



Dear Veterinary Professional:

In 2016 Saving Gracie started out in service to pets who might otherwise die because their owners couldn't afford unexpected emergency care, but we soon realized our value and impact was bigger than that. Our program saves more than the pet's life, it preserves the health-giving bond that exists between humans and their pets. Saving Gracie, a 501c3 Public Charity, helps pet owners, who are struggling financially, with funds needed so the pet they love, rely on and, in some instances, need, can receive life-saving veterinary care as opposed to making the heartbreaking choice of euthanasia.

Our team worked with a veterinary practice who would refer qualified cases to us and provide the medical care the pet needed. Funding, raised by community donations, were then released directly to the practice to cover the costs of the procedure. This working relationship helped us develop an efficient data collection and qualification process that offers a quick turnaround time for the client to receive a decision and the veterinary practice to move forward with the chosen route of care. This process has become the model that we have successfully used with veterinary practices in varying locations and areas of practice as we began to expand our network of partner veterinarians.

As a veterinary professional, you already know that pets offer comfort and often critical mental and physical health support to people who are lonely, anxious, depressed, suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), high blood pressure, cancer, cardiovascular disease, and more. Pandemic isolation has made the human-animal bond much stronger and more widespread, especially to the most vulnerable in our community.

An upside to the pandemic, is that many pets were adopted into loving homes. The downside, is that when the remote workforce returns to their office or workplace and the unemployed locate new positions, separation distress/anxiety, is anticipated to be an issue for numerous pets, causing a rise in veterinary emergency care. You are no stranger to pets and how they may react to stress. Chewing through walls and doors, escaping backyards, jumping through windows, and other anxiety-related behaviors can quickly turn into a life-threatening emergency. Solano County is home to an estimated 284,000 pet-owning households and of those, 20,000 households had unemployed owners at the end of 2020, a portion of whom we expect will be returning to work in the coming months and year.

It is our vision to expand our network of services to like-minded veterinary professionals that share our desire to help families avoid the emotional cost of economic euthanasia due to financial struggles. It is also our vision to help you, the veterinary professional, avoid compassion fatigue by offering you a positive alternative. Our Mission Statement is simple and it comes from the heart: We give pets a second chance at life. This simple statement has grown to mean so much more to us since its inception, we have grown to realize that offering a pet a second chance at life saves the hearts of those that love their pet and those of you who provide care for the pet and guidance for the pet owner.

This is not an ask for you to provide free services, there are no dues, fees or costs to your business. It is a win-win opportunity for you as Working Angel for Gracie (W.A.G.) Preferred Partner, your existing and future clients and Saving Gracie. We would be honored to be promoted as part of your program offering to your clients as a value add to what you already provide and in turn we will promote your practice in kind. We hope you will join us on Saving Gracie's team as a W.A.G. Preferred Partner.

Best regards,

Lisa Hilas

Lisa Hilas
Founder and Executive Director