

LIFETIME CARE OPTIONS

We provide this information as a resource only. We do not endorse or recommend any specific facility or organization. As we receive new information we will continue to update this section.

SOUTHEAST (AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV)

ARKANSAS

General Pet Retirement Homes and Programs

For The Sake of Animals

Website: www.geocities.com/Heartland/Plains/8328/

Contact: Frank & Diana Stockton

Address: 194 Peta Lane, Mena, AR 71953

Phone: 501-394-1039

Email: fstockto@cs.w.net

Type of Animals Accepted: Dogs, Cats and Horses

Limit of Animal Number: No limit.

Rates: Small donation is required.

For The Sake of Animals is a non-profit 501-c-3 corporation whose existence depends upon the contributions and goodwill of the little rural town of Mena, Arkansas. FSA is dedicated to the sheltering of stray and unwanted dogs, cats and horses. FSA was begun by Frank and Diana Stockton, whose primary goals are to provide a safe haven for unwanted creatures while trying to find good homes for them, and to sponsor a spay program through one of the local veterinarians. Currently, over 50 dogs, 60+ cats, several horses and a donkey reside at the peaceful mountain hideaway. Frank and Diana are the primary caretakers of these unwanted critters, a time-consuming but rewarding chore.

FLORIDA

General Pet Retirement Homes and Programs

The Honor Sanctuary Animal Rescue

Website: www.HonorSanctuary.org

Contact: Cindy Morton

Address: 7334 Delaney Court, Sarasota, FL 34240 (Admin Offices)

Nate's Place, 8459 Cooper Creek Blvd., University Park, FL (Adoption Center)

Phone: 941-302-0933

Email: info@HonorSanctuary.org

Type of Animals Accepted: Cats, dogs, small exotic pets, and horses for lifetime care; cats and dogs for the adoption center

Limit of Animal Number: Not specified

Rates: Adoption fees range from \$75 and up. Lifetime care rates not specified.

Honor Sanctuary Animal Rescue provides adoptions and foster homes; low cost and free spaying and neutering; and education for animal owners and the community. The Sanctuary is an 'umbrella' for other animal rescue groups and shelters. We will collaborate with all shelters and rescue groups to ensure we are doing the best we can for the animals.

Pets who outlive their owners can be adequately cared for through Honor Sanctuary. The program offers pets a lifetime of veterinary care as needed and a home with an approved caretaker. If your pet can be placed with someone who will love it as you do, that is the best of all worlds for the animal. In that instance, we place the pet and monitor its care and needs for the life of your pet. The Sanctuary is funded entirely by caring pet owners and people who believe in the sanctity of caring about the animals entrusted to our community.

Dog Retirement Homes

Canine Haven

Website: www.caninehaven.net (No Site Found)

Contact: Nancy Columbus

Address: 9255 101st Ave Vero Beach, FL 32967

Phone: 772-559-5247

Email: nancy@caninehaven.net

Types of Animals Accepted: ALL

Rate: Varies depending on current medical condition

Limit: 5 pets from any one family

Canine Haven is a place for your dog to remain when you have left the animal due to death. For an annual fee, they offer a private, loving, safe, environment in the form of a pet retirement home for those owners who want their beloved companion to continue living a normal home life. Canine Haven provides a permanent home with a consistent and loving staff that establishes a bond with your pet for years to come.

City Lickers, Inc.

A Lifetime Caregiver Facility

Website: Citylickersinc.com

Contact: Karen and Peter Harrison

Address: 23285 Orange Avenue, Fort Pierce, FL 34945

Phone: 772-465-0842 or 772-216-5263

Email: Karen@citylickersinc.com

Type of Animals Accepted: Dogs

Limit of Animal Number: Contact Karen for further information.

Rates: \$450 per month per dog for an individual suite. For the family suite, \$450 per month for the first dog and \$200 per month for each additional dog housed together.

