



## FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR PET MEDICAL CARE

We understand that pet medical care can be expensive. There are many organizations in existence that may be able to assist, but please be aware of the following:



- Most sources will NOT pay bills after the care has been provided, so be sure to do your homework in advance.
- Very few organizations will pay for long term, ongoing medication.
- Very few organizations will pay for the entire expense, so you should research and apply to several sources since they add up.
- Try negotiating with your veterinary clinic for a better price or the ability to finance the cost of care over time. Also, consider getting price comparisons from other providers. If you're a client in good standing, they 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.
- Be prepared to put in the time. Many organizations require online applications and obtaining information from your veterinarian. Consider enlisting a friend or relative to assist you.

### HIGH QUALITY, AFFORDABLE VET CARE THROUGH LOCAL SHELTER CLINICS:

- **Charleston Animal Society:** North Charleston (spay/neuter, vaccinations, microchipping, heartworm and flea preventions, onsite training classes and outside referrals, and a pet food bank)
- **Pet Helpers:** James Island, Charleston (spay/neuter, vaccinations, microchipping, deworming, heartworm and flea preventions, diagnostics, mass removals, orthopedic surgery, and some dentistry—as well as a pet food bank and behavior/training referrals)

### IF YOUR PET NEEDS MEDICAL HELP YOU CANNOT AFFORD, TRY REACHING OUT TO SOME OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:

- **CareCredit:** Finance 100% of your vet care
- **The Pet Fund**
- **RedRover**
- **God's Creatures Ministry Veterinary Charity:** \$50 funding, but also fundraising resources
- **The Mosby Fund**
- **The Onyx & Breezy Foundation**
- **Paws 4 A Cure**
- **Pet Assistance, Inc**
- **Rose's Fund**
- **Shakespeare Animal Fund**
- **Frankie's Friends**
- **Pit Bulls Against Misinformation Veterinary Grant program:** This is NOT breed specific
- **Harley's Hope Foundation**
- **University of Georgia, College of Veterinary Medicine**
- **Friends & Vets Helping Pet:** funds treatments for curable (lifesaving, not life prolonging) diseases such as tumors, broken bones, ambulatory care, expensive medication, or post-surgical prosthetics such as a K-9 cart
- **Dylan's Hearts**
- **Top Dog Foundation "Bentley Grant":** Senior dog specific
- **Banfield Foundation's page for [Pet Food Assistance and Veterinary Care Assistance](#) resources**





### **SPECIFIC MEDICAL ISSUES:**

- **Handicapped Pets:** Mobility equipment for pets in need
- **Red Flyer:** The handicapped pets community – donated wheelchairs for pets in need
- **Brown Dog Foundation:** Prescription medications
- **Feline Veterinary Emergency Assistance (FVEAP):** Specific to Vaccine Associated Sarcoma
- **The Big Hearts Fund:** Heart disease specific
- **In Memory of Magic (IMOM):** Specific to spay/neuter surgeries, including caretakers of feral colonies
- **Canine Cancer Awareness:** Cancer specific (will list your pet for sponsoring on their website)
- **The Dog & Cat Cancer Fund:** Cancer specific
- **The Riedel & Cody Fund:** Cancer specific
- **Joshua Louis Animal Cancer Foundation:** Cancer specific
- **Magic Bullet Fund:** Cancer specific
- **Cody's Club:** Radiation treatment of cancer
- **Stymie Canine Cancer Foundation:** Cancer specific

### **BREED SPECIFIC RESOURCES:**

- **Berner Emergency Health Assistance Fund:** purebred Bernese Mountain Dogs
- **Corgi Aid:** Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Pembroke Welsh Corgies, or Corgi mixes
- **Labrador Harbor:** Labrador Retrievers
- **Labrador Lifeline:** Labrador Retrievers
- **LabMed:** Labradors
- **Westimed:** for rescue held West Highland White Terriers (not yet adopted)
- **Keeshond:** purebred Keeshonden

### **RESOURCES FOR UNIQUE POPULATIONS:**

- **Pets of the Homeless:** Assistance for homeless pet owners for pet food and veterinary care
- **Paws Care:** For people with terminal illness that need help caring for their pets
- **The International Association of Assistance Dog Partners (IAADP):** Emergency vet fund for U.S. IAADP partner members whose assistance dogs require high-cost veterinary intervention beyond their ability to pay
- **The Assistance Dog United Campaign:** Operated in association with the Assistance Dog Institute, helps people with disabilities find funding to purchase service dogs
- **The Gandalf Fund:** Financial assistance for working and retired assistance dogs in the event of catastrophic illness or accidental injury
- **Land of Pure Gold:** Cancer treatments for working dogs
- **Feed the Dog:** assistance for war veteran's service dogs (food, grooming, vet care, equipment, dog walkers, fencing, training, etc)

