

Financial Aid Resources for Animal Owners

Care Credit – (<http://www.carecredit.com/>)

(800) 677-0718

CareCredit offers Special Financing and low monthly payment options, no up-front costs, and no prepayment penalties so you can keep your pet healthy and happy.

Big Hearts Fund (<http://bigheartsfund.org/>)

- Can only aid with **canine and feline heart disease**
- Pet must not be medically considered geriatric.
- The Big Hearts Fund can only fund **completed applications**, and those in which the applicant's income is at or below the threshold of **400% of the Federal Poverty Level**, and/or the applicant can prove **sudden and unexpected hardship** due to death, job loss, natural disaster, or illness/injury.

Brown Dog Foundation – (<http://www.browndogfoundation.org/prequal>)

If you believe that your pet's life is in immediate danger, you should apply here, but seek immediate assistance from a licensed Veterinarian. We will consider assisting in cases where treatment has already occurred IF the pet's life was truly at risk, provided you complete this questionnaire within 7 days of the injury/illness.

Thank you for contacting Brown Dog Foundation. We are an organization dedicated to **helping families who find themselves in a temporary financial crisis at the same time their pet requires life-saving treatment or life-sustaining medications**. We provide assistance to families who normally live above the poverty line, but have experienced a financial setback - unemployment, unexpected and major medical bills, loss of home, etc. We are designed as a one-time benefit in most situations. We are committed to ensuring we help maintain and strengthen the bond between pets and their families during times of unexpected financial crisis. As a result, if your application is approved and funded, we will require very detailed information and long-term commitments.

Treatments we consider funding

Surgery related to correctible immobility of pet when the life of the pet is in danger
Exploratory surgery when the life of the pet is in danger
Treatable cancers (Stages I-III)
Treatable neurological disorders
Diagnosis and initial treatment of on-going conditions/diseases (except cancer)
Treatable organ disorders (organ must not be in failure)
Limb removal (when the animal's life is truly at-risk)
Palliative Treatment for End of Life cases

Requirements

Proof of Income (IRS Tax Return Form 1040s + Recent Paycheck Stubs for all working adults in the household where the pet resides)

AND proof of the hardship you claim (if your income exceeds 300% of the [Federal Poverty Guidelines](#))

OR a Social Security Statement for the pet-owner

AND proof that you own the animal need which can be determined with Adoption/Purchase Papers, Vet Records and/or Rabies Certificates for two consecutive "terms"

AND at least one photo of your pet with at least one member of the family

AND a brief story about how your pet came to live with you and how you came to need Brown Dog's help

IMOM – (<http://www.imom.org/>)

Due to the current economic crisis and decline in donations, IMOM presently accepts applications for life threatening emergencies only. Life threatening emergencies are defined as follows:

A life threatening emergency exists when it has been confirmed in writing by a veterinarian that your pet will die or have to be humanely euthanized if care is not provided within ten days from the date of diagnosis.

Top Dog Foundation- (http://www.topdogfoundation.org/11-20-11_revision/programs.htm)

Offers "Bentley's Grants"- financial assistance to dog owners, rescue groups, or shelters, thru their veterinarians, to support medical of aging dogs with serious medical challenges

The Mosby Foundation – (<http://themosbyfoundation.org/what.html>)

The Mosby Foundation is an all volunteer, 501(c)3 non-profit organization specializing in paying medical expenses for sick, abused and neglected dogs. Many of these dogs have been abandoned with no one to speak on their behalf, or to help them live the lives all dogs are meant to live. Others have owners with limited means for providing adequate medical attention for their pets. Completion of an application requesting financial assistance is required. Verification of medical need and medical services is made with the attending veterinary hospital. Each request is reviewed individually to determine the amount of funding the applicant could receive. Payment is made directly to the attending hospital. The Mosby Foundation also offers the following programs for assistance: Spay/Neuter fund and Humane Education for elementary schools.

*** Due to the overwhelming number of applications we receive daily and the limited funds we have to work with, we simply cannot help everyone. Please e-mail us with a brief description of your dog's medical condition and your situation. Our priority for accepting an application for funding will continue to be a life-saving emergency confirmed by a licensed veterinarian either by fax or phone.

Funds pledged will be available for 60 days after the date they were originally pledged. After that time they will not be available.

To apply for a grant, e-mail info@themosbyfoundation.org

The Onyx & Breezy Foundation – (<http://www.onyxandbreezy.org>)

The Foundation was formed in 2004 by Mark and Wanda Shefts to honor the memory of their two labrador retrievers. The Shefts' passion for animals led them to create this non-profit foundation, which assists animals in a variety of ways. The foundation lends financial support to:

- Funding of equipment for medical facilities
- Funding for much needed research
- Medical treatment for animals where hardship is present
- Funding of organizations that benefit animals
- Other endeavors that benefit the welfare of animals

All grant applications must be returned with the following to be presented for consideration:

- Individuals
 - Tax Return
- Diagnosis & Prognosis (if applicable)
- Estimate of cost
- Care Credit status (for individuals only)
- Please provide a contact telephone number that accepts calls from a "blocked" telephone number.