The Lifetime Caregiver Facility is located on the East Coast of Florida on 18 acres surrounded by a working cattle ranch. It provides lifetime care for dogs that have been left a trust fund and care for dogs whose owners can no longer care for them. Your dog lives in a suite-style home with views and smells of a rural ranch. Your dog is not housed with other dogs; however, dogs from the same family can be housed together in the family suite. The facility is private, locked and not open to the public. The owners reside on the premises.

Horse Retirement Homes

Adopt-A-Horse, Ltd., Inc.

Website: www.adoptahorse.com

Contact: Judy Price Detore, President

Address: 7609 West Josephine Road, Lake Placid, FL 33852

Phone: (863) 382-4483

Email: zeke@strato.net

Type of Animals Accepted: Not specified.

Limit of Animal Number: Not specified.

Rates: Not specified.

Since 1984, Adopt-A-Horse has worked to save racehorses and other animals from abuse, neglect and slaughter. We are a 501(c) 3 non-profit corporation.

Bird Retirement

Feathered Friends Adoption & Rescue Program

Website: www.petfinder.com/shelters/adoptparrot.html

Address: 5202 Pinetree Dr. Ft. Pierce, FL 34982

Phone: 772-343-8935 Fax: 772-344-7237

Email: jesbirds@msn.com Type of Animals Accepted: Not specified.

Limit of Animal Number: Not specified.

Rates: Not specified.

We are a self-supporting, nonprofit 501(c)(3), volunteer humane organization established in 1988. We are dedicated to assisting bird owners in finding new, loving homes for their birds when the owners can no longer care for them. Since its inception, Feathered Friends has placed nearly 1,000 birds. Our current intake averages 200-300 birds per year.

Our goals are to educate persons interested in bird ownership in the proper care of pet birds; to provide an avenue for persons who can't keep their bird, but want to ensure a quality new home for their pet; to find homes for displaced birds in permanent adoptive homes or shelters/sanctuaries, depending on the birds' individual needs, with persons who understand and respect birds for their uniqueness; to rehabilitate and correct behavioral problems in birds resulting from neglect, abuse, or improper care.

Lucky Parrot Refuge & Sanctuary

Website: www.luckyparrot.org

Contact: Not specified.

Address: P.O. Box 110334, Naples, FL 34108-0106

Phone: 239-348-1991 Fax: 239-348-1991

Email: luckyparrot@earthlink.net

Type of Animals Accepted: Not specified.

Limit of Animal Number: Not specified.

Rates: Not specified.

Lucky Parrot offers permanent sanctuary to older parrots. We do not breed, buy, sell, or broker parrots. All the Lucky Parrots are here permanently. We are not equipped to handle adoptions, although we may be able to suggest potential adoption sources.

We are located on a 4-acre site in Southwest Florida. This plan was 10 years in the making. The location is sub-tropical. The Parrots now live and thrive out of doors in this warm climate. Our aviaries are big, but no matter how big they should be bigger. And now we are turning our attention to building and maintaining outdoor full flight aviaries so that the parrots can do what they were born to do: fly. Hopefully with your help we can realize our goal to build large free flight aviaries. The various species do not all get along with each other, and for this reason no single structure will suffice for all the Lucky Parrots.

The Shyne Foundation

Website: www.shynefoundation.org

Contact: Bob and Liz Johnson

Address: 19922 EGRET LN, Loxahatchee, FL 33470-2528 (Shyne Foundation Inc)

Email: info@shynefoundation.org

Type of Animals Accepted: Not specified.

Limit of Animal Number: Not specified.

Rates: Not specified.

The Shyne Foundation is a (501)(c)(3) non-profit corporation dedicated to the permanent housing of formerly abused, neglected, and unwanted parrots. Birds were designed for flight and here the birds live in a quarter-acre, sixteen-foot high free-flight simulated rainforest habitat in South Florida. They are thus enabled to live their lives as closely as possible in the way nature intended, enjoying the fresh air and sunshine, the trees, the rain, the feel of the earth beneath their feet and interactions with each other.

