerns had been raised about staff safety should a batterer show up at the animal shelter (to allay this concern, one agency uses pagers to call for help if necessary). Two other respondents noted ethical concerns with allowing women to retrieve pets, after sheltering, and who were returning to the batterer. When this occurs, one animal welfare agency respondent said women are asked to wait for one week before retrieving their pet in order for her to judge the safety of the home environment. It was acknowledged, however, that these decisions ultimately rested with the women.

“Turf” issues between domestic violence and animal welfare agencies. Respondents were asked about this issue since the common focus on pet issues might bring agencies into competition for funding resources or disagreement about legislative proposals affecting women who are battered or animal welfare. None of the domestic violence agency respondents for whom the question was appropriate (N=19) could recall any turf issues arising with the animal welfare agency (the other two programs either housed pets at the domestic violence shelter or with a veterinarian/kennel operator). One respondent noted that they collaborated with animal welfare on grant proposals to avoid duplication and another stated that they were thankful to animal welfare for offering the SHP service. The only issue tangentially related to agency conflict was noted by a respondent who described some confusion about whether the police or animal welfare was responsible for transporting pets.

Three (15%) of the 20 animal welfare agency respondents described perceived areas of tension with domestic violence agencies. One respondent suggested that the greater political power of the domestic violence agency raised suspicion about the animal welfare agency’s motives in establishing the SHP program. The concern was that there would be competition for funding and public support. In this case, the animal welfare agency dealt with the concern by requiring its entire staff to complete 40 hours of domestic violence training and by maintaining open dialogue between the agencies. Another respondent suggested that African American domestic violence program staff might be less sympathetic to women’s attachments to pets and proposed increased staff education about the significance of animal abuse. A respondent who operates the SHP program as a private

endeavor described conflict with a local humane society that wished to partner with the SHP program. Because she was concerned about having to relinquish her own pet fostering, she declined the humane society's offer. Finally, one animal welfare agency respondent whose SHP program serves a number of domestic violence shelters related an incident where domestic violence program staff revealed the location of the SHP program followed by the batterer's harassment of SHP program staff. In this case, the SHP program suspended accepting pets from this domestic program and program forms were rewritten to exclude information on the pets' location.

Given the number of agencies interviewed, it is encouraging that so few instances of conflict were noted.

Formal cooperative agreements between the domestic violence and animal welfare agencies to operate SHP programs. Eighteen (85.7%) of the domestic violence agency respondents described a cooperative agreement between agencies, one (4.8%) said no agreement was in place, and two (9.5%) described self-run SHP programs, at veterinary hospitals, for which the question was not applicable. The cooperative agreement was in writing for six (33.3%) of the eighteen agencies with agreements. All of the animal welfare agency respondents had cooperative agreements with the domestic violence agencies and the agreement was in writing for ten (50%) of these programs.

Advisory boards specifically established for the SHP programs and composition of the boards. Only two (9.5%) of the domestic violence agency respondents described boards established specifically for the SHP program, separate from their existing board, and in one of these two, the board was no longer functioning (the respondent suggested that it needed to be reconstituted). Membership on the one board that continued to operate included the following members: the coordinator of youth programs, a humane society representative, the sexual assault coordinator, a domestic violence counselor, and the coordinator of parenting programs.

Six (30%) of the animal welfare agency respondents noted the existence of SHP program boards. In one case, the board's function had recently been incorporated into the animal welfare agency's community relations committee. The remaining five boards were comprised of between 4 to 7 members and included various combinations of the following representatives: a single, low-SES mother, an art therapist, a domestic violence representative, a humane society representative, a victim/witness coordinator, a

representative of the court, a state attorney, a police department representative, a humane society cruelty investigator, a veterinarian, a prosecutor, a child abuse council or child protection services representative, a member of the state domestic violence coalition, an advertising executive, a sociologist, a psychologist, a reporter, a teacher, and a social worker.

Operating a SHP program

Policies, procedures, and forms

Written policies and procedures guiding the operation of the SHP programs. Eleven (52.4%) of the domestic violence agency respondents described written policies and procedures used in the operation of the SHP and four (19%) suggested I contact the animal welfare agency for this information. Two (9.5%) respondents were unaware of written guidelines, three (14.3%) respondents said they were in the process of developing written policies and procedures, and one (4.8%) judged the question to not be applicable since SHP was an in-house service.

Sixteen (80%) of the animal welfare agency respondents stated their programs operated using written policies and procedures and, according to two (10%) other respondents, these were in the process of being developed. Two (10%) other respondents said operating guidelines were not in writing.

Legal assistance in developing forms for use in the SHP program. Six (28.6%) of the domestic violence agency respondents said they had enlisted the assistance of an attorney in developing SHP forms (e.g., client agreement, pet health history, policy on retrieving pets). Twelve (60%) of the animal welfare agency respondents had solicited the advice of an attorney in developing their SHP program forms.

Familiarity with existing guidelines related to SHP programs. The two most widely available resources for women who are battered and have pets and for animal welfare agencies trying to serve this population are materials developed by the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS, 1998) and the American Humane Association (AHA, 1997, 1998). Respondents were asked if they had seen either of these resources. For the domestic violence agency respondents, 13 (62%) had seen the HSUS materials and 3 (14%) the materials developed by the AHA. The corresponding figures for the animal

welfare agency respondents were 18 (90%) and 14 (70%). It should be noted that the HSUS materials are geared toward a more general audience while the AHA materials are targeted toward animal welfare agencies.

- * **RECOMMENDATION** – SHP programs should operate with policies and procedures developed cooperatively by the collaborating agencies and formalized in writing. It is also recommended that the policies and procedures be reviewed by the agencies' legal advisors to protect the interests of all parties involved.

Advertising and sources of referrals

Publicizing the availability of the SHP programs. Respondents were first asked if their programs had developed brochures for advertising the SHP programs. Four (19%) of the domestic violence agency respondents said brochures were available. In cases where a brochure was not available, some respondents noted that they were being considered or that the SHP program was included in the domestic violence program's general brochure or newsletter. Seven (35%) of animal welfare agency respondents described the current availability of brochures. In other cases, the SHP program was described in general animal welfare agency brochures or the brochures had not yet been developed.

There appeared to be polar attitudes about the appropriateness of advertising the SHP program beyond the collaborating agencies. On the one hand, some programs wanted to disseminate information about SHP programs as widely as possible. On the other hand, concerns for safety and worries about being inundated with requests for services resulted in some programs keeping a low profile. When asked if they publicized the SHP programs beyond domestic violence agencies, four (19%) of the domestic violence agency respondents said they did, including soliciting media attention.

Seven (35%) of the animal welfare agency respondents described efforts to advertise the SHP programs beyond domestic violence agencies. A variety of targets for such publicity were identified and included the following: hospital, pediatricians, mental health centers, police departments, child welfare agencies, other social service agencies, and the animal welfare program's donor base. An animal welfare agency respondent from one agency that does not advertise said that if they did, "...it would be a death sentence for the pets." Another noted that they were not going to advertise the SHP program until they had

developed a pool of foster families – they did not want to promise a service that they could not deliver. This comment again highlights the mixed emotions agencies have about publicizing the availability of SHP programs. On the one hand, agencies want the message to get out that there are ways for women to leave batterers yet keep their pets safe. On the other hand, publicity is judged to heighten the possibility that batterers may approach animal shelters to retrieve pets and as a route to locating their partners.

Most women who are battered and learn about the availability of a SHP program probably hear about the service during a crisis call or other direct contact with a domestic violence agency. How do agencies try to inform women who are battered, who have **not** yet been in touch with a domestic violence program, that shelter for their pets is available should they wish to leave batterers? The strategies described by the agency respondents ranged from public outreach efforts to more private contacts with individuals who may interact with women who are battered.

The domestic violence agency respondents mentioned the following forms of outreach: including information about the SHP programs in presentations to community groups including school organizations, using press releases and other forms of media attention, posting information in community merchant and business locations, making personal contacts with physicians and other social service agencies, posting information at hospitals and clinics, and equipping law enforcement officers with cards describing the SHP program.

Although three animal welfare agency respondents specifically stated they did not know how to address this issue, other respondents listed the following forms of outreach: use of a media “roll out” describing the SHP program, presentations for community groups especially women’s roundtables and general meetings on violence education, highlighting the SHP during Domestic Violence Awareness month, and informing fire departments, police departments, and the Red Cross about the availability of SHP programs.

Other specific targets for brochures or informational flyers about SHP programs.

Respondents were asked if materials providing information about the SHP programs were placed at the offices of veterinarians, pet groomers, or humane societies and animal control departments. For the domestic violence agency respondents, it was reported that nine (42.9%) programs placed materials with veterinarians, two (9.5%) with groomers, and nine (42.9%) with humane societies and animal control departments. For the animal welfare agency respondents, the figures were eight (40%), two (10%), and nine (45%), respectively. A number of respondents stated they had not thought of groomers as potential sites for

informational flyers and would now include them in their outreach. Both Petco and Petsmart were noted as other possible locations for placing brochures.

Other locations, not already noted, for promotional materials that were listed by the domestic violence agency respondents included: military bases, animal-facilitated therapy programs, churches, drug rehabilitation programs, Native American associations and tribal councils, hotels, women’s restrooms, and courthouses. Locations mentioned by the animal welfare agency respondents included: self-service laundries, post offices, beauticians, at festivals and other community events, with classroom teachers and other humane education targets, with parks and recreation, and nursing homes.

Source of referrals for women in need of SHP program services. All of the eighteen domestic violence agency respondents whose SHP programs collaborate with animal welfare agencies indicated that their own domestic violence shelter was the primary referring agency for women who were battered and who needed pet sheltering. For sixteen (80%) of the animal welfare agency respondents, the collaborating domestic violence shelter was the primary source of referrals for women needing SHP program services. Eight (40%) of the animal welfare agency respondents also mentioned other sources of referrals including the following: women’s friends or family members, police departments, direct phone contacts by women, family services, transitional housing directors, the Salvation Army, shelters for the homeless, the Red Cross, mental health centers, and hospital social workers.

Pet sheltering sites

Locations where women’s pets are sheltered. Pets who were being sheltered as part of the SHP programs were assigned to one of four primary locations – animal welfare agency facilities, foster families (referred to as fosterers), veterinary clinics, and private kennels. The percentage of respondents describing use of these primary locations were:

	domestic violence agencies	animal welfare agencies
animal welfare facilities	57.1%	80%
fosterers	52.4%	55%
veterinary clinics	28.6%	10%
private kennels	4.8%	10%

It should be noted that eleven (52.4%) domestic violence agency respondents and eleven (55%) animal welfare agency respondents described housing pets at more than one location. In addition, two (9.5%) domestic violence agency respondents reported housing pets at their own domestic violence shelter. If pets were judged to be aggressive or if they only needed to be sheltered overnight or for a few days, they were placed at the animal welfare agency's facility; otherwise, placement with fosterers was preferred. Fosterers were also used to shelter horses or farm animals if the animal welfare facility did not have space.

Screening of fosterers volunteering for SHP programs. Fosterers typically are private citizens who wish to assist in the temporary sheltering of pets for SHP programs and are a popular choice for pet placements. The popularity of fosterers was no doubt related to the more individualized attention that could be afforded the pets and the reduced likelihood of pets contracting diseases from other animals. Domestic violence agency respondents were asked if they were aware of screening of fosterers by the collaborating animal welfare agencies and this question was applicable for sixteen of the domestic violence agency respondents whose programs used fosterers. Of the sixteen, one (6.2%) respondent did not think fosterers were screened, three (18.8%) did not know and referred me to the animal welfare agency, and twelve (75%) said some form of screening did occur. Screening was described as ranging from "very general" checks on the fosterer's background to phone interviews, questionnaires, checking references, and home visits including assessing the condition of other pets in fosterers' homes. In one case, fosterers were domestic violence program staff or volunteers.

Fifteen (75%) of the animal welfare agency respondents said that fosterers were used as the primary or, at least, occasional location for sheltering pets. Of these, only three (20%) respondents said screening did not occur. For the remaining twelve (80%) respondents, screening was described and was often quite extensive. For one program, screening was accomplished in an orientation meeting. The other forms of screening fosterers included the following:

- * a home visit, checking records for animal abuse or child abuse and neglect complaints, and a criminal background check
- * a home visit, police background check, and unannounced visits to the fosterer's home
- * checking references including those from the fosterers' veterinarians

- * personal assessment by the SHP program director and checking references
- * requiring potential fosterers to volunteer for six months at the animal welfare facility before placing animals with them

RECOMMENDATION – Since it is clear that many animal welfare agencies operating SHP programs already conduct some form of screening for potential fosterers, it is recommended that screening occur in all programs using fosterers. Background checks, especially for any form of family violence, and preparing fosterers for unannounced visits to check on pets should be standard practices. It would also be desirable to include a home visit as part of screening. Child welfare agencies would be excellent resources for guidelines on how to conduct home visits.

The next five sections relating to the use of fosterers in SHP programs refer to responses provided by the subset of domestic violence agency respondents and animal welfare agency respondents familiar with the current or potential use of fosterers.

Training fosterers about domestic violence, safety, and confidentiality issues. For the domestic violence agency respondents, six (50%) were unsure if such training occurred or referred me to the collaborating animal welfare agency for this information. Three (25%) respondents said fosterers were trained and three (25%) said they were not. Eight (61.5%) of animal welfare agency respondents said they currently trained fosterers (N=7) or would when their program is implemented (N=1). Five (38.5%) said they did not train fosterers on all of these issues but two respondents stressed that their fosterers never come in contact with the domestic violence victim and two others emphasized to fosterers the critical need for confidentiality.

Release from liability forms signed by fosterers. Five (38.5%) of the domestic violence agency respondents were aware of release forms being used and eight (61.5%) did not know or referred me to the animal welfare agency. Eleven (84.6%) of the animal welfare agency respondents said release from liability forms were used (N=10) or would be used (N=1). In one case, fosterers were also required to have their own insurance coverage (perhaps to cover for any damage a pet might produce while sheltered). Two (15.4%) of the animal welfare agency respondents said release forms were not used.

Fosterers' financial obligations for the pet(s) being sheltered. For the domestic violence agency respondents, only three (23%) described fosterers as responsible for all costs of pet sheltering (e.g., food, regular veterinary care). Five (38.5%) of respondents did not know the answer to this question or referred me to animal welfare and five (38.5%) indicated that fosterers were responsible for some items, like food, or were given anything they needed by the animal welfare agency. One domestic violence agency respondent noted that fosterers' caring for SHP program pets is counted, in their records, as volunteer time.

In programs described by the animal welfare agency respondents, fosterers were required to bear all costs in three (23%) cases and to not bear any costs in ten (77%) cases. Anecdotally, respondents suggested that reasonable requests from fosterers for assistance in caring for the pets were granted.

Fosterers' knowledge of the identity of the domestic violence victims. In four (30.8%) cases, domestic violence agency respondents did not know the answer to this question or referred me to animal welfare. Three (23.1%) domestic violence agency respondents said fosterers did know the identity of victims and six (46.1%) said they did not. Two (15.4%) of the animal welfare agency respondents indicated fosterers could know the identity of the domestic violence victims especially in one case where visitation by a woman to the pet's foster home was allowed. Eleven (84.6%) of the animal welfare agency respondents said fosterers did not know the identity of victims.

Threats or danger to fosterers in SHP programs. Respondents were asked if fosterers had ever been threatened or endangered (e.g., by batterers) while sheltering pets for the SHP program. Four (36.4%) domestic violence agency respondents did not know the answer to this question or referred me to animal welfare. Six (54.5%) said threats or danger had not materialized but one (9.1%) respondent noted a case where a batterer showed up at a woman's home while being visited by the fosterer who sheltered her pet. This program has now implemented a "no contact" policy for victims and fosterers.

None of the animal welfare agency respondents could identify cases where a fosterer had been threatened or endangered.

RECOMMENDATION – Although we cannot expect fosterers who assist in the operation of SHP programs to become experts on domestic violence and animal abuse, we should provide them with basic information on the difficulty of a woman's

decision to leave her partner and how leaving may heighten the danger to a woman. Especially in small communities where fosterers may live in relatively close proximity to victims' residences, fosterers should be advised to be cautious when taking pets in public areas (e.g., for a walk, to a park) where they might be identified by a batterer or his acquaintance. Since fosterers volunteer to provide the sheltering service, it does not seem unreasonable that they be required to sign a form releasing the animal welfare agency from liability should problems arise from sheltering pets. Since the overwhelming majority of programs do not reveal women's identities to fosterers and given the case noted above where a fosterer came in contact with a batterer at the victim's home, it is recommended that victims' identities **not** be revealed to fosterers. This may require issuing temporary identification tags, without the owners' identification, for pets that are fostered.

Eligibility for accessing SHP program services

Screening of women who are battered for their eligibility for SHP program services.

Since one of the concerns sometimes raised about SHP programs is that the services might be abused, I asked respondents if women had to be screened before accepting their pets into the SHP program. Fourteen (66.7%) domestic violence agency respondents said formal screening was not used or that if the woman was a domestic violence victim and had a pet, it was assumed she had need of the SHP program. Although one (4.8%) respondent did not know if clients were screened, the remaining six (28.5) respondents did screen clients. In one case, screening occurred if women went to the animal welfare agency before contacting the domestic violence agency. In another case, the screening included asking about the pet's health needs and diet, how socialized or aggressive the pet was, pet ownership, whether the batterer had abused the pet, the batterer's description, and the description of the car he drives.

Twelve (60%) animal welfare agency respondents either said they did not screen women or if women had contacted a domestic violence agency and had a pet, they were considered eligible. Although one (5%) respondent did not know if women were screened, the remaining seven (35%) did screen clients. In most cases, however, the screening was cursory and related to questions about a woman's safety needs or the safety needs of her pet. Only one negative experience was described by the animal welfare agency respondents - in one case,

a woman lied about being a domestic violence victim and the animal welfare agency later charged her for the costs of sheltering her pet.

Animal welfare agencies' responses to women requesting SHP program services. I asked all respondents whether the collaborating animal welfare agencies recommended that women contact a domestic violence agency before accepting pets into the SHP programs. This question was not applicable for two (9.5%) domestic violence agencies, one that housed pets at its own shelter and another where all contacts by women were through the domestic violence program. Thirteen (61.9%) of the domestic violence agency respondents said that the animal welfare agencies recommended that women contact a domestic violence program before their pets would be considered for sheltering and 1 (4.8%) respondent said this recommendation was not made. Five (23.8%) domestic violence agency respondents did not know the animal welfare agencies' policy on this issue.

Seventeen (85%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported that their agencies recommended that women contact a domestic violence program (or related social service agency) before their pets could be accepted in the SHP program. One (5%) respondent was not sure of their policy and two (10%) respondent said their agencies did not recommend this to women; according to one of these last two respondents, women may not yet be ready to contact a domestic violence agency but may still have concerns for their pets' safety.

Women contacting the animal welfare agency directly or through an intermediary at the domestic violence agency. Respondents were asked if women interested in the SHP program initially contacted the animal welfare agency or the domestic violence agency to inquire about services. One (4.8%) domestic violence agency respondent noted that women contacted the animal welfare agency and ten (47.6%) noted that women contacted the domestic violence agency. Nine (42.8) respondents said women could contact either agency but four of these nine noted that contacting the domestic violence program was recommended. The remaining respondent (4.8%) was not from a program collaborating with an animal welfare agency.

For animal welfare agency respondents, six (30%) reported that women contacted the domestic violence agency and fourteen (70%) reported that women could contact either agency but seven of these fourteen either recommended or required that the domestic violence agency be contacted as well.

Location of meetings with women who contacted animal welfare agencies. This question was asked to assess sensitivity to privacy and confidentiality issues which are already pro forma at domestic violence agencies. Domestic violence agency respondents were asked if they knew where animal welfare personnel met with or interviewed women about their pets. Ten (47.6%) did not know, two (9.5%) referred me to the animal welfare agency, and seven (33.4%) noted that women did not directly interact with animal welfare agencies or the pet sheltering was done in house by the domestic violence agency. The two (9.5%) respondents who knew where interviews were conducted described two locations: the front desk at the animal welfare agency and the veterinary clinic's reception area.

Fifteen (75%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported that women were interviewed over the phone (N=4) and/or in a private office (N=12). Four (20%) described interviews as taking place in a semi-private area of the animal welfare agency, for example, the area used for grief counseling when a client's pet has died. One (5%) respondent whose program had not been implemented noted that she had not considered the issue of privacy and thanked me for raising it.

RECOMMENDATION – The overwhelming consensus appears to be that women in need of SHP services contact a domestic violence agency (or a related social services agency such as a mental health clinic) before trying to shelter their pets. The need for some flexibility was also noted since some women are desperate to keep their pets safe but have not yet made a decision about contacting a domestic violence agency. In these cases, I suggest that the animal welfare agency make available to women brochures from the domestic violence agency to facilitate the women's decision making and inform them of local resources. With regard to privacy issues, although this already occurs in the vast majority of cases, I recommend that animal welfare agencies do their utmost to designate a private location in which to interview women seeking SHP program services.

Entering a domestic violence shelter as a prerequisite to using SHP program services. Respondents were asked if women had to be residents at a domestic violence shelter in order to use SHP program services, and if not, under what conditions they could use the services. Ten (47.6%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that women did need to be in a domestic violence program but eight of the ten then qualified

their answers by noting other circumstances under which SHP program services could be accessed including cases where:

- * A woman was in counseling or in another nonresidential domestic violence program
- * Another agency (e.g., mental health, child welfare) had been trained to use SHP program services
- * A woman was pursuing other options for alternative housing

Only one of these ten respondents reported that being a client residing at the domestic violence shelter was required before a woman could use SHP program services. The remaining eleven (52.4%) respondents stated that residence at a shelter was not required since women could access SHP program services if they were using domestic violence advocacy or outreach services or if they simply met the requirement of not being able to remain at home.

Six (30%) of the animal welfare agency respondents described shelter residence as a prerequisite to accessing SHP program services. Four of these respondents qualified their answer by noting instances when the prerequisite was not enforced, for example, when the animal welfare agency was very concerned about the pet's safety, cases where women were referred to domestic violence programs for advice, and one case where relinquishing her pet was presented to a woman as an option (since she was not leaving the batterer). Fourteen (70%) respondents reported that shelter residence was not a prerequisite and enumerated circumstances under which pets would be accepted into the SHP program including:

- * Women referred by other social service agencies, friends, or family members
- * Women staying with friends who would not allow pets in their homes
- * Women screened by domestic violence agencies as having a need
- * Women in nonresidential domestic violence counseling or using any other domestic violence program services (e.g., legal advocacy, children's group therapy, safety planning)

RECOMMENDATION – As is clear from the section above, it is rare for women to be denied access to SHP program services if they are not residents at a domestic violence shelter. Women staying in their own homes, women receiving “outpatient” services from a domestic violence program, and women who have left batterers but

are staying with family or friends may all need a safe place for their pets. Given the methods of screening for eligibility noted earlier and already in place at most programs, it seems unreasonable to require women to be residing at a domestic violence shelter before they can use SHP program services.

Women's own resources for placing their pets in safe settings. Since SHP programs may not be able to meet the needs of everyone requesting their services, the programs may need to prompt women to consider alternative placements for their pets. These could include assistance from family and friends or, if the woman is financially capable, using a private boarding kennel. Twenty (95.2%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that they do ask women about their own resources for placing their pets and help women explore all their options. In one case, the SHP program was described to women as a "last resort."

Seventeen (85%) of animal welfare agency respondents reported asking women to consider alternatives to the SHP program. Two of these respondents said they talked with women about the potential danger to pets' health at a shelter that houses many animals, another noted the prohibition on visiting pets in the SHP program and prompted women to consider where their pets would be most comfortable. One respondent described counseling women about alternatives to the SHP program in cases where pets would need to be at the animal welfare facility for prolonged periods of time.

RECOMMENDATION – Given the stresses and concerns associated with being a victim of domestic violence, women may not have considered alternatives to using SHP programs. It is appropriate to assist women in exploring all the options for pet placement that are available and that the women may not have considered. Since not all programs may be able to shelter pets in foster homes, it is legitimate to forewarn women of the possible health hazards, to which their pets may be exposed, at animal shelters.

Methods by which women learned about SHP programs

Mentioning SHP program services during crisis calls. Respondents were asked if the availability of sheltering for pets was mentioned when women made crisis calls to domestic violence program. Twelve (57.1%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that SHP services were mentioned but two respondents qualified their answers by noting that information about the SHP program was only provided if a screening for shelter entry was administered or during safety assessments. The latter respondent also shared that her agency may not always be consistent in asking callers about their pets. Six (28.6%) reported that SHP program services were mentioned only if a woman brings up the issue of pets or if she has requested sheltering. Three (14.3%) respondents reported that SHP services were not mentioned during crisis calls.

Animal welfare agency respondents were asked if they knew whether the collaborating agencies mentioned SHP services in crisis calls. Four (20%) respondents believed this was the case or would be, once their program was implemented. Thirteen (65%) respondents could not answer this question and three (15%) did not think SHP services were mentioned in crisis calls. Two respondents again raised the issue of consistency suggesting that, even when it was part of the crisis call protocol, SHP services may not always be mentioned.

SHP services mentioned by domestic violence advocates when they arrive at a domestic violence site. The practice of having an advocate meet with a woman at the site of a domestic violence incident, once the police have secured the site, was not a uniform practice. Advocates did not go to domestic violence sites according to eight (38.1%) of domestic violence agency respondents and three (15%) of the animal welfare agency respondents. The figures that follow are for agencies that do send advocates to domestic violence sites.

Eleven (85%) of these domestic violence agency respondents reported that, currently, advocates mention the availability of SHP services or, in one case, could do so. Two (15%) respondents reported that advocates did not mention SHP services. Three (17.6%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported that advocates mentioned SHP services and three (17.6%) reported that they did not. Eleven (64.8%) respondents did not know whether advocates provided this information to women.

RECOMMENDATION – During a crisis call and when meeting with a woman at a domestic violence site, counselors and advocates should routinely and consistently ask two simple screening questions – “Do you have pets?” and, if the answer is YES, “Are you concerned for their safety?” These questions would provide an opening to a discussion about a woman’s possible needs related to her pets and whether pet welfare is an obstacle to leaving her partner, should she wish to do so. In the midst of a crisis, some women may not think to express their concerns about pets or may misjudge the significance on pet welfare (e.g., the possibility that animal abuse may indicate that violence will escalate).

Hours of operation and transportation of pets

Periods of the day and night when SHP program services are available. Since domestic violence victim’s needs for pet shelter may not always happen to occur during agencies’ business hours, I asked respondents whether SHP services were available 24 hours per day or only during the agencies’ business hours. Seventeen (81%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that their SHP services were available at all hours of the day and night. The remaining four (19%) respondents noted restriction of services to business hours or the services only being unavailable between 2-6am (a time period when animal welfare was not available). One of these four respondents noted that the police could page animal welfare personnel at any time and another noted that services were available according to the availability of fosterers.

For animal welfare agency respondents, fifteen (75%) reported that SHP services were available 24 hours a day. This was facilitated by animal welfare personnel carrying pagers, by leaving pet carriers at the domestic violence shelter, or by giving police keys to the animal shelter and specifying a location where pets could be left overnight. Five (25%) respondents reported that SHP services were only available during the animal shelters’ business hours but three of these respondents qualified their answers by noting that they could be called in an emergency, that domestic violence shelters had been provided pet carriers, and that the period of unavailability was only 2-6am.

RECOMMENDATION – Given the needs of domestic violence victims, it is recommended that agencies work toward having SHP program services available around the clock. This can be achieved by designating specific animal welfare agency contacts who can be reached after hours for accepting pets. These contacts could be reached via an emergency telephone number or by using pagers. Where this is not possible, domestic violence agencies should have available pet carriers for the temporary housing of pets until the animal welfare agency can arrange to pick up pets.

Transportation of pets to SHP programs. Respondents were asked if women were responsible for the transportation of their pets to the SHP program. This was the arrangement reported by eight (38.1%) of the domestic violence agency respondents with the exception noted that if the animals were horses or other large farm animals, other arrangements were made. Two (9.5%) did not know if women were responsible for transporting pets and eleven (52.4%) reported women were not. Two of these latter respondents noted that women were required to transport their pets to the domestic violence program (after which, the pets would be taken to the animal welfare agency) or to transport pets to volunteers who would then take pets to the animal welfare agency.

Three (15%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported that women were required to transport their pets and seventeen (85%) reported that they were not. Three of the latter respondents noted that the animal welfare agency preferred transporting the pets or would retrieve pets if the home were secure and safe. In the other case, although women were not required to transport pets, it was recommended so that women could see the kind of facility at which their pets would be sheltered.

In cases where women were **not** required to transport pets to the SHP program, respondents were asked who provided this transportation service. Domestic violence agency respondents listed the following possibilities: police, animal control or humane society personnel, domestic violence program staff, family or friends, taxi cabs, or District Attorney office staff. Animal welfare agency respondents listed the following: police, animal control/SPCA or humane society personnel, cruelty officers, family or friends, or domestic violence program staff and advocates.

Since many of the animal welfare agencies taking part in this project were separate from city or county animal control departments, respondents were asked if animal control department personnel ever transported pets for women from their homes to the SHP program. For the domestic violence agency respondents, seven (33%) reported that animal control did provide this service, nine (43%) reported it did not, and three (14%) did not know. The question was not applicable for two respondents. For the animal welfare agency respondents, twelve (60%) reported that animal control transported pets for women, four (20%) reported it did not, and three (15%) did not know. One of the latter respondents noted that they had not considered asking animal control to assist in transporting SHP program pets. The question was not applicable for one respondent.

Respondents were asked if domestic violence advocates transported pets for women. Seven (33%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that advocates provide this service and twelve (57%) reported that they did not. Two of the latter respondents noted that advocates could do this if the perpetrator had been arrested and was not at home or if the police were at the woman's home. The question was not applicable for two of the respondents. Seven (35%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported that domestic violence advocates provided this service and eight (40%) said they did not – in one case, it was specifically prohibited by the District Attorney's office. Five (25%) respondents did not know if domestic violence program advocates would transport pets.

Respondents were asked if there were occasions where the police would accompany an animal control officer or domestic violence advocate retrieving a pet from a woman's home. Thirteen (62%) of the domestic violence agency respondents and fourteen (70%) of the animal welfare agency respondents said this could occur under the following circumstances: when the woman has already called the police, when the woman has a protective or restraining order already in effect (this had occurred, according to one respondent), when the batterer is still at home, or when police are conducting a "standby" while a woman retrieves her pets and other possessions. The remaining respondents were unsure of the answer (three domestic violence agency respondents and one animal welfare agency respondent) or reported that police did not accompany advocates or animal control (two (10%) domestic violence agency respondents and five (25%) animal welfare agency respondents) in some cases because animal control officers were armed. One animal welfare agency respondent noted that in order to retrieve a pet from a home when the

woman was not there, they would need a signed waiver allowing them to enter the property and keys for entry.

RECOMMENDATION – In order to facilitate use of SHP program services in cases where a woman is unable to transport pets to the program herself, SHP programs should have established guidelines for alternative agents to transport pets. In developing these guidelines, care should be taken to insure the safety of all agents involved (e.g., domestic violence advocates, unarmed animal control officers). If there is the possibility that the batterer may be present at the time and place from which pets are retrieved, requesting a police “standby” should be routine. Agencies should also consider liability issues related to the injury or loss of pets during transportation.

Methods of maintaining contact with women clients

Women’s contacts with the SHP programs while their pets are being sheltered.

Respondents were asked if women were allowed to contact directly the SHP program to check on their pets. Seventeen (81%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that this was possible and one of these respondents said it was encouraged. Another noted that women were given a code name to use when calling to check on their pets. One (5%) reported that women were not allowed to call directly and three (14%) reported that calls could only be placed by a domestic violence agency representative.

Eighteen (90%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported that women could call directly to check on their pets with one respondent noting that even the children could call. Five of these respondents qualified their answers by noting that calls could only be made to one designated person at the animal welfare agency or that calls could not be made if pets were sheltered at fosterers. The remaining two (10%) respondents noted that direct calls could not be made or could only be made by a domestic violence agency counselor.

Respondents were also asked if women were **required** to periodically call the SHP programs to keep them apprised of their status at the domestic violence shelter. Seven (33%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that this was policy and four elaborated by stating that women are required to contact the SHP program within 3 or 30

days of their discharge from the shelter or that contacting the SHP program is not required but “highly recommended.” Ten (48%) reported that such contacts were not required, two (10%) noted that domestic violence counselors made these calls, and two (10%) referred me to the animal welfare agency for this answer.

Nine (45%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported that women were required to periodically call the SHP program specifying that calls be made once or twice per week or as soon as or within 10 days of a woman being discharged from the domestic violence shelter. Nine (45%) respondents reported that calls from women were not required and two (10%) reported that all calls were made by a domestic violence program counselor.

RECOMMENDATION – The attachment between many women and their pets suggests that some mechanism be in place for women to check on their pets’ status (e.g., adjustment, health, healing of injuries) while being sheltered. Direct calls by women or by domestic violence program staff are viable alternatives that can be considered. Since space for pet sheltering may be limited, it is reasonable that SHP programs be informed of the duration of a woman’s need for continued sheltering of her pets. Domestic violence agencies should have an established policy for keeping SHP programs informed on women’s continuing need for pet sheltering and a target date by which women may be able to retrieve their pets. The collaborating agencies should jointly develop a policy on how often these periodic contacts should occur. If foster families are used, they could provide weekly written reports on the pets’ adjustment and these could be confidentially shared with the pets’ owners.

Women and children visiting pets while the pets are sheltered in a SHP program.

Respondents were asked if their SHP programs permitted pet visitation and whether they judged this was a good practice for the women, children, and animals involved. Sixteen (76.2%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that some form of pet visitation was permitted and three (14.3%) reported that it was not. Two (9.5%) respondents referred me to the animal welfare agency for this information. In programs where pet visitation was permitted, some respondents elaborated on their responses:

- * Four respondents noted that they discussed the danger of stalking by the batterer during pet visitation but two respondents noted that this danger was

no greater than at any other times the women might be out of the shelter and in the community

- * Two respondents noted that pet visitation was achieved by bringing pets to the domestic violence shelter
- * One respondent noted that visitation was permitted only if the pet was not sheltered with a fosterer (as distinct from the animal welfare agency facility)

Eleven (55%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported that their programs permitted pet visitation and nine (65%) reported that they did not. For programs permitting visitation, two respondents noted that they had not considered the potential danger from stalking, two were aware of the stalking danger, and one noted that the domestic violence agency addressed the issue of stalking with their clients.

Responses to the question about the benefits of permitting pet visitation did not lead to a consensus opinion. Two domestic violence agency respondents considered it beneficial to pets but another noted one case where it appeared to be distressing for a pet (it may also be distressing for a pet to be exposed to domestic violence). One respondent reported disagreement between the collaborating agencies with the domestic violence agency judging visitation to be beneficial for women and children and the animal welfare agency judging it disruptive to the pet's adjustment. Three of the animal welfare agency respondents reported that, so far, visitations have been beneficial for pets and one noted that the benefits seemed to vary from pet to pet.

RECOMMENDATION – In my discussions with respondents, it became apparent that visitation with pets in the SHP program was desirable because of women and children's attachments to their pets. But it was also apparent that logistical and safety issues as well as concerns for pet welfare made visitation problematic. We need more information about the benefits of pet visitation both for the pets and their owners and how these benefits can be weighed against the potential dangers during pet visitation before a clear recommendation can be made for or against this policy.

Methods of contacting women if there is an emergency involving their pets. Since pets may become ill or may require emergency veterinary care while they are sheltered in a SHP program, respondents were asked how the animal welfare agency would contact

women in these circumstances. Fifteen (71.4%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that animal welfare agencies would call the domestic violence program which would convey the information to women. Four (19%) noted that pagers or a special contact number for the domestic violence agency was provided for this purpose. One (4.8%) respondent noted that calls were not necessary since women signed release forms for medical care when their pets were enrolled in the SHP program. One (4.8%) respondent had not considered this issue.

Seventeen (85%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported they would contact the domestic violence agency in such emergencies and two (10%) had been given special contact numbers for this purpose. One (5%) respondent noted this was unnecessary since pet ownership was transferred to the animal welfare agency when pets were enrolled in their SHP program.

RECOMMENDATION – In most cases, calls from the animal welfare agency to the domestic violence agency appear to be the preferred method of contacting women about medical emergencies involving their pets. In cases where a woman has already signed a release form authorizing medical care or where ownership of the pet has been formally transferred to the animal welfare agency, it may still be appropriate to ask women whether they would like to be informed of medical emergencies involving their pets. This question could be asked at the time pets are enrolled in the SHP program.

Duration of pet sheltering and dealing with failures to retrieve pets

Pet sheltering duration in SHP programs. Respondents were asked how long pets in SHP programs could be sheltered. Six (28.6%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that there was no limit or that it corresponded to the length of time women resided at the domestic violence shelter. Three (14.3%) respondents did not know if there was a time limit but the remaining twelve (57.1%) respondents reported sheltering time limits between 7 and 49 days. In most cases, these time limits were reported to be “negotiable”. In only one case was the time limit (10 days) described as not negotiable – an animal welfare agency describing its facility as a “no kill” shelter where space was always at a premium.

Four (20%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported no limit on the sheltering period or that it corresponded to women's time limits at the domestic violence shelter. The sixteen (80%) remaining respondents described sheltering limits ranging from 10 to 90 days but also noted that these limits were flexible depending on women's needs. The most frequently cited limits were for 14 days or for one month.

Limits on women's stays at domestic violence agency shelters. Respondents were also asked about limits on the amount of time women could be sheltered in a residential domestic violence facility. Two (9.5%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that there was no limit and nineteen (90.5%) described limits ranging from 28 to 120 days with the majority of these limits described as flexible. One (5%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported no limit on women's shelter stays and seven (35%) did not know what the limit was. The remaining twelve (60%) respondents reported limits ranging from 28 to 90 days.

RECOMMENDATION – Ideally, SHP programs should offer to shelter pets for at least as long as women are residing at the domestic violence shelter and, in some cases, for the period of time women may reside in transitional housing. However, given the pressure on space at many animal welfare agency facilities, the best that can be hoped for are clear statements about the duration of pet sheltering, agreed upon by the collaborating agencies, and contingency plans for cases where limits are exceeded.

Policy for dealing with cases where pets are not retrieved at the end of the agreed upon sheltering period. Respondents were asked if women were told they would lose custody or ownership of their pets if they failed to retrieve that at the end of the agreed upon sheltering period. Fourteen (66.7%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that women were advised of this policy, four (19%) said they were not, and three (14.3%) did not know or referred me to animal welfare for this information. Of the fourteen domestic violence agency respondents reporting this policy, half said women signed a form acknowledging the policy and half did not know if such a form was used. Two (9.5%) domestic violence agency respondents reported having confronted the issue of women failing to retrieve pets, five (23.8%) had not, and the remaining respondents did not have this information.

Eighteen (90%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported that women were advised of the policy on failing to retrieve pets and two (10%) that they were not. Of the eighteen programs with this policy, sixteen (88.9%) reported women were required to sign a form acknowledging the policy. One respondent said they did not require this and another was not sure. Seven (35%) respondents had confronted cases where a woman had failed to retrieve her pet with most having one or two experiences with this issue.

RECOMMENDATION – Although the experience of these agencies suggests that women's failure to retrieve their pets at the end of the agreed upon sheltering period occurs in a minority of cases, the potential problems with unclaimed pets requires that a policy be in place to deal with such cases. Most programs inform women that they may lose unclaimed pets but this should be formalized with a written agreement to avoid confusion. Since a woman's circumstances may change dramatically even after she has completed her stay at a shelter, SHP programs should remain flexible in accommodating, within reason, a woman's need for continuing shelter for her pet.

Pet ownership issues

Dealing with questions about pet ownership. Respondents were asked about their policies dealing with ownership of pets, whether pets were re-licensed in a name other than the woman's, and whether ownership of pets was transferred to the SHP program while pets were sheltered. The motivation for asking these questions relates to attempts to preserve the confidentiality of SHP program cases and animal welfare agency concerns with pets that are not retrieved.

Understandably, eleven (52.3%) of the domestic violence agency respondents were either unaware of the animal welfare agencies' policies regarding ownership or referred me to the animal welfare agencies for this information. Five (23.8%) respondents reported that pets were neither re-licensed nor was their ownership transferred. The remaining respondents described a variety of methods for dealing with these issues. In one case, women who brought in the pets were the only persons given information about the pets being sheltered. In other cases, pets were given a new name while in the SHP program or ownership was formally transferred to the animal welfare agency. One respondent noted that a woman might not be able to retrieve a pet if the pet was the batterer's legal property. In this case, if the batterer had abused the pet, a cruelty investigation might be conducted.

For animal welfare agency respondents, three (15%) reported that pets were re-licensed, eleven (55%) reported that they were not, and the remaining respondents were unsure of the policy. Six (30%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported that ownership of pets was transferred to the SHP program and twelve (60%) reported that transferring ownership was not their policy (two respondents were unsure of how transfer of ownership was addressed). A number of respondents elaborated on their responses. One noted that their agency often needed to license these pets since they rarely already had a license. Another reported that SHP program pets were considered to be in protective custody and all paperwork related to these pets was kept in a separate, secure file. One agency recommends that women change the address on their pets' license to a post office box. One SHP program will not accept un-licensed pets and will license them for women. However, proof of ownership must still be provided when women are retrieving pets.

Cases where pets are jointly owned by women and batterers or cases where pets are owned by the batterer. Respondents were asked if women could relinquish pets (to be placed for adoption or to be euthanized) in cases where the pets was also owned by batterers or were solely the batterers' property. Ten (48%) of the domestic violence agency respondents were uncertain about how these cases would be handled, two (10%) reported that women would not be able to relinquish pets under these circumstances. The remaining respondents speculated on how these cases might be handled. One respondent noted that ownership issues were not pursued during the temporary sheltering of pets but would need to be if more permanent disposition of pets was being considered. Another agency places pets in women's orders of protection (but it is unclear how this would affect a woman's prerogative to place a pet up for adoption). If a batterer owned a pet before his marriage to a woman, one respondent did not know if she would have the right to relinquish it. If ownership was unclear (e.g., in the case of an un-licensed pet), one agency recommended that women take pets for veterinary care and use the paid statement as evidence of ownership.

Six (30%) of the animal welfare agency respondents believed a woman could relinquish pets even if the pets were jointly owned with or were the property of the batterer and eight (40%) believed they could not. These respondents and the remaining respondents, whose answers could not be easily classified as YES or NO, listed a number of approaches to this issue. One respondent noted that pets became property of the SHP program and only one

signature was required to enroll pets in the program. Another agency requires women to sign a disclaimer noting, "I am not the owner of this pet but I'm concerned about its welfare". Even with this disclaimer, the agency acknowledged they would have to release the pet to a batterer if he were the owner. One respondent noted that their agency had refused to euthanize a pet brought in by a batterer because it was jointly owned with the woman victim. Three respondents reported they were unsure how to handle cases where the batterer legally owned the pet, especially if the batterer came in to reclaim "his" pet. One agency was not even certain they could shelter a pet for a woman if the batterer owned it. Two animal welfare agency respondents stated that their primary concern was the pets' welfare, would place pets for adoption or euthanize them, if necessary, and were even prepared for litigation as long as pets were kept safe.

Status of pets as community property. Respondents were asked if pets were considered to be community property, in their jurisdictions, since this might affect the disposition of pets. Fifteen (71.4%) of the domestic violence agency respondents did not know whether pets were community property, three (14.3%) reported that they were, one (4.8%) that they were not, and two (9.5%) reported that pets were considered "marital property."

Eleven (55%) of the animal welfare agency respondents did not know whether pets were community property, six (30%) reported that they were, one (5%) that they were not, and two (10%) reported that pets were considered "personal property."

Agency involvement in litigation about ownership of SHP program pets. Respondents were asked if they had ever become involved in legal disputes related to the ownership of pets sheltered in the SHP programs. Twenty (95.2%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that they had not become involved in disputes of this kind and one (4.8%) did not know. One of the respondents who said their agency had not been formally involved in any legal disputes did note that a former domestic violence program client whose batterer had killed pets in the past had had difficulty convincing authorities about two other dogs she considered to be in danger. The woman had been unable to prove she owned the animals. Upon returning to her residence, both dogs had been killed and left in her front yard for her to see.

Seventeen (85%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported that they had not been involved in legal disputes over ownership of SHP program pets, two (10%) reported that they had, and one (5%) respondent's program had not yet been implemented. The two incidents reported involved one case where animal welfare agency records were subpoenaed in an animal abuse case where ownership had been disputed and another case involving fraud where a batterer tried to drop off a pet, owned by his wife, at the animal welfare agency.

RECOMMENDATION – It is clear that in cases where women are the sole legal owners of pets, women would have the right to enroll them in a SHP program and, if necessary, relinquish them for possible adoption or euthanasia. However, in other cases where pet ownership is unclear or where batterers are joint or sole owners of pets, disposition of the pets is more problematic. SHP program agencies are encouraged to discuss these issues with their legal advisors to develop policies appropriate for their programs. These policies should have the welfare of women and pets as their paramount concern yet designed to be respectful of ownership issues. More specific recommendations are not possible given the current lack of consensus about how to deal with pet ownership issues.

Confidentiality and safety issues

Confidentiality issues for pets and women enrolled in SHP programs. Given the possibility that a batterer might try to retrieve a pet his partner may have enrolled in a SHP program or approach the animal welfare agency in an attempt to locate his partner, respondents were asked about procedures to insure the confidentiality of information about these pets. This included questions about whether pets were kept in areas accessible to the public (e.g., potential adopters) or exercised in public view.

Two (9.5%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that they had not addressed these issues, one (4.8%) was not aware of the animal welfare agency's procedures, and four (19%) referred me to the animal welfare agencies for this information. The remaining respondents listed a variety of methods in place to insure confidentiality. These included the following:

- * All paperwork related to SHP program pets is filed under a pseudonym and the shelter is in a secluded, rural area
- * Pets are isolated from the general population of animals, they are listed as

“already adopted” in shelter records, and no information about these pets is released to the public

- * Pets are sheltered in a fenced area on 1.5 acres of property and are not exercised in public view
- * Pets are listed in the name of the animal welfare or domestic violence agency and information about these pets is only released to animal shelter staff
- * In cases where pets are placed with fosterers, staff locate the pet in a community different from the woman’s place of residence (to minimize accidental contact with the batterer)
- * The animal welfare agency signs a confidentiality agreement with the domestic violence agency
- * Pets are considered to have been relinquished “on paper” and then are placed with fosterers
- * Pets are kept with the general population of shelter animals but are placed in a secured location within the shelter

In general, domestic violence agency respondents reported that they were pleased with the confidentiality procedures practiced by the animal welfare agencies. One issue that had not been considered, as reported by one respondent, is the case where pets might be exercised in public by fosterers. In smaller communities, a batterer might happen upon his pet and this could lead to a breach of confidentiality.

