

LEAVING A LEGACY

information about planned giving through wills & bequests

LIFETIME POSITIVE CARE PROGRAM

plan for your pets safety and security



BECAUSE ANIMALS MATTER



MISSION

Because Animals Matter is dedicated to reducing animal abuse and neglect through education.

Because Animals Matter (BAM) is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Tax ID: 87-0772587



Stitches, adopted 2015

ABOUT BECAUSE ANIMALS MATTER

BAM was founded in March 2006 by J Schilling after she recognized a need in the community for an animal welfare organization. BAM serves Southwest Utah and beyond as a resource for many companion-animal related issues. All BAM programs and services are fully funded by donations, wills, and bequests, and through the dedication of volunteers. We do not receive any state or federal funding, nor are we a United Way agency. BAM operates as a network of foster homes to assist pets in need of finding their forever homes, and as a network of volunteers to support community programs focused on building strong humane relationships between people and their pets.



BECAUSE ANIMALS MATTER'S
Homeless Animal Rescue Team

Since BAM's founding, the lifeblood of the organization has always been its Foster Care Program. In late 2016 that program was expanded when BAM absorbed another regional rescue organization, H.A.R.T. of Utah. The newly re-named program continues to grow and support new pets in need each month.

PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Humane Education — BAM aims to enhance the relationships between people and pets by offering education programs for a variety of audiences. Programs range from animal safety to pet welfare to Q and A sessions geared toward younger grade levels.

Adoptable Pet Program — Operating as a network of caring foster parents/families dedicated to being the temporary homes to our adoptable pets before they find their forever homes. When BAM absorbed H.A.R.T. of Utah, a St. George-based pet rescue organization, the foster program grew, as did the program's impact on pets in need in our region. We honor the work H.A.R.T. has done by renaming our Adoptable Pet and Foster Program BAM's HART aka BAM's Homeless Animal Rescue Team.



Kibbles on Wheels — Dedicated to serving senior and homebound pet owners who may otherwise have difficulty feeding their beloved companions. Currently "KOW" supports Washington County seniors from Virgin to Hurricane and offers a Pet Food Pantry in both St. George and Hurricane for low-income citizens when food donations exceed program requirements. BAM is working with Five Counties service to expand KOW service to more of Washington County.

Meika's Memorial Medical Fund exists to support shelter pets in need of veterinary care, helping them to become adoptable. Donations can be made directly to the Fund at any BAM event or facility. With greater support we hope to expand this program to low-income pet owners seeking aid for veterinary care they are otherwise unable to access.



Low Cost Spay & Neuter — Working with foundations and select regional veterinary clinics, BAM has been able to help low-income pet owners access spay/neuter services at a fraction of their normal costs. This improves accessibility to the service, and reduces the number of litters in our communities, thereby reducing strain on municipal shelters and rescues.

Shelter-to-Rescue Pet Transport — BAM partners with other rescue organizations throughout the state of Utah and beyond to transport pets in need. Many strays and relinquished pets find themselves in shelters where they are likely to die before being adopted. These transports save lives and often give medically and/or emotionally needy pets a chance they would not have in a city or county shelter.

LEAVING A LEGACY

Making an estate gift to BAM is a meaningful way to carry forward your love and compassion for animals and a wonderful way to say thank you to every animal who has touched your life.

A gift to BAM made in your will, or through another form of planned giving, qualifies you to become a member of BAM's *Visionary Alliance* – a group of generous individuals committed to animal welfare. Gifts from *Visionary Alliance* members extend past their lifetimes assuring that their caring lives on.



WHAT IS A PLANNED GIFT?

Planned giving involves making arrangements now to have BAM, the pets in BAM's care, and BAM's various other humane education and community programs, benefit from some of your assets either currently or in the future. Through this type of giving individuals can often make a more significant gift than they ever thought possible while maximizing the financial and tax benefits to you, your estate, and your family.

A planned gift can be as simple as transferring long-term appreciated stock to BAM directly (rather than selling it and donating after-tax proceeds) or naming BAM as a beneficiary in your will or life insurance policy. There are many ways to make your planned gift.

BEQUESTS

Perhaps the most straightforward planned giving option is to direct a specific bequest in your will to BAM. Whether you have large assets or just a few possessions, a will prevents legal complications and delays. It directs your personal representative to do as you wished.