Bob and Liz Johnson, the founders of The Shyne Foundation, so named it in memory of Shyne Browne, who was a dedicated researcher and breeder of Hyacinth Macaws. In her honor, the Foundation is also continuing the research portion of her work with this highly endangered

species. Here, the Foundation is attempting to learn more about Hyacinths' natural interactive behaviors (and misbehaviors) in this natural habitat setting; such research has seldom, if ever, been done within the confines of captivity.

As the caretakers of parrots, we must consider preserving the spirit of the bird as well as merely the physical form. A bird's environmental requirements differ greatly from ours and proper environmental stimulation is important to both their physiological and psychological well-being. Here, we are attempting to provide as natural a setting for them as possible. Many of the psychotic behaviors exhibited by some pet birds, such as feather plucking, excessive screaming, and biting, are often the result of being forced into an unnatural environment. Many of these undesirable behaviors are alleviated when birds are allowed to express themselves as birds. When given a sense of self-determination and self-worth, they heal.

GEORGIA

Bird Retirement Homes

Feathered Friends Forever Rescue/Refuge, Inc.

Website: www.featheredfriendsforever.org

Contact: Ron and Tammy Johnson

Address: 612 Byrd Drive, Harlem, GA 30814

Phone: 706-556-2424

Email: birdrescueron@aol.com

Type of Animals Accepted: Tropical birds only.

Limit of Animal Number: No limit—has taken as many as 40 birds from one person.

Rates: Adoptions: application processing fee of \$25.00, and, if approved, additional adoption fees vary and are specific to each individual bird. Donations, but ask that long-term care be provided for food, housing and medical.

Feathered Friends Forever was established in 1998 when we became aware of the large number of parrots and related species that were victims of neglect and abuse. Feathered Friends Forever was established as a rescue service, specifically for parrots and related species.

The goals of Feathered Friends Forever are:

1. To rescue abused or unwanted parrots from both retail and private situations; for example, birds that have been passed from owner to owner because of behavioral problems.
2. To act as a placement service for friendly or tame birds whose owners, for any reason, have had to give up their bird(s).
3. To serve as an educational resource on the care and responsibilities of owning tropical parrots as pets and an advice service for:
 - Prospective bird owners.
 - Current bird owners via E-Mail
 - Schools, and retail pet stores
4. To serve as a permanent sanctuary for birds not suitable for adoption.
5. Our long-term goals include building "as close to natural" habitat homes for our birds. Our original long-term goal was to build 5-6 full flight aviaries. The first of 6 have now been completed and the macaws love them! Our dream has always been to see these magnificent birds out of their cages and back in full flight and to be able to maintain an "as close to natural" habitat as possible. The second flight for the Cockatoos is now almost complete, and construction of the Amazon flight has begun. This has been a long time coming and we are eternally grateful to our benefactor for a generous donation of land. The new caretaker dwelling was completed in June of 2002. We hope to start clearing more of the land this winter and with a little luck, and a lot of generous donations, we will complete the additional 5 flights in 2003. This fall we started expanding our rescue/refuge to include affiliated locations all over the United States and Hawaii.

Horse Retirement Homes

Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd. (GERL)

Website: www.gerlltd.org

Address: Post Office Box 328, Bethlehem, GA 30620

Contact: Ken Archer, Vice President; Donna Pieper, Adoption Director

Phone: 404-797-3333/ 770-464-0138

Email: gerlkrqs@joimail.com, GERLDonna@bellsouth.net

Type of Animals Accepted: Horses, Ponies and Mules, but only after scrutiny of each case.
Limit of Animal Number: Not specified. Only deal with hardship/abuse/emergency cases.
Rates: No fees.

NOTE: Only takes animals from Georgia. The Georgia Equine Rescue League, Ltd. is a non-profit organization that works together with the Georgia Department of Agriculture's (G.D.A.) Equine Division, to help Georgia's starved, abused, and neglected horses. G.E.R.L. organized in 1993 because Georgia's treasury was not able to fund the "Humane Care for Equine Act." This act gave the G.D.A. the authority to impound neglected horses. We are an all-volunteer network dedicated to ending the abuse and neglect of Georgia horses. We do not have a facility. The horses in our program are maintained in foster homes until they find adoptive homes. Our goal is to find a home for each animal that has been accepted in our program. Most are hardship cases due the economy. We carefully visit each situation before accepting an animal into our program.

