



The Impact of Planned Giving

Planned Gifts Come in Several Forms:

- Wills & Bequests
- Annuities & Trusts—gifts that provide lifelong income
- Life Insurance & Retirement Plans
- Gifts of appreciated property
- AWA... More than a shelter

Allow us to beg tomorrow



A well-planned estate allows you to make an impact on future generations. This impact may include an inheritance you leave to your family as well as a philanthropic gift you make to a charity. **Through philanthropic gifts, you are leaving a gift behind that helps a charity ensure their continued existence.**

Philanthropy is simply caring about others and wanting to better the world. Every person, regardless of financial means, can change the world.

Often, we aren't able to make the financial contributions we wish to when we are alive. Planned giving allows us to make larger gifts than we could otherwise make and it provides substantial tax and financial advantages.

A bequest to the **Animal Welfare Association** will mean your name is always remembered for making life better for abandoned pets in our community.

Truly Compassionate Souls

Mrs. Deloris A. La Rue was a former AWA volunteer. When she passed away, she left AWA substantial funds to help our shelter animals. Mrs. La Rue was survived by her beloved dog "Bobby" who was left with a living stipend to help her new caretaker provide for her dog until she passes away.

We were fortunate to know Mrs. La Rue. Many of AWA's bequests come from people we've never met, without knowing how we (AWA and our mission) touched their lives.



Mrs. Carmella Winter (shown in photo) is a member of AWA's Life Preserver Circle. A few years ago, she listed AWA in her will. "I wanted to leave a legacy of care for the animals and trusted AWA to be there for the animals because of what I know about the good work they do."

"I give what I can to make sure the dogs are cared for, but I know that I can make a meaningful contribution (from my estate) that will allow AWA to take care of its needs." Mrs. Winter visualizes AWA using the funds to make facility upgrades because with "a modest annual budget adding (space) on isn't do-able."

As a dog-lover the mission weighs on her heart. "No dog should ever go hungry. All animals should be spayed or neutered" and the fact that AWA does these two things matters to her.

You will find, as you look back on your life, that the moments that matter the most are the moments when you have done things for others.—Henry Drummond



AWA saves 1000's of animals from euthanasia. That's more than any other shelter in South Jersey. Help us, help them.

74 years & counting...

The primary reason to leave a gift to AWA is because you care deeply for the plight of homeless animals and want to protect them. Knowing that your planned gift transfers your love and concern for animals in need is very powerful.

Founded in 1948, the Animal Welfare Association is one New Jersey's oldest animal welfare organizations. AWA helps thousands of animals each year find new homes.

Our mission is to eliminate animal suffering, promote the importance of the human-animal bond and improve the role of animals in the well-being of people. Our success depends on the generosity of people who care about the animals in our community.

We rely upon donations and program fees to keep our doors open to animals in need.



After determining that Dooley would be best suited as a working dog instead of a family pet, Dooley left AWA for his new life as a Search & Rescue dog.

Steps to Getting Started

Planned giving is simply a gift of assets made to a charitable organization. Planned gifts can be made during your lifetime or from your estate. The type of planned gift that is appropriate for you depends on your financial situation and your goals.

First, identify the people and organizations in your life that you want to benefit from your estate. Remember that giving to a local charity with proven service to your community, will have a greater impact.

Second, assess your estate. Don't forget saving bonds, certificates of deposits, IRAs, or other long-term investments you may have. The total value of your estate may surprise you.

Finally, make an appointment to see your attorney or financial advisor. Discuss your goals so he or she can help implement them, answer your questions, and point you in the right direction.

For family harmony, be sure to discuss your overall tax, financial and estate planning goals with your loved ones.

By not planning your estate, your family may not be able to direct where your estate goes. In some circumstances, not having a will means leaving those decisions up to the state law or leaving your estate to the state.

Wills

A will is the legal document used in estate planning. The will is the only way assets titled in your name can be distributed as you wish. Assets titled in joint i.e., husband and wife, do not pass through a will, as well as any asset having a beneficiary destination (for example, life insurance, IRA's, pensions.) If you do not have a will, the state directs what happens. Your assets can possibly pass to distant family members or the state itself.

A will is a common way to leave a gift to a charity either as a fixed dollar amount, specific asset, or as a percentage of your estate. Many donors prefer bequeathing a percentage of their estate, as inflation can erode the impact of a fixed amount over the years. The correct terminology would be: I give and bequeath the sum of \$ _____ (or, ____ percentage of my estate) to the Animal Welfare Association Inc., a New Jersey nonprofit corporation (federal ID #22175-2792).

Annuities and Trusts

You can help the animals and at the same time receive income for life and the life of your beneficiary. Charitable gift annuities and charitable remainder trusts are both methods of giving that are used by organizations to benefit their programs. Annuities and trusts are wonderful strategies if you have appreciated assets (typically stocks or property) and you would like to increase your income. **Charitable gift annuities** provide a fixed income to you for life regardless of the market conditions.

A **charitable remainder trust** is an irrevocable trust that makes distribution to a non-charitable beneficiary for a period of time, with the remainder going to the charity. The income beneficiary receives distributions from the trust during the trust term, while the charity receives the remaining trust corpus when the trust terminates. Upon the donor's death, the principle passes to AWA without any estate taxes. However, tax benefits will vary depending upon the donor's age at the time the trust was established, the payout rate desired, and whether there is a beneficiary. With **lead trusts**, the charity is the income beneficiary of the trust instead of the remainder beneficiary.

The charity receives distributions from the trust during the trust term. When the trust terminates, the non-charitable beneficiaries, specified by the grantor, receives the remainder.

