



THOUSANDS OF PETS ARE ORPHANED EACH YEAR DUE TO THE DEATH OR DISABILITY OF THEIR HUMAN COMPANIONS. 2ND CHANCE 4 PETS FOCUSES ITS ENTIRE EFFORTS ON ADDRESSING THIS LONG UNRECOGNIZED ISSUE.

2nd Chance 4 Pets dedicates this special edition newsletter to the individuals who donate their time helping us save pets and provide peace of mind to pet owners.

Together we prevent companion animals from being left homeless because of the death of their pet owners who care for them.

If you would like to support our efforts, please see page 3 where we list a number of ways individuals can help.

CONTACT US!

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IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO YOU,
what would happen to me?

Follow these steps to ensure that your pets will continue to receive the best care possible should they outlive you

1 Step

Identify Caregivers

Identify people who would be willing to care for your pets in the hours, days, or weeks after an emergency as well as those who would be willing to adopt your pets should you die or become incapacitated. If you can not find friends, relatives or neighbors to serve as potential caregivers, local pet sitters and members of animal rescue groups may be able to help.

2 Step

Prepare Written Instructions

Prepare written instructions outlining how your pets should be cared for. How do you want your pets to live-in another household or in a sanctuary? What kind of special care do your pets require? Do you want your pets to stay together? To make sure your wishes are followed, you must document your instructions and let others know where these instructions are located.

3 Step

Set Up a Fund

You currently pay for food, supplies and medical care for your pets. These expenses will not stop if you are not here to pay for them. Consider setting aside funds to cover temporary or permanent care of your pets. Professionals that can help you include estate planners, financial planners and life insurance company representatives.



2nd Chance 4 Pets' volunteer, Amanda Fales, lives in Texas with her two dogs, Casey and Gavin. When Amanda is not volunteering, she works as a Program Coordinator with her local Salvation Army.

2ND CHANCE 4 PETS: OUR VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION

2nd Chance 4 Pets has some of the most wonderful and talented volunteers anywhere! They live throughout the United States and beyond. We would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to several of these amazing volunteers and to tell you about some of the very important work with which they have been involved.

Amanda Fales (*photo, top left*) has helped with the partnerships we've formed this year with Meals on Wheels and Banfield Charitable Trust. We are working together with these organizations to provide homebound elderly pet owners with our brochures. Our information outlines the steps these pet owners need to take to make sure their pets will be cared for should their pets outlive them.

Rachael Chambers (*photo, center*) and Kathryn Shewey (*photo, lower left*) have volunteered their time and talent to help with a number of projects, including delivering our presentations to senior groups located throughout the U.S., as well as the Association of National Geriatric Care Managers. Because there are so many physical and emotional benefits to seniors who have pets, we work to ensure that seniors and their pets stay together. We also help animal shelter groups establish programs to help seniors adopt appropriate pets, and support senior pet owners with affordable vet care.



Four cats, two dogs, two children and a giant goldfish named Lou live with 2nd Chance 4 Pets' volunteer, Rachael Chambers, in Morgan Hill, California.

SELECTING CAREGIVERS AND ENSURING LONG-TERM CARE FOR YOUR PETS

Identifying the right individuals to provide care is the most important part of lifetime care planning for your pets. You should first take into account whether you want all your pets to be cared for by one person, or if different pets should be cared for by different people. It might be best to keep pets together who have bonded. (If you have many pets and own your own home, review the article on our website about the "Animal Care Panel" option.)

When selecting caregivers, consider partners, adult children, parents, brothers, sisters, and friends who have met your pet and have successfully cared for pets themselves. Other options include pet sitters, dog walkers, other pet owners and staff members at your veterinarian's office (vet techs can make excellent caregivers!).

Identify alternate caregivers in case your first choice becomes unable or unwilling to take over the care of your pets. It's essential that you discuss your expectations with all potential caregivers so they understand and are willing to accept the responsibility of caring for your pets. Remember that a caregiver will have full accountability for your pets' care—including veterinary treatment and decisions about end of life care. We recommend that you carefully identify individuals you trust, and who will accept the responsibility of caring for your pets, and will do what is in their best interest.

Stay in touch with designated caregivers and alternates. Over time, people's circumstances and priorities change. You will want to make sure that the arrangements you have made are kept up-to-date.

Locating a new home for your pets can take several weeks or several months, so it is important to line up temporary care as part of your planning efforts.

The best way to make sure your wishes are fulfilled is by making formal arrangements that specifically cover the care of your pets. We strongly recommend that you consult with an attorney to draw up a will, trust, or other legal documents, as well as allocate funds to provide for the care of your pets.

For pet owners with no one who can serve as a potential caregiver for their pets, animal sanctuaries and perpetual care programs may be a good solution. We strongly recommend that you carefully inspect any program or facility you are considering to make sure that it would be an environment where your pets would receive adequate love and care. Please visit our website for lists of programs by region and our program evaluation form (go to the "Resources" section at www.2ndchance4pets.org).



