THE AKC CANINE HEALTH FOUNDATION: YOUR GIFT TRANSLATES TO BETTER HEALTH FOR DOGS

In 1995, the AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF) was founded with the goal of funding humane scientific research to discover the causes of canine disease, create tools to achieve earlier, more accurate diagnoses, and develop better treatments for all dogs. Twenty-five years later, we are the world's largest funder of health research exclusively for dogs.

To date, we have funded over 1,000 canine health research and educational projects totaling more than $58 million. Importantly, CHF and its supporters have invested in health research that has resulted in over 800 peer-reviewed scientific publications which impact how veterinarians, breeders and owners care for dogs. With financial support from donors, we are making a difference for future generations of dogs and their owners.

TYPES OF PLANNED GIFTS

- Bequest
- Life Insurance
- Retirement Plan Assets
- Charitable Gift Annuity

Gifts of Life Insurance to the AKC Canine Health Foundation provide an excellent opportunity to leave a substantial legacy of helping all dogs live longer, healthier lives. Plus, it’s one of the easiest planned gifts to set up.

Life Insurance gifts can be an existing policy, either paid or partially paid, or a new policy. If the policy is an existing policy, fully paid, the life insurance gift is accomplished by naming the AKC Canine Health Foundation as the beneficiary of the policy on the beneficiary designation form. Upon the donor’s death, the Foundation will receive all, or a portion of, the proceeds from the policy depending on the specifications of the beneficiary designation.

As with any decision involving your assets, we urge you to seek the advice of your financial advisor when considering a life insurance policy gift to the AKC Canine Health Foundation.

"We all want our dogs to live as long as possible, and research funded by CHF is important to achieve that."

-June Guido
CHF supporter since 2000

The AKC Canine Health Foundation's Heritage Society honors donors who have made a commitment to the Foundation through a planned gift.
June Guido's love for dogs started during college when she worked as an apprentice obedience instructor. She is an experienced obedience competitor and also breeds and shows Bouviers des Flandres under the G&W Acres kennel name. As a founding member of the Bouvier Health Foundation, June advocates for canine health research knowing it will benefit not just dogs, but humans as well.

Q: How did you first learn about the AKC Canine Health Foundation?
A: As an ambassador for Nestlé Purina, I learned about the partnership they have with the AKC Canine Health Foundation. The Foundation's impact on canine health was evident throughout the educational materials provided by Purina.

Q: Why is canine health research important to you?
A: I'm amazed at the progress we have made in both our understanding of canine health and the quality of the questions we now seek to answer. Since the completion of the canine genome, we appreciate the genetic similarities between dogs and humans. What we learn about canine diseases such as epilepsy, diabetes, and degenerative myelopathy can have a real impact on how we diagnose and treat similar diseases in humans.

Q: What type of planned gift have you provided to the AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF) and how was the process of setting up that gift?
A: I have included CHF in my will. The process was very simple and handled by my lawyer as I was setting up my trust.

Q: Why did you choose the AKC Canine Health Foundation as a beneficiary of your trust?
A: The people I have met, the relationships I have shared, and the opportunities to learn and share knowledge about dogs has enriched my life. The dog world has opened up so many doors during my lifetime. A planned gift to the AKC Canine Health Foundation feels like a purpose, a way of returning the favor.

Q: What do you tell others considering a planned gift to the AKC Canine Health Foundation?
A: I talk about the AKC Canine Health Foundation to every one of my obedience classes. We all want our dogs to live as long as possible, and research funded by CHF is important to achieve that. It is frustrating that canine health research progresses slowly. It can be hard to see the results. But my gift through the Heritage Society will be even more valuable in the future. It may help answer canine health questions that we have not even asked yet!