A trust is a legal entity. An attorney is needed to draft a trust agreement, and you will need to appoint a trustee who will oversee the fund's investment and distribution of payments. To qualify as a charitable trust, the gift must be irrevocable. The AWA can serve as the trustee for gifts of \$100,000 and more. You are always able to select your own trustee for any size trust.

AWA has financial advisors and attorneys who are willing to work with potential donors. Wills should be prepared by a qualified estate planning attorney in your state.

Life Insurance and Retirement Plans

Many people prepare for the future by purchasing life insurance or putting money away for their retirement. Over time the reasons you purchased insurance or saved for retirement may change. Both life insurance and retirement accounts can be used to make a charitable gift.

Retirement plans, when passed to anyone except your spouse, can be fully taxable within five years of your death. To give a retirement account, name the Animal Welfare Association as a primary or secondary beneficiary. This doesn't provide an upfront tax deduction because it is revocable. If you want to provide income from your retirement account for a spouse or another beneficiary, you can direct that the proceeds from the plan, fund a charitable gift. In this instance, the estate will be taxed but receives a credit for the contribution.

Life Insurance is often purchased to provide a financial safeguard for dependents and as they become adults, is no longer needed. One way to make a charitable gift of life insurance would be to name AWA as the beneficiary. Naming AWA as the beneficiary but reserving the right to change the beneficiary, the donor will not be entitled to an income tax charitable deduction. Since the beneficiary designation is revocable, there is no completed gift and no gift tax consequences. If making a gift and receiving a tax benefit is important to you, then transferring ownership to AWA is the way to go. In this instance, the charitable deductions for income tax purposes are the fair market value of the policy or the donor's cost basis in the policy, whichever is less. The cost basis consists of all premiums paid by the donor up to the time the policy is gifted. Charitable gifts of life insurance can be much simpler and less expensive to implement than a charitable trust.

Gifts of Appreciated Property

Few financial tools are more powerful than appreciated property, specifically stocks and real estate. They have the ability to magnify wealth faster than nearly any other financial method. In many cases, a person who donates an appreciated asset to a charity instead of selling it can take a charitable deduction for the full value of the property while also avoiding capital gains on the property.

Appreciated assets are usually transferred to AWA and then sold. These proceeds can be used to meet needs such as providing food or veterinary care for animals. In most cases, if you have held securities for more than one year you can deduct the market value of the securities and avoid paying any capital gains tax. If the shares are held in your broker's office, transferring securities is easy. Simply contact us and we will provide your broker with all the needed information. If you have land, a second home or other real estate you wish to donate, they have similar benefits to appreciated securities. It is also possible to donate your home to the AWA and retain lifetime use of the property. A trust may be created based upon the value of the home at the time of the donation.



Be a part of our **Legacy of Love** program. When you support AWA through your will or with another kind of planned gift, you reinforce your commitment to our community's homeless and neglected animals. Supporting a local charity this way can make a huge impact in saving lives in your own backyard for generations to come.

AWA's Federal ID #22175-2792

AWA occasionally hosts informational workshops on planned giving.



Helen K. is a partially blind cat who had been with us in our community cat room for two years. She was finally adopted and her "dad" couldn't understand why no one had wanted this affectionate and inquisitive cat.



Summer had been hit and dragged by a car. The owner called AWA in tears because she could not afford care. The clinic staff assured her that they would figure something out to help Summer, and our vets were able to heal Summer at an affordable rate. She is now enjoying a happy and playful life!



We received a call for help from a couple with a burgeoning feral cat colony on their property. Through our Trap Neuter Return (TNR) program for feral cats, specialist went to the couple's property, trapped as many cats as possible, had them spayed/neutered, vaccinated for rabies and ear-tipped (to show they had been treated) and then returned to their colony.



AWA's Milestones

- 1948 founded
- 1960's current shelter opened
- 1970 Humane Education program launched
- 1974 the first regional spay/neuter clinic opened
- 1980s Pet Assisted Therapy program launched
- 1990's limited admission
- 2007 became a "no-kill" shelter
- 2008 expanded vet services
- 2009 fortified our Transport Program, relieving community shelters from overpopulation
- 2010 Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) services promoted to feral cat communities caregivers
- 2011 Pet Re-homing & Community Engagement programs launched
- 2012 begins an outreach program in the City of Camden
- 2013 opened new Pet Clinic, adding more vet services
- 2014 Humane Education program grows with a Summer Camp
- 2015 introduces workshops and classes for the community
- 2017 clinic performed 8,081 spay/neuter surgeries, vaccinated 6,958 pets, more than 2,500 pets found new homes through the Adoption Center
- 2019 Capital Campaign announced for new shelter/education center
- 2020 ground breaking ceremony for the new 25,000-sf building held and construction begins with date of completion expected Winter of 2021

Why Consider AWA?

Because we are more than a shelter...

Over seven decades of service... AWA was created by a small group of forward thinking volunteers who cared for animals in their homes. As their success grew, they opened a shelter to house the many animals in need and to teach the public about proper pet care.

AWA touches the lives of thousands of **people** and **animals** each year bringing unconditional love to those in need.

We've been proactive in finding solutions for pet abandonment, pet over-population and keeping the human-animal bond alive through programs we have pioneered in our area.

AWA is a community charity that receives no funding from the government or any national organization. As the cost for utilities, pet medicine, and food continues to increase, it is our neighbors' generous hearts that prompt them to give so we can continued to be a pet-compassionate community.

AWA is an **adoption** center that does not euthanize pets for space and works with people for the best solution for them and their pet. To us, pets are not "throw-aways."

Over the years we've received generous bequests which have contributed to the growth and reputation of AWA.



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