2nd Chance 4 Pets' volunteer Kathryn Shewey lives in Virginia with her two dogs, Kelsey and Chestnut. Kathryn is an Environmental Scientist and an advocate for homeless pets.

2ND CHANCE 4 PETS: PARTNERING WITH THE NATIONAL VETERINARIAN COMMUNITY AND ANIMAL WELFARE GROUPS TO PROVIDE RESOURCES TO PET OWNERS ACROSS THE US

Volunteers Gayle Bray and Vicki Kerner (*photo, top right*) have dedicated many, many hours helping 2nd Chance 4 Pets deliver our materials directly to animal shelters and rescue groups. Shelters are reporting that 15 to 25 percent of the pets surrendered to them are pets who have outlived their owners. These pets are very different than stray dogs and cats off of the streets who are just happy to have food and a dry place to sleep. "Orphaned" pets are typically traumatized by being in a shelter. They refuse to eat and become despondent. Sadly, some then become labeled "unadoptable" and may be the first to be euthanized when a shelter runs out of space.

Amy Shever (*photo, center right*) volunteers as the Director of 2nd Chance 4 Pets and focuses much of her efforts on speaking to veterinarians across the country. Amy has heard story after story from veterinarians who take care of a pet for the entire life of the pet, and when the pet's owner passes away and the pet ends up at the veterinarian's clinic, the veterinarian is now faced with the dilemma of what to do. Even if the pet is older, veterinarians typically do not want to euthanize a pet simply because no one has been designated to take over the care of the pet. 2nd Chance 4 Pets currently has 200,000 brochures in veterinarian clinics across the country.

Our volunteers occasionally help with rescues for special dogs and cats. This past summer Dan Vold (*photo, bottom right*) drove 7 hours to pick up Bella (in photo with Dan), who was left at a veterinarian clinic by a pet owner who asked that Bella be euthanized because of paralysis in her back legs. Not only did Dan nurse Bella back to health and have her examined by a number of veterinarian specialists, he also helped find Bella a home at a sanctuary for pets with disabilities. Dan then undertook a 14-hour drive to transport Bella to her new home. To keep up with Bella's progress as well as see photos and video, visit Bella's blog: <http://helpbella.wordpress.com/>.

ABOUT 2ND CHANCE 4 PETS

2nd Chance 4 Pets was established to resolve a serious issue that has never before been formally addressed. Our goal is to help pet owners understand how to plan for their pets' care should their pets outlive them. This mission will reduce the number of pets euthanized throughout the U.S. each year due to the death of their owners.

Thousands of pets each year are surrendered to and euthanized in shelters and in veterinarian clinics simply because the pet owner passed away and had never made plans for the continued care of their pets.

2nd Chance 4 Pets is an all-volunteer, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization operating out of Los Gatos, California. Our volunteers are working nationwide to provide pet owners, veterinarians, and members of animal care organizations with comprehensive information and lifetime care solutions to ensure that our companion animals will always receive care.

Based on the overwhelming response and requests for assistance we have received from pet owners, animal rescue groups, shelters, hospices, and veterinarians, we are convinced that our programs have a significant impact on preventing countless numbers of pets from being euthanized unnecessarily, provide pet owners with peace of mind, and reduce the financial and manpower strain on overburdened animal shelters and rescue organizations.

Our volunteer team leads workshops and participates at veterinarian and animal care conferences across the US. We have more than 200,000 brochures distributed in veterinarian clinics coast-to-coast. 2nd Chance 4 Pets is working together with veterinarian colleges and universities to incorporate our information into their curriculum in order to provide new veterinarians with the education necessary so that they are able to help guide their future pet owner clients.

Your support will help in our effort to save pets lives and provide pet owners with peace of mind. We appreciate donations in any amount, airline miles, gift cards and your time. Please contact us by email at info@2ndchance4pets.org or by mail (1484 Pollard Rd, No. 444 Los Gatos, CA 95032) should you be interested in supporting our efforts. Thank you for recognizing the important work that we do.



Northern California 2nd Chance 4 Pets' volunteers Vicki Kerner and Gayle Bray meet with individuals who represent animal shelter and rescue organizations at Best Friends Animal Society's No More Homeless Pets Conference.



2nd Chance 4 Pets' volunteer and Director, Amy Shever, meets with veterinarians throughout the U.S. (here shown at a veterinarian conference in Spokane)



In addition to making sure our brochures are printed and mailed and the accounting is kept up to date, 2nd Chance 4 Pets' volunteer Dan Vold occasionally helps out with rescuing a pet in need (here shown with Bella)



Emergency Contact Information for My Pets

In case of an emergency, it's critical that others know how to contact you or someone who can help with the care of your pets. Please fill out the form below and post the form in a location in your home where it can easily be seen.

My Information:

Phone number _____

Alternate phone numbers _____

Pets in our home _____

Location of leashes, food, medicine _____

Veterinarian Information:

Name _____

Phone number _____

After-hours emergency number _____

Emergency Pet Caregivers Information:

Name of caregiver _____

Phone number _____

Name of alternate caregiver _____

Phone number _____



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