

Charitable Lead Trusts

Like a charitable remainder trust, a charitable lead trust can provide support for the animals and significant tax benefits. But it differs in important ways from charitable remainder trusts. In brief, a charitable lead trust can make gifts to Suncoast Humane Society for either a specific number of years or for the donor's lifetime. At the end of this period, the remaining assets in the trust and any growth it has realized are typically passed to the donor's heirs. Although there is no income tax deduction when you create a charitable lead trust, your gift or estate tax is greatly reduced and any growth is passed on gift and estate tax free. Here is an example of the benefits of this arrangement.

Robert has established a charitable lead trust that makes a payment to Suncoast Humane Society each year for the rest of his life. These payments are funded by stocks that Robert contributed to the charitable lead trust because he no longer needs them for his own support.

Robert stipulated that these annual payments be used for the support of Suncoast Humane Society's veterinary medical care for the animals. This has permitted us to extend life saving and humane treatment to sick and injured animals.

Upon his death, the assets in the trust will be left to Robert's daughter, Linda. The annual payments made to Suncoast Humane Society will result in a sizable charitable deduction for Gift and Estate Tax purposes. This deduction will result in a higher proportion of the assets in the trust being passed on to Linda and a smaller part being paid in taxes.

Now is the time to make sure that you leave a legacy of love for those who most need your help.



Gifts During Your Lifetime

Suncoast Humane Society is a 501(c)(3), non-profit organization that relies solely on contributions from our supporters. We receive no government funding. A very important part of the support we can offer to needy animals comes from the monthly, quarterly or annual contributions made by our generous donors. Without you, we simply could not provide the services we do for the thousands of animals we help each year. All contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.



Suncoast Humane Society
6781 San Casa Drive
Englewood, FL 34224
www.humane.org

Phone: 941.474.7884
Fax: 941.475.3877
E-mail: webmaster@humane.org

ABOUT US

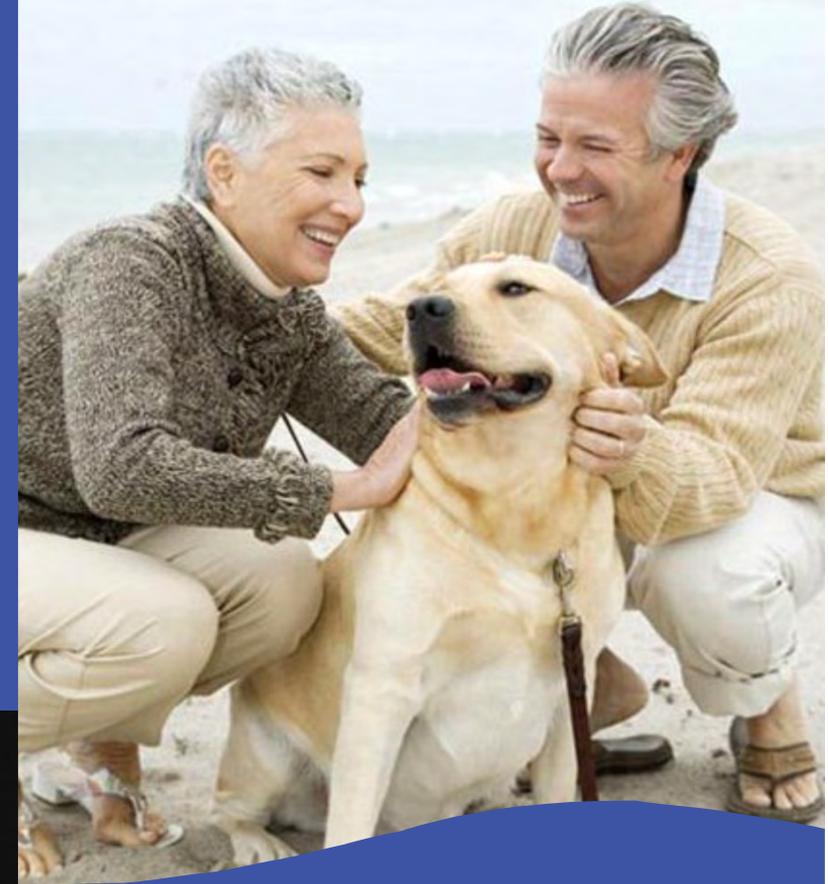
“Existing to reduce the number of homeless animals and improve the quality of life”

Suncoast Humane Society has been a voice for animals in our community for more than four generations. We provide shelter for homeless, abused, lost and abandoned animals throughout three counties in Southwest Florida. Through our comprehensive Pet Placement program, we have placed thousands of pets into permanent, loving homes. We advocate for the humane care and treatment of all animals while our many programs and services enrich the lives of both animals and people.

The information in this brochure is provided to give general information about charitable giving strategies that help donors maximize tax savings while helping Suncoast Humane Society. No part of this booklet is intended as legal advice. Please consult with a tax and legal professional to determine the best giving strategy for your situation.

SUNCOAST
Humane
SOCIETY 
MAKING FRIENDS FOR LIFE

Leaving a Legacy



“All the beautiful sentiments in the world weigh less than a single lovely action”

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

How Can I Help?

