



"To help lick loneliness"

P. O. Box 44176
Baltimore, MD 21236
Phone: 443. 977. 9726

EIN # 52-1657528
www.PetsOnWheels.org

Dear Friends,

Can you help us bring the joy of unconditional love to those who need it most?

Every day, Pets on Wheels volunteers visit nursing homes, hospitals, assisted living facilities, homeless and domestic violence shelters, veterans' hospitals, libraries, schools, colleges, corporate campuses and more. These amazing teams fight stress and help lick loneliness with the gentle presence of our therapy pets, one visit at a time.

Our pets help reluctant readers improve their skills, with studies showing increases in reading fluency of 12% to 30% when students read to pets. We help those in institutional settings thrive, especially the 60% of nursing home residents who don't receive regular visits. We help Veterans dealing with injury and illness, and bring moments of joy to those who need it most. In 2016, over 189,000 people interacted with our therapy teams, and more than 500 volunteers gave more than 13,000 hours of their time.

"Yesterday we had the privilege of meeting a woman with disabilities. She said the pups made her problems disappear even if for a brief moment, and that we would be what she remembered from the day."
- Erin S., Pets on Wheels volunteer

We don't charge recipients for our visits and our total cost to deliver our program is far less than one dollar per person reached. Pets on Wheels is a registered nonprofit 501(c)3 organization and our budget is supported solely by organizational and private donations that make our mission possible.

In 2017 we celebrate 35 years since Dr. Frank Folke Furstenberg, a Sinai Hospital physician, first had the idea of seeing if pet visits might help patients. From a pilot program with four volunteer teams visiting four nursing homes, Pets on Wheels has grown to now visit nearly 400 facilities and events each year. Students, seniors, service members – all benefit from the joy and love our therapy pets bring.

On May 13, 2017 we will mark our 35th Anniversary with our Annual Benefit Bull & Oyster Feast.

This event raises a major part of our budget each year, and we invite you to be part of it with your support. There are a number of ways you can support Pets on Wheels at this event:

- **Become a Sponsor:** Sponsorships are available at various levels, from \$150 to \$5000.
- **Donate to our Auction:** Gift certificates, memberships and merchandise are needed for our exciting auction baskets and raffles.
- **Advertise in our Program:** Program ads are \$100 full page; \$50 half page; \$25 quarter page.
- **Attend the Feast:** Tickets go on sale March 1st. \$45 each, Sponsor tickets available earlier.

The attached Auction Form details the ways you can be part of our work. All monies raised will go to delivering our program and helping our friends, neighbors and loved ones right here in our community. Your support will be noticed by the more than 500 people who are part of our organization.

We appreciate your time and consideration – your support helps us lick stress and loneliness every day. If you have any questions or want to learn more about our organization or our program, please visit us online at www.PetsOnWheels.org, email me at Gina@PetsOnWheels.org or call us at 443-977-9726.

With gratitude for your consideration and support,

Gina A. Kazimir

Gina Kazimir, Executive Director