



# *Investing In Their Future*

*Planned Giving Opportunities*



The Greater  
Androscoggin  
Humane  
Society

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



As we learn with time, important decisions in our life take careful and thoughtful planning: decisions like career changes, our children's education, purchasing a home and retirement planning to mention a few.

A major gift to the Greater Androscoggin Humane Society should also be carefully planned. With expert advice, you can create lasting benefits for yourself, your family and the GAHS.

This brochure is intended to help you think about your future and ours. As you will see, there are a number of planned giving options available to you. The techniques listed in this booklet are only a few of the many options, each offering their own unique benefits. We know that a gift to the GAHS should match your financial needs and your loved ones' financial security.

Regardless of which approach you choose, you can rest assured that your gift will play a vital part in the Greater Androscoggin Humane Society's future and that of the thousands of animals we help each year. With a planned gift, you will personally make an impact on the services we can offer our community and our ongoing work to care for abandoned, abused, needy and stray animals.

Thank you for your support,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristin Lewis". The signature is written in a cursive style.

# THE REWARDS OF MAKING A PLANNED GIFT

*You can design a plan that fits your own needs*

As we face the challenges of the future, all of us at the Greater Androscoggin Humane Society know that the generosity of those around us will make the true difference for our animals. That is why we look to individuals like you for support.

However, we know that decisions in life usually go best when we carefully plan them. A major gift given to the Society should be planned as well. With the expert advice of your legal and tax advisors, thoughtful decisions will help you, your family and the GAHS plan for tomorrow and receive maximum benefits today.

The manner in which you choose to give is a personal decision. Regardless of the method, your gift will strengthen the future of the GAHS and you will have the satisfaction of knowing you have made a difference in the lives of thousands of animals for many years to come.



# A CURRENT WILL

*You may distribute your assets according to your wishes*

Did you know that an estimated 50% to 85% of all Americans do not have a current Will when they pass?

Drafting a Will may seem difficult at first, however through thoughtful planning you will soon realize that much good comes from having one. It may be the most realistic way to assure that your personal and family objectives are accomplished, while simultaneously benefiting the people and organizations you care about most.



*We strongly recommend that prior to de signing a Will, you obtain the professional counsel of an attorney who specializes in probate and estate planning.*

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## TYPES OF GIFTS

There are a many different ways you can transfer a gift to the Humane Society. We request that you take the time to visit with your personal legal and/or tax advisor and discuss your particular estate. They can carefully review with you the specific tax savings and/or planned giving opportunity which would best fit your particular need.

# A BEQUEST

**Bequests** large and small have contributed to the fiscal health of the GAHS for many years. Through a Bequest, you may pass any amount you wish to the shelter free of the estate tax, while simultaneously preserving more of your assets for family and other intended beneficiaries. You may give cash, specific property, a dollar amount or a percentage of your estate. You may also designate your gift for a specific purpose, or leave unrestricted for the trustees of the GAHS to use where they feel the need is the greatest.

**Example:** *“I give the sum of [amount] dollars to The Greater Androscoggin Humane Society and its successors for its general purposes.”*

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# AN OUTRIGHT GIFT

An **Outright Gift** is a gift you immediately donate to the Greater Androscoggin Humane Society. Gifts such as cash, securities or real estate can provide immediate funds and support for the shelter and also provide you with a current tax deduction. Should you choose to contribute long-term appreciated securities, you will have the added benefit of owing no tax on any gains.

Should you choose a gift of tangible personal property (like an automobile, a piece of art, a prized collection, or antiques) you may take a deduction for the full fair market value.

These are just a few of the many types of assets you can immediately and fully donate to us. Please know any contribution made to the GAHS will be used to help fulfill our mission of providing humane care for animals in need.

# A FEW GIFT OPTIONS THAT MAY MATCH YOUR GOALS

<p><b>Is your goal to...</b></p>	<p><b>Make a quick and easy gift to the GAHS?</b></p>	<p><b>Avoid tax on capital gains</b></p>	<p><b>Share your enjoyment of a collection or another personal item</b></p>	<p><b>Make a revocable gift during your lifetime</b></p>	<p><b>Defer a gift until after your lifetime</b></p>
	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
<p><b>You may choose to....</b></p>	<p>Simply write a check to the shelter now</p>	<p>Contribute long-term appreciated stock or other securities</p>	<p>Donate tangible personal property related to our tax exempt function</p>	<p>Name the GAHS as the beneficiary of your assets in a living trust</p>	<p>Put a bequest in your Will (donate cash, specific property, or a share of the residual estate)</p>
	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
<p><b>And your benefits are...</b></p>	<p>An income tax deduction and immediate impact on the animals</p>	<p>A charitable deduction plus no capital gains tax</p>	<p>A charitable deduction based on the full fair market value</p>	<p>Full control of the trust terms for your lifetime</p>	<p>Your donations are fully exempt from the federal estate tax</p>



