

Leashes End Senior Pet Sanctuary & Rescue
Bequests & Perpetuity Care

Leashes End:

Our mission is simple. We provide a retirement home for senior pets who found themselves homeless in their later years of life. Sadly, because of their age and associated ailments, most people will not adopt or care for these senior pets.

We operate out of a spacious, private home that sits on nearly three acres of bucolic, fenced-in land in Rockville, MD. Our senior cats and dogs are family: they sleep with us in our beds at night; they relax with us in the living room, library, or den during the day; they go on frequent off-leash outings and walks; they enjoy customized meals prepared especially for them; and they receive gold-standard veterinary care.

Leashes End is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, EIN 81-5295214, registered in the State of Maryland.

Bequests:

Thank you for considering Leashes End Senior Pet Sanctuary & Rescue in your estate planning! A bequest in your will or trust is a wonderful way to support your favorite causes and leave a legacy of compassion. A bequest to Leashes End helps us provide a loving home and gold star care to senior and special needs cats and dogs who have lost their homes and families at a time in their lives when they are most vulnerable.

When it comes to charitable giving, bequests offer many benefits. Moreover, bequests are both simple to implement and easy to change during your lifetime, enabling you to maintain the use, benefit, enjoyment, and control of your assets for as long as you need them. Some notable advantages of bequests include:

- A bequest does not affect you financially during your lifetime.
- You may make adjustments to your will or trust if and when circumstances change.
- Your loved ones will not be overlooked because you can specify the amount given to each party.
- A charitable bequest may be deductible for federal estate tax purposes and may be exempt from state inheritance taxes. (Please consult with your attorney or tax preparer for your specific circumstances.)
- Bequests are versatile. A bequest can be a specific sum, a percentage of your estate, or the remainder of your estate after expenses and gifts to loved ones. Bequests can include cash, securities, real estate, houses, and personal property. You can even name Leashes End as a beneficiary in a life insurance policy!

To bequeath a charitable gift to Leashes End, ask your attorney to incorporate the following or similar suggested language into your will:

I give to Leashes End Senior Pet Sanctuary & Rescue, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, federal tax identification number 81-5295214, currently located at

5622 Lake Christopher Drive, Rockville, MD 20855, the sum of _____ dollars (or %) (or, if insurance policies, land or other property, please describe). This gift is unrestricted, and may be designated at the discretion of the board of directors.

Thank you again for considering Leashes End Senior Pet Sanctuary & Rescue in your charitable giving!

Perpetuity Care:

None of us knows how long we have to live, but we all want what's best for our pets. What will happen to your pets if they outlive you? We frequently address this question with donors and supporters of Leashes End. Is there a way to entrust your pet to our care in such a situation?

Many of our senior pets found themselves suddenly at the county shelter after their human guardian passed away without a perpetuity plan. According to the ASPCA, 2-3% of all pets enter shelters due to the death or disability of the pet guardian. While shelters do all they can to care for these pets, the situation can be quite traumatic for the pets involved, particularly if they're seniors. Making matters worse, some shelters routinely euthanize senior pets shortly after intake. Having a perpetuity care plan can significantly improve your pet's quality of life after you're gone. Thank you for taking the time to make arrangements for your pets. It's so critically important for their care, yet frequently people overlook it!

We always recommend that you first try to find a close friend or family member to care for your pet after your death. Make sure they understand what you're asking of them and that they agree to care for your pet; name them as your pet's caregiver in your estate planning; and provide them with the financial resources, veterinary records, and instructions necessary for your pet's care.

We recognize, however, that this option is not always available. Sometimes a friend or family member just isn't able or available to carry out this most important promise. Therefore, Leashes End has adopted the following policy for those who wish to entrust the care of their senior or special needs pets to us.

Perpetuity Care Policy:

1. Accepting the Pet. Leashes End is faced with an inexhaustible number of requests to take in senior cats and dogs in need. We are simply unable to take them all. Therefore, we must adhere to a prioritization strategy for acceptance.
 - a. **First Priority:** Our longtime donors and supporters. For those, who during your lifetime helped Leashes End care for so many senior pets in need, we promise you: we will reserve a place at Leashes End for your senior pets if you so desire. To learn how to become a Leashes End supporter or donor, please visit our website (https://leashesend.org/how_to_help/) or contact us directly.
 - b. **Second Priority:** Our rescue partners. Leashes End is partnered with a number of local rescues and shelters to include House with a Heart in Gaithersburg, Montgomery County Animal Services, Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, Baltimore County Animal Services, and others. When our partners need to place an especially senior or special needs pet in our

care, we make every effort to take them in, regardless of finances. Ultimately, while resources are necessary to conduct operations, the *mission* is to provide a loving home for these pets in need. We will never lose sight of the mission.

