

Harbor Humane Society and the Circle of Life

Since 1956 Harbor Humane Society has successfully placed thousands of animals into permanent and loving homes. Today our mission guides us towards continuing to help animals to the best of our ability.

Harbor Humane Society serves the people and animals of our community. HHS offers a variety of programs that nurture the human-animal bond and foster an environment of respect for all living creatures. These are some of the ways in which we strive to accomplish these goals:

- Providing care and shelter for any lost, unwanted, and/or abused animal
- Educating for a quality relationship between pets and families
- Helping control pet overpopulation by promoting spay/neutering and responsible pet ownership
- Promoting the social, physical, and psychological benefits of a positive bond between animals and people
- Working to reunite lost pets with their owners and striving to find permanent, loving homes for all others
- Implementing programs of mutual safety for people and animals

Harbor Humane Society's Circle of Life is a unique program for supporters of our organization who are committed to providing for future homeless animals through a planned gift. Planned gifts are a vital resource for building the foundation that HHS needs to plan for the future.



join the **Circle of Life** and leave a legacy of care

Please consider how you can make a difference within our community and in the lives of countless animals in need. Your gift will help Harbor Humane Society ensure care for the homeless animals in our community.

We welcome any questions you may have regarding planned giving. Please direct your inquiries to the Executive Director at 616.399.2119 ext. 11.

H A R B O R

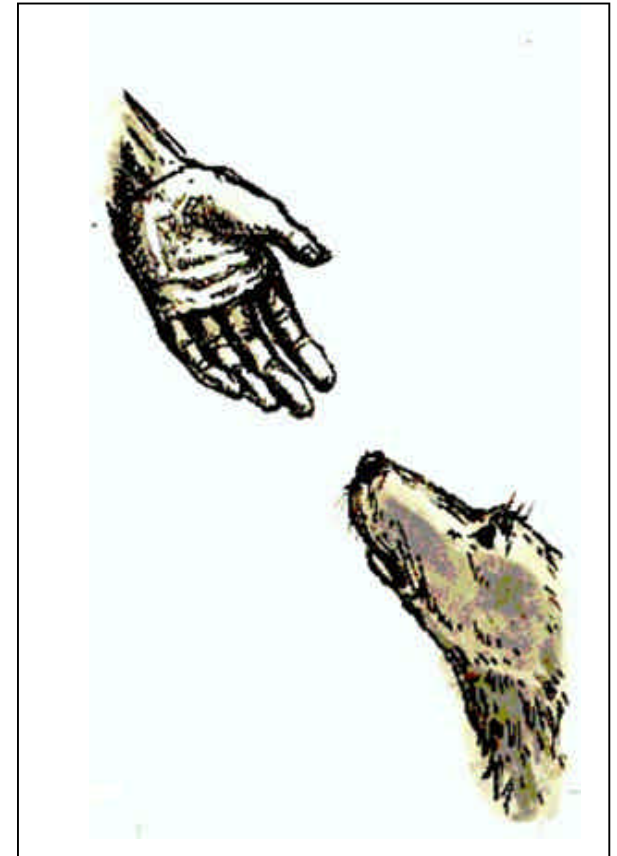


**HUMANE
SOCIETY**

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CIRCLE *of* LIFE

leave a legacy of care through
planned giving



H A R B O R



**HUMANE
SOCIETY**

What is a Planned Gift?

A planned gift is any gift that has been designated to be distributed through an estate or financial plan. This allows the designator to keep control of his/her assets until the estate or financial plan goes into effect.

Types of Planned Gifts

There are many forms of planned gifts that can greatly benefit Harbor Humane Society. A professional, such as an attorney, accountant, or financial planner, can assist you in selecting a planned gift that is best for you. These are a few options:

Named Beneficiaries: A life insurance, retirement, or pension policy can be transferred or purchased making Harbor Humane Society the owner or beneficiary. Giving through these methods can be one of the simplest ways to make an efficient and cost-effective gift.



Life Estate Gift: A life estate gift is a transfer of title of a donor's residence, vacation home, or farm with retained rights to the use of the property for life while receiving an immediate income tax deduction and reduction of future estate taxes.

What is a Bequest?

A bequest is an agreement within a supporter's will or living trust that sets aside a sum of money, a portion of their estate, or a portion of their estate's residuary for distribution to a charitable organization.

Types of Bequests

Specific: Through this type of bequest you specify the actual gift — a dollar amount, a fixed percentage of your estate, or the designation of certain assets such as real estate or securities.

Residuary: This method of donation allows you to stipulate that Harbor Humane Society receives all or a portion of your estate only after all other beneficiaries receive their portions.

Endowment: An endowment is a fund where only the interest or a percentage can be used each year for charitable purposes and the balance is reinvested to provide a permanent fund for the charity. Harbor Humane Society has endowment funds established at the Community Foundation of the Holland/Zeeland Area, the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation, and through Edward Jones in Spring Lake.



How to Designate a Planned Gift

Including Harbor Humane Society through a bequest in a newly drafted or an existing Will or Living Trust is a simple administrative procedure. To make a bequest to one of the endowment funds established in our name, the following language can be used:

“I give, devise and bequeath (describe asset being given) to Harbor Humane Society located at 14345 Bagley Street, West Olive, Michigan 49460, to be added to and become a part of the Harbor Humane Society endowment fund held at (include the name of one of the mentioned organizations that have endowment funds).”

If you wish to make your bequest in memory of an individual or beloved pet, the following language should be used:

“I give, devise, and bequeath (describe asset being given) to Harbor Humane Society located at 14345 Bagley Street, West Olive, Michigan 49460 in memory of (person or pet's name).”

To assure your gift reaches Harbor Humane Society, the following language can be used:

“I give, devise, and bequeath (describe asset being given) to Harbor Humane Society located at 14345 Bagley Street, West Olive, Michigan 49460.”

Notifying Harbor Humane Society

Notifying HHS of your intentions is helpful to our long term planning. If you inform us of your plans we can gratefully acknowledge your benevolence in our annual report, quarterly newsletter, and pertinent publications. At your request, we will honor any wishes of anonymity.

Benefits of Being a Circle of Life Member

- The knowledge that you have made a lasting legacy and meaningful expression of your dedication for thousands of homeless animals who will benefit from your generosity
- Potential shelter for personal assets that may lessen your tax liability and possibly avoid costly probate
- Assurance that you have made a gift that will continue to ensure the future of our community's animal friends

