

16 Days of Activism - 25 November to 10 December 2016

DAY 13. 7 DECEMBER 2016

PETS IN CRISIS

- * For those persons subject to domestic and family violence, the decision to leave home is more difficult if there are family pets which would also be at risk if they can't go to family/friends and have to be left behind.
- * In some instances the perpetrators of violence also take out their frustrations/anger on family pets resulting in their death/severe injury.
- * Places available in refuges are scarce and, where they do exist, there are no safe houses or refuges which can accommodate pets.
- * Pets in Crisis is a foster care program to help facilitate safe refuge for animals at risk until they can be reunited with their families. There is sometimes a small charge for this service.
- * Pets in Crisis is administered directly through DV Connect Womensline.
- * The RSPCA (Qld) will not accept applications without first having a referral from DV Connect.
- * Persons whose pets are in immediate danger or whose pets have become victims of cruelty associated with domestic or family violence can speak with a counsellor about their concerns.
- * Support may also be available from the Animal Welfare League and other animal welfare groups around the State but you need to contact DV Connect <u>FIRST</u> for advice /referral.

Harming beloved pets is now covered under new legal guidelines for dealing with cases of domestic and family violence. The new national benchmark for judges and magistrates was released in August 2016. Refer to National Domestic and Family Violence Bench Book at http://www.dfvbenchbook.aija.org.au/contents

Animal abuse is covered in Section 3.1.10.



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RESOURCES:

Video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=UA6A76YJ5xE

Pets in Crisis Program: https://www.rspcaqld.org.au/what-we-do/save-

animals/Pets%20in%20Crisis%20Program

HELPLINES:

DV Connect Womensline 1800 811 811

DV Connect Mensline 1800 600 636



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