

# PARTNERS FOR Tomorrow

Financial & Gift  
Planning Ideas  
for Friends  
of SPCA  
International



**SPCA**  
INTERNATIONAL

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RESCUE

Spring 2015

## Timing Is Everything

**A**s time goes on, many changes occur that affect plans you have made for the long-term economic security of yourself, your loved ones and others you care about. Today there is much information about the importance of financial and estate planning. Much of it targets specific actions, such as making an estate plan and investing wisely. Although these are important steps toward effective planning, they are only the beginning.

When was the last time you updated your plans? Many of life's milestones can affect your will and other long-term plans. Changes in the make-up of your family, relocation to another state and variations in the value of your assets are a few examples.

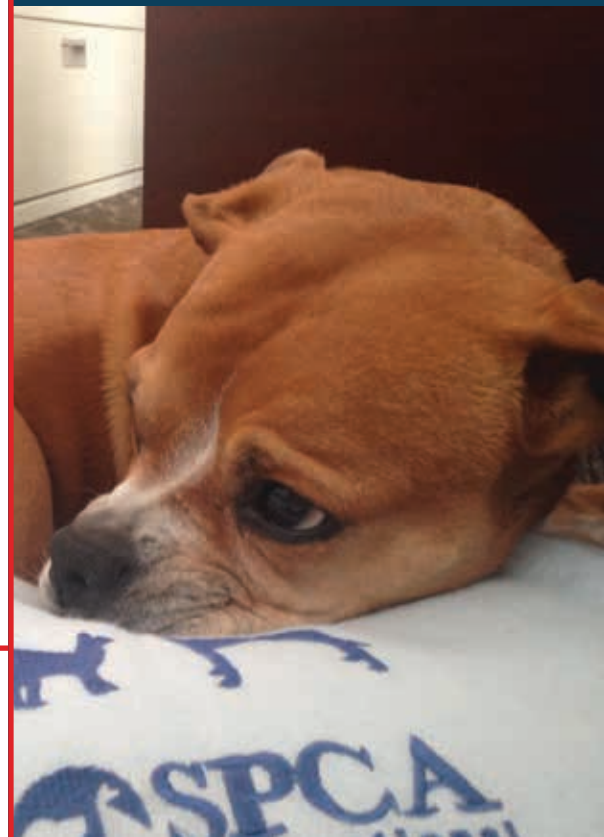
### Future security

Personal financial planning is important, especially to those concerned with security during retirement. Perhaps an aging family member will require long-term care or you may want to provide educational funds for a loved one. Decisions you make now can ensure you meet these and other needs in the future.

You may wonder, too, if you can continue supporting SPCA International as part of your future plans while still fulfilling important personal responsibilities. Gifts to SPCA International and other charitable interests need not affect your family's future security. After your loved ones have been taken care of, we are pleased to be "last in line."

### More information

Read on for more details about how you can bring your plans up to date while providing for SPCA International in the future. Please let us know if we can assist you in the charitable aspects of your plans.



**INSIDE** • The More You "No"

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# The More You “No”

If it's been several years since your estate plan was created or last reviewed, you will want to take a few minutes to read the questions below. If you answer “no” to even one of them, it may be time to take another look at your plans.

1. Do you have a will or other legal arrangements in place for distributing your property?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Surprisingly, over two-thirds of American adults do not have a valid will.

2. Have you reviewed your plans recently?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If it has been several years since your plans were put in place, it may be wise to review them in light of changes in your personal life and/or financial circumstances or changes in your charitable intentions.

3. Is your marital status the same since making your will?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If you have lost a loved one or recently married, your plans will need to be reviewed and possibly updated.

4. Are you living in the same state since last updating your plans?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If you have moved since writing or updating your will, consider this: State laws regulating wills vary, so you may need to review and possibly revise plans with an attorney in your new state.

5. Have members of your circle of loved ones changed since your last review?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Although a change in your plans may not be necessary, it's best to make sure everyone you wish to remember is included.

