

Veterinarian

# Partner Program

Updated January 2026

Bring  
love & loyalty  
home.



**Pets for Patriots helps people save  
pets and pets save people through  
companion pet adoption for United  
States military veterans and spouses  
of the fallen**



# Our work

- **Partner with shelters** to place companion pets with veterans and spouses of the fallen facing PTSD, depression, loneliness, deployment, or loss
- **Partner with veterinarians for access to affordable pet medical care**, with additional support through VIP Petcare and discounts on Vetster for 24/7 pet telehealth
- **Ease stress of military transitions** on service members/families
- **Champion companion pet adoption**

# Who and how we help

## 17 veterans commit suicide every day<sup>1</sup>

Depression and PTSD are major contributors; pets give veterans a renewed sense of purpose and a reason to live

## 17,800 dogs & cats enter shelters daily<sup>2</sup>

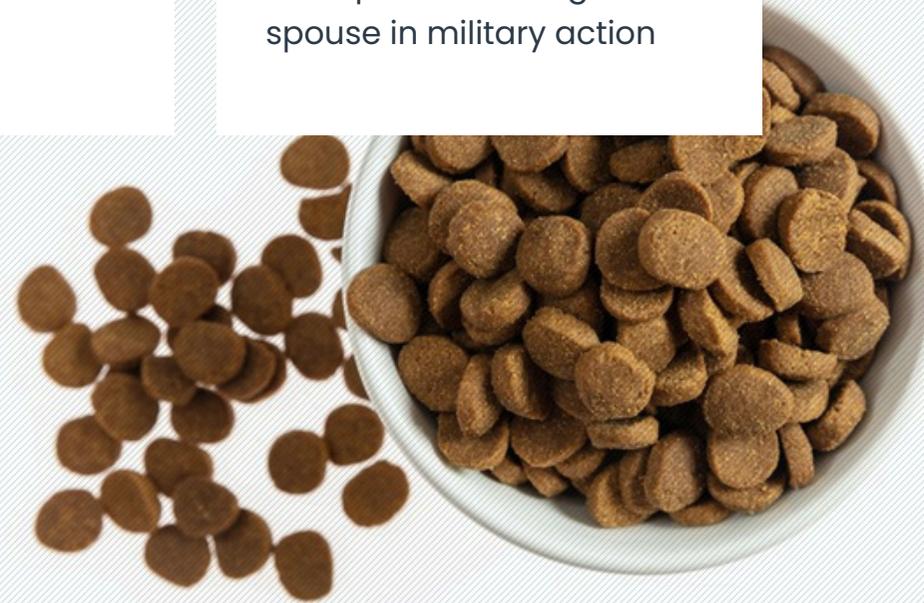
Many either fail to make it out alive or languish in long-term homelessness

## Loss of a spouse is recognized as one of life's most stressful events<sup>3</sup>

These burdens may be particularly acute for Gold Star spouses having lost a spouse in military action

## Our program helps solve three problems:

Provides healing to heroes/hero families, saves lives of vulnerable shelter animals, helps shelter/rescue partners make room for more animals in need



<sup>1</sup> 2023 National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report, US Department of Veterans Affairs

<sup>2</sup> New Animal Shelter Data Indicates 6.5 Million Dogs and Cats Entered Shelters in 2023, Shelter Animals Count