We are often asked this question by friends who have already given generously of their time and resources to prevent animal suffering and homelessness. For many of us, there is a compelling need to make a difference; to leave a lasting impact in the community in which we live. In fact, there are many ways that supporters can significantly continue their support of animals. This brochure will introduce you to several of these planned giving options.

A planned gift is any charitable contribution, immediate or deferred, that considers the donor's personal tax, financial and estate planning circumstances, which requires the participation of the donor's professional advisors.

You should know that all of the ideas discussed in this brochure offer you significant tax advantages; allowing you to take money that would otherwise be collected as tax and use it to provide a permanent legacy of love and support for animals who need your help. Some methods of support can even provide additional income to donors during their lifetime. The specifics of these methods vary depending on your own circumstances and wishes. However, they all have one thing in common, they require planning. With proper planning now, you can make sure that your support for the care and treatment of homeless animals will continue, even as you provide for your own needs and those of your family.



In this brochure, we explain and give examples of some of the more common ways to contribute. We would be happy to discuss these methods or other options with you. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at 941-474-7884. We are always here to discuss your needs or specific wishes. We encourage you to consult with an attorney or financial advisor before changing your will or estate plan.

Life Insurance

Life insurance is a simple and inexpensive way to provide significant dollars to support animals. If you have an insurance policy that is no longer needed for its original purpose, you may wish to change the beneficiary to the Suncoast Humane Society.

As an alternative to naming Suncoast Humane Society as a beneficiary of your insurance policy, you may consider making a gift of the policy itself to Suncoast Humane Society and contributing funds to enable Suncoast Humane Society to pay the insurance premiums.

Life Insurance Continued

Under this approach, the insurance proceeds are free of death taxes in your estate. If you make Suncoast Humane Society the owner and beneficiary of the policy, you are also entitled to a charitable income tax deduction based upon the premiums paid and the policy's cash surrender value. In addition, the payment of future premiums by the donor on the policy that is owned by Suncoast Humane Society will also be deductible in the year of payment.

Bequests

A bequest is one of the simplest ways to leave a charitable legacy to those who most need your help. Your will or revocable trust provides the flexibility of specifying exactly how you wish to provide for the animals. For example, you could leave any of the following:

- A gift of a specific dollar amount
- A percentage of your entire estate
- What is left after you provide for others
- A specific item or property

It is important to note that a bequest of property under your will or revocable trust to Suncoast Humane Society is deductible for estate tax purposes at the full market value. Often, this results in substantial tax savings. This means that your estate will pay less in taxes and leave more for the causes, people and animals you love.

An updated will or revocable trust is the best way to make sure that your support for animals will continue forever.

IRA or Retirement Plan Benefits

IRA accounts and qualified plan retirement benefits can be some of the most valuable assets you own during your lifetime. These assets grow tax deferred and, as a result, it is easier to accumulate retirement savings than with taxable investments. Unfortunately, these assets can be among the least valuable to your heirs, especially if your estate is large enough to be subject to estate taxes. This is because IRAs and retirement plan accounts are subject to both estate and income taxes when they pass to individual or trust beneficiaries. For instance, subject to tax law changes and individual circumstances, a descendant (other than a spouse) may receive as little as 33 cents on the dollar for a retirement plan subject to estate tax. If you designate Suncoast Humane Society as a primary or partial beneficiary of a retirement fund balance, there is no estate tax and no income tax on the amount passing to Suncoast Humane Society.



Charitable Gift Annuities

A Charitable Gift Annuity is a contribution made by a donor to a qualified charity that is part gift and part payment made in exchange for a life income for one or two persons. A contract would exist between the donor and Gulf Coast Community Foundation or Charlotte County Community Foundation (depending on the preference of the donor) to provide the donor(s) and/or other named beneficiaries with a guaranteed income at a competitive rate of return. After their lifetime(s), the gift annuity establishes a permanent charitable fund at the Foundation to benefit Suncoast Humane Society or the annuity can be added to the Society's established Endowment Fund. The gift annuity is backed by the Foundation's assets.



Charitable Remainder Trusts

Charitable Remainder Trusts (CRT's) are excellent ways to make delayed gifts to Suncoast Humane Society and also enhance lifetime income. They provide both immediate tax benefits and income to the donor. Here's an example of how these benefits can work for someone who loves animals.

Mary had stock valued at \$50,000.00 and wished to help animals in need through a gift to the Suncoast Humane Society. By transferring these stocks to a CRT, Mary established an annuity, which will pay her \$4,000.00 per year for the rest of her life. This annuity is a welcome supplement to her retirement income.



In addition, she received a significant charitable income tax deduction in the year she created the trust. Mary also avoided paying an immediate capital gains tax of almost \$8,000.00 which would have been due if she had sold the stocks. At Mary's death, the remaining funds in the CRT will be given to Suncoast Humane Society as her personal legacy of love.

This is just one example of a very powerful way to combine continuing support for the animals with tax benefits and income for the donor.