The Pet Fund – (<http://www.thepetfund.com/>)

The Pet Fund assists owners in covering medical costs beyond the normal expenses of vaccination, spay & neuter surgeries, food and routine veterinary care.

- **ALL applicants are REQUIRED to contact The Pet Fund by phone BEFORE applying for funding. Call 916-443-6007.** This way, we can ensure that all applicants are aware of both the current wait list time and the eligibility requirements for applying for financial assistance. The Pet Fund receives up to 200 calls per day, and it may take our volunteer staff some time to respond to each call and email request. **Applications which are sent in before applicants have spoken with our staff will not be processed.**

Please note – we are not able to fund emergencies. The Pet Fund ONLY funds non-basic, non-emergency care.

- **Applications for veterinary care funding can ONLY be done online from a computer with a printer.** The **ONLY** exception to this rule will be for persons with severe disabilities who are either homebound or who cannot leave their home without assistance. These individuals can have applications mailed to them **with the prior permission of The Pet Fund staff only.** All other mailed applications or letters requesting help will be returned to the senders unopened or discarded.

If you do not have a computer with internet access you will need to go to your local library, which will have computers, printers, and internet access available. Alternatively, you can ask your veterinarian's office for assistance, or you can ask friends or family members to assist you.

- After you have spoken with Pet Fund staff and it has been determined that you may be eligible to apply for funding, you will need to have the following items available to help you complete the financial portion of the online application. We advise that you gather this information together before you begin your online application. **Once you have started the online application, you will not be able to return at a later time to complete it. You will have to start over from the beginning with your online application for funding. Collect the following:**

- **Proof of income** - This can be a copy of a check stub, unemployment benefits, disability benefits, etc. The proof of income must be recent, and we cannot use tax forms for this purpose.
- **Copy of a written cost estimate for the needed procedures and/or treatment from your veterinarian.**
- **Name, address, and medical license number for your treating veterinarian.** This will be included on your online application form. If you do not have this information available, wait to fill out your online application until you have obtained this information.

United Animal Nation – (<http://www.uan.org/index.cfm?navid=28>)

Red Rover Relief Grants: The Red Rover Grant Program provides funding to Good Samaritans, animal rescuers, non-profit

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

The applicant (person/group applying for a grant) must:

- Be seeking assistance for one animal in need of urgent medical care.
- Have obtained a diagnosis, prognosis and treatment plan. RedRover cannot pay for office exams or diagnostic testing.
- Demonstrate financial need.
- Make a concerted fundraising effort, attempting to find funding through your own means and personal contacts. See our [suggestions for fundraising](#).
- Submit a completed application online.
- Provide updates, photos and video if RedRover is able to help.
- Live in the United States.

The animal must:

- Have a life-threatening injury or illness that requires urgent and specific treatment (this generally excludes hip dysplasia, ligament repair or eye conditions).
- Have a favorable prognosis.
- Be spayed or neutered.

The veterinary clinic must:

- Be aware of the client's financial need.
- Be willing to speak with a case manager from RedRover and provide an itemized estimate upon request.
- Accept a check from RedRover.

Cats Only:

Feline Veterinary Emergency Assistance Program – (<http://fveap.org/form.html>)

In order to be considered for funding assistance, the guardian must live in the United States and meet one or more of the following qualifications:

1. Be a recipient of State Medicaid; or
2. Be a recipient of Medicare; or
3. Be a recipient of Social Security as only income; or
4. Be a recipient of a public assistance program; or
5. Be a recipient of Unemployment benefits; or
6. Have been on Unemployment that has now expired.

Documentation must be available upon request.

Animals with Special Needs:

Handicapped Pets Foundation – (<http://hpets.org/apply-for-help.html>)

The mission of the Handicapped Pets Foundation is to support caretakers of elderly, disabled, and special needs pets with the equipment, especially dog wheelchairs, they need to live happy, healthy lives. Assistance is provided for those people with a demonstrated financial need.

***Applications are filled out online only. Please note that you will have 30 minutes to complete the application form before the session will time out and you will have to re-submit the information**

Canine or Feline Cancer:

The Riedel Cody Fund- (<http://riedelcody.org/>)

The Riedel Cody Fund provides aid for cancer treatment funds only.

We know that cancer treatment for your pet is costly and can create financial hardship. If your household income is below \$50,000 per year and you are struggling and need help, you may apply online for financial assistance.

The Magic Bullet Fund – (<http://www.themagicbulletfund.org/Apply.shtml>)

Magic Bullet Fund provides assistance for cancer treatment fees only. The fund does not provide assistance for other conditions, for cancer treatment after the first course of treatment has failed, for palliative care, for euthanasia or for a family's past due balance at the clinic.

