

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



January 5, 2010

Contact: Steven T. King, CAE
Executive Director
443-640-1060 ext. 101
steve@ksgroup.org

PET CARE TRUST AWARDS GRANTS TO THREE ORGANIZATIONS

Bel Air, MD - The Pet Care Trust has awarded supporting grants to three organizations working to improve animal health and pet care. A total of \$13,000 was distributed as part of the Trust's 2009-10 grant cycle. Organizations receiving support are:

- **American Federation of Aviculture, Austin, TX**—Development of “Fundamentals of Aviculture, Level II”. This is the second course in an aviculture curriculum being developed for private aviculturists, the zoological community, and other institutions and individuals housing birds. Level I of the Fundamentals online course was also funded by the Pet Care Trust and the Schubot exotic Bird Health Center, Texas A&M University. The course provides a foundation for the emerging science of aviculture and is presented in nine chapters ranging from anatomy and physiology to behavior to how to provide proper housing and prevent illness of birds. The Trust will contribute \$10,000 to the Level II course development.
- **Hospice of Green Country, Tulsa, OK**—Pet Peace of Mind Program. Launched in 2007, the Pet Peace of Mind Program is designed to recognize and actively support the relationship between hospice patients and their pets during their time on hospice. Once a pet care need

is identified, the program establishes what types of services would benefit the pet, such as providing pet food or litter, spaying or neutering services, vaccinations, grooming or veterinary care. Other services include boarding or pet sitting, transportation, foster care and placement of the pet after the death of the owner. The funds donated by the Pet Care Trust (\$1,000) will ensure patients and their pets stay together.

- **Animal Food Bank of the Lehigh Valley, Hellertown, PA**—Pet Care Educational Training for Lehigh and Northampton Counties in PA, Elementary School Level. The Animal Food Bank assists the economically disadvantaged of the Lehigh Valley with the health and well-being of their pets. As part of the Food Bank's community outreach commitment, they have developed a pet care educational program aimed at third and fourth grade students. The program consists of individual activity books, [A Child's Guide to Pet Care](#), and in classroom instruction to nurture responsible pet ownership that will remain throughout adulthood. The Trust has provided \$2,000 for this program.

The Pet Care Trust is a national pet care education charity founded in 1997 that exists to educate the public in all aspects of responsible pet ownership, by conducting *ad hoc* research and advocating the benefits of pet ownership, as well as promoting high standards of education and training across the pet care business community.

###