



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PAWS NY Receives Second Two-Year Grant From Amie's Place Foundation

New York, NY, January 2014 – Pets Are Wonderful Support (PAWS NY) is thrilled to announce that it has been awarded a second two-year grant from Amie's Place Foundation, a foundation who funds organizations that create programs dedicated to keeping families and pets together. At an increase of \$20,000, this new two-year grant totals \$170,000.

In addition, since 2013, Amie's Place Foundation has allocated to PAWS NY 25 free six-year MedicAlert memberships, totaling \$6,250 from the Foundation's Grant to MedicAlert Foundation International. These free memberships provide PAWS NY clients greater peace of mind with this "first-of-its-kind pet emergency contact feature with 24/7 emergency services and medical IDs which will ensure that their pets are taken care of should they face a crisis."

Under the leadership of Founder and Executive Director Rachel Herman, coupled with the initial award in 2011, Amie's Place Foundation has made it possible for PAWS NY to provide, at no fee, needed services to keep families with pets together. Specifically by funding its Housecall Program and Emergency and Foster Care Program, these two initiatives will enable PAWS NY to expand its programmatic footprint.

Through PAWS NY's cornerstone program, the Housecall Program, dedicated volunteers visit New York City residents facing hardships and provide pet care assistance, such as dog walking, provision of food and water, litter box maintenance, and transportation to and from veterinary appointments. PAWS NY services help clients to keep their pets and continue to benefit from the human-animal bond.

PAWS NY's Foster and Emergency Care Program provides care to clients' pets when clients are hospitalized or facing medical emergencies. The free MedicAlert memberships awarded to PAWS NY provide added support.

When asked about the impact that PAWS NY services have had on her and her beloved dog, client Diane B. says, "I feel like PAWS has saved my life. I don't know what I would do without PAWS." Founder and Executive Director, Rachel Herman, adds, "We are so grateful to Amie's Place for their unwavering support and strong commitment to our mission. This grant allows us to continue helping clients like Diane. It's heartbreaking to think that there are people who love their pets but feel they have no other choice but to give them up – simply because they are experiencing physical obstacles that come with age, illness, or disability. We are fortunate to play a role in helping vulnerable members of our community and their pets stay together through thick and thin."

ABOUT PETS ARE WONDERFUL SUPPORT (PAWS NY)

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PAWS NY is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization with a mission to preserve, support, and nurture the human-animal bond for New York City's most vulnerable residents. PAWS NY programs are aimed at keeping pets in their homes while protecting and promoting the bond that is so physically and emotionally valuable to its clients. For more information on PAWS NY, please visit pawsny.org

About Amie's Place Foundation

It all began in 1982 in Long Beach, Long Island, with the exceptional work of Lewis Gelfand, DVM who provides pet care treatment and assistance for people too ill to care for their pets. Based on Dr. Gelfand's work, Amie's Place Foundation was established in New York City to fund organizations providing programs for people who need assistance caring for their pets, risk losing them during times of crisis, or face barriers limiting access to their pets when they most need each other. In light of the profound healing effect that pets have on individuals who are encountering a difficult, sometimes life-changing event, the Foundation works to provide necessary pet-care assistance and to promote public awareness of the unique relationship a beloved pet and its human companion share. Grants have funded the first Senior Center and hospital-based programs at The Caring Community/1998 and St. Vincent's Hospital/2003 in Greenwich Village, New York City. Amie's Place Foundation has funded programs that include Beth Israel Hospital, FACES (Finding a Cure for Epilepsy and Seizures) at NYU Langone Medical Center, JASA, Mayor's Alliance for NYC's Animals, MedicAlert Foundation International, PAWS NY, Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine, Schervier Nursing Care Center, Search and Care, and Sunnyside Community Services. The Foundation encourages national replication of programs that help prevent the unnecessary forced separation of people from their pets simply because no one is there to help them. www.amiesplacefoundation.org