### **RESOURCES FOR RESCUES:**

- **American Humane: *Second Chance Fund*** For rescue organizations and shelter professionals
- **Grey Muzzle Organization:** For shelters and rescues, to help senior dogs
- **Ian Somerhalder Foundation (ISF) Emergency Medical Care Grant for Animals:** Urgent, non-routine veterinary care due to abuse and neglect for recently rescued animals
- **The Onyx & Breezy Foundation**
- **Petfinder Foundation:** Grants for emergency medical, animal care, enrichment and disaster response
- **Adopt a Pet Veterinary Care Fund:** Helps homeless pets get healthy and adopted



## FOOD BANK SERVICES

- **Charleston Animal Society:** Participating families may receive a one month supply of food. The food bank is open Mon-Fri from 10 AM – 12 PM. 2455 Remount Road, North Charleston, SC 29406 (843) 747-4849
- **Pet Helpers:** This program provides monthly food supply for families in need. We welcome pet owners in need to use this resource to obtain food for your pet by visiting our Adoption Center at 1447 Folly Road. Please bring a photo ID and proof of spay/neuter at the time of your visit. Proof of government assistance is required. 1447 Folly Road, Charleston, SC 29412 (843) 795-1110
- **Trident United Way:** 6296 Rivers Ave, North Charleston, SC 29406 Call 211 or (843) 740-9000
- **ECCO (East Cooper Community Outreach):** 1145 6 Mile Rd, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466 (843) 849-9220
- **DLAH on Wheels:** Provides free food and veterinary care for the pets of low-income, homebound senior citizens. Daniel Island Animal Hospital, 291 Seven Farms Drive, Suite 103, Daniel Island, SC 29492 (843) 881-7228



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## FENCING

**Unchain Charleston:** Unchain Charleston is a concerted effort to spread awareness about the plight of chained dogs and to build fences for chained dogs in the Lowcountry. Apply via online form or email [unchaincharleston@pethelpers.org](mailto:unchaincharleston@pethelpers.org)

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## FUNDRAISING IDEAS

- Create a fundraising page using your social network site or other funding tool, like YouCaring, Pet Chance, CauseWish, GoFundMe, Fund a Pet Miracle, GoGetFunding or GiveForward
- Create a Facebook page to get the word out online about your pet's needs. Click [here](#) to learn the basics of Facebook, how to create an appealing personal profile page and how to find friends and attract others to your page.
- Create a **Community Page** or **FundRazr** in Facebook, which let you share your story and collect donations online
- **Chipln:** fundraiser/donation site that allows individuals to ask for money for a specific purpose, using social networks and other websites.
- **Fundable** - a fundraising/donation site that allows individuals to request money for a specific project or event. If goal is not met, no money is exchanged. Funds paid by check or PayPal.
- Decorate a few donation coin cans with an appealing photo of your pet and a brief explanation that money is needed for medical care. Ask your veterinarian if you can put one in the office. Put one out on your desk at work, and ask a friend or two to do the same. This sounds old-fashioned, but it really works!
- A small fundraiser such as a yard sale or bake sale can raise significant funds if it is well planned. Ask friends and neighbors to help; it usually takes just a couple of people to pull it off. Some tips:
- Neighborhood yard sale: Ask neighbors, family, co-workers and friends to contribute items. The event can be publicized in the local newspapers and by posting flyers around town. You'll need a place to store the items, and there is some time involved in planning, publicizing and organizing, but a single neighborhood yard sale can raise several hundred dollars.
- Contact church or community organizations and explain your situation. They may be willing to help you fundraise.
- Local restaurants may offer a fundraising opportunity in which a portion of a day's sales is donated.
- Bake sale: Another simple, low-risk way to raise money is to organize a bake sale. Ask neighbors, family, co-workers and friends to contribute baked items. To be successful, the bake sale must be in a high-traffic area, where many people will pass by.





**First and foremost, we recommend that all pet owners consult with their veterinarian. The information contained herein is meant to be a resource. It is not exhaustive, nor does it indicate an endorsement or recommendation from Charleston Animal Society. Please use your own due diligence in researching these sources and making the best choice for your pet(s).**

**We'd like to give thanks and credit to the following organizations, whose published resources were utilized in addition to staff research for this compilation:**

Best Friends Animal Society <http://bestfriends.org>  
Humane Society of the United States <http://www.humanesociety.org>  
Rose's Fund <http://rosesfund.com>  
Red Rover [www.redrover.org](http://www.redrover.org)

**If you still need assistance after reviewing the information on our website, please either email or call our Animal Resource Center at [help@charlestonanimalsociety.org](mailto:help@charlestonanimalsociety.org) or (843) 329-1554.**

**Animal Resource Center  
[www.charlestonanimalsociety.org/GetPetHelp](http://www.charlestonanimalsociety.org/GetPetHelp)**