All of the animal welfare agency respondents were able to report on procedures they had in place to insure the confidentiality of information about SHP program pets and the women who enrolled them. A sampling of these procedures is listed below.

- * Pets are kept in a private area of the shelter not open to the public, and if fostered, fosterers are told of the pets domestic violence history and the need for confidentiality is stressed
- * Media representatives are not allowed to take any footage of the shelter location and women sign a waiver allowing the animal welfare agency to contact them directly if necessary
- * Pets are re-licensed to the SHP program and no public records associate with the women who enrolled them

- * Only one animal welfare shelter worker is designated to care for SHP program pets; others do not have access to information about the pet
- * The addresses and phone numbers for SHP program pets are the domestic violence agencies' and no information is released on these pets
- * All paperwork (e.g., intake forms, signed liability and agreement forms) is filed in a secure location, pets are renamed and their ages are altered
- * Fosterers are trained about the need for confidentiality and sign a waiver to this effect
- * SHP program pets are assigned a code number and are kept in an area of the shelter only accessible with a staff escort

RECOMMENDATION – The measures the respondents described for insuring the confidentiality of SHP program cases were impressive. Perhaps the one remaining concern is the issue of exercising pets in public view and the possibility that a batterer might come upon his pet in these cases. It is recommended that animal welfare agencies collaborate with domestic violence agencies in developing confidentiality protocols acceptable to both parties. Restricting the number of individuals dealing with SHP program pets, keeping all documentation in secured files or only on the directors' computer files, locating pets in areas of the shelter that are isolated or at least inaccessible to unaccompanied visitors, and training fosterers in the critical need for confidentiality are practices already in place at many programs and should be encouraged at all others.

Threat or violence emergencies related to sheltering pets in SHP programs.

Respondents were asked if there had been any occasions where the animal welfare agencies (or veterinarians) had experienced threats of or actual violence by a batterer related to SHP cases. Fourteen (66.7%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that such incidents had not occurred, four (19%) referred me to the animal welfare agencies for this information, and the question was not applicable for three (14.3%) respondents.

Nineteen (95%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported no threats or violent incidents involving SHP program pets. The question was not applicable for one respondent whose program had not yet been implemented.

RECOMMENDATION – It is encouraging that the anticipated danger from batterers showing up at an animal shelter was not reported by any of the respondents interviewed. A number of respondents did note that procedures for dealing with threats or violence at the animal shelter or veterinarian’s office (e.g., direct line for signaling police, staff training on crisis intervention) were in place and it is recommended that similar procedures be developed by all animal welfare agencies operating SHP programs.

Counseling women and children about pet loss and separation from pets.

Respondents were asked if their own agencies provided any form of counseling for clients and their children who may have lost pets abused by the batterer or counseling about being separated from pets while they were sheltered in the SHP program. Twelve (57%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that they provided such counseling and five (24%) reported that they did so on an “as needed” basis (e.g., if women or children brought up the issue, if children were distressed being separated from pets). Three of these respondents elaborated by stating that they referred some clients to a pet loss counselor, that they talked with women and children about rationale for the no-visitation policy, and that that counseling was more of a need when children were involved. Three (14%) respondents reported that their agency did not provide counseling about these issues and one (5%) did not know if it was provided.

Seven (35%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported providing pet loss or separation counseling, two (10%) reported providing counseling, if needed, and two (10%) planned to offer such counseling in the future. Four (20%) respondents stated their agencies did not provide counseling and five (25%) did not have this information. One respondent whose agency did not offer counseling remarked that it would be a “good idea” to do so and another recalled being asked about the availability of pet loss counseling by a domestic violence agency advocate.

Pet-related issues in safety planning with women. Respondents were asked if issues involving pets (e.g., where to shelter them, what to take when leaving home with a pet, how to keep pets safe) were raised in safety planning discussions with women using SHP program services. Respondents were also asked to elaborate the types of issues that were addressed, Nineteen (90.5%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that

pet-related issues were discussed in safety planning but most admitted that these issues did not receive a great deal of attention and might not be consistently addressed. Two (9.5%) respondents reported that these issues were not addressed at their agencies.

Ten (50%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported addressing pet-related issues including two agencies that used HSUS guidelines and another that provided advice on managing pet behavior problems (problems that might prompt batterer violence). Five (25%) respondents reported that these issues were not addressed by their agency and five (25%) were not sure if they were. It should be noted that many animal welfare agency respondents judged safety-planning discussions to be within the purview of the domestic violence agencies' services. Also, some animal welfare agencies had no direct contact with women clients (e.g., case where pets were retrieved by animal control, programs where women brought pets to the domestic violence shelter and they were later transported to the SHP by someone other than the women).

Many of the animal welfare agency respondents offered suggestions for pet-related issues that should be addressed in safety planning. In some cases, these suggestions apply to women who have not decided to leave the batterer and in other cases, the suggestions are more appropriate for women who have made the decision to leave and are preparing to do so. The suggestions for women included the following:

- * Collect any documents related to your pet (e.g., ownership papers, veterinary records including a vaccination and medical history), have a leash or pet carrier available, and consider your options if you could not take your pet with you (e.g., call a friend to pick it up)
- * If possible, compile a record of incidents when your pet was threatened or abused, note whether it is an indoor or outdoor pet, and indicate any danger an animal control agent might be in if called to retrieve the pet
- * Consider whether worrying about your pet's welfare has been preventing you from leaving the batterer. If your pet has been abused, do you think you are in greater danger?
- * Do you think your partner has been using your love and concern for your pet as a way of controlling and manipulating you?
- * If you are still with the batterer and your pet has been threatened, have you considered placing your pet with a friend, family member, or humane society?

- * Keep pet food, pet-related documents, and other items needed for traveling with your pet in your vehicle, if this would be safe for you to do
- * If you are still trying to make a decision about whether to leave the batterer and your pet has been threatened or abused, have you discussed animal abuse as a risk factor for danger with a domestic violence counselor?
- * If you have decided to leave the batterer and would like your pet to accompany you, have you checked with the domestic violence program to ask how they can accommodate your pet's needs?

RECOMMENDATION – Since animal welfare agencies have expertise in counseling humans about the loss of their pets, they should take the lead in offering such counseling to women and children separated from their pets due to domestic violence. Grief counseling may also be needed in cases where pets have been killed. Animal welfare agencies should explicitly inform domestic violence agencies that counseling services are available, should any of their clients desire it. And since domestic violence agencies have expertise in safety planning, they should assist animal welfare agencies in developing pet-related safety planning procedures that are reasonable to follow and would not place an excessive burden on women planning to leave batterers. Some procedures could be described as basic and required (e.g., packing the pet's medication) and others as desirable but not critical (e.g., taking along a pet's favorite toy or food).

Women who have returned to batterers because the pets were still with them.

Women who leave batterers may not always take their pets with them, even if a SHP program is available, and leaving a batterer may occur a number of times. Therefore, we asked respondents if they questioned women about returning to batterers because pets were still at home with them. Six (28.6%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that they did ask this question and one of the six stated that women in their shelter had done this. Fifteen (71.4%) reported that this question was not asked or only came up if the woman mentioned it as an issue. Four of these respondents recalled incidents where women had returned to batterers because of concern for pets with one noting this was less likely to occur now that the SHP program was available.

Four (20%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported asking women about this issue and fourteen (70%) reported that they did not ask this question. In elaborating on her

response, one respondent reported a case where a woman had returned to check on her dog only to find its decomposing body in her yard.

Women endangered by going home to retrieve their pets while the batterer could be or was still at the residence. Respondents were asked if they were aware of cases where women had endangered themselves by returning to their homes to retrieve pets. Eleven (52.4%) of the domestic violence agency respondents had encountered such cases, nine (42.9%) had not, and one (4.7%) respondent was not certain if this had occurred. Respondents noted that they tried to minimize danger to women by advising them to request a police standby in such cases.

Four (20%) of the animal welfare agency respondents were aware of cases where endangerment had occurred, fifteen (75%) were not, and one (5%) respondent was not certain. One respondent described a specific incident where a woman had returned home to retrieve her pet, was confronted by the batterer, and both physically struggled over possession of the pet.

RECOMMENDATION - Given the inherent danger women may face returning home to retrieve their pets, women who have left batterers and made contact with or resided in a domestic violence program should be advised to request law enforcement escorts if they plan to retrieve their pets from home. Since some women may not be aware of the inherent danger, they should always be asked if they have left pets at home and have considered retrieving them. Women should also be informed of the option of having animal control or some other agent retrieve pets for them.

Serving women who have completed their stays at the domestic violence shelter

Women reclaiming pets after they have been sheltered in the SHP program and factors that may facilitate this. Respondents were asked if, in cases that have processed through the SHP programs, women have retrieved their pets at the end of their domestic violence shelter stay. Eighteen (85.7%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that women retrieved their pets and ten of these respondents noted that this occurred in most or all of the cases they had encountered. One (4.8%) was not sure if this

had occurred and the question was not applicable for two (9.5%) other respondents whose program was still relatively new. One of the respondents noted that in one case a woman could not reclaim her pet since it was a wolf hybrid and considered illegal in her community. The animal welfare agency helped to relocate this pet in a state where the breed was not prohibited.

Seventeen (85%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported that women retrieved their pets and thirteen of these respondents noted that this occurred in most or all of the cases of SHP program pets. Three (15%) respondents did not yet have information about this issue.

Both domestic violence agency respondents and animal welfare agency respondents offered a number of factors that facilitated women's ability to retrieve their pets after SHP program sheltering and are noted below.

- * Finding affordable housing that permitted pets or moving in with family
- * Finances
- * Obtaining employment
- * Woman is better able to care for herself
- * Woman's life has become more stable
- * Increase in the pet's significance since leaving the batterer
- * Need for the pet's companionship
- * Knowing the pet would probably be euthanised if she did not retrieve it
- * Feeling safer and more competent
- * Flexibility on time limits for pet sheltering (i.e., accommodating women's needs)
- * Knowing that the pet had been well care for in her absence
- * Visitation kept the attachment to her pet strong (one woman was described as using visits to her pet as a reward she self-administered for progress in her domestic violence work)

(One animal welfare agency respondent, whose SHP program was just being developed, described stringent criteria under which a woman would be permitted to retrieve her pet. These criteria included proof of moving to a new residence or a copy of a recent restraining order, or a letter from a relative verifying that the woman was no longer in a violent situation.

It was unclear whether women would be made aware of these criteria at the time their pets were enrolled in this sheltering program.)

Counseling women about the possibility of relinquishing their pets. In a perfect world, every woman completing her stay at a domestic violence shelter would find herself in circumstances that would allow a happy reunion with her pet. Many women who are battered may not be so fortunate. Respondents were asked if they ever counseled women about the possible benefits of relinquishing their pets to an animal welfare agency. Two (9.5%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that they might help a woman problem solve more generally and this might include discussing disposition of their pets. Two (9.5%) other respondents were not sure counseling of this nature occurred in their programs. Eight (38.1%) reported that counseling about relinquishment was not part of their program and nine (42.9%) reported that it was. Even when the issue of relinquishing pets was discussed, respondents described this as a sensitive topic, one they were reluctant to raise except tangentially when discussing a woman's need for housing, needs for her own care and those of her children, future safety planning, and finances. If women brought up the issue, counsel was offered.

For animal welfare agency respondents, one (5%) reported they did not counsel women about this, one (5%) reported that it could occur but had not as yet, and one (5%) was uncertain if they would offer such counseling. Four (20%) respondents said counseling about relinquishing pets was not part of their program and thirteen (65%) reported that it was. Respondents described a number of issues they addressed with women in counseling them about relinquishing their pets:

- * Did the woman have the emotional and financial resources for continuing care of the pet?
- * Would the pet's welfare be enhanced if another family adopted it?
- * Would not having a pet facilitate a woman's decision making in other areas of her life?
- * Would the length of time the pet needed to be sheltered place undue stress on the pet?
- *

Respondents were also asked if they encountered cases in their SHP program where women had decided to relinquish their pets. Eight (38.1%) of the domestic violence agency

respondents had, nine (42.9%) had not, and four (19%) either did not know whether any women had done this or the SHP had just been implemented.

Sixteen (80%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported cases where women had relinquished pets, two (10%) were not aware of such cases, and two (10%) respondents reported that their program was too new to provide a response. Respondents' experiences with women relinquishing pets provided varied estimates of how often this occurred. Two respondents noted that if women **did** decide to relinquish their pet, animal welfare agency staff members were certain to affirm the difficulty of the women's decision and reassure them that the decision was appropriate. Responses ranged from "once or twice" and "infrequently" to one-third to one-half of SHP cases.

When respondents were asked to describe factors that might result in a woman relinquishing her pet, they offered a number of factors, examples of which follow:

- * Difficulty finding post-shelter housing that allowed pets
- * Possessing a pet that was illegal to own (the case of the wolf hybrid noted earlier)
- * Weak attachment to the pet
- * Needs of the children had to take precedence over the pet's needs
- * A case of a batterer who had nearly strangled a puppy to death in front of his 7 and 9 year-old children; the woman requested the puppy be put up for adoption
- * Love for the pet and the pet's best interests
- * Continuing substance abuse problems making pet care difficult
- * Woman's relocation making pet keeping difficult
- * A case of a batterer who had beaten a woman with her kittens; the kittens required medical treatment and she feared they would be abused again if she didn't relinquish them

RECOMMENDATION – It is encouraging that so many women using SHP program services do return to retrieve their pets and it should also be considered encouraging that some women decide relinquishing their pets is in their pets' best interest. It is clear that women's success in adapting to leaving batterers and their progress through domestic violence counseling and assistance programs will affect their ability to reunite with their pets. Helping women find affordable housing and employment would facilitate women's ability to retrieve their pets.

Post-shelter transitional and other housing options for women. Since the availability of affordable housing that permits pets may be such a critical factor in women's ability to retrieve their pets, respondents were asked if their programs offered transitional housing and if such housing allowed pets. Eleven (52.4%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that their programs did not have transitional housing and ten (47.6%) reported that they did. Of these ten programs with transitional housing, two were reported to allow pets, seven did not, and the respondent was not sure of the pet policy in one case.

Ten (50%) of the animal welfare agency respondents did not know if transitional housing was available, six (30%) reported that it was, and four (20%) reported that it was not available. For the six respondents who reported that transitional housing was available for women, four noted that pets were not permitted and two did not know the transitional housing policy on pets.

Respondents were also asked if their agencies maintained listings of post-shelter housing (e.g., apartments, rental properties) that would permit pets. Eleven (52.4%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that such listings were available for women, one (4.8%) reported that their agency was developing a list, and nine (42.8%) reported that they did not maintain listings of housing allowing pets. A number of respondents noted the prohibitive costs of housing in many of their jurisdictions making finding affordable post-shelter housing a challenge for all women, even those without pets.

Eleven (55%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported maintaining listing of housing allowing pets, one (5%) respondent's agency was working on it, and six (30%) did not have listings. Two (10%) respondents did not know if housing listings were available at their agencies. One of the eleven respondents whose agency did maintain listings of "pet-friendly" housing had not previously considered how these listings might be important for SHP program clients.

RECOMMENDATION – Domestic violence agencies should consider the feasibility of designing future transitional housing that would accommodate pets. In addition, domestic violence and animal welfare agency representatives should collaborate in seeking the assistance of local realtors in developing listings of affordable housing that

will permit pets. Local government housing authorities could also be of assistance in addressing this issue.

Women who have resided at the domestic violence shelter but have decided to return to batterers with their pets. Respondents were asked if there were cases where women who had used SHP program services returned to live with the batterer and did so with the pets that had been sheltered. Fourteen (66.7%) of the domestic violence agency respondents had encountered such cases and seven (33.3%) had not. Ten (50%) of the animal welfare agency respondents had encountered such cases and eight (40%) had not. Two (10%) reported that they never inquired about whether women were returning to batterers.

Respondents provided two specific examples. In one case, a woman who was blind returned to the batterer with her assistance dog – both the woman and her dog were abused and the dog's abuse impaired its ability to function as an assistance animal. In a second case, a woman who had used the SHP program appeared at the animal shelter with the batterer and retrieved her pet.

RECOMMENDATION – Leaving a batterer is often a process rather than a one-time decision a woman may make. Those with experience in the domestic violence field know that women may leave and return to batterers repeatedly before making a final break in the relationship. As distressing as this may be to both domestic violence and animal welfare agency professionals, returning to a batterer is a woman's decision. And in some of these cases, women will return to batterers with their pets. Women should not be coerced into remaining away from batterers by preventing them from retrieving their pets from a SHP program. Perhaps the best agencies can do is to educate women about the dangers they and their pets may face and inform them that the agencies stand ready to help these women should they need services in the future.

Asking women specific questions about animal abuse.

Animal abuse questions on risk of danger assessments. Most domestic violence agencies employ some form of assessment to judge the risk of violence posed by a batterer. These assessments, often referred to as "risk of danger" checklists, may or may not include questions about a batterer's abuse of animals. Respondents were asked if the domestic

violence agencies included questions about animal abuse in their risk of danger assessments. Twelve (57.1%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported asking about animal abuse in risk assessments and six (28.6%) reported that they did not. One respondent (4.8%) was not certain if such questions were included and two (9.5%) reported that their agencies did not use risk assessments. For agencies including questions about animal abuse, respondents were asked to provide examples of the wording of these questions. Their examples follow:

- * "Has he abused anyone other than you?" (followed by questions about child or animal abuse)
- * "Are your pets in danger as well?"
- * "Has he been cruel to animals?"
- * "Has he damaged personal property or pets?"
- * "Has he used a weapon?" (followed by questions about against whom the weapon was used, including pets)
- * "Have animals been threatened? Have they been abused?" (both questions are rated on a 1 [minor] to 5 [severe] point scale)
- * "Has a pet been threatened or killed?"

Animal welfare agency respondents were asked if they were aware of animal abuse questions on domestic violence agencies' risk assessments. Ten (50%) did not have this information and one (5%) respondent did not think the agency used risk assessments. Four (20%) respondents reported that animal abuse questions were included and five (25%) reported that they were not. Only one respondent could provide the wording used on the question [the domestic violence agency asks, "Has there been abuse of others? ____ children? ____ elders? ____ pets?"].

Respondents were asked if information about batterers' risk assessments were shared by or with their agencies. Six (28.6%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported sharing risk assessments with the animal welfare agencies and twelve (57.1%) did not. Six (30%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported receiving information on batterer risk from the domestic violence agencies and thirteen (65%) did not. In seven cases, these respondents reported that they had been given a description of the batterer should he happen to contact the shelter looking for "his" pet.

RECOMMENDATION – Since danger assessments provide critical information about women’s vulnerability to severe violence, agencies may also use this information to guide their interactions with batterers they may encounter at the domestic violence shelter. If a batterer had demonstrated a high propensity for severe, potentially lethal violence, the collaborating animal welfare program should be so advised. The animal welfare agency may wish to make certain that, in these cases, pets are sheltered at the most secure locations (e.g., at the animal welfare shelter rather than with fosterers) and that greater precaution is exercised in insuring confidentiality is maintained.

Respondents were also asked if specific questions about animal abuse were asked as part of SHP program protocol. Thirteen (61.9%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported asking women about animal abuse during crisis calls or at intake. Six (28.6%) reported that animal abuse questions were asked inconsistently or only if women brought up the issue of pets. Two (9.5%) respondents reported that their agencies did not question women about animal abuse.

Six (30%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported that they believed women were asked about animal abuse during crisis calls or at intake and six (30%) reported that women were not asked. Three (15%) respondents reported that animal abuse questions were asked if women brought up pet-related issues. The remaining five (25%) respondents were not certain how domestic violence programs addressed this issue.

When speaking with women during crisis calls or at intake, twenty (95.2%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported suggesting to women that animal abuse by batterers be considered a factor in women’s decision making about staying with or leaving batterer. Only one (4.8%) respondent reported that this suggestion was not made. Twelve (60%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported that the domestic violence programs made this suggestion, three (15%) believed the agencies did not, and five (25%) were not certain.

Respondents were asked if they asked women if pets had been abused by batterers using weapons. Six (28.6%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that their agencies asked this question and fifteen (71.4%) reported that they did not. Three (15%) of the animal welfare agency respondents believed the domestic violence agencies

asked this question, ten (50%) believed they did not, and six (30%) were not certain. The question was not applicable for one (5%) respondent. A number of respondents from both agencies (8 of 41) remarked that, though the specific question about animal abuse and weapons might not be asked, the issue might surface in discussions with some women.

Five (23.8%) of the domestic violence agency respondents believed that the animal welfare agencies asked women if the batterer had abused animals, three (14.3%) believed the agencies asked if children had abused pets, and one (4.8%) believed the agencies asked if the women had themselves abused pets. Five (23.8%) respondents were uncertain of the animal welfare agencies' practices regarding any of these three questions.

Thirteen (65%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported that their agencies asked about pet abuse by the batterer, seven (35%) reported asking about pet abuse by children, and six (30%) reported asking whether the women had abused pets. Only one specific example of pet abuse by a woman who was battered was described. One respondent noted that a woman had been charged for animal abuse while her partner was incarcerated. The woman's dog was found to have its collar embedded one inch into its neck.

Six (28.6%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported asking women if the injuries their pets suffered from abuse were serious enough to warrant attention from a veterinarian and fifteen (71.4%) reported that they did not ask about the severity of pet injuries. Four of these latter respondents noted that this information might arise in interviews with women. Four (20%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported that the domestic violence agencies asked women about the severity of pet injuries, six (30%) reported that the agencies did not, and eight (40%) were uncertain of the domestic violence agencies' practice. The question was not applicable for three (15%) respondents.

Twelve (60%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported that their own agencies asked women about the severity of pet abuse, if it had occurred, and ten (50%) asked women if the pet abuse had been reported to authorities.

Nine (42.9%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that their agencies queried women about whether the pet abuse had been reported to authorities, eleven

(52.4%) reported that they did not ask women this question, and one (4.8%) respondent was uncertain. Three (15%) of the animal welfare agency respondents believed that the domestic violence agencies queried women about reporting pet abuse, seven (35%) believed they did not, and seven (35%) were uncertain. Again, this question was not applicable for three respondents.

When respondents were asked how animal abuse incidents described by women were addressed by the animal welfare agencies, no clear consensus emerged from respondents' answers. For domestic violence agency respondents, some recommended that women make the decision about bringing charges against the batterers and others recommended that the animal welfare and domestic violence agencies work together to determine the strategy for dealing with such cases. A concern was voiced that charging the batterer with animal abuse might endanger a woman and her children. This was illustrated in a case where the husband of a woman who was battered illegally trained dogs for dog fights. He threatened to kill his wife if she ever told anyone about his illicit activities. The woman's domestic violence counselor suggested that the woman not pursue legal action for her own safety. Eight (40%) animal welfare agency respondents reported that their agencies would be likely to file animal abuse charges against a batterer without consulting the domestic violence agencies. Five (25%) reported they would file charges but only after consultation with the domestic violence agencies or if the woman was willing to testify in the animal abuse case. In one case, the animal welfare agency and the domestic violence agency work together to "stack" the animal abuse charge on the battering charge. Five (25%) respondents reported they do not charge batterers with animal abuse and two (10%) were uncertain about how to handle these incidents.

Children witnessing animal abuse. Four (19%) of the domestic violence agency respondents believed that the animal welfare agencies asked women if their children witnessed animal abuse and three (14.3%) did not. The remaining respondents were unsure of the animal welfare agencies' practices regarding this question. Fourteen (66.7%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that their own agencies asked women about children's exposure to animal abuse and seven (33.3%) did not. Eight (40%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported that their own agencies asked women if their children witnessed animal abuse, eleven (55%) reported that they did not, and the question was not applicable for one (5%) respondent.

RECOMMENDATION – Detailed information about a family's experiences with animal abuse may assist in gauging the danger posed by a batterer. It may also give counselors insight into the needs women and children may have for dealing with separation from and grief about the violent loss of their pets.

Dealing with mothers' revelations about child abuse and neglect. Domestic violence agency respondents were asked if they knew how the animal welfare agencies would respond to women's revelations that their children had been maltreated. Although five (23.8%) respondents did not know and five (23.8%) referred me to the animal welfare agency for this information, the remaining eleven (52.4%) respondents provided the following information:

- * Animal welfare officials are considered mandated reporters of child abuse and neglect and would assist women in safely filing reports (N=3)
- * Animal welfare would report the incident to the child welfare agency (N=2)
- * Animal welfare would recommend that the woman make the report to child welfare (N=1)
- * Animal welfare would relay the woman's report to the domestic violence agency (N=4)
- * No report would be made by the animal welfare agency.

Animal welfare agency respondents reported that, were a woman to disclose child maltreatment to their staff, nine (45%) would report the incident to child welfare and six (30%) would relay the report to the domestic violence agency. Three (15%) reported they would provide women with the phone number for making a report to child welfare (animal welfare agencies are not mandated reporters of child maltreatment in the jurisdictions of these three agencies). One (5%) respondent was not certain how these incidents would be handled and one other (5%) noted that the abuse would not be reported.

Three domestic violence agency respondents and one animal welfare agency respondent noted that reporting child abuse and neglect had actually occurred in their experience. In one example, a batterer was charged with sexually abusing his children. In another, a woman's 7 and 9 year-old sons had been sexually abused by their father. After leaving her battering husband, the woman had given her two sons a puppy. When the boys began sexually abusing the dog, she decided to relinquish the puppy to animal welfare.

RECOMMENDATIONS – Agencies operating SHP programs should have a specific protocol for dealing with reports of child abuse and neglect that are in compliance with state reporting requirements. Women should be advised of this protocol before any discussions about pet sheltering take place.

Use of information about animal abuse in obtaining restraining or protective orders.

Respondents were asked if information about batterers' abuse of animals was ever used to facilitate women's obtaining restraining or protective orders. Ten (47.6%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that the information was used for this purpose, nine (42.9%) reported that it was not, and one (4.8%) was uncertain. One (4.8%) respondent reported that her agency would now consider using including information about the batterer's abuse of animals in requests for restraining or protective orders.

Three (15%) of the animal welfare agency respondents believed this information was used, eight (40%) did not believe it was, and nine (45%) did not know. A few (five) respondents noted that some judges were interested in the animal abuse information when petitions for restraining or protective orders were filed (N=2) but other judges tended to disregard the information (N=3).

Ancillary issues related to animal abuse. Respondents were asked if information about a batterer's animal abuse had ever been used to petition for termination of a batterer's parental rights or rights to visit his children. Three (14.3%) of the domestic violence agency respondents recalled cases where this had occurred, sixteen (76.2%) could not recall such cases, and two (9.5%) did not know. One of the examples cited included a case where the batterer had acquired and then killed puppies in front of his children. The mother was described as being unaware of the impact of this experience on her children. The domestic violence program staff convinced the woman to request supervised visitation for her husband and this was granted at a hearing.

Only one (5%) animal welfare agency respondent was aware of a relevant case. A children's court appointed special advocate presented information about how a batterer had burned his children, wife, and the family's cat. The father's parental rights were terminated in this case but the termination may have been based on more than just the information on

animal abuse. Eight (40%) respondents were not aware of relevant cases and eleven (55%) were uncertain.

Respondents were asked if animal abuse was part of the definition of emotional abuse in their state's domestic violence statutes. Two (9.5%) domestic violence agency respondents reported that it was, eight (38.1%) reported that it was not, and eleven (52.4%) did not know. The figures for animal welfare agency respondents were three (15%), four (20%), and thirteen (65%), respectively.

Respondents were asked if committing domestic violence (which may include animal abuse) in the presence of a child is considered a separate chargeable offense in their jurisdictions. Four (19%) domestic violence agency respondents reported that it was, fifteen (71.4%) reported that it was not, and two (9.5%) were uncertain. The figures for animal welfare agency respondents were three (15%), four (20%), and thirteen (65%), respectively.

Given the potential for some women who are battered to be charged with endangering their children, respondents were asked if domestic violence advocates were ever concerned that the presence of animal abuse might be construed as indicating a woman's inability to protect children, which might jeopardize the woman's parental rights. Three (14.3%) of the domestic violence agency respondents expressed this concern, one (4.8%) was uncertain if this concern had surfaced, and fifteen (71.4%) reported that this was not a concern they had encountered. One (5%) animal welfare agency respondents reported this concern, four (20%) were uncertain, and fifteen (75%) had not encountered this issue.

Respondents were asked if batterers on probation for domestic violence offenses were ever prohibited from owning pets. One (4.8%) domestic violence agency respondent was aware of such a case, seventeen (80.9%) were not, and three (14.3%) respondents were uncertain. One of the respondents who answered no to this question remarked that this was an idea she would now suggest to probation officers. The corresponding figures for animal welfare agency respondents were two (10%), sixteen (80%), and two (10%).

Monitoring the operation of SHP programs

Monitoring the number of women using SHP program services. Respondents were asked if their agencies were formally tracking the number of women using SHP program

services. Ten (47.6%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported that they tracked these data, six (28.6%) reported that they did not, and three (14.3%) reported that they intend to in the future. One (4.8%) respondent reported tracking as informal and one (4.8%) was not certain if such data were kept.

Fifteen (75%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported keeping track of the number of women using SHP program services, two (10%) reported that they did not, and two (10%) reported that they intend to do so. One (5%) respondent noted that their data keeping was informal.

A number of respondents (N=4) whose agencies do not track the number of women served in SHP programs did note that this information could be gleaned from checking intake forms that were in files.

Respondents were also asked to estimate the number of women, per year, using SHP program services provided by their agencies and the types of pets sheltered. Three (14.3%) of the domestic violence agency respondents could not yet provide estimates. The remaining eighteen (85.7%) respondents provided estimates ranging from 1 to 22 women served, per year (mean number served = 7.9 women). Respondents noted that most women requested sheltering for one or two pets and their agencies had sheltered dogs, cats, rats, goats, ferrets, and birds.

Two (10%) of the animal welfare agency respondents could not yet provide estimates but the remaining eighteen (90%) were able to do so. Their estimates ranged from 1 to 80 women (mean number served = 18.3 women). Again, most respondents reported that women commonly requested sheltering for one or two pets and the agencies had sheltered dogs, cats, birds, goats, livestock, rabbits, horses, chinchillas, and some exotic animals.

Virtually all of the respondents reported they would accept any type of pet, within reason, into their SHP programs. In one or two cases, there were limitations on the size of animals accepted given the space available for sheltering. Space, the location of pet sheltering (animal shelters or veterinarians or fosterers), and the availability of veterinary medical facilities were reported to affect the number of pets accepted per client (the most frequently reported limits were between 2 and 4 pets per client) and whether or not aggressive pets

or pets who were ill or geriatric would be accepted. Other restrictions to or adaptations of SHP program services related to pet characteristics were varied and included the following:

- * Aggressive pets are never placed with fosterers but are kept at the animal shelter
- * An animal welfare agency that has a policy against accepting certain breeds (pit bulls, chows) **will** accept these pets from a domestic violence program client
- * Pets must have had their appropriate vaccinations
- * A number of programs have enlisted the aid of farmers to shelter livestock and larger animals (e.g., horses)
- * One program accepted an endangered species of turtle but informed the woman of the problem of owning such an animal as a pet. Another reported that they would never confiscate, from a woman who was battered, a pet that was illegal to own lest the woman be “driven away” from using SHP program services. One program reported they would have to confiscate pets that are illegal to own if they were presented at the shelter or refer the woman to another animal welfare agency that accepts these animals (only two [4.9%] of forty-one respondents reported any actual experience with illegal animals in the SHP programs)
- * Programs that only shelter pets at fosterers may have to refuse pets who are aggressive

RECOMMENDATION – SHP program policy statements should clearly state any restrictions on the number, types, and characteristics of pets accepted for sheltering. In cases where certain pets may not be accepted, agencies should provide women a list of alternative placement sites. Animal rescue leagues and wildlife rehabilitation programs may be willing to shelter pets unqualified for animal welfare sheltering facilities.

Time devoted to processing SHP program cases. Respondents were asked to estimate the amount of time devoted to processing SHP program cases. The domestic violence agency respondents reported that these cases could take from 30 minutes to being “very time consuming”, but in the majority of reports, processing time ranged from 1 to 3 hours depending on the complexity of a woman’s circumstances. One respondent noted that, typically, it only added 5 to 20 minutes to the regular domestic violence intake process. For domestic violence agency respondents, twelve [57.1%] reported that one staff

person was designated to handle SHP program cases, five (23.8%) reported two staff who were so designated, and five (23.8%) reported that most domestic violence program staff members could process these cases.

The animal welfare agency respondents reported that processing SHP program cases could take 10 minutes or, in some cases, up to half a day or more. But again, most respondents provided estimates varying from 1 hour to 3 or 4 hours per case. Processing time was clearly adapted to the needs of individual women. All but one (95%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported that one particular staff member was designated to process SHP program cases.

Services other than sheltering offered to women with SHP program pets.

Respondents were asked to cite examples of services, in addition to pet sheltering, provided by their SHP programs. Domestic violence agency respondents listed vaccinations, free spaying and neutering and other medical care, grooming, animal-facilitated therapy for women's children (if desired), and reduced rates for or pro bono medical care by veterinarians (listed by one domestic violence agency as an in-kind matching donation).

Animal welfare agency respondents listed a wide variety of services provided, most of which were provided free or offered at reduced cost (based on women's ability to pay). The services provided included the following:

- * Vaccinations (SHP pets may not have already received required vaccinations)
- * Free spaying or neutering (one respondent described this as mandatory for all pets, regardless of SHP program status, brought to their shelter)
- * Bathing and a flea dip
- * Well animal veterinary care, including dental care
- * Emergency medical care (in some cases, to treat abuse injuries)
- * Pet socialization training (judged necessary for some pets from domestic violence situations) and assistance with the pet's psychological adjustment to sheltering
- * Feline HIV blood testing (in one of the two cases this was mentioned, the testing was requested by a fosterer who already had pet cats of her own)
- * Implanting microchips for pet identification

- * Humane education (programs teaching kindness and compassion toward animals) for children of women who are battered
- * Summer camp for children of women in shelter
- * Transportation of pets to other jurisdictions (in one case, a trucker volunteered to transport a woman's pet from the West Coast to Florida at no cost; in another, an airline donated the cost for a pet's flight from the Northwest to Nevada)

Budget and physical plant issues in providing SHP program services. Respondents were asked if the operation of SHP programs impacted the animal welfare agencies' budgets and physical plant resources. For the domestic violence agency respondents, this question was not applicable for three (14.3%) respondents and six (28.6%) referred me to the animal welfare agencies for this information. Seven (33.3%) respondents reported that operating SHP programs did not have an impact on animal welfare budgets or physical plant resources and five (23.8%) reported that they did have an impact. The latter respondents noted the following issues: space can be a problem at some of the smaller animal shelters and some requests for pet sheltering have had to be denied for this reason (in the case of one small facility, when a SHP program pet is accepted it means a pet already sheltered will have to be euthanized – women are **not** told this may happen), the veterinarian providing shelter may run out of space, and financing the SHP program can sometimes be a challenge.

Nine (45%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported that operating the SHP program had not significantly affected their budgets or physical plant resources and eleven (55%) reported that it did. Of these latter respondents, eight mentioned the financial stress associated with providing free shelter for pets (one agency has to charge women for the service on a sliding scale and the respondent noted that they wished they did not have to do this; another agency once spent \$600 per month to privately board pets since no humane society shelter is available in their locality), three mentioned problems with limited space and concern with the possible displacement of animals that could be adopted, and one reported concern about their inability to isolate, for health reasons, SHP program pets from other animals because the shelter was too small.

Funding SHP programs. Respondents were asked if their own agencies funded the operation of the SHP programs. For the domestic violence agency respondents, four (19%)

reported funding the programs on their own and one (4.8%) reported using volunteer resources. Three (14.3%) agencies share program costs with the animal welfare agencies and thirteen (61.9%) rely completely on animal welfare agencies to bear program costs. Some costs are defrayed by donations specifically made to SHP programs and through fundraising.

Eighteen (90%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported that their agencies funded all costs of the SHP programs, one (5%) did not, and the question was not applicable for one (5%) other respondent whose program was just starting. Funds had also been raised from donations, fundraising events, and, in one case, a grant from Petsmart.

Respondents were asked if the women using the SHP program services were ever charged for any of the costs of sheltering or for their pets' medical care while in shelter. Two (9.5%) of the domestic violence agency respondents did not know if women were charged for any of the costs of either sheltering or medical care. With regard to charging for sheltering costs, one (4.8%) respondent did not have this information and the question was not applicable for another (4.8%). Women were not charged for any of the costs of sheltering according to seventeen (80.9%) respondents. With regard to medical care costs, four (19%) respondents did not have this information, two (9.5%) had no experiences where women had these needs, and the question was not applicable for one (4.8%) respondent. Although eight (38.1%) respondents reported that women were not charged for pet medical care four of the eight qualified their responses by noting that women were either asked for donations or charged on a sliding scale. Four (19%) reported that women were charged but three respondents qualified their answers by noting that women were never refused these services, charges were only levied for non-critical medical care, or women were loaned funds to pay for these medical costs.

For the animal welfare agency respondents, nineteen (95%) reported that women were not charged any of the costs of sheltering pets and one (5%) respondent noted that women were charged only if they failed to retrieve their pets after repeated contacts by the agency (but the respondent also noted that this policy had not been enforced). With regard to charges for medical costs, ten (50%) respondents reported not charging women and the question was not applicable for one (5%) respondent. Nine (45%) respondents reported charging women on a sliding scale or at a reduced rate, asking women to pay on an

installment plan, or using a fund designated for treating injured animals if women could not pay.

Since the costs associated with sheltering pets in SHP programs may be significant, especially if shelter is required for a lengthy period of time, respondents were asked if their agencies had ever tried to recoup these costs from batterers. Only one (4.8%) domestic violence agency respondent reported ever attempting this. It occurred in a single case but the woman's attorney dropped pet sheltering costs from the lawsuit since the woman's own domestic violence shelter expenses were so substantial. Twenty (95.2%) respondents had not attempted to recoup pet sheltering cost from batterers or had never considered this as an option. One respondent noted that the domestic violence shelter did not incur any expenses from SHP program cases. Another noted that this issue might be considered in their agency's discussion of restitution by batterers and a third respondents remarked that my question about this had given her an idea about ways to pursue recouping sheltering costs from batterers.

None of the animal welfare agency respondents had tried to recoup pet sheltering costs from batterers although one respondent noted that they might consider this in the future if the agency had treated a pet's injury that was a result of the batterer's abuse.

RECOMMENDATION – It is clear that operating SHP programs may place financial demands on some animal sheltering programs, especially when requests for services compete with non-SHP program needs. Agencies have developed a number of creative ways of funding SHP program costs including designated donations, conducting fundraising events, and dedicating a portion of existing operating costs to SHP program pets. Agencies should uniformly track the costs associated with each SHP program case and consider these costs as donations (e.g., when fosterers or veterinarians are sheltering pets) or in-kind contributions. The potential tax deductibility of these costs may be an attraction for some who provide shelter and medical care for SHP program pets.

Evaluating SHP programs

Assessing client and agency satisfaction with SHP programs. Respondents were asked if their agencies assessed women clients' satisfaction with SHP program services and

agencies' satisfaction with the operation of SHP programs. Eight (38.1%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported some assessment of client satisfaction, usually at the time of the woman's exit interview at completion of her shelter stay. Three (14.3%) respondents reported informal assessment of client satisfaction and one (4.8%) planned such assessments in the future. Eight (38.1%) respondents noted that they did not ask clients about their satisfaction with SHP program services but a number remarked that this would be a good idea for including in future program development. The question was not applicable for one respondent (4.8%). Five (23.8%) respondents reported formal or informal assessment of the animal welfare programs' satisfaction with the operation of SHP programs and one (4.8%) respondent said assessment was planned. The remaining respondents (71.4%) were not assessing agency satisfaction or the question was not applicable for their programs (e.g., cases where pets were sheltered at the domestic violence site).

Two (10%) animal welfare agency respondents reported that client satisfaction was assessed and seven (35%) others reported informal assessments. Four (20%) respondents reported planning such assessments in the future and seven (35%) reported that assessments were not made. Nine (45%) respondents reported either formally or informally assessing the domestic violence agencies' satisfaction with the SHP program and three (15%) planned to conduct assessments in the future. Eight (40%) respondents did not assess agency satisfaction.

RECOMMENDATION – The continued operation and evolution of SHP programs should be informed by feedback from women clients using the programs and dialogue between the collaborating agencies. Assessment of client and agency satisfaction need not be a cumbersome process. Women could be asked two simple questions either at their exit interviews from the domestic violence programs or at their final contacts with the animal welfare programs: “What did you find helpful about the SHP program?” and, “Are there ways the program could be improved?” Agency satisfaction could be assessed in a similar manner and the feedback used to enhance program operation and identify trouble spots. Assessing animal welfare agency satisfaction is also a method of affirming the value of the services offered by these agencies.

Evaluating SHP programs. Respondents were asked if their agencies were evaluating the general success of their SHP programs. Four (19%) of the domestic violence agency respondents reported formal or informal evaluations in place and three (14.3%) reported that evaluations were planned for the future. Thirteen (61.9%) respondents reported that the SHP programs were not being evaluated and the question was not applicable for one (4.8%) respondent. Ten (50%) of the animal welfare agency respondents reported conducting formal or informal program evaluations and three (15%) reported planning to conduct them. Seven (35%) respondents noted that program evaluations were not being conducted.

Respondents were asked about the types of data their agencies tracked to document use of the SHP programs. (It should be noted that these data could be incorporated into program evaluations.) Tracking the number of women using the SHP program was reported by fourteen (66.7%) of the domestic violence agency respondents and sixteen (80%) of the animal welfare agency respondents. Tracking the number of pets sheltered was reported by eleven (52.4%) of the domestic violence agency respondents and fifteen (75%) of the animal welfare agency respondents. Tracking costs was reported by three (14.3%) of the domestic violence agency respondents and seven (35%) of the animal welfare agency respondents. Only one (4.8%) domestic violence agency respondent and two (10%) animal welfare agency respondents reported tracking costs associated with the SHP programs. A handful (three) of the 41 programs tracked volunteer hours or the number of telephone inquiries related to the SHP programs.

RECOMMENDATION – Although program evaluation is often perceived as an onerous task, agencies operating SHP programs should attempt to collect basic data about the use of their services. In many cases, agencies are already doing this by using forms similar to the examples included in the appendix at the end of this document. At a minimum, agencies should maintain monthly records of the number of women inquiring about or using SHP program services, the number and types of pets sheltered, the duration of pet sheltering, estimates of the costs of pet sheltering, and the final disposition of each case. This information would not only serve agencies' internal evaluations of SHP programs but could also be used in grant writing or fundraising efforts to illustrate the needs of the agencies and the women they serve.

Respondents' reports of successes and horror stories. One of the most common comments I heard when I asked respondents to describe examples of successful cases related to the SHP programs was, "They are all successes!" In general, the comments highlighted women who were able to now leave their violent homes, animals that were spared abuse, and the frequent happy reunions between women, children, and pets. Some of the comments shared by domestic violence agency respondents were:

- * "...one of the women would take her pets to the animal welfare shelter while she was at work...it allowed her to continue employment without worrying about her pets..."
- * "...she would not have left the relationship otherwise...she regularly visited her pets..."
- * "...SHP provides peace of mind for women..."
- * "...one woman had left abuse but was returning to the batterer because she didn't know we would board her pet bird...when she learned that we would, she did not return to the batterer..."
- * "...she visited her dog every day it was sheltered, later was able to buy a home and move into it with her dog...at Christmas time, she "adopted" a family at the domestic violence shelter for Sub-for Santa because she wanted to give something back for all that was done for her..."
- *

And from animal welfare agency respondents:

- * "...a woman with two disabled children and pet dogs was able to stay at the shelter, and the kids and dogs were really in love...without SHP, she would have gone back to the batterer..."
- * "...a woman with two daughters and three horses (one of whom had been abused by the batterer) was able to leave...we boarded the horses for four months...she relocated and found a job on a ranch with a need for trail horses!"
- * "an elderly woman had been shot by her husband and was in a coma...we boarded her pets for her while she was at the hospital and when she came out of the coma, her first phone call was to check on the pets...the reunion was wonderful..."
- * "...one of our former clients who had to relinquish her own pets is now a fosterer in the SHP program..."

- * "...this woman had a Ph.D., three children, and seven pets...she transported them all to the shelter...she visited the pets every day for seven weeks, eventually retrieved the pets and was able to relocate..."
- * "...happy reunions...one woman has become an SPCA volunteer..."
- * "...it has saved some animals..."

Fortunately, respondents shared few examples of horror stories related to the operation of SHP programs (there were horror stories but they related to pet abuse and domestic violence, not the SHP programs). The examples that were cited by both the domestic violence and animal welfare agency respondents most often related to cases where animals had been abandoned (N=2) or instances where a woman showed up to retrieve her pets with the batterer accompanying her (N=2). In one other case, there was a breach of confidentiality and the batterer was told where the pet was being sheltered. Luckily, violence did not ensue.

