



THE SAMPSON FUND
For Veterinary Care

P.O. Box 1756
Orleans, MA 02653

SPRING 2021

NEWSLETTER

The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care

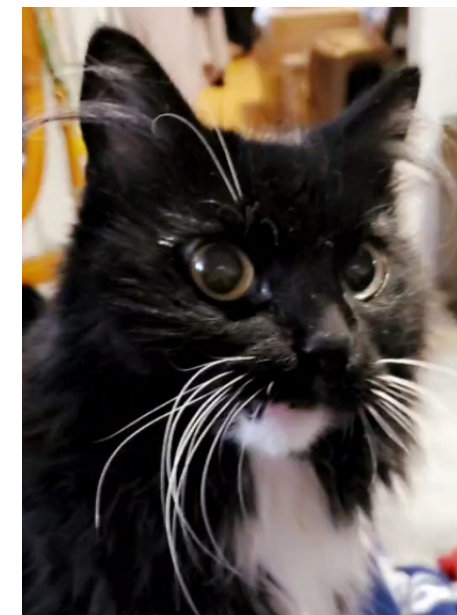


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Lobster Lives

When Orleans resident, Karen Bunzick rescued a small cat named Lobster from a dangerous setting, she didn't know she would immediately be facing a large bill for critical veterinary care. Lobster or Lovely Little Lobster Lady as Karen renamed her had been bitten by the previous household's dogs and suffered an open wound in her abdomen area.

The injury had occurred eight days before she adopted her, too late to be sutured up. Karen kept the wound clean and swabbed with ointment. It was slowly healing. Unfortunately within a short time fourteen year old Lobster developed a large cyst, the size of an orange, around her mammary gland. Known as fibroadenomatous mammary hyperplasia, it can occur in older cats that have not been spayed. The large mass on a



little cat that weighed in at only eight pounds, nine ounces had to be removed.

The choice was surgery to remove the mass or euthanasia. Karen vowed to do what she could to get her sweet feline through this

ordeal. She applied to The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care for financial assistance.

Her application was accepted and the surgery was successfully performed by Dr. Heidi Howell at Eastham Veterinary Hospital, a Sampson Fund affiliated hospital.

"They were great and everyone at the hospital was pulling for this little girl to survive." Luckily the mass was benign. It has been almost four months since the surgery and Lobster is doing quite well.

She is an affectionate companion, likes to cuddle and seems to be grateful to live in a safe and loving home. "Thanks to The Sampson Fund Lobster and I will have many years of happiness together."

Please detach and return to: **The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care, P.O. Box 1756, Orleans, MA 02653**

The Sampson Fund MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone number: _____

Email address: _____

(Your email address will be used only for communications from The Sampson Fund)

Type of Membership: ___ Member (\$25) ___ Sponsor (\$50) ___ Patron (\$100) ___ Group (\$300) ___ Other

My check (payable to The Sampson Fund) is enclosed: \$ _____

Please charge my contribution \$ _____ to: Visa Mastercard American Express

Account# _____ Exp. Date _____ 3-digit code _____

Name as appears on card _____ Signature _____

The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Your donation is tax deductible.

35 YEARS OF HELPING PETS



P.O. Box 1756, Orleans, MA 02653
www.sampsonfund.org
508-240-7387

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The Sampson Fund Affiliated Hospitals

Barnstable Animal Hospital - Hyannis
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Oceanside Animal Hospital - Sandwich
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Vineyard Veterinary Clinic - Edgartown

Veterinary Advisor: Lilan Hauser, DMV

THE SAMPSON FUND MISSION STATEMENT

To provide financial assistance for the rehabilitative veterinary treatment of critically ill or injured dogs and cats whose caregivers cannot afford treatment or who are found without known caregivers, thereby offering an alternative to euthanasia and preserving the unique emotional, social and beneficial bonds that tie animals and humans together.

