

AWA

Animal Welfare Association

Planned Gifts come in several forms:

Wills and Bequests

Annuities & Trusts—gifts that provide lifelong income

Life Insurance & Retirement Plans

Gifts of appreciated property

Lifeline Program—a gift that provides for the care of your pets when you no longer can

Life Preserver Program

AWA...More than a shelter

Dream about making the world better for animals, know your gift can make that happen!



Mrs. Carmella Winter

The Impact of Legacy Gifts

A well planned estate allows you to make an impact on future generations. This impact may include an inheritance you leave to your family as well as a philanthropic gift you make to a charity. **Through philanthropic gifts, you are leaving a gift behind that helps a charity ensure their continued existence.**

Philanthropy is simply caring about others and wanting to better the world. Every person, regardless of financial means, has the ability to change the world.

Often we aren't able to make the financial contributions we wish to when we are alive. Planned giving allows us to make larger gifts than we could otherwise make and it provides substantial tax and financial advantages.

A bequest to the **Animal Welfare Association** will mean your name is always remembered for making life better for abandoned pets in [our community](#).



Truly Compassionate Souls

Mrs. Deloris A. La Rue was a former AWA volunteer. When she passed away in 2010, she left AWA substantial funds to help our shelter animals. Mrs. La Rue was survived by her beloved dog "Bobby" who was left with a living stipend to help her new caretaker provide for her dog until she passes away.

We were fortunate to know Mrs. La Rue. Many of AWA's bequests come from people we've never met, without knowing how we (AWA and our mission) touched their lives.

Mrs. Carmella Winter is a member of AWA's Life Preserver Circle. A few years ago she listed AWA in her will. "I wanted to leave a legacy of care for the animals and trusted AWA to be there for the animals because of what I know about the good work they do."

"I give what I can to make sure the dogs are cared for, but I know that I can make a meaningful contribution (from my estate) that will allow AWA to take care of its needs." Ms. Winter visualizes AWA using the funds to make facility upgrades because with "a modest annual budget adding (space) on isn't do-able."

As a dog-lover the mission weighs on her heart. "No dog should ever go hungry. All animals should be spayed or neutered" and the fact that AWA does these two things matters to her.

You will find, as you look back on your life, that the moments that matter the most are the moments when you have done things for others. —Henry Drummond

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YEARS AND COUNTING...

The Animal Welfare Association is one of New Jersey's oldest animal welfare organizations. Founded in 1948, AWA helps thousands of animals each year find new homes. *Our mission is to eliminate animal suffering, promote the importance of the human-animal bond and improve the role of animals in the well-being of people.* Our success depends on the generosity of people who care about the animals in our community.

We rely upon donations and program fees to keep our doors open to animals in need.

THE PRIMARY REASON TO LEAVE A GIFT TO AWA IS BECAUSE YOU CARE DEEPLY FOR THE PLIGHT OF HOMELESS ANIMALS AND WANT TO PROTECT THEM. KNOWING THAT YOUR PLANNED GIFT TRANSFERS YOUR LOVE AND CONCERN FOR ANIMALS IN NEED IS VERY POWERFUL.

Steps to Getting Started

Planned giving is simply a gift of assets made to a charitable organization. Planned gifts can be made during your lifetime or from your estate. The type of planned gift that is appropriate for you depends on your financial situation and your goals.

First, identify the people and organizations in your life that you want to benefit from your estate. Remember that giving to a local charity with proven service to your community, will have a greater impact.

Second, make an assessment of your estate. Don't forget saving bonds, certificates of deposits, IRAs, or other long-term investments you may have. The total value of your estate may surprise you.

Finally, make an appointment to see your attorney or financial advisor. Discuss your goals so he or she can help implement them, answer your questions and point you in the right direction.

For family harmony, be sure to discuss your overall tax, financial

and estate planning goals with your loved ones.

By not planning your estate, your family may not be able to direct where your estate goes. In some circumstances, not having a will means leaving those decisions up to the state law or leaving your estate to the state.

Wills

A will is the legal document used in estate planning. The will is the only way assets titled in your name can be distributed as you wish. Assets titled in joint i.e. husband and wife, do not pass through a will, as well as any asset having a beneficiary destination (for example, life insurance, IRA's, pensions.) If you do not have a will, the state directs what happens. Your assets can possibly pass to distant family members or to the state itself.

