

# Pet Guardianship Program

## FAQs



7200 Mobley Rd, Brooksville, FL 34601  
(352) 796-2711 | [www.HumaneRescue.org](http://www.HumaneRescue.org)

### Do I need to give annually if my pet(s) is enrolled in the Pet Guardianship Program?

- You do not need to give an annual gift, although we always welcome your ongoing support!
- We simply ask that you have named the HSNC as a beneficiary in one or more of the following:
  - Your Will or Trust
  - Retirement Accounts (401k, 403b, IRA, Roth IRA)
  - Charitable Remainder Trust
  - Charitable Lead Trust
  - Charitable Gift Annuity
  - Life Insurance Policy
  - Donor Advised Fund
  - Other Account that Designates the HSNC as a Beneficiary
- We also recommend that you work with your estate planning attorney to ensure that the appropriate language in your Will or Trust identifies the HSNC Pet Guardianship Program as your final wish for the care of your pet(s) should they outlive you.

### How much do I have to donate, as listed in my estate plan, to qualify for the Pet Guardianship Program?

- Instead of considering your gift as \$XX per pet, you may want to consider a meaningful legacy gift where you can direct it to a specific program about which you are most passionate. Examples of specific programs include:
  - Building a New Dog Shelter: Your bequest can help build a new state-of-the-art dog shelter that will not only house more homeless dogs, but will also increase the comfort and well-being of dogs in our care.
  - Contributions to our Medical Program: Your bequest will help with the veterinary costs associated with pets in need of critical medical care.
  - Naming of Pet Rooms: You may wish to make a bequest in exchange for the naming of a pet room in your honor or in the honor of a loved one.

Feel free to call us to discuss what programs the HSNC may need help funding.

- If you simply want to ensure you have covered the cost of your pet(s) in our care, we do not require a minimum gift, but we do ask that you consider the potential age and health of your pet(s) in the years ahead.
  - Older pets may arrive with extensive dental issues and/or treatable medical conditions that could require surgery or extensive treatment.
  - If your pet(s) is older, it is likely your pet(s) will remain longer in our care before your pet(s) is placed in a new forever home.

**What is the benefit of the Pet Guardianship Program over surrendering my pet(s)?**

- Pets enrolled in the Pet Guardianship Program can be taken in almost immediately, usually within 24 – 48 hours. Without the enrollment in the Pet Guardianship Program, there is no guarantee we can take in your pet(s), or they may be on a waiting list for weeks or months, requiring someone else to care for them in the interim.
- Because you have already provided us with all of the information on your pet(s) by completing the Pet Biography Form during program enrollment, your friends and family do not have to struggle to provide us with your pet's background information.
- We know we have a gift from you coming in the future to help cover the care of your pet(s), so no surrender fee will need to be paid.

**Is there a fee to enroll in the Pet Guardianship Program?**

- Yes, there is a one-time, non-refundable \$35.00 enrollment fee, regardless of the number of pets you enroll.

**Do you reject applications for the Pet Guardianship Program?**

- We do not reject a Guardianship application based on health history.
- However, if your pet(s) has major known behavioral issues that would make them unadoptable, we cannot promise that we can take them in.

**Is there a limit to the number of pets you will take?**

- We do not have a limit to the number of pets we take in at one time.
- However, we do expect you to consider the cost of care for the number of pets you have placed under the Pet Guardianship Program in your planned giving gift to the HSNC.

**What happens after I submit the required program documents and the enrollment fee?**

- You will receive a confirmation notice from us that your pet(s) is enrolled. We recommend you create a pet emergency notification document easily found in your home by emergency personnel in the event your pet(s) needs to be brought to the HSNC. Most people attach such notification to the refrigerator.
- We ask that you keep us updated on any health changes of your pet(s), or if you have changed veterinarians, so we can access the most recent medical records.
- If a pet passes away, or you have added a new pet to your household, we ask that you please let us know.

**What happens if my pets are bonded and should be rehomed together?**

- If your pets are bonded, please indicate that information on the Pet Biography Form when enrolling your pets. We will make every effort possible to rehome the pets together, but we cannot guarantee success.

## How do I enroll my pets in the Pet Guardianship Program?

- Enrolling your pet(s) is easy! Just follow these simple steps:
  1. If you haven't already done so, include the HSNC as a Beneficiary in your will or trust, or as a Beneficiary of your life insurance, IRA, 401K, Donor Advised Fund, or other account. Please use our legal name when naming us as a Beneficiary: **"Humane Society of the Nature Coast Inc."**
  2. Specify in your will or trust that your pet is to be entrusted to the HSNC at your death.
  3. Complete one Pet Owner Enrollment Form, one Planned Giving Form, and a Pet Biography Form for each pet you wish to enroll.
  4. Mail a copy of all documentation along with a one-time \$35.00 enrollment fee to:

**Humane Society of the Nature Coast**

**Attn: Planned Giving**

**PO Box 10328**

**Brooksville, FL 34603**

5. Designate someone you trust to bring your pet to the HSNC when the time comes. Instruct them to call us, **in advance**, to notify us that your pet is on the way.
6. We will email you a confirmation of your Pet Guardianship enrollment. Please keep a copy of your confirmation with your will or trust.
7. Keep us updated if your pet's health changes, if you change your veterinarian, or if your pet passes away.
8. Contact us when you are ready to enroll. We are here to help!