

Written 6/88

Submitted by:

Tori Williams
Pet Patrol Coordinator
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(713) 522-1954

P R O P O S A L

P E T P A T R O L

As an advocate for the AIDS Foundation Houston, I ~~have~~^{became} increasingly aware of the difficulty many PWA's have providing consistent care for their pets. Unexpected trips to the hospital for indeterminate lengths of time make pet care worrisome. PWA's with birds and/or indoor cats cannot tolerate litter boxes and must therefore find other homes for their special friends. At a time when many PWA's are already experiencing change, confusion and, in some cases, loss due to isolation from family and friends, PWA's need their faithful friends more than ever. This proposal outlines a volunteer program whose goals are to:

A. Assist PWA's in maintaining consistent, quality care for their pet(s) in order to keep the pet in the home.

B. When the above goal is inappropriate, assist the PWA in finding a good home for their pet(s).

Operational Outline

Volunteers will be recruited through announcements at community events and through public service announcements on carefully selected radio programs (such as "A Womyn's Place", "The Breakthrough Show" and "Wilde and Stein", three women and/or gay oriented programs on KPFT Radio Station).

Unlike other Foundation volunteers, Pet Patrol participants will not be required to attend the weekend training session. The level of commitment required to be a Pet Patrol volunteer will be very different. Hence, the program will attract people who, for various reasons, will not commit on the level of a buddy or an advocate. They will be committed on an "as needed" basis.

Once a month the Pet Patrol Coordinator will get together with new people interested in volunteering. The Coordinator will outline the goals and activities of the program and ask volunteers to fill out the Volunteer Agreement (Attachment A). Having met each volunteer and by using the information provided on the Agreement, the Coordinator will assign volunteers to PWA's based on:

- A) The situational and financial circumstances of the PWA (Example: When a PWA cannot afford to board his/her pet(s) they will be assigned to a volunteer who is willing to care for the pet in the volunteer's home.
- B) The distance between the home of the PWA and the volunteer. It is easier to provide "neighborly assistance" to someone if you live in the same neighborhood.

Once a volunteer has been assigned to a PWA, he/she will call on the PWA to get acquainted. Together they will fill out the Volunteer and PWA Pet Patrol Agreement (Attachment B). To complete the form they must discuss the extent to which the volunteer is willing to be called upon. Some volunteers will be happy to feed and walk an animal if the PWA gets delayed at a doctor's appointment. Others may be willing to bathe a large, sloppy dog on a day when the PWA is low on energy. Volunteers and PWA's will be matched as closely as possible to the needs of the PWA and the willingness of the Volunteer.

Long Term Care

If the PWA must be away from his/her home for an extended (30 days) or unpredictable length of time due to hospitalization or for a similarly significant reason, arrangements will have been made in advance for the volunteer to either: transport the pet(s) to a professional boarding facility, or take the animal into the volunteer's home. If at the end of 30 days the PWA's circumstances have not changed, the Pet Patrol Volunteer will consult with the Pet Patrol Coordinator to decide if it is appropriate and possible to continue providing temporary care for the animal. If not, the volunteer will approach the subject of permanent placement with the PWA.

Placement

Although the Pet Patrol will do all that it can, it is important to remember that the goals of the program are to assist the PWA. At the first meeting between the PWA and the volunteer, the PWA acknowledges the fact that he/she is solely responsible both legally and financially for his/her pets. At no time is a volunteer expected to permanently take an animal into his/her home.

In situations where the PWA feels that he/she can no longer provide quality care for his/her pet, the Pet Patrol will work through its established network to assist the PWA in finding a good home for the pet(s). The placement network

will encompass the following:

- A. Media Coverage - Weekly announcements on radio shows such as KPFT's "A Womyn's Place", "The Breakthrough Show" and "Wilde and Stein". Perhaps The Montrose Voice, This Week in Texas, the Greensheet and other weekly publications will donate space for a regular Pet Placement Notice.
- B. The Pet Patrol's Volunteer Telephone Tree - The Coordinator will call one or two volunteers and those volunteers will each call two or three other volunteers to let the group know when an animal is available for placement.
- C. Bulletin Boards - Several people who work at different hospitals in the Medical Center have offered to routinely post announcements on centrally located bulletin boards. Perhaps a similar network of people could be developed at universities such The University of Houston and Rice University.

Special Support

There is one (possibly two) veterinarian(s) willing to work with the Program if a medical need were to arise. In situations where the PWA's veterinarian is unable or unwilling to provide appropriate care, contact with the volunteer veterinarian will be made through the Pet Patrol Coordinator. The Coordinator and the Good Samaritan Veterinarian will carefully review each situation to avoid overuse or abuse of the veterinarian's time and resources.