Assistance Requirements:

- Tumor removal surgery
 - Including amputation for osteosarcoma
 - MBF generally does not fund post-surgery treatment (chemo or radiation therapy)
- Chemotherapy for lymphoma and other cancers

- Magic Bullet Fund does not fund treatment for relapsed lymphoma or recurrent cancers
- Radiation Therapy when no other treatment has a chance of gaining a one-year survival

Apply only if all of the following statements are true:

- You are the dog's primary caretaker or owner (or a shelter/rescue group).
- You are the person who pays for the dog's medical care.
- Your dog has been diagnosed with cancer and your vet said that treatment has a 50% or better chance of extend your dog's life by a year.
- You cannot afford to pay for treatment.
- Your dog is:
 - TEN or younger if 0 to 40 pounds
 - EIGHT or younger if 40 to 100 pounds
 - SEVEN or younger if 100 pounds or more

It's not that we don't care about the older dogs! We work to raise funding for the dogs we will BE ABLE TO raise funds for. Sponsors donate more generously for young dogs who may survive longer. They want their donations to make as big a difference as possible. Additionally, it is the opinion of the board that when a dog is near the expected survival age for his size and breed, it may not be in the best interest of the dog to compromise the last chapter of his or her life by providing cancer treatment that may or may not be effective. Additionally, we are a very small fund and simply don't have enough eyes and hands to receive hundreds of applications.

Canine Cancer Awareness – (<http://caninecancerawareness.org/apply-for-financial-assistance>)

******Currently they are not accepting applications******

We realize that treatments for canine cancer are very costly and can create financial hardship. If you are struggling and need assistance to provide your dog with cancer treatment you are encouraged to download an application for financial assistance.

In order to focus our efforts effectively, Canine Cancer Awareness has adopted the policies below:

- **Confirmed Cancer Diagnosis Needed** — You need to have a confirmed cancer diagnosis from your veterinarian to have the application reviewed.
- **Payments to Vets Only** — It is our policy to make payments directly to the vet/oncologist only.
- **Only Future Bills Considered** — We can only consider charges that are incurred once a completed application is received. Any charges that are incurred before the completion date of the application cannot be considered. We do not make or reimburse any payments to Care Credit.

The Dog & Cat Cancer Fund – (<http://www.dccfund.org/treatment/application/>)

******Currently they are not accepting applications******

General Considerations:

- We can only fund animals with a definitive diagnosis of malignant cancer.

- We cannot provide advice on treatment options. Your veterinarian or specialist is the person who should provide this information.
- We cannot coordinate your dog's or cat's care.
- We are unlikely to fund treatment for animals whose cancer is recurrent.
- We cannot fund exploratory surgery, emergency services, or diagnostic costs.
- Dogs or cats over 15 years of age are not eligible for grants.
 - For most larger breeds 10 years is the maximum.
 - Some small breeds are eligible if over 10 years, but under 15 years of age.

The following guidelines will be used for preliminary evaluation of both the pet's prognosis and the owner's needs prior to distribution of any aid.

- The pet has a form of cancer that can be treated with a one, or a combination of: surgery, chemotherapy, radiation and alternative treatment methods.
- The pet's prognosis is good with an expected lifespan of > 2 years, if (a) is performed.
- The pet is not in the latter stages of their normal, expected lifespan.
- The owner has insufficient means to pay for (a) as documented by:
 - i. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
 - ii. Unemployment Insurance (UI)
 - iii. Food Stamp Program
 - iv. Medicaid
 - v. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
 - vi. State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP)
- The owner does not qualify for under section (d), but has a temporary financial hardship as documented by the owner and attested to by the owner's primary veterinarian. Some examples of this may include, but not be restricted to:
 - i. Previous year tax returns
 - ii. Recent evidence of income
 - iii. Bank statements for previous two months
 - iv. Signed affidavit attesting to need
 - v. Please note that a request by the Dog and Cat Cancer Fund for financial information does not constitute acceptance of your application. We will review all financial information before reaching a final decision regarding your application.
- If accepted into the fund, the maximum grant amount will be **\$1200.00** per pet per year and may be less.
- All grants will be made directly to service providers.
- Under no circumstances will funds be sent directly to the pet owner.

Other Websites with Resources:

<http://www.pgaa.com/financialaid.html>

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

Dog breed-specific veterinary care assistance programs:

American Pit Bull Foundation: <http://www.americanpitbullfoundation.com/Programs.html>

Bernese Mountain Dog Health Assistance Fund: <http://www.behaf.org/apply.html>

CorgiAid: corgiaid.org

Special Needs Dobermans: doberman911.org

Dougal's Helping Paw (Scottish Terriers, West Highland White Terriers and other small, short-legged terriers): <http://www.welcome.to/dougalsfund>

Labmed: labmed.org

Labrador Lifeline: labradorlifeline.org

Westimed (West Highland White Terriers): westimed.org

Pyramedic Trust (Great Pyrenees): <http://www.angelfire.com/bc2/pyramedic/summary.html>

Veterinary care assistance for working/service dogs:

Helping Harley Cancer Treatment Grant: <http://grants.landofpuregold.com>

Assistance Dogs Special Allowance Program: <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/PG82.htm>