

Sample email to domestic violence shelters that are not yet pet friendly



Dear **[name of shelter/director/staff member]**,

My name is **[insert name]**, and I'm writing to you today on behalf of survivors of domestic violence and their pets. I greatly appreciate the work you do to provide a safe haven for survivors. As I'm sure you know, up to 70% of survivors report having a pet, but nearly half delay or avoid leaving abusers out of concern for their pets. I strongly believe in keeping pets and people together.

Have you considered transitioning your shelter to become pet friendly?

I'm an advocate for the 25 by 2025 campaign, the movement to help 25% of domestic violence shelters in the United States become pet friendly by 2025. It may feel like there are many barriers to keeping survivors and pets together in the journey to escape abusers, but there truly has never been a better time to become pet friendly. The 25 by 2025 campaign has resources to support you and your team during this transition, including financing support, workshops, training handbooks, and more.

There's a pet-friendly design option for every shelter! Many shelters in the U.S. have already taken the steps to become pet friendly, allowing more survivors and pets to find security after experiencing domestic violence.

Visit 25by2025.org and pledge to become pet friendly by 2025. There, you can sign up for a workshop, apply for grants, and ultimately, connect with the team behind 25 by 2025, who are ready and available to make becoming pet friendly a reality. Together we can help more people and pets safely leave violent situations.

Thank you for your commitment to survivors and your openness to helping more pets and people stay together!

Sincerely,

[Sign your name]

Proud 25 by 2025 Advocate

Sample email to domestic violence shelters that are not yet pet friendly



**For survivors of domestic violence who have pets*

Dear **[name of shelter/director/staff member]**,

My name is **[insert name]**, and I'm writing to you today on behalf of survivors of domestic violence and their pets. I greatly appreciate the work you do to provide a safe haven for survivors. As I'm sure you know, up to 70% of survivors report having a pet, but nearly half delay or avoid leaving abusers out of concern for their pets. This was my truth for a long time. As a survivor myself, I strongly believe in keeping pets and people together.

Have you considered transitioning your shelter to become pet friendly?

As a domestic violence survivor and pet owner, I am also an advocate for the 25 by 2025 campaign, the movement to help 25% of domestic violence shelters in the United States become pet friendly by 2025. I delayed leaving an abusive home for **[insert timeframe]** because there was no place for me to flee to where I could bring my beloved pets. When I was able to flee I had to do so without my **[insert animals]** because there was no shelter available that could accept us both. It was an awful decision I hated having to make. It may feel like there are many barriers to keeping survivors and pets together in the journey to escape abusers, but there truly has never been a better time to become pet friendly. The 25 by 2025 campaign has resources to support you and your team during this transition, including financing support, workshops, training handbooks, and more.

There's a pet-friendly design option for every shelter! Many shelters in the U.S. have already taken the steps to become pet friendly, allowing more survivors and pets to find security after experiencing domestic violence.

Visit 25by2025.org and pledge to become pet friendly by 2025. There, you can sign up for a workshop, apply for grants, and ultimately, connect with the team behind 25 by 2025, who are ready and available to make becoming pet friendly a reality. Together we can help more people and pets safely leave violent situations.

Thank you for your commitment to survivors and your openness to helping more pets and people stay together!

Sincerely,

[Sign your name]

Proud 25 by 2025 Advocate

Sample email to domestic violence shelters that are not yet pet friendly



**For survivors of domestic violence who do not have pets*

Dear **[name of shelter/director/staff member]**,

My name is **[insert name]**, and I'm writing to you today on behalf of survivors of domestic violence and their pets. I greatly appreciate the work you do to provide a safe haven for survivors. As I'm sure you know, up to 70% of survivors report having a pet, but nearly half delay or avoid leaving abusers out of concern for their pets. As a survivor myself, I strongly believe in keeping pets and people together.

Have you considered transitioning your shelter to become pet friendly?

As a domestic violence survivor and animal lover, I am also an advocate for the 25 by 2025 campaign, the movement to help 25% of domestic violence shelters in the United States become pet friendly by 2025. It may feel like there are many barriers to keeping survivors and pets together in the journey to escape abusers, but there truly has never been a better time to become pet friendly. The 25 by 2025 campaign has resources to support you and your team during this transition, including financing support, workshops, training handbooks, and more.

There's a pet-friendly design option for every shelter! Many shelters in the U.S. have already taken the steps to become pet friendly, allowing more survivors and pets to find security after experiencing domestic violence.

Visit 25by2025.org and pledge to become pet friendly by 2025. There, you can sign up for a workshop, apply for grants, and ultimately, connect with the team behind 25 by 2025, who are ready and available to make becoming pet friendly a reality. Together we can help more people and pets safely leave violent situations.

Thank you for your commitment to survivors and your openness to helping more pets and people stay together!

Sincerely,

[Sign your name]

Proud 25 by 2025 Advocate

Sample email to domestic violence shelters that ARE pet friendly



Dear **[name of shelter/director/staff member]**,

My name is **[insert name]**, and I'm writing to thank you on behalf of survivors of domestic violence and their pets! I strongly believe in keeping pets and people together, and I'm so grateful your shelter has taken the steps to become pet friendly.