Fundraising

The Pet Patrol will at no time become financially responsible for animals. But, it may need to establish a small fund to assist volunteers who can temporarily take animals into their homes but cannot afford to feed the animal. If this program is approved, a logo for the Pet Patrol will be developed for PR purposes. Hats, mugs or T-shirts bearing the logo could be sold to volunteers and others for a small profit. The proceeds will be used for the Program.

Program Cohesiveness

Pet Patrol volunteers will be encouraged to serve as resources for one another. The establishment and use of the telephone tree will assure regular communication among volunteers. The Program Coordinator will monitor and provide ongoing support to volunteers and PWA's through appropriate

telephone contact. To further establish a consistently supportive environment in which volunteers feel part of a caring, productive team, potluck brunches will be held three times a year enabling volunteers to experience the wholeness of the team. PWA's (and perhaps their pets) will be invited as our guests.

Through the goals of the program, volunteer members of the Pet Patrol and PWA's will get to know one another. The focus of the relationship will be a shared interest in animals and, as friendships develop between all concerned the care of the pet may not be the only needs that get met.

August 1989

VOLUNTEER GUIDELINES

1. From the first interview be very clear with The Pet Patrol Coordinator and with the PWA about your limits.
2. If the PWA's needs exceed your ability to help let us know. A good match between you and a client is our only way of ensuring a reasonable level of service to the PWA and our responsibility to our volunteers.
3. Volunteers of The Pet Patrol are there to assist the PWA. The PWA remains legally and financially responsible for their pet(s) at all times.
4. All PWA's must be clients / referrals from one of the established AIDS programs in the Houston area.
5. PWA pets should not be in your home for more than 30 days. After 20 days contact the coordinator to keep her posted on the situation and to begin planning for day 30.
6. Any contact with the Volunteer Veterinarians must be made by the coordinator to avoid misuse of their time and resources.
7. If placement begins to look appropriate, approach the subject with the PWA as early as possible. It takes several weeks (at best) to place an animal.
8. Call the placement coordinator and send her a negative of the animal(s) if at all possible when you need to place an animal.
9. Remember, you are part of a team. Use the team when you need us.

THE PET PATROL, INC.

P.O. Box 980255, Houston, Texas 77098, (713) 522-1954



Tori Williams, MSW
President and Founder

Billy E. Price, Jr.
Vice President
Client Services

C. Richard Arenschieldt
Client Services

Cory Stiles, DVM
Vice President
Administrative Affairs

Jeffrey R. Cox
Secretary

Nola Duffy
Treasurer

Board Members:

Marlene Caldwell
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Amy Hook, MD
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Carol Mifsud
Denny Mounce
Tom Portwood
Claudia Staffa
Taffi S. Tippit, DVM
Keven Turk
Connie Tuthill, CPA
Suzanne Upshaw

The Pet Patrol
P.O. Box 980255
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(713) 522-1954

Pet Patrol Client Statistics for May 27, 1992

Number of Clients: 180

Total Dogs: 168

Total Cats: 103

Total Birds: 3

Total Rabbit: 1

Total Animals: 275



Volunteers

Total Volunteers: 175

BUDGET
(12 months)



Contract Employees
2 Part-time

\$ 4,800

Telephone

donated

Office Space

donated

Office Supplies

200

Grooming Services

donated

Veterinary Services
(\$600 - \$800 per month x 12 months)

\$ 7,200 - 9,600*

Miscellaneous Pet Supplies and Food

500

Total Annual Budget

\$12,700 - 14,900



Dear Friend,

Thank you for your interest in The Pet Patrol. As we discussed, all volunteers go through a brief training session before being assigned to a client. The next volunteer training session will be at:

10 a.m. Saturday June 27, 1992

The Pet Patrol Office
1623 Marshall
Houston, Texas 77006
(The office is behind the house in the garage.)

The agenda for the morning will include:

10:00 a.m.	Welcome and Introductions
10:15 a.m.	Description of the Program
10:45 a.m.	Medical Implications of Working With People with AIDS
11:00 a.m.	Tips in Working w/ Foster Animals
11:30 a.m.	Tips on Bathing Pets
12:00 noon	Client Assignments

If you have not sent us the enclosed Volunteer Agreement Form, please bring it with you on Saturday. Also, feel free to bring a bag lunch if you would like to stay past noon to spend some extra time with one of our speakers.

Please let us know if you can not attend the training session so we can schedule you for the next one.

Sincerely,

Tori Williams
President

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Carol Mifsud
Denny Mounce
Tom Portwood
Claudia Staffa
Taffi S. Tippet, DVM
Keven Turk
Connie Tuthill, CPA
Suzanne Upshaw

The Pet Patrol
P.O. Box 980255
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(713) 522-1954

Name of Volunteer: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Hours: _____ Work: _____ Hours: _____

Section of town I live/work in: _____

Interests: _____

I will care for: ☐ Cats ☐ Dogs ☐ Any Type (within reason)

Exceptions: _____

Should the PWA at any time have limited resources, financial or otherwise:
 I ☐ am ☐ am not able to provide 30 days of care for pet(s) in my home.
 I ☐ can ☐ can not afford to pay for food provisions during that time.