<sup>3</sup> 2023 National Council on Aging

# What makes us different

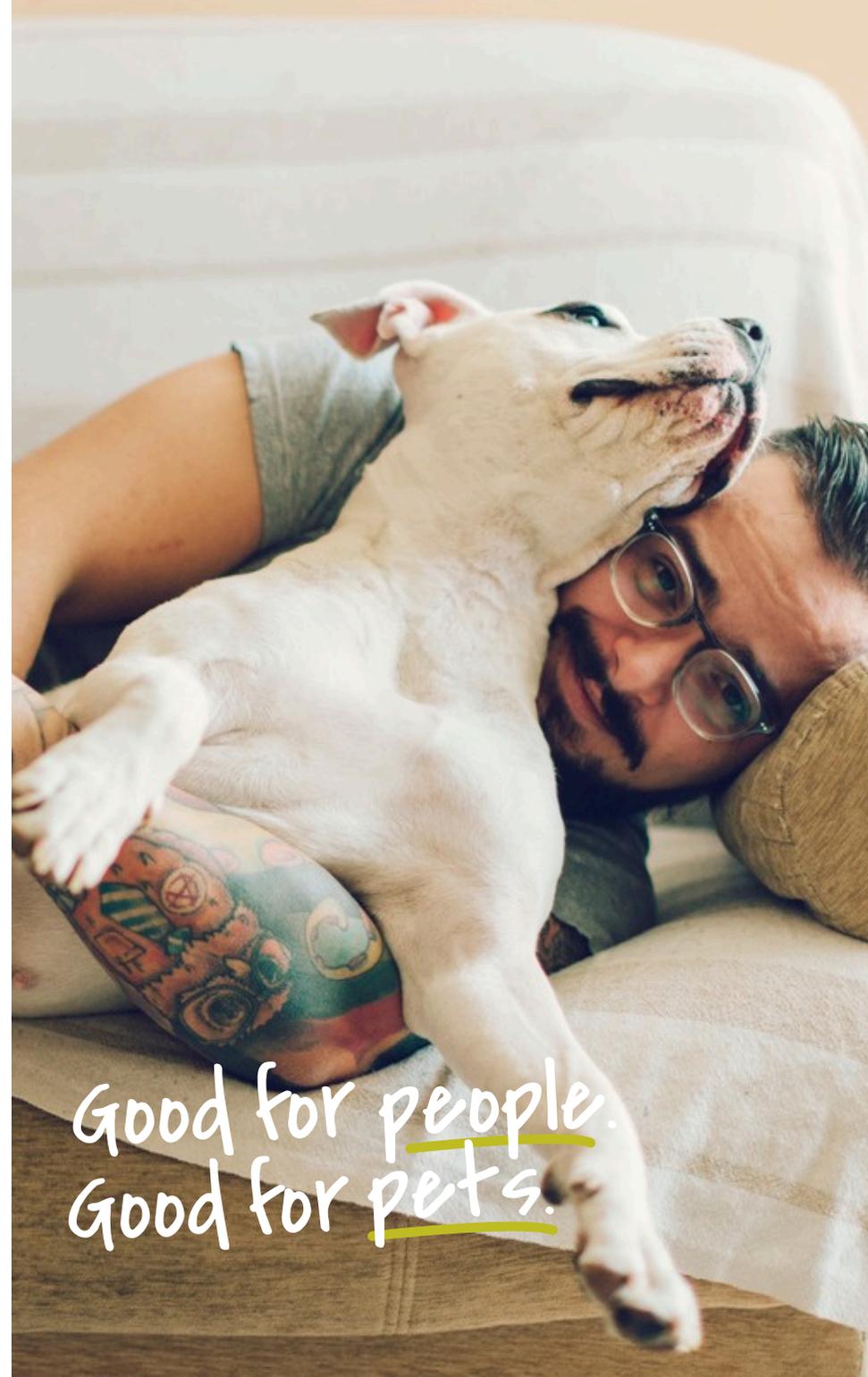


We are the only nationally operating 501(c)(3) charity that is:

- 01 Open to **veterans from WWII to active** duty and from all armed forces
- 02 Open to **Gold Star spouses**, the husbands and wives of service members killed or declared missing in action
- 03 Focused on **overlooked shelter animals:** adult, special needs, long-term homeless dogs/cats, and large breed dogs
- 04 Committed to **surrender prevention**

# Our adopter benefits:

- ✓ **Quality, affordable veterinary care** through local partner veterinarians, savings at VIP Petcare clinics, and discount on 24/7 pet telehealth from Vetster
- ✓ **\$200 pet retailer gift card** upon eligible adoption; defrays cost of 'welcome home' pet food and other essentials
- ✓ **Savings** on pet food, treats, medication, and supplies
- ✓ **Post-adoption follow up** for one full year—for every single adoption



Good for people.  
Good for pets.

