



## News Release

Contact: Amy Shever, Director  
2nd Chance 4 Pets  
1484 Pollard Rd., No. 444  
Los Gatos, CA 95032  
Tel: (408) 871-1133  
pr@2ndchance4pets.org

### **2nd Chance 4 Pets Provides Comprehensive Lists of U.S. Animal Sanctuaries Assisting Pet Owners Who Are Unable to Identify Backup Caregivers for Their Pets**

LOS GATOS, Calif. (June 30, 2015) – For pet owners who want to ensure their pets’ continued care when they can no longer personally provide it, animal sanctuaries can be a good option. Unlike most animal shelters, sanctuaries do not euthanize pets due to space considerations, sanctuaries provide a safe place for animals to live out their lives. 2nd Chance 4 Pets offers a comprehensive guide to animal sanctuaries and lifetime care facilities across the U.S. at [2ndchance4pets.org/resources.html#link4](http://2ndchance4pets.org/resources.html#link4).

The 2nd Chance 4 Pets guide for U.S. sanctuaries includes information for more than two hundred organizations. Each sanctuary description includes:

- Type(s) of animals housed (cats, dogs, birds, and/or horses)
- Address of the sanctuary and contact information
- Admission requirements and cost (if applicable)

On the website lists, pet owners can locate sanctuaries by region. The sanctuary lists are updated every three to four months.

When you are planning for the lifetime care of your pet, possibly past the end of your own lifetime, it is crucial to have the most complete and up-to-date information. Resources such as 2nd Chance 4 Pets’ sanctuary guide can be invaluable. Sanctuaries, although they may not always offer each pet individualized attention, provide an alternative to surrendering pets to animal shelters.

To help pet owners review and select appropriate sanctuary programs, 2nd Chance 4 Pets provides an “Evaluation Checklist” on the website: [www.2ndchance4pets.org/evaluation.pdf](http://www.2ndchance4pets.org/evaluation.pdf).

## **About Animal Relocation and Pet Over-Population**

Animal shelters are the most well-known option for temporarily placing homeless pets – including pets who have been made homeless by the incapacitation or death of their owners. Many people think of animal shelters as the *only* option in the event a pet loses its home.

According to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, approximately 7.6 million animals are surrendered to U.S. animal shelters annually. This represents nearly 5% of all pets owned in the U.S. A 1998 study by the Colorado State College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences found that 13% of the animals brought to shelters were strays. The vast majority of surrendered animals – a staggering **87%** – were family pets surrendered by their owners.

While the majority of animals brought to shelters are returned to their owners or are adopted by new owners, a considerable number – 30 to 40% – are euthanized.

In the 1970s, approximately 20 million animals were euthanized each year in the U.S. The Humane Society of the United States and the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals estimate that this number has dropped to 2.4 - 2.7 million healthy cats and dogs each year, largely due to changing attitudes about pets. While this significant decrease is encouraging, it still equates to one animal killed every 12 to 13 seconds.

Animal sanctuaries were established to provide places where otherwise homeless pets could live out their natural lives. When you can no longer care for your pets or find a trusted friend or family member to adopt them, an animal sanctuary may serve as an appropriate option to provide lifetime care for your pets. 2nd Chance 4 Pets offers its sanctuary guide as part of its ongoing efforts to help save pets lives and provide peace of mind to the humans who care for them.

### **About 2nd Chance 4 Pets**

The mission of 2nd Chance 4 Pets is to reduce the number of pets unnecessarily surrendered to animal shelters each year due to the death or incapacity of the human companions who care for them. 2nd Chance 4 Pets is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3), all-volunteer organization. The organization works nationwide to provide pet owners with comprehensive information and lifetime care solutions for their pets. Please visit [www.2ndchance4pets.org](http://www.2ndchance4pets.org) for more information.

##