Another important aspect of a will is that it allows you to provide for the animals you care about after your death. Whether this means your own pets or those in BAM's Homeless Animal Rescue Team, you can continue a legacy of kindness.

If you decide to support BAM through your will you can:

- Direct a specific amount of money or assets (e.g. stock, a house)
- Designate a percentage of the total amount of your estate
- Designate a residual bequest that directs BAM receive the remainder of your estate, or a portion of the remainder, after all expenses have been paid.

NAMING BAM AS BENEFICIARY

If you have a life insurance policy that is no longer needed to provide for your dependents, consider naming BAM the beneficiary.

Some assets, as IRAs and other qualified retirement plans, do not pass directly through your will and require you to name a beneficiary. Consider naming Because Animals Matter.

Name BAM as beneficiary of a Certificate of Deposit.

Any of these options and more can be excellent choices for charitable giving because such investments are taxed more heavily than other assets; sometimes greater than 50 percent. By making BAM the beneficiary, the full value of the account may be used to support the pets in our care and our community programs. You may also be able to direct such charitable gifts to a particular Because Animals Matter program of your liking, thus helping to ensure the program continues to make an impact in the future.





We adopted our dog through BAM - what a wonderful experience - being a first time parent to a dog was intimidating. BAM was there to help me and my son make Bud's transition into our home smooth. Bud is the best - he made our little family complete. Thank you for the countless and thankless hours you pour into rescuing, sheltering and ensuring these tender ones find their way into a loving, safe home.

Katie Bastian, adopter, 2016

As recorded with the State of Utah's Division of Consumer Protection, Because Animals Matter uses 90% of all contributions in charitable purpose.

Because Animals Matter is a Platinum rated non-profit organization with GuideStar. This rating level is used to designate only those organizations willing to share a variety of operational reports, financial details, program details, their Board officers and directors, etc.

BAM and its representatives pride themselves on transparency. Should you have any questions about how BAM utilizes monetary donations, or would like access to the organization's bylaws, non-profit determination letter, Board member job description, etc., please contact us.

We work very hard, every day to better the lives of pets *and* the people who love them; whether in an education setting teaching the next generation of pet owners what it means to be responsible and kind, or helping an elderly person keep their beloved dog or cat through the simple kindness of delivering pet food so they don't have to share their own meals. We thank you for your consideration in supporting BAM through your planned giving.

LIFETIME POSITIVE CARE PROGRAM

Most of us expect to outlive our animal companions but what if, due to medical incapacity or death, we are no longer able to care for them? Our pets have given us so much. Preparing for their safety and security in the event of our absence is a final and significant act of lifelong friendship. The best choice is to place your pet with a family member or friend they are already familiar with and you know you can trust with your pet. If this is not possible BAM is here to help you plan for their welfare.

We will see that your pet is placed in an approved foster home while we find the best and most appropriate new adoptive home, taking into consideration the needs of your pet and its personality. In return, we ask that you arrange for a meaningful financial gift toward BAM. Such a financial gift will first be used to care for your pet, and, either upon finding an adoptive home or the unfortunate passing of your pet, any leftover funds will then be used for other pets in need.

Many beloved pets find themselves stuck in municipal shelters after the loss of their humans. For pets who have often never lived outside a home environment this change is extremely damaging to their mental health. Pets do grieve the loss of their owners and often shut down when suddenly "behind bars". This can lead to increased difficulty in finding a new adoptive family.



NEXT STEPS TO LIFETIME CARE

Our *Lifetime Positive Care Program* is available for dogs who reside in the state of Utah.

This program requires enrollment, so please contact us at your earliest convenience if you are considering this as part of your lifetime planning.

For more information on our *Lifetime Positive Care Program*, please contact Because Animals Matter at 435-773-5209 or admin@bamutah.com. All inquiries are kept in strict confidence and imply no obligation to enroll your pet(s) in the program. You are welcome to request the Program's Enrollment Agreement by phone or email.



Lifetime Positive Care Program dogs will enter into a loving foster home after the loss of their humans. This transition is a much more comfortable one than any shelter can offer. In a home, they will be shown love and build relationships that help the foster parents understand if any medical treatment needs to be sought, and what sort of adoptive home is best, if they are ready for that step.



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