The DuPage Foundation invites local agencies to apply for funding to support animal welfare projects 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**
The 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

Initial grants awarded in 2019 supported the purchase/maintenance of transport vehicles and a central resource database to connect all local animal welfare agencies. As part of this special legacy initiative, additional animal welfare grants will be awarded in 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023.

**Grant Priorities**
In 2020, the committee will consider applications to support the following:

- Capital Expenditures
- Matching Funds for Capital Campaigns
- Spay/Neuter Veterinary Services

**Eligibility**
- DuPage County 501(c)(3) organizations
- Projects must 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
• The Foundation will distribute approximately $90,000.
• Organizations are eligible to apply for grants up to $20K.

Application Process
• Friday, February 7, 2020 – 5:00 pm deadline
  Eligible organizations may submit an LOI, through the Foundation’s online grant system, describing the project for which they are seeking funding.

• Friday, March 13, 2020
  After review by members of the Grant Committee, organizations will be advised as to the disposition of their LOI and invitations will be extended to selected organizations to submit a full proposal.

• Friday, April 17, 2020 – 5:00 deadline
  Selected organizations may submit a full Animal Welfare Grant Application.

• Friday, May 22, 2020
  Organizations that submit a full proposal will be advised as to the disposition of their request.

Review Criteria
The following criteria will be considered during the review of the Letters of Intent and Full Proposal:

• Strength of project to reach its goals
• Short- and long-term benefits for animals
• Feasibility of project
• Partnerships/collaboration with other community groups or agencies
• Project budget
• Strength and stability of the applicant organization

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