

DRBC Financial Aid Fact Sheet



Dachshund Rescue of Bucks County & NJ/ 215-736-3338

Financial Support for Veterinary Services

Like most responsible pet owners you have always managed to give your pets the medical care they deserves, but due to unexpected circumstances, you may face veterinary expenses that are far beyond your ability to afford them.

No owner wants a pet to suffer because medical care is out of reach. Financial aid is available and there are steps you can take to cover an emergency vet bill.

Please remember that, depending on the severity of your pet's illness or injury, you may still lose your pet even after great expense. Discuss the prognosis and treatment options with your veterinarian, including whether surgery or treatment would just cause your companion discomfort without preserving a life of good quality.

Financial Aid Sources

1. **Humane Society of the United States**

www.humanesociety.org

Contact your local animal shelter. Some shelters have onsite low-cost veterinary clinics or work with local vets who are willing to reduce their charges. Some also have veterinary loan or grant programs.

2. **American Animal Hospital Association [AAHA]**

www.aahahelpingpets.org

The heartbreak happens all too often, a pet owner is unable to afford treatment and their sick or injured companion animal pays the price. If the owner is elderly, disabled or on a fixed income, the cost of care may be too much of a stretch for their pocketbook. Perhaps they have been victimized by crime, property loss or a job layoff and are experiencing a temporary financial hardship making it too difficult to afford pet care. And some animals, brought to clinics by Good Samaritans, don't have an owner to pay for treatment. Whatever the situation, the fact remains the same: When sick or injured animals are unable to receive veterinary care, they suffer. Through the AAHA Helping Pets Fund, veterinary care is possible for sick or injured pets even if they have been abandoned or if their owner is experiencing financial hardship."

3. **Angels 4 Animals**

www.angels4animals.org/

Angels4Animals, a non-profit organization and a program of Inner Voice Community Services, has a mission to serve as the guardian angel of animals whose caretakers find themselves in difficult financial situations. At Angels4Animals we believe that animal owners should not have to say goodbye to the animals that they love. Our work is accomplished in conjunction with veterinary clinics across the country, eager to assist as many animals, and their owners, as possible. Our services range from financial aid to complete treatment to those pets and pet owners in need.

Important Things to Remember:

- ❖ ***Emergency conditions call for emergency treatment. Go to the closest emergency veterinary hospital if you feel you are faced with an emergency.***
- ❖ ***Financial help is available.***
- ❖ ***You always have options. Don't give up hope.***





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***DRBC, helping one
until there are none.***

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.doxierescue.com

4. Feline Veterinary Emergency Assistance (FVEAP)

www.fveap.org/sys-tmpl/door/

The NEED & The HELP: Seniors, People with disabilities, People who have lost their job, Good Samaritans who rescue a cat or kitten any of these folks may need financial assistance to save a beloved companion. The Feline Veterinary Emergency Assistance Program is a nonprofit 501©(3) organization that provides financial assistance to cat and kitten guardians who are unable to afford veterinary services to save their companions when life-threatening illness or injury strikes.

5. Help-A-Pet

www.help-a-pet.org

Our efforts focus on serving the elderly, the disabled, and the working poor. For lonely seniors, physically/mentally challenged individuals and children of working parents, pets represent much more than a diversion.

6. IMOM

www.imom.org/

Mission Statement: Helping people help pets. To better the lives of sick, injured and abused companion animals. We are dedicated to insure that no companion animal has to be euthanized simply because their caretaker is financially challenged. One criteria is to have been turned down by Credit Care.

7. The Pet Fund

<http://www.help-a-pet.org/apply.html>

The Pet Fund is a registered 501©3 nonprofit association that provides financial assistance to owners of domestic animals who need urgent veterinary care. Often animals are put down or suffer needlessly because their owners cannot afford expensive surgery or emergency vet visits. Companion animal owners must often make the difficult decision to put an animal down or neglect urgent medical needs because of the costs involved. The purpose of the Pet Fund is to work towards a future where decisions about companion animal medical care need never be made on the basis of cost.