Perceived benefits of the SHP programs. Respondents from both agencies were asked to identify what they believed were the benefits resulting from the availability and operation of their SHP programs, Domestic violence agency respondents reported the following benefits:

- * Allows women to leave and sends the message that domestic violence affects all family members, including pets
- * Makes a difference in whether or not women will come to a domestic violence shelter, allows women to stay at the shelter longer, and demonstrates to woman that she can "make it on her own" with her pet and without the batterer
- * Ensures safety and, because children identify with pets, if children know the pets are safe, they feel safer themselves
- * Women have come to the domestic violence shelter who would not have otherwise come and some of these women have been hurt protecting their pets in the past
- * Helps a woman feel empowered to protect her family and helps them feel safe
- * Women have the opportunity to focus on their own needs without worrying about their pets
- * The children benefit because they are no longer frightened about what will happen to their pets
- * More women are now able to achieve safety

- * Provides another avenue for women to escape abuse
- * Increases public awareness about family violence and has fostered collaboration with another agency
- * SHP programs remove one more obstacle in the way of women's decision to leave
- * Women are less likely to minimize animal abuse, in contrast to their own victimization, and are therefore more likely to acknowledge the dangerousness of their circumstances
- * For a few women, the availability of the SHP program is the critical factor in their decisions to leave batterers

The benefits identified by the animal welfare agency respondents included many statements similar to those just noted and the following additional benefits:

- * The SHP program acknowledges the importance of attachment to pets and has saved human and animal lives
- * Animal welfare staff are now viewed as professional interested in many of the same issues as domestic violence professionals
- * Has heightened animal welfare awareness of the problem of pet abuse in families experiencing domestic violence
- * Has increased collaboration among domestic violence staff, animal welfare staff, and the prosecuting attorney
- * Human services agencies are now more aware of the link between animal abuse and domestic violence and the SHP program has been a "feel good" experience for the animal welfare agency
- * Has helped the veterinary medical students practice community service and put them in contact with low-income clients
- * Creates animal welfare agency pride in their ability to provide this service
- * Reuniting with her pet provides a woman with a significant source of support after she has completed the domestic violence program
- * Demonstrates that the animal welfare program is willing to expend funds on a human services need and local politicians have viewed this very favorably
- * The availability of the SHP program conveys a sense of empathy with women's needs and demonstrates an emphasis on nonviolence

Respondents were asked if they had received feedback from women who had used SHP program services and/or from the collaborating agencies. Three (14.3%) domestic violence agency respondents reported that their programs had not yet been in operation long enough for this to occur. The remaining eighteen (85.7%) respondents described uniformly positive feedback from women. Example of the respondents' statements included: "thrilled the SHP program exists", "women are relieved, happy – there's been a good response", "women love it and are happy with the care their pets receive", "counselors are glad the program exists", and "all are pleased." One animal welfare agency has been nominated, by the domestic violence agency, for an award for their SHP program. A few respondents also noted isolated cases where problems had arisen - one woman failed to return for her pet and never notified the animal welfare agency, finding space for pets has sometimes been a challenge, and, in the case where a woman was charged with animal abuse, there was some disagreement between agencies on how this case was handled.

Four (20%) animal welfare agency respondents reported that they had not yet received feedback from either women or the domestic violence agencies but the remaining sixteen (80%) respondents reported receiving overwhelmingly positive feedback. Some of the comments women using SHP services offered included: "this has changed my life", "I couldn't have left without this program", "I'm very grateful", and "SHP has helped me get to a better place." In one case, some confusion about a cat's medical care while it was being sheltered had resulted in the need to amputate one of the cat's legs. Even in this case, the woman remarked, "your program still helped to keep my cat alive." Feedback from the domestic violence agencies was also reported as positive. The agencies were described as pleased with the valuable service provided and one domestic violence agency publicly supported the value of the animal welfare agency's efforts at a local government Board of Supervisors meeting.

Impact of the SHP programs on the communities' perceptions of the collaborating agencies. Fifteen (37%) of the respondents from the 41 agencies were not able to provide information on public and community reaction to the SHP programs because the programs are not advertised or are operated on a strictly confidential basis. The remaining respondents were able to provide their perceptions of public response and samples of their comments are listed below.

From domestic violence agency respondents:

- * "SHP has opened the door to public attention on this issue...it reaches a whole other segment of the population of potential clients who otherwise might not access domestic violence services..."
- * "Good community support...people perceive that the shelter has a 'complete', comprehensive program and this has helped fund raising..."
- * "The domestic violence board of directors are very favorable about SHP..."
- * "People are excited about this service especially when it's mentioned in outreach presentations..."
- * "The media has been very pleased about the collaboration..."
- * "We can talk about collaboration with [the animal welfare agency] with great joy..."

From animal welfare agency respondents:

- * "Effect has been astronomical...many did not know about the link between animal abuse and domestic violence..."
- * "Very positive...community fundraisers often target the SHP program for receipt of donations..."
- * "Strictly positive...many are surprised that the humane society is doing this..."
- * "We have conducted joint fundraisers with the domestic violence program...we have received good press and media coverage..."
- * "...[the availability of SHP] has resulted in expressions of relief from social service agencies..."
- * "the veterinary student organization [that established the SHP program] recently swept all the Mortar Board service awards at the university..."
- * "...this add a 'people dimension' to our animal-welfare work..."
- * "SHP has raised the community's confidence in both our organizations..."
- * "...has shown that animal welfare is part of an overall program in violence prevention and this has helped in getting legislative support [for more stringent animal cruelty laws]..."

It has been a privilege to conduct and complete a project that highlights the efforts of two groups of professionals whose mutual interest in and compassion for women, children, and animals has resulted in guiding so many to safe havens and a hope for security.

Without the help of the forty-one generous and committed professionals who endured my seemingly endless questions, *Safe Havens for Pets* could never have been written. My sincere hope is that the material contained in this book will serve as a useful guide for programs considering ways to protect women and children by keeping their animals safe as well. And the dream I have is there will come a time when SHP programs are no longer needed, are considered obsolete because we will have made peace in families a reality for all.

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APPENDIX

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SHP Sample Brochures, Policies, and Forms

Feedback form for evaluating this publication

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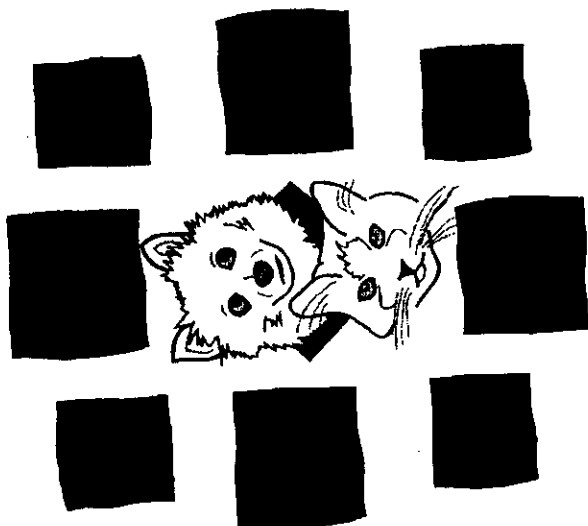
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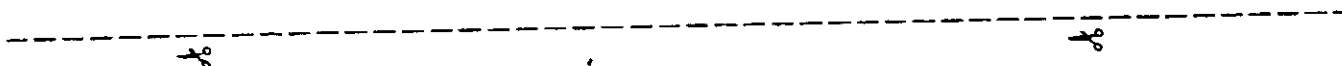


PetSafe

Help for Pets in Crisis



Center for the Human-Animal Bond
School of Veterinary Medicine
Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN 47907-1243



☐ Please send me more information about the PetSafe program.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

☐ I am enclosing a donation in the form of a personal check for \$ _____

☐ I am enclosing \$10 per copy. \$10 x _____ (number of copies) \$ _____

☐ I am enclosing \$10 per copy. \$10 x _____ (number of copies) \$ _____

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(Please make check payable to Purdue Foundation/SVM—PetSafe)



What is PetSafe?

PetSafe is a program that provides short-term emergency housing for pets owned by individuals or families in crisis.

Where are the animals housed?

Animals are housed at Purdue University's School of Veterinary Medicine.

Who takes care of the pets?

Under the supervision of hospital veterinarians, veterinary student volunteers take care of the animals.

Emergency Housing

There are times when individuals or families find themselves in need of emergency housing. Homes might be lost to natural disasters such as fire or tornadoes. Adults and children may seek emergency shelter to escape domestic violence. Until now, it has been difficult to keep families and pets together during times of crisis. The PetSafe program was developed by Purdue University's School of Veterinary Medicine and the Department of Sociology and Anthropology in the School of Liberal Arts to meet the short-term housing needs for pets of individuals or families in crisis. Animals are cared for by student volunteers under the supervision of a veterinarian. Initial funding for this unique program was provided by Hills Pet Nutrition, Inc. Continuing funding is provided by the Indiana Veterinary Medical Association and other sources.

There is no charge to the pet owner for the services provided and families are invited to visit their pets while they are being cared for. Student volunteers will facilitate the visits.

PetSafe provides free of charge:

- ❖ Up to three weeks of board
 - ❖ Vaccinations, if necessary
 - ❖ Food and water
 - ❖ Daily one-on-one care
 - ❖ Family visitation
- PetSafe is a program of Purdue University's *Center for the Human-Animal Bond*. The Center serves as a resource for people and organizations that want to encourage and maintain relationships between humans and animals for the benefit of both. Tax-deductible donations to PetSafe are used to further the program's efforts to help the animals in need of care, and are greatly appreciated.

Please make gifts payable to:

Purdue Foundation/SVM—PetSafe

Send to:

Dr. Alan Beck
Center for the Human-Animal Bond
School of Veterinary Medicine
Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN 47907-1243

How to contact the program:

The PetSafe program is one link in a chain of community services that exist to help families in times of crisis. If you, or someone you know, are in an emergency situation requiring housing for you and your pet(s), we encourage you to take the following steps:

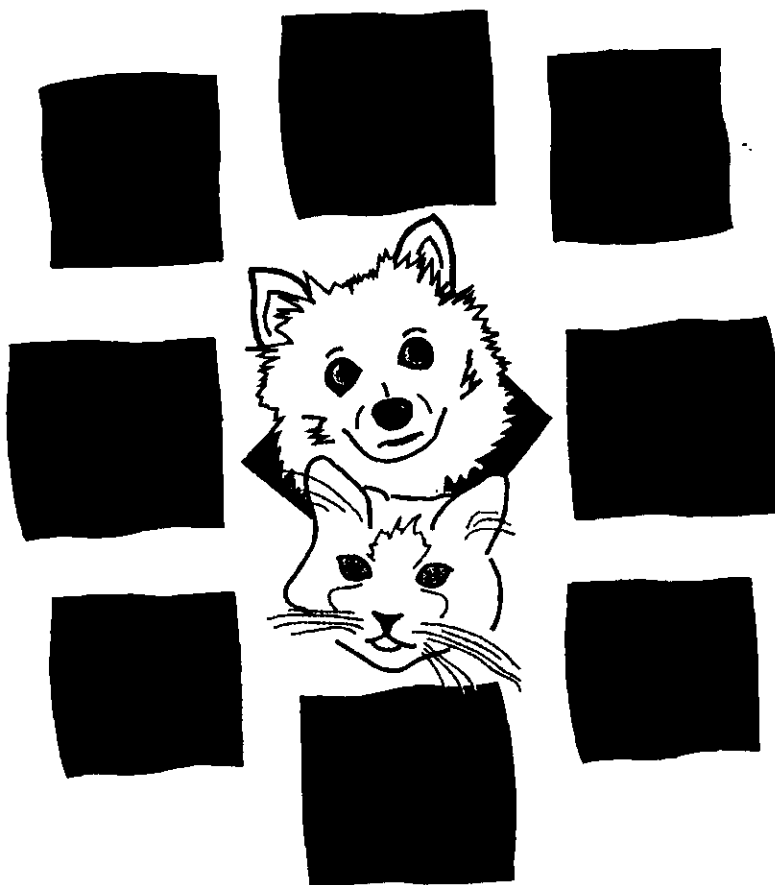
- ❖ Contact the Women's Shelter or other appropriate agencies in your community and arrange your own housing needs.
- ❖ Ask an agency representative to call (765) 494-1107 and speak to a PetSafe contact person.

Admission to the PetSafe program will provide short-term housing for your pet(s) and should be made through an appropriate agency.

Funding for PetSafe provided by the Indiana Veterinary Medical Association, Hills Pet Nutrition, Inc., and The Pet Care Trust.

Dr. Alan Beck
Center for the Human-Animal Bond
School of Veterinary Medicine
Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN 47907-1243





PetSafe Programs

What are they?

What do they do?

How can you start or support a
PetSafe program in your community?



Center for the Human-Animal Bond
School of Veterinary Medicine
Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN 47907

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*Funding for this booklet
provided by
The Pet Care Trust.*

Reflections and Comments

"Participation in PetSafe helps students think outside of the traditional 'box' and challenges them to think about new and different ways they can personally and professionally serve people and their pets."

*RICHARD GOEBEL, DVM,
DIRECTOR, PURDUE UNIVERSITY VETERINARY TEACHING HOSPITAL*

"What better way to care for pets and people than to help them through moments of crisis?"

*RUTH LANDAU, SOPHOMORE VETERINARY STUDENT,
PURDUE UNIVERSITY*

"It's a chance to get hands-on animal experience. It gets us out of the books and into real life again."

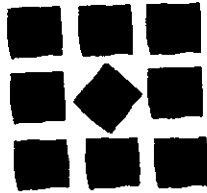
*KELLY LOCKERMAN, SENIOR VETERINARY STUDENT,
PURDUE UNIVERSITY*

"It gives us a good opportunity to practice our physical examination skills. We make sure they're watered, fed, and exercised. The animals are being cared for by professionals."

JAN LACEY, SENIOR VETERINARY STUDENT, PURDUE UNIVERSITY

"Thank you for helping our client find temporary shelter for her cats through your PetSafe program. It is great to know that there are individuals like you who care so much about pets and their owners. Our client's cats are very important to her, and she would not have them to come home to if it were not for your efforts."

*JENNIFER HILL, PROGRAM COORDINATOR,
MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION IN TIPPECANOE COUNTY*



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Section One

INTRODUCTION

History

Inspired by the "Allpets Clinic," a 24-hour emergency practice in Boulder, Colorado, PetSafe began in 1994 in response to the needs of the Lafayette, Indiana, YWCA Domestic Violence Intervention and Prevention Program. Today, pets requiring short-term emergency housing due to family crises arrive at Purdue University's Small Animal Hospital where they are temporarily cared for by volunteer veterinary students. PetSafe helps families keep their pets, thereby maintaining and validating the human-animal bond. By increasing the support and options for pet-owning families in crisis, we hope to reduce the risk of injury and death to both pets and people. Family members who stay in dangerous situations because they do not want to leave their pets behind now have an alternative to abandoning their pets.

Veterinary schools and practitioners throughout the country have contacted the PetSafe staff at Purdue University requesting practical how-to information and guidelines for developing PetSafe programs in their schools and community practices. This manual is intended to facilitate the start-up of similar programs in veterinary schools nationwide and in communities throughout Indiana and other states. It outlines a step-by-step approach by which veterinary school student organizations, regional veterinary practitioners, humane society workers, and domestic violence intervention and prevention workers can establish programs to assist those whose pets need emergency short-term housing due to family crises. (For the purpose of this manual, "family crisis" is used to encompass a broad range of situations: loss of housing due to fire, flood, tornado; sudden catastrophic illness; incarceration; or domestic violence.) The publication provides practical guidelines and procedures to work effectively with existing community agencies and resources to help families in crisis. A related PetSafe video will be available soon, as well. The information provided may be modified and customized to meet the specific needs of individual organizations.

Background

There are times when individuals or families find themselves in need of emergency housing. Sometimes, homes are lost to natural disasters such as fire or tornadoes. Frequently, women and children seek emergency shelter to escape domestic violence. A 1996 survey of shelters for women who are battered reveals that *more than 85 percent of the pet-owning women entering shelters nationwide mention incidents of pet abuse* (Ascione et al. 1997). Clearly there is a national need for programs like PetSafe.

Between the time of its inception and the printing of this material, PetSafe has housed approximately 45 animals, 90 percent of which are owned by women entering the Lafayette YWCA Domestic Violence Intervention and Prevention Program. Approximately 15 student volunteers have provided pet care for dogs, cats, birds, guinea pigs, hamsters, and fish. By providing such care, students and practitioners make a concrete, positive contribution to families in crisis.



Problem: Provision of short-term emergency housing to pets owned by individuals or families in crisis.

Solution: Establishment of PetSafe.



Survey: We'd like to have your response to this manual. Please take a moment to detach page 19, complete, and mail the survey.

Section Two

DEFINING SERVICES

Purdue University's Small Animal Hospital Faculty created PetSafe to meet the community need for short-term animal care for families in crisis. We believe in the importance of family pets and the need to preserve the human-animal bond, *especially* in stressful times. PetSafe provides an opportunity:

- ✦ for veterinary students and practitioners to make a positive difference in their community.
- ✦ for important community service: the short-term housing of animals for families in crisis.
- ✦ to obtain data on the role of pets in families experiencing crisis.
- ✦ to document the benefits of providing a safe space for pets of families in crisis.
- ✦ to obtain data on the health of animals owned by families in crisis.

At Purdue University, student PetSafe volunteers meet every other month to:

- ✦ discuss and understand the importance of pets in families, especially in families where abuse may be occurring and where the pet is an especially important source of support for family members.
- ✦ discuss and understand the relationship between domestic violence and pet abuse, and the veterinarian's role in breaking the cycle of abuse.
- ✦ train student volunteers in client-clinician relationships, especially under stressful conditions.
- ✦ review basic animal care.

Section Three

ORGANIZING THE PetSafe NETWORK

What is needed to start a PetSafe program?

To start a PetSafe program and care for animals in your community you need:

- ✦ a facility to house the animals.
- ✦ a person willing to care for the animals.
- ✦ a phone.

Through organization and networking, this minimum structure can be expanded so that the needs of all animals in a community can be met. The program can also be expanded to meet the health needs and provide spay/neuter services to the animals in the program. If PetSafe is part of a larger entity such as a Veterinary Teaching Hospital, it is important to gain acceptance from the director or governing bodies. Purdue's positive track record can be used to highlight the benefits for the entire institution.

How is the Purdue PetSafe program organized?

The organization of a PetSafe program is determined by the availability of student volunteers, clinician volunteers, and veterinary facilities. At Purdue, volunteers are recruited from the School of Veterinary Medicine. Veterinary medical and veterinary technology students are invited to join PetSafe at the beginning of the academic year, and are asked to make a year-long commitment. A volunteer database and phone tree are created each semester to provide a clear picture of available support staff. In the future, students from other departments (Pre-Vet Club, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, Department of Psychological Sciences, School of Education, Women's Studies Program) may be invited to team up with a veterinary student partner to form a Volunteer Care Team. At Purdue, PetSafe's affiliation with the Small Animal Emergency Club provides a solution to after-hours coverage, because emergency club members can be reached by pager at any time. Ideally, two veterinarian faculty members serve as facilitators: one faculty member being responsible for family contact and student supervision; the other taking responsibility for animal care.

How does the Purdue PetSafe program operate?

Once an animal in need of shelter is identified, it is brought to the Purdue University Small Animal Hospital. Transporting the pet to the University is the responsibility of either the owner or another reliable party (agent). A staff veterinarian and veterinary student volunteers examine the PetSafe animal, recording as complete a history as possible. If the animal is a dog or a cat with an unknown or incomplete vaccination record, the animal is vaccinated. It is then admitted into the Small Animal Hospital. For the duration of the animal's stay in the hospital (up to three weeks), PetSafe student volunteers are responsible for daily examinations and exercise. Kennel staff feed the animal and clean its cage. When appropriate, visitation between the pet and family members is arranged. The PetSafe student volunteers are present during visitation. Upon the pet's discharge, PetSafe students provide the owners with a discharge letter describing all treatments given to the animal and outlining proper feeding and husbandry practices for the particular pet.

How do families in crisis find out about PetSafe?

At Purdue, we informed the following agencies of Tippecanoe County, Indiana, about our services: Tippecanoe County Humane Society, The Salvation Army, American Red Cross, Lafayette Transitional Housing, YWCA Domestic Violence Intervention and Prevention Program, animal control officers, religious congregations, and police and fire departments. These agencies screen the families and bring the animals to us. This provides anonymity for the families and prevents abuse of our services by individuals who might use PetSafe as a free boarding service.

In your community there may be one veterinary teaching hospital and several small animal practices interested in collaborating in this effort. In the event that a family in crisis must board its pet(s) for more than three weeks, a network of participating veterinarians may help defray the cost of kenneling and vaccinations.

How can university-based PetSafe programs network with local veterinarians who offer back-up support in the form of boarding and veterinary care?

As you launch your university-based PetSafe program, there may be times when local veterinary clinics in your community will provide back-up support and care for a PetSafe animal, especially to those animals who need longer-term care than your facility can provide. Those veterinarians who participate in the PetSafe network and provide back-up support need some assurance that their services will not be misused. At times a practice or PetSafe provider may have the owner or the owner's agent sign a post-dated abandonment or donation form. We found it helpful to supply the participating local veterinarian with:

1. A private practitioner agreement letter available that includes the following statements:
 - a. After three weeks of free board at the university PetSafe program, the animal(s) will be boarded at a private clinic at 1/2 price for up to three additional weeks.
 - b. The owner agrees to contact the PetSafe veterinarian weekly (in-person, by mail, or by phone), updating him or her as to the owner's plans regarding the retrieval of the pet.
2. A standard letter, stating that the participating veterinarian is providing charity services in the form of discounted or pro bono veterinary care, that serves as a receipt for tax purposes.
3. A supply of PetSafe brochures that the veterinarian can display in his or her clinic.

What is the cost of operating the PetSafe program?

Startup funding for Purdue's PetSafe Program was provided by a grant from Hill's Pet Nutrition, Inc. Additional funding has come from the Indiana Veterinary Medical Association, the Indiana Campus Compact, Community Service Grant, and private donations. The nominal per diem charge is paid from those funds and there is no charge to the clients for routine care. At the time of this printing, \$2 per cat and \$3 per dog covers kennel space, food, vaccinations, flea dip, and deworming. Currently, we are trying to raise funds to cover spay/neuter medical care. Your veterinary school or regional practice may be able to provide a goodwill (i.e., pro bono) spay or neuter program.

What is the purpose of an information database?

In moments of crisis, it is helpful to be able to locate PetSafe volunteers quickly. We are developing an information database, the "Information Application for Volunteers in the PetSafe Network," which will allow us to identify quickly and easily all PetSafe providers in any city or state in the nation. Such a database could prove to be useful on both small and large scales: an individual family may need short-term help with one pet, while disaster planners may need help with 100 pets. Easy access to a pool of volunteers would expedite care in critical times.

■ Section Four

INTAKE AND INITIAL TREATMENT REPORT

Notification of a crisis requires immediate response and leaves little time for planning. We have found the following step-by-step procedure useful. Procedures can be tailored to fit your particular PetSafe program:

1. PetSafe makes its services known to agencies (i.e., Salvation Army, Women's Shelter).
2. An agency calls PetSafe and arranges for pet drop-off.
3. An agency officer or owner drops off pet(s) and signs the admission forms (see *PetSafe Admission Agreement* and *PetSafe Patient Information* in the Appendices).
4. A PetSafe veterinarian is contacted and examines the pet thoroughly. A medical record is established with the pet's signalment and agency name and address listed in the record. On a separate form, known as the Domestic Violence Intervention and Prevention Plan, the owner's address and phone number (if available) have been recorded. This protects the privacy and confidentiality of the owner.
5. A PetSafe student volunteer is contacted and enlisted to exercise and examine the pet daily.
6. A student/vet team provides needed care such as vaccinations, ear cleaning, etc. Treatment and findings are recorded in the pet's medical record.
7. The kennel staff is notified to feed the pet and clean its cage.
8. The PetSafe supervisor contacts the referring agency to arrange visitation, if desired.
9. Discharge: See Discharge Procedures on page 6.



Section Five

DISCHARGE AND FOLLOW-UP PROCEDURES

Discharge Procedures

There are three different possible discharge scenarios:


1. The pet is released to its owner with a discharge letter describing all treatments given to the animal and outlining proper feeding and husbandry.
2. The pet goes into "foster care" from several weeks to several months. The animal is eventually either returned to the owner or adopted. (We are continuously seeking names of potential foster families.)
3. The pet is abandoned. An initial abandonment letter is sent asking how PetSafe can help the family. A second abandonment letter is sent stating that the family must respond or ownership rights will be forfeited. A final letter is sent stating that the final disposition of the animal is the prerogative of PetSafe.

Follow-up Interviews

Providing a safe space for pets during family crises is the primary goal of PetSafe. We are interested also in developing a second level of service that includes follow-up interviews with families who have used our services. By conducting follow-up interviews with families, student volunteers, and veterinarians, we can improve the quality of our program and gain a clearer picture of how our services are being utilized. To offer the families privacy and confidentiality, the completion of these follow-up interviews must be voluntary.

Record Keeping

Information tracking serves two functions. First, it allows us to keep accurate health records for each PetSafe animal, which may aid in the pet's future veterinary care. Second, it provides factual data on the number of animals that are either kept, abandoned, or abused by families in crises.


It is our goal to maintain the family-pet bond, not to sever it. To date 95 percent of our PetSafe pets have been reunited with their owners; the remaining 5 percent were adopted by a third party.

Section Six

WORKING WITH COMMUNITY AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS

Training Workshop for Agencies

Local agency guidelines and procedures for contacting PetSafe vary from agency to agency. Agencies such as the YWCA Domestic Violence Intervention and Prevention Program, Tippecanoe County Humane Society, Lafayette Transitional Housing, American Red Cross, and others each have individual criteria for determining when to contact PetSafe. To facilitate communication, we recommend holding an annual one-hour workshop to inform agency members about PetSafe. If requested, hold one-on-one meetings with individual agencies.

Our guidelines for making referrals to PetSafe are very simple:

"If you encounter a situation in which you need emergency housing for a pet or have questions concerning the PetSafe Program, call the provided telephone number and ask to speak to a PetSafe representative." It is very important to have a single contact number to facilitate communication between agencies and the PetSafe program.



PetSafe Brochure

Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine's brochure, *PetSafe: Help for Pets in Crisis*, briefly answers the following questions: What is PetSafe? Where are the animals housed? Who takes care of the pets? Who uses its services? Is there a charge? How do I contact the program? How can I help support the program?

Section Seven

SCENARIOS

Scenario 1: Fire

It was 3 a.m. in Scranton, Pennsylvania, and the fire department finally extinguished the last of the flames in Jim Green's apartment. Jim and his dog, Skipper, were new in town and knew no one with whom they could spend the night. The local veterinarian ran a PetSafe program, but it was only staffed to receive pets during business hours. The fire department, part of the Scranton PetSafe network, offered to keep Skipper overnight in a crate provided by PetSafe while Jim slept in the Emergency Housing Shelter.

The next morning Jim picked up Skipper at the fire department and got a ride to the PetSafe program at the vet's office. He filled out the *PetSafe Admission Agreement* and *PetSafe Patient Information Form* to the best of his ability, but didn't remember if Skipper was up-to-date on his vaccinations. Unfortunately,

his dog's records were in ashes from the fire. The PetSafe volunteers explained that they would vaccinate, feed, water, and care for Skipper while Jim looked for new housing. They assured him that he could schedule daily visits, and that all services would be provided free of charge. Jim was very relieved. He scheduled a visit for the next day and left Skipper in good hands while he went to find new housing.

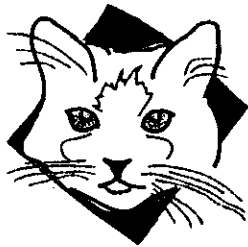
The next day Jim returned. Skipper was delighted to see his owner, and seemed content and well-cared for. Five days later Jim found housing that accepted pets. He signed the *Discharge Information Form*, and he and Skipper headed for their new home.

Scenario 2: Domestic Violence

Rose Johnson tried leaving her violent husband, Robert, on two occasions, but both times Robert was repentant and she returned, hoping things would improve. When again he assaulted Rose, threatened to kill Fluffy and terrorized both of their children, she realized there was no hope for the marriage. The kids, the dog, and Rose were in danger.

For months, Rose's sister had been encouraging her to leave, but Rose couldn't find a place to stay that would allow pets. She thought of what Robert might do to Fluffy, and refused to leave her beloved dog behind. When her sister sent her a Humane Society of the United States brochure, which explained how to leave a violent domestic situation with pets, Rose made a new plan. She heard of the PetSafe program at the veterinary school, and decided it was time to leave.

The next morning, while her husband was in the shower, Rose called the police and asked for an escort to help them leave. An hour later Rose, the kids, and Fluffy were on their way to the Women's Shelter. Once the family was registered at the shelter, a shelter staff member brought Fluffy to the PetSafe program and signed her in. Rose and the kids stayed at the shelter for two weeks, waiting for bus fare from her sister on the east coast. They visited Fluffy twice; on the third visit they signed discharge papers and brought Fluffy to the bus station with them as they all headed east to begin a new life.



Section Eight

PITFALLS, PROBLEMS, AND PROPOSED SOLUTIONS

Since the inception of the PetSafe Program, veterinary schools around the country and practitioners throughout the state have contacted us for suggestions and ideas about how to implement a PetSafe program in their community. Invariably, concerns and questions arise. What follows are several such concerns along with proposed solutions. We welcome any feedback you and your group may have as you create your own PetSafe program.

Concern: We want to run a PetSafe program, but do not have a 24-hour care facility. What do we do if a client shows up in the middle of the night?

Suggestion: It's okay to start a program with limitations. It's better to start out meeting the needs of most clients and to work toward meeting the needs of all clients, than to do nothing. It has been our experience that 98 percent of clients arrive during working hours. For the small number of families that arrive in the middle of the night, you could:

- ❖ Find out if there are any 24-hour emergency veterinary practices in your community who do have space for the overnight stay of a client's pet, but do not want the responsibility of running a PetSafe program. That 24-hour facility could provide overnight care for that animal while enjoying good public acceptance.
- ❖ Find out if your local fire and/or police department will permit a family to leave a crated pet with them overnight. If so, the family could then return in the morning and bring their pet to your PetSafe facility during business hours.
- ❖ Build a network of community members who would be willing to serve as an emergency respite and house an animal overnight.

Concern: We fear that an irate batterer will find our clinic and physically threaten our staff, our clients, and our patients.

Suggestion: Battering most often takes place in the privacy of the home; perpetrators rarely show public displays of violence. Although the possibility exists, no perpetrator has ever threatened our practice. An irate partner who enters our facility and refuses to leave would be arrested for trespassing. This information could be used in court against the batterer if the owner chose to prosecute.

The Women's Shelter and the veterinary school maintain client confidentiality and would not reveal if animals were housed there to non-authorized individuals.

Concern: What if an animal becomes sick or dies while in our care?

Suggestion: Those choosing to enroll pets in the PetSafe program must sign a consent form stating that, in the event of a pet's illness or untimely death, they will not hold PetSafe liable. In the event of illness, we would treat the animal with the understanding that the owner is responsible for the cost of treatment. We would be saddened by the death of a pet and would perform a necropsy to determine the cause of unusual death, but we would not be liable legally. To date no PetSafe animal has ever died while in our care.

Concern: What if an owner drops off a pet and never returns?

Suggestion: In case of abandonment, we suggest contacting the agency who sent the pet, and working back through their contacts. If all efforts to locate the family fail, try to find an adoptive home for the pet. In instances where abandonment seems likely, having a post-dated donation or abandonment agreement will speed the process of securing a new home for the pet. (See Discharge and Follow-Up Procedures on page 6.)

Concern: We are interested in starting our own PetSafe program, but fear that we will be caught up in litigation if we report any suspicions of abuse of either the pet or the owner.

Suggestion: The veterinarian's role in identifying and reporting suspicions of abuse of either the pet or the client is not well defined. In the United States, veterinarians in all states are expected to report suspicions of child abuse, but only Arizona, California, Minnesota, and West Virginia require veterinarians to report suspected cruelty to animals (Patronek 1997). It is our understanding that such suspicions are handled differently in different states. In the state of Indiana, for example, suspicions of animal abuse are reported to the county sheriff. In Michigan, there is an animal control group that fields such calls. We advise you to check with your state and local legislators for more information about reporting abuse in your community. **We are interested in understanding more about this area and welcome your ideas on the subject of mandated reporting of suspected abuse of pets, people, or both.**

Concern: What if a family wants us to board a vicious or aggressive animal?

Suggestion: PetSafe reserves the right to refuse animals. We would encourage the owner of an aggressive pet to pursue other boarding options.



This is just a short list of potential concerns; new situations arise with each new client. Perhaps the most important suggestion is simply to be flexible and use common sense when working with families in crisis.

■ Section Nine

CONCLUSION

PetSafe is a non-profit organization devoted to the short-term care of pets of families in crisis. By providing: up to three weeks' board; vaccinations, if necessary; food and water; daily one-on-one care; and family visitation, PetSafe volunteers are able to provide a much-needed community service to individuals and families facing a crisis. Not only do student participants have a chance to work with pets and people from their communities, but they come to understand the importance of preserving the human-animal bond and learn ways in which a single organization can benefit both pets and people in the community.

■ Section Ten

RESOURCES

Allpets Clinic, Boulder, CO. Owners: Steve and Alice Seigel; Chief of Operations: Diane Johnson. Provides emergency shelter for dogs, cats and birds.

Ascione, Frank R., Weber, Claudia V., Wood, David S. 1997. "The abuse of animals and domestic violence: a national survey of shelters for women who are battered." *Society and Animals*, 5 (3): 6.

Carll, Elizabeth K. 1996. *Developing a comprehensive disaster and crisis response program for mental health: guidelines and procedures*. New York: New York State Psychological Association. (Permission to model the format of this manual after Dr. Elizabeth Carll's publication was granted by the author.)

Patronek, G. 1997. Telephone conversation concerning Tufts Center for Animals and Public Policy. 31 July.

■ Appendices



Appendix 1

PURDUE UNIVERSITY PetSafe ADMISSION AGREEMENT

SAMPLE

The following agreement is made between Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine and the undersigned owner or his or her authorized representative, hereafter referred to as owner/agent.

PetSafe is a Community Service Project that provides short-term emergency housing of pets owned by Tippecanoe County residents who are temporarily unable to care for them.

PetSafe will provide free of charge:

1. Board for up to 21 days (3 weeks)
2. Food, water, and appropriate exercise
3. Vaccinations if needed for admittance into hospital
4. Daily examinations

Charges incurred due to boarding longer than 21 days or for the treatment of medical conditions are not free and will be the responsibility of the animal's owner. This includes treatment of emergency conditions unless the owner or his or her authorized representative specifically prohibits such actions.

1. Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine agrees to receive from the owner/agent the above described animal(s) and provide such diagnostic, therapeutic, surgical and preventative treatment as may be deemed appropriate by the attending professionals.
2. The owner/agent hereby releases Purdue University of all liability by reason of loss of or injury to the animal that may derive from any cause, rendering or failing to render the services enumerated in Item 1 above.
3. Purdue University reserves the right to refuse to admit any animal into this program if it is deemed vicious or unsafe to handle.

Your animal, _____,

will be cared for by _____ and _____.

Contact numbers to reach PetSafe members are:

I have read and understand this agreement.

Owner/Agent _____ Signature _____

Date _____

PetSafe Member Signature _____

Appendix 2

PetSafe PATIENT INFORMATION

SAMPLE

Owner Name _____ Admission Date _____

Contact Agency _____

Emergency Contact _____ Emergency Phone # _____

Pet Name	Breed/Species	Sex	Age	Color	Last Vaccinations
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Has this animal been here before?

Who is your regular veterinarian?

List any problems, or health concerns about the pet(s):

Appendix 3

DISCHARGE INFORMATION

SAMPLE

PetSafe
 Veterinary Teaching Hospital
 Purdue University
 Lynn Hall
 West Lafayette, IN 47907

Date of Admission: _____

Date of Discharge: _____

Medications Received While at Purdue

Pet's Name _____ Pet's Name _____ Pet's Name _____

Vaccination _____ Vaccination _____ Vaccination _____

Other _____ Other _____ Other _____

Comments:

Signatures:

Owner/Agent _____

PetSafe Student or Veterinarian _____

Appendix 5

PetSafe BROCHURE HELP FOR PETS IN CRISIS

Center for the Human-Animal Bond
School of Veterinary Medicine
Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN 47907-1243

SAMPLE

What is PetSafe?

PetSafe is a program that provides short-term emergency housing for pets owned by individuals or families in crisis.

Where are the animals housed?

Animals are housed at Purdue University's School of Veterinary Medicine.

Who takes care of the pets?

Under the supervision of hospital veterinarians, veterinary student volunteers take care of the animals.

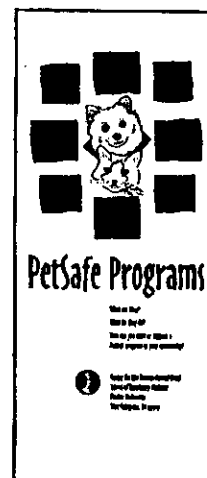
Emergency Housing

There are times when individuals or families find themselves in need of emergency housing. Homes might be lost to natural disasters such as fire or tornadoes. Adults and children may seek emergency shelter to escape domestic violence. Until now, it has been difficult to keep families and pets together during times of crisis. The PetSafe program was developed by Purdue University's School of Veterinary Medicine and the Department of Sociology and Anthropology in the School of Liberal Arts to meet the short-term housing needs for pets of individuals or families in crisis. Animals brought to the Veterinary Teaching Hospital are cared for by student volunteers under the supervision of a veterinarian. Initial funding for this unique program was provided by Hills Pet Nutrition, Inc. Continuing funding is provided by the Indiana Veterinary Medical Association and other sources.

There is no charge to the pet owner for the services provided and families are invited to visit their pets while they are being cared for. Student volunteers will facilitate the visits.

PetSafe provides free of charge:

- ❖ Up to three weeks of board
- ❖ Vaccinations, if necessary
- ❖ Food and water
- ❖ Daily one-on-one care
- ❖ Family visitation



PetSafe is a program of Purdue University's *Center for the Human-Animal Bond*. The Center serves as a resource for people and organizations that want to encourage and maintain relationships between humans and animals for the benefit of both. Tax-deductible donations to PetSafe are used to further the program's efforts to help the animals in need of care, and are greatly appreciated.

Please make gifts payable to:

Purdue Foundation/SVM - PetSafe

Send to:

Dr. Alan M. Beck
Center for the Human-Animal Bond
School of Veterinary Medicine
Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN 47907-1243

How to contact the program:

The PetSafe program is one link in a chain of community services that exist to help families in times of crisis. If you, or someone you know, are in an emergency situation requiring housing for you and your pet(s), we encourage you to take the following steps:

- ✦ Contact the Women's Shelter or other appropriate agencies in your community and arrange your own housing needs.
- ✦ Ask an agency representative to call (765) 494-1107 and speak to a PetSafe contact person.

Admission to the PetSafe program will provide short-term housing for your pet(s) and should be made through an appropriate agency.

Funding for PetSafe has been provided by the Indiana Veterinary Medical Association, Hill's Pet Nutrition, Inc., and The Pet Care Trust.

Appendix 6

SURVEY

The PetSafe manual is continually updated to provide the most effective guidelines possible.
We welcome your feedback!

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-mail address: _____

Tel: _____ Fax: _____

What did you find useful about this guide?

Do you have suggestions on how we can improve this guide?

What are your thoughts on the subject of mandated reporting of suspected abuse,
of either pets or people?

Other comments or suggestions:

☐ Check box if you interested in being on our mailing list:
"Pet Ownership & Domestic Violence"

*Thank you for taking the time to respond. Please remove and mail to:
Center for Human-Animal Bond, School of Veterinary Medicine,
Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907-1243*



ST. HUBERT'S

Animal Welfare Center
MADISON • NORTH BRANCH

ST. HUBERT'S GIRALDA

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Madison, NJ 07940-0159

April 30, 1999

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Utah State University
2810 Old Main Hill
Logan, Utah 84322-2810

Dear Mr. Ascione:

Thank you for including St. Hubert's Tender Loving Critter Care Program in your survey of the link between domestic violence and companion animals. It was very evident that you are doing a comprehensive study of this issue, and I am looking forward to seeing the results.

I am enclosing our forms and a summary of cases through the end of 1998. I hope you find these useful.

I wish you well with your study. The information that you are gathering will surely help many programs around the country to provide more efficient and compassionate service to their clients.

Sincerely,

Carolyn H. Currey
Community Relations Director

Social Service" Agency Use

Welcome to the Temporary Loving Critter Care Program at St. Hubert's Giralda. We are pleased to be able to offer this program to the communities we service and hope it provides some peace of mind knowing that the pet will be well cared for.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Please understand this is a temporary arrangement between yourself and a TLCC Volunteer. By participating in this program, you are not granting ownership to the Caretaker, rather, view this as a temporary "leasing agreement" between yourself and the Caretaker.
2. St. Hubert's does not assume ownership or responsibility for the animal. St. Hubert's role is to act as a network; connecting those in need with those able to help.
3. The Caretaker will foster the animal for a specific amount of time, not to exceed thirty (30) days, as determined at the time the contract is drawn. At the end of the foster period, the agreement may be renewed if the Owner/Agency deems necessary and the Caretaker is agreeable.
4. Kindly reserve this service for those in a crisis situation. This program is not offered to those looking to kennel their animals during vacations or other such non-essential situations. If it is determined at any point that the situation was "non-crisis" or misrepresented in any manner, the animal will be returned immediately and a boarding fee of \$25 per day will be imposed.
5. The Owner must provide proof that all inoculations for their pet are current.
6. The Owner authorizes the Caretaker to obtain emergency medical treatment if needed.

TENDER LOVING CRITTER CARE (TLCC)

PURPOSE:

The objective of the TLCC Program is to provide temporary, emergency shelter for companion animals (owned pets) when the owner is facing a crisis. Crisis can be defined as any personal emergency that would prohibit the proper care of their pets. The program is a cooperative venture between social service agencies and the staff of St. Hubert's.

PROGRAM GUIDELINES:

This program is a multi-agency response to a person in need of emergency service for their pet(s).

- 1) Any person contacting your social service agency who is seeking emergency assistance for themselves or their family and own a companion animal(s), may be advised by the agency that St. Hubert's will provide temporary emergency care for their pet in the event there are no other available options for care.
- 2) Each situation and the circumstances will be evaluated to determine how animal care will occur - in the owner's or volunteer's home.
- 3) St. Hubert's will provide emergency service, 24 hours per day, to pick up companion animals needing shelter when requested by the agency. If possible, local kennels will house animals until the appropriate volunteer has been recruited for care.
- 4) The social service agency is responsible for obtaining a signed release by the pet owner holding St. Hubert's and any foster care provider harmless in the event of animal sickness, injury, or death. The social service agency will also be responsible for providing St. Hubert's with any information pertaining to the care and medical status of the animal including the name of their veterinarian and vaccination status.
- 5) St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Staff will evaluate animals for medical and behavioral concerns prior to placement in the volunteer's home. If necessary, St. Hubert's staff will transport the animals to the veterinarian for medical assistance.

- 6) St. Hubert's will provide volunteers with food and any other materials or equipment necessary to house the animal(s) in their home.
- 7) St. Hubert's will assign volunteers to animal care in the owner's home if circumstances allow limited care and it is deemed appropriate.
- 8) The social service agency must inform the owners of all policies regarding our program and follow-up to ensure continued animal care after the 30 days are over.
- 9) In the event the owner can not assume care after the time period is over, St. Hubert's will become the owner of the animal and determine its future placement.
- 10) The social service agencies must keep St. Hubert's informed of any changes in the client's situation that could impact on the future of the pet and its owner.
- 11) In order to process the request for assistance, please complete the TLCC contract and fax this information to Vivian Kiggins, Program Development Coordinator at St. Hubert's as soon as possible. St. Hubert's will ascertain the best strategy based on the information you provide.
- 12) The duration of placement can not exceed 30 days.

The success of the program depends on the inter-relationships between the social service agencies, St. Hubert's, and the volunteer staff. It is estimated that 25% of the client's in our service area will benefit from such a program.

ST. HUBERT'S GIRALDA
Temporary Loving Critter Care (TLCC)

COMPLETE AND FAX back to St. Hubert's pages 1 through 3:
 The parties hereto agree as follows: The Foster Caretaker signing below hereby acknowledges receipt from St. Hubert's Giralda, the animal described below for foster care; and in accepting this animal, and in consideration for being entrusted with the care, temporary custody and possession of the animal, agrees to be bound by the covenants and conditions stated below.

Foster Caretaker Personal Information

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ County: _____ Zip: _____
 Daytime Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Social Service Agency Information

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ County: _____ Zip: _____
 Daytime Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____
 Case Number: _____

Animal Received

Date: _____ Breed: _____ Sex: _____
 Age: _____ Name: _____
 Medical Condition (if applicable): _____
 Veterinarian: _____
 Veterinarian Phone Number in Case of Emergency: _____
 Animal is to be fostered beginning _____ and
 ending _____.

(2)

Temporary Citter Care Agreement

The parties agree that:

- a) The Foster Caretaker shall provide the animal with good care, including, but not limited to, food, water, shelter, grooming, training and medication as instructed. No other medication will be given by the Caretaker unless specifically instructed by the Owner, St. Hubert's Giralda and/or a designated veterinarian.
- b) The animal shall remain the sole property of the Owner. The Owner grants temporary guardianship to the Caretaker until such time as the Owner may properly care for the animal.
- c) The animal shall be returned upon request of St. Hubert's Giralda if the Foster Caretaker is no longer able to adequately care for the animal, or if the Foster Caretaker is relocating outside New Jersey.
- d) The Foster Caretaker will notify St. Hubert's in the event any change occurs in the above listed address or telephone number for the Foster Caretaker.
- e) St. Hubert's staff will be allowed to inspect the premises in which the animal will be maintained or are maintained, from time to time, for the purpose of determining the suitability of those premises for the care and maintenance of the animal.
- f) The Foster Caretaker understands and acknowledges that s/he does not have any right or authority to keep the foster animal or to place foster animal in other homes or places with other individuals unless permission is given in writing by St. Hubert's.
- g) The Foster Caretaker and the Owner, agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless its employees, owners, agents and Board of Officers from any direct or remote and consequential damages arising out of this foster care arrangement. The Foster Caretaker and the Owner understand that St. Hubert's is merely responsible for arranging the temporary placement of the pet(s).
- h) The Foster Caretaker agrees to follow all oral and/or written additional instructions from the Owner and/or St. Hubert's Giralda.
- i) St. Hubert's Giralda reserves the right to terminate this agreement at any time if it is discovered the arrangement was made under false pretenses. This includes, but is not limited to, the Owner placing the animal in foster care in a non-crisis situation, i.e., vacations.

2A

Temporary Critter Care Agreement

j) The Owner grants permission for the Caretaker to obtain emergency treatment, if so required. The Caretaker agrees to contact the veterinarian the Owner uses.

This contract represents the entire agreement amongst the parties and any modifications will be made in writing and signed by the Foster Caretaker, a representative of the St. Hubert's Foster Care Program and the Owner/Agency.

Social Service Agency Use:

Please complete the following and return by fax with your completed contract. This information must be obtained by the owner.

