



Introducing Our Animal Grant Assistance Program for Seniors

By 2030, 1 in 6 people will be 60 or over. The diverse needs of this population will dominate world change.

Our **Animal Grant Assistance Program for Seniors** specifically allocates funding for folks with companion animals in need of urgent medical care who are 65 or older, and who meet our qualifications. Our qualifiers are a combination of financial (for the pet parent) and veterinarian (for the pet) requirements. As the rapidly growing senior population increases, we estimate a significant resource need for this group.

The human Animal Bond Research Institute states, "Over half of adults over 50 have at least one pet. Research has shown that pet ownership can provide important forms of social and emotional support for

older adults that can reduce distress, loneliness and improve overall quality of life. One study found that strong attachment to a pet was associated with less depression among older adults." In addition, many senior folks have pets that also serve as service animals, emotional support pets, and end of life companions.

Suffering from the loss of a companion animal late in life can be devastating. Keeping seniors and their pets together as an alternative to euthanasia or surrender if a veterinary emergency develops is an act of compassion and care.



**SAGE COMPASSION
FOR ANIMALS**