Kentucky

Holly's Place

Website: www.hollys.org

Contact: Victoria

Address: P.O. Box 455, Lawrenceburg, KY 40342

Phone: 502-859-5342

Email: info@hollys.org

Type of Animals Accepted: Cats and Dogs

Limit of Animal Number: Not specified

Rates: The adoption fee for dogs is \$100, and for cats is \$70.

Holly's Place Animal Rescue is dedicated to helping solve the problem of homeless dogs and cats and improving the quality of life for all companion animals. Holly's Place works closely with humane societies, animal shelters, and rescue groups to help insure a brighter future for our animal friends.

We generally focus on pulling dogs & cats from shelters when their time is up, and we concentrate on training & socialization in foster care prior to placing the animals in a new home.

Home at Last Animal Sanctuary

Website: www.homeatlastanimals.org

Contact: Melissa Webster

Address: P.O. Box 144, Salvia, KY 40372

Phone: 502-839-1974

Email: cats@homeatlastanimals.org

Type of Animals Accepted: Dogs, Cats, Cows, Pigs, Goats, Rabbits, and Horses.

Limit of Animal Number: Not Specified

Rates: Not Specified

HALAS is accredited by the American Sanctuary Association, and it provides lifetime care for many animals including dogs, cats, pigs, cows, goats and horses and includes a separate wildlife refuge. We are a no-kill sanctuary, emphasizing the concept of compassion and offering exceptional quality of life for many formerly abandoned or abused animals. Programs include rescue, adoption, educational outreach, low-income spay/neuter assistance, and feral trap/spay/neuter/release.

ReRun Recycling Racehorses

Website: www.rerun.org

Contact: Laurie Lane (Horse Adoption & Intake), Christine Orman (General Information)

Address: P.O. Box 113, Helmetta, NJ 08828

Phone: 732-521-1370 (Horse Adoption & Intake) or 609-301-8772 (General Information)

Email: rerunnj@comcast.net(Horse Adoption & Intake), ormancm@verizon.net(General Information)

Type of Animals Accepted: Ex-racehorses

Limit of Animals Accepted: Not specified

Rates: Vary and are specific to each individual racehorse, ranging from \$100 to \$950

Gives ex-racehorses a second chance at a productive life in new homes by first evaluating temperaments, talents and physical capabilities and then matching the animals to new owners. To assist in the re-training and recuperation process, we utilize the help of volunteers and paid personnel skilled in horsemanship as well as that of "at risk" youth and others who would like an initiation into and hands-on experience with the thoroughbred world. The goal is two-fold: to take care of the physical needs of the horses as well as to build confidence and self-esteem in both the animals and the youth. In essence, both would become "marketable."

Only horses with a good chance of placement are accepted into the program; animals with injuries so severe as to make a future under tack improbable or those who don't possess the temperament necessary to adapt to a new lifestyle are passed over.

MISSISSIPPI

Cat Retirement Homes

Cedarhill Animal Sanctuary, Inc.

Website: www.cedrhill.org

Contact: C. Kay McElroy, Founder and Executive Director

Phone: 662-356-0084 / Fax: 662-356-4072 / Cell: 662- 549-5318

Or Tonya Dillard, Director – 662-356-6636

Address: 144 Sanctuary Loop, Caledonia, MS 39740

Email: CKMcElroy@AOL.com

Type of Animals Accepted: Domesticated dogs and cats.

Limit of Animal Number: I have taken as many as 35 at one time. Several at a time would be no problem, but if there were too many to fit in with the group, we would need the funds to build their own facilities.

Rates: No set rate, but do accept donations as the proper lifetime care of a companion animal can cost a lot in their declining years.

