

---

## About North Star Pet Assistance

est. 2001

### Vision

\*We envision a world in which no healthy, adoptable animal has to be euthanized. Every pet will be well cared for and loved. None shall be abused or neglected.

### Goals

\*To end the overpopulation of domesticated dogs and cats in the Victor Valley.

\*To provide an environment where adults and children can interact with animals and learn about compassion and humane philosophies.

### Objectives

\*To eventually fund a spay/neuter voucher program to ensure that anyone wanting assistance will get the help they need.

\*To promote spay and neuter of animals, preventing the birth of potentially hundreds of thousands more animals who will most likely be abandoned.

\*To encourage new local ordinances and education to prevent irresponsible actions that lead to overpopulation, abuse and suffering.

\*To encourage responsible pet guardianship to decrease abandonment and relinquishment of pets.

\*To create a therapeutic program where animals can help people live more fulfilled lives.



*A Pet Bequest is a way of providing for your pets as well as providing a benefit to others in need.*

## Who will care for them when you're gone?

Remember to provide for your pets in your estate planning



**North Star Pet Assistance**

PO Box 1292  
Apple Valley, CA 92307  
760-963-1634  
[www.localrescue.org](http://www.localrescue.org)

---

# North Star Pet Bequest Program

Whether we have a dog or cat, bird or other animal friend, our pets spend their lifetime giving us unconditional love, affection and acceptance. However, every year thousands of pets are orphaned in the United States. Unfortunately, our own beloved pets may be included in this tragic statistic if we fail to provide for them in the event we pass away or become incapacitated. It is important to remember that, when we choose to bring a pet into our family, we have made the choice to care for the pet for the rest of its lifetime - not just the rest of our own lifetime! When a pet owner passes away or becomes incapable of caring for pets, often there is no one else who is willing or able to care for these pets, resulting in a double tragedy -the loss or incapacity of the pet owner and the creation of orphaned pets!  
One way pet owners can prevent

their pets from becoming orphans is to actually include provisions for the pets in an estate plan. Providing for your pets can be as simple as making a request in your Will or Living Trust that your pets be placed with a willing friend or family member, much like appointing a guardian for a child. Most states also allow for money to be set aside for the benefit of pets as part of an estate plan. A "pet trust" usually appoints a trustee to care for your pets or to find them the loving, permanent home they deserve, and provides the trustee with funds to be used for the pet's benefit. Another option is to make a gift of funds directly to the new caretaker for the pet's ongoing needs and care. All you need to do is ask your attorney to include your pet in your Will or Living Trust.



*Secure your pets future and make our important work possible.*

Request a copy of our policy & procedures and a surrender questionnaire for each pet. Please consult your own financial advisor before entering into any gift arrangement.

## *Lifetime planning for your pet:*

- Durable General Power of Attorney allowing agent to spend your money to benefit pet, and, if necessary, to place pet in a loving home upon your incapacity.

## *Ways to include a pet in your estate plan:*

- Outright gift of pet in your Will or Living Trust to a trusted friend or family member as caretaker.
- Outright gift of funds to caretaker to provide for pet during pet's lifetime.
- Gift of pet and funds to trustee, with instructions to place pet in a loving home, and to pay caretaker, as necessary, to provide for pet during pet's lifetime. If a pet owner bequeaths a pet and sufficient funds to North Star Pet Assistance, we will accept the pet upon the pet owner's death. The pet will be placed in the our Adoption Program with the committed goal of finding the pet a new home, similar to the loving one you provided, as quickly as possible. We will provide a temporary home for the pet for as long as is necessary until the pet is adopted. For more information about the Pet Bequest Program, contact Gina Downey at (760) 963-1634 or email to [localrescue@aol.com](mailto:localrescue@aol.com).