Should a time arise when the PWA feels it is necessary to permanently place the pet(s), I understand that I am not responsible for the placement of these pet(s). However, if I can I ☐ will ☐ will not work with other members of the Pet Patrol to assist the client in locating a new home for the pet(s).

What days are you available? _____

What time of day? _____

What times should we not call? _____

I also understand that the client shall, at all times, remain solely liable and responsible, both legally and financially, for the pet(s) and I will consult with the client through out our working relationship so that together we can provide consistent quality care for the animal(s).

 Pet Patrol Volunteer Signature

 Date

Please return to :
 The Pet Patrol
 P.O. Box 980255
 Houston, Tx. 77098

Questions... Please call us! 713 522-1954

Volunteer Activities: (FILL IN THIS SECTION LATER, AFTER YOUR PET PATROL TRAINING SESSION)

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> client assign: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> dog & cat shows | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> foster care <input type="checkbox"/> dog <input type="checkbox"/> cat | <input type="checkbox"/> monthly food delivery | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> day time transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> shot clinics | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> dip days | <input type="checkbox"/> office help | |



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Tom Portwood
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Taffi S. Tippit, DVM
Keven Turk
Al Smith, DVM,
In Memoriam

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It becomes increasingly difficult for people with AIDS to provide consistent care for their pets. Unexpected trips to the hospital for indeterminate lengths of time make pet care worrisome. People affected by HIV disease who have birds and/or indoor cats cannot tolerate litter boxes and must, therefore, consider finding other homes for their special friends. When a person cannot afford medication for themselves, it is not possible to provide preventive medication, such as heartworm pills or annual shots, for a dog or a cat. An emergency trip to the veterinarian for a skin rash or a broken leg is out of the question. At a time when many people with AIDS are already experiencing change, confusion and, in some cases, loss due to isolation from family and friends, people living with AIDS need their faithful companions more than ever.

Started in 1987, The Pet Patrol is a non-profit, tax exempt organization whose volunteers care for pets in the homes of people affected by HIV disease. The goals are to assist our clients in maintaining consistent, quality care for their pet(s) in order to keep the pet in the home. When the first goal is no longer possible, The Pet Patrol assists the person in finding a good home for their pet. Donations pay the cost of veterinary care, city registration, spaying and neutering, pet food, miscellaneous supplies and flea spray. Volunteers change litter boxes and bird cages, exercise dogs, provide grooming, in-home assistance and foster care for pets; hospital visitations with the pet, and friendship to both the owner and pet.

It is not uncommon for a Pet Patrol volunteer to be the only regular visitor when one of our clients is hospitalized. Sometimes our volunteers discover there is no food for either pet or person, and have shown up the next day with food for all residents in the household. People will often ask for help for their pet before they will ask for help for themselves. Hence, The Pet Patrol is frequently there to provide information and referral suggestions regarding other services in the community. We work closely with Bering Adult Day Care Center, the Foundation for Interfaith Research and Ministry (FIRM), the food pantry, and other community service organizations.

In one three month period, The Pet Patrol provided heartworm treatment for 4 dogs, deworming and shots for over 22 cats and 41 dogs, eye surgery, dental work for 1 dog, the spaying and neutering of 8 animals, buckets of heartworm pills, gallons of flea powder, and retractable leashes for 3 rambunctious dogs. Even with the reduced rates offered by our Pet Patrol veterinarians, medical bills for our pets are \$1,000 each month.

Client statistics for January 1993:
186 Human Clients

188 Dogs
127 Cats
3 Birds
2 Squirrels
1 Rabbit
1 Pot Belly Pig
322 Pets

The Pet Patrol is currently serving 248 clients and their 712 pets (this includes one rabbit). DIFFA/Houston provides the funding for the 3 part time employees who are all people living on disability because they have AIDS.

BUDGET
(12 months)

Contract Employees	
3 Part-time	
(\$200 per month x 12 months x 3 employees)	\$ 7,200
Telephone	donated
Office Space	donated
Office Supplies	donated
Grooming Services	donated
Veterinary Services	
(\$1,200 per month x 12 months)	14,400
Home Delivered Pet Food	1,000
Freezer Space for Donated Pet Food	2,400
(\$200 per month x 12 months)	
Non-Toxic Flea Products	1,000
(People w/ HIV/AIDS cannot tolerate durisban products.)	
Miscellaneous Pet Supplies	500

Total Annual Budget	\$26,500