

Humane Legacy



THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES

Legacy donor and district
leader volunteer Valerie Howell
with her canine friend Ariel.

A simple step to secure future support

LIKE MANY whose childhoods were populated by Howdy Doody and Ed Sullivan, Valerie Howell's devotion to animals was first inspired by Zippy the Chimp. Although she carried a plush toy version as a toddler, the adult Valerie would likely protest the chimpanzee's exploitation as a TV star.

In addition to advocating for an end to the use of animals for entertainment, Valerie (a recently retired pediatric physical therapist) also thinks it's time to stop using them in research and to transform conditions under which they are raised for food. Of the latter, she notes: "I want to be their voice due to the immensity of their suffering and the unimaginable numbers that are killed."

Issues such as these have informed her charitable giving, too.

"I have been impressed that the Humane Society of the United States took on root causes of animal suffering," says

Valerie, a longtime supporter whose lengthy advocate resume spans three decades. "They essentially changed the food and agricultural systems of our country through ballot initiatives to end intensive confinement and corporate practices related to farm animal welfare. I know my money will be used effectively."

Valerie has taken a simple—yet impactful—step to help animals far into the future: She named the HSUS as a beneficiary of her IRA. Valerie's heirs will avoid both estate and income taxes. Moreover, beneficiary designations bypass the often lengthy and expensive probate process, so her gift will go to work quickly.

→ **LEARN MORE:** To learn about creating your own legacy for animals, please contact your planned giving representative (listed below) or visit humanesociety.org/legacy.

Planned giving contacts

humanesociety.org/legacy

Dave de Funiak

Director of Bequests
(Midwest and Texas)
ddefuniak@humanesociety.org
312-244-9751

Marni Hayman

Senior Director of Bequests
(Western U.S.)
mhayman@humanesociety.org
619-385-1788

Ann Kolakowski

Senior Director of Planned Gifts
(Mid-Atlantic)
akolakowski@humanesociety.org
301-548-7782

Eric Smith

Director of Bequests
(New York and New England)
ensmith@humanesociety.org
516-462-4877

Joan Peppard Winograd

Director of Bequests
(Southern U.S. and International)
jwinograd@humanesociety.org
786-559-6510



District leader volunteers help advance the HSUS's federal, state and local legislative priorities for all animals.

Ambassadors for animals: HSUS district leaders

DID YOU KNOW that hundreds of volunteers magnify the impact of the Humane Society of the United States at the federal, state and local levels through the District Leader program?

On the federal level, district leaders have successfully encouraged their members of Congress to cosponsor the HSUS's priority animal protection legislation. Most recently, their vital efforts led to the landmark Preventing Animal Cruelty and Torture (PACT) Act being signed into law.

At the state level, district leader volunteers build relationships with their state legislators and urge their support for priority animal protection legislation. They work with their HSUS state directors to submit letters to the editor in their

local papers, testify at legislative hearings, assist in the planning of Humane Lobby Day or staff a table on behalf of the HSUS at community events.

Locally, district leaders work with city councils or county boards of supervisors to pass ordinances on issues such as ending wild animal performances and killing contests. District leaders can also develop and implement a project in their community, such as encouraging colleges and universities to incorporate more plant-based options into their dining services.

→ **GET INVOLVED:** Visit humanesociety.org/districtleaders to learn more about this key volunteer role.

Beneficiary designations: A convenient way to create your humane legacy

A WILL OR TRUST may seem like the obvious way to create a legacy for charity, but it doesn't cover everything. Retirement plans, IRAs, life insurance and commercial annuities use separate beneficiary forms.

A retirement plan or traditional IRA is typically the largest source of assets that generate taxable income when paid to a beneficiary, so it's usually better to donate those assets to charity and give nontaxable assets (such as stocks and real estate) to your loved ones.

Simply request the form from your plan administrator and name the organization(s) as beneficiary, specifying the percentage of the account that you would like to donate. Use the following information for the HSUS:

The Humane Society of the United States
1255 23rd St. NW, Suite 450, Washington, DC 20037
Federal tax ID: 53-0225390

After you return the form to your plan administrator, you should receive a confirmation. We encourage you to share a copy with your named charities so they can easily receive your gift.

To ensure that your estate plans correctly reflect your wishes and adhere to federal and state laws, always consult with a professional. Lastly, review and update your plans periodically with the same level of care you used in creating them.

→ **LEARN MORE:** It's easy to create your own legacy for animals. Contact the Planned Giving team at 800-808-7858 or humanelegacy@humanesociety.org, or visit humanesociety.org/legacy.