Cedarhill Animal Sanctuary, Inc. is located in Caledonia, Mississippi just five miles from the Alabama state line, in the NE part of the state. We were founded in 1990 to serve as caretaker for abandoned, abused, homeless, and neglected exotic and domestic felines. We do not breed, sell or exhibit any of the animals at Cedarhill, because the welfare and safety of the cats is our primary focus. Cedarhill is now home to over 200 animals including: 155 domestic cats, 2 bobcats, 4 lions, 7 tigers, 8 cougars, 4 potbellied pigs, 21 dogs, and 2 coyotes, 1 neurologically damaged squirrel, 9 roosters, and 4 hens. Cedarhill is a "true sanctuary," as we do not enter the exotic cats' living space until they exit for feeding. Each lion, tiger, cougar and bobcat has a lockup area where it goes to eat. While they are eating, all drinking water dishes and tiger pools are cleaned and filled with fresh water and all waste is removed. We do everything we can possibly do to protect the safety of our staff and the animals entrusted in our care. When I started building enclosures in 1987, I modeled them after other sanctuaries and zoos. With the comfort and safety of each animal in mind, I built the best enclosures we could afford. And by all means, these habitats are still castles compared to the horrendous housing conditions -- chains, basements and concrete boxes -- these cats have previously known. My vision for the sanctuary, however, changed in 1995 when we were able to build three large habitats for a group of lions and tigers. Watching these cats experience for the first time in their lives a space truly big enough to run and romp, well...it was breathtaking. It put tears in my eyes and a steely determination in my heart.

Years have passed since that day, but not a minute goes by that I don't eat, sleep and drink the vision of building a better sanctuary for these animals - - and for those yet to come. At the same time, this is a dream grounded in reality. In order to rebuild, the sanctuary needs contributions exceeding its annual operating costs. At an annual budget exceeding \$300,000, that is no small feat for a relatively unknown sanctuary in rural Mississippi. Yet, for a sanctuary that has literally survived 100 mph winds and the equivalent of an economic tornado...nothing is impossible! We have cleared the land, drawn the plans and must now raise the funds necessary to build twenty-one new habitats. Their wooden houses will be replaced with storm housing wedged into the hillside. Each big cat will have a 1/2 to 1 acre habitat where it can live a safe, exciting and comfortable life. Cedarhill relies solely on tax-deductible contributions and support from our loyal sponsors, and is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. The American Sanctuary Association (ASA) and Animal Centers of Excellence (ACE) accredit Cedarhill.

NORTH CAROLINA

Horse Retirement Homes

United States Equine Rescue League, Inc. (USERL)

Website: www.userl.org

Contact: Jennifer Hack, Executive Director

Phone: 800-650-8549

Address: 9660 Falls of Neuse Road, Suite 138 Box 300, Raleigh, NC 27615

Email: info@userl.org (Check website for contacts of local regions)

Type of Animals Accepted: Horses, Ponies, Mules and Donkeys

Limit of Animal Number: 10 or less. Larger number of animals will need to be discussed with the facility.

Rates: Not specified.

The United States Equine Rescue League (USERL) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the compassionate care of equines. Our mission is to save, protect, and rehabilitate equines in need. We rescue abused, neglected, or abandoned equines; provide them with care and rehabilitation; and finally find them a compatible, loving home. We believe that education is the long-term solution to improving the lives of equines. Our active Regions include North Carolina, Virginia, Indiana and Kentucky, and we are now starting in Illinois. We average over 100 equines rescues per year.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Horse Retirement Homes

South Carolina Awareness and Rescue for Equine (S.C.A.R.E.)

Website: www.scequinerescue.org

Contact: Jan Carter, President

Address: 312 Shetland Lane, Lexington, South Carolina 29073

Phone: 803-422-6585

Email: scare@scequinerescue.org, jcarter250433882@sc.rr.com (Adoption Information)

(Check its website for County Representatives and Information)

Type of Animals Accepted: Horses only.

Limit of Animal Number: No limit.

Rates: None.