I'm an advocate for the 25 by 2025 campaign, the movement to help 25% of domestic violence shelters in the United States become pet-friendly by 2025. The 25 by 2025 campaign has resources to support shelters during and after this transition, including financing support, workshops, training handbooks, and more.

This movement is encouraging shelters to take the pledge to become pet friendly by 2025. Since your shelter is already pet friendly, I want to thank you – and encourage you to claim the Pet-Friendly badge.

Will you display this Pet-Friendly badge on your website, social media, and other communications to show other shelters what's possible? Visit 25by2025.org to get your shelter the Pet-Friendly badge and get involved with our movement.

Thank you for your commitment to keeping pets and people together!

Sincerely,

[Sign your name]

Proud 25 by 2025 Advocate

Sample email to local government officials



Dear **[local government official]**,

My name is **[insert name]**, and I'm a voter in **[locality]**. I'm writing to you today on behalf of survivors of domestic violence and their pets. I strongly believe in keeping pets with their people, and I'm concerned about the lack of availability of domestic violence shelters in our community that are pet friendly.

I'm an advocate for the 25 by 2025 campaign, the movement to help 25% of domestic violence shelters in the United States become pet friendly by 2025. Up to 70% of domestic violence survivors report having a pet, but nearly half delay or avoid leaving abusers out of concern for their pets. There is a proven link between abuse of pets and abuse of people, and in a domestic violence situation, the likelihood of an animal also being abused is high.

By modifying domestic violence shelters to include spaces for pets, you remove a key barrier to entry, ensuring more survivors and their pets find safety and healing together. In addition to providing vital companionship, pets provide significant health benefits as survivors take the step to find help.

When domestic violence shelters become pet friendly, there is less stress on emergency services because people are getting the support they need, and less stress on animal control because pets stay with people instead of overcrowded animal shelters.

I'm asking you, a community leader, to support survivors of domestic violence through the 25 by 2025 campaign and work with local domestic violence shelters in our area to become pet friendly by 2025.

Here's what you can do to start this movement in your community:

1. Reach out to domestic violence shelters and advocates in our community and share 25by2025.org with them.
2. Connect with the 25 by 2025 team to learn more about making pet-friendly spaces a reality for shelters in our community.
3. Share the 25 by 2025 campaign on social media to help build movement toward the goal.

Thank you for your time and openness to helping more people and pets stay together.

Sincerely,

[Sign your name]

Proud 25 by 2025 Advocate

Sample email to animal welfare advocates



Dear **[humane society/veterinarian/animal shelter/rescue]**,

My name is **[insert name]**, and I'm writing to you today on behalf of survivors of domestic violence and their pets. I strongly believe in keeping pets with their people, and I'm concerned about the lack of pet-friendly domestic violence shelters.

I'm an advocate for the 25 by 2025 campaign, the movement to help 25% of domestic violence shelters in the United States become pet friendly by 2025. Up to 70% of domestic violence survivors report having a pet, but nearly half delay or avoid leaving abusers out of concern for their pets. There is a proven link between abuse of pets and abuse of people, and in a domestic violence situation, the likelihood of an animal also being abused is high.

As an animal welfare advocate, you already have a vested interest in supporting the 25 by 2025 campaign.

Many survivors of domestic violence may make the difficult decision to relinquish their pet if they can't find a pet-housing program. Increasing the number of pet-friendly domestic violence shelters will ensure more survivors and pets are able to find safety and freedom from violence and ultimately thrive.

I'm asking you to support the 25 by 2025 campaign and work with local domestic violence shelters in our area to help them become pet friendly by 2025. The 25 by 2025 campaign has many resources at 25by2025.org to support shelters in their transition to becoming pet-friendly, including financing support, workshops, training handbooks, AND ways that you—an animal welfare advocate — can support them.

Thank you for your time and openness to helping more people and pets stay together!

Sincerely,

[Sign your name]

Proud 25 by 2025 Advocate

Sample email to friends & family



Dear friends and family,

I'm writing to tell you about something I'm really passionate about: the **25 by 2025 campaign**. 25 by 2025 is a movement to help 25% of domestic violence shelters in the United States become pet friendly by 2025.

Up to 70% of domestic violence survivors report having a pet, but nearly half delay or avoid leaving abusers out of concern for their pets. There is a proven link between abuse of pets and abuse of people, and in a domestic violence situation, the likelihood of an animal also being abused is high.

I strongly believe in keeping pets with their people, and I'm concerned about the lack of availability of domestic violence shelters that are pet friendly.

The 25 by 2025 campaign has many resources to support shelters in their transition to becoming pet friendly, including financing support, workshops, training handbooks, and more. The campaign's website, 25by2025.org, also has resources for us advocates to help spread the word and encourage decision-makers to take action!

This campaign will need many advocates like us to help reach its goal, so I'm asking you to join the movement. You can learn more and get involved by visiting 25by2025.org.

Thank you for your time and openness to helping more pets and people stay together!

[Sign your name]

Proud 25 by 2025 Advocate