A will is a common way to leave a gift to a charity either as a fixed dollar amount, specific asset, or as a percentage of your estate. The correct terminology would be:

I give and bequeath the sum of \$ ___ (or, ___ percentage of my estate) to the Animal Welfare Association Inc, a New Jersey nonprofit corporation (federal ID # 22175-2792).

AWA has financial advisors and attorneys who are willing to work with potential donors.

Annuities and Trusts

You can help the animals and at the same time receive income for life and the life of your beneficiary. Charitable gift annuities and charitable remainder trusts are both methods of giving that are used by organizations to benefit their programs. Annuities and trusts are wonderful strategies if you have appreciated assets (typically stocks or property) and you would like to increase your income. **Charitable gift**

annuities provide a fixed income to you for life regardless of the market conditions.

A **charitable remainder trust** is an irrevocable trust that makes distributions to a non-charitable beneficiary for a period of time, with the remainder going to the charity. The income beneficiary receives distributions from the trust during the trust term, while the charity receives the remaining trust corpus when the trust

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AWA saves 1000's of animals from euthanasia. That's more than any other shelter in south Jersey. Help us, help them.



After determining that Dooley would be best suited as a working dog instead of a family pet, Dooley left AWA for his new life as a Search & Rescue dog.



Helen K. is a partially blind cat who had been with us in our community cat room for two years. She was finally adopted and her "dad" couldn't understand why no one had wanted this affectionate and inquisitive cat.

Wills and trusts should be prepared by a qualified estate planning attorney in your state. Our federal ID# is 22175-2792.

Annuities and Trusts *continued*

terminates. Upon the donor's death, the principle passes to AWA without any estate taxes. However, tax benefits will vary depending upon the donor's age at the time the trust was established, the payout rate desired, and whether there is a beneficiary. With **lead trusts**, the charity is the income beneficiary of the trust

instead of the remainder beneficiary.

The charity receives distributions from the trust during the trust term. When the trust terminates, the non-charitable beneficiaries, specified by the grantor, receive the remainder.

A trust is a legal entity. An attor-

ney is needed to draft a trust agreement, and you will need to appoint a trustee who will oversee the fund's investment and distribution of payments. To qualify as a charitable trust, the gift must be irrevocable. The AWA can serve as the trustee for gifts of \$100,000 and more. You are always able to select your own trustee for any size trust.

This brochure is intended to be helpful as you consider your financial and estate plans. It is not a comprehensive description of financial, estate, or charitable gift planning. The AWA does not offer legal, tax, or financial advice. Persons interested in legal, tax or financial advice should contact professional counsel. Changes in Federal and state laws may affect some of the ideas discussed in this brochure.



We received a call for help from a couple with a burgeoning feral cat colony on their property. Through our Trap Neuter Return program for feral cats, specialists went to the couple's property, trapped as many cats as possible, had them spayed/neutered, vaccinated for rabies and ear-tipped (to show they had been treated) and then returned to their colony.



Summer had been hit and dragged by a car. The owner called AWA in tears because she could not afford care. The clinic staff assured her that they would figure something out to help Summer, and our vets were able to heal Summer at an affordable rate. She is now enjoying a happy and playful life!

Life Insurance and Retirement Plans

Many people prepare for the future by purchasing life insurance or putting money away for their retirement. Over time the reasons you purchased insurance or saved for retirement may change. Both life insurance and retirement accounts can be used to make a charitable gift.

Retirement plans, when passed to anyone except your spouse, can be fully taxable within five years of your death. To give a retirement account, name the Animal Welfare Association as a primary or secondary beneficiary. This doesn't provide an upfront tax deduction because it is revocable. If you

want to provide income from your retirement account for a spouse or another beneficiary, you can direct that the proceeds from the plan, fund a charitable gift. In this instance, the estate will be taxed but receives a credit for the contribution.

Life insurance is often purchased to provide a financial safeguard for dependents and as they become adults, is no longer needed. One way to make a charitable gift of life insurance would be to name AWA as the beneficiary. Naming AWA as the beneficiary but reserving the right to change the beneficiary, the donor will not be entitled to an

income tax charitable deduction. Since the beneficiary designation is revocable, there is no completed gift and no gift tax consequences. If making a gift and receiving a tax benefit is important to you, then transferring ownership to AWA is the way to go. In this instance, the charitable deduction for income tax purposes is the fair market value of the policy or the donor's cost basis in the policy, whichever is less. The cost basis consists of all premiums paid by the donor up to the time the policy is gifted. Charitable gifts of life insurance can be much simpler and less expensive to implement than a charitable trust.