South Carolina Awareness and Rescue for Equines, Inc. (S.C.A.R.E.) is a statewide non-profit organization and our mission is to assist equines in need. To my knowledge we have never had any horses willed to us, and frankly I don't know if that is something our board has ever addressed or discussed. I would be more than happy to present this to them, if that is something that you are interested in doing. There have been circumstances where we have allowed individuals to donate their horse to our organization, primarily in cases of financial hardship that put the horses at risk for neglect or continued neglect, but where criminal charges were not appropriate. We work closely with law enforcement and animal control agencies within the state to provide a means of transport, housing and care, and in many cases assistance with investigation and prosecution of neglect/cruelty cases. Once a horse has been introduced into our program, and is free of litigation, it is placed in a SCARE approved foster home and monitored by our representatives for the duration of its life.

VIRGINIA

Name: United States Equine Rescue League Inc.- Richmond Region

Website: www.userl-var.org

Contact: Susan White, Regional Director

Address: P.O. Box 28378, Richmond, VA 23228

Email: director@userl-ward.org
Other information: Please refer to USERL above

Bird Retirement Homes

Rescue Me

Website: www.rescueme.org

Contact: Jeff Gold, Founder

Address: P.O. Box 534, Ark, VA 23003

Phone: 800-800-2099 (Rescue Hotline), 804-693-5997 Fax: 804-695-9475

Email: Rescuemeinfo@yahoo.com, Rescuemeinfo@aol.com

Type of Animals Accepted: Rescue dogs, rescue cats, as well as horses, rabbits and birds.

Limit of Animal Number: Not Specified.

Rates: Not Specified.

Rescue Me! Animal Rescue Network is helping to find homes for rescue dogs, rescue cats, as well as horses, rabbits and birds. Dog rescue and cat rescue shelters, and individuals, can post animals for adoption free.

Phoenix Landing

Website: www.phoenixlanding.org

Address: P.O. Box 1233, Asheville, NC 28802 (primary), or P.O. Box 7661, Arlington, VA 22207

Phone: 866-749-5634 (PHX-LNDG)

Email: phoenixlanding@earthlink.net

Type of Animals: Parrots

Limit of Animal Number: Not specified.

Rates: Not specified.

The Phoenix Landing Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit all-volunteer organization. It was established to promote and protect the welfare of parrots, especially those with an extensive lifespan. Increasingly, these intelligent and beautiful birds are becoming household companions. Meanwhile, people are rapidly consuming the parrots' native rain forests and deserts. As guardians of our pets, and growing consumers of the land, it is our responsibility to provide care and help for parrots -- both in domesticity and in the wild.

Our objectives are to provide educational activities regarding the care and needs of parrots, provide a permanent home for large parrots who outlive their guardians, facilitate adoption for parrots who need a new family, provide refuge for abused, neglected or abandoned parrots, sponsor research of wild habitats and natural parrot behaviors, sponsor better avian education for vets and vet students, and advocate standards of care for breeders, pet stores, sanctuaries, and rescues.

LIFETIME REFUGE. We are building large free-flight facilities near Asheville, North Carolina. This beautiful and lush land will provide a permanent home for large parrots. They will be housed with a flock of the same species. Some parrots adapt very well to living in a natural bird-like environment - it is instinctual, and these habitats will closely approximate nature. In the near future, we will be launching a capital campaign to build The Landing, a 21st century eco-friendly facility, to help parrots in several ways. It will be home to an Education and Conference Center, sponsoring cutting-edge programs regarding parrot care for people nationwide. The Adoption Center will allow birds to meet prospective families and be housed properly until they are adopted. The Education and Conference Center will also be available to host other special events, such as symposiums regarding conservation or the environment. The Landing will also be the permanent home to some birds living in free-flight aviaries. Lastly, a small number of rentable suites will be available overlooking the flights.

ADOPTION & RESCUE. Other parrots may be so imprinted by humans that they are most happy with a family. Phoenix Landing operates an adoption and rescue program. We make every effort to find each parrot a new home with a human family, when this is the best option for them. Adoption fees may apply and attendance at our seminars is required.

