DuPage Foundation invites local not-for-profit organizations to apply for funding to support animal welfare programs in DuPage County. For the purposes of these grants, the definition of animal welfare is:

*A human responsibility that includes consideration for all aspects of animal well-being, including proper housing, management, nutrition, disease prevention and treatment, responsible care, humane handling, and when necessary, humane euthanasia.*

**Background**

DuPage Foundation received a significant legacy gift from a local donor to support animal welfare projects in DuPage County over a five-year timeframe. The Foundation held a convening in June 2018 to learn about the needs of local animal welfare agencies and to determine the areas where funding would have the greatest long-term and sustainable impact.

The following were identified as the most important areas in which to focus:

- Central resource for intake, resources, and communication
- Vehicles and vehicle maintenance to transport animals between shelters, to adoption events and for veterinary services
- Capital project support
- Spay/Neuter services
- Medical care services and supplies

Over the past four years, grants have been awarded to support projects in all of these areas. This is the final year this grant opportunity will be offered.

**Priority**

With the understanding that local animal welfare agencies have many needs, the committee will consider applications for grants that enable local organizations to best provide for the well-being of the animals in their care. Priority will be given to projects that align with the areas listed above and with those in which a greater number of animals served are impacted by the funding.

**Eligibility**

- DuPage County 501(c)(3) organizations
- Organization must be based in and primarily focus on animal welfare in DuPage County
- Agencies in which the primary source of funding is from a governmental entity are not eligible

**Grant Amount**

- Organizations are eligible to apply for grants up to $25K
- Amount requested should be appropriate to the organization’s operational budget size
- The Foundation will distribute approximately $150,000

**Application Due Date**

Applications must be submitted online by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 7, 2023. Applications submitted after this deadline will not be considered.

*Receipt of a grant through this special initiative does not preclude organizations from applying for an animal welfare grant through DuPage Foundation’s Community Needs Grant Program.*