# How you help:

Every veterinarian partner offers a 'member patriot special,' a 'thank you for your service and sacrifice' fee discount (10% minimum)

## Why this matters:

- Encourages routine and as-needed care
- Shows gratitude for heroes and hero families
- Lets community know your practice supports veterans and spouses of the fallen
- Keeps adopted pets healthy and happy



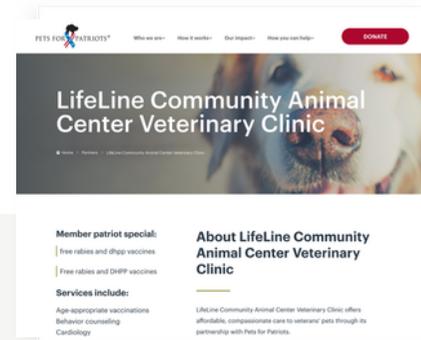
# Easy to administer



**One-time check** of client's Pets for Patriots veterinary email/letter, and just set your practice discount and forget it!



**Free promotional assets**, both printer-friendly and digital, to promote our partnership in your clinic, website, social media, and community



**Free Search Engine Optimized page** on our site

# Turnkey and free

Pets for Patriots provides a values-driven partnership that's good for your practice, good for your community, and good for our heroes' pets—and is **100% free** to join



**Care for the once most overlooked pets:**  
dogs/cats who are adult, special needs, or chronically homeless, and large breed dogs



**Free print and digital assets** to promote our partnership online, in clinic, and through local media/community channels



**Co-marketing** opportunities with local Pets for Patriots shelter partners

more...



# Eligible pets

A pet coming to you for care will meet at least **ONE** of the following:

- **Dog or cat at least 2 years of age**
- **Dog 40+ pounds at time of adoption**
- **Dog or cat homeless for 6 months+**  
(total continuous homelessness at a shelter partner and/or any shelter from which pet was transferred; time as a 'stray' does not count)
- **Dog or cat with special needs**  
(birth defect, disability, or chronic medical condition that requires lifelong care)





# Pets for love, not work

Dogs and cats adopted through Pets for Patriots are for **companionship and emotional support** only

We do not permit pets in our program to be trained as service animals—without exception

# Double the love

**Adopters can have up to two program-eligible pets** (dogs or cats) at once, adopted simultaneously or over time



A great way to help bonded pairs and other compatible animals find loving homes!

# Eligible applicants

**Active, reserve, or separated members of the U.S. military** from all armed forces; we welcome veterans from WWII to those currently in service

**Husband or wife of service member** killed or declared missing in military action, known as a Gold Star spouse

**Adopting pet for himself/herself;** cannot adopt on behalf of another person and **must** be legal owner/signatory for the pet

**Approved by Pets for Patriots prior to their first visit:** all members **must** present their Pets for Patriots veterinarian email/letter to clinic staff, not just tell you their unique Pets for Patriots number



# How it works: easy!



**1.** Individual applies to Pets for Patriots online or by phone, provides required documentation

**Approval typically within 2 business days if applicant has required documents**

**2.** Once approved, member visits local shelter/rescue partner to adopt a pet

**Shelter/rescue helps match our member with a program-eligible dog or cat - or two!**

**3.** Shelter/rescue promptly sends Pets for Patriots signed adoption contract, photo of adopter and pet

**4.** Member visits your practice for affordable, quality care

**You enter your practice's agreed-upon discount into the chart for their first and all future visits**

**5.** Pets for Patriots provide post-adoption benefits, and follow up for one year

**Please ask for a member's Pets for Patriots veterinary email/letter at the first appointment**

**This letter confirms the member adopted a pet—or two!—through our program**

**Not sure? Email us at [partner@petsforpatriots.org](mailto:partner@petsforpatriots.org)**

# Questions?

## We've got answers!

Read some of our most-asked questions...

### **Q: Is Pets for Patriots getting rid of its programs for veterans?**

No! Due to the overwhelming success of our companion pet adoption program for military veterans we are expanding eligibility to include Gold Star spouses—husbands and wives of service members killed or declared missing in action.

In time and as resources permit we aim to welcome applications from Gold Star parents, siblings, and adult children.