Horse Retirement Homes

Dream Catcher Farm Horse Sanctuary

Website: www.horsesanctuary.com/

Contact: Kitty and Bucky Sutphin

Address: 495 Adam Perry Road, Rocky Mount, VA 24151

Email: home4them@horsesanctuary.com

Type of Animals Accepted: Horses only.

Limit of Animal Number: Depends on situation.

Rates: There is not a required fee, however donations are appreciated. 100% of the donations go to the care of the animals.

Dream Catcher Farm Horse Sanctuary is a Non-Profit Organization located on 36 acres in Rocky Mount, Virginia. This non-profit charity was established for the purpose of relieving the suffering of horses and ponies from abuse, neglect and slaughter. We wish to provide them with a caring home for the rest of their days. Dream Catcher Farm House Sanctuary is a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization.

WEST VIRGINIA

Bird Retirement Homes

Raven's Haven Exotic Bird Rescue

Website: www.ravenshaven.org

Contact: Sherri Killen

Address: P.O. Box 5172, Vienna, WV 26105

Phone: 304-295-6022 Fax: 304-295-6022

Email: ravenshaven@wirefire.com

Type of Animals Accepted: Birds.

Limit of Animal Number: Not specified.

Rates: Not specified.

Raven's Haven Exotic Bird Rescue, Inc. was established in March of 2001 when we became aware of the large number of parrots and parrot-related species that were living lives of neglect and abuse. Parrots are now the second most popular pets in the United States. Along with that popularity have come the many problems that are normally encountered with more traditional domesticated species such as dogs and cats. The major difference, we believe, is that most of the parrots now kept as pets are not domesticated through years of selective breeding but instead, are only one or two generations removed from their wild ancestors. In fact many were caught in the wild and imported to the U.S. during the 1960's up until the early 1990's, when it became illegal to do so. Many of these "wild catches" retain their wild traits and have been sold and resold to a number of guardians. Herein lie the problems, which make our organization, and others like it, necessary. These parrots, which are usually bought on impulse and without knowledge of their emotional needs, will, in many cases, react to the lack of attention by their guardians in an unfavorable manner. As many are semi-tame and have not known a stable and consistent home, these birds can have behavioral problems and can be dangerous as pets. These parrots are doomed to being passed from one guardian to another or back to the pet shop as each new guardian realizes that their new pet will never be the "Busch Gardens" bird they had hoped for. Many will bite, scream or even resort to self-mutilation in an effort to get attention from an uncaring guardian. Thus starts a cycle that can be repeated many times during the bird's long life. Unlike a dog or cat, whose life is relatively short in comparison, a parrot should live from 20 to 100 years depending on the species. This of course assumes that the bird has survived the nutritional neglect offered by many casual bird guardians. In the effort to stop this endless cycle we formed Raven's Haven to offer an alternative to people who needed to find a caring "home for life" for their bird and to offer a retirement home for the birds deemed unsuitable for placement.

Our goals include offering a permanent "retirement" home for parrots that cannot be placed in new homes and finding good, caring homes for the adoptable birds that have been given up by their guardians due to unforeseen difficulties. We have encountered many cases where parrots have been given up for adoption when their guardians have become ill or divorced. These people needed to place their birds quickly and felt uncomfortable with the options of reselling their bird back to a pet shop, in the want ads or giving the bird to friends or family where questionable care might be offered. We have also received birds that have been given up because of unacceptable vocalization or dangerous behavior. We hope to offer people the security of knowing that their bird will be cared for and that time will be taken when finding a new home with a sincere, dedicated and appropriate person. We do not purchase birds. We also offer a help line for new caretakers with questions. Our office hours are 9 am to 5 pm Monday thru Friday.

Until now, we have relied on word of mouth to receive birds and to find adoptive homes. We anticipate the effect of internet exposure will be more adoptions as well as more desperate people wanting to give up their birds to our care. As many of these birds will need care for up to 100 years, our task is formidable. We are a 501c3. Raven's Haven is a member of the Avian Welfare Coalition and is accredited by The Association of Sanctuaries (TAOS).