For further information about The Sampson Fund, please visit our website at www.sampsonfund.org

The Sampson Fund Turns Thirty Five

This summer, The Sampson Fund for Veterinary Care will mark its thirty fifth year of service to the Cape and Islands. A gift of twenty five dollars by Mr. Alberto Williams, in memory of his cat, Sampson, with a request "to help a pet whose owner can't afford care" was the catalyst for beginning The Sampson Fund. In 1986, the hope was that if one person wished to help provide needed veterinary care, others in the community might also contribute if an organization was in place to facilitate and foster the care giving. And with many gifts, no matter what size, a real chance for life could be made for pets that otherwise might have to be euthanized. Thanks to all of you, who have supported us over the years, because that hope was fulfilled and The Sampson Fund is an established and still growing charitable organization.

This year, however, COVID-19 has tested us dramatically. Requests for our assistance have increased. Owners tell us that although they might have been able to afford care for a loved pet in the past, they are unemployed or only partially employed and just do not have funds available. Yet, now when the need is greatest, COVID has eliminated our ability to fund raise with public events, and so we have had to depend on you and the community more than ever for contributions and grants. You have generously responded and, so far, we have been able to maintain our monthly level of commitment to the thirteen veterinary hospitals we work with across the Cape and Islands. We have helped about a hundred critically ill or injured pets this past year with close to a hundred thousand dollars of aid. There is no way we could have done this without a community that cares. Thank you all.

Our thanks, also, to the veterinary hospitals, doctors and staff, who work with us to provide that care. Not only do they discount their services for every Sampson Fund case they treat, but they also hold fund raising events for our benefit as well. The Sampson Fund Trustees appreciate everything they do for us.

The pandemic has affected all of us in many different ways, but, for some, isolation has been one of the worst. On the Cape, with the highest percentage of seniors in the commonwealth, many of whom live independently, the benefits of a pet for companionship have been a special blessing. When you can't leave your home or have visits from family, a friendly lick from a dog or rub from a cat really helps beat back the loneliness. So when critical care for one of those pets is unaffordable, hopefully, the Sampson Fund will be there to help bridge the financial gap. Our first thirty five years have been a success, and with your support, we will continue to "help at both ends of the leash" for at least another thirty five years.

Christopher S. Donner VMD
Founder



The Sampson Fund is registered with amazon smile. When you make a purchase you can chose The Sampson Fund to receive a percentage of the purchase price.

The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care is grateful for the support of:

Agway of Cape Cod Charitable Foundation
The Grace W. Allsop Foundation - The Zachary Fund
Joan Bentinck-Smith Charitable Foundation
The Bryce Family Foundation
Caithness Foundation
John and Mary Camp Foundation
Carlee Charitable Trust
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Marian Craig Leers Charitable Trust
The Thomas C. McGowan Fund For Animals through The Cape Cod Foundation
The Shirley S. Windsor Charitable Trust
The Arlan Wise Charitable Fund

Pets gain weight during the pandemic

Have you weighed your pet recently? You may be surprised that your dog is a bit pudgy or your cat is a little chubby. A recent Wall Street Journal article indicated that in a survey of 1000 pet owners, 42% said their pets had gained weight during the quarantine. Veterinarians surveyed said there was a 2.3% increase in pet obesity in the last year. And further evidence is that sales of pet treats increased 10.6% in the last 12 months. The causes? More family members are in the household for longer periods of time, the opportunities for table scraps have increased from one or two meals a day to three meals a day and, taking advantage of the situation, many pets have refined their treat seeking talents.



May is Pet Cancer Awareness Month

Veterinary Cancer Specialists of New England, a Sampson Fund affiliate, offers helpful information on:

- *The Basics of Cancer
 - *What to Expect with Chemotherapy
 - *Taking Care of Your Pet During Chemotherapy
 - *Quality of Life
- on the Veterinary Cancer Specialists of New England website
vcsnewengland.com



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Remembering Our Pets

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