Type of animal(s):
Neutered:
Temperament:

Breed:
Age:

Weight:
Gender:

Where is the animal at present and is it safe for the time being?

Where is the owner at present?

Are you (the agency) escorting the owner home to pick up the animals? St. Hubert's strongly prefers to receive the animal at your agency.

Have family and friends been contacted to determine if the pet(s) can be temporarily placed with them?

How has the animal been housed at home? Crate trained?

Has the animal ever bitten anyone?

Does the animal get along with other animals? Children?

Is the animal housetrained - litterbox trained?

Does the animal travel well?

Are there any health or behavioral concerns the caretaker should be aware of?

AGENCIES NOTIFIED OF TLCC (TENDER LOVING CRITTER CARE) PROGRAM

Interfaith Council for Homeless Families of Morris County
Jersey Battered Women's Service
Mental Health Association of Morris County
Morris Shelter
Morristown Memorial Hospital
Resource Center for Women and Their Families
The Center For Hospice Care
Women's Resource Center
Family Services of Morris County
Interfaith Aid, Inc.
Division of Youth and Family Services
Housing Authority of Morris County
Hospice of Morris County, Inc.
Hope House
Human Services Association in Morris County
Morris County Division of Aging
Alcohol Recovery Center, Department of Human Services of Morris Co.
Morris County Board of Social Services
Hyacinth Foundation
Visiting Health Services of Morris County
Planned Parenthood of Greater North Jersey, Inc.
Center for Women, National Council of Jewish Women
Visiting Nurse Association of Morris County
American Red Cross, Morristown Chapter
American Red Cross, Southeast Morris Chapter

Pets are part of the family in many American households. In homes where there is violence, pets are often threatened or injured by the violent partner. Victims of domestic violence have reported that they delayed leaving their homes because they feared that their pet would be hurt when they left.

If your partner has threatened to harm your pet, both you and your pet may be in danger. We urge you to make plans to protect all members of your family—you, your children, and your pets.

INTERVENTION STRATEGIES

24-Hour Miami-Dade County
Domestic Violence Hotline (305) 547-3170

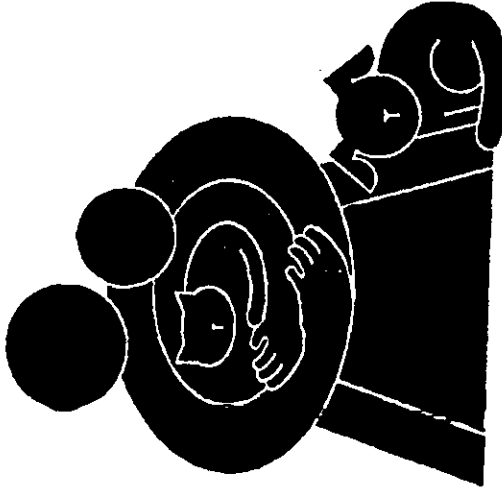
Safespace Shelter North (305) 758-2546
Safespace Shelter South (305) 247-4249

Humane Society of Greater Miami
Animal Cruelty
Investigation Division (305) 238-8322

State Attorney's Office (305) 547-0150

Police (emergency) 911

Humane Society of Greater Miami
2101 N.W. 95th Street
Miami, Florida 33147



PROJECT SAFE FAMILIES, SAFE PETS

A collaboration of intervention strategies
addressing the concurrence of family violence
and animal cruelty in Miami-Dade County

Project Partners:

- City of Miami Police Department
- Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida,
- Domestic Violence Division
- Humane Society of Greater Miami
- Office of the State Attorney
- Safespace Shelter

SAFE FAMILIES, SAFE PETS

A collaboration of intervention strategies addressing the concurrence of family violence and animal cruelty in Miami-Dade County

Although an age-old issue, the relationship between the maltreatment of animals and human interpersonal violence is receiving renewed attention from the scientific community. Studies clearly indicate that violent offenders frequently have childhood and adolescent histories of serious and repeated animal cruelty.

Pets are part of the family in the majority of American households, where nearly three-fourths of families with school-age children have at least one companion animal. These animals are often treated like family members, but if the family experiences violence, they can also become targets.

- ◆ Recent research shows that animal cruelty often occurs in tandem with family violence.
- ◆ Abusive men are the major source of injury to adult women in the U.S.
- ◆ A woman is battered every 15 seconds.
- ◆ A 1997 survey revealed that nationally, 85% of women entering a battered women's shelter reported incidents of pet abuse in the family.

Thus, maltreatment of pets by adults or children is becoming increasingly recognized as an important indicator of violence in the home.

The harm and execution of pets which are family companions is a form of psychological battering, occurring in the context of controlling behavior which causes profound



grief, compounded frequently by the suppression of any expression of feelings associated with this pain and loss. Harm to animals exposes the deliberateness of battering, its control rather than loss of control. In response, the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) has launched the "First Strike" Campaign, designed to increase public awareness of the connection between animal cruelty and human violence, and to encourage individuals to take animal cruelty seriously.

Consistent with the goals of the First Strike Campaign, the Animal Cruelty Investigation Division of the Humane Society of Greater Miami (HSGM), Safespace Shelter, Inc., the City of Miami Police Department, and the Eleventh Judicial Circuit's Domestic Violence Court and State Attorney's Office have forged an innovative partnership. The following are highlights of the objectives of this effort:

EMERGENCY SHELTER "SAFEHOUSE" PROGRAM FOR COMPANION ANIMALS

Concern for the welfare of family companion animals may deter victims from seeking shelter from further abuse. One method of removing this obstacle is to provide shelter services for these pets. Accordingly, the HSGM will now provide temporary emergency housing at no cost for pets of domestic violence victims who are staying at Safespace Shelter.

CROSS-REPORTING AND CROSS-TRAINING

Animal Cruelty Investigators from the HSGM and Miami-Dade County Animal Control



will be cross-trained to report child abuse. Cross-training is also being initiated with Domestic Violence Court staff, the State Attorney's Office MOVES Project, and the HSGM. This brochure will be made available for investigators at the scene of a call, as well as for Domestic Violence Court litigants.

PROMOTE INCORPORATION OF SEGMENT ON DYNAMICS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE WITHIN NATIONAL AND LOCAL CURRICULUMS FOR ANIMAL CRUELTY INVESTIGATORS

Efforts are being pursued to work with national training institutes to incorporate a segment on the dynamics of domestic violence as a mandatory part of the national curriculum for Animal Cruelty Investigators, as well as with local training facilitators.

CROSS-INVESTIGATION BY LAW ENFORCEMENT OF ANIMAL CRUELTY CONNECTED WITH DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The City of Miami Police Department's Domestic Violence Unit is taking a lead role by working cooperatively with the HSGM as to the investigation and removal of at risk pets from the home. Further communication will be initiated with other local police departments to expand efforts for law enforcement to work cooperatively with the HSGM in the investigation of animal cruelty issues.

PUBLIC AWARENESS

The project partners will work together to ensure that the concurrence of animal cruelty and family violence is recognized, as well as the services available from this project.



THE SHELTER FOR ABUSED WOMEN

A Women's Resource Center
Domestic Violence / Sexual Assault

P.O. Box 14
Winchester, Virginia 22604

Phone 540 / 667-6466

Fax 540 / 667-0138

February 5, 1999

Dear Dr. Ascione,

This in response to your inquiry in the December/January issue of Domestic Violence Report regarding domestic violence programs and companion animals.

Our shelter also has recognized the need for animal safety in violent homes. We have worked with a local veterinarian for the past seven years to provide free, safe boarding of pets. Besides being free, it is extremely helpful that this office does not require vaccinations prior to boarding, and will if needed, provide them at no cost. Nurturing our relationship with this veterinary office is important. This year we honored them with a "Business of the year Award".

Protocol for this service is as follows:

- This is a selective service. We will screen people during the initial contact to determine if this is a need.
- We will problem-solve with a client to find other resources. Often they prefer to have a neighbor, or relative they can use.
- A woman must be a resident or receiving services with the Shelter.
- Boarding will be limited to the time a woman is in Shelter.
- Information release will be signed prior to staff referral to the vet.
- We will make the initial call to refer the client using only her first name.
- The client then calls the vet to arrange a time to come in. We will problem-solve or assist with transportation if needed.
- We discuss safety with the client, such as not informing the abuser of where the pet is, or bringing them to visit.

Feel free to contact us if there is other information needed. Good luck with your research!

Sincerely,

Jill James, Children's Advocate (and Pet Advocate)



**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE HINSDALE HUMANE SOCIETY AND THE
FAMILY SHELTER SERVICES**

The Hinsdale Humane Society will assist in the boarding of animals of people who use the facilities of Family Shelter Service. The Hinsdale Humane Society will agree to care for these animals for a maximum of one week until other shelter is found. In some cases the stay can be extended at the discretion of the shelter management. The Society cannot accept animals that are aggressive or have previously bitten. Due to space limitations the Society cannot accept more than 1-2 dogs (depending on size) and 2 cats from any one household. During their stay the animals will receive the following:

1. Standard major brand food fed to all shelter animals. The shelter will provide a special diet on request and at the expense of the owner.
2. Clean cage, fresh water, and toys daily.
3. Dog walking when staff help is available.
4. Preventative vaccinations. Dogs and cats four months of age and older for which we cannot confirm a current and valid rabies inoculation will be vaccinated, payable at shelter cost, by the owner. Dogs will be vaccinated for distemper, parvovirus, coronavirus (eight weeks to six months only) and kennel cough (eight weeks and older). Cats eight weeks and older will be vaccinated for viral-rhinotracheitis, calicivirus, panleukopenia and chlymidia.
5. Extraordinary medical care such as casting of broken bones, treatment of burns, repair of lacerations, etc. will be provided if needed. Services will be billed by the attending veterinarian.
6. Owners of pets may not visit their animals at the shelter but are welcome to call during the hours of 12 noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday – to check on the animals. Visits would be difficult for the pets and possibly pose a danger to the owners.
7. The cost of extraordinary medical care will be the responsibility of the pet owner.

**CONSENT AND RELEASE FOR BOARDING
HINSDALE HUMANE SOCIETY/FAMILY SHELTER SERVICE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
FOR PET OWNERS**

Date: _____

Name: _____

Driver's license #: _____

Daytime phone (if available): _____

Evening phone (if available): _____

Pet name: _____

Sex: _____ Breed: _____ Color: _____

Weight: _____ Age: _____

Special needs: _____

Date of last vaccinations: _____

Veterinarian: _____ Phone: _____

I am the owner, or agent for the owner, of the animal described above and have the authority to give this consent. I hereby authorize the following:

I understand that during the boarding period, unforeseen conditions may arise that necessitate additional extraordinary medical treatments. I consent to those additional treatments, including veterinary services and euthanasia as are necessary and desirable according to the professional judgment of the shelter staff. I understand that these extraordinary treatments will be at my own expense. If the animal is currently receiving medication for an existing condition, I agree to provide same to be administered during the shelter stay.

I agree to pick up my animal(s) on _____. If for any reason this date is changed, I agree to make daily contact with shelter management regarding this continued boarding. If I fail to maintain this contact for two consecutive weekdays, the animal will be deemed abandoned at the Hinsdale Humane Society and dispositioned according to the laws of the State of Illinois.

In exchange for the valuable service to be provided to me by the Hinsdale Humane Society in caring for my pet on an emergency basis, I hereby agree to release and discharge the Hinsdale Humane Society, its successors and assigns, from any and all actions, causes of actions, claims and demands for, upon or by reason of any damages, loss or injury, which may be sustained in consequence of the receipt of boarding and medical services under this program. This release extends and applies to all unknown, unforeseen, unanticipated and unsuspected injuries, damages, loss and liability and the consequences of them as well as those now disclosed and known to exist.

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

ATTACH PHOTOCOPY OF DRIVER'S LICENSE



TONY LA RUSSA'S
**Animal
 Rescue
 Foundation**™

March 3, 1999

Frank R. Ascione
 Utah State University
 Department of Psychology
 Logan, Utah 84322

Dear Mr. Frank Ascione,

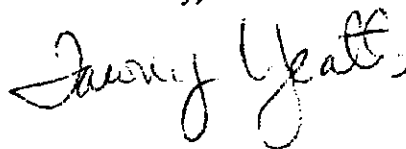
In response to your recent request for information on programs to shelter battered women's animals, I am contacting you to give you information about our program at Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation. The Protect A Pet Program has been created to provide temporary safe housing / boarding / veterinary care for the pets of women who have made the decision to leave their abuser. Any client who expresses concern for the safety of their companion animal is given information at the local battered women's shelter about ARF's program and a pager number, which for security reasons can't be traced to an individual. When the women contact ARF, a staff person explains the program in more depth to answer questions, and facilitate the transfer of the pet.

ARF will provide safe housing for 2 weeks, preferably at a boarding facility as we have no facility to house animals and prefer not to involve our foster volunteers. At the end of the two weeks, the client will either make arrangements to pick-up their pet or extend the time needed for safe-housing. If for some reason the women do not pick up their pet, the pet is taken into the ARF system and will become available for adoption through ARF.

ARF reserves the right to refuse any animal into the program that is dangerous. All animals must be current on vaccinations. Typically, the women are unable to find a vaccination record in their haste to leave their batterer. If no records are available, the animal will be vaccinated as it enters the ARF system. The client will sign an agreement explaining their responsibilities at the time the pet begins foster care. The ARF contact person will explain that ARF encourages the client to call in to inquire about the animal, to visit the animal, and to keep ARF apprised of the client's situation and plans.

I hope the information regarding our program assists you in your research. Please contact me if I can help you further in any way.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Tawny Yeatts". The signature is fluid and stylized, with the first name "Tawny" and last name "Yeatts" clearly legible.

Tawny Yeatts
Program Department
(925) 296-3112

**Animal Rescue Foundation
PET INTAKE FORM**

Name _____

How / Where we can contact you _____

Telephone(s) / Safe time to call _____

In case of emergency contact _____

Name of animal(s) _____

Type of animal(s) _____

Breed _____ Male _____ Female _____

Current situation, anticipated length of foster care:

Veterinarian _____ City _____

Medical history (vaccinations, spay/neuter):

Current medications / allergies:

Animal(s) behavior towards children _____

Under what circumstances will the animal exhibit aggressive / passive or fearful behavior:

AGREEMENT

I, _____, understand that Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation (ARF) has agreed to temporarily care for my animal(s) _____
_____. I certify that I am the owner of this animal(s).

ARF will shelter my animal in a confidential location for a period of two weeks. I understand that if I do not make arrangements to pick up my animal on _____ (date) and if I do not call to request an extension on the time period, my animal will become the property of ARF. ARF encourages owners to visit their animals or to check on them. I will call the ARF contact person to make any arrangements for visits.

I allow ARF to provide veterinary care, which is not limited to vaccinations, but may include sterilization or treatment resulting from injuries received prior to foster care. I understand that there are always risks attendant with medical procedures and with fostering animals and agree to hold ARF harmless in the event my animal is injured.

(Signature of Owner)

(Date)

(ARF Representative)

**BWA PROGRAM
Fact Sheet**

Initial Contact _____
(Name)

(Phone Number)

(Address if available)

Animals _____

Request for _____

Disposition _____

Follow-up _____

Crosstrails Volunteers

Thank you so much for donating your time to help women and their animals. What a priceless gift you give every time you volunteer!!

Protocol for Crosstrails

Starting and ending "on-call" sessions:

Shifts begin at 7:00 pm on the day you sign up for. At that time, you come in, pick up pager and read log book.

Shifts end at 6:30 pm the following day. Come in to Crossroads, drop off pager, and write in log book.

Signing up for shifts:

When you sign up for a day to volunteer, that is the day you pick up the pager. So actually, you will spend that night and the next day on call. For example, if you sign up for Friday, you pick up the pager on Friday night at 7:00pm. You then are on call from 7:00pm Friday until 6:30pm on Saturday.

What to do when you are called:

1. When paged, call the number on the pager.
2. Except in rare occasions, the page will be from Crossroads.
3. They will tell you what they need. They might need to ask a question, or have you provide a visit with an animal and owner, or there might be an animal that needs your help.

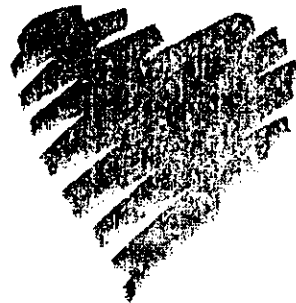
What happens when a woman needs sheltering for her animal:

1. The woman will bring the animal to Crossroads.
2. Someone from Crossroads will page you to come get the animal from Crossroads. You are expected to be there as soon as possible, and ALWAYS within the hour.
3. When you get to Crossroads, you will sit with owner and go over the contract she MUST sign before we can foster her animal.
4. After you have the owner's agreement signed, you then take the animal to the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, located on Drake.
5. When you get to the hospital, tell them that you have a Crosstrails animal. You will have TWO copies of the form for the VTH. They keep one (that is only paperwork they keep) and you keep one. **YOU MAKE SURE YOU GET AN ID NUMBER FROM THE VTH ON THE FORM YOU TAKE WITH YOU.** You can usually get some idea of how long it will take them to look at the animal. They will give it a checkup, and vaccinate if needed.
6. After you drop animal off at VTH, you are responsible for finding a foster location for it. You try to find the best fit for the animal. If your shift is over, you can report to the next volunteer that the animal is at the VTH, and what foster home you have found for it.

7. IT IS MANDATORY THAT YOU WRITE EVERYTHING IN THE LOG
8. IF YOU TAKE AN ANIMAL TO THE VTH, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO FIND A FOSTER HOME
9. If the VTH is through during your shift, you relocate the animal to the foster home. You bring TWO copies of the forms for the foster home. You get one signed, and leave one with the foster home.
10. All forms go in the folder for foster forms.
11. When you place an animal, you fill in quick sheet in back of log, for easy monitoring of what foster homes we have used.

Important points to remember:

1. This is a very important commitment, so please sign up for times that you will be able to help these animals. It is not fair to the animals or the staff to leave an animal at Crossroads for a long time.
2. All the people that you deal with (VTH, foster homes, vets, etc.) have all agreed to donate their services and/or homes for us. Please treat them accordingly.
3. Never leave an animal at the VTH without finding a foster home.
4. Never tell any owner that her animal goes to the VTH, and never tell any owner where her animal is being fostered.
5. Any visiting will only take place if a volunteer is willing to bring the animal to Crossroads.
6. All animals at Crossroads must be on a lease or in a crate at all times. NO EXCEPTIONS!!
7. Make sure you get any supplies that came with the animal when you pick the animal up from its foster home.
8. Be careful to read log and report any occurrences during your shift. The log is the only way we have to communicate and keep things running smoothly.
9. Please call Lori Kogan (491-9781, home or 491-5078, work) with any problems. There are no stupid questions, so please call!



Thank you again for your generosity of time and effort.

Crossroads Animal Foster Program Crosstrails

Basic Information

Name of client: _____

I, _____, am the rightful owner of animal(s) _____

Animal type: _____

Breed: _____

Animal name: _____

Age: _____

Gender: _____

Neutered / Spayed: _____

Size (lb.): _____

Indoor or Outdoor (circle one)

NOTE: IF YOU DO NOT HAVE CURRENT VACCINATIONS, THEY WILL BE PROVIDED FOR FREE.

Has your animal(s) been vaccinated within the past year?

Distemper Combo _____

Kennel Cough _____

Name of Veterinarian: _____

Behavior of animal: _____

Gets along with other dogs? _____

Gets along with other cats? _____

Aggression toward people? _____

Housebroken? _____

Gets along with children? _____

If cat, is it litterbox trained? _____

Is animal destructive (claws, chews)? _____

Other behavioral problems? _____

What type of food does your animal eat? Dry _____ Canned _____

What brand of food is your animal used to eating? _____

Additional Comments:

This contract is an agreement between you, the staff / agency of Crossroads, and Larimer Animal People Partnership. The Crosstrails volunteer will give you a copy of the contract. This agreement is mutual and reciprocal. This means that is Larimer Animal People Partnership's intent to provide you with a safe place for your pet(s) to stay. The animal(s) will be fed and kept in a clean environment. Emergency care will be given with prior permission from you, the owner. In return, you agree to follow the rules in this contract:

I agree that my pet(s) will be allowed to reside at the facility / home, as arranged through the Crosstrails foster program, as long as I am a resident of Crossroads. When I leave Crossroads, I understand that I have a **maximum** of one week of transitional time to pick up my pet(s) through the help of a Crosstrails volunteer.

I understand that when I am ready to pick up my animal, I will talk with a Crosstrails volunteer and arrange a time to meet with them and receive my animal. I understand that because this will entail scheduling a common time between myself, the foster home, and the volunteer, I will receive my animal within 24 hours of notifying the volunteer that I am ready to pick up my animal. I understand that because of work schedules and other responsibilities, picking up my pet on extremely short notice will not be feasible. I understand that it is entirely my responsibility to make plans to get my animal within the time limits discussed. If I fail to pick up my animal in the times agreed upon, my animal will be considered abandoned.

I understand that if my animal becomes aggressive and / or destructive to the point that it can no longer be fostered, I will have a maximum of 48 hours, after the time that I am notified, to find another place for my pet(s). Crosstrails can not foster aggressive or destructive animals.

I agree that my rights of ownership of my pet(s) _____ will be terminated if I do not pick up my animal in the one week after my departure from Crossroads or within 48 hours of notification that my animal(s) has become too aggressive and / or destructive to be fostered.

If my rights to ownership are terminated, I understand that Larimer Animal People Partnership will have all rights to decide on the animal(s) future. In this type of circumstance, euthanasia (putting to death by lethal injection) will be a primary option.

I understand that I waive my right to the standard legal procedure that usually is taken when dealing with abandoned animals. I understand that this contract serves as my notification, and I waive my right to any further legal procedures.

I consent to emergency treatment for my animal(s) in order to stabilize his / her condition in the case of an emergency. Any other medical treatment beyond stabilization remains my responsibility and requires my authorization. I understand that any additional medical treatment I will have to pay for myself. This includes any and all emergencies or other medical conditions or issues that come up while my animal is in foster care. This could include, but is not limited to, accidents, injuries, illnesses or prior medical problems. This means that a veterinarian will stabilize my animal long enough for me to make a decision as to what medical procedures I want performed on my animal. The initial stabilization will be provided for no cost, but all medical treatment beyond that will be my responsibility.

I agree to provide food, or money to purchase food, and personal items for my animal(s) if at all possible.

I understand that I will not be able to visit my animal for the safety of all involved, but I will be given weekly feedback about how my animal is doing from a Crosstrails volunteer.

If for some reason the location of my animal becomes known, I agree to take immediate possession and remove my animal(s) immediately.

I release Crossroads, Crosstrails volunteers, Larimer Animal People Partnership, and the facility / home that is keeping my animal(s) from liability for personal injury of the animal(s) and / or damage or loss of personal property left at the facility / home while my animal is housed there.

I understand that the facility / home that is keeping my animal(s) can not assure me that my animal(s) will not be injured by a family member or personal acquaintance while my animal(s) is living there, although every effort will be made to provide a safe place.

Owner of Animal(s)

Crosstrails Volunteer

Date

CROSSROADS SAFEHOUSE
Crosstrails Pager Number: 498-4444

ASSIGNMENT OF FOSTER ANIMAL RECORD
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY VETERINARY
TEACHING HOSPITAL

Date: _____

I, _____, hereby acknowledge receipt of the animal(s)
described herein.

Animal Number: (given by the VTH)

Breed:

Color:

Sex:

Age:

Name:

Food Preference (wet, dry):

Food Brand:

Animal is CIRCLE ONE: indoor outdoor

Animal's home was in what part of town CIRCLE ONE: North South East West
(to help determine risk of plague exposure)

is	is not	aggressive to people.
is	is not	aggressive to dogs.
is	is not	aggressive to cats.

Pertinent Medical History:

Other Important Information:

Animal Number (given by VTH):

Breed:

Color:

Sex:

Age:

Name:

Food Preference (wet, dry):

Food Brand:

Animal is primarily (CIRCLE ONE): indoor outdoor

Animal's home was in what part of town CIRCLE ONE: North South East West
(to help determine risk of plague exposure)

is	is not	aggressive to people.
is	is not	aggressive to dogs.
is	is not	aggressive to cats.

Pertinent Medical History:

Other Important Information:

The Colorado State University Veterinary Teaching Hospital Agrees to immunize these animal(s) as follows:

The canines will be vaccinated with the Distemper Combo and for Kennel Cough.
The felines will be vaccinated with the Distemper Combo.

Representative for the
Veterinary Teaching Hospital

Crosstrails Volunteer

date

CROSSROADS SAFEHOUSE
ASSIGNMENT OF FOSTER ANIMALS RECORD
 Crossstrails Pager Number: 498-4444

Date: _____

I, _____, hereby acknowledge receipt of the animal(s) described herein. In consideration for such receipt, I agree to be bound by and to comply with all the following terms and conditions of the Crossstrails Foster Care Agreement. I agree to foster the animal(s) listed below:

Animal Number: _____
 Breed: _____
 Color: _____
 Sex: _____
 Age: _____
 Name: _____
 Food Preference: (wet, dry) _____
 Food Brand: _____

Animal is CIRCLE ONE: indoor outdoor

Is	Is not	aggressive to people
Is	Is not	aggressive to dogs
Is	Is not	aggressive to cats

Pertinent Medical History:

Other Important Information:

Animal Number: _____
 Breed: _____
 Color: _____
 Sex: _____
 Age: _____

Name: _____
 Food Preference (wet, dry) _____
 Food Brand: _____

Animal is CIRCLE ONE: indoor outdoor

Is Is Not aggressive to people.
 Is Is Not aggressive to dogs.
 Is Is Not aggressive to cats.

Pertinent Medical History:

Other Important Information:

I agree to foster the animal(s) beginning _____ and ending _____. I agree to acknowledge that my service as a foster parent are provided strictly on a volunteer basis. I agree to receive no pay, benefits, or compensation of any kind from Crossroads Safehouse and / or Larimer Animal People Partnership.

I agree to the following procedures (but am not limited to):

1. Provide adequate food, water, shelter, and kind treatment for the animal(s) at all times.
2. Monitor the animal(s) to assure proper health so that they are completely healthy upon returning to their owners.
3. Notify Crosstrails on-call volunteer as to any behavioral or health problems of the animal(s). Crossroads reserves the exclusive right to determine the proper course of action to take upon such notification.
4. I am not financially responsible for any medical treatment that might be needed while I am fostering this animal(s). I am obligated to inform Crossroads immediately of any medical treatment needed.

**COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
INFORMED CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN A RESEARCH PROJECT**

TITLE OF PROJECT: Crossroads Foster Program Evaluation

NAME OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Scott Hamilton, Ph.D.

NAME OF CO-INVESTIGATOR: Lori Kogan

CONTACT NAME AND PHONE NUMBER FOR QUESTIONS / PROBLEMS: Lori Kogan 491-5078

SPONSOR OF PROJECT: N/A

PURPOSE OF THE RESEARCH:

The information gained will be used to make sure the foster program is working, and to better understand the animal abuse that happens in homes with domestic violence. The purpose of this study is to assess how the "Crosstrails", which is the animal foster program of Crossroads Safehouse, is working. This will be done by asking you questions about your pet. Some questions will ask you about any threats or abuse that happened to your pet before you came here. Other questions will ask you how you feel about the foster program.

PROCEDURES / METHODS TO BE USED:

You will be asked to participate in one interview session that will last approximately 30 minutes. The interview will be Alyson Moore, a women's counselor here at Crossroads. The interview will take place at Crossroads and will be confidential. Only you and Alyson will be present. The interview will be audio taped for analysis. Your name will not be associated with the tape in any way. Your tape will not be used for analysis until you have been gone from the shelter for at least 2 months, to help insure that it stays anonymous. After the tape has been transcribed (listened to and written down), it will be erased.

RISKS INHERENT IN THE PROCEDURES:

Since some of the questions you will be answering during the interview deal with sensitive areas, they may make you feel upset or uncomfortable. If you become upset talking about anything that is brought up in the interview, you may stop the interview at any time. Alyson has also left time at the end of the interview to talk about anything upsetting that came up during the interview. It is not possible to identify all potential risks in an experimental procedure, but the researcher(s) have taken reasonable safeguards to minimize any known and potential, but unknown, risks.

BENEFITS:

The benefits for participating in this study are to help make the foster program the best that it can be. Through feedback from women using the program, necessary changes can be made to help make sure the program is working best for the women who need it. Your decision to talk about any abuse your animal has been through will help people understand more about animal abuse in the homes that contain domestic violence.

CONFIDENTIALITY:

Your confidentiality will be maintained through several ways. You will be interviewed privately and the audiotape of the interview will not have your name associated with it. Any information on the tape that could be used to identify you will be erased by Alyson Moore before the tape is used for analysis. No tapes will be analyzed until you have been gone from the shelter for at least 2 months, to help ensure that your interview stays anonymous and confidential.

LIABILITY:

The Colorado Governmental Immunity Act determines and may limit Colorado State University's legal responsibility if an injury happens because of this study. Claims against the University must be filed within 180 days of the injury.

Questions about subjects' rights may be directed to Celia S. Walker at (970) 491-1863.

PARTICIPATION:

Your participation in this research is voluntary. If you decide to participate in the study, you may withdraw your consent and stop participating at any time without penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled.

Your signature acknowledges that you have read the information stated and willingly sign this consent form. Your signature also acknowledges that you have received, on the date signed, a copy of this document containing 2 pages.

Participant name (printed)

Participant signature

Date

Investigator or co-investigator
signature

Date

Appendix A

Before any questions will be asked, and after the consent form has been signed, the participants will be told the following:

“The consent form you just signed gives me permission to interview you about your pet, and to audio tape the interview. I want you to understand that you can stop this interview if you begin to feel uncomfortable. No decision you make here, concerning the interview, will have any bearing on your being able to stay at Crossroads, or your animal being able to stay in foster care. Do you understand, and want to continue with the interview?”

Only if the participant wants to continue at this point, will the interview take place.

Topics that will be addressed during the interview process. All questions will be asked by a Crossroads Women’s Counselor. Questions are meant to be open-ended and naturally presented.

Demographics:

1. Could you tell me how old you are?
2. What is your occupation?
3. Do you have any children? If yes, how old are they, and are they boys or girls?

Abuse History:

4. Did your abuser ever threaten your pets?
5. Did your abuser ever actually hurt or kill any of your pets?
6. How did you react to these incidents?
7. How did your children react to these incidents? (If she has children)

Foster Program Evaluation

8. Could you talk about how you feel about your pet, the relationship you have with your pet(s)?
9. Since the foster program is new, I wonder if you know what you would have done if no foster program was available?
10. Was the foster program important in your decision to come here?
11. Do you feel your animal(s) is safe now?
12. What do you see as the benefits for you in having the foster program at Crossroads?
13. Do you feel that the ability to foster your animal(s) has made any impact on your children?
14. Is there anything else you would like us to know?

SAFE PETS PROGRAM
Basic Program Parameters

May 27, 1997 marked the official launch of the Peninsula Humane Society's (PHS) Safe Pets program designed to protect victims of domestic violence and their pets.

The Safe Pets Program is a collaborative between the Peninsula Humane Society and the Center for Domestic Violence Prevention (CDVP). The two groups have worked closely together to ensure the growth and development of the most effective program possible. Collaborative work has included cross-training between the organizations, as well as significant input from both groups on policy development, liability and privacy issues.

Through the program PHS will provide protection and temporary shelter for companion animals that would otherwise be at risk of abuse or neglect when victims of domestic violence seek refuge in a shelter. The goal of the program is reduce the potential for continued abuse to both people and their animals.

There is growing recognition that animals living in violent households are often victims of abuse, and that people seeking refuge from such abusive situations are often unwilling to leave out of fear for their animal(s) safety. Due to health department and liability insurance issues, CDVP is unable to provide shelter for animals. Battered women (and others) who wish to escape a violent situation are often faced with the decision to either seek their own safety and leave the animal at potential risk with the batterer, or attempt to protect the animal by staying and continuing to live in danger themselves.

Under the Safe Pets Program, CDVP staff ask each woman who calls the shelter a few screening questions to determine if there is an animal at risk (abuse, neglect, less than adequate care) in the home. CDVP staff members make referrals to PHS when need has been determined. PHS then makes arrangements with CDVP-referred clients to house their companion animal(s) under protective custody for up to 14 days (longer stays is sometimes arranged if needed and specific arrangements are made), during which time the client is counseled by CDVP staff to seek more permanent arrangements for the animal(s).

Animals receive a veterinary examination, vaccinations, food and housing for the determined period. Fees paid by participants on a sliding scale basis. Any fees not paid by program participants are underwritten by the Safe Pets Program.

Safe Pets clients are required to purchase a San Mateo County animal license (in client's name) for all dogs and cats brought in through the program. This aspect of the program has been put in place to establish some type of legal ownership of the animal in the case that the batterer or anyone else comes in to the shelter looking for that animal.

The Safe Pets Program at the Peninsula Humane Society is a part of a larger collaborative effort between humane societies and human service organizations in San Mateo, Marin, Sonoma and San Francisco Counties.

Some program specifics from humane society perspective:

- Name of client does not appear on paperwork that is viewable by general staff population or public;
- While the CDVP has one primary contact at PHS, several department managers have received training on program parameters, and are copied on all new client paperwork. This enables the supervisor on duty to admit and release clients, and to problem-solve along the way when necessary;
- A photocopy of client's driver's license is attached to filed paperwork to assure that the client is the only party to discharge animal;
- Client purchases San Mateo County animal license (in his/her name) for all dogs and cats admitted through the program. This procedure helps to establish legal ownership in the case that a batterer or other party attempts to claim ownership of a Safe Pets animal;
- All paperwork on Safe Pets animals is stamped with both PROTECTIVE CUSTODY and SAFE. This flags the participating animals for all shelter staff and volunteers.

For further information on the Safe Pets program, please call or write to:

Director of Community Outreach
Peninsula Humane Society
12 Airport Boulevard
San Mateo, CA 94401

SAFE PETS - Owner Agreement

I, _____, herein referred to as "Owner" agree to allow the Peninsula Humane Society and the Safe Pets Program, herein referred to as "PHS/SPP" to provide protective custody to my companion animal(s) _____

_____, herein referred to as "Animals."
I certify that I am the owner of said Animal(s). PHS/SPP will shelter my Animal(s) or make arrangements for their care at another location for an approximate period of _____

_____. Owner allows PHS/SPP to provide veterinary care, which is not limited to vaccinations, but may include sterilization or treatment resulting from illness and/or injuries received prior to today. PHS/SPP agrees to treat/care for Animal(s) while under protective custody in the Safe Pets Program. Owner agrees that PHS/SPP is not liable for any damages, illness or injury to Animal(s) while under PHS/SPP care. Owner agrees that ownership of Animal(s) left with PHS/SPP for more than 14 days without written extension of care will transfer to PHS/SPP. Owner agrees to notify PHS/SPP immediately if the Owner wishes to terminate rights to the Animal(s). Owner agrees to each item listed herein.

Date: _____

Owner signature

PHS/SPP Representative

Witness

Pick-up # _____

SAFE PETS PROGRAM - Receiving

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Date In: _____ PHS receiving staff member: _____

Pick-up # _____ Location of animal: _____

Registered owner _____ Phone _____

Third party contact _____ Phone _____

- Safe Pets owner agreement signed by owner _____ Yes _____ No
why not: _____
- Copy of Safe Pets owner agreement given to owner _____ Yes _____ No
- Safe Pets receiving form fully completed _____ Yes _____ No
- Photo ID copied and attached _____ Yes _____ No
- Animal re-licensed _____ Yes _____ No
why not: _____
- Owner made aware of:

14-day policy	_____	Yes	_____	No
Licensing requirements	_____	Yes	_____	No
License purchased (#)	_____	Yes	_____	No
Board fees, sliding scale, options	_____	Yes	_____	No
Visitation appointments/times	_____	Yes	_____	No
Lesley Walker's phone #	_____	Yes	_____	No
Other contact names/numbers	_____	Yes	_____	No
Release procedures	_____	Yes	_____	No
- All information given to Lesley Walker _____ Yes _____ No

Comments:

CONFIDENTIAL

Date in _____

Date released _____

SAFE PETS PROGRAM - Receiving Form

Owner name _____ Pick-up # _____

Program/center through which you may be contacted _____

Location _____ Contact _____ Phone _____

In case of emergency contact _____ Phone _____

Name of animal _____ Type of animal _____

Breed _____ Description _____ Age _____

Male _____ Neutered _____ Female _____ Spayed _____ Unknown _____

Current license # _____ Currently licensed to: _____

New license # _____ Licensed to: _____

Anticipated length of protective custody for animal(s) _____

Do you expect anyone to come looking for your animal? _____ If so, who? _____

Medical Information:

Veterinarian _____ Clinic _____ City _____ Phone _____

Medical history (vaccinations and dates of last booster, other medical information)

Current medications / allergies / ailments _____

Personality / disposition / behavior information/fears _____

Feeding. What does your animal normally eat? _____

Leashes, toys, equipment, etc. taken in with animal _____

Other _____

SAFE PETS - RELEASE FORM

Date in _____ Date released _____ By - PHS staff _____

Owner name _____ Pick-up # _____

Released to _____

Telephone # _____ Address _____

In case of emergency contact _____ Phone _____

Name of animal _____ Type of animal _____

Breed _____ Description _____ Age _____

Male _____ Neutered _____ Female _____ Spayed _____ Unknown _____

- Photo ID checked and approved _____ Yes _____ No
- Fees collected:

Board	\$	_____
Licensing	\$	_____
Other	\$	_____

- Fees due: _____ \$ _____
- Treatment received while in custody:

FelV	_____	FIV	_____	DHLPP	_____	Rabies	_____	Other	_____
------	-------	-----	-------	-------	-------	--------	-------	-------	-------

- Additional treatment recommended:

- Additional information:

Pets are part of the family in many American households. In homes where there is violence, pets are often threatened or injured by the violent partner. In several recent surveys of women entering shelters for protection from domestic violence, nearly half report that their pet had been threatened, injured, or killed by their partner. Others report that they delayed leaving their homes because they feared that their pet would be hurt when they left.

If your partner has threatened to harm your pet, both you and your pet may be in danger. We urge you to make plans to protect all members of your family—you, your children, and your pets.

The HSUS was founded as a nonprofit organization in 1954 to protect animals through legal, educational, legislative, and investigative means. The HSUS has nine regional offices throughout the country and operates outside the United States as Humane Society International.

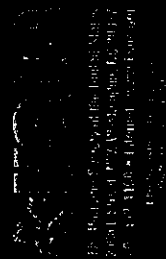


Photo courtesy of the Humane Society of the United States. Photo of dog by Stephen Egner for HSUS.



ALBANY, CRUELTY, HUMAN VIOLENCE

THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES
1500 K STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005
(202) 690-8800



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THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES

PROTECTING YOUR PET FROM DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: SOME FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

■ ■ ■
Will my partner harm an animal, will he or she hurt me? It is possible. If a person punches, kicks, throws, or hurts an animal in any way, it is a clear sign that the person can be violent. If your partner has harmed or seriously threatened your pet, you may be in danger and should think about leaving.

■ ■ ■
How can I protect my pet? When there is violence in the home, it's very important to have an emergency plan for sheltering your pet, yourself, and your children.

■ ■ ■
If I leave, who will take care of my pet? If possible, find a friend or family member to care for your pet. If this doesn't work out, get in touch with your local animal care and control agency, battered women's shelter, boarding kennel, or veterinarian. Briefly explain your situation. If your pet is sheltered or placed in foster care by a humane society, or if a friend can care for your pet temporarily, you will have time to make long-term plans.

■ ■ ■
Will my pet be in any danger in a sheltering program or with friends? Although it is unlikely that a violent partner will come looking for your pet, it is possible. Be sure to tell your pet's caretakers to keep your pet's location a secret from anyone who might give this information to your partner. Also, you may be discouraged from visiting your pet in her temporary home to make sure you, your pet, and her temporary caretaker are safe.

■ ■ ■
Does my pet need to be current on all vaccinations? Yes. Almost all veterinary clinics, kennels, and animal shelters require animals to be vaccinated.

nated. If you don't have a copy of your pet's vaccination record, the clinic may need to vaccinate your pet again.

Keep vaccination and other veterinary records in a safe place so you can take them with you if you need to leave home in a hurry. If you don't have these records but know your pet is up to date on his vaccinations, ask your veterinarian to send you a copy of the records.

If your pet is not up to date, make an appointment with your veterinarian. Some local humane agencies provide low-cost or free vaccinations. Check in the yellow pages under "animal shelters" or "humane societies."

■ ■ ■
How can I prove that I own my pet? Your partner may attempt to get control of your pet in order to intimidate you. An animal license, proof of vaccinations, or veterinary receipts in your name will help prove you own your pet.

■ ■ ■
What should I take when I move my pet to safety? If you are able to prepare for your pet's departure, try to have the following pet items in a safe place and out of your partner's reach:

- vaccination and medical records
- a collar and identification tags
- a license that proves you own your animal
- dog leashes
- cat carriers
- medication, if any
- an information sheet on feeding schedules, medical conditions, likes and dislikes, and any possible behavior problems to give to a temporary caretaker
- bowls, bedding, toys, grooming supplies, a favorite blanket, etc.

NOTE: Do not use tags that identify the household you are leaving. Also, cat carriers are important. Unconfined cats can easily get scared and escape. If you don't have a carrier for your cat, a pillowcase can work in an emergency.

■ ■ ■
What if I have to leave my pet behind? Be sure you ask a law enforcement agent to go with you when you return home to reclaim your pet. Most communities recognize pets as property.

■ ■ ■
Would my pet be better off if I put him up for adoption? Only you can make this decision. Giving up a beloved pet is sad, but it may be best for both of you. For one thing, moving is expensive. Many housing situations do not permit pets, or if they do, they may charge extra. Realizing that your pet is safe in a new home can make your decision to leave a violent situation easier—emotionally and financially.

While animal shelters cannot guarantee to place every animal, they do find permanent homes for many. It is easier for shelter staff to find

a home for your pet if they have certain information: Is the animal house-trained? Obedience trained? Good with children or other animals? Try to give shelter staff a detailed description of your pet's medical history, behavior, and likes and dislikes. Also make sure shelter staff know how to contact you if they have more questions.

To ease the pain of separation, you may want to take photos of your pet for you and your children to keep.



■ ■ ■
 This brochure was developed by the First Strike campaign, a program of The HSUS, to increase public awareness of the connection between animal cruelty and human violence. For more information, call toll free, 1-888-213-0956.



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Project SafeHouse

A foster care program for family pets caught in crisis

Project SafeHouse Program Description:

Project SafeHouse is predicated on one simple, true and awful understanding: that is, when violence strikes a family, each member of that family including any companion animal in the home is a victim. Project SafeHouse is designed to help those families in domestic violence situations. The Arizona Humane Society will make every effort to provide foster care for the pets involved in domestic violence situations. As the victim begins to plan a safe escape from the situation The Arizona Humane Society will assist in placing the family companion animals into a safe, loving foster care environment. Fees are not charged for these services but once again the Arizona Humane Society is supported by community donations, so donations are always welcomed.

Project SafeHouse Referral Process:

Referrals are accepted from area community resources, 24 hours per day 7 days per week. The Arizona Humane Society Department of Therapeutic Programs will determine the psycho-social needs of the client, assess animals involved in the current family crisis and assist with placement options for the animals. Assistance is provided to the client and community resource referrals are made for treatment and stabilization. Also, included is a discussion on the general criterion for enrollment into the program which includes the requirement that all animals accepted into the program be spayed or neutered.

Project SafeHouse Enrollment Process:

Once it has been determined that foster care placement is in the best interest of both the client and the animal arrangements are made to have the animal brought into the Arizona Humane Society. At time of arrival, the client and the animal are assessed and a health screening is completed on the animal and signatures are obtained on the Project SafeHouse contracts.

Project SafeHouse Program Criterion:

Project SafeHouse foster care placement are not to exceed more than 30 days. Exceptions to this predetermined length of stay can be made on a case by case basis.

Each Project SafeHouse client can choose to place up to two animals into the foster care program. All animals accepted into the program must be spayed or neutered. If this has not been done prior, arrangements can be made for these services through the Arizona Humane Society Clinic with client consent.

Project SafeHouse Confidentiality:

For the protection of all parties client confidentiality is a critical matter. All Project SafeHouse foster care providers receive training on issues related to confidentiality and sign a confidentiality agreement. The Arizona Humane Society has made all the necessary changes with regard to record keeping completely confidential. No visitation between the client and animals are allowed during the foster care placement period. The Therapeutic Programs Department acts as a liaison between client and foster care provider and can provide reassurance and updates on status.

Project SafeHouse and Veterinary Care Services:

Animals enrolled with Project SafeHouse at time of initial visit participate in a health screening with the Arizona Humane Society Clinic staff. All minor medical conditions are treated during the foster care placement period. If extensive veterinary care is required efforts are made to contact the animal owner for discussion.



Project SafeHouse Enrollment Process

Policy:

The Therapeutic Programs Department will assess the domestic violence situation and psycho-social status of each potential client. A determination will be made as to the appropriateness of enrolling the pets in crisis into the foster care program.

Purpose:

Our purpose is to determine psycho-social needs of clients, assess animals involved in the current family crisis and determine the best placement option for the animals. Also, to provide community resource referrals for the treatment and stabilization of the human victims with the goal of animal and client reunification.

Procedure:

All inquiries received anytime day or night from the community whether from client and/or community resource providing agency will be sent to the Therapeutic Programs Department. Calls should be forwarded to Therapeutic Programs Coordinator via pager 602-646-4830. Please, enter a numeric message to generate a quicker response time.

1. Once assessment and appropriateness for service has been established, the Foster Care Placement Coordinator is notified of incoming animal(s). This notification will be made by the Therapeutic Programs Department.
2. A description of the animal, specific needs, and anticipated receiving date will be provided to the Foster Care Coordinator for placement purposes.
3. Once foster care placement is secured, the client will be directed to bring animal(s) to the clinic reception area. The clinic receptionist will be notified in advance to be expecting client and upon arrival of client is to call Foster Care Coordinator and Therapeutic Programs Coordinator.
4. At this time, the animal(s) will be evaluated by both on-staff vet tech and Foster Care Coordinator. The client will be interviewed by the Therapeutic Programs Coordinator and Project SafeHouse liability release, waiver and Indemnity agreement must be signed by client.

