

PET GUARDIANSHIP PROGRAM

One benefit of the Dr. Mary E. Bates Founders Society, which is open to anyone who has included the Dumb Friends League in his or her estate plans, is the ability to enroll animals in the Pet Guardianship Program. This program lets people designate the League as temporary guardian for any pets that outlive them. These animals arrive at the League as VIPs and are cared for as friends.

The program offers the following benefits:

- Individuals have the opportunity to write detailed care instructions that will be given to their pet's future guardians.
- League staff members will be available to pick the pet up after its owner passes away.
- Cats, dogs, certain birds and small mammals will stay in a volunteer foster home until a new family is found, while horses and other equine will enjoy life at our Harmony Equine Center until adopted.
- While under our care, these pet(s) will receive medical care and vaccines, as needed, from our veterinary staff.*

Enrolling pets is easy. Any Founders Society member simply needs to fill out a detailed Pet Profile for each animal, including a photograph, and sign our Pet Guardianship Notification form. The Pet Profile will go with the pet, giving the temporary guardian important information to help him or her care for that animal. Even if the member already arranged for a pet guardian, the Pet Guardianship Notification form is useful to let the League know who to call in the event his or her pets are brought to the shelter.

For more information about this program, please call 303.751.5772 or email plannedgiving@ddfl.org.



* The Dumb Friends League will care for an individual's pets in accordance with responsible and compassionate ownership practices. This means that the League may have to make the difficult decision to euthanize a pet if its quality of life becomes severely diminished or if our behavior staff determines that the pet is dangerous. Also, to reduce pet overpopulation and increase the likelihood of returning lost pets to their homes, the League will spay or neuter and microchip all animals adopted out through our Pet Guardianship Program.