### **Q: Do we thank a Gold Star spouse for their sacrifice?**

No. Thanking a Gold Star spouse for the loss of his or her spouse can be misinterpreted or cause hurt feelings. It is better to say, "Your hero will not be forgotten" or "Your hero will always be remembered."

For veterans and service members it is still preferred to say, "Thank you for your service."

# Q/A continued...

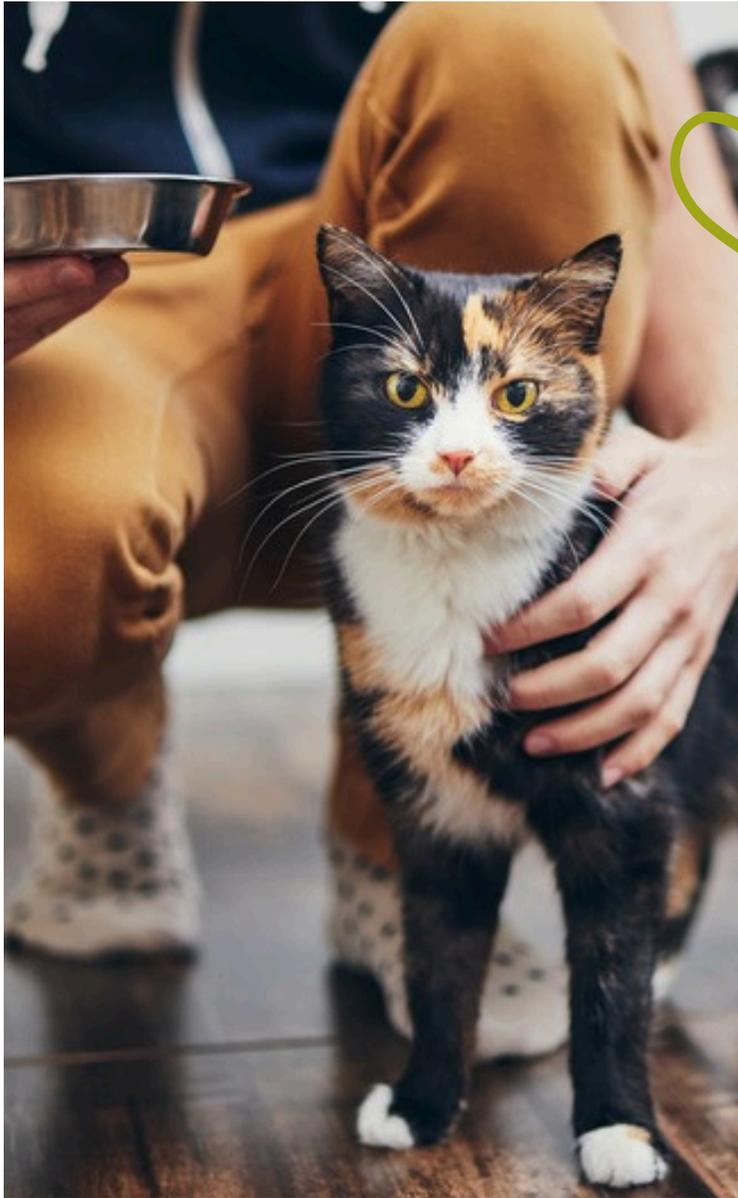
**Q: Can a member adopt more than one pet and bring to us for care?**

Yes. Pets for Patriots members may have up to two program-eligible pets at any time. For both to receive full benefits, including your practice discount, both pets must have a veterinary email/letter from us.

The member may adopt both pets simultaneously—bonded pairs or other compatible animals—or over time. Our veterinarian partners are required to extend their agreed-upon discount to both Pets for Patriots dogs/cats.

**Q: Does our discount apply to other pets members may have in addition to those adopted through Pets for Patriots?**

It is solely your discretion to extend the discount to non-Pets for Patriots personal pets. Many of our veterinarian partners do because it's easier for billing purposes—and good business, too.



**Thank you for  
being part of our  
team bringing  
health, happiness,  
and hope  
to our heroes and  
hero families by  
caring for their  
rescued pets**

# Fetch!

*Let's get started!*

