

2024 National Campaign Quarter 2 Activity Planning Ideas



Go Wild for pets!

April – June 2024

We love our pets unconditionally, and they love us right back! Pets are members of our families. They give us companionship and comfort. They play an essential role in our social and emotional well-being. In the United States, it is estimated that 66% of households have at least one pet. This includes dogs and cats, fish, birds, small animals, and reptiles. We are **wild** for pets!

Chapter and youth service clubs will host fraternal activities that celebrate and support local pets and offer opportunities for families to spend time with their furry friends.

Planning the activity

Activity categories are flexible! Any activity type may be held according to community needs and/or interest of chapter/YSC members.

Suggested activities: educational event; Matching Fund or social activity

Select the type of activity that works best for your chapter or club. Include your membership team and members as you plan. Some members may have connections to organizations and/or individuals in your community.

- Select a recipient or organization that:
 - Is well-respected.
 - Your members will enthusiastically support.
- Make an impact locally.
- Ask members about their pets. What type of pets do they have? Do they have activity suggestions?
- Ensure members with allergies or who are uncomfortable around animals can choose their level of participation.
- Before your event is requested, contact the selected location or individual you are working with.
 - If pets will be invited
 - Discuss event options and location rules and guidelines related to pets.
 - Ensure the venue is pet friendly and pet safe.
 - Plan to get information to members regarding the pet related rules and regulations.
- Choose a date that works for members and the venue.

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Hosting the activity

Educational event

Possible topics:

- Pet care.
- Healthy pets.
- Healthy pet diets
- Make and take healthy pet treats.
- How to make pet toys, snuffle mats and/or snuffle balls.
- Make personalized leashes or toys.
- Training your pets.
- Keeping your home and yard safe for pets
- Becoming a pet owner 101
- Pet adoption
- Avoiding puppy mills and online scams when purchasing a pet.
- Pets and kids. Things to keep in mind.
- Learn about domesticated animals at a local farm.
- Learn how to sketch or paint pet portraits.

Possible presenters:

- Veterinarians
- Animal shelter staff
- Animal behavioral trainers
- Groomers
- Local college instructors
- Community animal services staff
- Online courses

Activity ideas and add-ons

- Don't forget to include **all** pet owners, not just dog and cat parents.
- Plan events where members could bring their pets with them.
- Donate some or all the pet treats and toys members make to a local shelter.
- Hold the event at a local park or dog park.
- Utilize the branded campaign supplies available on the supplies area.
- Take photos at the event.

Matching fund

Possible recipients:

- Work with a local shelter and raise funds to sponsor pet adoptions.
- Raise funds to provide pet food, toys and supplies to a local food pantry.
- Provide funding so a local shelter can care for owner surrendered pets.
- Partner with an animal nonprofit organization or foster agency helping pets without a home.
- Money raised could help with upkeep and improvements, such as new equipment at a local dog park.

Activity ideas and add-ons

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- Offer to walk dogs for a small fee. Money raised can be matched for a donation to the shelter.
- Hold a dog wash instead of a car wash.
- To raise funds, set up a fun photo shoot for pet owners. For a fee, families and pets can be photographed at the event.
- Take photos of shelter animals and create a calendar. Sell the calendars in your community. Highlight pets ready for adoption.
- Hold an animal art festival. Charge a fee for pets to paw paint a canvas. Pet parents can take the work of art home as a memento. Or create the "paintings" ahead of time and auction them off at the event.
- Plan a pet fashion show. Locate willing participants and let them walk the runway. Charge entry fees for the contestants and/or the attendees.
- Sell cookie dough for pets and humans and include custom cookie cutters shaped like cats, dogs, fish, and more. (Resources and recipes are available online)
- Host a pet friendly bake sale. Bake homemade pet snacks and treats to sell. (You could also sell people treats.) Consider having a shelter animal or two onsite. Customers can interact with the animals while shopping for treats. Someone may end up taking home treats and an animal. (Resources and recipes are available online.)
- Set up a field day event at a local dog park. Provide animal related activities to highlight their talents and skills. Consider having obstacle courses, frisbee and even games of catch and return. Funds could be raised through admission fees to attend or participate.
- Utilize the branded campaign supplies available on the supplies area.
- Take photos at the event.

Social

Possible events:

- Host a pet meet and greet at a local park.
- Hold a pet talent show. Members can bring their pets and showcase their talents.
- Hold a pet fashion show. Or ask pet families to dress alike for an event.
- Try pet yoga as a group.
- Bring pets together for a "pup cup" treat.
- Plan a nature hike and bring the pets along.
- Have a pet picnic. Serve all their favorite snacks. Make sure toys and activities are available.
- Hold a puppy and/or kitten shower for newborn shelter animals ready for adoption.
- Set up a fun photo shoot for pets and their families.

Activity ideas and add-ons

- Provide snacks for attendees and any animals who will be at the event.
- Ask members to bring pet supplies and food to donate to a pantry or shelter.

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- Utilize the branded campaign supplies available on the supplies area.
- Don't forget to include **all** pet owners, not just dog and cat parents.
- Plan events where members could bring their pets with them.
- Take photos at the event.

Supplies:

- "Sponsored by" sign (F-227)
- "Donated by" stickers (F-624)
- Branded Tennis ball (F-625)
- Pet Bandana (F-626)
- Hometown Hero card (F-623)
- Nametag stickers (F-571)