



## A Gift in Your Will : Getting Started

We hope you'll consider including a gift to The Potsdam Humane Society, Inc. in your will or living trust. Called a charitable bequest, this type of gift offers these main benefits:

### Simplicity

Just a few sentences in your will or trust are all that is needed.

### Flexibility

Because you are not actually making a gift until after your lifetime, you can change your mind at any time.

### Versatility

You can structure the bequest to leave a specific item or amount of money, make the gift contingent on certain events, or leave a percentage of your estate to us.

### Tax Relief

If your estate is subject to estate tax, your gift is entitled to an estate tax charitable deduction for the gift's full value.



### **HOW IT WORKS :**

To make a charitable bequest, you need a current will or revocable living trust.

Your gift can be made as a percentage of your estate. Or you can make a specific bequest by giving a certain amount of cash, securities, or property. After your lifetime, The Potsdam Humane Society, Inc. receives your gift!

### **Charitable Bequest**

Create a Will or Trust leaving part of your estate to family and part to The Potsdam Humane Society, Inc.

Your Will or Trust



Potsdam Humane Society



Your Family

### **We Can Help!**

Contact us with any questions about naming The Potsdam Humane Society, Inc. in your will or living trust. We're happy to help!

### **Putting Your Family First**

When planning a future gift, it's sometimes difficult to determine what size donation will make sense. Emergencies happen, and you need to make sure your family is financially taken care of first. Including a bequest of a *percentage of your estate* ensures that your gift will remain proportionate no matter how your estate's value fluctuates over the years.

### **The Potsdam Humane Society, Inc.**

17 Madrid Avenue  
Potsdam, NY 13676

(315) 265-3199 or [shelter@potsdamhumanesociety.org](mailto:shelter@potsdamhumanesociety.org)

# Create Your Legacy



**POTSDAM HUMANE SOCIETY, INC.**  
HUMANE CARE FOR ALL



## Official Bequest Language

Our Legal Name is

The Potsdam Humane Society, Inc.

17 Madrid Avenue

Potsdam, NY 13676

Our Tax ID is 16-1092845

## Sample Bequest Wording

### Sample #1 Percentage Bequest

"I give, devise and bequeath to The Potsdam Humane Society, Inc. (tax ID number 16-1092845), a private 501(c)(3) organization, maintaining its headquarters at 17 Madrid Avenue, Potsdam, New York 13676, \_\_\_\_% of the rest and residue of my estate"

### Sample #2 Percentage Bequest

"I give, devise and bequeath to The Potsdam Humane Society, Inc. (tax ID number 16-1092845), a private 501(c)(3) organization, maintaining its headquarters at 17 Madrid Avenue, Potsdam, New York 13676, the rest and residue of my estate"

### Sample #3 Bequest for a Specific Amount

"I give and bequeath to The Potsdam Humane Society, Inc. (tax ID number 16-1092845), a private 501(c)(3), maintain-ing its headquarters at 17 Madrid Avenue, Potsdam, New York 13676, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_".

### Sample #4 Contingent Bequest

"In the event that (name or names, i.e., spouse, children, sibling, heirs) shall not survive me or shall die during the administration of my estate, within \_\_\_\_days from the date of my death, or as a result of a common disaster, then I give, devise and bequeath those beneficiaries' shares of my estate to The Potsdam Humane Society, Inc. (tax ID number 16-1092845), a private 501(c)(3), maintaining its headquarters at 17 Madrid Avenue, Potsdam, New York 13676."

## How to Complete Your Gift:

### 1.) Choose What to Give. Pick from one of these four options:

- \* *A Specific Bequest* gives us a particular piece of property. If you disposed of the property before your death, we won't receive your intended gift because we cannot claim any other property.
- \* *A General Bequest* gives us a stated sum of money. If there is insufficient cash in your estate to cover the bequest, other assets will be sold for cash to honor your wishes for us.
- \* *A Residuary Bequest* gives the "rest, residue, and remainder" of your estate, or, more commonly, a percentage of the residue after all other bequests, debts and taxes have been paid.
- \* *A Contingent Bequest* requires a certain event to occur before the gift can happen. For example, you could bequeath funds to a family member provided that person survives you; if not, the funds would then go to The Potsdam Humane Society, Inc.

### 2.) Decide How You Would Like The Potsdam Humane Society, Inc. To Use Your Gift. Choose from one of these three options:

- \* *An Unrestricted Bequest* allows us to use the assets in the most beneficial way.
- \* *A Restricted Bequest* allows you to specify how we are to use the funds. Contact us in advance to be certain your intent can be fulfilled.
- \* *An Endowment Bequest* allows you to designate the purpose of your gift. Your gift is invested with and becomes part of our endowment and a distribution is made each year. Because the principal remains intact, the fund will support our mission in perpetuity.

### 3.) Meet With Your Estate Planning Attorney. Whether you need to create a will or trust, or simply update an old document, you'll want to seek the help of an estate planning attorney.

### 4.) Let Us Know Of Your Plans. Please contact The Potsdam Humane Society, Inc. to let us know when you have made plans for such a gift. We would love the opportunity to thank you for your generous act! We are happy to honor your wishes regarding anonymity.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

You can make your Bequest in honor or memory of someone special!

#### The Potsdam Humane Society, Inc.

17 Madrid Avenue  
Potsdam, NY 13676

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