- c. **Third Priority: All others.** To those with whom we have not had the pleasure of building a relationship during your lifetime, Leashes End will make every effort to find a place for your senior pet after your death. If, however, we are unable to accommodate your pet(s) at the time of your death, we will assist your executor in any way we can to find another suitable rescue, sanctuary, or home for your pet.

2. **Pet Suitability.** For the benefit of all pets taken into Leashes End, it is important to adhere to a few essential guidelines:

- a. Leashes End only accepts cats and small dogs (under 25 pounds) who are spayed/neutered and senior or special needs.
- b. Pets must also be of appropriate temperament (non-aggressive) for living in a group environment with other cats and dogs.
- c. Pets must be current on all required vaccinations, and every effort should be made to provide us with the pet's veterinary records.

The Leashes End Board of Directors must explicitly approve any exceptions to these guidelines in advance.

3. **Pets' Future.** Leashes End does not adopt pets out as a general rule. Once they come through our doors, we intend for all our pets to stay here forever. Our pets are family and we treat them as such. On rare occasion, however, a pet arrives at Leashes End who is not suitable for living in a group home such as ours. When these occasions arise, we reserve the right to seek a suitable adoptive home for your pet or place him or her with another sanctuary or rescue. Rest assured, we will spare no effort to find the best possible home for your pet, and make every attempt to minimize any stress or anxiety your pet may experience during the transition.

4. **Bequest Commitment.** As a non-profit organization, Leashes End relies on donations to fund its operations. Costs to shelter, feed, groom, and provide veterinary care for the animals in our care are substantial. Moreover, our pets typically live well into their late teens and even early twenties! Therefore, it is necessary for us to request that the following charitable donation (generally in the form of a bequest) accompany your pet(s).

- a. Dogs and cats 15 years of age or older - \$4,000 per pet
- b. Dogs and cats under 15 years of age - \$6,000 per pet
- c. Dogs and cats with extensive veterinary needs - \$7,000 per pet

These amounts are current as of 2021 and will be re-evaluated and adjusted as necessary at least every two years.

These donation amounts represent the absolute minimum required to support *your* pet, plus a \$1,000 contribution per pet to care for other less fortunate cats and dogs in our care. In our experience, we will likely spend far more than this amount on your pet over the course of his or her lifetime. Therefore, we encourage you to donate more than the bare minimum as your financial circumstances permit. Our ability to help senior pets in need is frequently constrained only by our limited resources and your additional support will alleviate that constraint. Similarly, if you are interested in entrusting your pet to

Leashes End, but are unable to donate the amounts indicated above, please contact us to discuss possible alternatives.

5. Procedures.

- a. If you are able to support Leashes End during your lifetime, please do. Your support enables us to care for so many senior pets in need and will also secure placement of your pet at Leashes End upon your death.
- b. Ask your attorney to state specifically in your will that you wish to entrust your pet to Leashes End Senior Pet Sanctuary & Rescue.
- c. Inform the executor of your estate, family members, and/or friends that you wish to have your pet cared for by Leashes End so that the transfer of your pet can be accomplished as soon as possible.
- d. Please fill out the Testamentary Provision form provided in Addendum 1 below and send us a copy, so we have a record. Retain the original with your will and your attorney.
- e. Complete the Pet Surrender Questionnaire and Authorization form provided in Addendum 2 below. Retain it on file with your will and send a copy to Leashes End. This form provides Leashes End with important information about your pet's medical history, lifestyle, preferences, and behavioral characteristics that will help us best care for your pet. Please also provide us with your current (and any past) veterinarian contact info and veterinary records, in case we have additional questions. A good rule of thumb is to keep a copy of your pet's veterinary records with your other important papers
- f. Ask your attorney to incorporate into your will the following suggested language for making a charitable contribution to Leashes End.

I give to Leashes End Senior Pet Sanctuary & Rescue, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, Federal tax identification number 81-5295214, currently located at 5622 Lake Christopher Drive, Rockville, MD 20855, the sum of _____ dollars (or %) (or, if insurance policies, land or other property, please describe). This gift is unrestricted, and may be designated at the discretion of the board of directors.

- g. When your will and Surrender Questionnaire are complete, please notify Leashes End in writing of your plans, and include a copy of the Surrender Questionnaire with your letter. This will ensure that Leashes End has current information about your pet on file when he or she comes to us. Please direct your correspondence to: Leashes End, 5622 Lake Christopher Drive, Rockville MD 20855
- h. Please give your veterinarian(s) (primary care provider as well as specialists) permission to release your pet's records to Leashes End.
- i. You are responsible for arranging the safe and comfortable transportation of your pet to Leashes End. If you are not local, please have your executor coordinate this transfer closely with Leashes End's staff, as there is no room for error when it comes to moving such precious cargo, especially in the heat of summer or the cold of winter.
- j. We are incredibly grateful for your generosity and encourage you to support our work to the extent that you are able during your lifetime. Donations can be made on our website,

through Facebook, or by check to Leashes End, 5622 Lake Christopher Drive, Rockville, MD 20855.

