



2nd Chance 4 Pets Fact Sheet Updated December 2014

What is 2nd Chance 4 Pets?

2nd Chance 4 Pets is an all-volunteer animal welfare organization that strives to reduce the number of companion animals that are unnecessarily euthanized each year due to the death or incapacity of their human companions. Our volunteers provide free resources to responsible pet owners to help them plan for the possibility that their pets might outlive them.

When and why was 2nd Chance 4 Pets established?

After the tragedy of September 11, 800 pets were orphaned when their owners tragically perished in New York City. 2nd Chance 4 Pets' founder, Amy Shever, established the organization in 2003 to create awareness about the reality that thousands of pets are surrendered to shelters each year and euthanized due to the death or disability of their human companions.

How can 2nd Chance 4 Pets help me or someone I know?

2nd Chance 4 Pets works throughout the U.S. to provide responsible pet owners with information about comprehensive lifetime care solutions available to help ensure that their pets will always be cared for.

Pet Facts

- 68% of all households (approximately 82.5 million homes) own at least one pet.*
- 83.3 million dogs and 95.6 million cats live in the United States.
- 87% of pet owners consider their pets to be members of their family.
- Americans spent approximately \$55.72 million on their pets in 2013. The American Pet Products Manufacture's

Association (APPMA) estimates that they will spend \$58.51 billion in 2014.*

- 2012-2013 pet trends included: interactive puzzle toys, organic grain-free food, high-tech tracking systems and mobile apps, online blogs and chat groups for pet owners, massage and other spa-related services, pet insurance policies.*
- Pets can lower blood pressure, reduce stress, lower health care costs, prevent heart disease and help fight depression in their human companions*
- Over 500,000 pets are orphaned each year due to the death or disability of their human companion.
- Pet trusts are now legal in some form in 46 states including Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Maine, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, New Mexico, New York, Nevada, North Carolina, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas, Utah and Wisconsin. Other alternatives are available in states that do not have pet trust laws. **
- You can provide for your pet for the rest of their life should anything happen to you.

* The statistical information can be found in APPMA's 2013/2014 National Pet Owners Survey.

** From "Pet Trusts" by Sherrie Bennett.