



Leaving a Gift for the Animals

Information on how you can provide a better life for homeless animals in our community with a planned gift directed to the

Capital Area Humane Society.



Introduction

For many years, the Capital Area Humane Society has been the fortunate recipient of gifts from loyal supporters who have generously considered CAHS in their estate planning. Planned gifts have a tremendous impact on ensuring Greater Lansing Area companion animal programs and services continue long into the future.

These gifts provide critical funding in support of homeless animals and are an essential component of our Annual Fund and the future of our organization. Funding is directed for immediate use to assist in daily operations.

CAHS Planned Gift Contact

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Development Manager
Capital Area Humane Society
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Identifying CAHS

If you have already begun your estate planning and simply need to add the Capital Area Humane Society as a recipient, please reference the following Employer Identification Number (EIN) and suggested language that you can include in your will:

Capital Area Humane Society EIN: **38-1601542**

Sample Bequest Language:

“I give and devise to the Capital Area Humane Society, of Lansing, Michigan, a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization with Employer Identification Number 38-1601542, the _____(percentage of my estate) or \$ _____(dollars) to be held, administered, and used by the Board of Directors for (unrestricted support -- OR – support of _____).”



Thank You!

Individuals who have acknowledged leaving CAHS in their estate plans become members of our Rescuer Club Planned Giving Society. As a member of the Rescuer Club, you are recognized during your lifetime for the gift you will one day make—both on a plaque in our shelter lobby and also in the CAHS Annual Report. In addition, you will be invited to exclusive donor events.

Things to note when considering documenting your gift with CAHS:

- ✿ There is no minimum dollar amount required to become a Rescuer Club member
- ✿ Documentation you share is held strictly confidential
- ✿ Recognition offered for your commitment is in name only; no amounts or details are listed

Knowing that your gift exists will benefit the animals as CAHS can better plan for future improvements to our services and/or facilities. Likewise, if your desires match the needs CAHS has, your gift may be better directed, if CAHS knows your interests.

You may also choose to remain anonymous.

Seeking Legal Advice

The Capital Area Humane Society wants to do everything we can to help as your commitment to the animals means the world to us. While we can give general direction, we recommend you seek legal advice while planning your gift. If you are looking for a recommendation, please contact us.

A lawyer can help you determine how to maximize your gift under current tax laws, as well as help you prepare documentation ensuring your assets are directed properly.

When meeting with an attorney, be prepared to share:

- ✿ Any concerns about your family. Prior marriages? Spendthrift issues amongst beneficiaries? Beneficiaries with special needs?
- ✿ Your assets and debt liabilities with accurate values
- ✿ Trusted people you would like to consider for fiduciary roles: Personal Representative, Attorney-in-Fact, Trustee, Trust Protector, Patient Advocate, et cetera; as well as addresses and phone numbers for these individuals
- ✿ Your charitable giving intentions



Types of Planned Gifts CAHS Accepts

The majority of planned gifts left to the Capital Area Humane Society are by bequests and devices. **Bequests** are gifts of tangible property and cash made by will or trust, and **devices** are gifts of real property, also made by will or trust. We also receive gifts through **life insurance policies, retirement accounts,** and other simple methods.

CAHS will consider more sophisticated techniques such as Charitable Remainder Trusts (Charitable Remainder Annuity Trusts and Charitable Remainder Unitrusts), Charitable Gift Annuities, Charitable Lead Trusts, and Bargain Sales, but we take these on a case-by-case basis.

CAHS reserves the right to reject any gift if we feel it will not benefit the animals or our mission.