5. Once the animal(s) have been received, the Foster Care Coordinator will place the animals(s) in a holding cage located in lost and found area with a red "hold for Taci" tag placed on the cage. The Foster Care Coordinator will make all transfer arrangements for foster care placement.
6. Clients whose animal(s) are in the foster care program are not to have any personal visits with the animal(s) but telephone reassurance can be provided by the Therapeutic Programs Coordinator.
7. Once client and animal(s) reunification is indicated the Foster Care Coordinator will be notified to retrieve the animal(s) from care provider.
8. The client will be instructed to report to clinic lobby where staff will contact the Foster Care Coordinator and Therapeutic Programs Coordinator. The release of Animal Agreement will be signed by client and animal(s) will be returned to client or designated representative of client.

All clients requesting Project SafeHouse foster care services will be informed of The Arizona Humane Society mandatory policy which states animals in this program must be spayed or neutered. Clients will be offered spay and neuter surgical options as a criterion before placement in the foster care program. Clients not able to financially afford this service will be offered sliding fee scale or no cost services. Clients will need to sign release for medical/surgical consent for spay and neuter services.

If animal(s) require transportation assistance this will be coordinated by Therapeutic Programs Coordinator with Field Operations Staff.

All calls at anytime from either a community agency or an individual requesting Project SafeHouse services are to be directed to the Therapeutic Programs Coordinator via pager (602) 464-4830. Please, enter a numeric message to generate a quicker response time.



Project SafeHouse Assessment Process

Policy:

The Therapeutic Programs Department will assess any individual requesting services through Project SafeHouse to determine appropriateness for enrollment of family pets into foster care program.

Purpose:

Our purpose is to determine psycho-social needs of clients, assess animals involved in the current family crisis and determine the best placement option for the animals. Also, to provide community resource referrals for the treatment and stabilization of the human victims with the goal of animal and client reunification.

Procedure:

Once referral has been made to the Coordinator of Therapeutic Programs, initial telephone contact will be made to begin the assessment process.

1. Initial phone contact will determine the immediate need of the client and pets. Depending upon the individual situation either assistance with safe escape planning will be offered or direct enrollment procedure will begin.
2. Screening will take place to determine if the client needs a referral to community resource agencies, has a safe environment to stay in, and/or if immediate foster care is needed.
3. Therapeutic Programs Coordinator will evaluate enrollment criterion with individual seeking services. Criterion: includes completing Project SafeHouse Assessment form, completing animal data base, determining if other animal placement options are available and offering assistance with referrals to community resources.
4. Once determined foster care placement is appropriate Therapeutic Programs Coordinator will notify Foster Care Coordinator of placement needs. Animal data base information will be provided to facilitate animal placement.
5. Arrangements will be completed by Therapeutic Programs Coordinator to

have individual bring animal(s) at appointed time to the clinic lobby. Therapeutic Programs Coordinator may arrange for pick up of animal(s) if indicated and this will be done with Field Operations Department.

6. Once individual and animal(s) have arrived clinic staff will page Therapeutic Programs Coordinator who will escort all parties to a private interview location. Foster Care Coordinator will assess animal(s) for enrollment into foster care program and will have veterinary technician assess for preliminary health status. Foster Care Coordinator will attach The Arizona Humane Society identification tag and place animal(s) in holding kennel with red "hold for Taci" tag on kennel unit until animal(s) are placed into foster care home. Therapeutic Programs Coordinator will complete assessment process and obtain signatures on liability release, waiver and indemnity agreement and if indicated release for medical/surgical consent form.
7. Once animal(s) have been placed into foster care program no visitation is allowed. Telephone reassurance can only be provided by Therapeutic Programs Coordinator and is limited to 2 calls per week.
8. One week prior to release date of animal(s) the Therapeutic Programs Coordinator will contact individual owner to make pick up arrangements. Extensions can only be given by Therapeutic Programs Coordinator after discussing extensions with Foster.



PROJECT SAFEHOUSE ASSESSMENT

Referral Source:

Agency Name:

Contact Person:

Phone Number:

Client Information:

Name:

Phone Number:

Address:

Employment Status:

Financial Resources:

Children Involvement:

Significant Other Status:

Social History:

Family Dynamics:

Pet Placement Options:

Pet Emergency Contact:

Other Needed Information:



Project SafeHouse Animal Data Base

Demographic Information:

Name:

Age:

Breed:

Sex:

Spay/Neuter Status:

Medical History:

Booster shot date:

Date of last rabies vaccination:

History of any known medical conditions:

Daily medications:

Allergies:

Personality Information:

Is your pet...

Good with dogs:

Good with cats:

Good with other animals:

Good with children

Housebroken:



ARIZONA HUMANE SOCIETY

BEST FRIENDS FOR LIFE

Liability, Release, Waiver and Indemnity Agreement

I, _____, release custody of my animal, _____, to the Arizona Humane Society for _____ days beginning today, _____. I authorize the Arizona Humane Society to provide any and all veterinary care including but not limited to: spay and neuter surgical procedures, prescription medication administration, and other care to the animal that the Arizona Humane Society believes is appropriate. I understand that all animals must be spayed/neutered before the Arizona Humane Society can take custody of any animal. My animal (is) (is not) spayed/neutered. (If the animal is not spayed or neutered, you must execute surgery consent form(s) giving the Arizona Humane Society the authority to spay/neuter your animal.)

I understand and agree that if I do not reclaim my animal by _____, or make other arrangements acceptable to the Arizona Humane Society, I will be deemed to have surrendered all my ownership rights and interests of any kind in the animal. I further understand and agree that after _____, the Arizona Humane Society may put the animal up for adoption and attempt to permanently place it in a new home, or the Arizona Humane Society may euthanize the animal. I understand and agree that after _____, the decision whether to euthanize the animal or to allow adoption of the animal will be made by the Arizona Humane Society, in its sole and absolute discretion.

In exchange for the Arizona Humane Society's agreement to take custody of the animal, I hereby release and forever discharge the Arizona Humane Society, including its officers, agents and employees, including its veterinary staff from any and all claims of any kind whatsoever which may arise from the taking custody of the animal by the Arizona Humane Society, including but not limited to claims of negligence, veterinary malpractice, conversion, breach of contract, and/or personal injury. I understand that by signing below I am waiving any and all claims against the Arizona Humane Society, its officers, agents, and employees of any kind whatsoever arising from the taking of custody of the animal by the Arizona Humane Society, including but not limited to claims of negligence, veterinary malpractice, conversion, breach of contract and/or personal injury.

I also expressly warrant and represent that no other person, including my spouse, boyfriend, girlfriend or domestic partner, has any ownership rights or interests of any kind in the animal; and that I have sole right and exclusive authority to place the animal in the custody of the Arizona Humane Society under the terms of this Agreement. As further consideration for the Arizona Humane Society's agreement to take custody of the animal, I agree to defend indemnify, and hold harmless the Arizona Humane Society, including its offices, agents, and employees, including veterinary staff, from any claims or demands by anyone who may assert ownership rights or an interest in the animal.

Signature

Date

Witness

Date



Release of Animal Agreement

The Arizona Humane Society on this date, _____, releases back into the custody of _____, the animal described as _____, which has been in the care of Project SafeHouse foster care program.

Signature

Date

Witness

Date



Project SafeHouse Animal Placement Process

Thank you for providing a safe nurturing home environment for this animal on behalf of an individual in crisis. If you have any questions regarding the care needed for this animal please feel free to contact the following individuals:

For questions regarding general care of the animal(s) call Foster Care Coordinator Taci Pastor at (602) 997-7585 ext 149.

If the animal(s) in your care need medical evaluation call Foster Care Coordinator Taci Pastor who is available Tuesday through Saturday 9:00a.m. to 6:00p.m. at (602) 997-7585 ext 149. An appointment for the animal(s) will be arranged, services are provided by the Arizona Humane Society Clinic.

After hours and on Sundays and Mondays please call Marcia Soldavini the Therapeutic Programs Coordinator via pager (602) 646-4830 and use a numeric response to generate a quicker response time.

Please bring this form along with the animal to the Arizona Humane Society Clinic which is located at 9226 North 13th Ave Phoenix, Arizona in order to receive medical assistance once the appointment has been made for you.

Project SafeHouse Foster Animal Information

Breed: _____

Age: _____

Sex: _____

Color: _____

AHS: ID Tag Number: _____

Thank you very much for participating in this project that benefits both people and animals in crisis situations. Please, do not hesitate to call with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Marcia Soldavini
Coordinator Therapeutic Programs
Arizona Humane Society



Project SafeHouse Emergency Medical Treatment Process

Policy:

Emergency medical treatment/services are available to any Project SafeHouse Foster Care Provider for the animal(s) in their care.

Purpose:

Our purpose is to maintain the overall health of the animal(s) receiving Project SafeHouse foster care services and to medically assess any emergent medical situations. These services shall be provided through The Arizona Humane Society Clinic and clinic staff. If possible, medical services will be scheduled in advance but emergency care is covered during the animal(s) foster care stay.

Procedure:

1. Once foster care providers recognize any signs or symptoms related to illness or injury they should contact the Arizona Humane Society immediately, and speak directly with Foster Care Coordinator or Therapeutic Program Coordinator.
2. The Arizona Humane Society Clinic will receive notification of the need to evaluate an animal from either Foster Care Coordinator or Therapeutic Program Coordinator in the following way:

During the hours of 9:00a.m. to 6:00p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, Foster Care Coordinator, upon notification from a foster care provider that medical treatment is needed will notify clinic staff and facilitate an appointment.

After hours and on Sundays and Mondays the Therapeutic Programs Coordinator, upon notification from a foster care provider that medical treatment is needed will notify clinic staff and facilitate an appointment.
3. SafeHouse foster care providers will be given written information on the process of obtaining emergency medical intervention with both information on contacting the Foster Care Coordinator with pager number and Therapeutic Programs Coordinator with pager number. All animals placed into the Project SafeHouse foster care program will have an Arizona Humane Society collar and own identification tag which will be registered to the Arizona Humane Society Therapeutic Programs department.



Project SafeHouse Volunteer Training

Policy:

The Therapeutic Programs Department will assess all potential volunteers, and offer a three part training process to ensure volunteers are adequately prepared to provide foster care services to animals in crisis situations.

Purpose:

Our purpose is to develop a core of Project SafeHouse Volunteers that are available in an emergency situation to provide nurturing care to animals that have been involved in crisis living situations. These volunteers will not only participate in the general orientation process but additional training sessions as well prior to receiving any foster care animals.

Procedure:

1. All potential volunteers will complete both volunteer application and foster care application and return forms to volunteer office.
2. Potential volunteers will attend general volunteer orientation and participate in an interview process with the Therapeutic Programs Coordinator.
3. Potential volunteers will attend a second training session sponsored by the Therapeutic Programs Department. Information on the cycle of domestic violence and need for complete confidentiality will be addressed.
4. The final training session for potential volunteers will discuss behaviors specific to animals residing in household turmoil. Also, the assessment of the volunteers animal placement preferences and information on services and supplies.

Once all training sessions have been completed then the volunteer will be placed on the Project SafeHouse Foster Care Volunteer listing with the Foster Care Coordinator.



ARIZONA HUMANE SOCIETY
BEST FRIENDS FOR LIFE

Dear Perspective Project SafeHouse Volunteer:

Thank you for interest in our volunteer foster care program which benefits our Project SafeHouse Program. It is often seen that animals are the silent victims in abusive households. This program provides domestic animals up to 30 days of shelter in approved foster care homes. Our volunteer foster care providers participate in extensive training which enables the animals to be cared for in a safe nurturing environment. As a prospective Project SafeHouse volunteer you will be required to attend all three training sessions prior to caring for domestic animals in your home. This training program is offered various times throughout the year if this segment does not fit into your existing schedule.

The Project SafeHouse training consists of three separate training sessions. Material presented directly relates to caring for domestic animals that have been involved in domestic violence situations.

Your first step is to submit a completed volunteer application, foster care application and plan on attending the general volunteer orientation. Please R.S.V.P. with Pat Dunsmoor at 997-7585 ext 126 and return your completed applications as soon as possible: as our next general volunteer training is scheduled for:

Saturday October 30, 1999

Registration: 7:30 a.m.

Orientation: 8:00 a.m.

Once this has been completed a second training will be sponsored by the Therapeutic Programs Department. At this training basic information on the cycle of domestic violence and need for complete confidentiality will be addressed. Individual interviews will be conducted during this session to provide further exploration into volunteer opportunities within project SafeHouse. This training is scheduled for:

Saturday November 6, 1999

Orientation: 8:00 a.m.

Interviews: 9:00 a.m.

The final training process will involve information provided by the AHS staff animal behaviorist regarding behaviors specific to animals residing in households with turmoil. Also, at this time the foster care coordinator will assess your animal placement preferences and provide information on services and supplies. This training program is scheduled for :



ARIZONA HUMANE SOCIETY

"Best Friends For Life"

9226 North 13th Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85021-3022
602-997-7585, Ext.126

ARIZONA HUMANE SOCIETY VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

It is the mission of The Arizona Humane Society
to promote healthy relationships between people and animals.

Our goals are to:

- ◆ prevent cruelty to and suffering of all animals
- ◆ teach responsible animal care
- ◆ secure quality homes for animals
- ◆ shelter and heal animals in need
- ◆ abolish pet overpopulation

AHS encourages the participation of individuals who support the stated mission. Potential volunteers will be interviewed prior to placement. Volunteers participate in training programs as part of their experience. If you agree with our mission and are willing to be interviewed and trained, we encourage you to complete this application. The information on this form will help us find the most satisfying and appropriate job for you.

PLEASE PRINT

NAME _____ DATE _____
Last First

ADDRESS _____

HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____ City ZIP

BIRTHDAY (Optional) _____

AGE: (Check one) ☐ 14-15 ☐ 16-17 ☐ 18-30 ☐ 31-45 ☐ 46-60 ☐ Over 60

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, CONTACT: _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

FOR OFFICE USE

Appl. Received _____ Orientation _____

Interview _____ Placement _____

Training _____ Shift _____

Start Date _____

Describe any previous education or work experience with animals _____

List present and previous volunteer work _____

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

EMPLOYER _____ ADDRESS _____

JOB TITLE _____ PHONE _____

TYPE OF BUSINESS _____ WORK HOURS _____

DUTIES _____

REFERENCES: List three references (other than relatives) whom we may contact in regard to your volunteering for AHS.

Name	Address	Phone
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____

TIME AVAILABILITY

I can volunteer _____ hours per week or _____ hours per month.

Please indicate the days/times which you would be available:

Mon. _____	Tues. _____	Wed. _____
Thurs. _____	Fri. _____	Sat. _____
Sun. _____	Almost any time _____	

Do you have any physical or medical limitations which would limit the type of volunteer activities you can do, i.e., pregnancy, back problems, etc.? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If YES, please explain _____

Are you fluent in any language(s) other than English? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If YES: What other language(s)? _____

Are you meeting a class requirement for volunteer hours? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If YES: No. of hours _____ Completion date _____

Have you been ordered by the court to do community service? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If YES: No. of hours _____ Completion date _____

Were you cited for cruelty to animals? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Were you cited for theft? ☐ Yes ☐ No

We would be interested in any further information you might wish to offer _____

Liability Release & Waiver: I, the undersigned, understand that my participation with THE ARIZONA HUMANE SOCIETY is strictly on a volunteer basis. I understand that there are inherent risks associated with my volunteer activities, including the risk of personal injury resulting from animal bites and other animal behavior.

In exchange for THE ARIZONA HUMANE SOCIETY'S agreement to allow me to participate in its volunteer program, I hereby release THE ARIZONA HUMANE SOCIETY, including its officers, agents and employees, from any and all claims of liability of any kind whatsoever, including but not limited to claims of negligence and/or injury to me arising out of my participation in THE ARIZONA HUMANE SOCIETY'S volunteer program. I understand that by signing below I am waiving any and all claims of liability, including but not limited to claims of negligence and/or injury to me, against THE ARIZONA HUMANE SOCIETY officers, agents and employees, arising out of my participation in THE ARIZONA HUMANE SOCIETY volunteer program.

Signature _____ Date _____

MINOR CONSENT: I _____ give consent for
(Parent or Guardian)

_____ to volunteer at THE ARIZONA HUMANE SOCIETY
(Minor's Name)

HOW DID YOU RECEIVE THIS APPLICATION FORM?

☐ Picked up at AHS Office ☐ Picked up at pet store ☐ Mailed to me

☐ Other (please explain:) _____

☐ I will attend the orientation on _____



ARIZONA HUMANE SOCIETY
BEST FRIENDS FOR LIFE

Date: _____

ARIZONA HUMANE SOCIETY SAFEHOUSE FOSTER CARE APPLICATION

What types of animals would you like to foster?

_____ Felines

_____ Canines

_____ small 0-25 lbs.

_____ medium 25-50 lbs.

_____ large 50 lbs and up

PLEASE PRINT:

Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

Address: _____ Work Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Number of children in household: _____ and their ages: _____

Do you own or rent your home? _____

If you rent, does your lease allow animals? _____

If you rent or reside in another person's home, your landlord/home owner must be contacted prior to fostering an animal. A copy of your lease or written permission to bring a pet into the residence must be presented at time of orientation/interview.

Do you have a fenced yard? _____

What type of fence? _____ How high? _____

Are you currently providing foster or rescue work for another agency? _____

If so name of agency: _____

Continued



ARIZONA HUMANE SOCIETY

BEST FRIENDS FOR LIFE

Please describe the area where foster animals will be kept: _____

ANIMAL CARE INFORMATION:

Do you have any pets? _____ How many? _____

Please List:

Breed	Sex	Age	Spayed or Neutered
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

All your animals must be current on all vaccinations and have routine veterinary care services. I agree to keep all information regarding my project SafeHouse foster animal confidential. This means, I will not discuss with anyone the terms and situations regarding this animal or the original owner.

Signature _____

Date _____



ARIZONA HUMANE SOCIETY
BEST FRIENDS FOR LIFE

SAFEHOUSE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SPEAKERS OUTLINE

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Arizona Humane Society History:
 - 40 plus years in the business of sheltering, adoptions and animal rescue
 - 40,000 animals enter our doors annually
3. New Mission Statement:
 - promoting healthy relationships between animals and people
 - the human animal bond is a strong one
4. Therapeutic Programs Department Services:
 - pet food bank services in conjunction with human food banks
 - AAA/AAT programs that promote healthy relationships between animals and people
 - bereavement/counseling services
 - the link education
 - project safehouse
5. Overview of project safehouse:
 - a foster care program for the animals caught in crisis
 - provides up to 30 days of foster care in approved foster care homes
 - no set fees involved for enrollment into the program
 - no visitation is allowed, phone contacts are encouraged between AHS staff and client
 - vet checks are completed prior to placement
 - animals in program are encouraged to be housebound only
 - any needed vet care is provided by the AHS clinic staff
6. Domestic Violence Overview:
 - abuse by one person of another in an intimate relationship
 - it's the systematic persecution of one partner by another
 - can be physical assaults, verbal abuse, fear, humiliation, or sexual abuse
 - it's for power and control over an individual
 - fault finding in another human being
 - intended to control another human
7. Domestic Violence is major cause of:
 - disability
 - homelessness



ARIZONA HUMANE SOCIETY
BEST FRIENDS FOR LIFE

addiction
attempted suicide

8. Cycle of Abuse:

first tension builds the man becomes edgy, critical irritable women feel like they are walking on eggshells
second violent outburst with acute battering the man flies into rage and becomes violent for no apparent reason
third after brutality comes the apology the man is remorseful and nonviolent, begs for forgiveness swears it will never happen again (this is way women stay in the situation)
the cycle repeats itself, denial enters as an important role

9. Learned Helplessness:

women believe that any action they may take will not be effective in stopping the violence, they believe the abuser will go after them and find them no matter where they go

10. Escape Planning:

once women feel that their children or pets could be harmed then they think about leaving
women will not leave behind children or animals for fear they will be abused or used to force her back into the situation
having a plan puts the women in control often for the first time in their lives

11. Actual plans include:

gathering phone numbers for community resources
make initial calls to crisis lines and shelters
pack an emergency bag for self, children and pets hide the bag outside
tell trustworthy friends and school teachers of the abuse
rehearse your departure

12. The Link Between Various Forms Of Violence:

animal cruelty and other forms of family violence connection
historical look at known serial killers
recent increase with violence in our schools and underlying animal cruelty



Project Safehouse Foster Care Interview Questions

1. What types of volunteer positions are you interested in?
2. What other types of volunteer positions have you had in the past?
3. Are you currently providing animal foster care services to any other programs?
4. Why are you interested in volunteering for project Safehouse as a foster care provider?
5. Do you have any personal experience with domestic violence situations?
6. Do you think you can maintain complete confidentiality for the animals in your care?
7. What measures would you put into place to maintain animal confidentiality?
8. Do you have adequate transportation for the needs of an animal in your care?
9. Would you be able to surrender the animal at the end of the stay in your home?
10. Do you have any questions of me or the Arizona Humane Society?

The Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania Foster Guidelines / Agreement

As a foster agent for the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania, I agree to the following conditions:

- 1. Fostering or removal of any animal or animals from the shelter must be approved by the Operations Director, Executive Director or Assistant Executive Director prior to the signing of this agreement.**
- 2. The Animal Rescue League agrees to provide food, water, and shelter to the animal(s) that have been fostered.**
- 3. The fostering party has agreed to handle and continue the necessary socialization of the animal or animals they are fostering to continue the normal development of the animal.**
- 4. The foster party is to contact the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania immediately if the animal or animals they are fostering need medical care.**
- 5. The fostering party agrees not to take the fostered animal or animals out of state.**
- 6. The fostering party agrees not to remove the animal or animals from the location they have been approved for without the permission of the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania.**
- 7. The fostering party agrees to keep a collar and an Animal Rescue League I.D. Tag on the animal or animals.**
- 8. The fostering party agrees to permit periodic visits from a staff member from the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania.**
- 9. If the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania determines that a foster placement should be terminated, the fostering party must surrender the animal or animals immediately.**
- 10. If the animal or animals that are being fostered were to run away or stolen, the fostering party agrees to contact the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania immediately.**

11. The fostering party agrees not to alter in any way the appearance of the animal being fostered. This includes declawing, cropping of ears, or tails, spaying/neutering, microchipping, or tattooing without the written permission of the Executive Director, Assistant Executive Director, or Operations Director.
12. The fostering party agrees to keep a female cat or dog that comes into heat, separate from any male cats or dogs. If this is not possible, the animal or animals are to be returned to the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania to prevent the animal from getting pregnant.
13. If an animal or animals that are being fostered requires medication, the fostering party agrees to administer the medication as prescribed.
14. The fostering party and all members in the household agree to treat the animal or animals with kindness and adhere to the anti-cruelty laws of the State of Pennsylvania.
15. The fostering party can not use the animal or animals being fostered for any commercial exploitation.
16. While the animal or animals are being fostered, the fostering party assumes full legal responsibility for the animal and any damage to people and/or property the animal may cause.
17. If the fostering party were to move or change phone numbers, they have agreed to provide this information to the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania immediately.

I HAVE READ THE ABOVE AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY ALL THE CONDITIONS SET FORTH IN THIS AGREEMENT.

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania (412) 661-6452

Agreement to Board/Foster out for Emergency Situations

I agree to allow the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania to care for/foster out my animal(s) while I am displaced from residence. I understand that this agreement for care is for a maximum of 3 months. I understand that if my animal(s) is not claimed within the 3 month period, it then becomes the property of the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania. I understand that my animal(s) may be exposed to diseases but the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania will exercise all care and precaution. The Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania is not liable for any illness or death of my animal(s) while in their care or fostered out to foster homes. I understand that emergency medical attention needed by my animal will, if available on a reasonable basis, be provided by the Veterinarian staff of the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania. I understand that the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania reserves the right to decide on the administration and/or non administration of any and/or all medical care should the need for any such care arise. I understand that my animal(s) will receive a Rabies Shot, and all necessary inoculations prior to entry. I understand that for the protection of the animal and the foster care provider, I will not be permitted to visit my animal while it is under the care of the Animal Rescue League.

-There is No Fee mandated for Emergency Boarding.

-Special diets, care and any other instructions should be left by the owner.

Your Name: _____
PLEASE PRINT First Name Full Middle Name Last Name

Your Maiden Name: _____

Permanent Address: _____

Phone: () _____

Name and Address of Shelter where you will stay temporarily: _____

Shelter Phone Number where you can be reached: () _____

How long do you plan to stay at this shelter?: _____

Person to call in case of emergency: _____

Name of person from whom you are seeking shelter:

PLEASE PRINT	First Name	Full Middle Name	Last Name
--------------	------------	------------------	-----------

Your Veterinarian: _____

Veterinarian's Phone

Number: _____

Emergency phone numbers where you can be reached:

Home: _____ Work: _____

Your animal's receiving number is # _____

I have read and understand the above:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print your name: _____

**ARL VOLUNTEER PROGRAM
AGREEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING**

I hereby agree to accept a volunteer position with the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania, and in so doing, I agree to **COMPLY WITH THE RULES AND REGULATIONS, INSTRUCTIONS AND MANDATES GIVEN ME by the League**, and I understand that failure to do so may result in my immediate termination as a volunteer.

I acknowledge that my services are provided strictly on a volunteer basis, **WITHOUT ANY PAY OR COMPENSATION OF ANY KIND**, and **WITHOUT LIABILITY OF ANY NATURE ON BEHALF OF THE ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA**, all services to be performed by me at my own risk.

I recognize that in handling animals there exists a **RISK OF INJURY, INFECTION, DISEASE**, including physical harm caused by the animals. On behalf of myself, my heirs, personal representatives, and executors, I hereby release, discharge, indemnify and hold harmless the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania, its agents, servants, and employees from any and all claims, causes of actions, or demands and any nature of cause, including costs and attorneys fees incurred or sustained by me in any way connected with my services to the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania but not limited to: animal bites, accidents, injuries, property damage, and veterinary fees.

Date

Volunteer Name: (Please Print)

Volunteer Signature

Witness Name: (Please Print)

Witness Signature

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE CONDITIONS OF AGREEMENT TO FOSTER CARE

I. PERMISSION TO FOSTER AN ANIMAL

- a.) Person responsible for the foster care must be at least 21 years of age.
- b.) Fostering or removal of any animal from the shelter must be approved by the Executive Director, Assistant Executive Director, or Volunteer Coordinator prior to the signing of this agreement.

II. CARE OF THE ANIMAL

- a.) The fostering party and all members in the household agree to treat the animal(s) with kindness and adhere to the anti-cruelty laws of the State of Pennsylvania.
- b.) The fostering party agrees not to remove the animal(s) from the location they have been approved for without the permission of the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania.
- c.) The fostering party agrees to keep a collar and an Animal Rescue League I. D. tag on the animal(s).
- d.) The fostering party agrees not to alter in any way the appearance of the animal being fostered. This includes declawing, cropping of ears, or tails, spaying/neutering, microchipping, or tattooing without the written permission of the Executive Director, Assistant Executive Director, or Volunteer Coordinator.
- e.) The fostering party agrees to keep a female cat or dog that comes into heat, separate from any male cats or dogs. If this is not possible, the animal(s) are to be returned to the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania to prevent the animal from getting pregnant.
- f.) If an animal or animals being fostered requires medication, the fostering party agrees to administer the medication as prescribed.
- g.) The fostering party has agreed to handle and continue the necessary socialization of the animal(s) they are fostering to continue the normal development of the animal.
- e.) The fosterin party can not use the animal or animals being fostered for any commercial exploitation.

III. EMERGENCIES

- a.) If the animal or animals being fostered were to run away or be stolen, the fostering party agrees to contact the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania immediately.
- b.) If a medical problem developes with a fostered animal, the veterinary clinic of the ARL should be called immediately, and their advice followed by the caregiver. The caregiver should then give their name and number to the ARL

employee on the phone and wait for our veterinarian to call them back. If, while on the phone, the ARL veterinarian determines that the life of the animal may be in danger without immediate care (ie, the animal needs veterinary care before the League clinic opens), the ARL will provide the caregiver with the name, address and phone number of an emergency clinic. The ARL will pay for the care given to the animal. Documentation from emergency clinic veterinarian will be needed for reimbursement. This is the only circumstances under which the ARL will pay for services provided outside its own medical facility.

IV. MONITERING

- a.) The fostering party agrees to permit periodic visits from a staff member from the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania.
- b.) If the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania determines that a foster placement should be terminated, the fostering party must surrender the animal(s) immediately.
- c.) If the fostering party were to move or change phone numbers, they have agreed to provide this information to the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania immediately.

V. OTHER

- a.) Fostering party agrees to return the animal(s) to the ARL at the date set by the ARL. This return will be done by appointment with the Volunteer Coordinator or their designate, and will include examination of the animals and a signed relinquishment of responsibility.

I have read the agreement above and agree to abide by all the conditions set forth in this agreement.

Date

Volunteer Signature

Witness Signature

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE
PARTNERSHIP AGAINST ABUSE

ANIMAL CARE AGREEMENT

NAME OF CLIENT _____

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER _____

NAME(S) AND SPECIES OF ANIMALS TO WHICH THIS AGREEMENT PERTAINS _____

DATE _____

For the ARL to enter into this agreement of care with you, you must agree to all of its provisions. If you do not agree, then we suggest you do not sign the agreement at this time. We are happy to join with you in an agreement at any time in the future when you feel ready to endorse this contract and all its provisions.

Please initial each statement as evidence that you have understood it and agree to abide by it.

INITIAL HERE

I declare that I am in the process of leaving an abusive living situation and relocating myself to a situation which is appropriate and safe.

I assert that the person from whom I am separating myself either has threatened harm to my animal(s) or has inflicted harm on my animal(s) either by what they have done or by neglect of the animal(s) needs

OR

I fear that the abusive person from whom I am separating myself will harm my animal, although they have not done so to my knowledge in the past, based on what I know of their potential for violence and/or control

Recognizing that I cannot safely leave the animal with such a person and recognizing that I cannot provide care and safety myself during this transition to another living situation, I hereby transfer ownership of my animal(s) named above, to the Animal Rescue League

I know that the Animal Rescue League will act at all times in a caring, humane, and responsible way on behalf of my animal(s) and will undertake any course of action only in a considerate manner. The ARL will accord my animal(s) the same treatment it accords all of its animals.

Partnership Against Abuse -2-
INITIAL HERE

I understand that the Animal Rescue League will care for my animal(s) for a period of up to 90 days while I relocate.

I understand that the Animal Rescue League agrees to re-transfer ownership of my animal to me anytime within the 90 days, on the condition that I provide evidence to the satisfaction of the League that the animal(s) will not be returned to the unsafe, potentially abusive situation.

If the animal(s) is to return to living with me, evidence that I am no longer in an abusive situation would be required, for example but not limited to: a copy of a new lease agreement for a new residence, a written statement from a family member or friend with whom I intend to live, or if I return to the former residence, a copy of the Protection from Abuse Order from the court.

If I decide that I cannot re-obtain ownership of my animal(s) within 90 days, I can arrange for someone else (a friend or family member) to adopt it. I do understand that they will have to pay the adoption fee charged by the League and follow all usual adoption procedures.

If, within 90 days of the date of this agreement, I have not re-obtained ownership of my animal(s) and I have not arranged for the animal(s) to be adopted by a responsible, caring relative or friend, on the 91st day my rights to re-ownership of the animal(s) will expire.

The Animal Rescue League will not knowingly release my animal(s) to the person from whom I am protecting myself: the person so named on my application form.

To protect my safety and the safety of the animals, I understand that the League will permit no one, not even me, to visit my animal while it is under the League's care.

Further, the Animal Rescue League will not release information to me or anyone else regarding the location of my animal or release information as to my location.

Partnership Against Abuse -3-

INITIAL HERE

In the unlikely event that my location or the location of my animal(s) does become known to persons who later inflict harm on me or my animal(s), I hereby agree to hold the Animal Rescue League blameless from liability of any kind.

I understand that although the League will act responsibly, the animal(s) I leave with it may become ill or injured, not from abuse, but in the simple course of leading its life. I agree to hold the League blameless from liability in such an event.

I understand the terms of this agreement are drafted out of the Animal Rescue League's deep commitment to support safety, nurturance and wellbeing for all people and animals and its commitment to resist physical and emotional abuse of all individuals, human and animal.

I UNDERSTAND THE TERMS OF THIS AGREEMENT. I AM IN A MENTAL STATE CAPABLE OF EXERCISING JUDGMENT AND MAKING A FREE DECISION TO ENTER INTO THIS AGREEMENT. I AGREE TO ABIDE BY ITS TERMS.

DATE

WITNESS: Please Print

CLIENT: Please Print

WITNESS: Signature

CLIENT: Signature

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE
PARTNERSHIP AGAINST ABUSE APPLICATION

NAME OF CLIENT _____

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER _____

ADDRESS WHICH CLIENT IS LEAVING _____

TELEPHONE _____

NAME AND ADDRESS OF TEMPORARY SHELTER _____

TELEPHONE _____

NAME OF PERSON ALLEGEDLY ENGAGING IN OR THREATENING ABUSE _____

ADDRESS OF NEW, SAFE LOCATION FOR CLIENT AND ANIMAL _____

TELEPHONE _____

NAME OF PERSON WHO MAY BE CONTACTED IN AN EMERGENCY _____

TELEPHONE _____

CLIENT'S PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT _____

TELEPHONE _____

ANIMAL INFORMATION

TYPE OF ANIMAL _____ BREED _____ GENDER _____

NAME _____ AGE _____

MEDICAL HISTORY AND SPECIAL MEDICAL NEEDS _____

SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS _____

BEHAVIOR/TEMPERMENT _____

GOOD WITH CHILDREN? _____

VETERINARIAN _____

PERMISSION TO RELEASE VETERINARY RECORDS

(Please sign here) _____

OTHER INFORMATION

**The Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania
Foster Care Program**

This form must be completed by all individuals wishing to foster an animal(s). The completion of this form does NOT guarantee that an animal will be placed with you.

To foster an animal(s), the responsible party must be at least 21 years of age. This is NOT an adoption agreement. If an animal is placed with you, it is understood that this is only a temporary arrangement.

I have read, and understand the above statements _____

Foster Applicant's Signature

_____, Date

**Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania
Application to be a Foster Care Provider**

Date: _____ Drivers License Number: _____

Social Security Number: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: () _____ Work: () _____

I. INTEREST

A. TYPES OF ANIMAL(S) YOU ARE INTERESTED IN FOSTERING:

1. Puppy() Dog() Kitten() Cat() Rabbit() Other()
2. Unweaned/Bottle babies() Pregnant Cats() Pregnant Dogs()
3. Kittens with Mothers() Puppies with Mothers()
4. Sick() Injured() Malnourished()
5. Animal needing Medication or Nursing Care().

B. How long are you able to foster an animal? _____

C. Have you ever fostered an animal before? _____

If yes, What kind? _____

What was your experience? _____

II. OCCUPANTS IN HOUSEHOLD

Name of Spouse or Significant Other _____

1. Do you have Children? ()YES ()NO

If yes, list their ages _____

2. Others _____

3. Is anyone in the household allergic to animals? Yes() No()

If yes, what type of animal(s)? _____

III. ANIMALS OWNED:

1. How many animals do you have? _____

2. List all the different types: (Cats, Dogs, breeds, etc.)

3. List their ages: _____

4. Are they compatible with other animals? Be specific. _____

5. Are they spayed or neutered? _____

6. Are their vaccinations current? _____

7. Name Of Veterinarian _____ Phone _____

IV. FACILITIES:

1. House() Apartment() Other() _____

2. Do you own/rent your property? Own() Rent()

Landlord's Name: _____

Landlord's Address: _____

Landlord's Phone Number: () _____

3. Is there a yard? _____ Is it fenced? _____

4. How high is the fence? _____ feet.

5. Do you have space available to house the animal? _____

Animal must be kept indoors in a warm, dry area with appropriate bedding.
Are you capable of providing this environment? _____

6. What are some possible reasons you might have to return a fostered animal?

V. MEDICAL INFORMATION:

Would you be willing to give medication/ medical treatment to an animal you were fostering? Yes() No()

VI. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: _____

I hereby certify that the information on this application is true.

Name: (Please Print)

Signature

Date

Volunteer Release Form

I, _____, hereby agree to accept a volunteer position for the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania, and in so doing, I agree to comply with all of the rules and regulations which may be established from time to time by the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania, and I understand that failure to do so may result in my immediate termination as a volunteer. I acknowledge that my services are provided strictly on a volunteer basis, without any pay or compensation of any kind, and without liability of any nature on behalf of the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania, all services to be performed by me at my own risk. I recognize that in handling animals there exists a risk of injury including physical harm caused by the animals. On behalf of myself, my heirs, personal representative, and executors, I hereby release, discharge, indemnify and hold harmless the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania, its agent, servants, and employees from any and all claims, cause of action, or demands, and any nature of cause, including costs and attorneys fees incurred or sustained by me in any way connected with my services from the Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania, including but not limited to, animal bites, accidents, injuries, property damage, and or veterinary fees.

Date

Volunteer's Signature

Animal To Be Boarded
A separate form **MUST** be filled out for each animal

Type of animal: (Please Circle One) Dog Puppy Cat Kitten Rabbit Hamster
Guinea Pig Other (Please Specify)

Age: _____ Sex: (Please Circle One) Male Female

Name: _____

Known Medical Condition: _____

Current Medications: _____	Dosage: _____
_____	Dosage: _____
_____	Dosage: _____
_____	Dosage: _____

Previous Medical History: _____

Dietary Restrictions: _____

Behavioral Problems: (PLEASE BE SPECIFIC) _____

Please state anything that you feel we should know about your pet: _____

To be completed by the Intake Facilitator

Current condition of the animal: (BE VERY SPECIFIC, state scars, bruises, burns, cuts, new and old injuries etc.) _____

By signing this form, I state that everything on this form to be true and complete:

Your signature Date

Intake Facilitator: _____
Please print your name Date

The following forms are used currently being filled out at all the local women's shelters in our area. The forms titled "Domestic Violence Shelter Survey" and "Crisis Intervention Survey" are asked during my initial phone call with the shelter. After asking all the questions on these two forms, upon their approval, I send copies of the "Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania Pet Survey" to be completed as the women enter the shelter. I have asked the intake counselors to ask everyone entering the shelter the questions on the form titled "Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania Pet Survey". I have asked the shelters to send the completed forms to me on a monthly basis and to keep the survey running. I plan to run the survey for at least one year.

Animal Rescue League of Western Pennsylvania Pet Survey

Please take a moment to fill out this form. We hope to get a better understanding of the number of pets in homes where domestic abuse is occurring. Please do not write your name or any personal information about yourself. Thank you for your time and cooperation.

1. Do you and your spouse own a pet. (Circle one) YES or NO.

2. What will become of your pet upon entering the shelter?

3. Was your pet ever used as leverage against you and or your children, or to manipulate you in any way? (Circle one) YES or NO.

4. Was your pet ever abused or neglected by your spouse/partner? (Circle one) YES or NO.
If so, how? _____

5. How many pets do you own and what kind are they?

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

4. _____ 5. _____ 6. _____

THIS IS AN ANONYMOUS SURVEY

Domestic Violence Shelter Survey

Is there a need for pet foster homes for domestic violence victims wanting to enter shelters?

1. How often do you encounter a victim of domestic violence with a pet?
2. How many abuse victims do you personally see who have a pet?
3. What is happening now with these pets?
4. What psychological affect does this have on the individual?
5. May I leave a stack of forms at your shelter to be anonymously filled out by those entering your shelter?



Tulsa Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

2910 Mohawk Boulevard Tulsa, Oklahoma 74110 (918) 428-2529

March 8, 1999

Frank R. Ascione
Department of Psychology
Utah State University
Logan Utah 84322

Sir:

I read your article in the *Latham Letter*, Fall '98, and set it aside with the intention of sending information about our foster programs. Unfortunately, I got busy with other matters and didn't get back to it until now. (My work with TSPCA is volunteer and I also have a regular full time job.) I hope my letter is not too late to be of help.

Just a little bit about our organization: Tulsa SPCA has been in operation since 1913 and, except for a few paid day workers, is run by volunteers. We maintain a full time shelter (250 to 300 animals year around), an off-site adoption center called New Leash On Life, located at Eastland Mall, support a Cruelty Investigator, and operate our own hospital. We're fortunate to also have a large TSPCA Auxillary... volunteers who conduct fundraisers, and handle many of our other programs, including public speaking and pet therapy visits to 19 area nursing homes monthly. Officers and Directors are also volunteers. Our adoptions average 1400-1500 animals per year and we euthanize only as a last resort.

Now I'll get down to what you wanted to know about... We've had an arrangement with DVIS (Domestic Violence Intervention Services) here in Tulsa since July, 1992, whereby we provide temporary care for their clients who enter their shelter. We already had an established Foster Pet Program for TSPCA animals (animals we take in who are injured, need additional recovery time before adoption, nursing mothers, etc.). However, we learned that when people from abusive homes entered the DVIS shelter, they had nowhere for their animals to go other than to turn them over to the city pound. We felt that this was an added insult to a family that had already lost so much. And as you said, I know some women stay in abusive homes *because* of their pets.

The program has been quite successful. In fact, we were recently approached by Day Spring Villa, which is a Baptist Women's Center, for the same service and have agreed to handle their clients as well. The program has gone smoothly, and owners are always grateful to know their pets will be safe... the only complaint being that they often want to know if they can visit their pets, which is understandable. However, we don't allow this. We feel that not only would it upset the pet, but because of the violence often surrounding the situation, we don't want to directly involve our foster care providers. (Homes are provided by TSPCA volunteers and the animals are cared for in their own homes.) The animals are admitted through our hospital and are picked up there by the provider. They don't meet the owners.



"We speak for those who cannot speak for themselves."


March 8, 1999
Page -2-

We initially agree to take the animals for two weeks; however, when needed, we extend the time to allow them to become functional before reclaiming their pets. We foster primarily dogs and cats, but have also taken birds, rats and whatever. We can also provide foster homes for horses. You will note in the enclosed information that the provider is assigned a mentor who will always be available for help. When the Foster Pet Program was first established, we had a local veterinarian give the mentors a "crash course" on how to handle situations that might come up.

I'm enclosing some of the forms we use, not only for the owner, but also for the providers. They are relatively simple, but have worked well for us. You'll note that we included a clause in our DVIS agreement so that in case the animal is eventually abandoned with us, we won't have to go through an ownership problem and can adopt them to another home if necessary; however, we have not had that happen to date.

I hope some of this information will help. I don't know what else you may want, but will be happy to provide what I can. If you write, please address your letter to my attention. As I mentioned earlier, I'm not at the shelter during working hours; however, if you wish to call, they will get a message to me. (I'll need a number where I can reach you after hours.)

Sincerely,



Mitty Finley, President
Tulsa SPCA

Enclosures

(You can possibly reach me at work if you wish to try; however, I'm often away from my office. (I'm Editor of Publications at American Airlines - 918/292-2350.)

FOSTERPET AGREEMENT - DVIS
 (When turning an animal in to TSPCA for temporary care)

Date _____

I have this date turned over to Tulsa Society of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (TSPCA) the following described animal:

I understand that through its FOSTERPET PROGRAM, TSPCA agrees to provide temporary care for the animal for a period not to exceed fourteen (14) days from the date hereof and that this foster care is to be furnished free of charge. I understand that during the time this animal is in the care and custody of TSPCA, I will not be allowed to contact the person providing care, nor will I be allowed to visit the animal until such time as I am ready to again take custody and full responsibility for it.

I understand that if I fail to reclaim the animal within that period of time, I then relinquish all ownership of and responsibility for said animal and that it shall then become the sole property of TSPCA, at which time it will be made available for adoption through TSPCA, the same as any other TSPCA animal would be. I further understand that if the animal is relinquished to TSPCA and in the event the animal then becomes severely ill or injured, or in the event TSPCA is unable to find a new home for the animal and determines it is in the best interest of the animal to euthanize it, it is at the sole discretion of TSPCA to determine if or when it becomes necessary and that under no circumstances will I be notified prior to such action. I also understand that if the animal is adopted by another party, TSPCA will not divulge the name or address of the new owner.

I further understand that before placing the animal in a foster home, it will be tested for contagious incurable diseases and if it does in fact prove to have such a contagious incurable disease, TSPCA will euthanize the animal immediately and will not place it in foster care. Neither will it be returned to you or any other person or agency.

I further understand that if I decide to reclaim the animal at any time after the initial fourteen day period has expired, and if the animal is still available for adoption, it is at the sole discretion of TSPCA if I may be allowed to do so, and that if the animal is reclaimed by me, I agree to pay the full adoption fees as would normally be paid by any other person.

I hereby agree that I will not hold TSPCA responsible for any injury, illness, or the death of said animal while it is in their care.

WITNESS:

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INTERVENTION SERVICES
 (DVIS)

 Name

 Address

By: _____

 City

 State

 Zip

Date: _____

DVIS Pet Information

Owner's name: _____ Case No. _____

Pet: Dog _____ Cat _____ Other _____ It's Name _____

Male _____ Female _____ Age _____ Is it spayed or neutered? Yes _____ No _____

Is it pregnant? _____ If yes, when is it due to deliver? _____

Breed _____ How long have you had the animal? _____

Date of last shots _____ Date last dipped _____ Vet's name _____

Vet's Tel No. _____ Does it have medical problems or has it had recent medical treatment of any kind? (explain) _____

What kind of food is it used to? _____ Is it housebroken? _____

Leash trained? _____ Obedience trained? _____ Does it get along with Cats? _____

Dogs? _____ Children? _____ Does it jump fences or dig out? (Explain) _____

Has it ever bitten anyone? (Explain) _____

Emergency contact: _____ Relationship: _____ Tel No.: _____

General information that would help the handler _____

Signature

**PROVIDER AGREEMENT
TSPCA FOSTERPET PROGRAM**

_____(Provider), has indicated that he/she is willing to periodically furnish temporary foster care for Tulsa SPCA animals. The following sets out an understanding and agreement between Tulsa SPCA and Provider.