**Make a large gift with little cost to yourself**



Contribute a life insurance policy you no longer need



Current and possibly future income tax deductions

**Avoid the twofold taxation on IRA or other employee benefit plans**



Name us as the beneficiary of the remainder of the assets after your lifetime



It lets you leave your family other assets that carry less tax liability

**Avoid capital gains taxes on the sale of a home or other real estate**



Donate the property to us, or sell it to us at a bargain price



An income tax deduction, plus reduction or elimination of capital gains tax

**Give your personal residence but retain life use**



Create a charitable gift of future interest, called a retained life estate



It gives you tax advantages plus the use of the property

**Create a hedge against inflation over the long term**



Create a charitable remainder unitrust



It pays you a variable income for life and gives you tax benefits

**Secure a fixed life income while avoiding market risks**



Create a charitable remainder annuity trust



It gives you tax benefits and often boosts your rate of return

## GIFT OF LIFE INSURANCE

When you first bought your *Life Insurance Policies*, you probably felt a need for them. However, you may have found that you do not need all that coverage today. You can use these policies to make a Major Gift by naming the Greater Androscoggin Humane Society as your primary or contingent beneficiary.

Here you can realize an immediate tax deduction in the amount of the policy's current cash surrender value. The proceeds would not be subject to estate taxes and the future premiums you pay would be deductible for income tax purposes in the years in which they are paid.

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## GIFT OF RETIREMENT PLAN ASSETS

By naming the Greater Androscoggin Humane Society as a beneficiary of your IRA, 401k, 403b, pension or other retirement plans, you can make a major gift while leaving other, less heavily taxed, assets to your family. Under present tax laws, the combined income and estate tax burden on retirement plans can be as much as 75% (please consult with your tax advisor).

*Retirement Benefits* paid to the GAHS as beneficiary are not subject to estate or income tax, making them an excellent choice for planned giving. However, the laws regarding retirement plans are quite complex and we recommend you check with your plan administrator or financial advisor for the best method to add or change benefi-





# GIFT OF REAL ESTATE

When you donate your home or other *Real Estate* to us, you create an enduring legacy for animals in need.

Gifts of Real Estate may consist of almost any type of property: personal residence, a vacation home, a farm, commercial real estate or vacant land. Gifts of this manner will give numerous tax advantages to you, such as avoiding the gift tax and reducing your overall taxable estate.

The property may be given outright, or in a Trust. In the case of a personal residence, you can give the property but reserve the right of lifetime tenancy for yourself and/or spouse (called a Retained Life Estate).

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# GIFT OF STOCK

A *Gift of Stock* to the Greater Androscoggin Humane Society will benefit both you and the shelter. If your stock has appreciated in value, you can donate the stock to the GAHS and avoid any income tax. You can deduct the fair market value of the stock against your income tax. If you choose this approach, the shelter can receive the full market value of the stock as opposed to the after-tax amount received if you chose to sell the stock yourself and donate the proceeds to us.

If your stock has depreciated in value, it is better for you to sell the stock and donate the proceeds to us. In this scenario, it is best to secure a capital loss deduction to offset your taxable income.

# A LIVING TRUST

A *Living Trust* allows you to maintain control of your assets and continue to provide for yourself and your family before and after your death.

Throughout the lifetime of the Trust, you receive all of the income generated and still maintain the right to amend, remove assets or cancel the Trust at any time. The Society will receive only the assets remaining in the Trust at your death.

At death, there may be significant estate tax benefits available through the estate tax charitable deduction for the value of the assets being passed.

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# CHARITABLE REMAINDER UNITRUST & ANNUITY TRUST

*Charitable Trusts* are particularly beneficial for those who hold highly appreciated, low-yield, long-term investments and wish to convert them to a higher yield investment. You transfer assets to the Trust and you, or someone designated by you, receives income for life or a specific period of time.

At the end of the income period, the assets remaining in the Trust are available to support the work of the GAHS in honor of you, the donor. A tax deduction is allowed at the time the Charitable Trust is created. The size of the deduction depends on the donor's age, payment percentage, and other factors your tax advisor can review with you.

# CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES

A *Charitable Gift Annuity* (CGA) offers a vehicle to transfer cash or property to the Greater Androscoggin Humane Society in exchange for an annuity (a promise to make fixed payments to one or two people for a lifetime or a specific number of years).

Setting up a CGA is inexpensive (compared to other remainder interest gifts) and it can offer attractive yields with added tax benefits. It may enable you to convert low basis, low yielding investment into a higher yielding arrangement with a predictable cash flow, by spreading your capital gain taxes over the period of the annuity. However, the CGA should not be considered primarily as an investment, since you could receive the same approximate return by purchasing a commercial annuity.

A Deferred CGA allows you to defer the annuity start for a period of years, say until after your expected retirement date when your income will presumably be smaller. However, you enjoy an up front income tax deduction.



## **Our Commitment to Animals**

In 1885, members of the Lewiston/Auburn community started the Greater Androscoggin Humane Society with a mission to protect work horses and children from abuse. Today, over 130 years later, with the help of many dedicated individuals like you, we continue our pledge to build more humane community.

It is because of caring individuals who invest in our future that we can continue to fulfill that our mission. Thank you in advance for considering the Greater Androscoggin Humane Society in your future planning.

### ***Our Mission***

*The Greater Androscoggin Humane Society is committed to strengthening our community by supporting the humane care of animals and fostering the human/animal bond.*



## **The Greater Androscoggin Humane Society**

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