



Dear Ms. De Bruin,

C.A.R.E.4Paws, a nonprofit that works to reduce pet overpopulation, prevent animals from ending up in shelters and improve quality of life for pets and their families in Santa Barbara County, is requesting \$5000 from the County of Santa Barbara to partially fund our Companion Pet Assistance for the Homeless program. Our Companion Pet Assistance for the Homeless program supports pets and pet owners living together on the streets, whether temporarily or long-term.

Our goal is not only to assist homeless pet owners with basic and immediate pet care needs, but to provide services that make a substantial, long-term change for the animal, the owner and the community as a whole.

To most homeless pet owners, their animals are a lifeline. The pet offers companionship, comfort and protection. Even with very limited resources, most homeless pet owners provide the best care they possibly can for their pets. This often means that they, themselves, have less. Many homeless pet owners share the little food they have with their pets, and either starve as a result or are forced to beg for food. Because few shelters accept pets overnight, homeless pet owners and their animals are forced sleep outside, facing cold and rainy weather and other threats that exist at night. Homeless pet owners are less likely to enter transitional housing and/or rehab programs because pets are not allowed and have a harder time finding a job. Ultimately, the many hardships facing our homeless population with pets also cause problems for our community.

C.A.R.E.4Paws has a number of existing programs that help low-income and homeless pet owners to care for their pets such as free spay/neuter services, free and low-cost vaccination clinics, assistance with veterinary care for sick or injured pets and free dog training. All of these services not only assist the pet and owner but also makes an impact on our community by decreasing risk of disease, increasing public health/safety and reducing the number of unwanted animals born on the streets—animals that our community will likely have to care for in some way down the line.

Through the Companion Pet Assistance for the Homeless program, we want to address, specifically, the needs of homeless pet owners and make our services more accessible to this group of pet owners. In addition to the services listed above, we will offer a temporary boarding program, which will allow homeless pet owners the option to board their pet while they look for a job, find temporary housing, or go to rehab instead of having to relinquish or abandon their pet. Ultimately, we will work to establish countywide homeless shelters with the capability to house pets, but for now, the provision of boarding can allow countless pet owners a chance to get a new lease on life.

The benefits of this branch of the program to the homeless pet owner, their pet and the community as a whole are obvious. The owner will no longer have to choose between his/her pet and getting a job, housing or going to rehab. We will see fewer homeless individuals and their pets living on the street and more productive citizens supporting themselves and the community.

We will also help subsidize fees for impounded pets when the owner is experiencing additional hardship. For example, when an owner goes to the hospital and the pet ends up at the shelter. We help pay for the fees incurred while the animal is at the shelter. This aid will be provided on a case by case basis as recommended by Animal Services, an agency that we have collaborated closely with since our founding in 2009.

We already have support for many aspects of this program from the Hildegard Balin Trust, the Banfield Charitable Trust, Santa Barbara Humane Society, Wood-Claeysens Foundation and the Roy and Ida Eagle Foundation. We have access to donated pet food and other supplies from local pet stores and community members. We have volunteers to assist with the acquiring and delivering of pet food and other pet care basics. Our veterinary clinic partners provide deep discounts on spays/neuters and vet services. Volunteers and partner agencies, such as the Rescue Mission, store pet care supplies and help facilitate the distribution to the population of homeless with pets. Our partners at the Santa Barbara and Santa Ynez Humane Societies will give discounts on boarding rates, while dog training partners will sponsor (fully or partially) the training of pets in need.

What we are missing is support for the other aspects of this program as outlined above. Therefore, we ask the County of Santa Barbara for \$5,000 to financially

support the boarding of pets of the homeless while these individuals transition into a better life, the cost of vaccinations and veterinary assistance for pets of homeless individuals, and assistance with fees/boarding incurred by homeless pet owners in extenuating circumstances.

We hope that the County of Santa Barbara will support this critical intervention program and, together, we can make a dramatic and lasting impact on the lives of homeless citizens and their pets in Santa Barbara County. Please contact us with any questions or requests for further information.

Thank you for your time and consideration!

Nelle Slack
Grant Writer, C.A.R.E.4 Paws
grantwriter@care4paws.org

3. Detail the timeline for providing the service:

4. Describe key outcomes to be achieved with the funding and how they will be measured:

5. Describe if this is a one-time or ongoing request, and if funded in prior years and amounts:

6. Describe the agency's expertise and capacity to deliver services including fiscal stability:

7. Agency staff responsible for application: _____

County Staff Comments Only:

Address submittals to:

Adriana de Bruin
Business Manager, County Executive Office
105 E. Anapamu Street, Room 406
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Requests can be emailed to: outsideagency@countyofsb.org

Questions: Please contact Adriana de Bruin, Business Manager, County Executive Office, at 568-3400.

**FY 2016-17 Line Item Budget
For Program**

#42

Agency: *C.A.R.E.4Paws*

Program Name: *Companion Pet Assistance for Homeless*

Amount \$\$ Requested: *\$5000*

Program Budget	FY 2016-17	
Funding Sources/Revenues	Committed	Uncommitted
County of Santa Barbara		\$5,000
<i>Hildegard Balin Trust</i>	\$1,500	
<i>Banfield CharitableTrust</i>	\$2,500	
<i>Santa Barbara Humane Society</i>	\$4,000	
<i>Wood Claeysens Foundation</i>	\$1,500	
<i>Roy and Ida Eagle Foundation</i>	\$500	
<i>Haskell Fund</i>		\$5,000
Total	10000	10000

Funding Uses/Expenses	Budget
<i>Pet food</i>	\$500
<i>Vaccines and flea treatment</i>	\$500
<i>Veterinary Care</i>	\$5,000
<i>Spays/Neuters</i>	\$5,000
<i>Dog Training intervention</i>	\$1,500
<i>Pet Boarding</i>	\$5,000
<i>Program Support</i>	\$2,500
Total	\$20,000