6. Questions. If you have questions or would like additional information on charitable giving by bequest, or about Leashes End, or to set up a tour of our sanctuary, please contact us at info@leashesend.org. Thank you for thinking of Leashes End and for caring so much about your pet.



STATEMENT OF TESTAMENTARY PROVISION

Print Your Name (as you would have it published)

As a Leashes End donor, your name(s) can be listed in our current or future publications, on social media, our annual report as well as any future donor wall (unless you request no listing).

- ___ 1.) **Do** publish in donor recognition publications, with the hope that we may inspire others to give;
- ___ 2.) **Do not** publish. I/We choose to be anonymous Leashes End Legacy member(s).

For good record keeping and help with future budget processes, please indicate the type of support you have made in your estate plans for Leashes End Senior Pet Sanctuary & Rescue.

DESCRIPTION:

General description of type of provision: (will, revocable trust, retirement account, other – please describe):

Definition of provision (percentage of total estate. Specific dollar amount, etc.):

I/We understand that the following is for **planning purposes only** and that values are subject to change.
I/We anticipate our future gift to Leashes End to be valued at approximately: \$ _____

PURPOSE:

- ___ The gift is unrestricted and may be used by Leashes End where the need is greatest at the time.
- ___ The gift is to be used by Leashes End for the following purpose(s): _____

PERPETUITY CARE:

Please indicate your interest in our Perpetuity Care Program. **YES / NO**

___ I understand Leashes End perpetuity care policy and procedures (to include unrestricted gifting).

SIGNATURES:

Date: _____ Birth Date: _____

Date: _____ Birth Date: _____
 Phone Number (Primary): _____ Phone Number (Alternate): _____
 E- mail (Primary): _____ E- mail (Alternate): _____
 Mailing Address: _____

THANK YOU! PLEASE return this form to:

Leashes End Senior Pet Sanctuary & Rescue
Attention: Director
5622 Lake Christopher Drive
Rockville, Maryland 20855

Pet Surrender Questionnaire & Authorization Form

(Please complete for each pet.)

I hereby certify that I am the rightful owner/keeper/caretaker/custodian of the pet who is the subject of this Pet Surrender Questionnaire and Authorization Form, hereinafter referred to as "the pet." I hereby surrender any and all property rights to the pet to Leashes End Senior Pet Sanctuary & Rescue. I certify that no other person has a right of property to the pet. I certify that I understand Leashes End's policy and procedures for surrendering pet to their care. I understand that by surrendering my property rights to the pet, the pet may be transferred to another home, sanctuary, or rescue. I also hereby certify that the pet has/ has not bitten or scratched a human or another animal within the past 10 days. I further certify that I have read and understand the terms of this Pet Surrender Form.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

Pet's Name: _____

Cat or Dog / Female or Male / Altered or Unaltered / Declawed (Cats only)

Breed or mix of breeds: _____

Color/Markings: _____

Date/Year of Birth: _____

If bonded with another pet(s): _____

Please check all that apply:

Behavior:

- My pet isn't acting like himself/herself anymore
- My pet interacts with us less/isn't seeking attention
- My pet seems confused/disorientated/displays odd behavior (circle all that apply)
- My pet barks/meows/whines/howls for no apparent reason (circle all that apply)

Body Functions:

- My pet is house trained or Pee Pad trained (circle all that apply)
- My pet is incontinent of bladder or bowel (circle all that apply)
- My pet struggles to see/hear things (circle all that apply)
- My pet has bad breath/dribbles/eats differently (circle all that apply)
- My pet eats more/less than he/she used to (circle one)
- My pet has lost/gained weight (circle one)
- My pet is drinking more water
- My pet is urinating more frequently
- My pet's urine/feces has changed (circle all that apply)
- My pet vomits

Daily Activity:

- My pet has difficulty jumping (e.g. into the car/onto the couch/climbing stairs (circle all that apply)
- My pet seems stiff/uncomfortable/painful after exercise (circle all that apply)
- My pet is sleeping more often
- My pet doesn't want to play as much anymore
- My pet is slower on walks

Skin and Coat:

- My pet has new lumps/bumps
- My pet has a scruffy coat/matted fur/flaky skin/is itchy (circle all that apply)

Medical conditions/Allergies: _____

Medications/Supplements (doses): _____

Veterinarian Info and authorization to contact: _____

Food/Diet/Treats: _____

Usual sleeping arrangements: _____

Activity level / favorite toy & games: _____

Likes/Dislikes:

