



# Leave a Lasting Legacy

Including Woods Humane Society in your estate plans will ensure a legacy of compassion and kindness for homeless animals.

## *A Legacy of Giving*

Founded in 1955, Woods Humane Society has grown from a small, volunteer-run organization to become the only full-service humane society in San Luis Obispo County. Woods was named in honor of Frances Newhall Woods, our visionary founder who donated the land for the original shelter.

Throughout the decades Woods Humane Society has enjoyed tremendous financial support from members of our community and bequests have played a major role in ensuring our financial wellbeing. The generosity of those who have included us in their estate plans has allowed us to care for tens of thousands of homeless pets as we developed a full range of services. These visionary benefactors have positioned us to look to a future where every animal has a home where it is cherished.

## *Continue the Legacy*

We hope you'll consider making a planned gift to Woods Humane Society. Your generosity will ensure that we can continue to work tirelessly to save the lives of homeless pets. When you make a gift we will welcome you into our Legacy Circle, invite you to enjoy an annual donor luncheon and, with your permission, acknowledge you in our newsletter. Please be sure to let us know about your plans so we can have a chance to say thank you.

## *About Woods Humane Society*

Woods Humane Society is an independent, nonprofit organization that receives no tax funds, but is supported by donations, grants, bequests, fundraising events and fees for services. Financial support from our generous community and the dedication of our staff and hundreds of volunteers ensure the success of our work.

- Woods provides food, shelter, medical care, and lots of love for deserving cats and dogs as they wait to be united with forever families
- Our skilled Veterinary Team works towards ending pet overpopulation through spay and neuter programs, performing thousands of surgeries each year
- Humane Education Programs teach and inspire the next generation of animal advocates through a wide range of activities for tots to teens
- Through Training and Behavior Programs we provide enrichment and remediation for dogs awaiting adoption and training classes for the public, designed to keep dogs in their homes and out of shelters

## *Some Ideas to Consider*

You can make a lasting difference in the lives of animals! There are many ways to leave a legacy gift and you should work with your attorney or financial advisor to determine what is best for you and your family.

### Bequest by Will or Living Trust

#### Percentage of Your Estate

[Sample language: I give and bequeath \_\_\_\_% of my estate to Woods Humane Society, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose principle office is currently located at 875 Oklahoma Avenue, San Luis Obispo, CA 93405, Tax I.D. #95-2058587.]

#### Specific Dollar Amount

[I give and bequeath the sum of \$\_\_\_\_ to Woods Humane Society...]

#### Gift of Property

[I give my property located at \_\_\_\_ to Woods Humane Society...]

#### Residuary bequest

[I give and bequeath all (or \_\_\_\_%) of the residue of my estate to Woods Humane...]

#### Contingent Gift

[If (name of beneficiary) does not survive me, I give the residue of my estate to Woods Humane Society...]

### Life Insurance Policies

You can name Woods Humane Society as the primary or secondary beneficiary of all or a portion of your life insurance policy.

### Retirement Plan Assets

Woods Humane Society can be designated as the primary or secondary beneficiary of all or part of your unused retirement funds.

### Charitable Trusts, Charitable Gift Annuities and More

There are many estate planning tools that may provide income and tax benefits to you during your lifetime. We would be happy to work with you and your estate planning professionals to explore these options.

## *Planning for Your Pets with Caring Companions*

Nobody likes to think about it, but what would happen to your pets if you died or became unable to care for them? Who would provide a loving home? Who would know their daily routines, favorite treats, medical needs and what makes them feel safe and loved?

To help answer these questions, Woods Humane Society has created the **Caring Companions Program** for members of our Legacy Circle\*. If you choose Woods Humane Society as the future guardian of your pets, we will work with you to learn all we can about your pets so that, should it become necessary, we can rehome them with the best possible human companions. Learn more about this program at [WoodsHumane.org/CaringCompanions](http://WoodsHumane.org/CaringCompanions).

\*Each pet being enrolled in the program does require a minimum gift of \$5,000.



For further detail, or to ask about Planned Giving at Woods, please contact Karen Borges at 805.720.3312 or [kborges@woodshumane.org](mailto:kborges@woodshumane.org).



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