1. Prior to placing it in Provider's home, TSPCA will administer to foster pet any inoculations and treatment as it would normally receive when entering the shelter. (Please note: Animals in late stages of pregnancy cannot be inoculated.) Cats will have been tested for Feline Leukemia.
2. Any animal in the FosterPet Program belongs to Tulsa SPCA and under no condition or circumstance is it to be given away, sold or in any manner relinquished to a third party.
3. TSPCA will assign to Provider a Mentor who will be his/her support person and contact for problems which may arise during the period of foster care. Mentor will monitor care and will contact Provider at least once each week regarding foster animal's progress. Mentor will answer questions or concerns Provider may have.
4. Tulsa SPCA will be responsible for the cost of food and approved medical care of any animal assigned to Provider; however, medical treatment is to be administered only upon prior approval through the Mentor. TSPCA will not be responsible for medical treatment without prior approval or for care which is administered by a veterinarian other than as is directed by the Mentor.
5. Provider will be reimbursed for approved out-of-pocket expenses by giving receipts to Mentor. If available at the shelter, TSPCA will provide some medications and will lend small pens, litter pans, carriers or such equipment as Provider may need if such equipment is available. A number of crates will also be available for the animals' housing.
6. If, during foster care, Provider finds or knows of a person interested in adopting the animal, that party must go the shelter and follow TSPCA's normal adoption procedures.
7. Provider agrees that the foster pet will be given food, a clean, safe and proper environment, and will be isolated from other animals, preferably inside, will not be handled or disturbed excessively by children or other persons or animals, and will be socialized, exercised and groomed as the situation governs. Mentor will be allowed to inspect facilities to be provided for the foster pet.
8. When a pregnant animal in Provider's care begins labor, or if it should give birth while Provider is not present, Provider is to notify Mentor immediately. If an animal should die or be stillborn, Provider is also to notify Mentor immediately.
9. TSPCA will not be responsible if foster pet should damage or destroy any property belonging to Provider, or shall injure any person or transfer any disease or internal or external parasites to other animals belonging to Provider.
10. Since each situation will vary, Mentor and Provider will agree on a proper time for the animal to be taken to the TSPCA shelter and made available for adoption. Mentor will arrange an appointment with the shelter and Provider agrees to deliver the animal to Tulsa SPCA animal shelter on the date specified.
11. Provider understands that once the animal goes to the shelter, it will not be favored or treated any differently than other shelter animals. Provider agrees that in the event the animal eventually must be euthanized, he/she will not interfere and will not prevail upon the TSPCA Kennel Manager or other shelter workers for special treatment.

If you understand and agree to abide by the above stipulations, please sign and date below.

TULSA SPCA

By _____
Milly Finley, President

PROVIDER

Date: _____

Date: _____

INFORMATION FROM PROVIDER

(For Foster Pet Program)

This information will help determine what we have to work with and what kind of provisions will be necessary to support you as a Provider.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER/S (home and/or work): _____

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN FOSTERING (circle as applicable) DOGS CATS BIRDS RABBITS OTHER

NUMBER OF CHILDREN (living in your household): _____

THEIR AGES: _____

IS YOUR YARD FENCED? _____

WHAT TYPE FENCING? _____

PETS YOU NOW OWN (list each, what kind, M/F, and their ages)

ARE SHOTS CURRENT ON YOUR PETS? _____

ARE ALL YOUR PETS SPAYED OR NEUTERED? _____

(If cats) HAVE YOUR CATS BEEN TESTED FOR FELINE LEUKEMIA AND FIV? _____

DO YOU OWN ANY POSITIVE FELV OR FIV CATS? _____

Can you provide an inside, isolated area where pregnant, newborn, or recovering injured animals can stay? _____

Please describe the area: _____

Is there an outside area where dogs can exercise away from your other animals? _____

Please describe: _____

TULSA SPCA
 2910 Mohawk Blvd.
 Tulsa, OK 74110-1419
 918/426-2529

FOSTERPET - PROVIDER CHECKLIST

FACILITIES FOR DOGS:

- 1. Fenced yard**
- 2. Inside isolated room for female as approaches delivery. Smaller dogs Inside full time.**
- 3. No children under five years of age**
- 4. No unvaccinated pets in household. Produce records for file**
- 5. No unaltered adult pets in household**
- 6. If rental, produce evidence that animals are allowed**
- 7. Sufficient room to exercise in fresh air and sunlight**

FACILITIES FOR CATS:

- 1. Inside quarters separate from other pets**
- 2. No children under five years of age**
- 3. No unaltered adult pets in household**
- 4. Existing cats must be Feline leukemia negative**
- 5. If renting, produce evidence that animals are allowed**
- 6. Sufficient room to exercise; access to window if at all possible**
- 7. No unvaccinated pets in household. Produce records for file**



GREENHILL
HUMANE
SOCIETY, SPCA

January 20, 1999

KIMBALL R. LEWIS
Executive Director

Frank Ascione, Ph.D
Utah State University
2810 University Boulevard
Logan, Utah 84322-2810

SHELLEY HOLTE
Executive Assistant

TERESA WARRICK
Operations Director

THERESA ZAIGER
Education Coordinator

Dear Frank,

I am excited to read of your work and happy to provide you with any information that may be of further assistance to you.

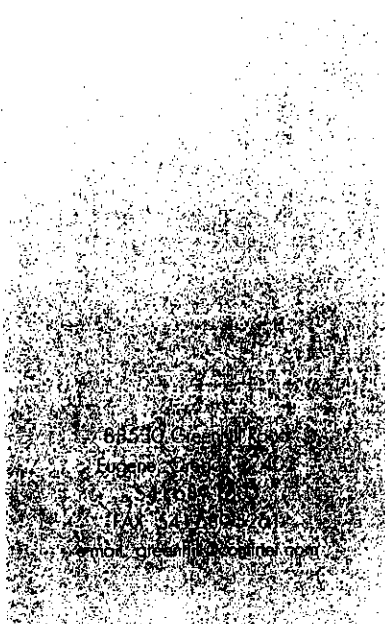
The Greenhill Humane Society DVAP Program is unique among other similar services in that we will care for *any* species of animal for *any* length of time at no cost. We simply use a pre-qualified network of foster care homes to facilitate the shelter of any animal belonging to a woman or family in crisis. Our program has gained national acclaim and has been mimicked or otherwise copied in several major municipalities subsequent to the development of the program.

Another area of special study and interest for me has been the link between animal abuse and violence against people. During recent years, I have been fortunate to have been able to travel and speak on the later subject in such places as New York, Salt Lake and San Diego. Last year, FBI Special Agent in Charge James Fitzgerald and I were privileged to speak at a summit on violence hosted by the New York Bar Association. Animal abuse as a gateway offense to violence against people is becoming a common thread in the component of case development among law enforcement agencies.

I would be happy to discuss or otherwise assist you in any way possible should the occasion arise. With the majority of my family residing in Northern Utah and Southern Idaho I am in the area often. Please do not hesitate to call me.

Very truly yours,

Kimball R Lewis, Executive Director



You can...

Learn as much as you can about battering. Learn to recognize abuse. Report any suspected abuse to the authorities.

Warning signs...

Shooting at or terrorizing pets;

Kicking or beating pets;

Not feeding animals for days;

Throwing pets across the room, down the stairs, at the wall, etc.;

Not letting pets out and beating them when they mess in the house;

Hitting pets with a closed fist;

Tormenting pets in any way;

Any animal abuse in front of children.

Remember:
People who abuse animals rarely stop there...

Greenhill Humane Society, SPCA

Domestic Violence Assistance Program

in community partnership with:

Womenspace

Crisis line 485-6513

Lane County Victim Services

682-4523

Domestic and Sexual Violence Advocacy Center

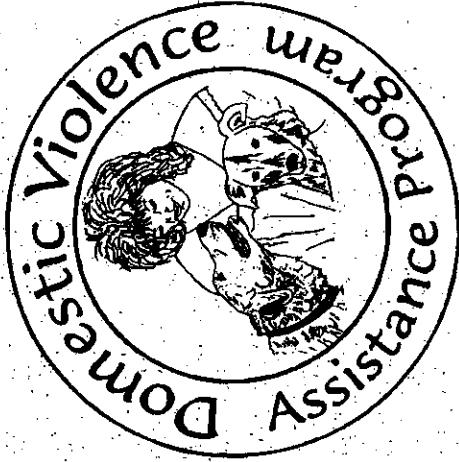
484-6103



Sacred Heart Medical Center
Domestic Violence Project

Lane County Domestic Violence Council

Printing donated by Shelton-Turnbull Printers



Protecting women,
children and their pets...



Greenhill Humane Society, SPCA
(541) 689-1503

Fax

(541) 689-5261

www.green-hill.org

Domestic violence and animal abuse . . .

Most of the women and children that go into shelter care have left at least one pet behind . . .

Recognizing the documented connection between domestic violence and animal abuse, *Greenhill Humane Society, SPCA*, in community partnership with *Womenspace, Lane County Domestic Violence Council, Lane County Victim Services and Sacred Heart Medical Center*, is now offering emergency shelter for the companion animals of women at risk. This innovative program is believed to be the first of its kind in the country.

The *Greenhill Humane Society, SPCA* was established in Lane County in 1944. Fifty-two years later *Greenhill* is the leading provider of animal welfare protection services in this region and the third largest in the State of Oregon.

Animal welfare issues are an important part of our social and economic health. Greenhill recognizes the need to act and is setting the tone for animal welfare in the State of Oregon.

Greenhill will house any companion animal in our **confidential network** of foster homes. The foster care provider will feed and house the animal at their expense until the family can accommodate their pet's safety and care.

Violence is violence
abuse is abuse. It
doesn't matter who is
the recipient of
that abuse.

There is an undeniable
connection between
domestic violence and
animal abuse.

**Animal abuse IS
domestic violence.**

*For more information on
how to support the project or
volunteer opportunities, call*

*Greenhill Humane Society
(541) 689-1503*

or

*Womenspace
(541) 686-6660.*

FOSTERING OF ANIMALS AT VA BEACH SPCA

Things you need to know

The VA Beach SPCA will offer temporary foster care for the animals of individuals who must enter a shelter. This service is provided free of charge, although contributions are welcome. We must have as much information as possible on the animals brought to us. Each person requiring our services needs to complete the **Temporary Foster Agreement**. We do not own transport vehicles so arrangements need to be made to get the animal to the VA Beach SPCA at 3040 Holland Road. If that is impossible, please contact us and we will see if we can help.

Our shelter is open seven (7) days a week. Our office can be reached at (757) 427-0737. After hours, we can be reached at (757) 422-0250. It is preferable that the animal is brought to us between the hours of 8am and 5m or 7pm on Wednesdays.

1. If you find that the client is needs to have her animal(s) removed from her home before she will leave, please ask the following questions.
 - A. Is there anyone (friend, relative, etc.) who would keep the animal if food was provided?
 - B. Does the animal get along with other animals?
 - C. Is she looking for a temporary placement or does she wish to relinquish the animal(s).
 - D. Does she understand the agreement she must sign with the Va Beach SPCA?
 - E. Can she bring the animal to the shelter?
 - F. Will she be able to visit with the animal during the foster period?
 - G. The client must understand that this is a service that can be provided for no longer than she is in shelter or 28 days, whichever is shortest.
 - H. The VA Beach SPCA is not responsible for the health of the animal. We will provide food, shelter, vaccinations (except for rabies) and companionship. We cannot provide veterinary care.
 - I. If the client cannot provide for the animal after the foster period and she wishes to relinquish ownership to the VA Beach SPCA, then all her rights to the animal end and the animal becomes the property of the VA Beach SPCA.
 - K. If the animal is not retrieved on the agreed upon date and no new arrangements are made with the VA Beach SPCA, the animal becomes the property of the VA Beach SPCA.

TEMPORARY FOSTER AGREEMENT

I (print) _____ agree to temporarily place my animal in the care of the Virginia Beach SPCA. This temporary arrangement will not exceed _____

DATE _____

without the express permission of the Virginia Beach SPCA. I understand that the VA Beach SPCA is not responsible for medical treatment for my animal. I further understand that placing my animal in a foster situation may result in the contraction of an upper respiratory infection. The VA Beach SPCA is not responsible for this condition. Failure to retrieve my animal by the agreed upon date, without an extension granted by the VA Beach SPCA, will result in the transfer of ownership to the VA Beach SPCA. I realize that my animal may then be adopted to another owner or euthanized at the sole discretion of the VA Beach SPCA.

My animal is a _____ Dog _____ Cat _____ Bird _____ Other _____
No. No. No. No.

Animal 1 _____ (Name) Vaccinations? _____

Age(s)	Sex	Sterilized	Y	N	Breed
---------------	------------	-------------------	----------	----------	--------------

Animal 2 _____ (Name) Vaccinations? _____

[illegible]

Is the animal(s) licensed? Y N Does the animal get along with Dogs? Cats?

Has the animal been around children? Ages _____

Is the animal? Aggressive Timid Shy Housebroken Not Housebroken Friendly Other _____

Where does the animal sleep? _____ What does the animal eat? Dry Canned

Has the animal bitten anyone within the past 10 days? Y N Name & phone # of animal's vet _____

Does the animal have any medical problems? N Y, what _____

Is the animal on medication? N Y, what (heartworm, eg.) _____

1 if yes, please bring with animal

Other information _____

Owner's home address and phone no. _____

Owner will be staying at this address & phone no. _____

An emergency contact is _____

Phone No. _____

I will ☐ will not ☐ visit my animal. I can visit on the following days: M T W Tr F Sa Su

Signature	Date	Application taken by: Name & Organization
-----------	------	---

VA Beach SPCA Use Only: _____ Drop off date _____ Pick up Date _____ Intake by _____
Where is animal? In shelter In foster home Other _____

PET HAVEN TRAINING

IF SOMEONE YOU LOVE IS HURTING ANIMALS, IT IS TIME TO CALL FOR HELP.

Adults who hurt animals will eventually hurt people. If you are in a relationship with someone who is hurting your pet, call for help.

Help for you in dealing with the relationship:

1-800-799-SAFE

OR

214-946-HELP

Help for the animal:
SPCA of Texas

1-800-ANIMALS

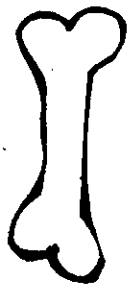


You are not alone.

Many people are going through similar situations. There are caring people wanting to help stop your pain.

Abuse of animals may include hitting, kicking, drowning, poisoning, starving, burning or throwing the animal.

Children who abuse animals will eventually hurt people. Now is the time to call and get help for that child. Children who abuse animals may also be getting hurt by someone else. Either way, it is a cry for help.



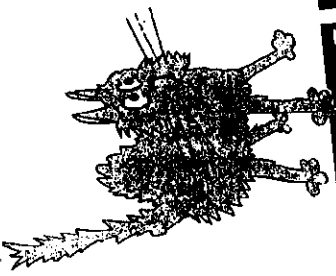
Help for the animal:
SPCA of Texas

1-800-ANIMALS

To report child abuse:
Child Protective Services
1-800-252-5400

WHY DO PEOPLE
ABUSE ANIMALS?

- To control the animal...or you
- To express anger, at the animal... or at you
- To scare the animal...or you
- To get back at the animal...or at you



THIS BROCHURE IS
PROVIDED BY

THE DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE
AWARENESS
COALITION,

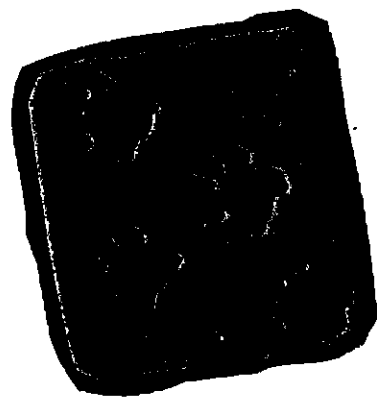
THE INJURY
PREVENTION CENTER
OF GREATER DALLAS,

214-590-4461

Design for this brochure was donated with
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Printing was donated by Clayton Henry.

HE HURT
YOUR PET.

WILL HE
HURT YOU?



SOONER OR LATER,
HE PROBABLY
WILL.

SAFE HAVEN
SPCA of Texas Educational
Outreach Program for Kids

Safe Haven began in September 1996 through the Education Department as a result of the Link Program and the efforts of the Link Coalition. The Purpose of the Safe Haven Project is to offer educational and therapeutic activities to children and their families who are temporarily in domestic shelters. The SPCA of Texas believes by reaching children who have been subjected to an abusive environment, we can teach them humane kindness through animals and positive volunteer role models.

The Safe Haven program provides pet visits through trained volunteers who are cultivated through the Education and Volunteer Departments of the SPCA of Texas. Volunteers take their own pets on Safe Haven visits, not animals from the SPCA shelter. Visits are scheduled as after school programs, weekend or evening activities. Animals used in these programs range from the typical dog and cat visit to birds, guinea pigs, rabbits and other domestic animals. All programs are scheduled through the SPCA Education Department.

PET HAVEN
SPCA of Texas
Foster Care Program for Animals

In conjunction with the Link Coalition and Safe Haven projects, Pet Haven is a rescue and relief effort for pets whose families are temporarily in transition at local domestic shelters or the Red Cross shelters.

Volunteers provide the temporary housing and care of the family pet for a specific time period, usually 30 days. During the temporary foster care, these pets can receive the medical or veterinary attention from the SPCA at no cost. Volunteers receive an SPCA orientation & Foster program training.

The purpose of the Pet Haven project is;

1. elimination of the abandonment of the family pet who is caught in the middle of the domestic violent dispute,
2. rescue of a family pet who is in danger of abuse and neglect,
3. provide the opportunity to return the pet back to its family upon the assessment of the abusive situation and if the situation warrants. If the family is unable to resolve domestic issues, the option of the pet being placed for adoption is available.

* The Safe Haven and Pet Haven projects are in direct conjunction with the mission of **The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals of Texas** and as a result of the ongoing efforts of the Education Department and the Link Coalition programs.

**THE SPCA OF TEXAS
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMS OFFERED**

PET EDUCATION DOCENT PROGRAM

The SPCA of Texas provides humane educational programs focused on children ages pre-K through 6th grade in English and Spanish. The school curriculum provides learning units on subjects ranging from; Pet Safety, Geography, Math, History, English, Pet Responsibility, and the 10 Acts of Kindness. The Pet Education Program is facilitated through trained staff and volunteer docents during school hours and at libraries for after school and weekend programs.

PETED/LOS ANIMALES

The Pet Education outreach program for ages K-3rd grade in Spanish. This is program targeted for DISD in '98 & '99. Partnership with ASPCA. This program also coincided with the Be Bite Free and other Hispanic Outreach programs.

SAFE HAVEN OUTREACH

Taking humane education a step further, the SPCA provides therapeutic and educational opportunities for children and their families who are temporarily staying in domestic shelters. Many of these children and their families have pets that have been abused at the hands of a perpetrator as a form of punishment and cruelty. Some children are unable to have pets due to their living situation thus they are temporarily away from their pets or they are afraid of animals. Trained volunteer docents take their pets to area domestic shelters and provide animal related activities after school & on weekends. Safe Haven educational outreach programs focus on the concept that kind treatment of animals and humans go hand-in-hand. Pet programs range from bird, dog and cat presentations/activities to reading animal related stories and puppet shows.

COALITION ON "THE LINK" BETWEEN CHILD ABUSE AND CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

In 1994, the SPCA of Texas formed a local coalition consisting of professionals from social service agencies and animal welfare agencies. The Link Coalition efforts focus on the connection between animal cruelty and domestic violence in our society and cases in the metroplex area. The primary purpose of the Link Coalition is to educate the public on recognizing the cycle of abuse and how it affects pets and people, learning the appropriate reporting procedures of cruelty and how agencies and the community can work together in combating the cycle of abuse.

Providing seminars and workshops locally to various professions and the public at large, the Link Coalition cross train's, raises awareness and finds solutions to this critical issue.

educational programs continued....

PET HAVEN

In conjunction with the LINK and SAFE HAVEN and PET EDUCATION programs, PET HAVEN is a rescue and relief effort for pets whose families are in transitional stages due to one of the following: Domestic Violence, Natural Disasters, Medical Emergencies or supporting the Homeless communities pets temporarily. Trained volunteers provide temporary housing and care for specific time periods, (approx. 2 weeks to 30 days). These pets are entitled to medical attention from the SPCA Martin Spay/Neuter Clinic at no cost.

The purpose of PET HAVEN is:

1. Elimination of the abandonment of the family pet during stressful situations.
2. Rescue of a family pet during domestic violence disputes
3. Provide a source of relief to the families who need support and help during transitional moments.
4. Provide a safe and caring environment for pets in need.

PET PAL CENTRAL

The SPCA of Texas provides an interactive educational exhibit as part of the childrens area at the Dallas Zoo. It is intended to teach children realistic, practical ways of selecting and caring for a pet. Further, it helps children recognize the difference between a domestic pet, and wild animal species at the Dallas Zoo. Pet Pal Central has been in existence since 1994 and is utilized as a part of the Dallas Zoo children camp programs.

GRIEF COUNSELING

For people who have lost a pet, have a terminally ill pet, or are struggling with the decision to euthanize their pet, the SPCA of Texas offers an outreach support group. Participants meet the first Tuesday of each month to share their memories and experiences and find solace and comfort.

SANDY HOPKINS LIBRARY

The SPCA of Texas provides the local community, clients, school students and staff an invaluable source of information through the Sandy Hopkins Library. The on-site library resource materials consist of information pertaining to the welfare of animals domestic and wild, wildlife preservation, pet training techniques, medical information and various periodicals and magazines on pertaining to the animal and human environment. The library is located at the SPCA downtown headquarters in Dallas and is open to the public during business hours.

educational programs cont.....

PET TREKKERS

In-house tours of Dallas and McKinney facilities are offered year round. The tour in Dallas involves the Sandy Hopkins Library, the Martin Spay/Neuter Clinic and the Animal Care Center. This tour is offered to all childrens groups, civic groups and the general public. All children attending Pet Trekkers tour receives a coloring book and an Animal PetTrekker pamphlet which has information on about their specific tour and what they learned from their visit at the SPCA of Texas. Tours in McKinney include the Animals Care Center, Spay/Neuter Clinic, Cat House and indoor-outdoor dog runs.

CRITTER CAMP

The SPCA of Texas provides a summer day camp during the month of July to youth ages 5-10. The SPCA of Texas, the Dallas Zoo and The Dallas Aquarium formed a partnership in order to offer children a hands-on learning experience about domestic species, wild species and aquatic species who we share life with on earth. Children learn how to take care of these animals as pets or wildlife by taking care of their environment, showing apathy towards all living life and being responsible and safe around animals.

PET-O-MEALS

The SPCA of Texas provides a "meals-on-wheels" program to area elderly and homebound families or individuals who need assistance for their pets. The implementation of this most need program depends on food donations and food drives. This program services residence in the Dallas County area and is not limited to food, but pet supplies and needed medical attention as deemed necessary.

WELCOME WAGON

The SPCA of Texas provides Pet Visitations to independent and assisted living facilities in the Dallas County area. The visitations provide a needed service to the elderly in our community. This program is facilitated through trained SPCA volunteers and their pets. It is not limited to dogs and cats. The SPCA encourages the use of birds, rabbits and other domesticated pets.

To receive more information about any of the Humane Education Programs offered or to get involved, please contact Kim Conover at 214-651-9611 ext. 122.

SPCA OF TEXAS

PET HAVEN-AGREEMENT

I, _____, herein referred to as "Owner" agree to allow the SPCA of Texas, herein referred to as "Pet Haven" to provide foster care to my companion animal(s) _____, herein referred to as "Animals". I certify that I am the owner of said animals. Pet Haven will shelter my animal(s) in a confidential location for an approximate period of _____. The owner allows Pet Haven to provide veterinary care, which is not limited to vaccinations, but may include sterilization or treatment of illness. The owner allows Pet Haven to provide humane euthanasia for my animal if it's health situation warrants it. The owner agrees to call the foster care provider once every _____. Pet Haven will be notified immediately if the owner wishes to terminate rights to the animal(s). The owner wishes to terminate rights to the animal(s). The owner agrees to each item listed herein.

DATE: _____

OWNER: _____

PET HAVEN REPRESENTATIVE: _____

SPCA OF TEXAS

PET HAVEN-AGREEMENT

I, _____, herein referred to as "Owner" agree to allow the SPCA of Texas, herein referred to as "Pet Haven" to provide foster care to my companion animal(s) _____, herein referred to as "Animals". I certify that I am the owner of said animals. Pet Haven will shelter my animal(s) in a confidential location for an approximate period of _____. The owner allows Pet Haven to provide veterinary care, which includes sterilization, treatment of illness and vaccinations. The owner allows Pet Haven to provide humane euthanasia for my animal(s) if it's health situation warrants. The owner agrees to call the Pet Haven Program Coordinator once every _____. Pet Haven will be notified immediately if the owner wishes to terminate rights to the animal(s).

I agree to make arrangements in advance with the Pet Haven Program Coordinator to reclaim my animal(s) on or before _____. I understand that failure to reclaim my animal(s) in a timely manner as indicated above, will result in relinquishment of my rights to the animal(s) and that the SPCA of Texas will take possession of the animal(s) at that time.

The owner agrees to each item listed herein.

DATE: _____

OWNER: _____

PET HAVEN REPRESENTATIVE: _____

WITNESS: _____

FEEDING INFORMATION

Brand/Type of Food: _____

Time(s) of Day: _____

Treats: _____

Misc. Comments: _____

HOUSING INFORMATION

Present housing situation (indoor/outdoor): _____

Walk/run schedule: _____

Feelings towards other animals: _____

Is the dog housebroken? Cat litterbox trained? _____

Will the animal(s) chew, dig, scratch furniture, doors, clothing?
_____Under what circumstances will the animal exhibit aggressive/passive
or fearful behavior? _____
_____Type of cat litter and location of litter pan: _____

FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY

Third Party Contact _____ Phone: _____

Emergency Telephone Number for Third Party: _____

Foster Care Provider _____

Address _____

Telephone Number (home, work and emergency) _____

Additional Comments:

**PET HAVEN
SPCA of Texas
Foster Care Program for Animals**

In conjunction with the Link Coalition and Safe Haven projects, Pet Haven is a rescue and relief effort for pets whose families are temporarily in transition at local domestic shelters. Volunteers provide the temporary housing and care of the family pet for a specific time period, usually 30 days. During the temporary foster care, these pets can receive the medical or veterinary attention from the SPCA at no cost. Volunteers are required to receive an SPCA orientation & Pet Haven Foster program training.

The purpose of the Pet Haven project is;

1. elimination of the abandonment of the family pet who is caught in the middle of the domestic violent dispute,
2. rescue of a family pet who is in danger of abuse and neglect,
3. provide the opportunity to return the pet back to its family upon the assessment of the abusive situation and if the situation warrants. If the family is unable to resolve domestic issues, the option of the pet being placed for adoption is available.

* The Safe Haven and Pet Haven projects are in direct conjunction with the mission of The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals of Texas and as a result of the ongoing efforts of the Education Department and the Link Coalition programs.

PET HAVEN
EASY STEPS TO FOSTER BY

Upon animal placement in your home:

- address any questions or concerns you may have
- identify any supplies needed
- make note of the specific animal you will be housing
- identify approximate time of arrival for animal pickup

When picking up foster animal:

- sign necessary paperwork
- obtain any instructions and supplies needed

Returning Pet Haven foster:

- schedule approximate time with foster contact person

Pet Haven animals in your home:

Once home with the animal, expect a period of adjustment. We recommend that you do not try to integrate the foster animal with your pets for ten to fourteen days. If you maintain the animals together before this time has elapsed, you are taking a grave risk with the health of both your personal animals and with the foster animal. Foster animals need time and space to make themselves comfortable in their new environment. Keep the animal contained, either in a separate room or a crate, with all of it's needs in close proximity.

After agreeing to accept a placement in your home, arrangements will be made for you to pick up the animal. We will expect you, the foster parent, to supply the food and/or litter, the SPCA will offer vaccinations and spay or neuter surgery for the animal(s) to the owners. We will attempt to offer bowls, and crates if possible.

SPCA of Texas Pet Haven

Foster Home Guidelines

Thank you for agreeing to be a foster parent! These requirements must be met in order for you to be able to care for animals in need. The guidelines are to help the animal's stay be happier and less stressful for everyone involved! Your cooperation is needed and appreciated.

1. Have a secure fence.
2. Have a separate area for the new animal. This is necessary in order to isolate the animal for the first 24 hours.
3. Have a gate that locks.
4. Must be familiar with the closest emergency veterinary clinic.
5. Have a vet who is familiar with you and knows you are involved with the Pet Haven project.
6. Keep poisons in a secure place.
7. Put valuables in a secure place. (We are not responsible for damage to house or household items.)
8. If you have animals they must be current on vaccinations.
9. If you want to house dogs you must have a leash and collar.
10. If you want to house cats you must have a litterbox.

Please remember foster work is sporadic. There may be long periods of time you won't hear from us. You will continue to be on our Pet Haven Foster Home list until you request removal. Once again your dedication is appreciated! Please feel free to call me at (214)651-9611 ext. 165 if you have any questions.

Gale Storms
Program Coordinator
SPCA of Texas

PET HAVEN

SUPPORT PERSONNEL

The SPCA of Texas wants this to be a rewarding experience for you as a volunteer. By volunteering your home as a refuge to an animal leaving a hostile environment you are helping the family as well. Many of these women refuse to flee their situations because of a valid concern that the abuser will turn his wrath on the animal in the females absence.

Below are the individuals responsible for managing any concerns or questions you may encounter. Please follow the listed order should it become necessary to contact an individual other than the coordinator.

PERSON/POSITION

TELEPHONE

Susan Knoll
Volunteer Coordinator

972-501-9175 HM

Gale Storms
Program Coordinator

214-651-9611 ext.165

Kim Conover
Humane Education Manager

214-651-9611 ext. 122

PET HAVEN FOSTER HOME PROFILE

Type of Animal(s) for Foster Care _____

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

HOUSING INFORMATION

Own Home _____ Rent Home _____

Single Family Home _____ Multi-family Home _____

Apartment _____ Mobile Home _____

Children(s) Ages (if applicable):

Additional Occupants in Home:

COMPANION ANIMAL INFORMATION

Other Animals in Home:

Housing Situation:

Type of Food:

Medical Information:

Veterinarian Name and Phone Number:

**Rhode Island
Veterinary Medical
Association
(401) 521-0101**

Follow Up Survey

Memo

To: RIVMA members who had an interest in the Safe Pet Program

From: Susan Littlefield, President

Date: April 9, 1998

Thank you for interest in the Safe Pet Program that the Rhode Island Veterinary Medical Association is developing in cooperation with the shelters for battered women. You may recall that a few months ago, you answered a survey about animal abuse. On that survey, you indicated that you would consider providing limited cage space for animals whose owners are living in a shelter for battered women. Since then, we have met with representatives who work with victims of domestic violence and have drafted the attached contract for you review.

The next step is to confirm your participation in this program. Please answer the questions that are outlined below and return them along with your comments about the draft contract in the enclosed envelope.

NOTE: Your confirmation is not binding. There will be a training session to review all aspects of the program and at that time you will be asked for your final decision. You are free to drop out of the program at any time. Also, it is expected that there will only be a handful of animals that will need cage space each year statewide. Individual hospitals would have no more than two or three animals a year.

Questions

- Do you wish to participate in this program? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Please check the species you'll accept.

<input type="checkbox"/> Dogs	<input type="checkbox"/> Cats	<input type="checkbox"/> Rabbits	<input type="checkbox"/> Birds	<input type="checkbox"/> Small Rodents
<input type="checkbox"/> Reptiles	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____			
- Please check the number and sizes of the cages you have available for this program:

<input type="checkbox"/> Small (1-20 lbs.), #: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Large (40-70 lbs.), #: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Medium (20-40 lbs.), #: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Extra-Large (70+ lbs.), #: _____
- Will you provide vaccinations at no charge if it is required for admittance? ☐ Yes ☐ No

- Will you hold the animal(s) for fourteen days at no charge? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If no, please explain: _____

- Would you be willing to host a brief training session at your hospital? A space large enough to seat ten people would be needed.
☐ Yes ☐ No

- What is the best day and time for you to attend a hour training session?

Name _____

Please return this to RIVMA, PO 154, Barrington, RI 02806

Thank you!

SAFE PET PROGRAM

Shelter assigned name for pet _____

Species _____

Breed _____ Age _____ Sex _____

Description _____
_____**SAFE PET SHELTERING PROGRAM MEDICAL INFORMATION**

Veterinarian _____ Work # _____

Address _____
_____Medical History (Vaccinations and date of last boosters, current medications/allergies/medical conditions)

_____Personality/temperament/behavior information/fears _____

_____Feeding frequency/food type/amount _____
_____Personal items (toys, leash, chewies, blanket) left with animal _____

**Rhode Island
Veterinary Medical
Association
(401) 521-0101**

Memo

To: RIVMA Members
From: Sara Slate, Executive Director
Date: January 12, 1998

Survey Results

Dr. Susan Littlefield and Dr. Tara Temple are both members of a special legislative commission that was formed to study the association between and amongst domestic violence, child abuse, and animal abuse. The commission has been meeting since August of 1997 and would like input from veterinarians as to their experience with the link between child abuse, domestic abuse and animal abuse.

Please take a minute to answer the questions below and return them in the enclosed envelope.

1. Type of practice? small animal 51 large animal 1 mixed 2
2. Have you ever suspected a patient to be a victim of abuse? Yes 33 No 31
3. Have you reported a case of suspected abuse? Yes 18 No 15 (adjusted)
4. Where did/would you report such a case? SPCA 22 ACO 23 RIVMA 2 Police 17
(multiple answers)
5. Do you feel comfortable with your ability in identifying injuries associated with abuse? Yes 27
No 24
6. Do you believe that veterinarians are morally obligated to report suspected cases of animal abuse?
Yes 48 No 4

over

7. Have you ever suspected a case of child abuse? Yes 5 No 48 Did you report it? Yes 1
No 4 To whom? Social worker.
8. Is the problem of abuse (child, domestic, animal) significant enough to warrant RIVMA's
involvement? Yes 34 No 10 (1 animal only)
9. If yes, what remedies to the problem should RIVMA be involved in? Legislative 20
Educational 33 Regulatory 11 (multiple answers)
10. Would you consider providing limited cage space for domestic abuse shelters? (Victims of
domestic violence are sometimes reluctant to leave their homes because they fear their animals
will be hurt by the batterer) Yes 21 No 18 If yes, please fill in your name so that we can
contact you. Name _____ Telephone _____

Please return to:

RIVMA, PO Box 154, Barrington, RI 02806


Thank you

PetNet: What Does It Provide?

- Free foster care for up to 37 days
- Free basic inoculations, if needed
- Free grooming, if needed (bath, flea dip, brush out)

PetNet: Are There Any Charges?

- The basic services are all free of charge
- Licensing Fees (optional, dogs only)
Licenses help establish proof of ownership.
Neutered: \$6.00; Unneutered: \$16.00
- Spay/Neuter (recommended)
Dogs: Male \$50 Female \$60
Cats: Male \$40 Female \$50
Sliding scale possible for financial hardship
- Other Veterinary Services & Treatment
If your pet should become ill or need treatment during the foster care period, care will be provided by the PSPCA at the usual, low-cost clinic rates

PetNet	(215) 426-6300
Caring When It Matters Most	




PetNet,

a program providing emergency foster care for pets in situations of family violence, is made possible by the generosity and kindness of our members and supporters.

The Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
350 E. Erie Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19134


Branches
Danville Stroudsburg
Clarion Wells boro
Centre Hall

The Pennsylvania SPCA is a registered 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization.



Emergency Foster Care for Pets

Everyone Needs Protection from Family Violence



Don't Leave Your Pet in Harm's Way

PetNet: A Safe Refuge

If you or other members of your family are in danger from an abusive spouse or partner, your pet may be in danger as well.

Pets often become the targets of violence in homes where family members are the victims of physical or emotional abuse. They serve as vivid examples or as means of control or coercion when threats to their safety are used to manipulate those who care about them.

Don't let yourself be fooled. Animal abuse is not a "safety valve." If your partner harms your pet, it is likely only a matter of time before he harms you. Either way you, and the animal, are being abused.

Children are at risk, too. Witnessing the abuse of a family pet is frightening and even traumatic. It may be as harmful to the child as it is to the pet. Some children even start to abuse animals themselves in order to deal with their feelings of pain, anger and helplessness. This is especially true in cases where children are themselves victims of sexual abuse.

Many women will not leave an abusive situation for fear of harm to their beloved pets. PetNet was created to give them a way out.



PetNet: How Does It Work?

Referrals to PetNet are made by social workers, caseworkers, therapists or "Safe House" counselors. When a woman seeks shelter at a "Safe House", she should notify her caseworker if she feels her pets are in danger. The caseworker then calls the PSPCA and asks for the PetNet Coordinator or the supervisor on duty.

A PSPCA truck will come to the Safe House, or other designated point of pick-up, to retrieve the animal(s). You may choose to deliver your pet to the PSPCA yourself. You may request police escort if you are in danger. (PSPCA employees cannot remove the animals directly from your house.)

The animals will be taken to the PSPCA where they will receive a veterinary check-up and basic inoculations (if needed). They will be housed at the PSPCA for the first seven days. If more time is needed, the animals will be placed in an approved satellite foster care site for up to 30 days.

The owner must stay in contact with the PetNet Coordinator. Contact calls should be made on Day 1, Day 14, Day 21 and Day 28 from the day of enrollment. A call should also be made if the owner leaves the Safe House or changes location of residence. Failure to do so will result in the animal(s) being designated as abandoned. The owner may retrieve the pet at any time during the foster care period. A request to reclaim should be made at least 24 hours in advance.

For security reasons, visits are not recommended and information on satellite sites will not be released.

PetNet: What Animals Can I Send?

- Dogs, Cats, Birds
- Small, caged mammals (eg. rabbits, guinea pigs, gerbils)
- Caged reptiles
- Horses

(Animals deemed vicious or dangerous may be excluded from the program).

PetNet: What Do I Need To Do?

- If your pets are in danger, tell your caseworker
 - When you make the decision to leave, have your caseworker call the PSPCA
 - Bring any proof of ownership and records of inoculations with you
 - Sign the enrollment agreement provided by the PSPCA truck driver or office clerk
 - STAY IN TOUCH! (215) 426-6300 x244
- Call the PSPCA PetNet Coordinator on
- Day 7 _____
- Day 14 _____
- Day 21 _____
- Day 28 _____
- or any time you change location of residence
- Call 24 hours in advance to make arrangements for reclaiming your pet(s).

Cut out this card and keep it with you.

Don't Leave Your Pet In Harm's Way

- What To Bring:
- Proof of ownership
 - Collar and I.D. tags
 - Record of current vaccinations
 - Dog leash or cat carrier
 - Pet medications, if any
 - Bedding, favorite toy, if possible
 - Address and phone number of new location



Call the PSPCA: request extension 244 or the supervisor on duty.



**THE PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY FOR THE
PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS**

(Founded June 21, 1867 - Incorporated April 4, 1968)
350 EAST ERIE AVENUE, PHILADELPHIA, PENNA. 19134
(215) 426-6300
FAX (215) 426-5848

BRANCHES

MARION S. SIEMENS SHELTER
ROUTE 6
WELLSBORO 16901
(717) 724-3687

CENTRAL COUNTIES BRANCH
ROUTE 322
CENTRE HALL 16828
(814) 364-1725

TOWNSEND MEMORIAL SHELTER
2801 BLOOM ROAD
DANVILLE 17821
(717) 275-0340

MONROE COUNTY BRANCH
GODFREY RIDGE DRIVE
STROUDSBURG 18360
(717) 421-6761

CLARION COUNTY
HUMANE SOCIETY
ROUTE 322
SHIPPENVILLE 16254
(814) 226-9192

For Immediate Release: Contact -- Vicki Mehl, Director of Education
(215) 426-6305 x244
or Charlene Peters, Public Relations
(215) 426-6304 x213

The Pennsylvania SPCA is spearheading a new program called **PetNet**, a network of humane societies, veterinarians, boarding kennels and caring individuals to provide emergency boarding and foster care for pets of battered women. **PetNet** is being developed in conjunction with Philadelphia's "Let's Stop Domestic Violence" initiative.

Current research shows that in families afflicted by domestic violence, the companion animals are often the first target of abuse. Threats of harm or actual injury or death of a beloved pet are used by an abuser as punishment or coercion to control vulnerable family members. Consequently, many women will delay leaving a dangerous situation. Although most safehouses for battered women will take children, virtually none of them can take the family pet. **PetNet** was created to fill this gap, helping families in crisis and preventing animal abuse.

PetNet will provide free boarding and foster care for a seven to thirty-seven days. Dogs, cats, birds, small mammals, reptiles and some larger animals can currently be accommodated. Foster care providers for all of these species are still being recruited. As the network expands, the time limit as well as the number of families who can be helped will grow.

Animals will be accepted into this program only through referral from participating social service agencies. A woman must be entering a safehouse residence in order to receive these services. Information about all participants will be kept confidential.

The Pennsylvania SPCA is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Programs such as these are made possible only by the generosity of our members and supporters. For membership information or to make a donation, call Nancy Moses, Director of Development, at (215) 426-6300, ext. 217. For more information about **PetNet**, call Vicki Mehl, Director of Education at (215) 426-6305 x244.



**THE PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY FOR THE
PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS**

(Founded June 21, 1867 - Incorporated April 4, 1868)

350 EAST ERIE AVENUE, PHILADELPHIA, PENNA. 19134

(215) 426-6300

FAX (215) 426-5848

A-149

BRANCHES

MARION S. SIEMENS SHELTER
ROUTE 6
WELLSBORO 16901
(717) 724-3687

CENTRAL COUNTIES BRANCH
ROUTE 322
CENTRE HALL 16828
(814) 364-1725

TOWNSEND MEMORIAL SHELTER
2801 BLOOM ROAD
DANVILLE 17821
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PetNet: How Does It Work?

PetNet is a program of the Pennsylvania SPCA. Its purpose is to provide emergency foster care for pets of women and families seeking shelter at a Safe House for battered women.

When a woman (hereafter referred to as the Owner) has been identified as in need of the services of PetNet, the Domestic Violence Support Agency (DVSA) will notify the PSPCA. Animal(s) will be transported to the PSPCA from the Safe House facility by PSPCA trucks or by the owner herself. **Animals will be accepted into this program only by referral from a participating DVSA.**

At the PSPCA, the animal(s) will be given a veterinary examination. If valid inoculation records are not available, basic immunizations, including bordatella, will be provided by the PSPCA. If needed, the animals will be bathed and treated for fleas.

Animals will be held at the PSPCA for a maximum of seven days. During this time, the Owner should make every effort to find alternate housing for the animal(s).

By the seventh day, the Owner must contact the PSPCA to reclaim the animal(s). The animal(s) will *only* be returned to the Owner or her designated representative.

If more time is needed and **if satellite foster care locations are available**, the PSPCA will transport the animal(s) to one of these locations. Housing *may* then be provided for additional time but for no more than 37 days. Satellite locations will not be released for security reasons. If satellite sites are not available, the Owner **must** reclaim the pet or surrender the animal to the PSPCA.

At the end or any time during the foster care period, the Owner can reclaim the pet at the PSPCA. If the animal has been placed in a satellite location, the PSPCA will transport the animal back to the PSPCA for reclamation.

These services are all provided free of charge.

Programs such as these are made possible by the generosity of the members and supporters of the Pennsylvania SPCA. For membership information or to make a donation, call Nancy Moses, Director of Development, at (215) 426-6300, ext. 217.



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If you are a woman living in an abusive relationship, courage is not the only thing you need in order to leave. Support and resources for safety are also needed: safety for yourself and safety for the ones you love.

Almost all safehouses for battered women will take the women and their children, providing them with a refuge from violence. Virtually none of them can take the family pet. Yet in 60% - 80% of cases, family pets are victims of physical abuse along with women and children.* Even more frightening, it is known that many women will often delay leaving a dangerous situation for fear of harm to their pets.

If we are to have Zero Tolerance for domestic violence, we must help these women provide safety for their whole family, including their pets.

The PSPCA is spearheading a new program called **PetNet**, a network of humane societies, veterinarians, boarding kennels and caring individuals **to provide free emergency boarding and foster care for pets of battered women**. The Veterinary Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania has already agreed to participate. But the larger our network, the more women, children and animals can be saved from the trauma of abuse. **By becoming a member of PetNet, you can help them take the first steps to safety.**

You are invited to become a charter member of **PetNet**. Doing so, you can help put a stop to child abuse, animal abuse and violence against women. If you are interested, please fill out the Provider Application form and return it to me. You will be contacted and provided with full information before final acceptance into the program.

Help us help them, before their courage fails.

Thank you.

Vicki Mehl
Director of Education

*DeViney, Dickert & Lockwood, 1983; Arkow, 1995; Ascione, 1996.

PetNet: Caring When It Matters Most

A Service of the Pennsylvania SPCA

Foster Care Provider Application Form

Name: _____

Name of Business or Organization: _____

Address: _____

Bus. Phone: _____ FAX: _____

Home Phone: _____ Pager: _____

Emergency Contact: _____

Type of Facility:

____ Veterinarian ____ Boarding Kennel ____ Humane Society/SPCA

____ Private Residence ____ Other (Please Specify) _____

Do you currently have pets or animals at this site? ____ Yes ____ No _____ Species

What type of experience do you have with animals? _____

If you are a pet owner, who is your veterinarian? (Name, address, phone.) _____

What type and how many animals are you prepared to foster?

____ Dog ____ Cat ____ Bird ____ Reptile ____ Horse ____ Other: _____

How many? _____

What type of facilities do you have to house the animal(s)? _____

Do you have a secure outdoor area for exercising the animal? _____

How long are you willing or able to house this animal?

____ 7 Days ____ 2 weeks ____ 30 days ____ Longer, by special arrangement

* * * * *

I, _____, agree to provide secure housing and humane care for specified pet animals through the PetNet Program of the PSPCA. I further understand and agree that the animal(s) will either be returned to the owner or surrendered to the PSPCA at the end of the foster care period at PSPCA's directions. Medical care and reasonable medical expenses incurred for this animal during its stay with me/my organization will be provided by the PSPCA or one of its cooperating veterinarians according to agreement between the PSPCA and the animal's owner. Except in the event of need for emergency care, veterinary attention must be pre-approved by PSPCA. I assume all risks of, and will not hold the PSPCA or any of its employees liable for any personal injury or property damage caused by any animal placed with me/us under the PetNet Care Program of the PSPCA.

Signature _____ Date _____

PetNet: Caring When It Matters Most

**PSPCA Contact: Vicki Mehl
(215) 426-6305 x244**

PetNet Procedures for Foster Care Providers

When an animal is brought to us through a PetNet referral, it will be given a veterinary exam and, if current veterinary records are not available from the owner, current inoculations, including bordatella (kennel cough) will be given as well as deworming medication. The owner will be asked for information regarding the animal's history, diet, behavior and temperament. This will help us in selecting satellite sites, should the need arise.

