

Spring 2026

Newsletter

The Sampson Fund For Veterinary Care



40 Years of Tails and Triumphs!

Saving the Day

By Olivia H. Miller

Gio, a three-year-old Micro American Bulldog, was living the good life with his family in Mashpee, that is until he stopped eating. "I thought it was because I had changed his food," explained Gio's owner Dale Peckham. "I tried to find alternatives he would eat but he wasn't eating. He would throw up when he drank and when he ate."

Gio started eating a little but, according to Dale, he'd throw up again. After four days he realized Gio was not going to be able to hold anything down. He brought him to Cape Cod Veterinary Specialists (CCVS) in Buzzards Bay, where they found the problem: ball lodged in the dog's intestines. "I was surprised because I don't keep those small balls around," said Dale. "It was stuck in there so far that he couldn't vomit it out and it couldn't come out the other side."

The only solution to remove the obstruction was surgery. The estimate was \$7,000.

"I thought, 'Oh no, I'm not going to be able to do this.' I

was starting to get nervous because I didn't want to have to put my dog down. My kids love him, I love him. You know what I mean, he's family. With what I've got going on paying for the surgery just wasn't feasible. I didn't know what to do. It kind



of threw me for a loop."

As an affiliate member of the Sampson Fund for Veterinary Care, CCVS told Dale about the Fund and suggested he apply for financial assistance. "I had never heard of it and didn't even know it was a thing," he said. "I

hadn't ever gotten approved for anything like this and in my mind, I didn't think it was going to happen."

Dale applied and despite his initial doubts, he got wonderful news: the Sampson Fund accepted his application and would help out with the cost of surgery. "It was amazing. It ended up working out. I didn't want to give up but I didn't know what I would have done."

Dr. Joshua Zuckerman performed the surgery, successfully removing the stuck ball. Not only is Gio doing great but Dale noted that he seems to have even more energy now than before he ingested the ball.

"Everything was amazing overall and I'm definitely appreciative. I'm very grateful for the program because I don't think he would still be here if the Sampson Fund hadn't helped us. My son and daughter absolutely love Gio. He's such a loveable, mellow dog. He's cool all the time, nothing can bother him. But that ball..." Dale paused before continuing. "I'm so glad we got it out of there."

"I appreciate everything. You guys saved the day."



THE SAMPSON FUND
For Veterinary Care

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***The Sampson Fund For Veterinary
Care Mission Statement:***

*To provide financial assistance for
veterinary care for critically ill or
injured pets on Cape Cod and the Is-
lands when owners cannot afford
treatment.*

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Dear Friends,

After a particularly challenging winter, I am eager to welcome the arrival of spring and all the possibilities it brings.

The year 2026 marks the 40th anniversary of The Sampson Fund. To commemorate this milestone, we are excited to announce a Pet Wellness Fair taking place on May 16 at the Harwich Community Center. This special event will feature veterinary professionals, vendors offering a variety of pet-related products, engaging speakers covering a range of topics, and plenty of fun activities for you and your pets to enjoy together. And there's more:

- **Tag Sale:** Who doesn't love a good bargain? Join us at 29 Park Street in Harwich on Saturday, June 20 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Explore the tag sale for unique finds and perhaps even a hidden treasure or two.
- **The Sampson Fund Day at Moby Dick's:** Treat yourself to delicious seafood while supporting The Sampson Fund at Moby Dick's Restaurant in Wellfleet. This event will be held on Friday, July 24 from 11:30 AM to 7:00 PM.
- **Barks & Brews:** Our popular annual Barks & Brews event, hosted by Cape Cod Veterinary Specialists, returns on Saturday, August 22 at Cape Cod Beer in Hyannis. Bring your dogs and connect with fellow dog lovers while sampling some special brews in a relaxed and festive atmosphere.

We hope you will join us at one or more of these wonderful events as we celebrate this significant anniversary together.

Patti

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

Agway of Cape Cod	The Kristen Elizabeth Davis Memorial Endowment Fund
The Alfred Kobacker and Elizabeth Trimbach Fund	Lyndon Paul Lorusso Charitable Foundation
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The Katz Family Foundation	
The Kelley Foundation	

Pet Wellness Fair

Saturday, May 16th



Leashed Pets Welcome!

Hosted by:

**Harwich Community
Center - 100 Oak Street
10am - 4pm**

**Admission: \$5 donation to
The Sampson Fund
Kids under 12 Free**

**Chat with Pet Health Care
Professionals & Businesses**

**Shop Awesome Pet Products &
Services**

**Connect with Pet Related Non-profits
VERY special silent auction**

Event Sponsored by:

**Companion Animal Program
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Remembering Our Pets

Andy

Kathleen Bronner

Biscuit

Joanne Didner

Biscuit

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Flasher

Judith Bruce

Frankie The Cat

Steven Ramar

Molly

Shirley Knowles

Robbie

Holly Carroll

Abbie

Judith Bartha

Fred, Jet and Ernie

Sam Lambert

Flo

Martha Tripp

Abby

Robert Rodriguez

Tugs

Helen Chestnut

Harper

Diane Martin

Ginger

Mary Anne Richards



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