

## Caregiver PAWS Connection, Inc.

Laurel is a sweet cat who was living a sweet life with her loving owner in an independent living retirement community. Laurel's world changed however when her owner, due to dementia, could no longer adequately care for Laurel. Laurel suddenly found herself in need of a new home.

Luckily, Laurel was surrounded by caring "godmothers" who were determined to find a suitable new home for her. Laurel did find a wonderful new home and she also became the inspiration for the Furry Godparent Program which is a program that is being launched through a 501(c)(3) charity that Stephanie founded called [Caregiver PAWS Connection, Inc.](#)

The mission of Caregiver PAWS Connection is to educate the public on the healing and nurturing power of animals for family-member caregivers and their senior loved ones, and to provide resources that allow caregivers and their senior loved ones to care for their current pet or to adopt new pets.

The goal of The Furry Godparent Program is to help find new homes for the cats and dogs who find themselves homeless because their senior owner is no longer able to care for them due to a serious illness or other incapacity. Caregiver PAWS Connection, along with its Furry Godparent Program partner [Friends of Strays](#) animal shelter, quickly work together to find a new permanent home for the senior's beloved pet.

If the senior cannot afford the Furry Godparent Program participation fee, Caregiver PAWS Connection can help subsidize the cost of the participation fee for them. In addition, Caregiver PAWS Connection can provide the senior who surrendered their pet with a lifelike robotic cat or amazing robotic cats or dogs, check out [www.JoyForAll.com](http://www.JoyForAll.com)).

As of fall 2021, the Furry Godparent Program is in its pilot test phase with a small group of senior retirement communities and church congregations, but the goal is to start making the Furry Godparent Program available to additional senior retirement communities and church congregations in Pinellas County starting in early 2022.

If you know of a retirement community or church congregation in Pinellas County that you think may like to participate in the Furry Godparent Program in 2022, please contact Stephanie ([smedwards@EdwardsElderLaw.com](mailto:smedwards@EdwardsElderLaw.com)) or Candy ([candy@EdwardsElderLaw.com](mailto:candy@EdwardsElderLaw.com)).