Gifts of Appreciated Property

Few financial tools are more powerful than appreciated property, specifically stocks and real estate. They have the ability to magnify wealth faster than nearly any other financial method. In many cases, a person who donates an appreciated asset to a charity instead of selling it can take a charitable deduction for the full value of the property while also avoiding capital gains on the property.

Appreciated assets are usually transferred to the AWA and then sold. These proceeds can be used to meet needs such as providing food or veterinary care for animals. In most cases, if you have held securities for more than one year you can deduct the market value of the securities and avoid paying any capital gains tax. If the shares are held in your broker's office, transferring securities is easy. Simply contact us and we

will provide your broker with all the needed information. If you have land, a second home or other real estate you wish to donate, they have similar benefits to appreciated securities. It is also possible to donate your home to the AWA and retain lifetime use of the property. A trust may be created based upon the value of the home at the time of the donation.

AWA occasionally hosts informational workshops on planned giving.



Animal Welfare Association

Maya Richmond
Executive Director

509 Centennial Blvd.
Voorhees, NJ 08043
856-424-2288x109
Director@awanj.org

www.awanj.org



Life Preserver Program

Tomorrow's pets will need shelter, medical care and the gift of time so they can be saved. **Life Preservers** provide safety and stability to AWA so we can weather downturns in the economy and launch new programs to save pets. We invite you to become a **Life Preserver**.

A **Life Preserver** can help with AWA's future plans: a modern adoption center with natural light, cageless dog runs, additional treatment and exam rooms, and a room for kids to spend time learning and caring for animals.

For 65 years we've needed bequests, and *where there's a will, there is a way!* You are eligible to join by simply letting us know in writing that you've included AWA in your will. AWA will be sure to include you in our annual report and send you specific updates about our plans for the future.



AWA's Milestones

- 1948 founded
- 1960's current shelter opened
- 1970 launched Humane Education program
- 1974 the first regional spay/neuter clinic opened
- 1980s launched our Pet-Assisted Therapy program.
- 1990 's limited admission
- 2007 became a "no-kill" shelter
- 2008 expanded vet services
- 2009 fortified our Transport Program, relieving community shelters from over-population
- 2010 promoted our Trap/Neuter/Release services for community's feral cats
- 2011 launched Pet Re-Homing and Community Engagement programs
- 2012 partnered with several mayors with the Mayor's Alliance and Camden County Shared Services to reduce the amount of lost pets in our community
- More to come...

Animal Lifeline Program

Many people worry that their pets will outlive them. The AWA has created an **Animal Lifeline Program** to find new homes and lifetime care for pets who outlive their guardians or whose owners are incapacitated and unable to return home.



There is an application and enrollment process to join the **Animal Lifeline Program**. The dogs, cats and rabbits we help are companion pets. We are unable to find homes for feral cats or wildlife. Contact us to learn more.

AWA does not require any annual contribution for the **Animal Lifeline Program** but commitment to the pet and his/her needs is dependent on designating AWA as a beneficiary of one the of mentioned planned giving ways.

Why consider AWA? Because we are more than a shelter...

Six decades of service...AWA was created by a small group of forward thinking volunteers who cared for animals in their homes. As their success grew, they opened a shelter to house the many animals in need and to teach the public about proper pet care.

AWA touches the lives of thousands of **people** and **animals** each year bringing unconditional love to those in need.

We've been proactive in finding solutions for pet abandonment, pet

over-population and keeping the human-animal bond alive through programs we have pioneered in our area.

AWA is a community charity that receives no funding from the government or any national organization. As the cost for utilities, pet medicine, and food continues to increase, it is our neighbors' generous hearts that prompt them to give so we can continue to be a pet-compassionate

community.

AWA is an **adoption** center that does not euthanize pets for space and works with people for the best solution for them and their pet. To us, pets are not "throw-aways." **Over the years we've received generous bequests which have contributed to the growth and reputation of AWA.**

To learn more about the **Life Preserver** or **Lifeline Programs**, please reach out to our Executive Director, Maya Richmond, at director@awanj.org or at 856-424-2288 x109. Once enrollment is finalized, you will receive information to provide to your family, executor and attorney so they can reach out to us for immediate support.