The animal(s) will be housed for the first seven days at the PSPCA. This should enable us to get some sense of how the animal responds to new situations and people. If the owner needs more time, the PetNet Coordinator (currently Vicki Mehl), will select a satellite site for placement of the animal(s).

If you are selected, Ms. Mehl will call you to check on your availability. If an agreement is reached, the PSPCA will deliver the animal(s) to your house, or you may elect to come to the shelter to pick them up. Food and kitty litter will be provided as needed. A return date will be scheduled. On that date, a PSPCA truck will retrieve the pets or you may elect to deliver them to the shelter yourself.

For security reasons, information about the owner will not be given out nor will your identity or location be given to the owner.

If the pet(s) should require veterinary treatment or assistance during their stay with you, you must contact the PSPCA for approval and to make arrangements for treatment. In most cases, treatment will be provided at the PSPCA clinic. Contact Vicki Mehl: (215) 426-6305 x244 or **Dr. Ravindra Murarka, Chief Veterinarian, (215) 426-6300 x245.**
PSPCA Clinic: x241.

The owner has the option of reclaiming the pet(s) at any time during the foster care period. If the owner seeks to reclaim a pet that is in your care, you will be contacted. If possible, this call will be made at least 24 hours in advance. A PSPCA truck will retrieve the pets or you may elect to deliver them to the shelter yourself.

If the owner does not maintain contact with the PSPCA or does not reclaim the pet at the end of the foster care period, the animal(s) is considered abandoned and then becomes property of the PSPCA. If interested, foster care providers will be given priority consideration as adopters.

Again, thank you for your compassion and concern. Working together, perhaps we can help stop the violence.



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Dear Colleague:

The PSPCA is introducing PetNet, a project to provide emergency housing and foster care for pets of women who seek shelter from abusive situations. Pets will be accepted **only on referral from established Domestic Violence Service Agencies and only from women who actually enter a "Safe House" facility.** We will not take walk-in's at our shelter except as a regular pet relinquishment.

The PSPCA will provide animal transport from the participating Domestic Violence Service Agency to the PSPCA or other designated and approved foster care site. **While in our care, animals will be provided with food, shelter, veterinary exam and basic inoculations, free of charge.** Animals will be held at the PSPCA for seven days. If more time is needed, housing will be provided at other qualified locations. The woman, or her designated representative, may reclaim the pet at the PSPCA.

If you decide to take advantage of PetNet, we would like you to include the following questions in your intake interview:

- 1) Do you currently own any pets? What kind? How many?
- 2) Who is the primary caretaker of these pets?
- 3) Have you owned pets in the last 5 years? Where are they now?
- 4) Has your abuser ever harmed, killed, or threatened to harm or kill these pets?
- 5) Did you in any way delay or avoid seeking shelter for yourself (or your children) for fear of harm to your pets?
- 6) Would you be willing to answer a short, confidential survey about your pets from the PSPCA at some future date?

The information from these questions will help us in our efforts as we work to provide better protection from cruelty and violence to pets and their people. It will also help us to improve the services offered by PetNet.

If your agency would like to take advantage of this program as an official referring agency, please fill out the form below and return it in the enclosed envelope. We hope you will help us make PetNet a valuable service for victims of violence.

Thank you.

Vicki Mehl
Director of Education

PetNet: Caring When It Matters Most

PSPCA Contact: Vicki Mehl
(215) 426-6305 x244

Domestic Violence Support Agency (DVSA) PetNet Participation Form

- a) Name of Agency _____
- b) Contact Person _____
- c) Phone: _____ FAX: _____
- d) Address: _____

- e) Type of services provided by your agency: _____

- f) How many clients do you see per month? _____
- g) Do you provide housing for your clients? _____ For how long? _____
- h) How long is the average stay in your facility? _____
- i) What is the maximum stay in your facility? _____
- j) Do you currently ask questions about pet ownership or animal abuse as part of your intake survey? _____ Yes _____ No (If no, go to "m.")
- k) If so, approximately how many of your clients report incidents of animal abuse? _____
- m) If you do not currently ask about pets, are you willing to incorporate the animal-related questions in your intake survey? _____ Yes _____ No _____ Maybe

PetNet: Caring When It Matters Most

PSPCA Contact: Vicki Mehl

Pet Owner Intake Interview

All answers will be kept confidential. This information will be used to help us safely place your pets in foster homes, should that become necessary. It may also be used anonymously (with no names or other identification) for program analysis & evaluation.

Pet Information:

1. **PET #1:** PSPCA Tag # _____ Species: _____ Breed: _____
 Age: _____ Date of last vaccinations: _____ Neutered Y / N

PET #2: PSPCA Tag # _____ Species: _____ Breed: _____
 Age: _____ Date of last vaccinations: _____ Neutered Y / N

PET #3: PSPCA Tag # _____ Species: _____ Breed: _____
 Age: _____ Date of last vaccinations: _____ Neutered Y / N

2. Veterinarian: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____

3. List and describe any articles that are with this pet (eg. collar, I.D. tag, leash, blanket, toy, etc.)

4. If a cat, is it litter trained? Y / N If a dog, is it housetrained? Y / N

5. Does your pet have any particular fears? (eg. loud noises, brooms, sticks, raised hands, etc.)

6. Does your pet have any food allergies or other special dietary needs?

7. Is your pet taking any medications? If yes, give name, dose and frequency of administration.

8. Has your abuser ever threatened to harm your pet(s)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
How often? ☐ Regularly ☐ Frequently ☐ Occasionally ☐ Rarely
9. Has your abuser ever actually harmed or injured your pet(s)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
How often? ☐ Regularly ☐ Frequently ☐ Occasionally ☐ Rarely
- 9a. If yes, did the animal require the attention of a veterinarian for the injuries?

- 9b. (optional) Could you describe the injuries? _____

- 9c. If there are children in your household, were they witnesses to the animal abuse?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ no children
10. Have any of your children ever harmed the family pet? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ no children
- 10a. If yes, did the animal require the attention of a veterinarian for the injuries?

- 10b. (optional) Could you describe the injuries? _____

11. Have any of your children ever harmed any animal other than a family pet?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ no children
12. Have you ever harmed this pet? ☐ Yes ☐ No
13. Have you ever reported any of the above incidents to an animal welfare agency?
(eg. an SPCA or Humane Society) ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ not applicable
14. Have you ever tried or wanted to leave this relationship before but were unable to because of fear for the safety of your pet(s)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
15. Have you ever left the relationship but returned because of fear for the safety of your pet(s)?
☐ Yes ☐ No
16. How would you describe your feelings about your pet(s)? _____

PetNet: Caring When It Matters Most

**PSPCA Contact: Vicki Mehl
(215) 426-6305 x244**

DVSA Procedures

- 1) When a client comes to your agency in need of the services of PetNet, your contact person should call the PSPCA and ask for Vicki Mehl during regular business hours. If the call must be made at other times, ask to speak to the supervisor on duty. A time will be arranged for one of our trucks to pick up the animal at your agency. **PSPCA trucks and drivers cannot remove the animal from the client's home.** If the pet owner prefers, *once the referral has been recorded*, she may deliver her pets to the PSPCA, at 350 E. Erie Ave., on her own. (If police assistance has been sought, officers may deliver animals to the PSPCA, with owner's permission. DVSA contact person should still call to make the referral and the police officers should be sure to indicate that the animals are part of the PetNet program!)
- 2) Advise the client, if at all possible, to bring the animal's health records, inoculation records and *any proof of ownership* with her. If the pet does not already have one, purchasing the legally required dog license is one way to establish proof of ownership. Annual license fee for a neutered dog is \$6.00; for unneutered, \$16.00. Current health records can help us provide better care for the animal. If inoculation records are not available, the pet will be given basic inoculations, free of charge, for its protection.
- 3) Advise the client that she should have a **driver's license or other photo I.D. with her as well as the PSPCA surrender slip when she comes to reclaim the pet.** This will help us to verify ownership.
- 4) **On the Day 6 of foster care, the owner should call Vicki Mehl at the PSPCA, (215) 426-6305, x244, to confirm a time for reclaiming the pet(s).** If the client cannot reclaim the pet personally, she may send a representative. **This representative must have the pink surrender slip and a letter from the client, signed and witnessed, giving permission to retrieve the pet(s).** Animals will not be surrendered to anyone without these items.
- 5) After seven days, if the client or her designated representative has not contacted us to reclaim the pet(s), the animals will be considered abandoned and will then come under the regular policies, guidelines and procedures for abandoned animals at the PSPCA. Reasonable attempts will be made to contact the client before decisions are made.

6) If the client leaves the DVSA or Safehouse without notifying the PSPCA, the animal will be considered abandoned. If the client leaves the DVSA and notifies the PSPCA of her whereabouts, the seven day limit will still apply.

7) If more time is needed, we now have a network of satellite foster care providers who will house the animals after the initial seven days. Foster care can now be provided, in most cases, for 21 - 37 days, on a space available basis. The owner must still contact us by Day 6 or any time she changes her living arrangements (eg. leaves the Safehouse) or else the animal(s) will be considered abandoned. In no case will the animal(s) be housed for more than 37 days.

8) The client may reclaim her pet(s) at any time during the foster care period.

9) For security reasons, visits to the pet(s) are not advisable. If the pets are housed by one of our satellite providers, visits will not be allowed, to protect the security of the providers. All providers will be screened before being allowed to participate in this program.

10) If there is evidence of animal abuse, neglect or cruelty, the PSPCA reserves the right to conduct follow-up investigation in the event that the client reclaims the pet(s) and returns to the abusive situation.

PetNet

PSPCA Procedures

1) PSPCA will pick up animals of women who seek shelter at a domestic violence support center (DVSC). PSPCA trucks will transport from the DVSC only. We cannot retrieve animals directly from the woman's home.

2) PSPCA, or a designated PetNet Provider, will provide housing, food and humane care for the pets. In the absence of a valid and current inoculation record, the PSPCA will also provide basic inoculations for the pet. These services will be provided **FREE OF CHARGE**. **Housing currently is available at the shelter for a maximum of seven days. Housing at satellite sites is available for up to 30 days.**

3) On Day 6, or the day prior to designated reclamation date, the surrenderer must contact the PSPCA to make arrangements for reclamation of the pet(s) or to arrange for continued care by our PetNet satellite providers.

4) If, at the end of seven days, the owner has not reclaimed the pets or other arrangements, private or through PetNet, have not been made for housing, ownership of the animal(s) reverts to the PSPCA and all regular procedures and policies pertaining to animal disposition will apply. (If the surrenderer shows up after the deadline and the animal is still available, animal will be returned to surrenderer according to regular RTO procedures and fees.)

5) **Animals will be released only to the person who surrendered them** or to the person bearing the PSPCA surrender slip *and* a letter of permission, signed and witnessed, from the surrenderer. For the safety of all, including the animals, **NO EXCEPTIONS** are to be made to this policy.

6) A network of foster care providers is now in place, enabling us, when needed, to provide foster care for up to 37 days. When housing is needed for more than seven days, the PSPCA will provide initial housing and then transport the animal(s) to a satellite provider. Notice of the transfer will be sent to the surrenderer through the DVSC, although **the exact location will not be disclosed to protect the security of the provider**. PSPCA will transport the animal back to the PSPCA shelter for reclamation.

7) If the surrenderer leaves the DVSC, she must notify the PSPCA. The animal(s) must be reclaimed by the stated deadline. If the deadline is reached and the animal is not reclaimed or if the PSPCA has not been contacted by or been able to contact the surrenderer, the animal(s) will become property of the PSPCA and will be disposed of solely at the discretion of the PSPCA. If the surrenderer leaves the DVSC and does not contact the PSPCA by the stated deadline, the pet will be considered abandoned and will become property of the PSPCA as above.

8) If the surrenderer elects, due to inability to provide ongoing care or due to concerns for the animal's safety, she may surrender the pet to the PSPCA for possible adoption. As with other surrendered animals, every effort will be made to find a home for any adoptable pet. Further disposition is at the discretion of the PSPCA.

**PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO
ANIMALS
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUPPORT SERVICE
SHORT-TERM HOUSING FOR PETS AGREEMENT**

This service is for victims of domestic violence who are staying at a support center and receiving counseling. The Pennsylvania SPCA at 350 E. Erie Avenue will house your pet for a maximum period of seven days from this date.

There will be no charge for the boarding and unless your pet has a current inoculation record all of the routine shots will be given to your pet at the beginning of its stay at no cost.

Although we will attempt to reach you if any health issues arise the Pennsylvania SPCA has autonomy regarding your animal's care and will react accordingly regarding any health or welfare issues.

On or before the end of the seven day holding period the pet will be released only to you (with identification) or to your specially identified representative. (This person must have the pink surrender slip as well as a signed and witnessed letter or permission from the owner. The witness to this letter **MUST** be someone other than your husband or boyfriend.

Any animals that are not reclaimed after the seven day holding period will become the property of the Pennsylvania SPCA to be disposed of at its discretion.

The owner/agent hereby releases The Pennsylvania SPCA of all liability by reason of loss of or injury to the animal which may derive from any cause.

The Pennsylvania SPCA reserves the right to refuse to admit any animal into this program if it is deemed unsafe to handle or vicious.

Printed

Name _____

Owner's

signature _____

(over)

Referred By _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Name of another contact person that you can trust if we cannot reach you:

Name _____ Phone # _____

PSPCA Representative

signature _____

Date _____

Shelter Contact _____ Ext. _____

Call 426-6300 by _____ with arrangements for pet
pickup. (Today's date plus seven)

Where To Call For Help

If you are the victim of abuse:

For life threatening emergencies: 911

Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-888-305-7233

If you live outside of San Diego County:

National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-SAFE (7233)

If you are a witness to domestic violence: 911

To report animal abuse in San Diego County:

San Diego County Department of

Animal Control:

(760) 438-2312 - North County

(619) 236-4250 - Central County

(619) 263-7741 - South County

For locations outside of San Diego County contact your nearest animal control agency or humane society.

RCHS offers workshops about the link between animal abuse and violence and how community members can help. Please call us at (760) 753-6413 for more information.



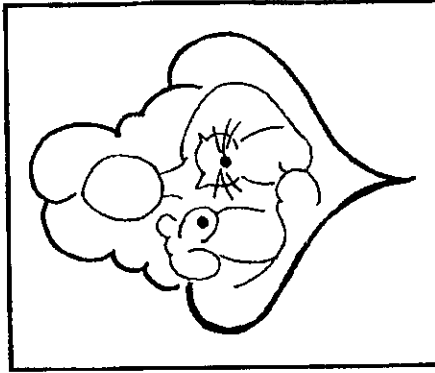
Rancho Coastal Humane Society
389 Requeza St., Encinitas, CA 92024
Ph. (760) 753-6413/ Fax (760) 753-6664

Animal Abuse and Domestic Violence...

Know The Connection

Break The Cycle

Make A Difference



Rancho Coastal
Humane Society's
Animal Safehouse
Program

389 Requeza Street
Encinitas, CA 92024
(760) 753-6413



Know The Connection

Understanding Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is any form of violence, upon any member of a household. While abuse is usually physical, it may take on more subtle shapes through controlling behavior, threats, insults or put-downs. And since animals are often considered to be family members, they are becoming victims, too.

Most people don't realize that homes where animals are neglected or abused are often shared by spouses and children who are also being abused. Perpetrators may neglect, beat and torture animals to punish, humiliate or silence their partners or children. Unfortunately, most domestic violence shelters cannot house animals. As a result, abused individuals often risk their lives by refusing to leave a violent situation until they can leave with their companion animal.

Break The Cycle

Rancho Coastal Humane Society's Animal Safehouse Program

No one should feel like they can't leave a violent home. That's why Rancho Coastal Humane Society (RCHS) has created The Animal Safehouse Program.

Upon referral from a client advocate, RCHS will make temporary arrangements with our trained volunteers, who provide foster care in their own homes. All foster volunteer and client information remains confidential and neither client nor foster volunteer ever meet.

Prior to fostering, our staff examine the animal, and provide immediate care for animals needing vaccines and basic assistance. The length of time an animal is fostered depends upon the needs of the animal's owner. And when an individual reclaims their animal, we can provide information about pet friendly housing in San Diego County.



Make A Difference

What You Can Do To Help

We can't do this alone - we need your help!

Rancho Coastal Humane Society is seeking foster volunteers for our Animal Safehouse Program. By providing kindness and care, you can make a difference to an animal in need. Your compassion also provides the animal's owner with peace of mind, and allows an individual the time to seek counseling, develop new personal and professional skills, and increase self esteem and independence.

If your schedule does not afford you the time to foster, you can financially sponsor an animal by donating to our Animal Safehouse Program. Your donations will go directly to helping those animals in need of emergency care.

Finally, the most important way you can help is to speak out. Inform your family, friends, neighbors and civic leaders about the link between animal abuse and domestic violence. Teach others to recognize animal neglect and abuse as a serious problem and potential indicator of violence toward people. Encourage anyone who has seen abuse or who is being abused to call for help.

For more information about The RCHS Animal Safehouse Program, please call RCHS at (760) 753-6413





Rancho Coastal Humane Society
389 REQUEZA STREET * P.O. BOX 230605
ENCINITAS, CA 92023-0605

PHONE: (760)753-6413

FAX: (760)753-6664

E-MAIL: rchshumane@aol.com

DATE		TAG #		CUST #	
RECEIVED \$		<input type="checkbox"/> DONATION			
CDL #		<input type="checkbox"/> FEE NON-REFUNDABLE			
NAME					
ADDRESS			PHONE #		
CITY		STATE		ZIP	
ANIMAL NAME		DATE OF BIRTH		SEX	
BREED		COLOR		HAIR	
RELEASE I am the owner, or owner's agent, of the animal described on this form. To the best of my knowledge, this animal HAS NOT bitten anyone in the past fourteen (14) days. I relinquish ownership of this animal and request that it be accepted by Rancho Coastal Humane Society.					
I recommend that this animal (Initial A or B): A. _____ Be considered for adoption. I understand that, if a suitable home cannot be found, the animal may be euthanized, at the society's discretion. B. _____ Be euthanized for the following reason(s): _____					
I release Rancho Coastal Humane Society, their officers, employees, agents, and volunteers from any and all claims, liabilities, expenses, or judgements arising from the acceptance, destruction, and/or other disposition of this animal. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.					
SIGNED: _____			DATE: _____		



RANCHO COASTAL HUMANE SOCIETY OWNER CLAIM FORM

I certify to be the legal owner of the animal(s) described below, and hereby warrant the animal(s) to be my personal property.

I acknowledge that Rancho Coastal Humane Society has returned my property to me and I hereby release the Rancho Coastal Humane Society, it's employees, Board of Directors, and agents from any liability arising from the claiming of this animal (s). I further acknowledge that Rancho Coastal Humane Society provided reasonable care for my animals and provided veterinary care when necessary; however, if I discover my animal (s) now need veterinary care, I understand I am financially responsible and understand that RCHS will not reimburse me for any expense incurred

BREED _____ COLOR _____ ID# _____ NAME _____

BREED _____ COLOR _____ ID# _____ NAME _____

BREED _____ COLOR _____ ID# _____ NAME _____

BREED _____ COLOR _____ ID# _____ NAME _____

OWNER'S NAME _____ CDL# _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

DATE _____ SIGNATURE _____

CANINE INTAKE RECORD				
NAME _____		TAG # _____		DOB _____
GENDER _____		BREED _____		
		NORMAL	ABNORMAL	NOTES
A.	General Appearance			
B.	Integument			
C.	Muscular/Skeletal			
D.	Circulatory			
E.	Respiratory			
F.	Eyes			
G.	Ears			
H.	Lymph Nodes			
I.	Tonsils			
J.	Mucus Membranes			
K.	Digestive			
L.	Genital/Urinary			
M.	Nervous			
N.	Weight			
O.	Temperature			
P.	Dentistry			
VACCINATION HISTORY DHLP _____ Corona _____ Bordetella _____ Rabies _____ SURGICAL HISTORY Altered? _____ Date _____ Name of Veterinarian _____ Microchip ID# _____ Microchip Product Name _____				MEDICATIONS Currently on medication? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Type _____ Rx Instructions _____ Comments _____ Apprehension Level _____ _____ NOTES _____ _____ _____

FELINE INTAKE RECORD				
NAME _____		TAG # _____		DOB _____
GENDER _____		BREED _____		
		NORMAL	ABNORMAL	NOTES
A.	General Appearance			
B.	Integument			
C.	Muscular/Skeletal			
D.	Circulatory			
E.	Respiratory			
F.	Eyes			
G.	Ears			
H.	Lymph Nodes			
I.	Tonsils			
J.	Mucous Membranes			
K.	Digestive			
L.	Genital/Urinary			
M.	Nervous			
N.	Weight			
O.	Temperature			
P.	Dentistry			
<div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 10px;">VACCINATION HISTORY</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> FVRCP _____ Fel.V _____ Rabies _____ FeLV test _____ </div> <div style="width: 45%;"></div> </div> <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 10px;">SURGICAL HISTORY</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> Altered? _____ Date _____ Name of Veterinarian _____ Microchip ID# _____ Microchip Product Name _____ </div> <div style="width: 45%;"></div> </div>				<div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 10px;">MEDICATIONS</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> Currently on medication? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No </div> <div style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> Type _____ </div> <div style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> Rx Instructions _____ </div> <div style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> Comments _____ </div> <div style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> Apprehension Level _____ </div> <div style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> _____ </div> <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 10px;">NOTES</div> <div style="margin-top: 10px;"> _____ </div> <div style="margin-top: 10px;"> _____ </div> <div style="margin-top: 10px;"> _____ </div>

FELINE HEALTH RECORD

NAME _____ TAG # _____ DOB _____
GENDER _____ BREED _____

VACCINATION HISTORY

FVRCP

FcLV

Rabbits

Date _____ Manuf. _____

Lot #	Vaccine Name
-------	--------------

Name of Veterinarian _____

[illegible]

Microchip ID#

Microchip Product Name: HOME AGAIN

SURGERY

Altered? _____ Date _____

Name of Veterinarian _____

Post Surgical Instructions

Fecal Date/Results

Worming Date	Medication
---------------------	-------------------

[illegible]Bathed: ☐ Yes ☐ No Date _____

**RANCHO COASTAL
HUMANE SOCIETY**

760-753-6413

Other Medical/Behavioral Treatment

☐ See attached

Diet at RCHS

Picture Taken ☐

Profile Completed ☐

This animal appears clinically healthy at the time of adoption. However, despite our best efforts, this pet could have a pre-existing condition which could adversely affect the current or future health of this animal or other animals exposed to it. We recommend you take this pet to a participating veterinarian within ten (10) days of adoption for a free health examination. The exam does not include any treatment or vaccinations.

I hereby release Rancho Coastal Humane Society, its employees and agents from any liability arising from the adoption of this animal.

Signature of adopter

RANCHO COASTAL HUMANE SOCIETY

CANINE PROFILE

To the Relinquishing Owner: Please answer the following questions as completely and honestly as possible so that we can make a better match between dog and adopter.

Date _____	Dog's Name _____		
Sex (please circle one)	Male Female	Spayed/Neutered?	Yes No
Breed _____	Color _____	Age _____	

♥ How long has this dog lived with you? _____ Are you this dog's original owner? Yes No Where did you get this dog? _____

♥ Why are you surrendering this dog? _____

♥ How much of the time was the dog outside? _____ inside? _____
How many hours a day was the dog unsupervised? _____ Where was the dog during this unsupervised period? _____ Where did the dog sleep? _____

♥ What ages of people lived with this dog? ☐ Adult women ☐ Adult men ☐ Seniors
☐ Children (please give us their ages) _____
How would you describe this dog's behavior around children? ☐ Playful ☐ Afraid
☐ Tolerant ☐ Snappy ☐ Too much for small children ☐ Never been around children

♥ What type of training has this dog had? ☐ Obedience classes ☐ Home training
☐ Professional ☐ None
Does this dog know how to...? ☐ Sit ☐ Come ☐ Stay ☐ Down Other _____

♥ Is he/she housetrained? Yes No If no, how often does the dog have accidents, and where? _____
How have you dealt with the problem? (please check all that apply) ☐ Dog allowed only in certain areas ☐ Dog kept outside only ☐ A method of housetraining was tried (please describe) _____

♥ Did the dog live with? ☐ Cats ☐ Dogs ☐ Rabbits ☐ Birds Other _____
Does the dog get along with...? ☐ Cats ☐ Dogs ☐ Rabbits ☐ Birds Other _____

♥ Does the dog have any old injuries, health problems, special diet or needs that we should know about? _____

♥ Does the dog have any of the following behaviors? ☐ jumps/climb fences ☐ digs ☐ chews
☐ barks excessively ☐ chases cats, cars, bicycles, etc. ☐ escape artist ☐ defecates/urinates in house

Has this dog ever bitten, snapped, growled at, or shown any aggression to any person or animal? ☐ No ☐ Yes If yes, please explain. _____

Do you feel this dog is overprotective? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Sometimes

Does this dog have any bad habits we should know about? _____
Please use the back of this sheet for additional comments or information.....

RANCHO COASTAL HUMANE SOCIETY

FELINE PROFILE

To the Relinquishing Owner: Please answer the following questions as completely and honestly as possible so that we can make a better match between cat and adopter.

Date _____	Cat's Name _____		
Sex (please circle one)	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Spayed/Neutered?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Breed _____	Color _____	Age _____	

♥ Are you this cat's original owner? Yes ☐ No ☐ How long has this cat lived with you? _____
Where did you get the cat? _____

♥ Why are you surrendering this cat? _____

♥ Is the cat declawed? Yes ☐ No ☐ If no, does the cat use a scratch post? Yes ☐ No ☐

♥ Is this cat litter-box trained? Yes ☐ No ☐ If no, how often does the cat have accidents, and where? _____

Did the cat receive a medical exam for this problem? No ☐ Yes ☐ Vet's name _____

♥ Does this cat go outside? No ☐ Yes ☐ If yes, where and how often? _____

How many hours a day was the cat unsupervised? _____ Where was the cat during this period? _____ Where does this cat sleep? _____

♥ What ages of people lived with this cat? ☐ Adult women ☐ Adult men ☐ Seniors
☐ Children (please give us their ages) _____

How would you describe this cat's behavior around children? ☐ Friendly ☐ Afraid
☐ Shy at first ☐ Aggressive ☐ Tolerant ☐ Never been around children

♥ Would you describe your household as...? ☐ Active ☐ Quiet ☐ Noisy ☐ Average

♥ Does the cat live with...? ☐ Cats ☐ Dogs ☐ Rabbits ☐ Birds Other _____

Does the cat get along with...? ☐ Cats ☐ Dogs ☐ Rabbits ☐ Birds Other _____

♥ Does the cat have any health problems, old injuries, special diet or needs that we should know about? _____

♥ Does the cat have any of the following behaviors? ☐ sprays ☐ scratches furniture ☐ bites
☐ hides from strangers ☐ escape artist ☐ digs in plants ☐ doesn't use litterbox

PLEASE USE THE BACK OF THIS SHEET FOR ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR INFORMATION.





Animal Safehouse Program: A Guide For Counselors

How Will I Know If A Client Has An Animal In Need Of Foster Care?

When you are speaking with clients, you may wish to ask the following questions during your intake process:

1. Do you have any companion animals currently living with you?
2. If yes, what kind of animals do you have?
3. Have they been threatened or harmed?
4. Do any of your companion animals need a safe home while you are at the shelter?
5. Do you have a relative or friend they can stay with or should we make arrangements to have them fostered?
6. Who is your veterinarian?

Each situation is unique to the individual. While some clients may wish to keep their animals, other clients may decide that for personal reasons, they would prefer to surrender their animal(s) permanently. Please ask your client if she would like to have her animal(s) fostered temporarily or if she needs to surrender her animals permanently.

What Should I Do If I Have A Client Who Needs An Animal Fostered?

If you have a client who needs to have her animal fostered temporarily, please contact Rancho Coastal Humane Society at (760) 753-6413. Our shelter will do everything possible to try and make temporary foster care arrangements. RCHS will only accept Safehouse foster animals by referral from a police officer, social service agency or private practice. The caseworker or client advocate must call the shelter on the client's behalf. Please do not ask that the client call the shelter. Shelter hours are Tuesday-Sunday, 10 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

Because our shelter needs time to contact volunteers, please let your client know that it may take at least 2-6 hours before we are able to determine whether or not a foster volunteer is available. It may take longer if a client has multiple animals needing to be fostered. The more time you are able to give us, the better the chances that we will be able to locate a foster volunteer.

Can RCHS Foster Every Animal?

Unfortunately we can only accept animals if there are foster volunteers available. If we are unable to locate a foster volunteer, some of the other animal shelters in San Diego may be able to help your client. A listing of animal shelters in San Diego County has been included for your reference.

If RCHS Is Able To Foster My Client's Animal, What Should My Client Do?

- Determine with your client how long foster care will be needed.

Rancho Coastal Humane Society, 389 Requeza St., Encinitas, CA 92024 (760) 753-6413 9/97



Rancho Coastal Humane Society Animal Safehouse Program: A Guide For Clients

Can You Tell Me About Rancho Coastal Humane Society?

Rancho Coastal Humane Society (RCHS) is a nonprofit animal shelter located in Encinitas which was established in 1961. We provide a number of services to the community, however, our primary mission is to prevent the suffering of all animals.

Is My Animal Eligible To Receive Foster Care Through The Safehouse Program?

You are eligible if you and your companion animal(s) are seeking safety from a situation involving domestic or family violence. Rancho Coastal Humane Society (RCHS) will do everything possible to help your animal(s) find temporary foster care. All calls for fostering must be made on your behalf by your caseworker or counselor.

How Can I Request Temporary Foster Care For My Animal?

Please ask your counselor or caseworker to contact Rancho Coastal Humane Society (RCHS) at (760) 753-6413. We will only consider requests for foster care made on your behalf by your counselor or caseworker. Your counselor or caseworker may call us between Tuesday-Sunday from 10:00 am to 4:00pm. Our shelter is closed on Mondays.

Is There A Charge For Foster Care?

There is no charge for foster care. However, if your animal requires minor medical care while being fostered and you are unable to afford the cost, RCHS may be able to work out a payment schedule upon approval by the executive director.

How Long Will It Take To Find Out If There Is A Volunteer Who Can Foster My Animal?

Because we must work with both the schedules of the client and the volunteer, it will take at least 2-6 hours to locate a foster volunteer.

What Are My Options If You Are Unable To Locate A Foster Family?

Unfortunately, there may be times where we will be unable to find a volunteer to foster your animal. We have provided your counselor with a listing of other animal shelters throughout San Diego County. Please contact these shelters to learn more about the programs they may have to offer you.

What If I Have Difficulty Getting My Animal Out Of The House?

Because RCHS staff are not members of law enforcement, we ask that you speak with your counselor or caseworker to arrange for a member of law enforcement to help you claim your animal(s) from your home.

If RCHS Is Able To Find A Foster Volunteer, What Are My Next Steps?

If we are able to accept your animal, please bring him/her to our shelter at a time which has been agreed upon by you and our staff. RCHS is located at 389 Requeza Street, Encinitas. Please also bring the following:

1. Your signed copy of *The RCHS Temporary Foster Care Agreement For An Owned Animal*.
2. Photo identification (i.e. driver's license). In order to prevent another individual from claiming your animal, we will make a copy of your photo identification. This will be kept in your file and will be checked when you come back to reclaim your companion animal.
3. Any veterinary records. If you have a veterinarian, but don't have the records on hand, please ask your veterinarian to fax all information to our shelter. The shelter's fax number is (760) 753-6664.
4. Any items which your companion animal frequently uses - toys, bowls, blankets, shampoos, etc.

How Long Can My Animal Be Kept In A Foster Home?

Please discuss your plans with your caseworker or counselor. Foster animals may be kept in foster care from 24 hours to 2 months. Please work with your counselor to determine the length of time your animal will need to be fostered.

May The Length Of Time That My Animal Needs Foster Care Be Extended?

Only in cases deemed by your counselor to be an emergency. If you need to lengthen the time your animal is kept in foster care please ask your counselor speak directly with our staff.

How Are Foster Volunteers Chosen By RCHS?

In order for an individual to become a foster volunteer, he/she must:

1. Demonstrate an attitude of compassion to animals, and a commitment to caring responsibly for animals.
2. Fill out and sign *The RCHS Application For Volunteer Service and Volunteer Foster Care Agreement*.
3. Attend The RCHS volunteer orientation
4. Have prior experience with the type of animal to be placed.
5. Interview with the Assistant Director, Volunteer Coordinator, and the Humane Education Coordinator.
6. Allow an appointed RCHS representative to conduct a home visit upon request.

Will I Be Able To See My Companion Animal While He/She Is Being Fostered?

Unfortunately, we are unable to allow visitation while an animal is being fostered. Visitations could jeopardize the privacy of both the client and volunteer. Seeing you visit and leave may also cause increased anxiety for your companion animal. Finally, the foster period should be a time for you to devote to yourself, knowing that while doing so, your animal is being cared for. However, you are welcome to send correspondence to your animal's foster volunteer via your counselor.

Will I Be Able To Have Contact With The Volunteer Who Fosters My Animal?

In order to protect the confidentiality of our volunteers, you will not be able to directly contact the volunteer who fosters your animal. However, if you would like to write notes to your foster volunteer, please give them to your counselor or caseworker and ask him/her to forward the notes to RCHS. In order to protect your confidentiality, please do not enclose personal information such as your full name, address, etc.

Will My Foster Volunteer Be Able To Contact Me?

No. In order to protect your identity, your foster volunteer will not be able to contact you. If your animal's foster volunteer has any questions about your animal, those questions will be forwarded to you via your counselor or caseworker. We also encourage foster volunteers to write notes to their animal's owners. These notes will be forwarded to you via RCHS and your counselor. Your animal's foster family will not receive any of your personal information.

A Note About Housing For You After Reclaiming Your Companion Animal....

What If I Am Having Difficulty Finding A Place To Live That Will Accept Animals?

A listing of apartments which accept animals has been provided to your counselor. If you need further assistance, RCHS will be more than happy to offer suggestions regarding how to best approach a potential landlord if you are unable to afford a pet deposit.

Foster Volunteer – Animal Safehouse Program

Description and Duties

Animal Safehouse Foster Volunteers are invaluable to a domestic violence survivor who shares her life with a companion animal. By taking in a companion animal, you provide a survivor with the peace of mind of knowing that her animal is in safe hands. This opportunity will allow her the time to work on gaining autonomy by developing new personal and professional skills and increasing her self-esteem and independence.

- **Behavior:** An animal coming from a violent home has also often suffered as a victim of abuse. Although RCHS has seen very few animals with severe problems, it is important to recognize that some of these situations may occur. Volunteers are always informed about any information regarding the animal's behavior which we have received from the animal's owner.
- **Animal/Volunteer Matching:** When an animal needing to be fostered comes into our shelter, we will try to match the animal up with a suitable foster volunteer.
- **Pet Profiles:** You will be giving a copy of your foster animal's pet profile. The profile will provide you with basic information concerning the animal's background, age, training, likes and dislikes.
- **Privacy:** In order to protect both your privacy and the owner's privacy, no personal information (neither yours nor the owners) will be given.

Requirements and Qualifications

- To provide in-home day to day care for an animal coming from an abusive home
- To be a minimum of 18 years of age
- **Post cards:** Just a few words on a post card about how the foster animal is doing can mean a great deal to a pet owner who has gone through the trauma of domestic violence. The post card will be forwarded by our staff to the owner.
- To reflect the principles and values of Rancho Coastal Humane Society, regardless of personal views, while working in a volunteer capacity
- To sign a Foster Volunteer Agreement pertaining to the specific animal
- To lift 35 pounds
- To return the foster animal on the date specified by RCHS. If there are any changes to the return date, you will be given 48 hours notice

Time Commitment and Training

- **Time commitment:** The length of time that some clients will need their animals fostered may range from 24 hours to 2 months. Please notify the Volunteer Coordinator regarding the time you are able to commit to fostering an animal.
- **Training:** To attend a Volunteer Orientation meeting (2 hours) and individual interview with the Volunteer Coordinator
- **Training:** To attend an overview presentation on Euthanasia (this is optional but volunteers are encouraged to attend). Presentations are held monthly -- (30 minutes)

###

The above description is for a volunteer position only. Services performed by individuals in a voluntary capacity are without any express or implied promise of salary, compensation, employment benefits, or payment of any kind whatsoever.

Effective: March, 98



Rancho Coastal Humane Society • 389 Requeza St. Encinitas, CA 92024
(760) 753-6413 • FAX (760) 753-6664

RANCHO COASTAL HUMANE SOCIETY

ANIMAL SAFEHOUSE PROGRAM

TEMPORARY FOSTER CARE AGREEMENT

I, _____, hereby relinquish my companion animal (s) to Rancho Coastal Humane Society (RCHS) for temporary foster care beginning on _____, and agree to the following:

- _____ 1. That this fostering agreement is for a set period of time ending by _____.
- _____ 2. Should I not reclaim my companion animal by _____, said companion animal will be considered permanently relinquished to RCHS, unless I have made prior arrangements with the shelter to extend my animal's length of foster.
- _____ 3. RCHS will return my companion animal only to myself, unless I surrender my companion animal to RCHS or designate a person to pick up the animal in my place, in which case I will notify RCHS beforehand.
- _____ 4. For the safety and well being of my companion animal, I will keep any information concerning the location of my companion animal confidential before, during, and after he/she is being fostered.
- _____ 5. RCHS will care for my companion animal to the best of its ability. I will not hold RCHS liable for any illness or injury that might incur.
- _____ 6. RCHS will provide basic preventive care for my companion animal. Should my companion animal require extended veterinary care, I agree to repay RCHS for any veterinary attention needed. An installment agreement to pay for any veterinary attention for my companion animal shall need may be discussed with the director of RCHS.
- _____ 7. Should it be discovered that my companion animal is ill or injured, I will be notified immediately. If my companion animal is severely ill, it shall be my decision alone to reclaim my companion animal or have him/her euthanized. I authorize RCHS to euthanize my companion animal due to illness or injury if: 1) an emergency medical situation arises in which, in the opinion of RCHS, my companion animal is suffering, or 2) I have been contacted by RCHS (through my case worker) about my companion animal's condition and fail to return calls or correspondence within 24 hours.
- _____ 8. I give permission to RCHS to perform any and all medical procedures they consider necessary for any animal (s). These procedures may include, but are not limited to sterilization, medications, anesthesia and emergency surgery. I will not hold RCHS, employees or caretakers (include outside veterinarians, etc.) responsible for any complications that arise.
- _____ 9. I agree that my companion animal may be fostered at the shelter, kennel or vet's office or be placed with a qualified foster volunteer. I understand that all placement information is confidential and that the name, phone number, and/or address of the animal's whereabouts will not be released to me. I will not hold any RCHS staff or volunteer liable for any illness or injury that my companion animal might incur. Should RCHS choose to kennel my companion animal, I will not hold any such kennel or vet's office or their staff liable for any illness or injury that my companion animal might incur.
- _____ 10. In order to protect the confidentiality of the owner, animal, staff and volunteers, I agree that my case worker shall be the sole liaison with the shelter. I may ask my case worker to check periodically on the status of my companion animal. Any questions concerning my companion animal will be relayed solely through my case worker.

11. To the best of my ability, I will provide RCHS with accurate and honest information concerning the health and temperament of my companion animal.

12. RCHS has the right to return my companion animal back to me at any time for any reason. If I am asked to reclaim my animal, I shall do so within 24 hours of RCHS contacting me via my caseworker.

13. In order to prevent the unwanted births of puppies and kittens in our community, any animal being fostered through The Animal Safehouse Program must be spayed or neutered. If an animal enters the program unsterilized, I grant RCHS permission to spay or neuter my companion animal. I agree to help cover the costs of this surgery.

14. As a courtesy to RCHS, should I desire to reclaim my animal prior to the date established on this agreement, I shall provide staff with at least 48 hours notice. This notification shall be done via my counselor or caseworker. I shall reclaim my animal at the RCHS facility.

15. RCHS has the right to refuse to enter into a temporary foster care agreement with any person, for any reason.

16. In the event RCHS determines my animal has been abused, RCHS may be required by law not to release the animal pending investigation.

Owner

Phone Number (H)

Phone Number (W)

Signature

Date

DV Shelter Representative

Shelter Name

Phone Number

Signature

Date

RCHS Representative

Signature

Date

Please list animals below:

Name of animal

Species/Breed

Age/Date of Birth

Name of animal

Species/Breed

Age/Date of Birth

Do you think the batterer will try to find the animal (s)? ☐ YES ☐ NO ☐ DON'T KNOW

For safety and security reasons, please provide a name and description of the batterer: _____



Building violence-free communities one family at a time



Administrative Office
75 W. Huron, Suite 205
Pontiac, MI 48342
Phone: 248/334-2343
Fax: 248/334-3161

Dear Frank Asione,

Enclosed is the information on our sheltering program for animals. The packet of information is what a client fills out if they are wanting to shelter their animal(s). The first page is filled out during the phone intake, we try to get as much information as possible. We then contact the Humane Society and give them the information and expected time of arrival or discuss any help that we need getting the animal. The next few pages is information that the client needs to be aware of. The fourth page is for when it is not safe to have the client put their name on the information and then we use one of the counselors name. The last page they receive when they pick up the animal(s).

Business Office
P.O. Box 430787
Pontiac, MI 48343-0787
Phone: 248/334-1284
Fax: 248/332-8565
Crisis and Support Line
248/334-1274

The Pets and People Intake Supplement is a form in which all the programs fill out when doing an intake with a client. These forms are filled out, copied for our records and then sent to the Humane Society for record keeping and statistics

Hope this information has been helpful. If you have any questions or comments I would appreciate them.

Sincerely,

Vicky Millmine

Crisis and Support Line counselor

*Dedicated to the elimination of domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse
by providing prevention and treatment services throughout Oakland County*

HAVEN is proud to be a United Way Agency and recognized as the Detroit Lions Courage House

RETURN TO OWNER "PROTECT MY PET" PROGRAM

RETURN TO OWNER FORM

Date in _____ Date released _____ By PMP _____

Owner name _____ Control # _____

Released to _____

Owner's written consent attached if other than owner _____ Yes

Telephone # _____ Address _____

Name of animal _____ Type of animal _____

Breed _____ Description _____ Age _____

Male _____ Neutered _____ Female _____ Spayed _____ Unknown _____

☐ Photo ID checked and approved _____ Yes _____ No

☐ Fees collected:
 Boarding \$ NO fee's
 Licensing \$ _____
 Other _____ \$ _____

☐ Fees due _____ \$ _____

☐ Treatment received while in custody:

FeLV _____ FIV _____ DHLPP _____ Rabies _____ Other _____

☐ Additional Treatment recommended:

☐ Additional Information:

Signature _____ Date _____

CONFIDENTIAL**CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP AND CONVEYANCE
"PROTECT MY PET" PROGRAM**

I am not the owner of ANIMALS but am requesting shelter and care for them because I believe they may be at risk. I understand that MHS may be required to relinquish possession of ANIMALS to their owner and I agree to hold the MHS harmless for any resulting loss, injury or damages to ANIMALS.

Date _____

Owner Signature_____
PMP

Control # _____

For shelter use only

CHECKLIST "PROTECT MY PET" PROGRAM

For office use only

Date in _____

PMP _____

Control # _____ Location of animal _____

Registered owner _____ Phone _____

Third party contact _____ Phone _____

- | | | |
|--|-----------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> "Protect My Pet" owner agreement signed by owner
why not _____ | _____ Yes | _____ No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of a "Protect My Pet" Owner agreement given to owner | _____ Yes | _____ No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> "Protect My Pet" receiving form fully completed | _____ Yes | _____ No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Photo ID copied and attached, if possible | _____ Yes | _____ No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Owner made aware of: | | |
| 30-day policy | _____ Yes | _____ No |
| Board fees, sliding scale, options | _____ Yes | _____ No |
| Visitation appointments/times | _____ Yes | _____ No |
| Other contact names/numbers | _____ Yes | _____ No |
| Release procedures | _____ Yes | _____ No |

Comments:

OWNER AGREEMENT
"PROTECT MY PET"

I, _____ the undersigned, herein referred to as "OWNER," request the Michigan Humane Society, herein referred to as "MHS," to provide shelter and care for my companion animals as enumerated below and herein referred to as "ANIMALS," through its Protect My Pet program.

I understand that the MHS or others may provide services at the MHS' sole discretion.

I agree to hold the MHS harmless for any damages, illness or injuries to ANIMALS.

I understand that the MHS may provide medical services for ANIMALS, which may include but not be limited to vaccinations, sterilization or treatment for illness or injury and that services provided will be at the sole discretion of MHS.

I understand if my animal has a catastrophic illness or injury, MHS would humanely euthanize the animal.

Name and breed of animal: _____

I certify that I am the owner of above described ANIMAL(S) and have the right to secure services for them and, if necessary, to transfer ownership of them.

I agree that MHS or its designee will provide shelter and care for ANIMALS for a maximum of 30 days and that this time period may be extended only by written agreement. I agree that my right of ownership to animals sheltered or cared for by MHS or its designee for more than 30 days without written agreement to an extension will automatically terminate and ownership will vest in MHS without regard to any action on my part. I understand that, upon termination of ownership, ANIMALS may be placed for adoption or other disposition made at the sole discretion of MHS.

If I choose to terminate my counsel with Haven and not reclaim ANIMALS within 72 hours, I understand that the MHS will consider the ANIMAL(S) abandoned.

Date _____

Owner Signature

PMP

Control # _____

For shelter use only

CONFIDENTIAL

Date In _____ PMP _____

**RECEIVING FORM
"PROTECT MY PET" PROGRAM**

Owner name _____ Control # _____
 Program/center through which you may be contacted _____

Location _____ Contact _____ Phone _____

In case of emergency contact _____ Phone _____

Name of animal _____ Type of animal _____

Breed _____ Description _____ Sex _____ Age _____

Current license # _____ Currently licensed to: _____

New license # _____ Licensed to: _____

Anticipated length of protective custody of animal(s) _____

Items/medications brought in with pet(s) _____

Do you expect anyone to come looking for your animals? _____ How would your assailant react when he realizes the animal is gone? _____

Medical/Behavior Information

Veterinarian _____ Clinic _____ City _____ Phone _____

Medical history (vaccinations and dates of last booster, other medical information)

Current medications/allergies/ailments

Condition of pet(s) when brought into custody _____

Does your pet(s) live inside or outside? _____ Is your pet housebroken? _____

Does your pet(s) like other pets? _____ If yes, which animals? _____

Does your pet(s) like children _____ What ages of children has your pet been around? _____

Does your pet have any unusual fears (noises, strangers, children)? _____

Has your pet(s) bitten anyone? _____ If so, what were the circumstances? _____

When did the bite occur? _____ Was a bite report made? _____

Does your pet(s) display any destructive behavior _____ If so, what? _____

Does your pet need any current medical care? _____

Feeding - What does your animal normally eat? _____

Leashes, toys, equipment, etc. taken in with animal _____

To protect your animals, your veterinarian will NOT be contacted.

Pets and People Intake Supplement

Revised 12/08/98

This form is to be completed by the treatment provider. Questions may be directly asked and marked on the form OR the worker may fill out the form after having asked similar questions in an information-gathering context. The worker is encouraged to ask questions in addition to these that are appropriate to both the client's and program's context.

Whenever there is violence or threatened violence against animals the matter is very serious. Time after time researchers and counselors have seen animal violence lead to violence against people. In fact, violence against animals is violence against people when it is done to scare, punish or coerce. These questions focus on animals and pets.

1. Do you have any pets now or have you had any in the past?

☐-YES-- Go to question 2. ☐-NO -Skip to question 3

2. What kind of pet(s), and How Many?

a. Dog(s) _____ c. Bird(s) _____ e. Reptile (snakes, turtles, lizards, insects) _____ g. Other (specify kind and # below)
b. Cat(s) _____ d. Fish(s) _____ f. Rabbits, hamsters, mice, guinea pigs _____ (g) _____

3. Please describe your (own and your children's) relationship with animals.

- 3a. *Adult clients only:* Has concern for animals or pets ever influenced your decision to stay with or leave your partner?

☐-YES ☐-NO

4. Have any of your pets or other animals near your home ever been hurt or threatened?

☐-YES - Go on to questions 5-10. ☐-NO - Skip to #7.

5. CAN YOU TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED?

Staff: Fill in questions 6a-f based on what the client shares about the experience of abuse.

- 6a. (Who abused the animal?)

☐-Self ☐-Child; age _____ ☐-Male partner ☐-Female partner ☐-Other _____

- 6b. (Kind of animal) _____

- 6c. (How often did this happen?) ☐-Once ☐-Occasionally ☐-Frequently

- 6d. (Degree of harm): ☐-Threatened ☐-Hurt ☐-Killed

- 6e. (Brief description of event):

- 6f. (Person's understanding of why it happened):

7. Have you been hurt or been threatened by others in your home? ☐-YES ☐-NO

(If Yes.) 8. I was ☐-Hurt ☐-Threatened by (whom) _____

9. Have others in your home been hurt or threatened? ☐-YES ☐-NO

(If Yes.) 10. And: ☐-Hurt ☐-Threatened (by whom) _____

11. Clients should receive available information regarding HAVEN, the Michigan Humane Society and animal abuse.

Original Form to client's file. — Yellow Form stapled to HAVEN primary intake.



Safe House
FOR WOMEN, INC.



P.O. BOX 1167 • CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO 63702-1167
24 HOUR HOT LINE: 573-651-1614 • TOLL FREE HOTLINE: 1-800-341-1830
BUSINESS OFFICE: 573-335-7745 • FAX: 573-335-6435 • E MAIL: safe@idd.net

Emily McClernon
Safe House for Women, Inc.
P.O. Box 1167
Cape Girardeau, MO 63702-1167

May 26, 1999

Frank Ascione, Ph.D.
Dept. of Psychology
Utah State University
2810 Old Main Hill
Logan, Utah 84322-2810

Dear Dr. Ascione:

Enclosed in the PAWS (Pets And Womens Safety) Program screening form, overview and policies, and the Safe House protocol. After consulting with an attorney, we may be changing a number of the policies, namely the one regarding transportation. Also, we plan on adding policies regarding if or when pets of abused women would have to adhere to the policies of the Human Society of Southeast Missouri such as alteration and guidelines regarding foster families.

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance. Good luck with the project.

Sincerely,

Emily McClernon, MSW
Counselor



PAWS Program Screening Form

Pet's Name: _____

1. Pet Description:

☐ Dog ☐ Cat ☐ Other: _____

Breed: _____ Color: _____

Age: _____ Weight: _____ Sex: ☐ Male ☐ Female Spayed/ Neutered

Veterinarian's Name and Phone #: _____

Special needs, diet, or medication: _____

Is your pet up to date on vaccines and shots: _____

2. Has your partner ever hurt or killed one of your pets? ☐ No ☐ Yes: If so describe including how often:

3. Has your partner ever **threatened** to hurt or kill one of your pets? ☐ No ☐ Yes: If so describe including how often:

4. Did concern over your pets welfare keep you from coming to this shelter sooner?

☐ No ☐ Yes: _____

5. Were threats made on your pets when you expressed a wish to leave home?

☐ No ☐ Yes: _____

6. What does your pet particularly like: (walks, ears scratched, back scratched...)

7. Can you think of anything that would remind your pet of the abuse or the abuser: (beards, smells, sound of cowboy boots, yelling, newspapers, etc...)

8. Does your pet get along with other animals? ☐ No ☐ Yes _____

9. Would you describe your pet as aggressive? ☐ No ☐ Yes _____

10. Who is considered the owner? ☐ You ☐ Him ☐ Joint

11. Description of abuser:

Name: _____ Age: _____ Hair: _____

Height: _____ Weight: _____ Beard _____ Mustache _____ Goatee _____

Vehicle: _____ Year: _____ Color: _____

Resident Staff Date

Please try to bring pet records and pet receipts with you

Fax to Cynthia Kothe at HSSEMO 334-4039

PAWS Program Overview and policies

Research indicates that pets are not immune to violence in the home and that pets are often vehicles to perpetrate the violence and control in the home. Pets are seen as part of the family and often provide emotional support. Because of this fact, abusers have abused pets to get messages across, to show what they can do, and overall to maintain control over their victims. The Pet's And Women's Safety Program or PAWS Program was established to provide victims of domestic abuse a resource to ensure that all members of the family are protected and to allow women to seek alternatives to living in an abusive environment by providing safe shelter for their pets.

As a matter of policy, all women must go to the police department. After contact has been made and the woman has been accepted into the Safe House (SH), staff will complete the screening form and contact both the Humane Society of Southeast Missouri (HSSEMO) and animal control. When the woman arrives at the p.d., she is asked to complete transfer of ownership and consent to treatment forms. Her pet will then be transported to HSSEMO to be placed in foster care. Two days prior to her exit, a time will be determined for her to pick up her pet at the humane society. Upon exit from the SH, she will be asked to complete a program satisfaction survey.

Policies:

Visitation is not allowed in order to adhere to the confidentiality policies of the shelter and the foster homes and in order not to jeopardize the woman's or the pet's safety. However, upon request, the Safe House staff will ask HSSEMO staff to check on the animal.

All foster homes have been carefully screened and are committed to lovingly care for pets free of charge. . Please note if the stay in the shelter will be short (1-3 days) the pet may be placed in quarantine or ICU quarters if room is available.

If there is evidence of abuse or neglect, pictures will be taken of the animal in order to document such happenings for the purpose of taking appropriate action to protect the pet.

The PAWS Program staff will evaluate and take action in the best interest of the pet; meaning, staff has the right to make decisions about the animal including not allowing the animal to return to its previous dwelling place. This policy will only be implemented in the case of documented abuse and if the pet is to be returned to that same environment.

Animal control officers will be utilized to transport pets from the police department to HSSEMO. In the case that animal control officers believe that the animal has been abused, an investigation will take place in order to adhere to state laws. There are no foreseen problems regarding the woman retrieving the pet if the abuse is deemed the actions of the abuser.

A legal transfer is made as a matter of policy during the pet's stay in foster care.

Safe House and HSSEMO staff adhere to a strict confidentiality policy. Names of residents and information will not be disclosed, this includes paperwork that is shared between the two organizations.

A two day minimum notice is required prior to exit so to make arrangements for the pet to be picked up.

If the resident exits with the understanding that her pet will be retrieved, she must maintain contact with SH staff on a weekly basis. If there is no contact within two weeks, the animal will be considered property of HSSEMO.

PAWS (Pets And Womens Safety) Program
Safe House Protocol

- ✿ A potential resident calls the crisis line. If it is determined that she will enter the shelter and has a pet (s) that need shelter, the Safe House (SH) counselor or SH staff should complete a PAWS Program screening form prior to the her entrance (They will be included in the crisis log binder) and review what she should know listed below:
- ✿ During The Humane Society of Southeast Missouri (HSSEMO) hours, staff should contact Cynthia Kothe or Debbie Litzelfelner to inform them of the situation (334-2936). In the case that the HSSEMO is not open, the call can be made the next morning.
- ✿ Safe House staff should then call Animal Control (the p.d. at 335-6621) and inform the officer of the agreed upon time when the woman will be getting to the police department. Adhering to Safe House policy, the woman will go to the police station. The pet will be picked up from the p.d. by animal control where the officer will have the woman complete legal transfer and consent for medical treatment forms.
- ✿ Two days prior to leaving the shelter, arrangements should be made with HSSEMO to set up a time to pick up your pet.
- ✿ **Please inform the resident that:**
 - ✿ HSSEMO will arrange for the pet to be placed in a foster home. Remember all foster homes have been carefully screened. Please note if the stay in the shelter will be short (1-3 days) your pet may be placed in quarantine or ICU quarters if room is available.
 - ✿ Visitation is not allowed in order to adhere to the confidentiality policies of the shelter and the foster homes and in order not to jeopardize the woman's or the pet's safety. However, upon request the SH staff will ask the HSSEMO staff to check on the animal.
 - ✿ PAWS program staff will evaluate and take action in the best interest of your pet; meaning staff has the right to make decisions about the animal including not allowing the animal to return to its previous dwelling place. This policy will only be implemented in the case of documented abuse and if the pet is to be returned to that same environment.
 - ✿ The resident will be asked to fill out an exit survey and the survey will be copied and given to HSSEMO.

PAWS Program Exit Survey:

Being able to use the PAWS Program was influential in leaving my abuser:

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree

I was satisfied with how the PAWS Program was run: ,

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree

What was the most helpful thing about the PAWS Program: _____

What things would you change about the PAWS Program: _____



Westland • Detroit • Rochester Hills

April 22, 1999

Dr. Frank Ascione
Department of Psychology
Utah State University
Logan, Utah 84322-2819

Dear Frank,

I'm enclosing the forms and materials from our still-evolving collaborative program with domestic violence agencies.

I did confirm that:

- The majority of the pets we've sheltered so far as part of the "Protect My Pet" program were returned to their owners, with the exception of one woman who surrendered her dog and cat.
- Michigan is not a community property state
- The MHS has capacity to shelter 332 animals at our Detroit shelter, 244 at the Westland shelter and 149 at the Rochester Hills shelter. Total 725.

We'll be anxious to see the results of your research. As we discussed, there are still many challenges that we and apparently, other humane organizations face as we try to develop a successful program!

Please let us know if we can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michele Mitchell".

Michele Mitchell
734-721-2109

fax 734-721-2125

email: mhsmichele@aol.com

CHECKLIST "PROTECT MY PET" PROGRAM

For office use only

Date in _____

PMP _____

Control # _____ Location of animal _____

Registered owner _____ Phone _____

Third party contact _____ Phone _____

- | | | |
|--|-----------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> "Protect My Pet" owner agreement signed by owner
why not _____ | _____ Yes | _____ No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of a "Protect My Pet" Owner agreement given to owner | _____ Yes | _____ No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> "Protect My Pet" receiving form fully completed | _____ Yes | _____ No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Photo ID copied and attached, if possible | _____ Yes | _____ No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Owner made aware of: | | |
| 30-day policy | _____ Yes | _____ No |
| Board fees, sliding scale, options | _____ Yes | _____ No |
| Visitation appointments/times | _____ Yes | _____ No |
| Other contact names/numbers | _____ Yes | _____ No |
| Release procedures | _____ Yes | _____ No |

Comments:

Date In _____ PMP _____

RECEIVING FORM "PROTECT MY PET" PROGRAM

 Owner name _____ Control # _____
 Program/center through which you may be contacted _____

Location _____ Contact _____ Phone _____

In case of emergency contact _____ Phone _____

Name of animal _____ Type of animal _____

Breed _____ Description _____ Sex _____ Age _____

Current license # _____ Currently licensed to: _____

New license # _____ Licensed to: _____

Anticipated length of protective custody of animal(s) _____

Items/medications brought in with pet(s) _____

Do you expect anyone to come looking for your animals? _____ How would your assailant react when he realizes the animal is gone? _____

Medical/Behavior Information

Veterinarian _____ Clinic _____ City _____ Phone _____

Medical history (vaccinations and dates of last booster, other medical information) _____

Current medications/allergies/ailments _____

Condition of pet(s) when brought into custody _____

Does your pet(s) live inside or outside? _____ Is your pet housebroken? _____

Does your pet(s) like other pets? _____ If yes, which animals? _____

Does your pet(s) like children? _____ What ages of children has your pet been around? _____

Does your pet have any unusual fears (noises, strangers, children)? _____

Has your pet(s) bitten anyone? _____ If so, what were the circumstances? _____

When did the bite occur? _____ Was a bite report made? _____

Does your pet(s) display any destructive behavior? _____ If so, what? _____

Does your pet need any current medical care? _____

Feeding - What does your animal normally eat? _____

Leashes, toys, equipment, etc. taken in with animal _____

To protect your animals, your veterinarian will NOT be contacted.

OWNER AGREEMENT "PROTECT MY PET" PROGRAM

I, _____ the undersigned, herein referred to as "OWNER," request the Michigan Humane Society, herein referred to as "MHS," to provide shelter and care for my companion animals as enumerated below and herein referred to as "ANIMALS," through its Protect My Pet program.

I understand that the MHS or others may provide services at the MHS' sole discretion.

I agree to hold the MHS harmless for any damages, illness or injuries to ANIMALS.

I understand that the MHS may provide medical services for ANIMALS, which may include but not be limited to vaccinations, sterilization or treatment for illness or injury and that services provided will be at the sole discretion of MHS.

I understand if my animal has a catastrophic illness or injury, MHS would humanely euthanize the animal.

Name and breed of animal: _____

I certify that I am the owner of above described ANIMAL(S) and have the right to secure services for them and, if necessary, to transfer ownership of them.

I agree that MHS or its designee will provide shelter and care for ANIMALS for a maximum of 30 days and that this time period may be extended only by written agreement. I agree that my right of ownership to animals sheltered or cared for by MHS or its designee for more than 30 days without written agreement to an extension will automatically terminate and ownership will vest in MHS without regard to any action on my part. I understand that, upon termination of ownership, ANIMALS may be placed for adoption or other disposition made at the sole discretion of MHS.

If I choose to terminate my counsel with Haven and not reclaim ANIMALS within 72 hours, I understand that the MHS will consider the ANIMAL(S) abandoned.

Date _____

Owner Signature

PMP

Control # _____

For shelter use only

CONFIDENTIAL

**CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP AND CONVEYANCE
"PROTECT MY PET" PROGRAM**

I am not the owner of ANIMALS but am requesting shelter and care for them because I believe they may be at risk. I understand that MHS may be required to relinquish possession of ANIMALS to their owner and I agree to hold the MHS harmless for any resulting loss, injury or damages to ANIMALS.

Date _____

Owner Signature

PMP

Control # _____

For shelter use only

RETURN TO OWNER **"PROTECT MY PET" PROGRAM**

Date in _____ Date released _____ By PMP _____

Owner name _____ Control # _____

Released to _____

Owner's written consent attached if other than owner _____ Yes

Telephone # _____ Address _____

Name of animal _____ Type of animal _____

Breed _____ Description _____ Age _____

Male _____ Neutered _____ Female _____ Spayed _____ Unknown _____

☐ Photo ID checked and approved _____ Yes _____ No

☐ Fees collected:

Boarding	\$	
Licensing	\$	
Other _____	\$	

☐ Fees due _____ \$ _____

☐ Treatment received while in custody:

FelV _____ FIV _____ DHLPP _____ Rabies _____ Other _____

☐ Additional Treatment recommended:

☐ Additional Information:

Signature _____

Date _____



The DVERT (DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ENHANCED RESPONSE TEAM) program seeks to identify individuals who pose a significant risk to their past or present intimate partners through documented acts or threatened acts of domestic violence. Individuals who are selected as appropriate for DVERT action will be subject to enhanced response protocols for any future incidents.

The DVERT response team will include a detective, a deputy district attorney and a victim advocate from The Center for Prevention of Domestic Violence. This team will be on call 24 hours a day, and will respond to all calls involving an identified DVERT address where a patrol officer has determined there is probable cause of a new violation. The purpose of the team is to assist the patrol officer/deputy sheriff in the investigation of the offense and provide support services for the victim. When issues involving children, elders, at risk adults, military, or animal abuse are indicated, a secondary response team made up of individuals with special expertise in these areas will be called in. The team will also conduct follow up investigation as needed.

If you have had contact with individuals whom you feel are potential candidates for DVERT, please complete this referral form, indicating in detail the reasons for your referral. Please fax a copy of the referral to the DVERT office at (719) 444-7815 and mail the original to the address listed below.

Before making a referral, please verify the address of the individual being referred and the victim's current address. Only local residents are selected for the DVERT program.

For more information, call (719) 444-7813.

Please mail or deliver this form to:

Det. Howard Black
Police Operations Center
705 South Nevada Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND THE HUMANE SOCIETY

The Humane Society is opposed to violence in all forms. The person who kicks the dog, may be punching the wife, or beating the child. Because of our commitment to protecting animals and opposing all forms of violence, our agency works with several other agencies in our community. Dr. Metzler is a member of the Domestic Violence Coalition. Donna Straub is our representative to DVERT.

The Humane Society acts in a supportive role with the DVERT program. See protocols on page 4; basically we offer the following:

1. We have a safekeeping program for animals belonging to victims of domestic violence. We will pick up and hold pet animals for ten (10) days free of charge. We do mandate that the person purchase a license and receive a rabies inoculation if not current.

2. We participate on the secondary response team of DVERT. The first response team consists of a detective, a deputy prosecutor and an advocate. If animals are involved or on the property, the Humane Society will be notified and asked to respond.

3. All reports of animal abuse or neglect will be investigated.

4. We share information to identify violent perpetrators. All DVERT referrals are tagged in our computer "DV" so officers will be aware there may be a problem with domestic violence. Officers should use caution, and forward any information to Donna immediately; DVERT will be notified.

5. Whenever possible, Donna will attend the regular case management meetings, and will participate through regular communication with the DVERT office.

DVERT TRAINING FOR ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS

Humane Society of the Pike s Peak Region
(To be completed within 6 months of employment)

The Center for Prevention of Domestic Violence:

- ☐ _____ Attend Volunteer Training at the Center (offered quarterly)
- ☐ _____ One - 4 hour shift in the Advocacy Dept. (633-1462 Lisa Maloney)
- ☐ _____ Spend 1 morning with Court Watch (633-1462, Lynn Rieth)
- ☐ _____ Spend 4 hours shadowing a DVERT Advocate (444-7810)

DVERT Office:

- ☐ _____ One - 8 hour shift with Detective at DVERT, including ride-along. (Ride-along form must be completed with Howard Black first, 444-7813.)
- ☐ _____ Attend 1-2 DVERT Case Management Sessions at Police Operations Center (P.O.C.), 705 S. Nevada-Tuesdays 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

El Paso County Human Services:

- ☐ _____ Spend 4 hours with Cynthia McVay to become familiar with the DVERT referral and staffing processes (444-5765)

Above are minimum requirements only. Please have Donna Straub, Rich Meyer or the Day Field Supervisor initial each requirement upon completion.

PROTOCOLS FOR ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS

DVERT is a model program for communities on how multi-agencies can work together in the area of domestic violence. the program recognizes the connection between animal abuse and other forms of violence. Officers can gain experience and knowledge of other agencies, i.e. Domestic Violence Center, Human Services, and the criminal justice system. It is a known fact that animal abuse can be an indicator of violence in a home, and occur along with other forms of violence. It is our goal through a pro-active role of sharing information and working together, to see violent offenders prosecuted and the victim s suffering limited.

THE ROLE OF THE ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

The role of the Animal Control Officer is one of support for the DVERT team. An officer can offer support in housing pet animals for victims of domestic violence. Human victims need support and be reassured that their pets will receive proper care while they sort out their feelings, make decisions and decide what actions must be taken. Pet animals need protection during this time period.

The Animal Control Officer may also be in the role of investigator. An officer may observe a violation of the animal cruelty law, as a result of abuse or neglect; OR the victim may report that the perpetrator has abused the pet animals. If there is any indication of a violation of the animal cruelty statues, the officer must investigate. DVERT will be supportive of the ACO in their investigation.

PROFESSIONALISM

An Animal Control Officer must conduct her/himself professionally at all times. A domestic violence incident can be highly volatile and emotional. It is important that an officer work with the DVERT Team and the victim s advocate. The officer will offer assistance with pet animals, and investigate thoroughly all incidents and allegations of cruelty to animals. The DVERT Team should be kept informed of any pending charges of animal cruelty. Through professionalism and cooperation, officers can enhance the investigation, arrest and prosecution of violent offenders.

**MAKING THE CONNECTION:
Protecting Your Pet from Abuse**

Do people who abuse their partners or their children also harm animals? Yes. If you are a victim of domestic violence, your pet may have been hurt, or may be in danger of being hurt. If your abuser has harmed your pet, you may be in increasing danger. Should you consider leaving the relationship, your pet should not be left in the house alone when you leave.

How can I protect my pet? It is very important to have an emergency shelter plan for your pet, as well as for yourself and your children. If you have a pet, ask yourself the following questions before leaving a violent situation.

Who will care for my pet animals? Make arrangements with a friend or family member to care for your pet. If no one can do this, get in touch with the Humane Society of the Pike s Peak Region, 633 So. 8th Street, Colorado Springs, 473-1741. The Humane Society will board your pets free of charge for ten (10) days through their safekeeping program. You sign a animal boarding agreement with them. They ask that you license and inoculate for rabies (if applicable), when you redeem them. You may be discouraged from visiting your pet at the Society; it is stressful for the pet. If you do wish to visit, pre-arrange with the Society. Also, if your abuser tries to stalk you, everyone --- you, your pet, and the people working at the Society could be in danger. Do not tell anyone where your pet is being housed, they may give this information to your abuser.

Is your pet current on all vaccinations? Keep vaccination and other veterinary records together so you can take them with you. Your veterinarian can send you copies so you can take them with you. The Humane Society will want to know about any medical problems, vaccinations and which veterinarian to contact in case of an emergency.

Does your pet have a current license? If your pet's safety is at risk and he/she is licensed under the abuser's name, re-license your pet in your name or the name of a caretaker. This will prevent the abuser from using the license as proof of ownership to claim the animal.

VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

ANIMAL BOARDING RELEASE

This agreement made on this _____ day of _____, 19__ by and between _____, hereinafter called the Owner, and the Humane Society of the Pike s Peak Region, Colorado Springs, Colorado, hereinafter called the Society.

Subject to the terms of the agreement, I hereby agree to the following:

1. I, the Owner agree to release my animal(s). listed below for boarding at the Society for a maximum period of ten (10) days. I understand that there is no charge for that ten (10) day period. _____ (initials)

2. I, the Owner understand that if no contact has been made at the end of the ten (10) days of boarding, the animal(s) shall become the property of the Society, and shall be processed or disposed of at the discretion of the Society. _____ (initials)

3. The Society shall be released of all responsibility in the event of the animal(s) becoming ill, injured or die due to illness while at the Society. The Society shall not be responsible for veterinary expenses incurred while the animal(s) are at the Society, or if the animal(s) become sick after leaving the Society. _____ (initials)

4. Upon redeeming the animal(s) from the Society, I, the owner agree to pay for license(s) and rabies inoculation(s) if applicable. _____ (initials)

Animal(s)				
Name: _____	Breed: _____	Sex: _____	RO#: _____	Date RTO d _____
Name: _____	Breed: _____	Sex: _____	RO#: _____	Date RTO d _____
Name: _____	Breed: _____	Sex: _____	RO#: _____	Date RTO d _____
Name: _____	Breed: _____	Sex: _____	RO#: _____	Date RTO d _____

Victim/Pet Owner Signature

Shelter Representative Signature

Caseworker or Advocate

Telephone Number

Secondary Contact Telephone



3101 N.W. 95th Street
Miami, FL 33180
305-696-0800

Claudia Ewald, M.S.W.
Assistant Director
Safespace Shelter

Lauren Lazarus, Esq.
Director
Eleventh Judicial Circuit
Administrative Office of the Courts
Domestic Violence Division

Michael Lindsey
Domestic Violence Administrator
City of Miami Police Dept.

John F. Lisk
Executive Director
Humane Society of Greater Miami

Hon. Katherine Fernandez Rundle
State Attorney
Eleventh Judicial Circuit
Miami-Dade County

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 28, 1999

CONTACT: Kelly Grimm
305/696-0800

PROJECT SAFE FAMILIES, SAFE PETS IS LAUNCHED
AS A COLLABORATIVE INTERVENTION EFFORT
TO ADDRESS THE CONCURRENCE OF FAMILY VIOLENCE
AND ANIMAL CRUELTY IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

PRESS CONFERENCE: Project Safe Families, Safe Pets
June 17, 1999 at 12pm
North Dade Victims Center
7831 N.E. Miami Court, Miami

MIAMI, FL -- Studies clearly indicate that people who abuse their pets are likely to abuse other persons and vice versa. (Ascione, Weber and Wood, 1997).

On April 14, 1999, an innovative partnership was forged between the Humane Society of Greater Miami, Safespace Shelter, the Domestic Violence Division of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit, and the City of Miami Police Department's Domestic Violence Unit to enact intervention strategies addressing the concurrence of family violence and animal cruelty in Miami-Dade County.

The goal of Project Safe Families, Safe Pets is to effectively address the occurrence of both human and animal violence. The following objectives have been put in place to reach the Project's goal:

- **Emergency shelter "Safehouse"** for companion animals of battered women seeking refuge at Safespace Shelter. The animal safehouse will be constructed by the Humane Society of Greater Miami with the purpose of removing the responsibility of caring for a loved pet as an obstacle to leaving an abusive situation.
- **Cross-reporting and cross-training of investigating officials** in the fields of family and animal abuse in order to identify as early as possible occurrence of either people or pet abuse which will allow for early intervention.
- **Public awareness campaign** to ensure that the concurrence of animal cruelty and family violence is recognized.

MORE

Pets are part of the family in the majority of American households, where nearly three-fourths of families with school-age children have at least one companion animal. These animals are often treated like family members, but if the family is experiencing violence, they can be the initial targets, prior to the family or subsequent targets if the family flees.

Judge Amy Karan, Administrative Judge of Miami-Dade's Domestic Violence Court, explained, "The unique collaboration by the project partners to Safe Families, Safe Pets demonstrates our community's commitment to responding to family violence by employing specialized risk management strategies as a method of prevention."

"The role of the contemporary Humane Society needs to transcend the traditional responsibilities of sheltering homeless animals, promoting widespread neutering and providing humane education," said John F. Lisk, Executive Director of the Humane Society of Greater Miami. "We need and want to take a pro-active role with regard to animals and the welfare of our community as a whole. Our initiative with Project Safe Families, Safe Pets demonstrates our sincere commitment to helping our community with a wide array of issues involving pets and people."

In working together to ensure that the concurrence of animal cruelty and family violence is recognized, Project Safe Families, Safe Pets promises to not only save many companion animals from abuse, but provide intervention with families to stop the cycle of abuse from continuing on to another generation.

###



P R O J E C T
SAFE FAMILIES, SAFE PETS

A collaborative proposal of intervention strategies addressing the concurrence of family violence and animal cruelty in Miami-Dade County

Prepared by:

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A collaborative proposal of intervention strategies addressing the concurrence of family violence and animal cruelty in Miami-Dade County

Although an age-old issue, the relationship between the maltreatment of animals and human interpersonal violence is receiving renewed attention from the scientific community (Ascione, Weber, and Wood, 1997). Studies clearly indicate that violent offenders frequently have childhood and adolescent histories of serious and repeated animal cruelty.

Pets are part of the family in the majority of American households, where nearly three-fourths of families with school-age children have at least one companion animal. These animals are often treated like family members, but if the family is experiencing violence, they can become targets as well.

Recent research shows that animal cruelty often occurs in tandem with family violence. Abusive men are the major source of injury to adult women in the United States (U.S. Bureau of Justice). A woman is battered every 15 seconds (National Coalition Against Domestic Violence). A 1997 survey of fifty of the largest shelters for battered women in forty-nine states revealed that 85% of women and 63% of children entering the shelter reported incidents of pet abuse in the family. The Buffalo, New York Police Department and the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) of Erie County found that in 1998, one third of the residences with animal abuse complaints also had domestic violence complaints. In 1995, a Utah shelter survey also found that thirty-two percent of women reported that one or more of their children hurt or killed a pet. Thus, maltreatment of pets by adults or children is becoming increasingly recognized as an important indicator of violence in the home.

The harm and execution of pets which are family companions is a form of psychological battering, occurring in the context of controlling behavior which causes

profound grief, compounded frequently by the suppression of any expression of feelings associated with this pain and loss. Harm to animals exposes the deliberateness of battering, its control rather than loss of control (Adams, 1998). The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), through its research, investigations, and work with law enforcement agencies has acquired unique and in-depth knowledge of the ways animal cruelty and human violence intersect. In response, the HSUS has launched the "First Strike" Campaign, which is designed to increase public awareness of the connection between animal cruelty and human violence, and to encourage individuals to take animal cruelty seriously.

Consistent with the goals of the First Strike Campaign, the Animal Cruelty Investigation Division of the Humane Society of Greater Miami, Safespace Shelter, Inc., the City of Miami Police Department, and the Eleventh Judicial Circuit's Domestic Violence Court have forged an innovative partnership in order to accomplish the following objectives:

I. EMERGENCY SHELTER "SAFEHOUSE" PROGRAM FOR COMPANION ANIMALS

Concern for the welfare of family companion animals may deter a victim from seeking shelter from further abuse. A survey of women in a shelter in Utah found that 20% delayed leaving the abusive situation out of fear that their pet would be harmed. Data being collected in Canada found almost 50% delayed leaving (Ascione, 1997). One method of removing this obstacle is for shelter services to be provided for these pets. In order to determine the level of need that exists in this regard in Miami-Dade County, Safespace Shelter will conduct a survey of all victims requesting shelter, which inquires into their potential use of shelter services for their pets, should these services exist.

Once the level of need is assessed, the Humane Society of Greater Miami will make efforts to provide temporary emergency housing at no cost for pets of domestic violence victims who are staying at Safespace Shelter.

In addition, in order to begin to determine the extent of the concurrence of family violence and animal abuse in Miami-Dade County, upon intake of a victim into the shelter, Safespace will inquire as to any incidence of companion animal abuse in the home and make these statistics available in aggregate form.

II. CROSS-REPORTING AND CROSS-TRAINING

Animal Cruelty Investigators from the Humane Society of Greater Miami and Miami-Dade County Animal Control will be cross-trained to report child abuse to the Department of Children and Families. In addition to the regular information provided by Investigators at the scene of a call, they will also provide potential domestic violence victims with a domestic violence brochure which contains a safety plan and contact numbers for shelter and resources in the community. It will be explained that while the brochure may not be applicable to their situation, it is provided as a resource to all persons.

Cross-training will also occur with the staff of the Domestic Violence Court. At the time of filing for an injunction, if a domestic violence victim makes allegations of animal cruelty by the batterer, such that the animal is at risk, and the victim is in agreement with the possibility of an investigation being initiated which could result in criminal charges being filed, the Intake Counselor will make a referral to the Humane Society of Greater Miami's Animal Cruelty Investigation Division. Case Manager staff will also be trained to make such a referral when allegations are raised in an injunction hearing. Pets that appear to be in immediate danger upon investigation may be removed. Brochures which highlight the connection between domestic violence and protecting your pet will be made available to victims accessing the court system.

The State Attorney's Office MOVES (Mobile Operations Victim Emergency Services) Domestic Violence Specialists will also be trained in asking specific questions about the possibility of animal cruelty when interviewing victims of domestic violence. The MOVES teams presently respond immediately after a domestic violence misdemeanor or felony arrest occurring in any of eight participating police districts throughout Miami-Dade County. Each victim is interviewed within four hours after an arrest at the respective police station, and once questioned about the possibility of animal abuse, when appropriate, contact with Animal Cruelty Investigators will take place. Brochures will also be made available about this project.

In addition, enhanced coordination of animal cruelty cases will take place between the State Attorney's Office and the Humane Society of Greater Miami in order to strengthen prosecution.

III. PROMOTE INCORPORATION OF SEGMENT ON DYNAMICS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE WITHIN NATIONAL AND LOCAL CURRICULUMS FOR ANIMAL CRUELTY INVESTIGATORS

Efforts will be made to work with national training institutes to incorporate a segment on the dynamics of domestic violence as a mandatory part of the national curriculum for Animal Cruelty Investigators, as well as with local training facilitators.

IV. CROSS-INVESTIGATION BY THE CITY OF MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL CRUELTY CONNECTED WITH DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The City of Miami Police Department will take a lead role by having trained detectives assigned to their Domestic Violence Unit also investigate any incidence of animal cruelty by batterers. They will work cooperatively with the Humane Society of Greater Miami with regard to investigation and removal of at risk pets from the home. They will also be a conduit of information to victims about the Emergency Shelter Program for Companion Animals.

V. PARTNERSHIP OF LAW ENFORCEMENT WITH ANIMAL CRUELTY INVESTIGATORS OF THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF GREATER MIAMI

Further communication will be initiated with all thirty police departments in Miami-Dade County to expand efforts for law enforcement to work cooperatively with the Humane Society of Greater Miami's Chief Animal Cruelty Investigator in the investigation of animal cruelty issues.

VI. PUBLIC AWARENESS

The partners to this project will work together to ensure that the concurrence of animal cruelty and family violence is recognized. Project Safe Families, Safe Pets brochures, as well as other written materials will be incorporated into this effort.

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P R O J E C T
SAFE FAMILIES, SAFE PETS



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Humane Society of Greater Miami Safe Pets Foster Care Agreement

I agree to the following conditions:

1. I certify that my own pets are currently licensed and up to date on their vaccinations, including rabies.
2. I agree to keep my pets separated from the foster animal(s) for at least 10 days. If the foster animal is incubating any disease, this will minimize the chance of my own animals becoming ill.
3. I agree to keep the foster animal(s) indoors unless accompanied by me.
4. Should the foster animal(s) become ill while in my care, I agree to either call the HSGM at 238-8322 or 696-0800 or take the animal(s) to my own veterinarian. Any charges that may be incurred through a private veterinarian will be my expense.
5. Reworming and vaccinations that are required during the foster time will be provided by the HSGM clinic by scheduling an appointment through the foster care program director. There are times that HSGM has a limited supply of extra donated food and litter that may be given to the foster parent, when available. At no time will the HSGM pay for food and/or supplies. This is the responsibility of the foster parent.
6. I understand that I have to make an appointment with the foster care program director in order to be able to return the foster animal(s) or to bring them for vaccines, checkups, etc. PAID STAFF MUST SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT ON THEIR DAY OFF!
7. I understand that HSGM is not responsible for any property damages and/or injuries that may incur. Any damages or injuries will be my responsibility.
8. I understand that the animal I am fostering has come from a home where domestic violence was present, and possibly cruelty to animals as well. I understand that the foster animal(s) may exhibit stress/fear related anxieties and I am willing and able to give compassion to the foster animal(s) at all times.
9. I understand that the animal I am fostering has an owner. I understand that I can not, and agree that I will not make any claims of ownership of the foster animal. I agree to return the foster animal(s) to the HSGM as instructed to do so.
10. I agree to house my foster animal for _____ days.

Accepted by:

foster parent signature

print name

date

Humane Society of Greater Miami Safe Pets Foster Home Application

Name _____

Street Address _____

Mailing Address _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Pager/Other _____

Driver's License # _____ Employer Co. Name _____

1.) What type of dwelling do you live in? Circle One

House Townhouse Condominium Duplex Apartment Mobile Home

2.) Do you... Rent/Lease _____ Own _____

Name of Complex and or Association _____

Name and Phone number of Landlord/Owner _____

PET POLICY: _____

How long have you been at this address _____

3.) How many adults reside in the household? _____ Children _____

Ages of children _____

4.) Have you ever surrendered an animal to a shelter?

If YES, why? _____

5.) Do you have any animals at home now? _____

a. Age _____ Breed _____ Type _____ Sex _____ Licensed _____ Sterilized _____ Name _____

b. Age _____ Breed _____ Type _____ Sex _____ Licensed _____ Sterilized _____ Name _____

c. Age _____ Breed _____ Type _____ Sex _____ Licensed _____ Sterilized _____ Name _____

d. Age _____ Breed _____ Type _____ Sex _____ Licensed _____ Sterilized _____ Name _____

6.) Would there be anyone home during the day? _____ If YES who? _____

7.) Have you had pets in the past 5 years? _____

8.) What Animal Hospital/Clinic do you (or did you) use? _____

address and phone _____

9.) Approximate date and reason of last Vet visit _____

10.) Has anyone in the household ever had allergies to animals? _____

11.) Are you aware that time and expenses are incurred by you when you foster animals? _____

12.) If the foster became ill would you be able to:

Transport the foster pet to the Humane Society for treatment? _____

Medicate and/or treat pet in your home as directed by the Humane Society

Veterinarian? _____

13.) Would you like to foster:

a. Adult Cat _____ How many? _____

b. Adult dog _____ How many? _____

c. kitten _____ How many? _____

d. puppy _____ How many? _____

e. other _____ How many? _____

Specify other _____

14.) How long have you been a..... Staff Member _____

Volunteer _____

Supporter _____

at the Humane Society?

I, _____, agree that all the information which I have given the Humane Society of Greater Miami is correct as written. I also agree to allow any or all duly authorized agents, or representatives of the Humane Society of Greater Miami to lawfully enter upon my property at any time during reasonable hours of the day, to inspect said property or to inspect the foster pet, or remove the foster pet from the property.

Date _____ Signature _____

** If not completing this application in person please return by mail with a copy of your current driver's license, or state identification card.*

List two references who can verify your experience with animals:

Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____

Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____

Humane Society of Greater Miami Safe Pets Foster Home Evaluation

Actions necessary to finalize:

Contact landlord_____

Contact association_____

Contact all family members_____

Vet contacts_____

References_____

Other_____

Types of animals applicant wishes to foster_____

Home visit Date_____

Comments:

Approved_____ Denied_____ Inspector_____

Reason For denial_____

Humane Society of Greater Miami Safe Pets Housing

Community Support is urgently needed please donate:

- **Dog/Cat beds**
- **Dog/Cat toys**
- **Towels, blankets, pillows**
- **Leashes**
- **Food/water bowls and litter pans**
- **Animal crates or carriers**
- **Dog/Cat food, canned and dry**
- **Skilled carpenter for renovations**
- **Paint, brushes, rollers, pans**
- **Cat litter**
- **Monetary donations, private or corporate**
- **Window air conditioner in good working condition**

Project Safe Families, Safe Pets is a collaborative proposal of intervention strategies addressing the concurrence of family violence and animal cruelty in Miami-Dade County. The Humane Society of Greater Miami will be assisting in housing the pets of abuse victims when they flee the abuse and seek refuge at one of the Safe Space Shelters in Miami-Dade County. Contact: Dierdra Jorgensen at (305) 238-8322.

HUMANE SOCIETY OF GREATER MIAMI SAFE PETS HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

If you are able to prepare for your pets' departure, please have the following:

- Medications
 - Carriers or cages to transport and/or house the animal(s)
 - Collar with identification/rabies tags
 - Vaccination and medical records
 - Proof of ownership of animal:
 - Rabies certificate in your name
 - Picture of you and your pet together
 - Veterinarian bill in your name
 - Information sheet on feeding schedules, medical conditions, likes and dislikes, and any behavior problems
 - Bowls, bedding, toys, grooming supplies, favorite blanket, etc.
-

The Humane Society requires that all dogs and cats admitted for housing under this program are vaccinated against Rabies, and have been implanted with an identifying Microchip. We will provide both the Rabies vaccine and the Microchip free of charge if the animal does not have them.

***Housing will be provided free of charge on a limited first come first served basis for a maximum of 14 days. If there is no space available at the shelter, every attempt will be made to locate alternate housing i.e. an approved foster home.*

Humane Society of Greater Miami Safe Pets Housing Agreement

This waiver is granted by the person whose signature appears below for the purpose of permitting the Humane Society of Greater Miami to house the following listed animal(s) for a maximum period of 14 days beginning with the date of execution of this waiver as the first day, subject to the below-listed terms and conditions.

It is understood that the Humane Society of Greater Miami may refuse to house any pet based on lack of qualifications of the person signing below, Society capacity for housing such pet(s) at the time, temperament of any such pet(s), or any pet medical problems which may put other animals at risk. The maximum of 14 days housing service by the Society shall be at no charge to the person signing below though donations are always greatly appreciated. The Society shall be held harmless by the person signing below against any and all claims of any person or persons alleging any claim relating to the listed pet(s). Further, the Society requires that all dogs and cats admitted under this program are current on their annual Rabies vaccine, Dade County license for dogs, and have been implanted with an identifying Microchip. If the below pet(s) are not current on the aforementioned, the Society will provide either or both at no charge. The Humane Society of Greater Miami's Mission is to alleviate animal suffering and pet over population. If your pet(s) are not neutered the Humane Society will offer this service free of charge, please sign the sterilization request at the bottom of this form.

Name _____ Drivers License# _____

Address _____

Telephone: Home: _____ Work _____ Pager/Cell _____

The pet(s) listed below are legally owned by me and I have full authority to execute this waiver:

Type _____ Breed _____ Name _____ Age _____ Sex _____ Neutered _____

Immunity shots _____ Microchip _____ License _____

Type _____ Breed _____ Name _____ Age _____ Sex _____ Neutered _____

Immunity shots _____ Microchip _____ License _____

Type _____ Breed _____ Name _____ Age _____ Sex _____ Neutered _____

Immunity shots _____ Microchip _____ License _____

Type _____ Breed _____ Name _____ Age _____ Sex _____ Neutered _____

Immunity Shots _____ Microchip _____ License _____

I am currently admitted to the Safe Space Shelter for abused persons located at:

Telephone_____

Case#_____

I hereby give permission to the Humane Society of Greater Miami to care for the above mentioned pet(s). I understand that the Humane Society of Greater Miami may give any medical treatments deemed necessary by the Director of this program or the Veterinarian for the welfare of the above mentioned pet(s). I hereby release the Humane Society of Greater Miami, its officers, agents, directors, employees and representatives from any liability, fines or other matters arising from any unforeseen circumstances that result from treatment or housing of my pet(s).

I understand and agree that I must remove the above listed pet(s) from the Society premises upon departure of the Safe Space Shelter, or within 14 days, which ever may come first, no later than 4:30 p.m.. I understand that if I do not retrieve my pet(s) it/they will be considered abandoned, and will become the property of the Humane Society of Greater Miami and may be placed for adoption or euthanized as deemed appropriate.

I have carefully read and understood this waiver and I am executing this voluntarily.

signature

date

Humane Society representative

date

OWNER MUST RETRIEVE PET(S) ON OR BEFORE_____

Sterilization authorization:

My pet(s) are not sterilized (spayed or neutered) and I wish to have this procedure done while my pet(s) is/are being housed at the Humane Society of Greater Miami. I understand there will be no fee for this procedure.

Signed _____ date_____

**Humane Society of Greater Miami
Safe Pets: Additional Waiver**

My pet(s) have been left behind at the home address indicated above. I fear that my pet(s) are in immanent danger if they remain at the home while I am away, and staying at the Safe Space Shelter, therefore, I authorize the Humane Society of Greater Miami Agent/Investigator to enter onto my property and into my home with law enforcement present to retrieve my pet(s) and any necessary pet related items indicated below. I understand that the Humane Society of Greater Miami Agent/Investigator WILL NOT enter onto my property to retrieve my pet(s) unless the waiver below is signed by me, and I understand that I must give the key to access the property to the Agent/Investigator. I understand that the Humane Society of Greater Miami Agent/Investigator can not enter onto property that I do not have legal rights to in order to retrieve my pet(s).

signature

date

Pet related items to be retrieved:

Humane Society of Greater Miami Safe Pets Personality Profile

****Please CIRCLE all responses which apply and PRINT the information requested****

DOG CAT OTHER _____ MALE FEMALE NEUTERED SPAYED

Pet's Name _____ Age _____

Pet understands ENGLISH SPANISH FRENCH OTHER _____

Pet lives INDOORS OUTDOORS LEASH TRAINED

Last visit to veterinary clinic _____ Clinic used _____

Health problems _____

Preferred food _____ CANNED DRY OTHER _____

Favorite games/toys _____

HOUSEBROKEN? _____ goes out how many times a day _____

LITTER BOX TRAINED _____

Is pet aggressive towards STRANGERS YES NO OTHER ANIMALS YES NO

If pet is a cat is it declawed YES NO

OTHER:

Humane Society of Greater Miami Safe Pets Release to Owner

Arrival Date: ____/____/____

Release Date: ____/____/____

The Humane Society of Greater Miami releases to owner:

(Print Name)

Drivers License#

Animal(s)	name	breed
	name	breed
	name	breed
	name	breed
	name	breed

Services Performed: (Circle appropriate services)
 - Housing
 Vaccines
 Spay/Neuter
 Mange/Dips
 Special Medication
 Microchip

Animal(s) were housed at the Humane Society of Greater Miami for a period of _____ days.

signature _____ date _____

witness

Safe Havens for Pets

Guidelines for Programs Sheltering Pets for Women who are Battered

EVALUATION FORM

Agency (check one): domestic violence agency ____
animal welfare agency ____
mental health agency ____
law enforcement agency ____
other (please specify) _____

What features of *Safe Havens for Pets* did you find most useful?

What aspects of *Safe Havens for Pets* were least useful or could be improved (include your identification of issues that were not addressed)?

Do you judge you will use *Safe Havens for Pets* as a resource?

VERY UNLIKELY___ UNLIKELY___ NOT SURE___ LIKELY___ VERY LIKELY___

Would you recommend *Safe Havens for Pets* to other professionals?

VERY UNLIKELY___ UNLIKELY___ NOT SURE___ LIKELY___ VERY LIKELY___

Can you describe any incidents, in your professional experience, where pet welfare has been an issue in a domestic violence case?