

Older Adult Pet Adoption Program

Research has shown the physical and emotional benefits of pet ownership, including reduced blood pressure and lowered stress levels. For older adults, especially if a spouse has passed away and children live far away, it gives them another living creature in the house always happy to see them, a special bond, and responsibility which gives them meaning and purpose in life.

What Is It?

The Older Adult Pet Adoption Program gives peace of mind to older adults wishing to adopt a pet but who are worried about what might happen if they encounter poor or declining health and are unable to care for their pets.

In the OAPA program, a volunteer will go into the older adult's home every week for four weeks, then once a month, for the first year, to bond with both the pet owner and the animal. An animal behavioral training consultant from Caring Hands will also make a house call during the second week and will be available to help at any time with any behavioral issues that might develop.

If the older adult becomes unable to take care of the animal, either temporarily or permanently, the animal would be assured placement in a loving home.

When the older adult adopts the pet, he or she may designate someone to take the animal if he/she is unable to care for it. If not, the volunteer and Caring Hands will arrange placement/adoption in a caring home.

How Do I Participate?

Contact either Prairie View at 316-284-6400 or Caring Hands Humane Society at 316-283-0839.

Are There Any Costs?

This program allows older adults to adopt a pet from Caring Hands Humane Society at no charge, thanks to Purina's Pets for Seniors Program which pays 100 percent of the adoption fee for anyone 60 and older.



The Older Adult Pet Adoption Program (OAPA) is a joint effort between:



Prairie View

Caring Hands Humane Society
1400 S.E. Third
Newton, KS 67114



Harvey County
Department on Aging



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