8. United Animal Nations

www.uan.org mission of LifeLine is to help homeless or recently rescued animals suffering from life-threatening conditions that require specific and immediate emergency veterinary care. We strive to serve Good Samaritans and rescue groups who take in sick or injured animals. In certain cases, LifeLine can also assist senior citizens and low-income families pay for immediate emergency veterinary care.





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9. **UK Assistance with Veterinary Bills**

www.petloveronline.co.uk/financial.htm

Most of us can cope with the financial commitment involved in the day-to-day care of our pets. However, how many of us come out in a cold sweat when our pet is ill or injured and we know we have to take it to the vet? Most of us are fortunate enough to be able to afford it but some of us who love our animals dearly cannot. Unfortunately we do not have a PDSA or a RSPCA Centre within our area, but there are a few charities that may be able to help.

10. **HandicappedPets.com**

www.handicappedpets.com/Articles/help/

From time to time, HandicappedPets.com recognizes a caretaker of handicapped pets that need some special attention, and a little extra help. There are those who are so selflessly dedicated to their animal families that they give up a little more than they can afford.

11. **Credit Care**

www.carecredit.com

No or low credit. Find out on-line if you qualify. #10 is to get your vet signed up.

12. **Brown Dog Foundation**

<http://www.browndogfoundation.org>

To reduce unnecessary euthanasia of family pet dogs and cats. Specifically, monetary grants can be issued... to assist in saving the life of a domestic pet (cat or dog) during an owner's temporary financial hardship, when the pet can be restored to enjoy a quality of life; to assist financially with the preventative treatment and testing of domestic pets (cat or dog) knowingly adopted with a pre-existing condition (cancer, organ compromise, diabetes, abused, old age, etc.)

13. **PawsLA**

<http://www.pawsla.org>

PAWS/LA is committed to creating solutions for disenfranchised animal guardians throughout Los Angeles County who are facing the physical and financial challenges of caring for their companion animals.

14. **DRBC Foundation [Dachshund Rescue of Bucks County & NJ]**

http://www.doxierescue.com/Foundation_Support.html

The DRBC Foundation is proud to support the efforts made by on behalf of the Homer and Penelope Funds. This is truly a special arm of our rescue reaching out to help dachshunds in homes where a small form of assistance can make all the difference, where education about our breed and its sometimes unique needs is paramount and where the support of on-going research will help to improve the quality and quantity of years these beloved creatures spend with us.

Alternate Fundraising Methods



Work with veterinarians

Be proactive. Check the list of groups that can help as referenced by the Humane Society of America at:

http://www.humanesociety.org/animals/resources/tips/trouble_affording_pet.html

A listing of veterinarians offering veterinary care assistance can be found here.

Here are some ways to work with veterinarians to make treatment affordable.

- *Negotiate a payment plan with your vet.* If you're a client in good standing, she may be happy to work out a weekly or monthly payment plan so that you don't have to pay the entire cost of veterinary care up front; however, don't expect a vet you've never been to before to agree to such a plan; she doesn't know you and understandably doesn't want to get stuck with an unpaid bill.
- *Offer to perform a service* for your vet like cleaning kennels, answering phones or other work in lieu of actual cash.
- *Get a second opinion.* You'll pay a consultation fee, but another vet may have other, less expensive ways to treat your pet.
- *Use a veterinarian in a less expensive area.* Vets in smaller towns tend to charge lower fees.
- *Check out local veterinary schools.* Many run low-cost clinics for limited income clients. The American Veterinary Medical Association's website and Veterinaryschools.com have lists of veterinary schools by state.

Work to Bring Cash In

Explore ways to bring in some extra cash.

- Have a yard sale. One's man's trash is another man's treasure.
- If your birthday or a holiday is near, ask for cash in lieu of a present.
- Sell things on an online auction site such as eBay.
- Consider getting a second or part-time job or working for a temp agency.
- Ask your employer for a salary advance.

When exploring personal fundraising:

- ❖ **Be Creative.** Help others help you.
- ❖ **Be Persistent.** Make a plan and stick to it.
- ❖ **Don't loose hope.** Just think of what is at stake. You can do it!

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