



PEACE OF MIND

A SAFETY NET PROGRAM FOR SURVIVING PETS

Let's face it, pets are family. They give us unconditional love, joy, comfort, and unfailing friendship. In return, we go to great lengths to ensure they have everything they need (and then some). Most of us expect to outlive our animal companions, but what if your pets survive you?

It may be upsetting to imagine what our pets would do without us, but the SPCA of Wake County can offer you the peace of mind that they will be well cared for.

Regardless of whether your beloved companion is a dog, cat, bird, rabbit, or other pet, **SPCA Wake can help you plan for your pet's welfare should he/she outlive you.** In North Carolina, as in most states, you cannot leave money directly to your pets. However, with SPCA's unique Peace of Mind Program, you can make provisions for the care and adoption of your surviving pets through your will or other estate documents.



By enrolling in the Peace of Mind program and making a planned gift to SPCA Wake, you have our promise to immediately receive and care for any surviving pets and place them into loving homes. Your pets depend on you to meet their needs and the SPCA promises to be there for them when you no longer can to provide the comfort, care and compassion all pets deserve.

For those interested in the program, we have provided the notification form for our Animal Legacy Society of North Carolina as well as a pet bio form. **Please fill out one form for each pet you wish to enroll.** There is no set amount for the planned gift in order for your pets to become eligible. Please consult with your attorney and/or financial advisor as this program is not a pet trust. The goal of the program is for us to place your animals for adoption and, with the information you provide, find suitable and loving homes for them.

On the back of this sheet, we have provided some sample language regarding the Peace of Mind program. Some have included this directly in their will, and others have referenced the document outside of the will due to the changing nature of the number of pets in their care and the manner in which the pets will find their way to the SPCA of Wake County.

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Please provide the following sample language to your attorney and/or financial planner to include within your will, trust or other estate papers to direct a planned gift to the SPCA of Wake County and provide for the welfare of your surviving pets.

The suggested language can be modified to meet your specific needs. It is extremely helpful to provide a copy of whatever language you end up using to the SPCA of Wake County in order for us to review and to prepare for your pets should the situation arise.

Please forward any/all pertinent information to Mondy Lamb, Vice President of Philanthropy, SPCA of Wake County, 200 Petfinder Lane, Raleigh, NC 27603.

SAMPLE LANGUAGE

I wish to provide for the care and welfare of any and all pets that I own at the time of my death. It is my desire that they live the balance of their lives in a stable home environment. Accordingly, I give, devise, and bequeath my pets to my spouse. If my spouse does not survive me:

- A. I give, devise, and bequeath my pets to The SPCA of Wake County, Inc., a nonprofit corporation (the "SPCA of Wake County") 200 Petfinder Lane, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27603, EIN 56-0891732, to be received by the SPCA of Wake County under the auspices of its Peace of Mind program.
- B. In gratitude for caring for my pets, and to support the SPCA of Wake County's programs and services, I devise, and bequeath [insert description of bequest] to the SPCA of Wake County to be used for its general operations, or as so designated by its board of trustees.
- C. I request that the SPCA of Wake County arrange for the permanent placement of my pets in a suitable home through the SPCA of Wake County's pet adoption program. I understand, however, that adoption may be precluded if a pet is seriously ill or injured, has a vicious temperament, or for any other reason would be a danger to an adopter or the public.
- D. In any event, I request that my pets be cared for and treated as household pets and receive all reasonable care; provided, however, that, in the event of serious illness or injury, I do not desire that extraordinary means be used to prolong their lives; and provided further that the SPCA of Wake County may euthanize any pet determined by the SPCA of Wake County, in its sole and absolute discretion, to be seriously ill or injured, to have a vicious temperament, or to be a danger to an adopter or the public for any other reason.

Please note: The sample language above is for informational purposes only and should not be considered legal, accounting, or tax advice. Please consult with your attorney, financial advisor and/or accountant.