6. Do your plans take into account changes in tax laws that have occurred over the last few years?

☐ Yes ☐ No



The SPCA International team often travels the world to work tirelessly to improve the living conditions and health of animals in crisis.

Changes in tax laws may affect your estate plans in a variety of ways. It may be wise to schedule a review of your plans.

7. Have you made provisions for the care of your pets after you are gone?

☐ Yes ☐ No

There are a number of options, including a pet trust, which can ensure your pets will be taken care of in the future.

8. Are your charitable intentions the same as when you made your present will?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Over the years, SPCA International has received gifts through wills or other estate plans. If you are considering including SPCA International in your plans, please let us know. We are available to work with you and your advisors to determine the best way for you to make a gift.

# Other Ways to Leave a Legacy

**T**hrough your will, you can provide those you care about with specific amounts of money, certain assets or a percentage of your estate. It is also important to remember that your will may not determine who receives all of your property. A common estate planning mistake is ignoring the impact of other ways property may be distributed to loved ones.

For example, life insurance or retirement plan beneficiary designations completed years ago—not the terms of your current will—could determine who receives the proceeds from these plans. Therefore, it is important to review all of your assets when planning your estate.

## Gifts of life insurance

As time passes, the reason you purchased a particular life insurance policy may no longer be valid. Many people have found they can use these policies to make gifts to SPCA International. For example, you can give such a policy outright, or name SPCA International as beneficiary of all or part of life insurance proceeds.

## Retirement plan remainders

Because they are included as part of the taxable estate, assets remaining in retirement plans can be subject to estate tax. After paying estate tax on the balance of an IRA or other tax-favored plan, loved ones will still owe income tax on the net amount they receive. The combination of income and estate tax on retirement assets could, in some cases, deplete up to 50 percent or more of their value.

A good alternative may be to use all or a portion of your retirement assets to make a gift to SPCA International and totally eliminate the tax on those funds. Other less heavily taxed assets can instead be used to provide for loved ones.

Using life insurance or your retirement plan to make a gift to SPCA International is simple to accomplish. Your plan administrator can provide a *Change of Beneficiary* form. For more information, please contact us or return the enclosed card.

Founded in 2008, Operation Baghdad Pups rescues and reunites patriot pets with our service members in the U.S. To date, we have rescued over 550 animals from multiple countries in the Middle East, Asia and Africa.



# Three Ways to Give Through Your Will

**A** bequest—a gift made through a will—is an ideal way for individuals to support SPCA International in the future.

- 1. Residuary Bequest.** If you do not wish to specify the exact size or nature of your charitable provision (often the size of a future estate is difficult to estimate), you might consider naming SPCA International as a residual beneficiary of your estate. You may provide that all, a specific amount or a percentage of the remainder of your estate shall pass to SPCA International after other specific bequests have been fulfilled.
- 2. Specific Bequest.** Of the many ways to give to SPCA International through your will, a bequest of a fixed dollar amount or a bequest of specific property is the simplest. Securities, real estate and

personal property can all be given through a will. To be sure your charitable gifts will remain in proportion to other bequests, you can designate in your will that a specific percentage of your estate be given to SPCA International. You may want to consider this flexible way of giving when planning your will.

- 3. Contingent Bequest.** Under the provisions of a contingent bequest, SPCA International would receive either a specified portion or the entire estate only if circumstances render it impossible to carry out the will's primary provisions. Such circumstances could be a change in marital status or an unanticipated life event.

Please contact us or your advisors for details on bequests or any aspect of your charitable giving plans.



## Sample Bequest Language

Many of our friends choose to include SPCA International in their wills or other estate plans. Below is some suggested wording to take to your attorney to ensure your wishes are followed.

"After fulfilling all other provisions, I give, devise, and bequeath \_\_\_\_% of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate [or \$\_\_\_\_ if a specific amount] as a charitable contribution to SPCA International, Federal Tax ID #87-0773320, 242 West 30th Street, Suite #1001, New York, NY 10001."

## CONTACT US:



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