

Q & A's

What if an individual is unable to afford kennel services?

P.A.W.S is working at establishing relationships with local kennels where at risk or homeless individuals may receive a reduced rate to kennel their companion animal until they are back in stable housing.

Many kennels require up-to-date vaccines. What if the companion animal is not vaccinated?

Non vaccinated companion animal will be vaccinated by a local veterinarian and then transported to one of our partnering kennels.

How can an individual access P.A.W.S?

Referrals must be made through shelter and community support workers to the P.A.W.S Coordinator at the Hamilton Housing Help Centre, 905-526-8100 Extension 210

Does Hamilton P.A.W.S have a website?

Yes! Visit us at www.hamiltonpaws.ca

Who do I contact for more information on Hamilton P.A.W.S?

Contact the Program Coordinator, Candice Brimmer at (905) 526-8100 extension 210 or by email at candice@housinghelpcentre.ca

Hamilton P.A.W.S is hosted by the:

**Hamilton
Housing
HelpCentre**

And funded by the:

Homelessness Partnering Strategy

**Service
Canada**

Mailing Address

119 Main Street East
Hamilton ON L8N 3Z3

Hours of Operation

Monday Tuesday Thursday Friday
10:00 am – 4:30 pm
Wednesday 12:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Access

P-905-526-8100
F-905-528-1448

www.housinghelpcentre.ca
info@housinghelpcentre.ca

Hamilton P.A.W.S
People & Animal Welfare Solutions

*Helping to Prevent
Homelessness for
People with Animal
Companions*



Tel: 905-526-8100

Mission

Hamilton P.A.W.S is a community collaboration that works together to address gaps in service and find practical solutions to people and animal welfare issues. P.A.W.S addresses the needs of low income and vulnerable people with pet companions who are homeless, marginally housed, incarcerated, hospitalized or experiencing violence and currently in need of emergency accommodations and/or health care for their animal companions.

Our Experience

The current system does not help at risk or homeless individuals retain their pets. The shelter system does not accept individuals with a pet companion. There are no resources to provide temporary kenneling while people get back on their feet. The current fostering and animal welfare organizations require people to permanently surrender animals or pay for temporary and limited kenneling which in most cases they cannot afford. Most of our clients are responsible pet owners who need temporary help during a crisis.



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What does the program offer?

Assistance with emergency accommodations for animal companions during a housing or homelessness crisis.

Public awareness and education in the community.

In addition, P.A.W.S partners with the Community Veterinary Outreach to provide no cost, preventive, veterinary care clinics in the City of Hamilton. For more information on the Community Veterinary Outreach, please visit www.vetoutreach.org

Who can apply for P.A.W.S assistance?

Individuals and their companion animal, if they are residents of the City of Hamilton and are:

- Homeless and seeking emergency accommodations in a shelter
- Experiencing violence and are in need of emergency accommodations
- Hospitalized due to mental/medical health concerns
- Facing incarceration
- Seeking in-patient substance abuse treatment

Who are affiliates of Hamilton P.A.W.S?

Affiliates of the Hamilton P.A.W.S Community Collaborative include the City of Hamilton - Housing Services, City of Hamilton - Public Health, Hamilton Housing Help Centre, St. Josephs Healthcare Hamilton & ACT, Community Veterinary Outreach, Interval House, Wesley Urban Ministries, Canadian Mental Health Association, McMaster University, Mental Health Street Outreach, Mental Health Rights Coalition, Native Women's Centre, Notre Dame House, East Mountain Animal Hospital, HBSPCA, Street Youth Planning Collaborative, The Cat Clinic, Transition to Homes, Good Shepherd HOMES, Good Shepherd Women's Services,

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Wellington Psychiatric Outreach Program, Beattie Animal Hospital, and Blue Cross Animal Hospital.

What are the benefits of partnering with Hamilton P.A.W.S?

You will help us contribute to a reduction of homelessness by decreasing the access barriers.

Your services will increase the quality of life for vulnerable residents and their pet companions.

You will benefit from free advertising on the Hamilton P.A.W.S and Housing Help Centre websites. You will form collaborative working relationships with community partners concerned with social services and animal welfare.

Where is the program located?

The host agency of the Hamilton P.A.W.S Program is the Hamilton Housing Help Centre.

What is the Housing Help Centre?

The Housing Help Centre is a charitable non profit social service agency providing assistance, advocacy and support to people who need housing, especially people with low incomes and people who are homeless or in danger of becoming homeless.

How can I help?

You can donate your time or services or you can make a direct donation to our program. To make a donation, visit us at the Canada Helps website

www.canadahelps.org